

Research and Enterprise Newsletter (Special Edition)

Horizon Europe

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Save this newsletter to have this information accessible when you are ready to apply.

1. Introduction

New Zealand is now an Associate Member of Pillar II of [Horizon Europe](#), providing full funding for researchers in Pillar II: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness. This program has a budget of €95.51 billion and runs from 2021 to 2027.

This newsletter focuses on Pillar II: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness, which has a budget of €53.5 billion, offering collaboration opportunities to address pressing global challenges.

The program promotes cooperation between universities, scientific communities, and industries, including [small and medium-sized enterprises](#), to bridge gaps between generations and regional cultures and to support young people in shaping Europe's future and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

2. What is Horizon Europe - Pillar II?

Pillar II focuses on:

- Addressing major global challenges: Climate change, health, digitalisation, and more.

- Strengthening Europe's industrial leadership: R&D and innovation for cutting-edge technologies.
- Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Transforming our planet and societies towards a sustainable future.

To find out more about Pillar II, click [here](#).

3. Horizon Europe Pillar II – How do I get involved?

- (a) Notify your dedicated Research Advisor (RA) or Business Development Manager (BDM) of your interest in finding out more about HE Pillar II or applying.
 - (b) **You need an online and up-to-date personal profile if you want to be found by consortia and to take full advantage of the networking opportunities.** To register your personal profile, just [create an account](#) and follow the steps in the F&T Portal under [“How to Participate”](#). Take the time to register, create and publish your “My Person Profile”. As an aid, you can upload your information from your [ORCID profile](#) - this will begin to populate your profile information tabs.
 - (c) The [Funding & Tenders Portal](#) (F&T, more information below) hosts thousands of calls for proposals for the Horizon Europe Pillar II work programme.
 - (d) Eligibility for Horizon Europe Pillar II is characterised by “general openness” to consortia, that is, multinational and interdisciplinary groups of individuals, research organisations, industry, and/or governments that enter into a formal agreement to work together and achieve a common purpose. To be funded, **you must be part of a consortium comprised of at least three organisations representing at least two Associate Members (AM) countries and one Member State (MS)**. In addition to this requirement, organisations representing **low and middle income countries (LMICs)** should also be invited to participate*.
- * For more information on eligibility of LMICs please visit [this list](#) of participating countries in Horizon EU.
- (e) This first year of association, we recommend participants test the funding programme by **joining as a partner on an application** (not lead). We do not have the institutional expertise and sufficient track record in this funding programme to lead compelling submissions yet.
 - (f) To join existing consortia, you must identify and harness **your existing network of research contacts in the European Union** and abroad. As you will see, there are also online resources you can utilise for this purpose. Contestable seed funding is available through the Royal Society’s [Catalyst Fund](#) (Leaders and Seeding) if you wish to travel.
 - (g) In the F&T Portal, once you’ve finished your personal profile, you will be able to “add” or publish **“partner search announcements”** per call for proposals, allowing others to note your interest in relation to open calls, and message you through the portal to invite you to take part in joint bids. You can message them or others through the [Partner Search](#) feature in the portal as well.
 - (h) To access all past and present Horizon projects and learn what other organisations are doing in your research space, please consult [CORDIS Europa](#).
 - (i) Through this platform you can also register to [work as an expert](#) and **assess proposals**, which will also help you network and understand this application process up front.

- (j) To support this process of engagement with potential partners, EURAXESS recommends you create an A4 two-page profile of your work or that of your research team. Please liaise with your RA or BDM to source the template.

