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HORIZON EUROPE: Guarantee scheme extension to support UK R&D

Government has announced an extension to the support provided to UK Horizon Europe applicants until the end of June 2023.

The UK government has announced an extension to the support provided to UK Horizon Europe applicants, originally launched in November 2021 and UKRI has issued grants worth more than £968.8m million to the end of March 2023.



The extension will ensure that eligible, successful UK applicants will continue to be guaranteed funding, supporting them to continue their important work in research and innovation. The guarantee will be in place to cover all Horizon Europe calls that close on or before the end of June 2023. Eligible, successful applicants to Horizon Europe will receive the full value of their funding at their UK host institution for the lifetime of their grant.

For full details on the UK governments Horizon Europe guarantee scheme, which is being delivered by UKRI, please go to: <https://www.ukri.org/apply-for-funding/apply-for-horizon-europe-guarantee-funding/>

UK publishes prospectus for opportunities beyond Horizon Europe

Government sets out prospectus programme – titled ‘Pioneer’ – to protect and support UK research and innovation sector, should it be required.

- Plan provides confidence and certainty to UK researchers, universities and businesses and will give them an opportunity to input
- Whilst the UK hopes negotiations on Horizon Europe will be successful, and that is our preference, it must be on the basis of fair and appropriate terms
- If the UK are not able to secure association on fair and appropriate terms, the Government will implement Pioneer – a bold, ambitious alternative
- Ongoing conversations with researchers and businesses to ensure Pioneer would build on UK strengths and develop new capabilities



Full details on Pioneer, including a detailed prospectus, can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-publishes-prospectus-for-opportunities-beyond-horizon-europe>

NICP BULLETIN



Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

Meet the NICPs

The Northern Ireland Contact Point (NICP) Network brings together thematic expertise to support regional stakeholders to engage effectively with Horizon Europe funding. The contact points are on hand to advise, signpost and connect participants from across any Northern Ireland organisation (industry, academia, public sector, third sector). This complements the role of National Contact Points, ensuring that the local research and innovation base has access to the dedicated and ongoing guidance needed to boost successful participation in the competitive Horizon Europe calls.

NICPs are in place for key thematic areas such as Engineering, Energy, Health & Connected Health, Social Science/Humanities, Agri-Food and European Innovation Council. They will also be happy to advise any NI stakeholder on how to access the best support for any part of the Horizon Europe programme (e.g. Climate, MSCA, Security, ICT etc.) . Additional support is also in place for North-South collaborations through Intertrade Ireland.

More information at <https://horizoneuropeni.com/> and follow us on Twitter [@HORIZONEUROPE](https://twitter.com/HORIZONEUROPE)



NI Horizon Europe Manager
Nuala McCrudden
nuala.mccrudden@economy-ni.gov.uk

NI HORIZON EUROPE MANAGER

Nuala McCrudden, who is based in Higher Education Division in Department for the Economy, is the NI Horizon Europe Manager. Nuala is responsible for managing the NICP Network and monitoring & reporting on Northern Ireland participation and success in the Horizon Europe programme.

UPDATES:

It has been a busy start to 2023 with a number of developments around the UK's plans to associate to Horizon Europe, most notably the formal adoption of the Windsor Agreement. The UK Government has published its alternative UK programme, 'Pioneer' to protect and support UK research and innovation sector should association not be feasible. For full details on launch of Pioneer, including the detailed prospectus, please go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-publishes-prospectus-for-opportunities-beyond-horizon-europe>

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the two newest members of the NICP Network, both based at Queen's University. Ryan Gabel has joined the network after previously being at AFBI and is the new NICP responsible for ICT and will support activities in Cluster 3 and Cluster 4. Dr Mary Harte has also taken up post as the NICP for Engineering and will be supporting applications and other activities for Cluster 4 and Cluster 5. Welcome to the team Ryan and Mary and I look forward to assisting you to build on our recent successes in Horizon Europe.



NICP BULLETIN



Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

CIVIL SECURITY FOR SOCIETY: CLUSTER 3
DIGITAL, INDUSTRY AND SPACE: CLUSTER 4
Information Communication Technology (ICT).

Ryan is the most recent addition to the NICP network and is responsible for supporting local stakeholders in the area of ICT. With a focus including cybersecurity, digital technologies, advanced computing, artificial intelligence and next generation internet, he can provide advice on accessing Horizon Europe funding, as well as helping to identify strategic partners for transdisciplinary proposals with significant ICT elements.

UPDATES

- ◆ The 2023 Work Programme for Cluster 3 has now been released. Please download from [HERE](#)
- ◆ The 2023 Work Programme for Cluster 4 has now been released. Please download from [HERE](#)



NICP ICT
Ryan Gabel
r.gabel@qub.ac.uk

DIGITAL, INDUSTRY AND SPACE: CLUSTER 4
CLIMATE, ENERGY & MOBILITY: CLUSTER 5
Engineering – Manufacturing, materials, transport

Mary's role is focused on supporting engagement from regional stakeholders including the aerospace supply chain, mechanical/civil engineering, materials and manufacturing sectors. Key strategic priorities for these areas are increased circularity, climate neutrality, innovation and digitisation.

