

OSCARS

Open Science Clusters' Action for Research and Society HORIZON-INFRA-2023-EOSC-01 Kick-off meeting – 14-03-2024

Enrico PELLIZZARI European Research Executive Agency

Outline

I.Monitoring & Reporting

- Technical Reporting
- Financial Reporting
- > Audits
- Amendments

III.Extra Resources

II.Cross-cutting aspects

- Impact
- Communication, Dissemination & Exploitation
- > Open Science
- Policy Feedback
- Ethics



Role Distribution



DG Research and Innovation

- -> Definition of Policies
- -> Drafting the Work Programme

Research Executive Agency (REA)



'Reforming European Research & Innovation and Research Infrastructures', **Unit C4**

-> Implementation of calls for proposals

-> Grant Management

Coordinator

-> Monitor that the action is implemented properly -> Act as the intermediary for all communications with REA -> Distribution of payments



I. Monitoring and Reporting

- Technical Reporting
- □ Financial Reporting
- Audits
- Amendments





Monitoring Project Implementation

Technical: compliance with the Description of the Action

Financial: compliance with the cost eligibility rules

Other (non-financial) obligations: compliance with cross-cutting GA obligations



Project reporting types



 Beneficiaries must continuously report on the progress of the action (e.g. deliverables, milestones, outputs/outcomes, critical risks, indicators, etc), in the Portal Continuous Reporting tool and in accordance with the timing and conditions set out in the Grant Agreement

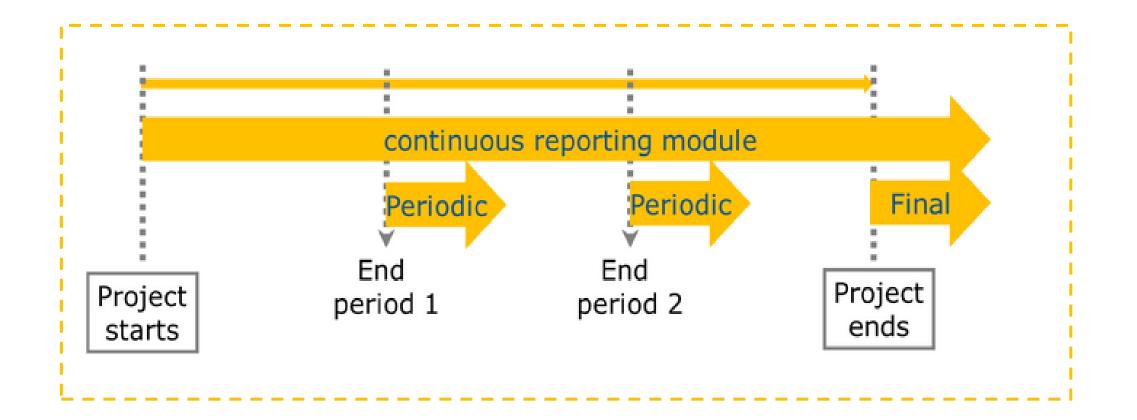
	Project Continuous Report														
Project Summary	Researchers involved in the project	Deliverables	Milestones	Critical Risks	Publications	Results	Disseminat activities	Standards	Patents (IPR)	Communic Activities	Datasets	Beneficiari Feedback	Impact	Impact Continuati	Other Results
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In addition, Beneficiaries must provide periodic reports to request payments, in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Grant Agreement



Project reporting types







Continuous Reporting – Deliverables

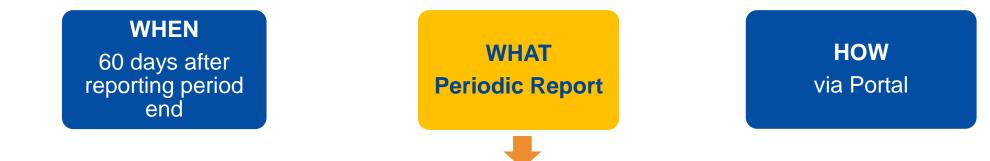
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 Deliverables marked as Public will be automatically published in Cordis - Be particularly attentive to their quality

If one deliverables will be delivered with delay - Get in touch with REA PO



Periodic Report: Overview



(1) Technical report

By Coordinator with contributions from Consortium Part A : structured tables with project information, generated automatically from Continuous Reporting Part B: narrative description of the work carried out during the reporting period (uploaded as PDF)

(2) Financial report

Individual Financial Statement for each Beneficiary Explanation of the Use of Resources and information on subcontracting Certificates on the Financial Statements (CFS)*

(*) Requested EU contribution to costs \geq EUR 430 000.

