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# Registration Call for Norwegian Project Partners in the Calls for the Co-funded Partnerships in Horizon Europe

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Application deadline: Open-ended	
Relevant thematic areas for this call: Joint international programmes	
Target groups: Public sector, Industry, Research organisations	
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### Purpose

This is a portal for registering Norwegian partners in projects awarded funding in a Horizon Europe co-fund partnership call where the Research Council provides funding for the Norwegian partner's project costs.

Registration of granted project participation provides a basis for establishing a contract with the Research Council for the national funding (or all funding) of Norwegian project participants.

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## About the call for proposals

Norwegian participants in the Horizon Europe co-fund partnership call must only use this registration after they have received written notification from the Research Council. The contact person for the relevant partnership at the Research Council will provide further information on how to complete the application.

When you create a registration (application), you must select the relevant partnership from the list of topics in the "Location" section of the application form.

Co-funded partnerships are collaborations between the European Commission and member states/associated countries. National and regional research funders and other public actors in the countries participate in these partnerships. The purpose of the collaboration is to develop a common strategy for common challenges, help strengthen the European Research and Innovation Area and identify topics for joint calls under the auspices of the partnerships.

In the period from 2024 to 2030, Norway's planned contribution to the Horizon Europe co-fund calls is NOK 1 417 600 000. The calls for proposals and the budget framework for the individual calls for proposals in the partnerships are published on the individual partnership's website (see the list under topics below) and on the Research Council's website for joint international calls.

Each partnership is responsible for carrying out joint application processing. The calls combine national budgets with EU funding and must follow these criteria:

- the projects supported must be transnational, involving at least two independent legal entities from two different EU Member States or Horizon Europe associated countries as recipients of the financial support and may also include legal entities established in a non-associated third countries not receiving financial support. Each partnership has their own joint transnational calls, and the application processing is administered by the partnership.
- The calls are published openly on the partnership's website and on the websites of the organisations participating with funding, including on the EU Funding and Tenders Portal. In partnerships where the Research Council is a Norwegian funding partner, calls for proposals that are open for applications from Norwegian organizations will be published on the Research Council's website.
- The calls for proposals must be open for applications for at least two months. The partnership must provide information on call updates (if any) and the outcome of the call (list of selected projects, amounts and names of selected recipients).
- The partnerships are responsible for ensuring measures to avoid possible conflicts of interest or unequal treatment of applicants (in particular through appropriate communication/exchange of information channels and independent and fair complaints procedures).

#### Application assessment

The applications are assessed according to Standard Horizon Europe evaluation criteria. The application processing is a two-step process:

- Step 1: review at national or transnational level (including national eligibility checks)
- Step 2: single international peer review. Proposals must be evaluated with the assistance of at least three independent experts

The applications must be ranked according to the results of the referees' assessments, and the selection must be made on the basis of this ranking.

This call is available in both Norwegian and English. The Norwegian call text is legally binding.

#### Who is eligible to apply?

This is a registration call for Norwegian research organisations, companies and other enterprises participating in projects that have received conditional consent from the call secretariat in a co-funded partnership, and that have been asked by the Research Council to register.

#### Who can participate in the project?

The organisation listed as the Project Owner in the Research Council's application form must be the same as the one participating in the project that has been granted the decision to award the partnership.

#### **Partners**

If there are several Norwegian participants in the same partnership project, one of the participants must be listed as the Project Owner. The Project Owner will receive funding and report on behalf of the other Norwegian participants.

#### What can you seek funding for?

You can apply for funding to cover the actual costs necessary to carry out the project. The Project Owner must obtain information on costs from the partners in the project. These costs must be entered in the cost plan under the cost type to which they belong.

All amounts must be stated in Norwegian kroner. We will inform you of any exchange rate to be used.

We require that you break down the project budget into the following cost types in your application:

- Payroll and indirect expenses, which are costs incurred by the Project Owner and partners in the public sector, research organisations and Norwegian business and industry
- **Other operating expenses**, which are costs for other activities necessary to carry out the project's R&D activities. Any purchases from subcontractors must be entered here. All costs that are entered as "other operating expenses" must be specified in the application.
- Equipment, which includes operating and depreciation costs for scientific equipment necessary to carry out the project

#### The item Procurement of R&D services must not be used.

Doctoral and postdoctoral fellows may be included in the project, but the "rules" for extending the project period due to leave of absence and illness do not apply. The project must be completed within the time frames set out in the partnership call. If the grant period must be extended beyond the project period, the institution responsible for the research fellow must finance the remaining grant period from other budgets. The remaining funds for the fellowship position in the international project will be reallocated to other positions, so that the project can be concluded as agreed.

