

Editors Comments

This months information packed edition is a big reminder of how important EU funding is becoming to the University. For 2011-12 EU funding accounted for £2.16m of project approvals that the External Projects team in ECD worked with; more than all other funding sources combined. With this in mind we are looking at the new EU research and life long learning programme proposals, for the period from 2014 onwards; aspects that are likely to be part of the future bidding environment especially innovation - and an opportunity to access all of the Applied Research Centres' annual reports.

Wishing all our readers a Very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year—Jose



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Useful Links

<http://bit.ly/externalprojects>

www.researchprofessional.com

www.ukro.ac.uk

<http://bit.ly/findfunding>

Up Coming event:

Business planning and entrepreneurship for researchers.

3 x 2 hour sessions

December 18th 2012

Liverpool Community College, Learning Exchange
Roscoe Street, Liverpool
LI 9DW

Further details: [Here](#)

Horizon 2020

What is Horizon 2020?

Horizon 2020 is the next framework programme for Research and Innovation. It is a core part of Europe 2020 Innovation Union & European Research Area with a strategy for growth and jobs.

Funding

Horizon 2020 is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union. It is the proposal for an 80 billion euro research and innovation funding programme for 2014-2020, proposed by the Commission.

What's new?

Horizon 2020 is a single programme bringing together three separate programmes; connecting research to all forms of innovation. It focuses on societal challenges facing EU society, such as health, clean energy and transport; and it aims to simplify access for all companies, universities and institutions in all EU countries and beyond. It seeks stronger participation by SMEs

The Priorities

Priority 1. Excellent science

World class science is the foundation of tomorrow's technologies, jobs and wellbeing, Europe needs to develop, attract and retain

research talent, and researchers need access to the best infrastructures

Priority 2. Industrial leadership

Strategic investments in key technologies (e.g. advanced manufacturing, microelectronics) underpin innovation across existing and emerging sectors. Europe needs to attract more private investment in research and innovation. and Europe needs more innovative SMEs to create growth and jobs.

Priority 3. Societal challenges

The concerns of citizens and society and EU policy objectives such as climate, environment, energy, transport etc. cannot be achieved without innovation. Breakthrough solutions come from multidisciplinary collaborations, including social sciences & humanities. Recognition of the social sciences and humanities is a key development for EU funding .

Simplification of Rules for Participation

A single set of simpler and more coherent rules for all participants is proposed. This includes moving from several funding rates to two, and replacing the four methods to calculate overhead or indirect costs with a single flat rate.

Major simplifications are proposed under the forthcoming financial Regulation, with suc-

EU Funding, Horizon 2020 continued

Successful applicants benefitting from a reduction of average time to grant by 100 days compared with the current average of around 350 days under FP7.

International cooperation

International cooperation is crucial to address many Horizon 2020 Objectives. In keeping with the principle of general openness: the programme aims to continue to be the most open funding programme in the world.

Horizon 2020 will be open to EU mem-

ber countries, candidate countries and potential candidates and selected third countries that fulfil the relevant criteria: capacity, track record, close economic and geographical links to the Union, etc.

Next steps

The European Parliament and Council negotiations will take place on the basis of the Commission proposals. The Parliament and Council negotiations on the EU budget 2014-2020 are currently taking place and regularly reported in the news. Subject to the outcome of these, from

mid 2013, there will be the adoption of legislative acts by Parliament and Council on Horizon 2020.

More information

February 13th 2013: UKRO Information Day at Staffordshire University and main Horizon 2020 web site [Here](#)



Erasmus for all.....

The current set of programmes under the [Lifelong Learning Programme](#) and Youth in Action banner are also coming to a close.

The European Commission has published its proposal for the next generation of programmes entitled 'Erasmus for All', which will focus on education, training, youth and sport. The proposal outlines a new integrated and streamlined ap-

proach, simplifying access routes to funding for beneficiaries.