Special threshold for beneficiaries with a systems and process audit: requested EU contribution to costs \geq EUR 725 000.00



Periodic reporting: Reviews



Reviews planned at the **end** of final reporting period (within 1 months after submission of reports) GA article 21



Present the work carried out, main achievements and use of resources

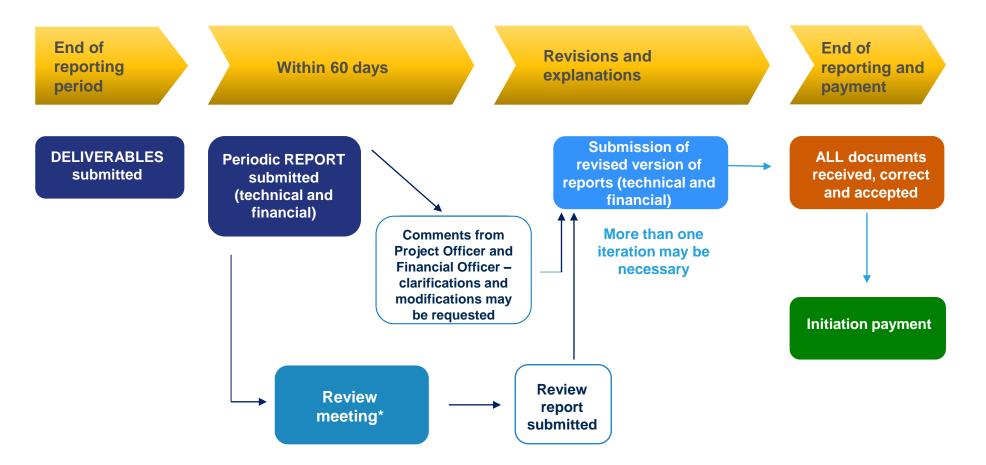
Participation of Coordinator & WP leaders (minimum)



REA Project Officer assisted by external expert(s)



Periodic Reporting: Process





*A review meeting might not be necessary, to be decided with PO

Financial reporting: single submission & single rejection

Technical report and all Financial Statements to be submitted by the Coordinator as a "single package"

If a beneficiary does not include its related financial statement in a periodic report, the costs will be considered 'zero' for this reporting period but the beneficiary can declare its costs with the next financial report (for the next reporting period)

Full package rejected, if one document requires changes or corrections

"One iteration only" principle, if correction of the submitted package is required

Payment will be processed on the basis of the information available after the first resubmission; no further opportunities to correct mistakes or provide additional information (i.e. corresponding costs will be rejected); except for final payment



Certificates of the Financial Statements (CFS)

- Only at the final reporting (or beneficiary termination) and if a beneficiary/laffiliated entity requests a total of EUR 430 000 or more as reimbursement of actual costs and unit costs calculated according to its usual cost accounting practices
 - Scanned copy (PDF) together with Financial Statement submitted in the system; original remains at the beneficiary (might be audited!)
 - Costs declared for audited periods (if the audit letter of conclusion has been sent) are excluded from the EUR 430 000 threshold.
- For beneficiaries with an approved System and Process Audit (SPA), the threshold is raised to EUR 725 000
- CFS must be issued by a qualified external auditor (or public bodies by a competent independent public officer), using the CFS template on the Funding & Tender Portal





Pre-80% of maximum grant amount financing 5% guarantee fund Linked to the submission of complete and correct All report, deliverables and financial statements Paid within 90 days from receiving the full technical **Payments** and financial report Interim Limit to 90% of the maximum grant amount payments **Final** Final balance and release of guarantee fund payment



Financial management: some advice

Personnel Costs: keep time records of the hours worked on the action (if not working full time on an EU project)

□ Meetings: collect participants' signatures (especially if you reimburse or claim travel costs)

□ Any subcontracting?

✓ If you need a subcontract which is not planned in the Description of Action, ask approval to the REA Project Officer **beforehand**, as this may require an amendment to the Grant Agreement

If one partner overspends, it is up to the Coordinator, in cooperation with the Consortium to decide internally how the EU contribution will be distributed (i.e. full amount if the overspending is due to anticipated work, or only the budget share agreed for the reporting period)



The unhappy path...