UPDATES

- ◆ The 2023 Work Programme for Cluster 4 has now been released. Please download from [HERE](#)
- ◆ The 2023 Work Programme for Cluster 5 has now been released. Please download from [HERE](#)



NICP Engineering
Mary Harte
m.harte@qub.ac.uk

AGRI-FOOD: CLUSTER 6
Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Elaine is the NICP for Cluster 6. Her role is to strengthen the participation of local industry, SMEs, researchers and others in agriculture, food and related research and innovation for Horizon Europe Programmes.

Destinations under [Cluster 6](#) focus on: supporting biodiversity; sustainable food systems, environments and primary production; climate-smart farming; tackling and preventing pollution; building value chains and enabling the circular bioeconomy; developing resilient rural communities; and deploying digital tools, innovation and governance.

UPDATES

- ◆ 2023 EU AgriResearch Conference will be held on 31st May 2023. Please register [HERE](#) if you'd like to join the conference or view the livestream.
- ◆ There have been a number of notable success stories from QUB and AFBI under Cluster 6. See Page 10 of the newsletter for full details.



NICP Agri-Food
Dr Elaine Groom
Elaine.Groom@afbini.gov.uk

NICP BULLETIN



Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

DIGITAL HEALTH: CLUSTER 1

Patrick is a Horizon Europe Northern Ireland Contact Point for Cluster 1 – Digital Health. He has a responsibility to engage with EU digital healthcare related research and development programmes. Patrick provides advice and support on accessing Horizon Europe funding for research, development, demonstration, innovation and market transformation. Patrick has 25 years' experience in the global scientific research market across a range of technologies including scientific imaging, wireless technologies and software licensing.

UPDATES:

- ◆ The 2023 Work Programme for Cluster 1 has now been released. Please download from [HERE](#)
- ◆ **Horizon Europe info day - Cluster 1 Health—1 June 2023, 09:00 CEST.**
[Horizon Europe info day - Cluster 1 Health \(europa.eu\)](#)



NICP Digital Health
Patrick Cullen
p.cullen1@ulster.ac.uk

ENERGY: CLUSTER 5

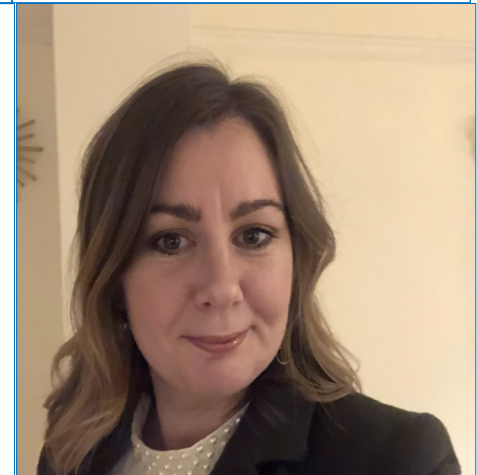
Energy Systems, grids and storage, renewable energy systems

Laura's role is to strengthen the participation of industries, research centres, universities and SMEs in energy-oriented Research Development and Innovation for Horizon Europe Programmes.

UPDATES:

- ◆ Horizon Europe Cluster 5; Destination 3 covers renewable and the grid with Destination 4 targeting buildings. For these two destinations the current work programme (2022/2024) has 88 topics and more than €1.2 bn of funding available.
- ◆ **New Cluster 5 NCP network Partner search tool.**

The aim of the Greenet partner search tool is to bring together different organisations (coordinators as well as partners) on one platform. The platform will support virtual one-to-one meetings throughout the year where participants can discuss, network and form consortia around climate, energy and mobility calls within Horizon Europe. Interested? Please Register [HERE](#).



NICP Energy
Laura Fitzmaurice
l.fitzmaurice@ulster.ac.uk

HEALTH: CLUSTER 1

Healthcare, disease, healthy lifestyle

Patricia is one of the NICPs for Cluster 1. She supports regional stakeholders from the life and health sciences academic, business, clinical and policy community. Key priorities for the Health Cluster are: staying healthy in a changing society; living and working in health-promoting environments; tackling diseases and reducing disease burden; access to high quality healthcare; development, delivery and deployment of new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society; and maintaining a sustainable and competitive health-related industry in Europe.

