European funding opportunities for collaborations with Africa

FAPI-SANORD Webinar on Innovations for Sustainable Development
24.8.2021

Ville Myllynpää & Johanna Toivonen de Gonzales
vvmyll@utu.fi & jovito@utu.fi
Horizon Europe overview

- For the total period of 2021-2027, current calls for 2021-22
- Aim to enhance cooperation with Africa, in topics of Public Health, Green Transition, Innovation and Technology, and Capacities for Science
- Over 40 calls concerning Africa, with total funding of 350mil€
- H Europe vs. H 2020
  - 45-page applications
  - Impact section is an important part
  - List of researchers & Gender Equality Plan
Example call 1:

- Budget: 13,5mil€
- Total budget: 13,5mil€
- All AU members
- Setting up of technological solutions for tracking raw material flows (material passports), building upon comparable criteria, reporting and audit approaches. e.g.:
  - Transparency in payments and
  - Traceability from beginning to end of the supply chain, and
  - Use of block chain technology to improve supply chain transparency and traceability
- Social innovation as a crosscutting theme
- There are few other similar calls: HORIZON-CL4-2022-RESILIENCE-01-04 -- 08
Example call 2:

- Budget: 2-3mil€
- Total budget: 9mil€

- International cooperation with partners from Africa is encouraged
- This action should support the transition towards a “sustainability paradigm”, identifying the socio-economic inequalities and the distribution of benefits of economic growth between individuals, also taking into account the environmental impacts and limits of such growth
Example call 3:

- Budget: 7mil€
- Total budget: 28mil€

- Consortium must include at least eight(8) entities based in Africa
- Proposals will provide a comprehensive and integrated response to current and future challenges benefiting people, nature and economic growth in Europe and in Africa

- Table containing more potential H Europe calls is available at: https://seafile.utu.fi/d/b0a549eadc7444dea9fd/
What to consider while planning

• Start early, both to build the consortium, planning, and writing!

• H Europe funding portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-search

• Research & Innovation Actions (RIA) vs. Innovation Action (IA)

• Project duration: usually 3 years, unless otherwise stated
What to consider while writing (Horizon Europe)

• General strategies, rules and guidelines of the funder

• Horizon Europe draft template (including electronic forms)

• Time management in consortium proposals (as a consortium leader)
  • Usually 2-3 months to form a good consortium
  • 2-3 months are then needed to collect all inputs
  • 1 month before the deadline, at least 1 full time person for proposal preparation and consortium management
  • Frequent brief consortium meeting
  • Good set of simple instructions, and reminders
• Answer carefully and completely to the call text (Horizon RIA and IA calls are top-down calls!)
• Evaluators and evaluation criteria
  • Get familiar with the evaluation criteria
  • The evaluators are professionals, but may not be specialists (often also non-native English speakers)
  • Evaluators cannot read between the lines
  • Give the evaluator a chance to get a positive impression even with a very quick reading
  • Convince each evaluator in every section of your proposal
• Connect all the pieces of the proposal
Focus on impact (HORIZON EUROPE defines three types of impact, tracked with Key Impact Pathways)

- **Scientific Impact**
  1. Creating high-quality new knowledge
  2. Strengthening human capital in R&I
  3. Fostering diffusion of knowledge and Open Science

- **Societal Impact**
  4. Addressing EU policy priorities & global challenges through R&I
  5. Delivering benefits & impact via R&I missions
  6. Strengthening the uptake of R&I in society

- **Economic/Technological Impact**
  7. Generating innovation-based growth
  8. Creating more and better jobs
  9. Leveraging investments in R&I
Our future steps

• Continue to look for funding options
  • Especial focus to various private foundations,
  • and for medium size funding

• Coming meeting about funding options for FABI network (tentatively early October) and website for available funding

• Feedback; which topics or areas interest you especially and what type of information you would like to get about the calls?
Other options for funding

• For Local Authorities;
  • Local authority as a lead applicant, but partnership with research institutes is possible
  • Funding between 1-3mil€
  • Deadline tentatively early next year

• For NGOs;
  • Addax & Oryx Foundation: https://addax-oryx-foundation.org/en/submit-a-project