

TWINNING

—
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AIM

- Raise scientific excellence in the more traditional sense through focused networks with excellent partners developing new promising R&I domains and test novel approaches in smaller joint research projects
- Enhance networking activities between the research institutions of the Widening countries and top-class leading counterparts at EU level
- Building on the huge potential of networking for excellence through knowledge transfer and exchange of best practice
- Help raise the research profile of the institution from the Widening country as well as the research profile of its staff
- Special focus on strengthening the research management and administrative skills of the coordination institution and on early stage researchers



OBLIGATORY EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Improved excellence capacity and resources in Widening countries enabling to close the still apparent research and innovation gap within Europe
- Enhanced strategic networking activities between the research institutions of the Widening countries and at least two internationally-leading counterparts at EU level
- Raised reputation, research profile and attractiveness of the coordinating institution from the Widening country and the research profile of its staff
- Strengthened research management capacities and administrative skills of the staff working in institutions from the Widening country
- Improved creativity supported by development of new approaches in R&I collaboration, increased mobility (inwards and outwards) of qualified scientists

SCOPE

- Clearly outline the **scientific strategy** for stepping up and stimulating scientific excellence and innovation capacity in a defined area of research and scientific quality of the partners involved (justification of the chosen scientific field)
- Scientific strategy elements:
 - arrangements for formulating new (or ongoing) joint research project(s) in the scientific area of choice
 - how Twinning will take this research to a new stage, by enlarging its scope and/or the research partnership
 - links with sustainable development objectives are to be outlined (if relevant) and national / regional S3
 - include a comprehensive set of activities to be supported (as far as appropriate take into account the gender equality plans of the participant)

SET OF ACTIVITIES

- **At least** a number of the following:
 - short-term staff exchanges;
 - expert visits and short term on-site or virtual training;
 - workshops;
 - conference attendance;
 - organisation of joint summer school type activities (teaching activities are eligible costs);
 - dissemination and outreach activities;
 - research.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

SPARKS Toolkit of Activities

- Innovative formats of activities for interaction between citizens and researchers ([SPARKS project](#))



Engage2020 Action Catalogue

- online support tool enabling researchers, policy-makers and others wanting to conduct inclusive research ([Engage2020 project](#)) - 57 different methods on 32 different criteria



FURTHER ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL 1

- Focus on strengthening the **research management and administration skills** of the coordinating institution:
 - Include as a dedicated work package or task, placing emphasis to specific activities, in view of helping the staff of the coordinating institution to improve their proposal preparation and project management/administration skills
 - Setting up/upgrading a research management/administration unit within the coordinating institution would be beneficial
 - Fully utilising the experience and best practices of the internationally leading partners
 - Is expected to be a concrete deliverable of the Twinning exercise



FURTHER ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL 2

- Eligible R&I costs:
 - research component not exceeding 30% of the total HORIZON grant may include an exploratory research project; this will open opportunities for integrating smaller research activities and by this strengthening the commitment and the engagement of the twinning partners
 - at least 70% of the budget for research activities must be allocated to the coordinator from a widening country
 - research part of the project should be presented through a dedicated work package and plan including the scientific objectives, tasks and roles of the partners
- Specific attention should be paid to **gender equality objectives**, in line with the organisations' commitments through their adopted gender equality plans, and in line with ERA objectives, as far as appropriate



FURTHER ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL 3

- **INDICATORS:**

- Illustrate quantitatively and qualitatively the expected potential impact within the coordinating institution (and possibly at regional/national level) based on indicators, e.g.:
 - expected future publications in peer reviewed journals,
 - collaboration agreements with businesses,
 - intellectual property,
 - new innovative products or services,
 - no. of international students,
 - no. of women scientists and their roles) etc.



FURTHER ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL 4

- **LEADING PARTNERS:**
- Contribution of leading scientific institutions in the partnership in terms of provision of access to new research avenues, creativity and the development of new approaches, as well as acting as a source for increased mobility (inwards and outwards) of qualified scientists and young researchers including doctoral candidates
- Substantiate benefits for the leading scientific institutions and the way they would materialise through the partnership



ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

- Participation as coordinators to the call is limited to legal entities established in Widening countries
- Consortium: coordinator + at least two research institutions from two different Member States or Associated Countries other than the country of the coordinator
- Proposals also submitted under call HORIZON-WIDERA-ACCESS-02 Twinning Western Balkans Special are not eligible
- At least 70% of the budget for research activities must be allocated to the coordinator from a widening country



OVERVIEW OF THE NOVELTIES AND IMPORTANT ISSUES

- Justification of the chosen scientific domain, relevance to its state of art
- Eligibility of research costs in CSA not exceeding 30% of the total HORIZON grant
- More emphasis on developing research management capacities
- More integrated policy approach and enhanced synergies with regional policy, transnational missions and gender issues
- Sustainability – how to maintain new networks beyond the end of the project (widening and advanced partners should foresee a long term horizon of cooperation)



TWINNING

RATIONALE

- MAIN AIM – institutional networking to enable:
 - Transfer of knowledge and skills and exchange of best practices
 - Raising of research profile of the institution and its staff
 - Special focus on strengthening the research management and administrative skills
- A research component up to 30% may include exploratory research project (dedicated WP) - at least 70% of the research activities must be allocated to the coordinator

OVERVIEW

- HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03-01
- Opening: 20 July 2021
- Deadline: 18 January 2022
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 149
- Budget per project: M€ 0,8 – 1,5
- Project duration: up to 3 years
- Consortium: 1 + 2
- Expected no. of projects: 100

TWINNING WESTERN BALKANS SPECIAL

RATIONALE

- MAIN AIM – institutional networking
- Eligible countries: Albania, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Kosovo
- A research component up to 30% may include exploratory research project (dedicated WP) - at least 70% of the research activities must be allocated to the coordinator
- **Czech and Slovak institutions can be advanced partners 😊 - be proactive**

OVERVIEW

- HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-02-01
- Opening: 29 June 2021
- Deadline: 5 October 2021
- Overall indicative budget: M€ 21
- Budget per project: M€ 0,8 – 1,5
- Project duration: up to 3 years
- Consortium: 1 + 2
- Expected no. of projects: 14





OTÁZKY?

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