

Novelties in Horizon Europe



Kay Duggan-Walls, NCP Horizon Europe, Cluster 1 Health

New Features in Horizon Europe Proposal

New Fields in Part A	Fields moved from Part B to Part A	Part B
Researchers table	Ethics self-assessment	Glossary of definitions added
Role of Participating Organisation will have to be specified	Security questionnaire (new in all HE proposals)	Addition of detailed explanations of what is expected and should be included in each section
Self-declaration on Gender Equality Plan	Information on participants' previous activities related to the call (Sections 4-6)	Social sciences and humanities, inter-disciplinarity, gender aspects are strengthened in the Excellence part of template.

Evaluation

- The number of aspects to be taken into account has been reduced, ensuring the same aspect is not assessed twice
- Open Science practices assessed as part of the **scientific methodology** in the excellence criterion and under the ‘**Quality and efficiency of implementation**’ (Previously it was part of the impact criterion)
- A **data management plan** must be provided for the research data/results and be in line with the FAIR principles
- There is a new approach to Impact – Key Impact Pathways (KIPs) [A successful proposal for Horizon Europe – part II - YouTube](#)
- The integration of the gender dimension into research and innovation content is a requirement by default, an award criterion evaluated under the excellence criterion, unless the topic description explicitly specifies otherwise
- The assessment of the quality of applicants is assessed under implementation rather than as a separate assessment of operational capacity
- Assessment of Management Structures has been removed

Page numbers

- RIA applications the limit full application - **45 pages - previously 70**
- Coordination and support actions limit - **30 pages - previously 50**
- Programme co-fund actions limit - **70 pages**
- The limit for a first-stage of 2-stage application - **10 pages**
- There will be an automatic warning and invitation to re-submit if you exceed your limit
- **Some parts have also been merged** to shorten the length of the proposal. For example, the “**Objectives**” and “**Ambition**” sections are now combined into a single **4-page** long section.

Gender Equality- a Strengthened Commitment in Horizon Europe

3 main levels at which gender equality is considered in Horizon Europe

1. Having a Gender Equality Plan (GEP) in place becomes an eligibility criterion for all public bodies, higher education institutions and research organisations from EU countries and associated countries
2. The integration of the gender dimension into research and innovation content is a requirement by default, an award criterion evaluated under the excellence criterion, unless the topic description explicitly specifies otherwise
3. Increasing gender balance throughout the programme is another objective, with a target of 50% women in Horizon Europe related boards, expert groups and evaluation committees, and gender balance among research teams set as a ranking criterion for proposals with the same score

Gender Equality Plans (GEPs) as an eligibility criterion in Horizon Europe

- For calls with deadlines in 2022 and onwards, having a Gender Equality Plan (GEP) will be an eligibility criterion for all public bodies, higher education institutions and research organisations wishing to participate in Horizon Europe
- The GEP must be in place for the signature of the Grant Agreement
- As also detailed in the [General Annexes to Horizon Europe 2021-2022 work programme](#), to comply with the eligibility criterion, a GEP must meet 4 mandatory process-related requirements or ‘building blocks’.
- Further information on GEPs https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/democracy-and-rights/gender-equality-research-and-innovation_en

Mandatory Requirements for a GEP

1. PUBLICATION:

A formal document published on the institution's website and signed by top management

2. DEDICATED RESOURCES:

A commitment of resources and expertise in gender equality to implement the plan

3. DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING:

Sex/gender disaggregated data on personnel (and students for the establishments concerned) and annual reporting based on indicators

4. TRAINING:

Awareness raising/training on gender equality and unconscious gender biases for staff and decision-makers

Changes in Ranking Criterion

1. Proposals that address aspects of the call that have not otherwise been covered by more highly ranked proposals will be considered to have the highest priority.
2. The proposals identified under 1), if any, will themselves be prioritised according to the scores they have been awarded for 'Excellence'. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on scores for 'Impact'. In the case of 'Innovation actions', priority will be given to the score for 'Impact', followed by that for 'Excellence'.
3. If necessary, the **gender balance** among the personnel named in the proposal who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the research and/or innovation activities, and who are included in the researchers table in the proposal, will be used as a factor for prioritisation.
4. If necessary, any further prioritisation will be based on **geographical diversity (NEW!)**, defined as the number of Member States or Associated Countries represented in the proposal, not otherwise receiving funds from projects higher up the ranking list (and if equal in number, then by budget).
5. If a distinction still cannot be made, the panel may decide to further prioritise by considering other factors related to the objectives of the call, or to Horizon Europe in general. These may include, for example, enhancing the quality of the project portfolio through synergies between projects or, where relevant and feasible, **involving SMEs**.

Contact



Kay Duggan-Walls, MSc

NCP Health

Health Research Board

kdugganwalls@hrb.ie

Tel (01) 2345 187

085 8868183