Article 28 – Reduction of the grant

Improper implementation/breach of obligations May occur at payment of balance or after with pre-information letter

Article 30 — Suspension of payments

Suspicion of substantial errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations Contradictory procedure before suspending a payment

Article 31 — Suspension of implementation of the action

Costs not eligible during the time of suspension

Article 32 — Termination

Grant Agreement – effective date triggers final periodic reporting Beneficiary – effective date triggers "termination report" + calculation of balance for beneficiary



Audits



Can be carried out during the entire lifetime of the project, by the European Commission, not later than **2 years** after the payment of the balance. Types of audits: **financial** and/or **technical audits**



Keeping records: keep a clear account of the project activities during the reporting period (GA article 20)

Beneficiaries must keep records and other supporting documentation **up to 5 years** in order to prove the proper implementation and the costs declared as eligible.



Amendments

Budget transfer is allowed between beneficiaries and among existing budget categories without filing an amendment

Action to be implemented as described in Annex I

If the **change** is **significant**, an **amendment** to the GA is needed

Amendment needed if:

- Change of **Annex 1** (description of action)
- Change of Annex 2 estimated budget
- Change of coordinator or its legal status
- Change of the coordinator's bank account for payments
- Addition/removal of linked third party
- Change of action's title, acronym, duration, reporting periods
- Change of dissemination status of a deliverables (PU \rightarrow SEN or SEN \rightarrow PU)



Always contact the REA PO (Coordinator – PO) to discuss the typology and impact of change



II. Cross-cutting aspects

□ Impact

□ Communication, Dissemination & Exploitation

Open access

Policy Feedback

Ethics



HORIZON EUROPE : Impact-driven Framework Programme

IMPACT DESIGN

Intervention logic Clusters, destinations, missions

IMPLEMENTATION

Strategic Plan Work Programme Proposal template Project r<u>epo</u>rting

IMPACT TRACKING & EVALUATION

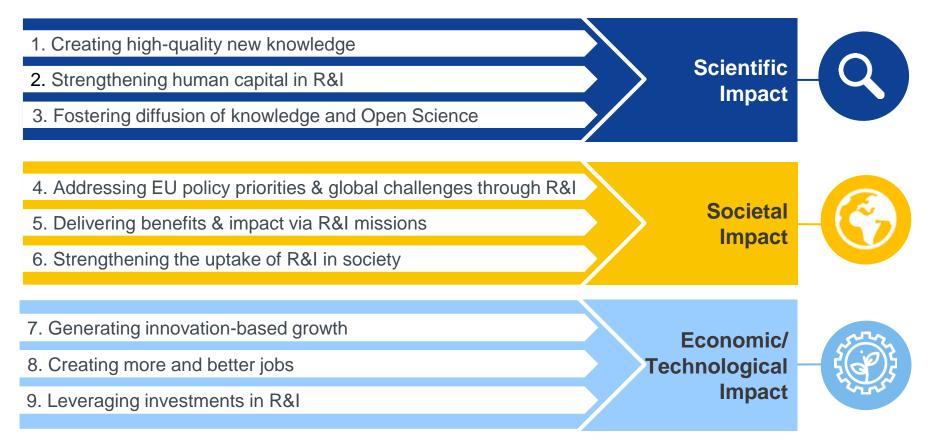
Monitoring Key Impact Pathways

Management & Implementation Data

Interim and ex-post



HORIZON EUROPE LEGISLATION: three types of impact, tracked with Key Impact Pathways