You will find detailed and important information about <u>what the budget should</u> <u>contain</u> on our website.

#### Prerequisites for awarding funding

Support for a research organisation goes to the organisation's non-economic activity. It therefore does not constitute state aid. The Research Council assumes that the necessary accounting separation is in place.

Support for "undertakings" constitutes state aid. In this context, an undertaking means any actor that engages in economic activity by offering goods and/or services in a market. When an undertaking is to have part of its project costs covered, either as a Project Owner or as a partner in the project, this must be done in accordance with Article 25 of the General Block Exemption Regulation (Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014). Read more about state aid.

This call constitutes an aid scheme that must be notified to the EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA) and has the reference GBER 124/2024/MULTI.

In addition, you must be aware of the following if you should receive an award from us:

- The Research Council's prerequisites for awards can also be found in our general terms and conditions for R&D projects on the information page <u>What</u> the contract involves.
- The Research Council requires full and immediate open access for scientific articles, see <u>Plan S open access to publications</u>.
- For all projects that handle data, the Project Owner must prepare a data management plan in connection with the revised application, where you will find more information about the requirements for data management plans in projects that receive funding from us.
- For medical and health studies involving humans, the Research Council sets special requirements and guidelines for prospective registration of studies and publication of results.

## Relevant thematic areas for this call

The call covers all the co-funded partnerships in Horizon Europe, and we are accepting applications for funding for both applied and basic research.

#### Joint international programmes

AGROECOLOGY ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE BIODIVERSA CETP DUT EP PERMED ERA4HEALTH EUROSTARS3 BLUE ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP (SBEP) RAREDISEASES SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS (SFS) TRANSFORMING HEALTH AND CARE SYSTEMS WATER4ALL

#### Cluster 1~

#### ERA4health

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of health and care services is the responsible ministry. It will be a platform where public funders design and implement a common strategy in priority areas within health research and innovation in prevention, diagnosis and treatment. The ERA for Health implements and promotes the practice of responsible research and innovation (RRI), including researcher-initiated clinical trials (IICS, from 2025).

#### https://era4health.eu

Contact person: Cecilie A. Mathiesen

# Transformation of Health and Care Systems (THCS)

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of health and care services is the responsible ministry. It will promote the development of sustainable health and care systems with an emphasis on quality, efficiency, accessibility and patient focus.

#### https://www.thcspartnership.eu/

Contact persons: Jostein Holmgren and Siv Øverås

#### Personalised medicine

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of health and care services is the responsible ministry. It will help health systems optimise personalised medicine by, among other things, sharing data, demonstrating solutions and supporting policy development.

#### https://www.eppermed.eu/

Contact person: Katrine Rolid

#### **Rare diseases**

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry og health and care services is the responsible ministry. It aims to improve the lives of patients with rare diseases by developing diagnostics and treatment through interdisciplinary research and innovation programmes, and through collaboration with all relevant stakeholders.

https://www.ejprarediseases.org/erdera/#\_\_\_\_

Contact person: Simona Grasso

#### Cluster 5∨

#### Driving urban transitions (DUT)

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development is the responsible ministry. The partnership will engage the full range of actors responsible for the development of cities and urban regions (local authorities, municipalities, businesses and citizens) and contribute to co-creating innovative, systemic and peoplecentred solutions, tools, methods and services in support of the transformation of cities and urban regions.

#### https://dutpartnership.eu/

Contact person: Ida Ulleberg Jensen

#### Clean energy transition (CEPT)

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of Petroleum and Energy is the responsible ministry. As a transformative research and innovation programme for the whole of Europe, this partnership aims to accelerate the energy transition in all dimensions. It will involve joint research and innovation programmes from regional to national and global levels, with the support of industry, public organisations, research and citizens' organisations to make Europe a frontrunner in energy innovation and ultimately the first climate-neutral continent.

#### https://cetpartnership.eu/

Contacts: <u>Aage Stangeland</u> and <u>Marianne Haavardsholm</u> <u>Aandahl</u>

#### Cluster 6

# Accelerating farming systems transition (Agroecology)

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council

contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food is the responsible ministry. The purpose of the partnership is to accelerate the transition to sustainable agriculture in Europe through research and open innovation. This will promote a better interaction between nature and agriculture and be used in long-term and site-specific living laboratories and research infrastructures. The collaboration will help agriculture understand and implement agroecological practices.