Erasmus for All is currently at the proposal stage – this means it has not been agreed by the Member States or the European Parliament. The proposal may be altered or changed as a result of these negotiations and approval processes. More detail on the programme's structure and actions above can be found in [our FAQ's](#)

If you would like more detailed information, you can:

Read the [Erasmus for All factsheet](#)

Download our [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Look at the [European Commission's own Erasmus for All documents and webpages](#)

Open Funding Calls

If you are interested in any of these funds please contact the External Projects Team

Industrial partnership awards	BBSRC	These are science-led, grants where an industrial partner contributes in cash (not in-kind) at least 10 per cent of the full economic cost of the project. Funding covers the remainder of the cost (at 80 per cent of full economic cost rate).	For further information see Here
British Academy/ Leverhulme Trust senior research fellowships	British Academy	Enable mid-career scholars to have one year's research leave by providing funding to cover the costs of replacement teaching. Any field of study in the humanities and social sciences is suitable for support.	For further information see Here
Discipline Hopping Awards	EPSRC	Discipline Hopping Awards provide short-term support to allow researchers from core ICT fields to gain experience in other disciplines.	For further information see Here
Research Networking scheme	AHRC	To encourage and enable discussion and development of ideas on a specified thematic area, issue or problem through new research networks or running a short-term series of workshops, seminars or similar events.	AHRC website , AHRC blog for international funding opportunities. Contact: Je-S helpdesk on +44 (0)1793 444164 or jeshelp@rcuk.ac.uk

Search open funding calls here

Report on contribution of design to Europe 2020

A group known as the European Design Leadership Board has formulated a series of recommendations for the European Commission on how to incorporate design “as a driver of user-centred innovation across Europe” in order to contribute to the Europe 2020 Strategy's goals for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The aim of the report is to enhance design's long-term contribution to the Europe 2020 goals through increased competitiveness and the pursuit of a better quality of life for EU citizens, with

design embedded in Europe's innovation systems. The recommendations in the report cover aspects including differentiating European design on the global stage, positioning design within the European innovation system and design for both innovative and competitive enterprises and an innovative public sector.

On Horizon 2020, the report states that design research must be better embedded in the programme and in particular, that Horizon 2020 work programmes should have sufficient flexibility to enable the formation of multidisciplinary con-

sortia in which design is one essential element. One possible output of projects could therefore be new, meaningful applications with a better design content, better technology usability and better value for users. The report is available

[Here](#)



University Applied Research Centres- Reports 2011 – 12

Activity Reports for 2011 – 12 have been produced by each of the ten University Applied Research Centres (ARCs), which are key vehicles for delivering the University's applied research and enterprise agendas. The reports summarise the achievements of University ARCs during 2011 – 12 and explain how the activities of ARCs align with the University Plan and the Academic and Working With Business Strategies.

The reports have been circulated to members of the Research, Enterprise and Advanced Scholarship Committee and are available through the University's SUN web pages and can be assessed by using the following link: [ARC report](#)

Readers may have to use their staff log in if they have not used SUN before.



NHS confirms it has a duty to promote research

The Department of Health has published its first-ever 'mandate' for the NHS Commissioning Board, confirming the board will have duties to promote research and innovation.

[Department of Health mandate](#)

[Lords statement](#)

[AMS response](#)

[AMRC response to draft mandate](#)

Parliamentary report misses the point of PhD study

The UK Council for Graduate Education has criticised a report published by the cross-parliamentary Higher Education Commission, saying that it has misunderstood the nature of PhD study. The council says that the Commission was wrong to express concerns that doctorates are too “narrow” in focus and instead argues that this is the point of them. [UK Council for Graduate Education response](#)



Research Funding Opportunities

EPSRC - Visiting Researchers.

- **Applications accepted any time.** Funding for research scientists and engineers of acknowledged standing to visit a UK research organisation. The visiting researcher can be from anywhere in the world, including the UK.

For further information, see: [Here](#)

Find Funding

Link to our funding calendar.....[Download the FUNDING Calendar HERE!!](#)

Policy and EU Update

Industrial innovation—in the EU

The Innovation Union Scoreboard (IUS) includes innovation indicators and trend analyses for the EU27 Member States, as well as for Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey. It also includes comparisons based on a more reduced set of indicators between the EU27 and 10 global competitors.

The IUS 2011 distinguishes between 3 main types of indicators and 8 innovation dimensions, capturing in total 25 different indicators.