UPDATES:

- ◆ **Horizon Europe info day - Cluster 1 Health—1 June 2023, 09:00 CEST.**
This info day aims to inform (potential) applicants about topics included in the Cluster 1 'Health' work programme of 2024. For further information please go to: [Horizon Europe info day - Cluster 1 Health \(europa.eu\)](#)



NICP Health
Patricia McCrory
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NICPs join Medtech cluster visit to DKiT to discuss North — South Collaboration

Members of the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network joined an Invest NI led cluster visit to DKiT in Dundalk to discuss collaborative opportunities across the life sciences and broader healthcare and medtech industries.

A number of engagements with various medtech clusters in the Republic has been arranged by InterTradelreland and this trip to Dundalk was the first in a series of meetings designed to build stronger relationships with other clusters on the island of Ireland, to develop collaboration opportunities and undertake visits to share best practice in cluster development. Delegates from Northern Ireland included Patrick Cullen (NICP Digital Health), Professor Joan Condell (Ulster University), Joann Rhodes (HIRANI) and Alison Curry from InterTradelreland.



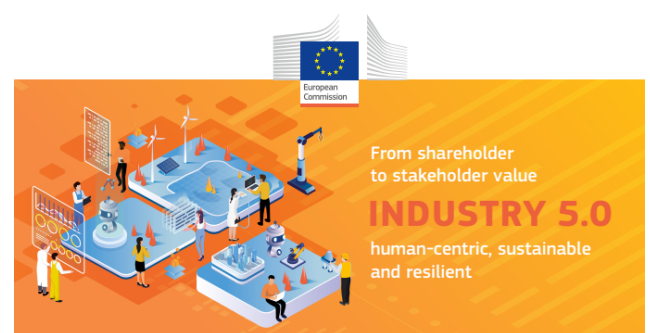
Industry 5.0 Award contest opens: apply by 1 September 2023

The Commission is launching the Industry 5.0 Award dedicated to EU-funded projects whose results make European industry more human-centric, resilient and sustainable. The award has been prepared in collaboration with European Factories of the Future Research Association (EFFRA), the industrial platform ManuFUTURE, European Institute of Innovation and technology and the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency.

This is a unique occasion to highlight innovative projects that contribute to Commission priorities such as: the European Green Deal, A Europe fit for the digital age, and An economy that works for people. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness, take stock of the implementation of Industry 5.0 in research and innovation programmes, and develop the framework moving forward.

Eligible projects must have obtained funding from Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe or the European Institute of Innovation and Technology. Projects involving deep-tech start-ups are particularly encouraged to participate. The official start date of the project must be after 31 August 2018 and the projects' progress to date, and results should have clear application in industry. The deadline for submission is 1 September 2023 – 17:00 CET (Brussels time).

In 2022, the Award winner was RAMP-PV (a deep tech start-up, pioneering up-cycling of raw materials from photovoltaic panels), The Award runners-up were SHERLOCK (developing collaborative robots) and SeColla (exploring safe and secure human-robot interactions). More information is available at Industry 5.0 award and Industry 5.0 website

