

HOW TO find partners

The Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society Cluster – as part of Pillar II of Horizon Europe – funds international collaborative research to be carried out by a consortium of organisations. To develop a robust project proposal, it is crucial to identify suitable international partners. How to find them? This ‘how-to’ sheet gives an overview of possibilities.

STEP 1: use the available tools and platforms to find partners

Identify top players in the R&I Programmes by exploring the platforms and webpages officially managed by the European Commission.

- The Funding and Tenders Portal Partner Search tool offers the possibility to find partners and to post offers directly in the same portal used for accessing the funding opportunity. Please, be aware that there is no quality control done by the portal on the content and its quality. Each entity is fully responsible for the information it shares in the portal. It is possible to access the search/offer function both from a dedicated page and through a dedicated section inside the topic’s page. When accessing through the topic page, you will find direct access to the partner searches only for this topic. You will need an EU Login Account to be able to conduct any further action.

- The Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS) is the European Commission’s source of results from the projects funded by the EU’s framework programmes for research and innovation. Each project is presented through a factsheet and a results page and all the consortium members are presented. Therefore, for partner search purposes, this allows to identify potential collaborators.
- Cordis Results in Brief: a collection of deliverables and other results from projects briefly and effectively described through dedicated short articles
- CORDIScovery podcasts monthly feature a panel discussion between guests at the forefront of their scientific fields
- The Horizon Dashboard is a platform offering public access to statistics and data on EU research and innovation [including information on entities participating in research and innovation activities (coordinators, partners)]. The functionality on R&I projects > Key Figures may be very helpful for the search of successful applicants in EU Framework Programmes for Research & Innovation.
- Success stories: if a project has achieved outstanding results relevant to EU citizens, this could be promoted by the European Commission via some of its free-of charge channels such as the page dedicated to Success Stories.
- Horizon Magazine gathers articles written by independent science journalists designed to appeal to both scientists and non-scientists alike, starting from the latest EU-funded research, all written in a clear, accessible style

STEP 2: use networks as an intermediated partner search tool

Your institution might already have a good network of partners to work with or other value chain partners ensuring proper project management and research dissemination. To go further, you can count on a wide network of stakeholders with high capillarity in Europe that will help in the matching between proposers and profiles:

- National Contact Point network: Your Cluster-2 National Contact Point (NCP) is part of a wider network and might be able to help you identify relevant organisations interested in the same call topic. Your NCP can support you with other services nationally or at European level, as invitations to brokerage event, training sessions, periodic newsletters, relevant tools and so on. Find the contact details of your NCP on the Funding and Tender Portal [here](#).
- The Enterprise Europe Network Partner Search Tool. The Enterprise Europe Network is the world's largest support network for SMEs with international ambitions. They manage an extensive database of partnering opportunities among which it is possible to filter by 'Research & Development Request'. Once you filter the opportunities, you can contact your local partner for help with the connection or register to the platform to express your interest directly. Your local partner might help you spot other relevant partners matching your needs or help you create a partner profile. Once you are registered on the platform, you have the possibility to save queries to get periodic updates about partner searches according to your criteria. Please, be aware that profiles are validated before publishing, for quality control purposes.

The COST Association (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) funds networking of researchers, acts as a pre-portal for other European funding, so it is a good point to start if someone needs to expand their network and find a way to join consortia.

STEP 3: have a look at brokerage events

The Brokerage events: Participating in thematic brokerage events seems to be a very successful way to effectively match expertise, build and/or be incorporated in winning consortia. They are generally organised back-to-back with European Commission info days and the launch of the Call for Proposals, with the intention to facilitate the matching between potential partners on the basis of the interest shown for the various Topics. Discover potential partner profiles by logging in to the Net4Society Cluster 2 Networking Platform [here](#).

- For further support, contact your National Contact Point directly.
- Find more detailed information in this guide to an adequate partner search developed by the Bridge2HE project.