**Horizon 2020 Briefing Sheet – *Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies: Information and Communication Technologies***

Horizon 2020 is the EU’s main funding programme for research and innovation and will run from 2014 to 2020. The full call documents for the Horizon 2020 funding are expected to be launched in January 2014. However, we have been able to get hold of some draft documents which indicate the direction the Commission wishes to take.

The university will be running an information day on the new European Funds on Wednesday 11 December 2013 in Stoke. For further information email externalprojects@staffs.ac.uk

**What is Horizon 2020 and who should apply?**

Horizon 2020 is a funding programme for all types of actors involved in research and innovation – academia, research, industry and other stakeholder organisations. These are for large scale projects.

Activities can be funded under three pillars:

Pillar 1: Excellent Science

Pillar 2: Industrial Leadership

Pillar 3: Societal Challenges

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| This call falls under Pillar 2 Industrial Leadership **Pillar 2 Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies (LEIT)****– Funding innovation** Under this pillar, funding is available for the so-called Key Enabling Technologies (KETs), including ICT, Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology, Advanced Manufacturing and Processing and for research and innovation in the area of Space. In addition, there are two more industry oriented schemes available. Overall, this is probably the most industry and innovation focussed part of Horizon 2020 with many opportunities for applied research, especially under the KETs. Under pillar two, there is also funding for the so-called “contractual Public-Private Partnerships” (PPPs). Under these, there will be a range of topics with strong industry and market relevance focus. |

**Funding, eligibility and project details**

Funding rates for Horizon 2020 have been harmonised compared to its predecessor programme FP7. All beneficiaries are now entitled to a reimbursement of 100% of their direct costs related to a research project, with a single flat rate for indirect costs of 25%. For the so-called innovation actions (close-to-market activities, usually with a stronger industry focus), the general reimbursement rate is 70% (100% for non-for-profit entities).

**What is funded?**

What is funded exactly depends on the project type. The most common project type is a Collaborative Project (CP), which usually requires a minimum of three participants from three different EU Member States or the countries that are associated to Horizon 2020. CPs fund research activities including personnel costs, travel, consumables, management costs and dissemination.

There are other project types, such as the Co-ordination and Support Actions (CSAs), which do not fund research as such but fund, for example, the co-ordination of research policies across Member States in a particular field. They sometimes fund studies and also occasionally conferences and other networking activities. In addition, the Commission is planning to include prize competitions in the Horizon 2020 work programmes.

Funding is mainly based on the reimbursement of actual direct costs incurred for a project. For some types of projects, such as the MSCA, funding can be based on flat rates and granted as lump sums.

**What is the project duration and how many partners do I need?**

The duration of projects can vary immensely, a typical small or medium-scale Collaborative Project would usually last 2-4 years, and larger projects could run for 3-5 years. There are no formal limits on project duration imposed under Horizon 2020. The best way to approach project planning is to ensure that projects are underpinned by solid time planning with clear milestones and objectives. Minimum or maximum budget levels for projects in the Horizon 2020 work programmes can give an indication of the appropriate project duration. There are some exceptions where the duration of a project or grant is specified or suggested.

How many partners should be involved and which countries should be included in a project mainly depends on what you judge is most appropriate for the work you are planning to undertake. Again, there are no fixed rules as such on the maximum, but there are usually minimum requirements in terms of the number of partners and sometimes also the types of organisations in the project. We would also recommend that you look at projects funded under FP7 in your area to see some examples.