Glossary of terms

LC	Impacts NG TERM	Wider long term effects on society (including the environment), the economy and science, enabled by the outcomes of R&I investments (long term). It refers to the specific contribution of the project to the work programme expected impacts described in the destination. Impacts generally occur some time after the end of the project.
	Objectives	The goals of the work performed within the project, in terms of its research and innovation content. This will be translated into the project's results. These may range from tackling specific research questions, demonstrating the feasibility of an innovation, sharing knowledge among stakeholders on specific issues. The nature of the objectives will depend on the type of action, and the scope of the topic.
	Outcomes	The expected effects, over the medium term, of projects supported under a given topic. The results of a project should contribute to these outcomes, fostered in particular by the dissemination and exploitation measures. This may include the uptake, diffusion, deployment, and/or use of the project's results by direct target groups. Outcomes generally occur during or shortly after the end of the project.
ME	Pathway to impact	Logical steps towards the achievement of the expected impacts of the project over time, in particular beyond the duration of a project. A pathway begins with the projects' results, to their dissemination, exploitation and communication, contributing to the expected outcomes in the work programme topic, and ultimately to the wider scientific, economic and societal impacts of the work programme destination.
	Research output	Results generated by the action to which access can be given in the form of scientific publications, data or other engineered outcomes and processes such as software, algorithms, protocols and electronic notebooks.
SH	Results ORT TERM	What is generated during the project implementation. This may include, for example, know-how, innovative solutions, algorithms, proof of feasibility, new business models, policy recommendations, guidelines, prototypes, demonstrators, databases and datasets, trained researchers, new infrastructures, networks, etc. Most project results (inventions, scientific works, etc.) are 'Intellectual Property', which may, if appropriate, be protected by formal 'Intellectual Property Rights'.



Reporting on Impact: Impact questionnaire (1/3)

NEW in HE reporting: questionnaire to be used for the monitoring and evaluation of HE Programme performance + indication on progress of the project

Included in different SyGMa tabs

- > Impact
- Impact Continuation
- Beneficiaries feedback

Important: quality of the data

Management Milestones Critical Risks Publications	Results Disseminati Standards	Patents (IPR) Communi-	Datasets	Emotr and	Republic	Impact	Immed	Othe
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Reporting on Impact: Impact questionnaire (2/3)

		Projec	t Continuous Report		JoEmd L		
	Datasets Benefici Feedbac	aries Impact Impact Continuation R	her suits				
Impact Continuation							
Progress towards obje	tives and impacts of the project				to " (advintig to growt hit "		
Please describe the progres	s of the project so far towards delivering scie	ntific impact, based on its objectives,	Further investment mobilized to exp Further investment expected:	loit or scale-up project results *			
Please describe the progres including quantification to	s of the project so far towards delivering eco he extent possible:	nomic impact, based on its objectives	Yes:	Private/capital investment	Public investment	Own funds	(may be more than one)
Please describe the progres	s of the project so far towards delivering imp	act for society, including environment	Launch of a dedicated company duri Company: S	ng (or after end of) the project * pin-off Spin-out	Joint venture	and impeding the impact of the	(May be more than one company)
Further employment t	exploit or scale-up project results *	- 25.A	*Asked only for final reporting		Key factors fostering	progress to impact	
Full-time equivalents expec	ted to remain or be newly employed based o	n project's results and their dissemina	Identified further needs on the proj	ect's pathway to impact		-	ostering the progress of the project so far? Please tick if highly relev
New/Existing	Involve existing team/people	Hire new team/people	Please tick if applicable		Scientific excellence of t		
contracts:			Follow-up research		Geographic breath of the		
Short term contracts (incl. PHD):	Technicians:	Researchers:	Testing with end-users Demonstration in real-life environment		Previous collaborations be	stween partners ss-sectoral approach of project	
			Business plan development			ension in research content	
Long term contracts:	Technicians:	Researchers:	Access to risk capital & Scale-up funding			nces and humanities in the project	
			Support for internationalisation and access t	o markets	Strategic impact orientat	on of the project aligned to emerging i	needs
			Legal advice (IPR or other)		Involvement of users from	n project design	
			Partnership with other company (technology	or other)	Management of intellectu	al & industrial property rights	
			Startup accelerator		Collaboration with wider	ecosystem beyond the project (e.g. fin	ancial intermediaries, public authorities, standardisation, regulatory bodies)
			Supportive regulatory framework		Further funding secured t	o exploit project's results	
			Standardisation		Validation of prototype by	potential buyer/end-user	
					Knowledge Triangle Integ	ation	
					Other (specify)		

Highlight any good practice learning from the project for improved implementation that might be transferable to other projects:

Key factors impeding progress to impact

To what extent are the key factors identified below impeding to progress as initially planned. Please tick if highly relevant.