#### https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/

Contact person: Gudrun Langthaler

#### Animal Health and Welfare

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food is the responsible ministry. The partnership will deliver key knowledge, services and products to improve the control of infectious diseases in animals (livestock production and aquaculture), and strengthen preparedness against future threats to animal and public health. The partnership will contribute to promoting knowledge-based policy formulation and management in the field of animal health and welfare.

#### https://www.eupahw.eu/

Contact person: Maan Singh Sidhu

#### Biodiversa+

This is a co-financed partnership, developed together with the European Commission as part of the EU's biodiversity strategy towards 2030. The Research Council provides Norwegian funding. KLD is the responsible ministry. The partnership will provide a platform that connects national, local and European research and innovation programmes and combines cash and in-kind funding towards a common goal – to safeguard biodiversity in Europe.

https://www.biodiversa.eu/2023/02/21/upcoming-calls/

https://www.biodiversa.eu/

Contact person: Jonas Enge

#### Sustainable Blue Economy

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding and participates in the coordination of the entire partnership. The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries is the responsible ministry. The partnership will support the EU's Green Deal and support a policy for a climate-neutral, sustainable and productive blue economy that preserves biodiversity. Contact person: Marianne Areng

#### Safe and sustainable food systems

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food is the responsible ministry. The partnership will coordinate and leverage European and national R&D&I efforts that secure future food systems through an integrated and multidisciplinary systems approach, and promote the "Farm to Fork" strategy.

Contact person: Mona Gravningen Rygh

#### Water security for the planet (Water4All)

This is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of Climate and Environment is the responsible ministry. The partnership will promote transformations throughout the water research and innovation system, and contribute to collaboration between different actors. The partnership will establish a portfolio of multinational and cross-sectoral approaches, addressing political, environmental, economic, technological and societal considerations that can contribute to water security for all.

#### https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/

Contact person: Gro Herredsvela Rørvik and Jonas Enge

#### Innovative SMEs partnership

Eurostars for Innovative Business and Industry is a co-funded partnership in which the Research Council contributes Norwegian funding. The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries is the responsible ministry. The partnership covers a niche that is not covered by other European, national and regional initiatives. This requires research and innovation collaboration between two or more international partners, where a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) is the leader. The partnership will help innovative SMEs grow and be integrated into global value chains and new markets.

https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/eurostars/

Contact person: Cathinka Holtermann

#### Requirements for this funding scheme

Please note that you can only submit the application once. If you submit the application before the deadline and subsequently see that it still needs to be changed, this can be done during the revision phase.

- The application and all attachments must be written in Norwegian and/or English.
- All attachments must be in PDF format.
- The objectives and project summary in the application form submitted to the Research Council must reflect both the partnership project as a whole and the role of Norwegian partners in the project.
- The project start and end dates must be set equal to the corresponding dates in the partnership project contract with the partnership activity. If the registration is submitted to the Research Council after the start date, the start date in the contract with the partnership activities will still apply as the project start date in the contract with the Research Council.
- In the tables of the application form, you must only register Norwegian partners who receive funding from the Research Council.
- The project description must clearly state what constitutes the Norwegian participation in the project, in addition to the expected results for the Norwegian project partners.

#### **Mandatory attachments**

 The project description in the original application for the entire partnership project on which the partnership decision is based. There is no page number limit.

#### **Optional attachments**

• Any attachments will be informed of in written information from the Research Council.

All attachments to the application must be submitted with the application. We do not accept attachments submitted after the application deadline unless we have requested additional documentation.

We will not consider documents and websites linked to in the application, or attachments other than those specified above. Be careful to upload the correct attachment type, as there are no technical restrictions on what kind of templates it is possible to upload in the application form.

#### Assessment criteria

The Research Council will not make any scientific assessment of the pro forma registration, only check that all requested appendices are attached and that the budget has been set up as agreed and in accordance with applicable guidelines.

#### Administrative procedures

As soon as we have received the application/registration, we will check that the necessary data and attachments are in place. If everything is in order, we will prepare the agreement document for the project's Norwegian partners. If we

need further information or corrections, you will be given the opportunity to revise the registration.

#### Create application

Create application

Applications for Registration Call for Norwegian Project Partners in the Calls for the Co-funded Partnerships in Horizon Europe should be created on My RCN Web. Application templates should be filled and uploaded in the application.

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