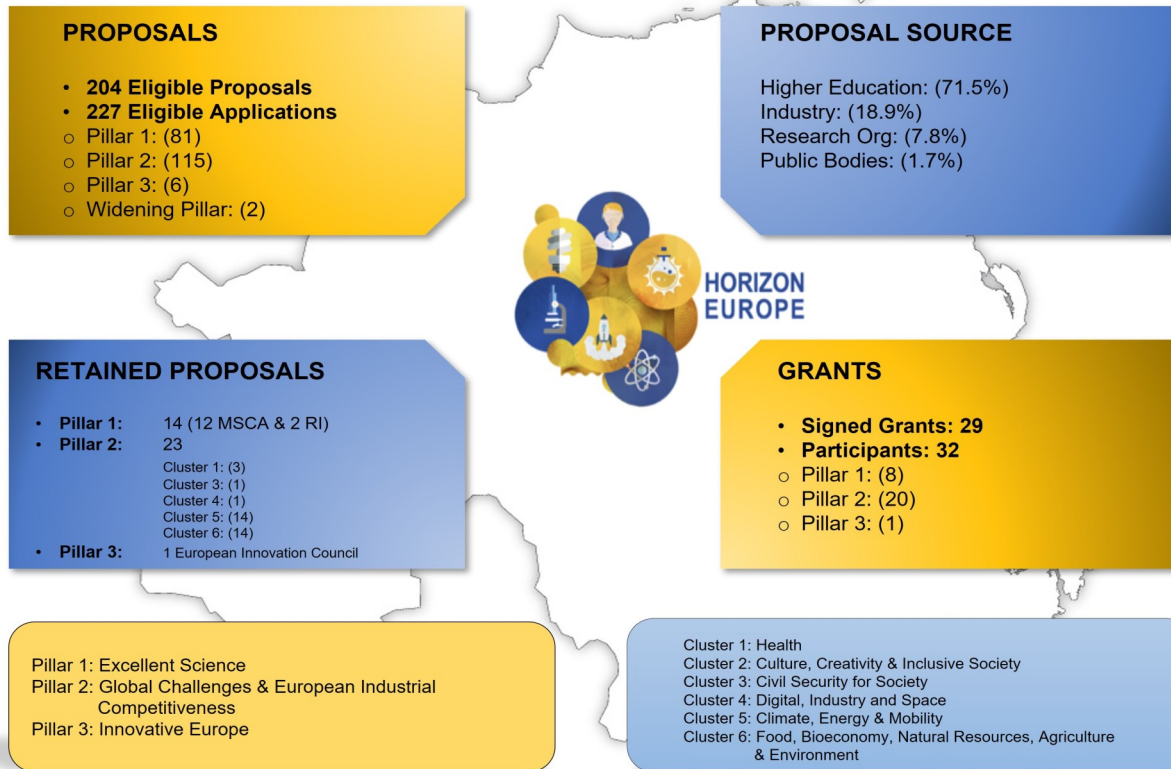


NICP BULLETIN



Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

Northern Ireland Horizon Europe Results To Date*



Please visit the EU Funding and Tenders Dashboard [HERE](#) for information on all Horizon Europe Projects

*March 2023

Horizon Europe Guarantee: Application and Grant offer Statistics

United Kingdom

Statistics as of 31 March 2023

Number of applications and grant offers made through the Horizon Europe guarantee up to 31 March 2023.

Guarantee grant type	Applications submitted and verified	Value of grants requested in verified applications	Grant offer letters issued	Value of grant offers issued
Collaborative Horizon Europe guarantee grants (hosted on Innovation Funding Service)	1,484	£651.2 million	1,297	£546.6 million
European Research Council guarantee grants	244	£345.8 million	238	£338.9 million
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions guarantee grants	382	£86 million	365	£83.3 million
Total	2,110	£1,083 million	1,900	£968.8 million

Northern Ireland

Number of applications and grant offers made through the Horizon Europe guarantee up to 31 March 2023 in Northern Ireland.

Guarantee grant type	Applications submitted and verified	Value of grants requested in verified applications	Grant offer letters issued	Value of grant offers issued
Collaborative Horizon Europe guarantee grants (hosted on Innovation Funding Service)	29	£9.9 million	23	£8.2 million
European Research Council guarantee grants	0	0	0	0
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions guarantee grants	9	£2.3 million	9	£2.3 million
Total	38	£12.2 million	32	£10.5 million

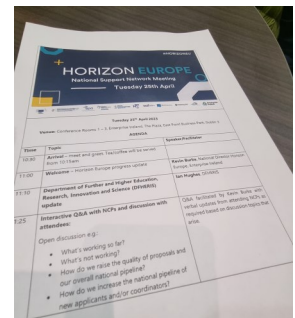
Statistics for the 'Horizon Europe guarantee' being delivered by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) on behalf of the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT). This data is updated each month and includes the total number of (1) verified applications submitted to UKRI, and the total grant value requested in these applications (2) grant offer letters issued to applicants, and the value of the grant offers issued.

Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

NICPS at Ireland National Support Network Meeting

Northern Ireland NICPs Patrick Cullen (Digital Health) and Elaine Groom (Agri-Food), joined colleagues across the Irish NCP network for a national network meeting in Dublin in April. The meeting was held at the Enterprise Ireland headquarters at Eastpoint and chaired by Kevin Burke, National Director for Horizon Europe at EI.

The Irish National Support Network team for Horizon Europe works with Ireland's researchers, innovators and entrepreneurs to help them compete for and win funding to advance their research and innovation ambitions. Close to 100 delegates from across the island convened for the meeting and heard some excellent presentations from Martha Cahill (NCP Health), Gráinne Ryan, (NCP for WIDERA and EU Liaison for R&I) and Maeve Garrick, (International Partnerships Manager at CEADAR). Cross border collaboration remains a key strategic activity of the NICP Network and with a number of funding calls coming forward in the next few months this meeting was an excellent forum to discuss collaborative projects.



QUB Researcher awarded €1.5 million to create new antibiotics that can kill drug resistant superbugs

Project has been awarded €1.5 million for a mission to help develop new types of antibiotics that can target and kill bacteria that are resistant to current antibiotics.

Antimicrobial resistance is a major global health threat, accounting for more than five million deaths a year. Deadly infections like pneumonia, wound or bloodstream infections are becoming untreatable as they are resistant to antibiotics.

The Queen's project, led by Dr Stephen Cochrane (pictured) from the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, will run for five years and its key focus is creating new antibiotics that can overcome antibiotic resistance. He will be supported by five early career researchers.



Funding for the project has been awarded by the European Research Council (ERC). Its Starting Grants programme recognises exceptional early-career researchers with excellent track records that show great promise in becoming future research leaders.

ERC grants are the most prestigious awards that scientists can hold in Europe, and this is the twelfth ERC award which has been given to a Queen's University Belfast academic since the scheme opened in 2007.