Difficulties in project implementation and management, including access to human resources, securing additional funding, IPR management, cooperation between partners



Reporting on Impact: Impact questionnaire (3/3)

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Datasets Beneficiaries Impact Feedback	Impact Continuation Continuatio		A.S.
Beneficiaries Feedback			
To what extent are the key factors identified below fostering and impeding	, the progress of the project so far		
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Previous collaborations between partners			in the part of the line of the
Interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral approach of project			the large the fail of the second of the second of the
Integration of gender dimension in research content			have the first and have the second
Involvement of social sciences and humanities in the project			and the approximate the second states of the second
Strategic impact orientation of the project aligned to emerging needs			and before a first former of the Refered
Involvement of users from project design			the last the second of the last of the second of the secon
Management of intellectual & industrial property rights			In landa by frank a lot of the first
Collaboration with wider ecosystem beyond the project (e.g. financial intermediaries, pu	iblic authorities, standardisation, regulatory bo	idies)	Self and the second from the
Further funding secured to exploit project's results			
Other (specify)			
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Highlight any good practice learning from the project for improved implementation that m	ight be transferable to other projects		
right any good practice tearning from the project for improved implementation that in	git be transferable to other projects.		
To what extent are the key factors identified below impeding the progress	of the project so far?		
Difficulties in project implementation and management, including access to human resources difficult for the land	irces,		Validate



Communication, dissemination & exploitation

Communication	Dissemination	Exploitation	
Reach out to society and show the impact and benefits of EU- funded R&I activities, e.g. by addressing and providing possible solutions to fundamental societal challenges.	Transfer knowledge & results with the aim to enable others to use and take up results, thus maximising the impact of EU- funded research.	Effectively use project results through scientific, economic, political or societal exploitation routes aiming to turn R&I actions into concrete value and impact for society.	O bjective
Inform about and promote the project AND its results/success.	Describe and ensure results available for others to USE → focus on results only!	Make concrete use of research results (not restricted to commercial use.)	O Focus
Multiple audiences beyond the project's own community incl. media and the broad public.	Audiences that may take an interest in the potential USE of the results (e.g. scientific community, industrial partner, policymakers).	People/organisations including project partners themselves that make concrete use of the project results, as well as user groups outside the project.	Target Audience



*D@E plan is a mandatory deliverable in HE

In a nutshell

Communication: Promote your action and results

Inform, promote and communicate your activities and results

Reaching multiple audiences Citizens, the media, stakeholders

How?

- Having a well-designed strategy
- Conveying clear messages
- Using the right media channels

When?

From the start of the action until the end

G Why?

- Engage with stakeholders
- Attract the best experts to your team
- Generate market demand
- Raise awareness of how public money is spent
- Show the success of European collaboration

Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement

Dissemination: Make your results public

Open Science: knowledge and results (free of charge) for others to use

A Only to scientists?

Not only but also to others that can learn from the results: authorities, industry, policymakers, sectors of interest, civil society

How?

- Publishing your results on:
- Scientific magazines
- Scientific and/or targeted conferences
 Databases

When?

At any time, and as soon as the action has results

G Why?

- Maximise results' impact
- Allow other researchers to go a step forward
- · Contribute to the advancement of the state of the art
- Make scientific results a common good

Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement

Exploitation: Make concrete use of results

Commercial, Societal, Political Purposes

🖧 Only by researchers?

- Not only, but also:
- Industry including SMEs
- Those that can make good use of them: authorities, industrial authorities, policymakers, sectors of interest, civil society

How?

- Creating roadmaps, prototypes, softwares
- Sharing knowledge, skills, data

Ö When?

Towards the end and beyond, as soon as the action has exploitable results

@ Why?

- · Lead to new legislation or recommendations
- · For the benefit of innovation, the economy and the society
- Help to tackle a problem and respond to an existing demand
 Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement



Acknowledgement of EU Funding

Article 17.2 of the Horizon Europe grant agreement: Visibility - European flag and funding statement





Co-funded by the European Union

- Use the European flag (emblem), not the European Commission logo
- Disclaimer (GA art .17.3) must be added in any publication/output

"Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."



