V4 TRAINING (online)

Brussels, 22, 23, 25 November 2021

The purpose of the V4 Training is to increase the professional capacity of project managers by providing targeted information with added value from Brussels and raising their awareness of the political context of European research and innovation programs and initiatives with special focus on Framework programs. This online three half-days training will consist of presentations and interactive sessions during which the participants will be able to get to know each other and share their experience and best practices within the institutions. The participants will be able to ask questions during the presentation in the chat box or after during the Q&A.

HORIZON EUROPE: OVERALL PICTURE
22 November (Monday)

Moderator: PolSCA + NRDIO

8:50 – 9:00 ONLINE REGISTRATION AND TECH TEST

9:00 – 9:05 WELCOME & OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING

9:05 – 9:15 V4 OFFICES PRESENTATION
- Polish Science Contact Agency (PolSCA)
- National Research, Development and Innovation Office of Hungary (NRDIO)
- Czech Liaison Office for Education and Research (CZELO)
- Slovak Liaison Office for Research and Development (SLORD)

9:15 – 09:30 EU Research & Innovation landscape
This section will briefly explain the EU research and innovation funding landscape for the upcoming seven years. Understanding the political priorities as well as the key players and logic of the funding system is always the first step. We will provide you with the overall R&I landscape in order to help you get prepared for Horizon Europe (HEU).

9:30 – 10:00 Comitology and WP preparation – where to lobby?
The section takes the participants through the preparation of the Horizon Europe Work Programmes (i.e. calls for proposals), explains the role of different players and means at different stages, such as ETPs, EIPs, public consultations, Advisory Groups, Programme Committee, national stakeholder groups.

10:00 – 10:25 Synergies between Horizon Europe and other EU funds
In recent years, EU institutions and the practitioners implementing EU funding have been increasingly recognising the need for greater synergies in the use of EU funds, including the

area of research and Innovation. Supporting synergies in their use and implementation may deliver additional gains in terms of innovation results, close the innovation gap in Europe, and promote economic growth. The session will briefly present the new opportunities for synergies between Horizon Europe and other EU funding programmes, with a specific focus on synergies between Horizon Europe and Erasmus+.

10:25 – 10:35 COFFEE BREAK

10:35 – 11:05 Horizon Europe: missions

One of the main novelties in Horizon Europe is the mission-oriented approach to urgent but diffuse problems, such as climate change, cancer and achieving carbon neutrality. The missions should be relevant to a broad range of stakeholders and to citizens should be completed using a bottom-up approach. Once fully up and running, the five missions will largely be financed by the second pillar of Horizon Europe. During the first three years of Horizon Europe, the missions will get up to 10% of the annual budget of this pillar. The session will be dedicated to the general introduction of five future missions with the specific focus on their implementation.

11:05 – 11:30 EIT: Building innovation ecosystem

This session will help participants to get an understanding of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and especially its outreach scheme – EIT RIS. EIT RIS activities are implemented via innovation hubs (Co-location Centres) across Europe, and it enables the transfer of good practice and know-how from the EIT´s unique approach.

11:30 – 12:30 LUNCH BREAK

12:30 – 13:00 EC policies and initiatives on open access

This section will be dedicated to Open Science, which will become the modus operandi in Horizon Europe. This will affect provisions such as those regarding publications, research data management, and the engagement of citizens in the project. Apart from the general introduction, the section will give an insight on the Data Management Plans and Open Research Europe, a scholarly publishing platform available to Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe beneficiaries.

13:00 – 14:30 Interactive session on open access

This interactive session will provide a platform to discuss more in depth the in-house examples of Open Science implementation. Participants of the training will work on concrete case study so they can share their experience, think together about common challenges and come up with potential solutions.

End of Day 1

CAPACITY BUILDING: TALENTS & NETWORKING
23 November (Tuesday)

Moderator: CZELO

8:50 – 9:00 ONLINE REGISTRATION AND TECH TEST

09:00 – 09:15 V4 - are we visible enough? Stakeholder representations!

A number of leading - and not only European - universities and RTD institutions opened a representation office in Brussels. They often team up and build joint representations for their common benefit. The added value of such university networks and alliances will be presented in this slot.