Dr Cochrane said: *"I'm hugely honoured to have been awarded an ERC Starting Grant. I'm very thankful to my amazing mentors and colleagues for the help and support they provided during this journey. I look forward to building a new*



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

Horizon Europe success for Queen's University as EUthyroid2 Project kicks off

Announcing the EUthyroid2 Project: Improving low awareness of iodine deficiency among adolescents and young women



Professor Jayne Woodside, a Professor of Human Nutrition within the Centre of Public Health at Queen's University Belfast, is a partner in a new Horizon Europe project, EUthyroid2. "The next step towards the elimination of iodine deficiency and preventable iodine-related disorders in Europe" or EUthyroid2 is a 4 year project with a budget of €2.5 million. QUB budget from the project is almost £210,000 and is funded from the UKRI Guarantee Fund.

The project is coordinated by the University Medicine Greifswald in Germany and brings together the expertise of renowned epidemiologists, endocrinologists, nutritionists, health economists and communications specialists from a

broad range of educational institutions and countries across Europe. Other partners with broad global reach include the Iodine Global Network, Thyroid Federation International and the World Iodine Association. The consortium aims to improve awareness of iodine status in young people both in Europe and beyond.



Insufficient iodine during pregnancy leads to lasting brain damage that reduce a child's IQ by 8 to 10 points. Even mild to moderate iodine deficiency at school age can reduce IQ by 3-5 points. It can easily be prevented through iodine fortification programmes, most commonly by iodization of salt for human and animal consumption.

The Horizon Europe-funded project aims to find best practice models for accessing young people, especially young women, to improve awareness of their iodine status.



SAVE THE DATE: Horizon Europe Info Days Cluster 1 (Health)

The European Commission announced a new Info Days for Horizon Europe 1. The goal of the Info Days is to present open topics of the Horizon Europe 2024 calls.

- ◆ Cluster 1: Horizon Europe info day - Cluster 1 Health—1 June 2023, 09:00 CEST. This info day aims to inform (potential) applicants about topics included in the Cluster 1 'Health' work programme of 2024. For further information please go to: Horizon Europe info day - Cluster 1 Health (europa.eu)

See our Events section on Page 12 for further details.

Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

Ulster University joins Europe wide project to improve the prevention and diagnosis of lung cancer

With a budget of €14M, 22 partners across Europe and led by Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, the LUCIA project aims to improve the early detection and management of lung cancer

Researchers from the School of Computing, Engineering and Intelligent Systems, the School of Computing and the School of Geography and Environmental Sciences at Ulster University, have joined a new Horizon Europe project which seeks to improve disease outcome by providing in-depth knowledge of the risk factors and facilitating prevention and early diagnosis of lung cancer.



The Ulster University group will be joined by researchers from the public and private sectors across nine European countries who are partnering up for the LUCIA project (Understanding Lung Cancer-Related Risk Factors and their Impact).

The consortium's goal is to improve the management of lung cancer from the aspects of early diagnosis, prevention and treatment, notably of lung cancers that are relatively rare. The results of the consortium's work will be translated into policy recommendations, which will be integrated into the early diagnosis program and into methods for addressing the disease effectively.



Prof. Jonathan Wallace



Prof. Michaela Black

The Ulster University team is led by Dr Debbie Rankin who is based at Ulster University's Magee campus (pictured) and includes co-investigators Professor Jonathan Wallace (School of Computing), Professor Michela Black (School of Computing, Engineering and Intelligent Systems) and Professor Adrian Moore (School of Geography and Environmental Sciences). The team involved in this project have expertise in AI, geographical information systems, geospatial and health analytics, UI/UX design and evaluation, visualisation, stakeholder engagement and co-creation.

Dr Rankin said that Ulster will tackle a number of key tasks in the project. "Ulster's role in the project includes the development of geospatial analytics, risk factor modelling using artificial intelligence (AI) techniques and the definition of user and clinical requirements." Ulster will also develop KPIs and validation metrics for the project through engagement with stakeholder groups and LUCIA's clinical and technical partners.



Prof. Adrian Moore

Ulster will also contribute to the project through risk factor analysis on environmental and sociodemographic geospatial data and the use of AI and GeoAI techniques to examine location-based social and physical environmental risk factors in lung cancer. The team will also engage in other aspects including epidemiological analysis; legal, social and ethical AI issues; evaluation; and dissemination.

To keep up to date with this exciting project please subscribe their social media accounts below.



<https://twitter.com/luciaeuproject>



<https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/luciaeuproject/>



<https://www.instagram.com/luciaeuproject/>



Success for N.Ireland Researchers in Cluster 6

A strong track record in agri-food and environment research has helped propel Northern Irish researchers and companies to success in Horizon Europe.