4. National Contact Points

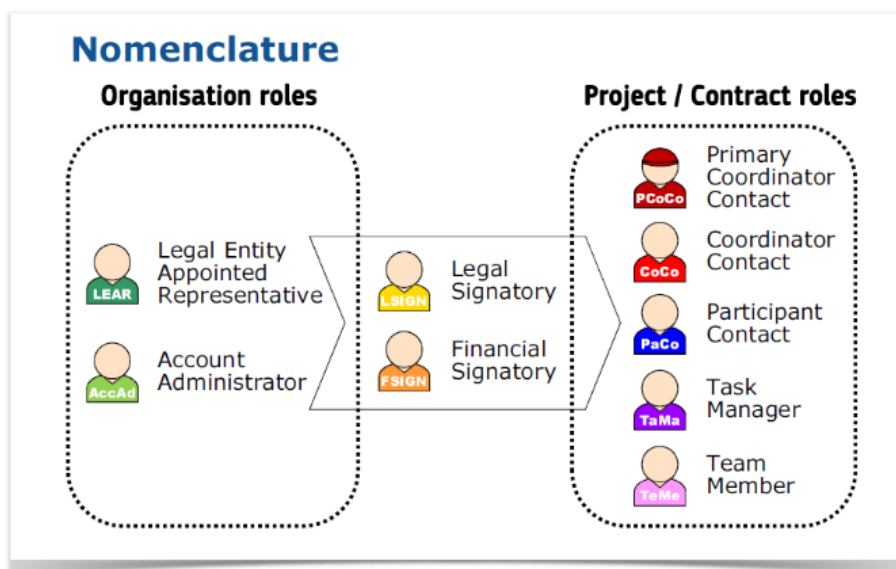
The National Contact Points (NCPs) provide guidance, practical information, assistance on building research consortia, and all aspects of participation in Horizon Europe. NCPs details can be found on the MBIE Horizon Europe [website](#).

Take the time to communicate with the **NCP assigned to your Cluster or area of interest** by sending a copy of your two-page profile template available from your RA or BDM.

5. Applying to Horizon Europe Pillar II

- (a) When applying for external funding, the first step is to notify the Research Office through your designated RA or BDM. The application will be submitted through the F&T Portal. The Research Office holds UO's "PIC," which is a 9-digit Participant Identification Code needed to participate in a proposal. **It is important to note that the PIC should not be used unless permission has been obtained from your dedicated RA or BDM.** You must quote this PIC in all communication with the European Commission. You can find a register of all participant organisations of European programmes and their PICs [here](#).
- (b) Please be mindful of the **Roles and Responsibilities** on the F&T portal. Communicating proactively with your RA/BDM will guarantee our institutional signoff and our full support of your application. **The University of Otago is the Legal Entity Appointed Representative (LEAR)** with contractual authority in the event an application is funded. (For more information, please see the diagram below and read the [Roles and Access Rights - Online Manual](#)).

Nomenclature



- (c) **Every time the PIC is used** in an application, **the LEAR and the “Account Administrators” (AccAd, as above) receive a notification**, identified only with the application number, as assigned by the F&T Portal upon submission. If the application is submitted by another organisation, and you have not communicated proactively with your RA or BDM, we will not know the name of the UO research staff member this relates to and will not be able to provide you with our support.
- (d) If you are invited to join a research consortium and make a joint submission to Horizon Europe, you will need to ask the **“Primary Coordinator Contact” (PCoCo)**, the PI or lead of the consortium, to nominate you and your **RA** as a **“Participant Contact” (PaCo)**. This will allow you and your Research Advisor to receive pre- and post- award notifications by email and in your Person Profile in the F&T Portal, where you will perform the necessary steps to submit your application and manage your award.
- (e) **The standard overhead rate for Horizon is 25% of total costs.** Because this does not cover all costs, the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment in New Zealand (MBIE) **will top-up the overhead costs** shortfall if a proposal is successful, **up to NZ\$1.05 million per project.** The application for this must be submitted by the Research Office **within 10 working days of HE submission.** For more information visit [Horizon Europe - Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment](#).
- (f) It is important that you structure your submission as a **fully funded application with a budget.** Your RA will help you prepare the budget and obtain the **necessary internal approvals** from your HoD and Dean/PVC.
- (g) The Horizon funding system is complex and bureaucratic, and some research organisations outsource the coordination of a submission to specialist **consulting firms** that operate different fee structures. You may be asked to pay a non-refundable fee to join a consortium. This is a sensitive matter to discuss with your Head of School and Dean/PVC. **The Research Office will not pay this fee.**
- (h) When an application is awarded, the Grant Preparation Agreement (GAP) phase kicks in, you will need to liaise with your RA to receive a signed Financial Identification Form (from the FSIGN), a Declaration of Honour (from the LSIGN) and the Gender Equity Plan (GEP). Your RA and/or BDM will continue to support you through the Grant Agreement Signature phase and reporting.

