



HORIZON EUROPE

THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME

2021 – 2027

Cluster 1 Health



PEOPLE DIRECTORATE
DG RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Horizon Europe (2021-2027)

Introduction – Rationale for a European Framework programme

Horizon Europe structure: constants & novelties

Opportunities for Health research

The Health clusters and its 6 Destinations

Towards the first calls – including actions targeting COVID-19

Horizon Europe - rationale

Rationale for a European Framework programme

- Acting at European level
- Critical mass & Impact
- Collaboration, scale and multi-disciplinarity
- Access to research infrastructures
- Mobility and opportunities for researchers

Horizon Europe – policy mandate

from European Commission proposal:

“...**strengthen the European Union’s scientific and technological bases** in order to help tackle the major global challenges of our time” and now with an emphasis on contributing “to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”.

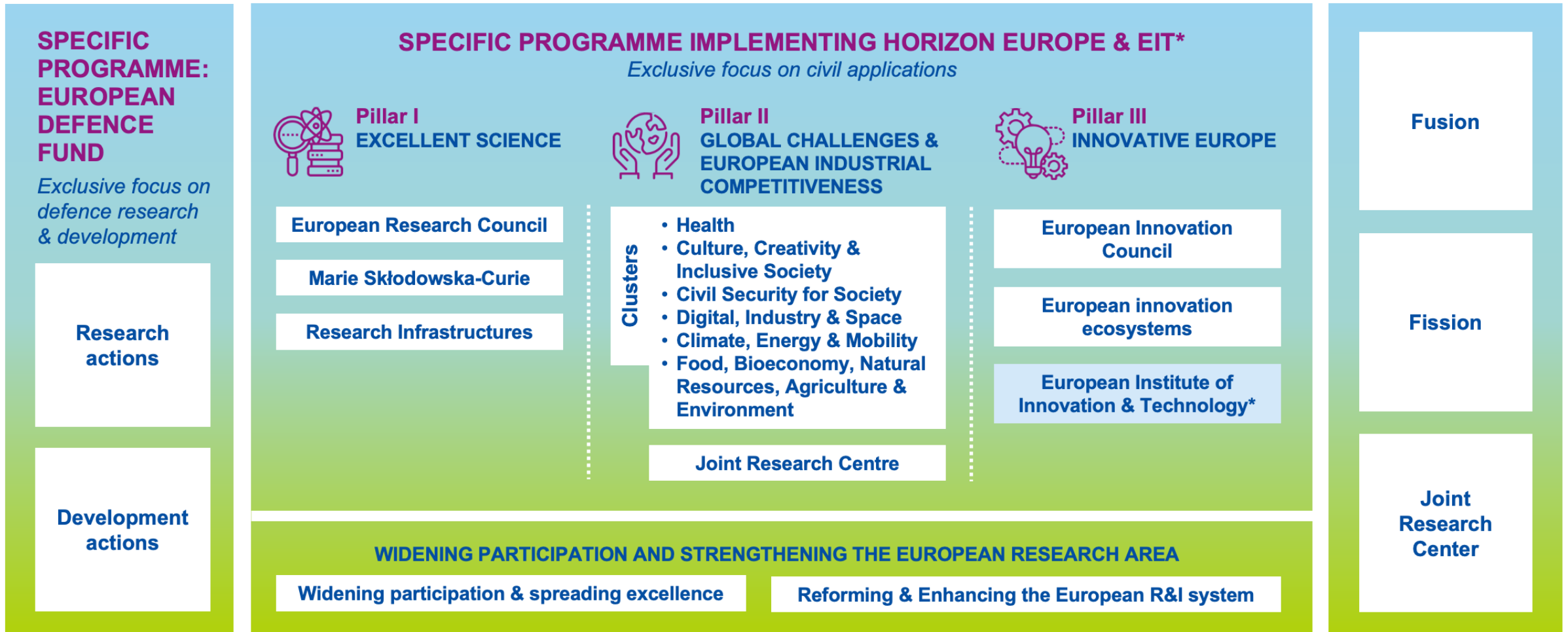
“...**boost the Union’s competitiveness**, including that of its industries”

“...**deliver on the Union’s strategic priorities and support the development and implementation of Union policies.**”

“In a swiftly changing world, Europe’s success increasingly depends on its ability to **transform excellent scientific results into innovation** that have a real **beneficial impact on our economy and quality of life**, and create new markets with more skilled jobs.”

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* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

Horizon Europe – Cluster 1 - Health

Aims:

- to contribute to the promotion of social cohesion and inclusiveness and the health and well-being of people.
- to help develop “*an economy that works for people*” by supporting research (and coordination) in order *to make innovative, high-quality health technologies and health care both available and affordable for citizens;*
- *and to make health care systems more accessible and sustainable, including through the digital transformation of health and care.*

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Challenges:

- a complex, evolving demography (ageing, multi-morbidities,...)
- achieving greater resilience and equity in our healthcare systems;
- the need to be better prepared for the accelerating pace of change and possible shocks to our societies.

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Role of Research & Innovation:

- advance knowledge and capabilities,
- improve understanding of health and diseases,
- develop innovative methodological and technological solutions to better manage health and diseases,
- design sustainable approaches for the digital transformation and delivery of integrated, person-centred and equitable health and care services.