09:15 – 10:00 How to establish the collaborative links across ERA

The section is tailor-made to the needs of participants providing some insights to the actions within Framework Programmes enabling host institutions to invest in talents, and by doing so, to strengthen the competitiveness and openness of these institutions. Overall, the sessions shall encourage research performing organizations (RPOs) to further develop their research and innovation potential through several dedicated measures.

The first part will provide insights into a plethora of widening instruments as well as Brain Circulation schemes under MSCA. The specific focus will be given on calls with deadlines in upcoming months - namely Twinning, Excellence Hubs, Hop-on facility, ERA Chairs, ERA Talents and MSCA Staff Exchange.

The second part will give an outlook on the COST actions that enable researchers to set up their interdisciplinary research networks. The participants will get the details on funds for networking activities, organizing conferences, meetings, training schools, and short scientific exchanges via COST actions.

10:00 – 10:30 Gender equality plans

Major policy objectives and actions to make concrete progress on gender equality in the renewed European Research Area will be addressed. Particular emphasis will be given to Gender Equality Plans (GEPs) which will be one of the eligibility criteria for the new Horizon Europe programme. Thus, the session will shed some light on the main criteria that will have to be filled by all public organisations in relation to GEPs and the process of development and implementation of such plans.

10:30 – 10:45 COFFEE BREAK

10:45 – 12:45 Interactive session

This part of the V4 Training is dedicated mostly to the networking of the participants and their experiences within the project departments and project teams. The participants will be divided into several groups to have an opportunity not only to present themselves in more detail in smaller subgroups but also to share the experience with the participation in the framework programme's (FP) projects and in-house examples.

The breakout sessions shall be organized in 4 subgroups, each focusing on all the aspects delivered within the first part of the day:

- How to establish collaborative links across ERA
- Gender equality plans

End of Day 2

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

25 November (Thursday)

Moderator: SLORD

8:50 – 9:00 ONLINE REGISTRATION AND TECH TEST

9:00 – 09:10 Updates on international cooperation within Horizon Europe

Participants will be given a short update on what Brexit implies for UK participants in Horizon Europe, what will be the status of Swiss institutions and what is the state of the art of association agreements with third countries.

9:10 – 09:40 Novel approach to MGA and Consortium agreement

This session will present the novelties of the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement (MGA). The presentation will be followed by an open discussion on the advantages and drawbacks of the corporate MGA, such as synergies, simplification, or the loss of specificities of a given programme.

09:40 - 10:10 Financial issues in Horizon Europe

The presentation will cover financial issues and remuneration in Horizon Europe projects, such as newly introduced daily rate and lump sums. The participants will be given a floor to share their experience and discuss issues concerning the financial and remuneration management of the Horizon Europe projects.

10:10 – 10:20 COFFEE BREAK

10:20 – 10:50 Project communication, dissemination and valorisation

The section will help to have a clear understanding and on the expectations on how to transfer knowledge of results, maximize impact and concretize the results in Horizon Europe projects. It will give an insight on the Horizon Project Platform and Horizon Results Booster, services provided free of charge to all EU FP beneficiary projects, which aim to help to make the impact of publicly funded research visible.

10:50 – 11:30 Good practices of administration and management in house

The presentation shares good examples of universities, how they support the participation of scientists in European research programmes. There is also room for discussion with the participants about the internal organization of an excellent university and working techniques with individual researchers, i.e., the support provided to the researchers at the institutional level.

11:30 – 11:45 COFFEE BREAK

11:45 – 12:30 Success story - Project AURORAL

The tips and tricks of the preparation of a successful H2020 project will be presented from the perspective of the project coordinator in an informal way. Putting together the 25-member consortium of project AURORAL was a challenging task even for experienced partners. Their success, however, should serve as a motivating case study for all the participants, who are encouraged to actively share their own experiences and ask questions from the speaker.

End of Day 3

Your opinion matters to us!

Please, after the end of the Training, provide us with your feedback by completing the SATISFACTION SURVEY on the V4 Training for project managers.

This will help us to further improve the training for future participants.