According to the Horizon Dashboard, Northern Ireland submitted 38 proposals (47 individual applications) to topics under Cluster 6 (Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment), with 14 proposals awarded funding (currently 11 signed grants) – a success rate of 37%.

Overall Northern Ireland has submitted 204 proposals (227 individual applications) with 38 retained for funding – a success rate of 19% (figures correct at the end of April 2022). This means that more than a third of the success in NI in 2021-2022 was achieved from Cluster 6.

At a comparable point in Horizon 2020, after the 2014 and 2015 calls, there were only 9 successes from 49 eligible proposals submitted - a success rate of 18%. This figure is all the more remarkable due to the 'Brexit Effect' which has resulted in a large drop-off in applications across the UK. The success rate across Europe in Cluster 6 is 26%,

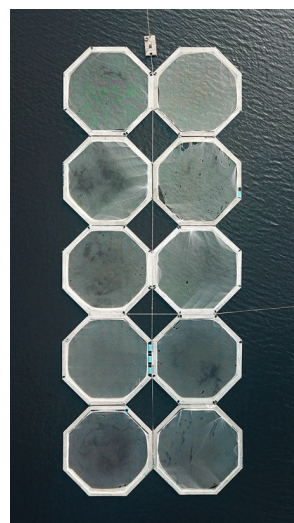


compared to 13% in Horizon 2020. This increased success rate has been aided by the growth of the funding pot from €3.5bn under Horizon 2020 to €9bn in Horizon Europe. The projects are worth in excess of €3.5M to Northern Ireland and cover a broad range of areas.

Queen's was successful in winning three projects in the area of food safety. [FoodSafeR](#) and [HOLI FOOD](#) will both benefit the identification, assessment and management of existing and emerging food safety issues, and [TITAN](#), which involves both QUB and [Devenish Nutrition Ltd](#), looks to digital solutions to increasing the transparency of food production for healthy, safe and sustainable products, processes and diets.

There are three projects focusing on climate. [MISO](#), involving Queen's, is developing an *in-situ* observation platform for monitoring climate change effects through release of carbon dioxide and methane from permafrost and wetlands. Queen's involvement in [Re-Livestock](#) will look at reductions of GHG emissions in a project that brings together many disciplines, including animal feeding, breeding, welfare, farm management, environmental and socio-economic assessment and policy analysis, to develop more climate resilient livestock farming systems. CAFRE meanwhile is involved in the [ClimateSmartAdvisors](#) demonstration network, connecting and mobilizing the EU agricultural advisory community to support the transition to Climate Smart Farming.

The Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute builds on its work on regional nutrient loads for nitrogen and phosphorus with [NEW-HARMONICA](#) "Harmonised Nutrient Load Reduction Approaches Within Safe Ecological Boundaries In Catchments Located In NW EU". Funded under the Farm2Fork call, Ulster University is part of an aquaponics project: the [AWARE](#) consortium is looking at how to overcome the barriers to the use of reclaimed water in aquaculture. Finally, in the marine area, Queen's has three further projects. [EmpowerUs](#) addresses sustainable coastal development by user communities. [MarinePlan](#) will develop transdisciplinary science for improved spatial planning and conservation. [PERMAGOV](#) will examine both barriers and enabling factors in policy implementation to improve the performance of marine policies.



The COST Actions Programme

The COST programme (Cooperation in Science and Technology) (www.cost.eu) is an EU programme supporting the development of bottom-up interdisciplinary networks lasting for four years. COST actions are open to all researchers and innovators at all levels of experience but is especially valuable for younger researchers to connect with others in Europe within their specific fields of interest. Importantly also, COST Actions are different to many other EU funded projects because **it is possible to join and participate in a research network even once it has started running.**



COST Actions focus on emerging complex topics that require input and thinking from across Europe. They provide opportunities to get involved in their activities through training schools, short-term scientific missions, workshops, conferences, etc. Opportunities are created by individual Actions and promoted via their websites and social media channels. They often act as a pre-portal to other funding instruments. Follow-up proposals from COST Actions have a 37% success rate.

Why apply for a COST Action?

- ◆ Actions receive 600.000 EUR to cover networking activities, training schools and more.
- ◆ Spin-off funding: a COST Action generates 5.8 million EUR in spin-off funding (on average)
- ◆ COST Actions act as a pre-portal to other funding opportunities in Horizon Europe

The Next call collection dates will be 24th October 2023. In advance of this the upcoming **Info Day** is open to everyone and will inform researchers and innovators about how to connect with COST Actions or submit a COST Action proposal, explaining the role and impact of the COST programme, and the benefits of participating.



