

Synergies Open 3: Key conclusions

Representatives of Czech R&D funding providers, representatives of the European Commission and other stakeholders shared the best practices in harvesting the potential of synergies and discussed further steps to promote synergies among funding sources in order to increase the impact and efficiency of funding:

- Representatives of all involved stakeholders acknowledged the legitimacy and importance of pursuing further the four areas outlined at the Round Table on Synergies (15. 2. 2023):

- i) Developing the role of the Czech Republic as a leading force of promoting synergies in the EU;*
- ii) Improving coordination in planning long term R&D funding frameworks;*
- iii) Intensify communication and cooperation in implementation of synergies;*
- iv) Encourage the readiness of legal frameworks of member states to embrace synergies and their implementing instruments.*

More details concerning four areas outlined (key points for discussion)¹

- Representatives of all stakeholders acknowledged the potential of synergies in reaching goals across multiple agendas and encouraged their further development:

- i) Synergies in funding provide successful and verified framework for bridging the gap between old and new member states (e.g. alternative funding);*
- ii) Synergies offer potential to help the established funding instruments to reflect and respond to past and present crises;*
- iii) Synergies provide a way to harmonize and utilize the potential of various forms of support (grants and financial instruments).*

- Representatives of all stakeholders stressed the need to pursue concrete steps to implement tangible steps and solutions to benefit from synergies not necessarily only through legislative changes but through simplification or exchanging and showcasing data, best practices and pathways to success:

- i) A new platform Smart Specialisation Strategies Community of Practice (S3 CoP) is being launched to implement the recommendation of European court of auditors on synergies as a new push to improve communication and cooperation among the funding providers;*
- ii) A new subgroup under ERA Action 16 "Improve EU-wide access to excellence" is being created under the name of RIMA (R&I and Cohesion Managing Authorities Network).*

More information about the event²

¹ https://www.horizontevropa.cz/files_public/elfinder/3729/2023_02_15_Synergies-Open-3-Topics-for-discussion-EN.pdf

² <https://www.horizontevropa.cz/en/calendar/yiiicalendarevent/607/presentations-and-conclusions-synergies-open-3>