

Application for support of Horizon Europe large scale initiatives

Aim

The aim of this support is to support the preparation of targeted, large scale activities in Horizon Europe, led by an academic institution, centre or principal investigator.

Please note that the application must be endorsed by your institution.

Eligibility

Applications can be made by a researcher in conjunction with their higher education or publicly funded institution. Grants will be up to a maximum of **€100,000**. Applications for amounts of up to **€25K**, **€50K** and **€75K** are also welcomed.

Application procedure

All applications should be submitted to Enterprise Ireland on the application form below. Completed applications should be emailed directly to:

HorizonApplications@enterprise-ireland.com

Evaluation

A committee comprising of, typically, Enterprise Ireland personnel, the National Delegate and/or National Contact Point(s) will evaluate the proposals for support. The proposals recommended for support will be presented to the Industrial Research and Commercialisation Committee (IRCC) for approval.

Proposals will be evaluated under the following criteria:

- Track record of the applicant in winning international funding;
- Appropriateness and mix of the proposed partners and benefit to Ireland;
- Quality of plan;
- Actual costs that are necessary to develop the proposal(s).

Monitoring

Enterprise Ireland will contact you with regard to obtaining a final report describing the outcome of the work and status of the projects, as well as detailed financial information and receipts associated with expenditure. Please note that Enterprise Ireland will not be responsible for any misunderstandings by applicants or their representatives, as to what are eligible costs.

Applicant details
Applicant name:
Title (including tenure):
Research centre/group:
Institution:
Address:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Contact person in your research office:

Proposed Irish Partner(s)
Outline the Ireland-based partners who will be/have been approached to participate in this activity

Proposed European Partner(s)
Outline the Europe-based partners who will be/have been approached to participate in this activity

Project outline
Please describe how you will target large scale activities

Further information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background of the applicant <p>Proposal should be led by a credible applicant and institution who can deliver on large scale initiatives.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress already made in Horizon Europe activity and the quality of this progress <p>Proposal should indicate any Horizon Europe activity already in progress (this is not a prerequisite to successful application)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning for large scale activities <p>Proposal should have a clear action plan of how it will target large scale activities</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breadth of the large scale activities <p>The proposal should bring together the best of possible partners in Ireland and at a European level</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriateness and mix of the proposed partners <p>The partners sought should each contribute in a meaningful way and there should be a clear plan on how to obtain industry commitment</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Justification of costs <p>Costs associated with the proposed activity should be clearly justified.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefit of the proposed projects to the Irish economy <p>The proposal should outline any benefits to the Irish economy.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unique selling point <p>Outline why you think you are in a position to lead and win a large scale activity.</p>

Costs Involved in developing the large scale proposal:			
Staff, travel, consultancy, other			
Details (name, location etc.)	Justification	Cost (€)	Funding Request (€)
Total Cost / Funding Requested			
Signature of applicant:			
Name of approved college officer:			
Signature of approved college officer:			
Important note: In order to prevent unnecessary delays, please ensure the application form is fully complete as incomplete forms will be returned.			

College Stamp
Is required

NOTE

1. Background

Certain calls within the latest Horizon Europe Work Programmes for 2021 to 2027 offer opportunities for Ireland's researchers of larger scale than normal. These calls typically require mobilisation of multiple actors in Ireland as part of international consortia. ***It is proposed to provide large scale coordination supports of up to €100,000 i.e. a budget of €500,000 to facilitate the more extensive preparatory work leading to proposals targeted to these calls.***

They include Horizon Europe topics with potential to achieve funding of greater than €10 million for Irish partners and European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) topics with less funding potential but substantial reputational value. It also includes the possibility to target an area of Horizon Europe from several angles, e.g. several related call topics and a cofund in that area.

The coordination supports will include eligible costs related solely to the preparation of the application to the European Commission.

The maximum grant for academic coordinators under this support is €100,000 (inclusive of VAT) which will be included in an additional Line Delegation with approval by the Division Manager.

Other initiatives (under €50k) which incorporate the following elements may also be considered:

- Actions that leave a lasting skillset within Research Offices that currently doesn't exist
- Actions that leave a lasting skillset with a cohort of selected researchers that currently doesn't exist
- Actions that are targeted to lead to an increase in 1) Horizon Europe Newcomers from Ireland or 2) Horizon Europe Coordinators from Ireland or 3) Industry engagement in Horizon Projects or 4) Engagement with Horizon Europe Partnerships
- Actions that address pre- and post-award challenges

2. Evaluation of proposals

Internal assessments will be carried out by the relevant National Delegates and National Contact Points. Following compilation of outcomes and recommendations, applications may be reviewed by an independent External Assessor.

The evaluation will include consideration of the following criteria:

- Knowledge and understanding of the call topic

The proposer must display a deep knowledge of the call topic and how this activity could fit into the national research agenda.

- Background of the applicant

Proposal should be led by a credible applicant with a successful track record in Horizon Europe who can deliver on the call objectives.

- Progress already made in related activity and the quality of this progress

Proposal should indicate any activity already in progress

- Appropriateness and mix of the proposed partners

The partners sought should each contribute in a meaningful way to the proposed activity. There should be a clear plan on how to obtain industry commitment

- Justification of costs

Costs associated with the proposed activity should be clearly justified.

- Plans for future activity, whether the application is successful or not

It is recognised that success is not guaranteed for this proposal as it is expected to be highly competitive and there may be only be one winning application in a given call topic. Therefore, it is expected that the Irish application will address this issue and plan accordingly.

- For EIT specifically: planning for EIT involvement

Proposal should have a clear action plan of how to become part of the EIT

- For EIT specifically: breadth of the proposed co-location centre

The proposed co-location centre should bring together the best possible partners in Ireland. There should be a good balance between research, innovation and education partners.

- Benefit of the proposed projects to the Irish economy

Participation in the EIT will allow access to the proposed budget of €2.8B which is allocated to the EIT in Horizon Europe. It will also bring together critical mass in Ireland to access larger funding programmes in Europe.

3. Funding

Funding to any application will not exceed €100,000 (inclusive of VAT).

Eligible costs related solely to the preparation of the application to the European Commission will include:

- strategy development and planning,
- employment of a researcher for short-term analysis,
- coordinator (or internal approved staff) least-cost travel expenses and institutional subsistence rates,
- costs of hosting meetings,
- professional services in the preparation of an application,
- Replacement teaching expenses may be eligible where a sufficiently strong case is made.

4. Outcomes & Metrics

The most successful outcome would be a Horizon Europe project of scale (€10 million+) or an Irish EIT co-location centre.

Metrics:

- Submission of application(s)
- Score achieved in European Commission evaluation: Above Threshold
- Other agreed metrics deemed appropriate to the project

Note that if a co-location centre is not part of the successful KIC, then it is expected that it would try to affiliate/associate to the successful KIC. One possibility would be the Regional Innovation Centre (RIC) model used by other KICs to bring on additional partners. It is expected that each co-location centre would continue to work together on other Horizon Europe calls and initiatives, ideally with the other partners from the KIC in which they were involved.

If you have any doubts about eligible costs, please contact HorizonSupport@enterprise-ireland.com