Examples of COST Action networking activities



Info Day: 24 May 09.00 -11.00 (UK Time)

Registration in advance is required to receive the active link for the webinar <https://cost.eu/cost-events/online-cost-info-day-2023/...>


The COST scheme is independent of Horizon Europe. **UK applicants are eligible and can contact COST@beis.gov.uk for free advice.**

Industry R&D Funding from the European Innovation Council (EIC)

The EIC is Europe's flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale up breakthrough technologies and game changing innovations

The European Innovation Council (EIC) has been established under the EU Horizon Europe programme. It has a budget of €10.1 billion to support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early stage research, to proof of concept, technology transfer, and the financing and scale up of start-ups and SMEs.

Click on the images below for further details on the various EIC funding programmes below.



IDENTIFY

EIC Pathfinder


Support to research teams to research or develop an emerging breakthrough technology



DEVELOP

EIC Transition

Building on promising research results to demonstrate and mature the technology and develop business plans for specific applications



SCALE UP

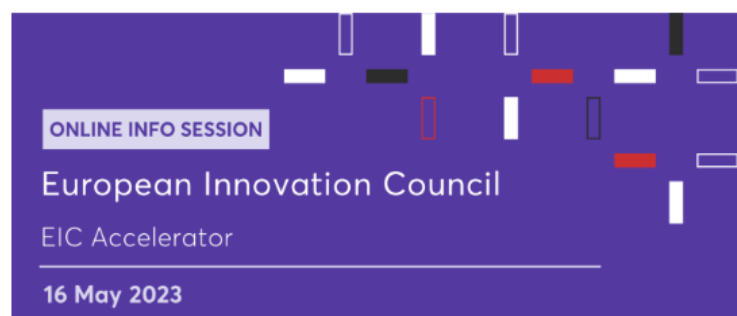
EIC Accelerator

Funding and investments through the EIC Fund for individual start-ups and small companies to develop and scale up game changing innovations

Webinar on EIC Accelerator

On **16 May 2023**, the European Innovation Council (EIC) in collaboration with Uddannelses- og Forskningsstyrelsen (Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science) and the Danish EU Regional Office are organising an informative webinar.

This online info session will focus on **EIC Accelerator Scheme**, which supports start-ups and SMEs to develop and scale up deep-tech and disruptive innovative products or services at the advanced technological level (TRL 6-9). Its objective is to provide companies-applicants with practical information on the importance of deep tech in the EIC and what is required of companies to be successful in the programme. Please click [HERE](#) to register for this event.



NICP BULLETIN



Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

HORIZON UPDATES

[EU cohesion funds to boost R&D sector, Commission hopes](#)

The European Commission has published today a new staff working document on its Cohesion programme for 2021-2027 where it estimates the €378 billion fund will help bridge the innovation divide in Europe. According to the document, thanks to €73 billion in dedicated cohesion funding, 83,000 researchers will have access to improved facilities and 725,000 companies will be supported in their smart growth. The Commission's full plan for cohesion funding over the coming years is available [HERE](#)

[Commission to showcase opportunities for R&I in energy, mobility, transport and Euratom](#)

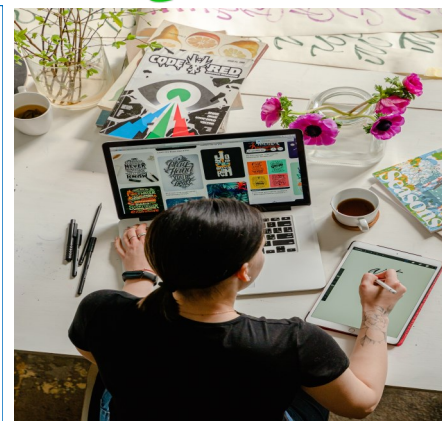
The European Commission's directorate for research and innovation is organising an official information event in Brussels on financial and business opportunities that can support the market uptake of new technologies, beyond its flagship research programme Horizon Europe. More details about the event [HERE](#)

[IHI looks for patients and informal caregivers to help improve health research and innovation](#)

Innovative Health Initiative (IHI) is looking to establish a group of patients and informal caregivers who can support their activities in health research and innovation through lending their perspectives, experience and expertise. The IHI Patient Pool could be called upon to participate in project meetings, scientific events, webinars or training sessions. Those who wish to apply to be a part of the IHI Patient Pool have until 8 June to apply. Find out [HERE](#)

[Commission seeks experts to evaluate Horizon Europe calls for proposals](#)

The European Commission is looking for experts to participate in evaluating various calls for proposals. This includes 2023 calls under the EU Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe' and 2024 calls under cluster 6 of the Horizon Europe work programme, 'Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment'. Find out more about becoming an expert [at this link](#).



EU Funding and Tenders Portal

Get all the latest news on funding and tendering opportunities from the official EU portal:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/>



HORIZON EUROPE — HELP FOR UK APPLICANTS FROM UKRI

[Funding support available during the delay to association](#)

If the delay to the UK's association continues, the UK government has confirmed successful Horizon Europe applicants will receive funding from UKRI regardless of the outcome of the UK's efforts to associate with Horizon Europe.

