



HORIZON EUROPE

THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME

2021 – 2027

Trainer Name, Global Service
Facility of the EC

NCP TRAINING – PRESENTATION & GROUP WORK

Practical advice on NCP activities: Information sources, duties and opportunities



Information Sources

- Horizon Europe Portal in **Armenia**: <https://sipac.am/horizon-europe/>
- NCP Guiding Principles: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ncp-guiding-principles_he_en.pdf
- NCP contacts at Funding & Tenders portal: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>
- Horizon Europe NCP Portal: [Home | Horizon Europe NCP Portal](#) (central landing spot with access to all NCP network projects)
- WIDERA Project: [Widening & ERA | Horizon Europe NCP Portal](#)
- Funding and Tenders Portal: [Funding & tenders \(europa.eu\)](#)

The role of NCP's



Characteristics of NCP Organisations

- Becoming centre of expertise of EU R&I, a supporting structure for national entities of a specific sector to participate in Horizon Europe
- Independence and impartiality
- Adequate human resources and equipment
- Knowledge of the research landscape
- Reaching the research community
- Proactively providing services to all actors
- Having skills in R&I management & financing
- Becoming an active and accepted partner of the international system for partner search

Strategic Networking

Partners at home

- Ministries and other authorities
- Economic chambers, chambers of commerce, chamber of labour, or other interest organisations
- Rectors conferences, Academies of science
- Universities, research institutions and scientific societies
- EU member states' embassies in your country
- Individual experts, evaluators etc.

Strategic Networking

Partners abroad

- EU-Commission, INCO Directorate
- NCP partner organisations
- Partners of your national organisations
- Your country's embassy abroad

Cooperation with the European Commission

- Provide information and data related to the mandate of the NCPs
- Participation of NCPs in information and awareness actions (of the Commission), thematic conferences, seminars and transnational networks of NCPs
- Meetings with the national NCP coordinators to discuss the collaboration, share experience, identify good practices and address problems
- Provide leaflets, brochures and other relevant information for further distribution by NCPs
- Provide information at the earliest possible time on work programmes and roadmaps, upcoming calls, administrative procedures, statistics and evaluations
- be invited to participate in activities and events
- will receive selected data on the proposals and evaluation

The role of NCP's at the national level



Mailing Lists, Websites,
Infodays, Training
Seminars, Direct
Communication



Proposal Pre-
screening, Assisting
with Partner Search,
Resolving Queries



Based on proposers'
needs (IPR Issues,
Consortium
Agreements, Grant
Agreements, etc.)

**Disseminating Information, Assisting with Proposal Preparation
Customised Support**

Tasks of the NCPs 1: Informing, Awareness Raising

- Circulate general and specific documentation on Horizon Europe
 - Conditions for participation, submission of proposals, project budgeting and reporting
- Organise information and promotional activities (in liaison with EC)
 - Infodays, conferences, newsletter, web sites, etc.
- Raise awareness of
 - Innovation activities in Horizon Europe (esp. participation of industry and SMEs)
 - Further funding opportunities, such as Articles 185 and 187 initiatives as well as EIT KICs
 - Interdisciplinary nature of Horizon Europe
 - Horizontal issues (gender balance, link between science and civil society, responsible research and innovation - RRI)
 - Other European RTD-programmes (COSME, Eureka, COST, R&D related parts of European Structural and Investment Funds, etc.)

Tasks of the NCPs 2. Advising, Assisting and Training

- Assist researchers and organisations, in particular new actors and SMEs
- Assist in partner search
 - Internet based tools, cooperation networks, Enterprise Europe Network for SMEs
- Advise on administrative procedures, rules and issues
 - funding schemes, roles and responsibilities in a consortium, rights and obligations, costs, ethical rules
- Organise courses and training sessions
 - for information multipliers or specific target groups (SMEs, universities, business organisations)
 - on specific topics (legal & financial aspects, research and innovation areas, modalities for participation)

Tasks of the NCPs – 3. Signposting and cooperation

- Signpost to other network services, e.g. business networks
 - for instance matters relating to internal market, technology transfer, intellectual property rights (IPR) or regional development (EEN, EIB, Structural Funds, etc.)
- Signpost to national funding programmes and to European Partnerships and ERA Net Projects

Challenges in NCP Work - 1

- To reach the target research community – knowledge of the „national research area“ and key players
- Building good personal contacts with local partners as well as gaining a good reputation of quality of provided information is a long time process
- Motivation of researchers to participate in FP (competition of „national grant schemes“ – often higher success rates, less administrative)
- Information about EU projects in preparation and respective coordinators – most research teams want to join the consortium not to coordinate a project
- Availability and different formats of statistical information

Challenges in NCP Work – 2 (International)

- Priority setting for FP work programmes is seen as a “black box” for international partners
- Difficult integration into the European NCP network e.g. attending NCP meetings in Europe
- Availability of „grey information“ – draft work programmes – topics addressed in future calls
- Often take on this role of NCP in addition to their existing workload - additional remuneration often limited to reimbursement of travel expenses
- New appointments and changes in staff regularly

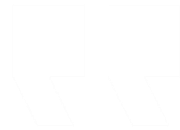
Group Work: Core functions of NCP, current measures and opportunities

- Study NCP Guiding principles and relevant, targeted core functions (according to group topics)
- Identify the tasks and elaborate:
 - Which tasks are already implemented sufficiently by the local NCP system?
 - Which tasks are not implemented sufficiently?
 - Which additional measures make especially sense for **Armenia**?
 - Identify/draft concrete measures, which would effectively support stakeholders and therefore upgrade the NCP system (e.g. specific events, training tools, information campaigns).
- Summarise and describe your results and present to the whole group (select 1 or 2 people to do so in advance!)

Group Work: Core functions of NCP, current measures and opportunities

Divide into 3 groups, consisting of both NCPs + Grants office representatives:

- Group 1: Informing and awareness raising
- Group 2: Assisting, advising and training
- Group 3: Signposting and cooperation



Thank you!

HorizonEU

<http://ec.europa.eu/horizon-europe>



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