Reporting on communication, dissemination and exploitation



🗟 SvGMa 🕖		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Project Continuous Report		·	ergais (INTERN/	
Types of the second sec	Project Summary V	ners Deliverables Milestones			Patents (IPR) Communic Activities		
Dissemination Activitie	es						
	activity for this project yet ies carried out in the context of the project. ies mentioned in the proposal and new ones.					the le prover dista le viriliano dis artico na becara	
Dissemination Activity	y Name What? Type of disseminati	on activity Who? Tar	get audience Reached	Why? Description of the objective(s) with reference to a specific project output (max 200 characters)	Status of the dissemination acti	vity	
6th COVID-19 "resear <u>ch to p</u>	oolicy action" di Collaboration with EU-fur	ded projects Research comm	unities,	2022/03; Francesca Incardona discussed Hc	Delivered		
National Wor	<u>SyGMa</u>			roject Continuous Report			iandima (
European Meeting on	Real Project F	assearchers webed in he project Deliverables Milestones Image: Comparison of the project Image: Comparison of the project Image: Comparison of the project	Critical Risks Publications		ommunic ctivities Datasets Financial support to 3rd parties	Beneficiaries Impact	Other Results
European Meeting on							
Comr	nunications Activities						
Comm	ere are no communication activities for this project yet unication on projects is a strategically planned process to s to a multitude of audiences, including the media and th			time, aimed at promoting the action and its results. It requi	es strategic and targeted measures for o	communicating about (i) the action	on and (ii) i
Meeting "Cohorts uni	Communication Activity Name	Description	Who? Target audience	How? Communication channel	Outcome	Status	
	fdfd	ftee	ge	Event (conference, meeting, workshop, internet debate,		Delivered	
	test	gt	gte	Event (conference, meeting, workshop, internet debate,	roun t	Delivered	J

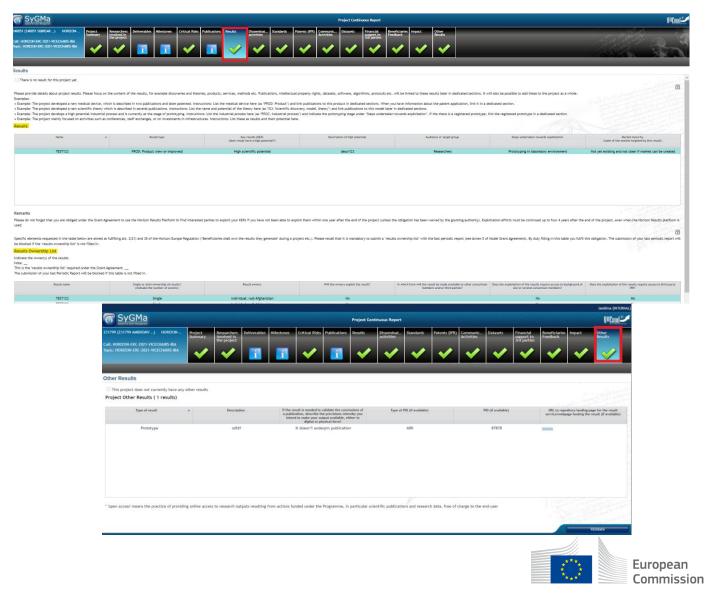
• New in HE: shift to a more **qualitative** rather than quantitative approach on reporting communication, dissemination and exploitation activities

- Describing the activities, their **purpose**, the **target audience** and their **status** (pending, completed etc).
- List main communication, dissemination and exploitation activities; especially the ones for which they you charged costs to the project



Reporting on project results

- **NEW in HE:** obligation to report on project **Results** (content focused)
- Name and type of the results + if they are Key Exploitable Results (KER) + audience or target group, steps undertaken towards exploitation and market maturity..
 - For Key Exploitable Results: use of
 Horizon Results Platform is mandatory in
 cases the beneficiary has not been able to
 exploit them within a year after the end of
 project (obligation may be waived –if
 justified- by granting authority upon request
 of beneficiary)
- Elements of the Results Ownership List
 (ROL) (Art. 2(18) and 34 of the Horizon
 Europe Regulation 'Beneficiaries shall own
 the results they generate' during a project
 etc.). Mandatory with the last periodic report.



How can REA support you?

- Has your project won an important scientific award? Have you made a ground-breaking discovery and are featured in the press?
- Don't forget to inform your project officer!
- REA's Communication team can help promote by:
 - Highlighting & multiplying your news and results through our own and the Commission's social media channels (please tag us!)
 - Proposing your project's success story for inclusion in the European Commission's free-of-charge communication channels.

Towards increased impact

How can the European Research Executive Agency (REA) support you?

Has your project won an important scientific award? Have you made a ground-breaking discovery and are featured in the press?

Don't forget to inform your project officer! REA's Communication team can help promote by:

- Proposing your project's success story for inclusion in the European Commission's free-of-charge communication channels.
- Highlighting & multiplying your news and results through our own and the Commission's social media channels (please tag us!)