[Funding for successful in-flight applications](#)

If the UK does not associate to Horizon Europe, UK applications submitted to funding opportunities that have closed will be assessed by UKRI, should the European Commission no longer carry out the evaluation to ensure the best get funded. During the delay to association, you should continue to apply as an associated country to be eligible for this funding.

[Funding for Third Country Participation](#)

If the UK does not associate to Horizon Europe, funding will be available for UK applicants to participate in funding opportunities as 'third country' applicants. This will come into effect at the point the UK is unable to associate. Further information on how to apply will be provided if the UK is unable to associate.

Full details available at <https://www.ukri.org/apply-for-funding/horizon-europe/>

EVENTS

A wide range of information and brokerage events are upcoming in 2023.

TITLE	DATE	LINK	DETAILS
Lump Sum Funding in Horizon Europe: How does it work? How to write a proposal?	24th May 2023	Registration	For additional documents and links, please check dedicated lump sum page: Lump Sum in Horizon Europe on the Funding & Tenders Portal
Info session on Horizon Results Booster – steering research towards a strong societal impact	24th May 2023	Registration	Supported by the EC, these free-of-charge services are provided by experts and cover several paths in Dissemination and Exploitation activities.
2023 EU AgriResearch Conference	31st May 2023	Details and Livestream	This event aims to provide an overview of European research and innovation activities and their achievements in agriculture, forestry and rural development.
Horizon Europe info day - Cluster 1 Health	1st June 2023	Further Information	This info day aims to inform (potential) applicants about topics included in the Cluster 1 'Health' work programme of 2024.
Online brokerage event for the Cluster 1 Health 2024 calls	2nd June 2023	Registration	The online brokerage event will be dedicated to consortium building and will partners interested in the same topics for the 2024 Health calls.
Matchmaking in Green Week: Circular economy for biodiversity (Brussels)	5th June 2023	Details	In-person event for project ideas on Circular Economy for biodiversity: Unlocking the green potential (Cluster 6)
Horizon Europe Health & SSH Brokerage Event (in person)	5th June 2023	Registration	Several topics from the Health Cluster Work Programme require the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts.
OCEANS 2023 (Limerick)	5 - 8th June 2023	Details	Global thought leaders and innovators in the areas of marine technology, engineering, science, research, and education will gather in Limerick.
Coordinators' Day on Horizon Europe Grant Management	8th June 2023	Details	Horizon Europe Coordinators' Day: Grant Management
6th European Climate Change Adaptation Conference 2023 (Dublin)	19th - 21st June 2023	Registration	This will be an in-person event over two days for up to 500 people with live streaming of all plenary sessions and interactive hybrid formats.
European Sustainable Energy Week	20th June 2023	Registration	Europe's biggest annual event dedicated to renewables and efficient energy use in Europe.
CBE JU online networking platform	Open until 31st December 2023	Registration	Find partners for the Circular Bio-Based Europe (CBE JU) call 2023.
NATI00NS Soil Living Labs Online Matchmaking Event	Open until 31st October 2024	Registration	This aims to enable partnerships for the establishment of Living Labs under the EU Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe.

NICP BULLETIN



Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

HORIZON EUROPE BUDGET BREAKDOWN

HORIZON EUROPE (TOTAL)	€95.517 (Billion)
EXCELLENT SCIENCE	25.011
European Research Council (ERC)	16.004
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)	6.602
Research infrastructures	2.406
GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS	53.516
Cluster 1 - <u>Health</u>	8.246
Cluster 2 - <u>Culture, creativity and inclusive society</u>	2.280
Cluster 3 - <u>Civil Security for Society</u>	1.596
Cluster 4 - <u>Digital, Industry and Space</u>	15.349
Cluster 5 - <u>Climate, Energy and Mobility</u>	15.123
Cluster 6 - <u>Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment</u>	8.952
Non-nuclear direct actions of the Joint Research Centre (JRC)	1.970
INNOVATIVE EUROPE	13.597
European Innovation Council (EIC)	10.105
European innovation ecosystems	0.527
European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)	2.965
WIDENING PARTICIPATION & STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA	3.393
Widening participation and spreading excellence	2.955
Reforming and enhancing the European R&I System	0.438
EURATOM	1.382



RESOURCES

- NICP Network—<https://horizoneuropeni.com/>
- UK’s National Contact Point service—<https://ktn-uk.org/programme/european/>
- Ireland’s National Contact Point service— horizoneurope.ie
- Support for cross border collaboration—<https://intertradeireland.com/innovation/horizon-europe>
- Science Business—news and intelligence on EU funding policy <https://sciencebusiness.net/>
- Horizon Europe Info Days: [Horizon Europe Info days | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Mission Info Days: [Webinar at European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)
- How to write a successful proposal for Horizon Europe [Webinar](#)
- Overview of the Horizon Europe Programme (PW: aBW.B8JE) [Webinar](#)