The **Pillar II Work Programme** is divided into 6 interdisciplinary **“Clusters:”**

[Cluster 1: Health](#)

[Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society](#)

[Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society](#)

[Cluster 4: Digital, Industry, Space](#)

[Cluster 5: Climate, Energy & Mobility](#)

[Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment](#)

Each Cluster is divided into **“Destinations”**, which group all the calls for proposals available per Cluster into thematic groups. The deadline and budget vary from call to call. To search all calls for proposals, we suggest:

- Look at the **Cluster PDF documents** linked above and select those that interest you the most. Have a read of the comprehensive list of calls for proposals on the **Table of Contents**.
- Note potential **keywords** and run a search on the PDF document using these keywords and those aligned with your research interests.
- Check for application deadlines and award budgets associated with each call for proposal in the same document, this time in the **summary table** under the relevant Destination heading.

- Alternatively, **identify calls for proposals** in the [F&T Portal](#), searching by keyword. Here you will find all calls from all clusters and all the information you will need to apply. To aid your search, use the filters available.
- This information also includes a link to the “**partner search announcements**”, or the digital ads posted by potential partners for a call for proposal. Here you can **add your own** partner search announcement with an **expertise offer** or an **expertise request** for that specific call.
- Think about your profiles on other platforms - what comes up on a Google search?

6. Events

Upcoming Events

[European Research and Innovation Days](#) (20th and 21st March 2024, Online and in Brussels)

More details on upcoming events can be found [here](#) on the European Commission’s website. Keep an eye on the events page for upcoming *info days* and *brokerage events*.

The Horizon Europe Info Days provide prospective applicants and other stakeholders of EU research and innovation the opportunity to get information and ask questions about the main funding instruments, processes of Horizon EU per programme Cluster. You can attend these online.

The Horizon Europe Brokerage Events provide unique opportunities for Horizon Europe proposers to find partners, discuss project ideas, stay informed, and build networks. Brokerage events can be in person-only, online-only or hybrid (in-person and online).

Previous Events

Please liaise with your RA or BDM to request access to the Horizon Europe - UO Researcher Support MS Teams Channel to access key resources (including links to recordings of previous events).

7. New Zealand Horizon Europe Launch

New Zealand’s Association with Horizon Europe was formally [launched](#) by MBIE in Christchurch on **13 July 2023** with a full day of presentations and workshops. (Links to all slides and recordings below.)

[Policy Futures: EU-Aotearoa New Zealand Seminar](#)

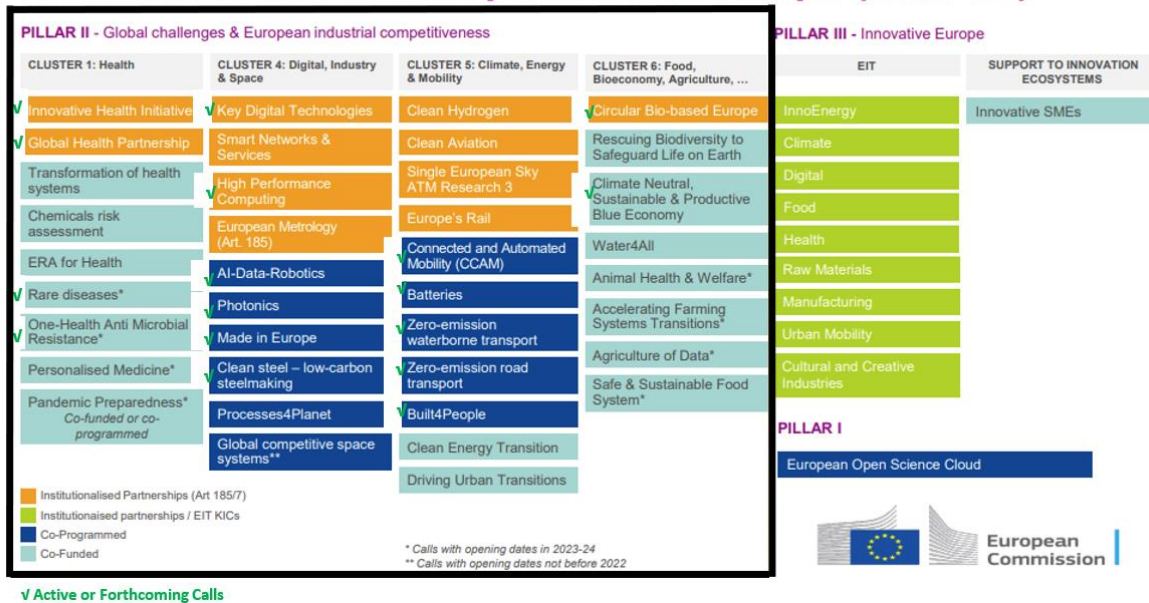
[Horizon Europe Information Session](#)