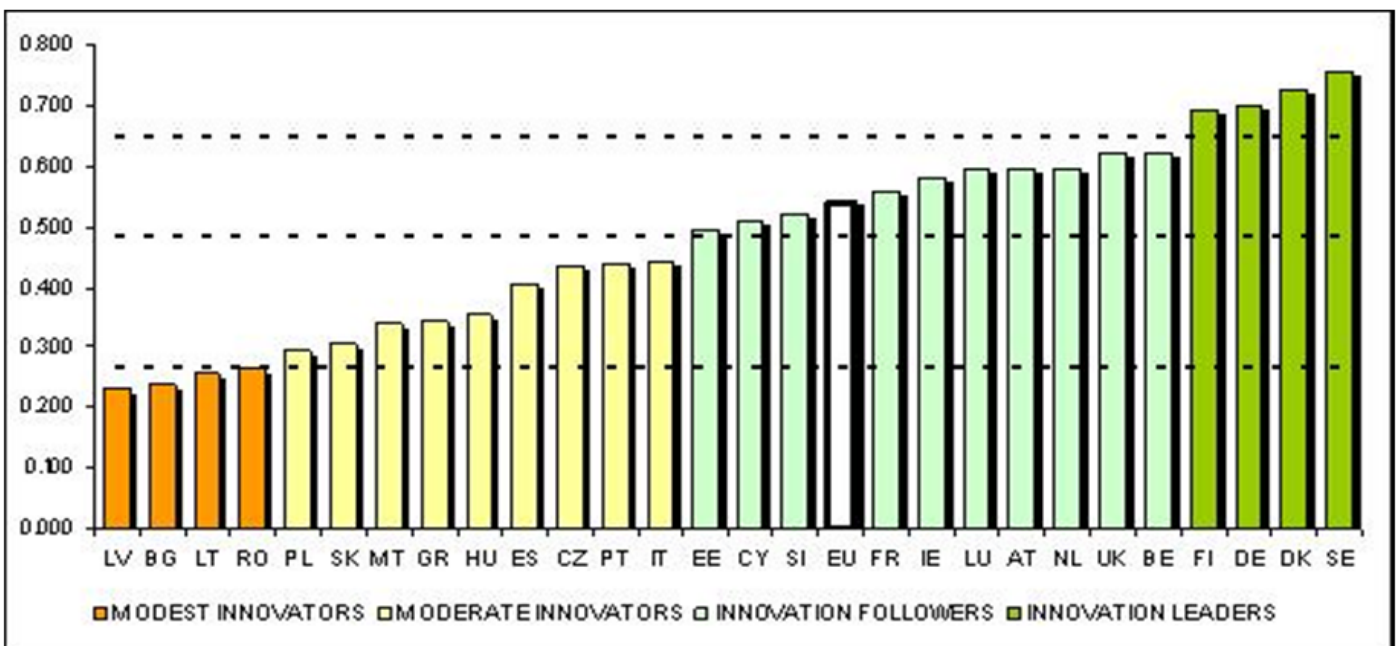
The Scoreboard places **Member States** into the following four country groups (see figure below):

- **Innovation leaders:** Denmark, Finland, Germany, Sweden all show a performance well above that of the EU27 average.
- **Innovation followers:** Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Slovenia and the UK all show a performance close to that of the EU27 average.
- **Moderate innovators:** The performance of Czech Republic, Greece,

Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain is below that of the EU27 average.

- **Modest innovators:** The performance of Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania is well below that of the EU27 average.

Innovation is a key theme for future EU funding programmes— more about the scoreboard and its' makeup can be found [Here](#)



New publication compares innovation landscapes in the UK, Germany and Finland

A study called 'Innovation Landscapes' which looks at approaches to innovation in three EU Member States (the UK, Germany and Finland) has been published.

The study, entitled 'Innovation Landscapes: innovation approaches in three selected EU Member States', collects, describes, analyses and compares the national innovation schemes and policies of the three countries, looking at the innovation cycle from policy definition to work programmes and then from project level to exploitation.

Aiming to detect similarities, links or divergences between national and European innovation policies, measures and instruments, 'Innovation Landscapes' hopes to inform future initiatives at the EU level.

Funding Applicants may find some of the information and analysis useful for developing the impact section of proposals.

The study is available on the EC website: [Here](#)

Policy in Brief

Commission clears UK umbrella support scheme for broadband investment "BDUK"

The European Commission has found that a UK umbrella support scheme for investments in next generation access (NGA) broadband networks, 'BDUK', is in line with EU state aid rules. In particular, the scheme is aimed at supporting local projects in rural and remote areas, where such networks would be unlikely to be developed on commercial terms. [Here](#)