

Public stakeholder consultation - Interim evaluation of Horizon 2020

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

[Horizon 2020](#), with a budget of €77bn from 2014 – 2020, is the biggest European Union research and innovation framework programme ever and one of the largest worldwide. Horizon 2020 promotes Europe's scientific and technological excellence to extend the frontiers of human knowledge, boosts the European Union's economic competitiveness and addresses societal challenges.

We invite everyone to take part in this public stakeholder consultation in the context of the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020, and to have a say on research and innovation activities run by the European Commission. The results of this consultation will feed into the report on the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020, will help us to improve the implementation of Horizon 2020 and will set the scene for the future discussions on the next EU research and innovation funding post-2020.

According to the legal act establishing Horizon 2020, the European Commission has to carry out an interim evaluation of the programme by 31 December 2017. Public stakeholder consultation is a very important part of this interim evaluation.

This Horizon 2020 questionnaire consists of six parts and it will take around 20 minutes to respond.

At the end of the questionnaire there is an opportunity to upload a position paper for the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020.

The questionnaire is focused on Horizon 2020 in general. There are/will be separate online consultations on the [Euratom Programme](#), the European Institute of Innovation and Technology ([EIT](#)), and public-public and public-private partnerships ([more information here](#)).

I About You

Part I consists of questions about the respondent. We would like to know who our respondents are in order to better understand their perspective, expectations and needs in terms of research and innovation. It will also help us to tailor this survey to respondents' experiences with Horizon 2020.

***1. I am responding**

- As an individual
- On behalf of a single institution/company
- On behalf of an “umbrella” organisation of EU interest

***1.1 What type of organisation do you represent?**

- Academia
- Research organisation
- Business
- Public authority
- Non-Governmental Organisation
- Other

*** Please specify**

200 character(s) maximum

*** 1.2 Are you an SME ([Small and Medium Sized Enterprise](#))?**

- Yes
- No

***1.3 Is your organisation included in the Transparency Register?**

If your organisation is not registered, we invite you to register [here](#), although it is not compulsory to be registered to reply to this consultation. [Why a transparency register?](#)

- Yes
- No

*** If so, please indicate your Register ID number**

***2. You are from**

or if you answer on behalf of an organisation, country where it is established

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Austria | <input type="radio"/> Belgium | <input type="radio"/> Bulgaria | <input type="radio"/> Croatia |
| <input type="radio"/> Cyprus | <input type="radio"/> Czech Republic | <input type="radio"/> Denmark | <input type="radio"/> Estonia |
| <input type="radio"/> Finland | <input type="radio"/> France | <input type="radio"/> Germany | <input type="radio"/> Greece |
| <input type="radio"/> Hungary | <input type="radio"/> Ireland | <input type="radio"/> Italy | <input type="radio"/> Latvia |
| <input type="radio"/> Lithuania | <input type="radio"/> Luxembourg | <input type="radio"/> Malta | <input type="radio"/> Netherlands |
| <input type="radio"/> Poland | <input type="radio"/> Portugal | <input type="radio"/> Romania | <input type="radio"/> Slovak Republic |
| <input type="radio"/> Slovenia | <input type="radio"/> Spain | <input type="radio"/> Sweden | <input type="radio"/> United Kingdom |
| <input type="radio"/> Albania | <input type="radio"/> Bosnia and Herzegovina | <input type="radio"/> Faroe Islands | <input type="radio"/> Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia |
| <input type="radio"/> Georgia | <input type="radio"/> Iceland | <input type="radio"/> Israel | <input type="radio"/> Moldova |
| <input type="radio"/> Montenegro | <input type="radio"/> Norway | <input type="radio"/> Serbia | <input type="radio"/> Switzerland |
| <input type="radio"/> Tunisia | <input type="radio"/> Turkey | <input type="radio"/> Ukraine | <input type="radio"/> Other |

* Please specify

3. Information about the respondent

* **First name**

* **Last name**

* **Email address**

* **Organisation (please reply N/A if responding as an individual citizen)**

* 4. Your contribution

Note that, whatever option chosen, your answers may be subject to a request for public access to documents under [Regulation \(EC\) N° 1049/2001](#)

- can be published with your personal information** (I consent to the publication of all the information in my contribution in whole or in part including my name or my organisation's name, and I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent publication)
- can be published provided that you remain anonymous** (I consent to the publication of any information in my contribution in whole or in part (which may include quotes or opinions I express) provided that it is done anonymously. I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent the publication.

*5. Have you received/are you receiving support from Horizon 2020 ?