Visit our Communication page

Contact your Project Officer via the Communication Centre tool in the Funding and Tenders Portal



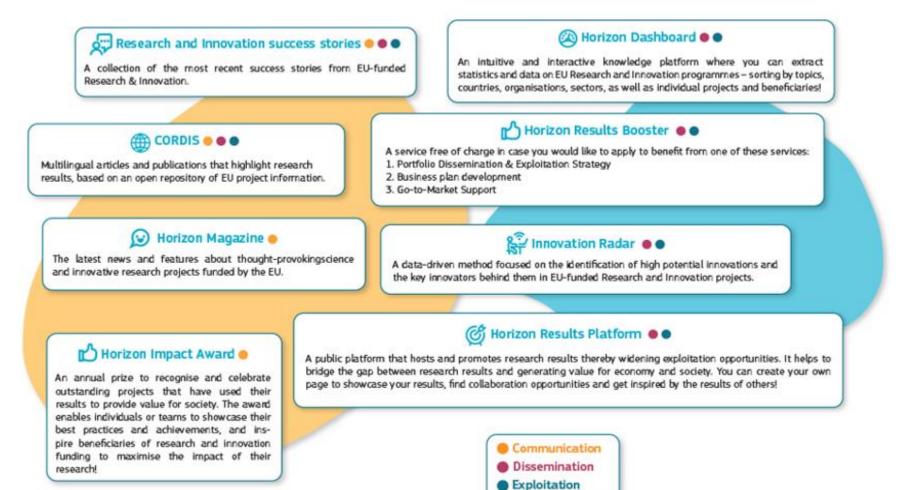
REA on Twitter

REA on Linkedin

European Research Executive Agency



Free-of-charge European Commission dissemination tools

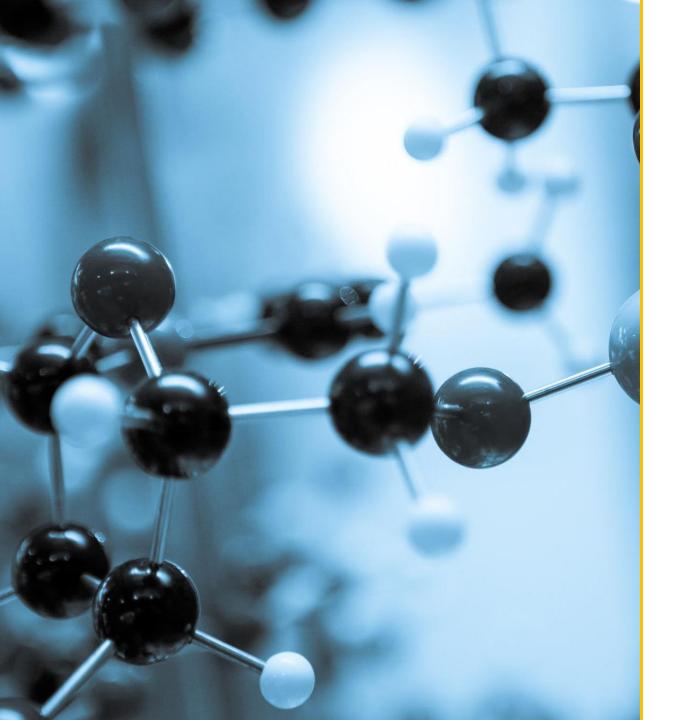




What's in it for you







Open Science

Open science (OS) is an approach based on **open cooperative work** and **systematic sharing of knowledge and tools** as early and widely as possible in the process, including active engagement of society.

Open science practices include:

- Early and open sharing of research (for example through preregistration, registered reports, pre-prints, or crowdsourcing)
- Research output management including research data management (RDM)
- Measures to ensure reproducibility of research outputs
- Providing open access to research outputs (e.g. publications, data, software, models, algorithms, and workflows) through deposition in trusted repositories
- Participation in open peer review
- Involving all relevant knowledge actors including citizens, civil society and end users in the co-creation of R&I agendas and contents (such as citizen science)



Key points on open science in Horizon Europe

- Beneficiaries must manage the digital research data generated in the action responsibly, in line with the FAIR ("Findable", "Accessible", "Interoperable", Reusable")- M6
- Establish + regularly update a data management plan ('DMP') for generated (and/or collected) data
- Ensure open access 'as open as possible as closed as necessary'

Useful resources

- Horizon Europe Annotated Model Grant Agreement (Annex 5, section 2 -pg 154)
- Horizon Europe Data Management Plan Template (under reference documents of the Funding and Tenders portal).



