Writing checklist for an effective proposal

Training #1: Access to public fundings and grants – List of relevant links and resources for national and regional funding (Module 8)

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Disclaimer: The information provided in this glossary are the most up to date at the time of publication of Training #1. Please note that European Commission portals, programs, and guidance documents are subject to periodic updates and revisions. Users are strongly advised to always verify the latest information directly on the official websites of the European Commission and other relevant funding bodies before preparing or submitting any proposal.

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Relevant organisations and networks

National Contact Points
NCPs are established in Member States, associated countries as well as in many non-EU countries to provide guidance, practical information and assistance on Horizon Europe.
→ List of national contact points per country and function/programme: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp
→ The NCP portal complements the F&T by providing useful resources developed by NCPs: https://horizoneuropencpportal.eu/about

For the LIFE programme, the list of National Contact Points can be accessed through the following link: https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/history-life/life-contacts/european-national-contact-points_en

Enterprise Europe Network
It's the largest support network for SMEs aimed at growing on international scale. It can be very useful in finding partners, understanding market trends and regulations and to access different services to grow your business.
→ Learn more about the network: https://een.ec.europa.eu/
→ Find local contact points located near you: https://een.ec.europa.eu/local-contact-points

European Regions Research & Innovation Network
This network gathers around 120 regions, regional innovation agencies and clusters, many of which manages regional funds or co-financed programmes. The network therefore act as a key tool to start understanding regional priorities and key contacts. Within their website, you can find the ERRIN members within your country/region and get in contact with them to know more about local funding opportunities.
→ Learn more about the network: https://errin.eu/

European Cluster Collaboration Platform
The ECCP is the European platform that gathers regional clusters, innovation hubs and regional agencies, many of which manages or are involved in regional funding and co-funded programmes. Engaging with ECCP members is also key to identify partners for local projects.
→ Access the platform: https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/

Smart Specialisation Strategy (RIS3)
Each EU region has a Smart Specialisation Strategy defining priority areas for investment in research and innovation and guiding how EU and regional funds are allocated to support economic transformation and innovation.
If your technology is aligned with a RIS3 priority, you have a much higher chance of finding targeted regional funding calls.
→ Learn more about the smart specialisation strategy and the S3 community of practice: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/communities-and-networks/s3-community-of-practice_en

EU Co-financed programmes within the EU Cohesion Policy

EU Cohesion Policy is the EU's main investment policy to reduce regional disparities and support economic, social and territorial development across Europe. It works by channeling EU funds into regions and Member States, where the money is then used to support projects aligned with EU priorities. Rather than being managed directly by the European Commission, Cohesion Policy funds are implemented at national and regional level. EU co-financed programmes are, therefore, the main implementation tools of Cohesion Policy.
→ List of programmes prepared by each Country and/or region, and financed under the ERDF or the Cohesion Fund: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/in-your-country/programmes_en

Management authorities
→ Find local management authority: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/in-your-country/managing-authorities/italy_en
→ List of national portals to inform citizens about co-funded programmes such as ERDF and cohesion fund: https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/funding-management-mode/national-single-portals_en

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
It supports innovation and SMEs by strengthening regional competitiveness and funding pilots, demonstrations, scale-up activities and applied innovation.
→ About ERDF fund: https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/european-regional-development-fund-erdf_en

Cohesion Fund
It supports environmental and infrastructure investments in eligible Member States with lower income levels.
→ About Cohesion fund: https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/cohesion-fund-cf_en

Interreg
It aims at tackling shared challenges and boosting regional cohesion through cross-border cooperation or transnational cooperation. In particular, it supports practical solutions, pilots and demonstration actions.
→ Discover all interreg programmes here: https://interreg.eu/programmes/

Other co-financed programmes

Common Agricultural Policy fund
It supports sustainable agriculture, soil health and rural development through national and regional measures, funding innovation, field trials and uptake of solutions such as innovative soil improvers.
→ About CAP fund: https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/common-agricultural-policy/financing-cap/cap-funds_en
→ Discover how CAP is implemented in your country: https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/cap-my-country_en