- YES
- NO

5.1. What are the main reasons for not participating in Horizon 2020? Select maximum 3.

between 1 and 3 answered rows

	My choice
I'm not a researcher/innovator	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of awareness of the EU research and innovation framework programme Horizon 2020	<input type="radio"/>
Preference to participate in other European or international programmes	<input type="radio"/>
Preference to participate in other national or regional programmes	<input type="radio"/>
Horizon 2020 project implementation rules are cumbersome	<input type="radio"/>
Success rates in Horizon 2020 are too low to be worth applying	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulties to find project partners	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of a relevant area/topic for my needs	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of an adequate type of financial support needed for my work	<input type="radio"/>
Concerns about sharing valuable knowledge with partners	<input type="radio"/>
Limited financial/human resources to prepare a proposal	<input type="radio"/>
I tried, but my proposal wasn't selected	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>

* If "other" please specify

200 character(s) maximum

5.2. In which part of Horizon 2020 have you participated/are you participating? Choose relevant answers.

	Yes
European Research Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
Future and Emerging Technologies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions	<input type="checkbox"/>
European Research Infrastructures	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to Risk Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Innovation in SMEs (including SME Instrument)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fast Track to Innovation pilot	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health, demographic change and well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research, and the bioeconomy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secure, clean and efficient energy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Smart, green and integrated transport	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials	<input type="checkbox"/>
Europe in a changing world – Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secure societies – Protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science with and for Society	<input type="checkbox"/>
European Institute for Innovation and Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>

5.3 What are the main reasons for participating in Horizon 2020?

200 character(s) maximum

* 6. Are you a newcomer* in Horizon 2020?

*Newcomer - a Horizon 2020 participant who was not involved in an FP7 grant agreement

- YES
 NO

* 7. Within Horizon 2020 projects, are you cooperating or did you cooperate with a new partner (s)*?

*New partner(s) – a partner(s) with whom you have never cooperated with before (within and outside the EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation)

- Yes
 No

* 7.1. Why did you look for a new partner(s)? Select one main reason.

- To access specific scientific expertise in the same discipline
 To include specific expertise from another discipline
 To involve potential users of the results
 To facilitate eventual commercial application
 To improve geographical coverage
 To add specific expertise for the integration of the gender dimension in research content
 Other

* If "other" please specify

200 character(s) maximum

II HORIZON 2020 - PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES

Part II is focused on priorities and objectives of Horizon 2020. We would like to know whether the activities under Horizon 2020 contribute to wider European Union policy priorities as well as to the programme's objectives. Horizon 2020 objectives are set up in the legal act establishing the Programme and they are reflected in its structure.

8. Do you think that Horizon 2020 is contributing to the following priorities of the European Union?

	Not at all	To some extent	To large extent	Fully	I don't know
*Supporting jobs, growth and investment	<input type="radio"/>				
*Promoting an Energy Union with a forward looking climate policy	<input type="radio"/>				
*Fostering the role of the European Union as a stronger global actor	<input type="radio"/>				
*Helping to create a digital single market	<input type="radio"/>				
*Achieving a deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthen industrial base	<input type="radio"/>				

9. Do you think that Horizon 2020 is helping to:

	Not at all	To some extent	To large extent	Fully	I don't know
*Build a society and an economy based on knowledge and innovation.	<input type="radio"/>				

*Implement the "Europe 2020" strategy, the EU's strategy for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Develop and implementing EU policies.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Support the development of the European Research Area, a unified area open to the world, in which scientific knowledge, technology and researchers circulate freely.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Foster excellent science.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Boost industrial leadership.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Improve the lifelong health and well-being of all.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Secure sufficient supplies of safe, healthy and high quality food and other bio-based products.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Make the transition to a reliable, affordable, publicly accepted, sustainable and competitive energy system.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Achieve a European transport system that is resource-efficient, climate- and environmentally-friendly, safe and seamless for the benefit of all citizens, the economy and society.	<input type="radio"/>				

*Achieve a resource- and water-efficient and climate change resilient economy and society, protection and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems and a sustainable supply and use of raw materials.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Foster a greater understanding of Europe, providing solutions and supporting inclusive, innovative and reflective European societies.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Foster secure European societies in a context of unprecedented transformations and growing global interdependencies and threats, while strengthening the European culture of freedom and justice.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Spread excellence and widening participation.	<input type="radio"/>				
*Support science with and for society.	<input type="radio"/>				

III RELEVANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HORIZON 2020

In **part III**, we would like to know whether Horizon 2020 priorities and forms of funding respond e.g. to current challenges as well as to the needs and expectations of stakeholders. Some questions in this part are addressed to participants in Horizon 2020 projects and focus on different aspects of Horizon 2020 implementation. Hands-on experience with project preparation and management will represent important feedback for us.