Ethics in Horizon Europe

Participation in Horizon Europe requires compliance with the highest standards of research ethics and integrity, and with EU, national and international law.

Horizon Europe regulation 2021/695 (Articles 18 and 19) & **Grant Agreement** (Art 14, Annex 5): guiding principles and general obligations (including ineligible activities and specific rules e.g. in case of hESC/hE).

Before starting an action task raising ethical issues, the beneficiaries must have obtained all approvals or other mandatory documents needed for implementing the task, notably from any (national or local) ethics committee or other bodies.

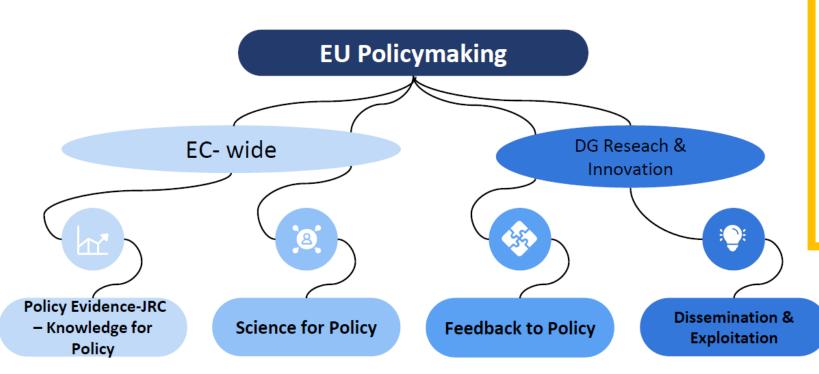
The documents must be kept on file and submitted by the coordinator to the granting authority upon request.

Please pay uttermost attention and contact the PO, whenever you modify activities with potential ethical issues, such as collect or process "personal data" (e.g. name, e-mail address,...), involve volunteers (informed consent procedure required), exchange data between EU – non-EU countries.



Policy feedback 1/2

A mechanism through which your project results feed into current and/or future policy-making



Necessary for evidencebased policy design, implementation & evaluation

- Monitor the achievement of policy objectives and the impact of existing policies / legislation
- Identify gaps, opportunities and potential synergies for future policy design

Bridging the Gap between science and policy

Use of Research Results, Project to Policy, Research for Policy



Policy feedback 2/2

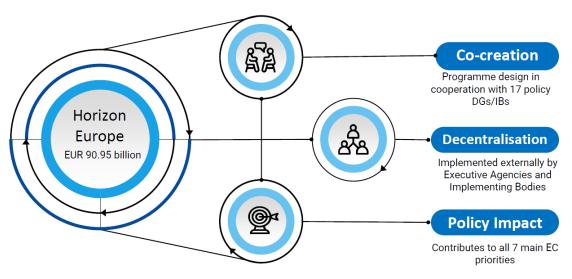
What's in it for you

- you actively feed into EU policy discussions
- you interact with similar projects
- you promote your own project

Type of policy feedback activities

 policy brief as a mandatory deliverable (see next slide)
 ad hoc requests e.g. for monitoring purposes
 partake in cluster events

Horizon Europe and Feedback to Policy





III. Extra Resources



Useful resources

- HE Annotated Model Grant Agreement
- Horizon Europe Annotated Model Grant Agreement (p.154 ff for open science)
- Guidance on social media for EU funded R&I projects
- Horizon Europe Funding Programme for Research and Innovation
- Factsheet 'Open Science in Horizon Europe'
- Communication on 'A new ERA for Research and Innovation'
- Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe



HE Online Manual

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/funding-tenders-opportunities/display/OM/Online+Manual

Grant management

- <u>Keeping records</u>
- <u>Amendments</u>
- <u>Continuous Reporting</u> (NEW)
- <u>Reports & payment requests</u>
- Deliverables & milestones
- Dissemination & exploitation
- <u>Communicating your project</u>
- <u>Acknowledgement of EU funding</u>
- <u>Checks, audits, reviews & investigations</u>
- Horizon Europe Data Management Plan Template (under reference documents of FTOP)



Keep in touch



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n	European Research Executive Agency (REA)		EU Spotify



Thank you



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