

## Leaflet

# How to apply for Widening calls

## NCP\_WIDERA

**NCP\_WIDERA.NET** project is a 3 years Coordination and Support Action financed by the European Commission established with the aim to empower the network of National Contact Points (NCPs) for WIDERA under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme. Its overall objective is to

support the capacity and effectiveness of WIDERA National Contact Points with special attention to less experienced entities in low performing Member States (MS) and Associated Countries (AC) to bridge the knowledge gaps to enhance access to funding possibilities under the Framework Programme.



**NCP\_WIDERA.NET** is the European network of WIDERA National Contact Points. Visit us on [www.ncpwideranet.eu](http://www.ncpwideranet.eu), register for our newsletter and follow us on Twitter and LinkedIn to stay up to date on ERA and WIDENING.

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 **Funded by the European Union**

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## Find a suitable call for proposals

The European Commission (EC) and its funding bodies **publish calls for proposals on the Funding & Tenders Opportunities Portal**.

1. You may start your search from the home page by entering keywords that **characterize best your field of interest, and then refine the results with the help of further filters, or you may start your search by selecting one of the EU funding programmes listed on the home page**, and then navigate via the quick links to the calls for proposals of a specific programme.

2. The **calls for proposals are grouped by subject areas – so-called “destinations”**.

The destinations are based on the EU’s policy priorities and the desired impact of the EU’s funding.

Destinations are divided into different type of instruments. Select an instrument to read more about the identified opportunity: the related documents, guidance (such as FAQs) and other instructions are available on an instrument page. **In the specific case of Widening, each instrument has its dedicated call.** Calls are also published on Horizon Europe national webs, on **NCP\_WIDERA.NET** web or you can consult your National Contact Point (NCP) that will support you in finding the most suitable call.

## Find project partners (optional)

Read the call conditions to assess the partnership and other eligibility requirements. To publish your partner search request or offer, select a topic on the Search Funding and Tenders page. Further help is available in the IT HOW TO. Use the PARTNER SEARCH offered in this site to select an organisation based on their profile or their previous participation. Use different brokerage and match-making events offered by EC, NCPs and especially follow the NCP\_WIDERA.NET portal.

## Submit your grant proposal

Select your call and go to the Submission Service section of the topic page. Make sure that you select the correct type of action before you start drafting a proposal. The link to the submission system is available, if the status of the call is **‘open’**. A login with your EU Login account is required.

Before starting to draft your proposal, make sure you are using the correct template – after starting the submission process, you can download the template of Part B (the technical description) from the system.

## Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence (WIDENING)

The efforts for reducing persisting disparities in R&D performance through sharing knowledge and expertise across the EU is in Horizon Europe newly supported by the Advancing Europe Package comprising of the H2020 four main instruments (TEAMING, TWINNING, ERA Chairs and COST) and adding new instruments, activities and services. For the **WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SPREADING**

**EXCELLENCE** part including the instruments and eligible countries, the term “Widening” is generally used in Horizon Europe, taking it over from H2020 programme.

The **Widening actions receive 3.3% of the total Horizon Europe budget** and play a central role in strengthening the European Research Area.

### Advancing Europe Package

#### 1. Widening Instruments

► **TEAMING for Excellence** stands for creation of a new centre of excellence or substantial modernization of an existing one;

► **TWINNING** means institutional networking: exchange of best practices, strengthening of management and administrative skills and rising the research profile of the institution;

► **ERA Chairs** support attracting an excellent academic with proven excellence in research and management to the institution and setting up his own research team;

► **ERA Talents** is a mobility scheme to boost interoperability of careers and employability of research and innovation talents across sectors.

► **European Excellence Initiative** stands for capacity building to strengthen university networks and cooperation with surrounding ecosystems;

► **Excellence Hubs** team up innovation ecosystems and create better linkages between academia, public authorities, business, and society;

► **ERA Fellowships** or individual grants for postdocs implemented in Widening countries (no specific call - applications are submitted to MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships calls);

#### 2. Other Widening Measures

► **Hop On Facility** stands for inviting one Widening partner to a successful RIA consortium in Pillar 2 clusters or EIC Pathfinder with already signed Grant Agreement that does not have a Widening partner yet;

► **Matchmaking**, e.g. through participation in joint brokerage events organised with Pillar 2 clusters or through study visits;

► **Recognition of participation** in the form of a certificate issued by the European Commission on request to the Widening coordinator (in the middle or after the end of the project);

► **Proposal review** means reading and commenting on project proposals, including both professional reading and training of applicants.