10. Do you think that:

	Not at all	To some extent	To large extent	Fully	I don't know
*Horizon 2020 priorities address the current challenges confronted by the European Union (e.g. migration, terrorism, ageing population)	<input type="radio"/>				
*Horizon 2020 priority areas and calls support the latest developments in research and innovation at the national /European and international level	<input type="radio"/>				
*Horizon 2020 is stimulating disruptive and market-creating innovation (a new process, product or service that upsets existing business models and serves new set of customers)	<input type="radio"/>				
*Horizon 2020 addresses the main citizens' needs in terms of research and innovation	<input type="radio"/>				
*Horizon 2020 thematic coverage is flexible enough to cope with changing circumstances	<input type="radio"/>				

11. Are the forms of funding provided through Horizon 2020 relevant to your needs?

	Not at all	To some extent	To large extent	Fully	I don't know
*Grants for collaborative projects	<input type="radio"/>				
*Grants for single beneficiary projects	<input type="radio"/>				
*Financial instruments (e.g. loans, guarantees)	<input type="radio"/>				
*Public procurement	<input type="radio"/>				
*Prizes	<input type="radio"/>				
*Co-fund (e.g. ERA-NET)	<input type="radio"/>				

11.1 Please provide here any other comments (if any) on the relevance of Horizon 2020 priorities and forms of funding.

500 character(s) maximum

12. Please rate the following Horizon 2020 implementation aspects for:

Work Programme and calls

	Very poor	Poor	Good	Very good	I don't know
*Transparency in the process of formulating the Work Programme	<input type="radio"/>				
*Clarity of the calls for proposals description	<input type="radio"/>				
*Ease of finding the right call for my proposal	<input type="radio"/>				
*Frequency of calls for proposals	<input type="radio"/>				
*Inclusion of Social Sciences and Humanities in calls for proposals across Horizon 2020	<input type="radio"/>				
*Balance between small and large indicative project sizes in the calls for proposals	<input type="radio"/>				
*Communication activities on Horizon 2020 to attract applicants	<input type="radio"/>				
*Frequency of use of 2-stage procedure in evaluating proposals	<input type="radio"/>				

Proposal Evaluation

	Very poor	Poor	Good	Very good	I don't know
*Time taken to evaluate proposals	<input type="radio"/>				
*Quality of the feedback from the evaluation	<input type="radio"/>				
*Time taken to sign a grant agreement	<input type="radio"/>				

Grants

	Very poor	Poor	Good	Very good	I don't know
*Support provided by the EC services (including agencies) during grant preparation and implementation	<input type="radio"/>				
*Acceptance of organisations' usual accounting practices	<input type="radio"/>				
*Mechanisms for project monitoring and reporting	<input type="radio"/>				
*Balance between control and trust of beneficiaries	<input type="radio"/>				

13. Please provide here any further comments (if any) on the implementation of Horizon 2020.

500 character(s) maximum

14. If your organization is established in a non-EU, non-associated country, to what extent do you agree with the following statements:

	I strongly disagree	I disagree	I agree	I strongly agree	I don't know
Communication activities on Horizon 2020 in my country have helped me find out about the programme	<input type="radio"/>				
It is easy to find calls which are relevant to my area	<input type="radio"/>				
It is easy to find calls that encourage participation of non-EU, non-associated country partners	<input type="radio"/>				

IV EFFICIENCY AND EU ADDED VALUE

Part IV takes a closer look at the costs and benefits of participation in Horizon 2020 as well as at the EU added value of Horizon 2020.

*** 15. As a result of the simplification measures, the costs of participating in Horizon 2020 compared to the 7th Framework Programme are:**

- Higher
- Similar
- Lower
- I don't know

*** 16. The costs of participating in Horizon 2020 compared to those of other similar international research and innovation programmes are:**

- Higher
- Similar
- Lower
- I don't know

*** 17. How do you rate the overall added value of Horizon 2020 compared to national and/or regional level research and innovation programmes in EU Member States?**

- Higher
- Similar
- Lower
- I don't know

18. What are the main expected benefits of participating in Horizon 2020 compared to national and/or regional research and innovation programmes in EU Member States?

between 1 and 5 answered rows

	My choice
More cooperation with partners from other countries	<input type="radio"/>
Improved excellence in research and innovation (e.g. more high impact publications and patents)	<input type="radio"/>
Improved international visibility	<input type="radio"/>
Strengthened critical mass to address pan-European challenges in a given area of research and innovation	<input type="radio"/>
More tests of technologies through pilot lines and demonstrator projects	<input type="radio"/>
Strengthened cooperation between academia and the private sector	<input type="radio"/>
Strengthened interdisciplinary cooperation	<input type="radio"/>
Projects financed (which otherwise could not be supported at national and/or regional level)	<input type="radio"/>
Research and innovation risk shared out	<input type="radio"/>
Reimbursement of costs at a higher level than in national and/or regional research and innovation programmes	<input type="radio"/>

18.1 Please provide here any further comments (if any) on the EU added value of Horizon 2020

500 character(s) maximum

19. What would be the impact for you or your organisation if the EU support to research and innovation (Horizon 2020 and its possible successor) were to be discontinued?

