

Opportunities for Australians under Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 is the EU's €80bn (~\$A115bn) research and innovation programme which runs from 2014–2020 and represents the world's largest and most open financial programme for research and innovation and provides abundant opportunities for new bilateral research and innovation cooperation for the benefit of society.

There are four main ways an Australian can participate in *Horizon 2020*:

- ✓ as a partner in a collaborative research and innovation project or coordination action (EU funding only in exceptional circumstances)¹
- ✓ as a participant in a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action (MSCA):
 - individual Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships² – receiving or sending post-docs (with EU funding);
 - as a partner (without EU funding) in a Research and Innovation Staff Exchanges (RISE)³; and
 - as a partner in a joint PhD action (without EU funding) under the Innovative Training Networks (ITN)⁴
- ✓ as a European Research Council (ERC) grantee (with EU funding)⁵
- ✓ by becoming a registered Expert (with EU funding)⁶

To participate in Horizon 2020 actions, take the following steps:

1. **Use the *Horizon 2020* Participants Portal**
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html>
2. **Identify a relevant Call for Proposals** (2016 and 2017 Calls are expected to open in late September 2015)
<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/find-your-area>
3. **Find project partners** (where necessary)
Use your existing European partners (they may not have thought of you)
Participate in (official) *Horizon 2020* brokerage events, information days, etc
Use online partner services such as CORDIS
(<https://cordis.europa.eu/partners/web/guest/home>)
4. **Register your organisation** (where necessary)
in the Participants Portal
5. **Develop the proposal**
Let your European colleagues lead the work – they have teams of experienced staff
6. **Submit a proposal**
in the Participants Portal
Wait for the result of the evaluation by external independent experts
7. **If selected, sign the Grant Agreement**
in the Participants Portal

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/index.html>

² http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/about-msca/actions/if/index_en.htm

³ http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/about-msca/actions/rise/index_en.htm

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/about-msca/actions/itn/index_en.htm

⁵ <http://erc.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/funding-schemes>

⁶ <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/experts/index.html>