**Call areas**

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| ***A new generation of components and systems*** ICT 1 – 2014: Smart Cyber-Physical Systems ICT 2 – 2014: Smart System Integration ICT 3 – 2014: Advanced Thin, Organic and Large Area Electronics (TOLAE) technologies ***Advanced Computing*** ICT 4 – 2015: Customised and low power computing ***Future Internet*** ICT 5 – 2014: Smart Networks and novel Internet Architectures ICT 6 – 2014: Smart optical and wireless network technologies ICT 7 – 2014: Advanced Cloud Infrastructures and Services ICT 8 – 2015: Boosting public sector productivity and innovation through cloud computing services ICT 9 – 2014: Tools and Methods for Software Development ICT 10 – 2015: Collective Awareness Platforms for Sustainability and Social Innovation ICT 11 – 2014: FIRE+ (Future Internet Research & Experimentation) ICT 12 – 2015: Integrating experiments and facilities in FIRE+ ICT 13 – 2014: Web Entrepreneurship ICT 14 – 2014: Advanced 5G Network Infrastructure for the Future Internet ***Content technologies and information management*** ICT 15 – 2014: Big data and Open Data Innovation and take-up ICT 16 – 2015: Big data - research ICT 17 – 2014: Cracking the language barrier ICT 18 – 2014: Support the growth of ICT innovative Creative Industries SMEs ICT 19 – 2015: Technologies for creative industries, social media and convergence. ICT 20 – 2015: Technologies for better human learning and teaching ICT 21 – 2014: Advanced digital gaming/gamification technologies ICT 22 – 2014: Multimodal and Natural computer interaction ***Robotics*** ICT 23 – 2014: Robotics ICT 24 – 2015: Robotics ***Micro- and nano-electronic technologies, Photonics*** ICT 25 – 2015: Generic micro- and nano-electronic technologies ICT 26 – 2014: Photonics KET ICT 27 – 2015: Photonics KET ICT 28 – 2015: Cross-cutting ICT KETs ICT 29 – 2014 Development of novel materials and systems for OLED lighting ***ICT Cross-Cutting Activities*** ICT 30 – 2015: Internet of Things and Platforms for Connected Smart Objects ICT 31 – 2014: Human-centric Digital Age ICT 32 – 2014: Cybersecurity, Trustworthy ICT ICT 33 – 2014: Trans-national co-operation among National Contact Points ***Horizontal ICT Innovation actions*** ICT 34 – 2015: Support for access to finance ICT 35 – 2014: Innovation and Entrepreneurship Support ICT 36 – 2015: Pre-commercial procurement open to all areas of public interest requiring new ICT solutions ICT 37 – 2014-15: Open Disruptive Innovation Scheme (implemented through the SME instrument) Fast track to Innovation – pilot Fast track to Innovation Topic ***International Cooperation actions*** ICT 38 – 2015: International partnership building and support to dialogues with high income countriesICT 39 – 2015: International partnership building in low and middle income countries *EU-Brazil Research and Development Cooperation in Advanced Cyber Infrastructure*EUB 1 – 2015: Cloud Computing, including security aspects EUB 2 – 2015: High Performance Computing (HPC) EUB 3 – 2015: Experimental Platforms *EU-Japan Research and Development Cooperation in Net Futures* EUJ 1 – 2014: Technologies combining big data, internet of things in the cloud EUJ 2 – 2014: Optical communications EUJ 3 – 2014: Access networks for densely located users EUJ 4 – 2014: Experimentation and development on federated Japan – EU testbeds  |

**View Full Draft Work Programme**

If you are interested in seeing more details about these funding areas, the External Projects Team has copies of draft documents which outline the research areas the commission are looking to focus on for each theme. The documents cover 2 years.

**Policy**

H2020 still links back to key EU policies including:

* [Europe 2020 strategy](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:2020:FIN:EN:PDF)
* [Innovation Union 2012](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2013:0149:FIN:en:PDF)
* [European Research Area](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/intm/134168.pdf)

**Getting Involved**

The best way to get ahead of the game with these grants is to start talking to people who you could work with on projects and developing your network before the calls come out. The best ways to find contacts is to use existing leads and to talk to colleagues to see if they know anyone you could partner with.

Other ways could be though attending conferences or training courses which have a European audience.

**Networking and information sessions**

The ICT Knowledge Transfer Network are hosting a briefing session at Aston University on 28th November. Details available at <https://horizon2020birmingham.eventbrite.co.uk/>.

The European Commission’s ICT 2013 - Create, Connect, Grow conference in Vilnius on 6-8 November is focussed on Horizon 2020. The event is fully booked but presentations can be watched at <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/ict-2013> .

**Useful Contacts**

European Commission Horizon 2020 website <http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index_en.cfm>

Sign up to the UKRO Portal News to stay up to date on Horizon 2020 general developments, calls, events and results <http://www.ukro.ac.uk/subscriber/Pages/default.aspx>

For in-house support on these grants contact externalprojectss@staffs.ac.uk

ERRIN facilitates knowledge exchange, joint action and project partnerships with the aim to strengthen its member region's research and innovation capacities and enhance their success in EU programmes. <http://www.errin.eu/node/44>