8. European Partnerships in Horizon Europe

These funding opportunities run parallel to the calls for proposals above and represent a “new generation of objective-driven and more ambitious partnerships in support of agreed EU policy objectives.” EU Investment in these partnerships account for about a third of all Horizon Europe funds. The key features of these partnerships are strategic orientation, simple architecture and toolbox, common set of criteria for the life cycle. There are three types of partnerships: co-programmed, institutionalised and co-funded.

For more information about these partnerships and relevant contacts per Cluster, follow this link: [European Partnerships in Horizon Europe](#).

Overview of the 49 European Partnerships (2021-24)



As listed above, there are calls for proposals that are currently open or forthcoming and some that have closed for the 2023-2024 work programme. However, **all partnerships are considered long-term investments and ongoing until 2031 and beyond. NZ researchers can participate on all partnerships in Pillar II: Global Challenges & European Industrial Competitiveness** (those inside the **black frame** in the figure above), even if calls have closed for 2023-2024.

9. Crowdhelix

The University has recently acquired a subscription to Crowdhelix, an innovative platform designed to foster collaborative partnerships. If you are interested in creating a profile on the platform, please your dedicated Research Advisor or Business Development Manager, who will provide you with access to the platform.

The [Crowdhelix](#) platform will facilitate collaborations with a global network of over 680 renowned international Universities and innovative companies.

The platform offers various benefits:

- Horizon Europe - Members can seek expertise for their new project or offer their expertise to join consortia applying to specific calls.
- Join thematic communities - You can join and exchange with other members grouped around thematic areas called 'Helixes'. They span across a large spectrum of disciplines including Humanities.
- Open innovation - The platform also offers open innovation opportunities where industry seek expertise.

Find Collaborators options:

Seeking collaborators for a new project or to join a funding proposal.
 Seeking collaborators for an existing project or to join an ongoing collaboration

Maximise the impact of your research by doubling your reach and partnerships!

You may be wondering, why you should have both a Funding & Tenders (F&T) portal and Crowdhelix profiles.

The F&T portal allows you to access official EU funding and reach thousands of potential partners across Europe. On the other hand, Crowdhelix enables you to showcase your work, connect with investors, industry experts, and global collaborators.

By using both platforms, you can benefit from increased visibility, credibility, and funding opportunities, which can help you attract more partners and boost your success. Additionally, the diverse stakeholders and fresh perspectives that you can access through these platforms can potentially spark new ideas.

Don't limit yourself to just one platform. Leverage both and double your impact. Create your profiles on these platforms today!

10. University of Otago Horizon Europe Researcher Register

Please complete the following table and email it to your dedicated RA or BDM if you would like to be added to the register to receive key updates from the Research Office.

First name	
Last name	
Department	
Division	
Research expertise	
Early career	Yes/No (delete one)
Horizon Europe Pillar II Readiness level (started working on bid)	Yes/No (delete one)
Pillar II (Global Challenges) cluster(s)	List here
Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe Funding experience	Yes/No (delete one)
EU External collaborating institutions (previous and current)	List here if applicable
I would like access to the Horizon Europe – UO Researcher Support MS Teams channel. <i>Your RA/BDM will send you the link.</i>	Yes/No (delete one)

11. University of Otago Horizon Europe MS Teams Channel

A collaborative space designed specifically for university academics and researchers seeking guidance and support for submissions related to Horizon Europe Pillar II. It aims to provide a supportive environment where individuals can exchange insights, ask questions, receive guidance, and stay updated on the latest information and best practices related to Horizon Europe funding opportunities.

12. Decision Tree