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Six “Destinations”:

1. Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society
2. Living and working in a health-promoting environment
3. Tackling diseases & reducing disease burden
4. Ensuring access to innovative, sustainable & high-quality Healthcare
5. Unlocking the full potential of new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society
6. Maintaining an innovative, sustainable & globally competitive health industry

Cluster 1 – Health – Destinations

Destination 1 - **Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society**

- R&I should provide new evidence, methodologies and tools to understand the transition from health to disease, preventing diseases and promoting health.

Expected impacts:

- the promotion of healthier lifestyles, behaviours and environments to enable citizens stay healthy throughout the life; Innovative evidence-based services, policies and guidelines for health promotion and disease prevention;
- accessible, equitable and effective co-designed digital solutions for promoting health and preventing disease;
- collaborations across sectors and with other HE clusters to transform the healthcare system from reacting to illness, to proactively promoting health and preventing disease.

Cluster 1 – Health – Destinations

Destination 2 - Living and working in a health-promoting environment

- The environment we live and work in has direct or indirect beneficial or adverse impacts on human health and well-being. It is a major determinant of health and well-being.

Expected impacts

- the knowledge to identify and assess the risks and benefits for health of living and working environments to enable the design of health-promoting and disease preventive policy actions and dissemination of best practices;
- solid scientific evidence and uptake of research results into relevant environmental, occupational, social, economic, fiscal and health policies at EU, national and regional level;
- new / improved health interventions, technologies, tools and services for care and health

Cluster 1 – Health – Destinations

Destination 3 - Tackling diseases & reducing disease burden

Expected impacts

- for health burden of diseases in the EU and worldwide to be reduced through effective disease management, including through the development and integration of innovative diagnostic and therapeutic approaches, personalised medicine approaches, digital and other people-centred solutions for health and care.
- patients should be diagnosed early and accurately and receive effective, cost-efficient and affordable treatment, including for rare diseases.
- Premature mortality from non-communicable diseases reduced by one third by 2030.
- Health care systems should be better prepared to respond to health emergencies.
- Patients and citizens should be knowledgeable of disease threats, involved and empowered to make and shape decisions for their health.

Cluster 1 – Health – Destinations

Destination 4 - Ensuring access to innovative, sustainable & high-quality Healthcare

Expected impacts:

- Health and social care services and systems that have improved governance and are more effective, efficient, accessible, resilient, trusted and sustainable, with health promotion and disease prevention at their heart.
- Health care providers that are trained and equipped with the skills and competences suited for the future needs of health care systems.
- People enabled to play a key role in managing their own health and care and specific needs of more vulnerable groups are recognised and addressed.
- People can also benefit from improved access to health care services, including safe, effective, and affordable essential medicines and vaccines.

Cluster 1 – Health – Destinations

Destination 5 - **Unlocking the full potential of new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society**

Expected impacts

- contribute to Europe's scientific and technological expertise and know-how, its capabilities for innovation in new tools, technologies and digital solutions, and its ability to take-up, scale-up and integrate innovation in health and care;
- enable researchers, innovators and health care providers to use health data and AI-supported decision-making in a secure and ethical, acceptable and trustworthy manner.
- citizens should benefit from targeted and faster research resulting in safer, more efficient, cost-effective and affordable tools, technologies and digital solutions for effective personalised disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment and monitoring for better patient outcome and well-being, in particular through increasingly shared health resources.

Cluster 1 – Health – Destinations

Destination 6 - **Maintaining an innovative, sustainable & globally competitive health industry**

Expected impacts:

a Health industry should be more competitive, sustainable and growing, providing high-value jobs and contributing to economic growth, in particular SMEs, by tapping into new markets and providing European leadership in health technologies and innovations.

Citizens, health care providers and health systems should benefit from swift uptake of innovative health technologies and services offering significant improvements.

Health industry should work more efficiently along the value chain from the identification of needs to the scale-up and take-up of solutions at national, regional or local level, including through early engagement with all stakeholders to ensure suitability and acceptance of solutions.

European Partnerships and Missions

Partnerships

- public-public partnerships
- public-private
- global initiatives

Mission on Cancer

- Five intervention areas (+ cross-cutting actions)



- 13 recommendations

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Cross-cutting issues – Gender

- integration of the gender dimension into R&I content is further strengthened, it will become mandatory unless indicated as not relevant at topic level.
- additional provisions to foster gender equality in organisations;
- having a gender equality plan in place will become an eligibility criterion for public bodies, research organisations and higher education institutions.

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Cross-cutting issues

- **Ethics and Integrity** remain absolute priorities;
- **Open Science** practices will continue to expand;
- **Social Sciences and Humanities** should continue to be taken into account;
- **International Cooperation** will remain a key feature and opportunity of the framework programme, that is of particularly important for health research.

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Towards first calls – what to expect

- Work programme topics broader, focussing more on impacts and requesting “Pathways to impact”;
- Combinations of topics with complementary approaches.
- The topic will give a challenge and it will be up to applicants to present a convincing trajectory to achieve the impacts described in the topic.
- Evaluation criteria maintained, some simplification for “implementation”
- Emergency actions to deliver on “HERA Incubator: Anticipating together the threat of COVID-19 variants” (announced on 17-2-2021)

Horizon Europe – Cluster 1 - Health

Keep informed. Get involved.

- Register to receive the latest updates of developments.
- Reach out to National Contact Points..
- Become an independent evaluator for HE proposals

ALL this can be done via EC portal for *Funding & Tenders Opportunities*.

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal>

General information on Horizon Europe: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/horizon-europe>

You can also follow us on Twitter @EUScienceInnov



Thank you

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