500 character(s) maximum

V INTERNAL STRUCTURE OF HORIZON 2020 AND SYNERGY WITH OTHER EU PROGRAMMES

Horizon 2020 offers many funding opportunities and in **part V** we would like to collect information about the internal structure of Horizon 2020. We also look at other European Union funding programmes and their synergies and/or overlaps with Horizon 2020.

20. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the internal structure of Horizon 2020?

	I strongly disagree	I disagree	I agree	I strongly agree	I don't know
*The different parts of Horizon 2020 complement each other	<input type="radio"/>				
*Combining different forms of support for research and innovation under one single programme better addresses stakeholder needs than having separate programmes	<input type="radio"/>				
*The increased use of calls for cross cutting activities and interdisciplinary work is a positive feature in the programme	<input type="radio"/>				
*In general, there is more coherence and synergy between different parts of Horizon 2020 than in the 7th Framework Programme	<input type="radio"/>				

21. The European Commission implements several funding programmes. How would you describe the linkages between Horizon 2020 and the following programmes?

	Work in synergy	Overlap	Work in synergy but some overlaps exist	Complement each other	I don't know
*European Structural and Investment Funds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*Programme for Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*Erasmus+	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*The LIFE Programme	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21.1 Please provide here any further comments (if any) on synergy, complementarity and/or overlaps within Horizon 2020 and with other funding programmes.

500 character(s) maximum

*** 22. Overall are you so far satisfied with Horizon 2020?**

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- I don't know

VI FORWARD LOOKING QUESTIONS

Horizon 2020 will end in the year 2020 and we would like to have a first overview of relevant issues and feedback for a possible successor programme. The European Commission's goal is to maximize the socio-economic impact of the EU support to research and innovation, so we would like to hear from you what could be done to achieve this.

23. Horizon 2020 mainstreams sustainable development as a cross-cutting issue for collaborative research and dedicates 60% of its budget to sustainable development. Research and innovation is an important driver for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The FP7 ex-post evaluation concluded that Horizon 2020 and its successors should focus on critical challenges and opportunities in the global context.

Please choose up to 5 [Sustainable Development Goals](#) on which, in your opinion, the future EU framework programmes for research and innovation should focus.

between 1 and 5 answered rows

	My choice
End poverty in all its forms everywhere	<input type="radio"/>
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	<input type="radio"/>
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	<input type="radio"/>
Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning	<input type="radio"/>
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	<input type="radio"/>
Ensure access to water and sanitation for all	<input type="radio"/>
Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	<input type="radio"/>
Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all	<input type="radio"/>
Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	<input type="radio"/>
Reduce inequality within and among countries	<input type="radio"/>
Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	<input type="radio"/>
Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	<input type="radio"/>
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	<input type="radio"/>
Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources	<input type="radio"/>
Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss	<input type="radio"/>
Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies	<input type="radio"/>
Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development	<input type="radio"/>

24. In your opinion, what is the most important issue/problem/opportunity to be addressed by the EU framework programmes for research and innovation? Indicate one area/topic.

200 character(s) maximum

25. To what extent do you agree that the following issues are needed to further maximize the socio-economic impact of the EU framework programme for research and innovation?

	I strongly disagree	I disagree	I agree	I strongly agree	I don't know
*Increased budget for financing research and innovation at EU level	<input type="radio"/>				
*More room for bottom-up proposals	<input type="radio"/>				
*Better defined priorities for research and innovation activities	<input type="radio"/>				
*Increased involvement of citizens in priority setting	<input type="radio"/>				
*Increased use of cross-cutting calls (e.g. calls responding to more than one societal challenge)	<input type="radio"/>				
*Increased coordination/synergy with other EU programmes	<input type="radio"/>				
*Better access to the programme for newcomers	<input type="radio"/>				
*Increased focus on capacity-building activities for research and innovation	<input type="radio"/>				

*Increased focus on supporting closer to market activities	<input type="radio"/>				
*Increased focus on supporting demonstration	<input type="radio"/>				
*Increased focus on fundamental research	<input type="radio"/>				
*Increased dissemination activities for the results of funded projects	<input type="radio"/>				
*Increased focus on support for the exploitation of research results	<input type="radio"/>				

25.1 Please provide here any further comments (if any) on issues you find important regarding a possible successor programme to Horizon 2020.

500 character(s) maximum

26. Please upload a document (e.g. position paper) if you wish to share any further comments /recommendations regarding the implementation of EU framework programmes, and in particular on Horizon 2020.

The maximum file size is 1MB.

Please note that the uploaded document will be published alongside your response to the questionnaire which is the essential input to this open public consultation. The document is an optional complement and serves as additional background reading to better understand your position.

Please share with us a short, telegraphic testimonial. What does Horizon 2020 mean to you? What is its main feature?

200 character(s) maximum

