

NMPB NCP Services

NCP and Project Officers interactions



Horizon 2020: 2014-2020, EUR80bn

1. Excellent Science

European Research Council

Future and Emerging Technologies

Marie Curie Actions

Research Infrastructures

2. Industrial Leadership

Leadership in Enabling & Industrial Technologies

- information and communication technologies
- nanotechnologies
- advanced materials
- biotechnology
- advanced manufacturing and processing
- space

Access to Risk Finance

Innovation in SME

3. Societal Challenges

7 Challenges

- Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing
- Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research and the bio- economy
- Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy
- Smart, Green and Integrated Transport
- Climate Action, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials
- Europe in a changing world: Inclusive, Innovative and Reflective Societies
- Secure Societies – Protecting Freedom and Security of Europe and its Citizens

Joint Research Centre (JRC)

Widening Participation

Science with & for Society

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

Joint Programming P2P

Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs) P2B



Horizon 2020

Priority 1: Excellent Science

Priority 2: Industrial Leadership

Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (LEIT)

(i) ICT including micro/nano-electronics & photonics

(ii) Nanotechnologies

(iii) Advanced Materials

(iv) Biotechnology

(v) Advanced Manufacturing & Processing

(vi) Space

EUR13bn
for H2020

Access to risk finance

Leveraging private finance and venture capital for R&I

Innovation in SMEs

Fostering all forms of innovation in all types of SMEs

Priority 3: Societal Challenges

Industrial mastering and deployment of Key Enabling Technologies (KETs)

What are KETs?

- Six strategic technologies
- Driving competitiveness and growth opportunities
- Contributions to solving societal challenges
- Knowledge- and Capital-intensive
- Cut across many sectors

- **Nanotechnologies**
- **Advanced Materials**
- **Micro- and nano-electronics**
- **Photonics**
- **Biotechnology**
- **Advanced**
- **Manufacturing**

H2020 Irish National Contact Point Services

- Access to the draft Work Programme before publication working in conjunction with NDs – become an national expert, facilitating becoming an H2020 evaluator...
- Introduction to the main groups at EU level in your area (Liaise with Project Officers, ETP representatives, associations..)
- Proposal assistance – Proposal review, partner search, budget...(theme and time related)
- Post proposal assistance – Legal and financial – EI support office
- Access to EU data-base on projects/partners in your area
- Access to the EU NCP network – NEW PORTAL:
 - ♦ Please register-- www.nmpteam.com → Partner search engine, webinar to clients and NMPB NCPs.
- Access to Industry → R&D projects, H2020 partners...
- Link into *Enterprise Ireland* and national R&D programmes.



PO – NCP Interactions – The Nature –

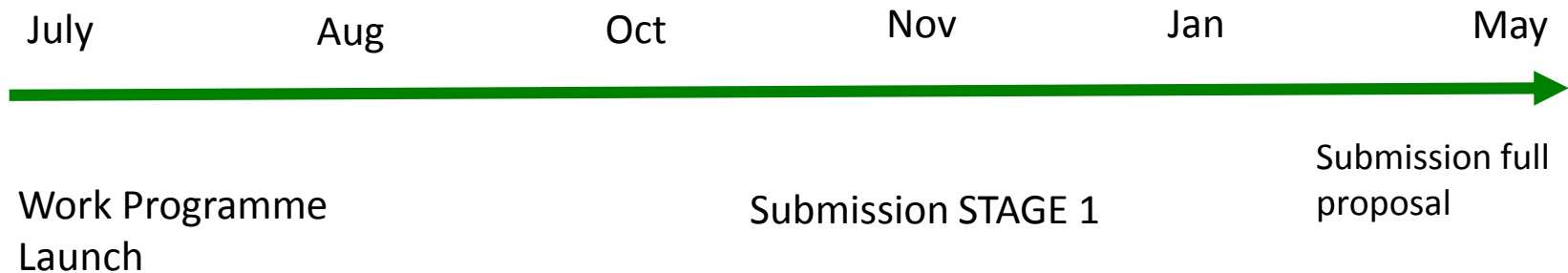


- Most of the interactions are reactive when clients need clarification of call text at a technical and policy level so proposal is in scope.
- There might be a R&I mission from time to time to Brussels to meet POs/Head of Unit. NCP to organise workshop
 - Example SSPC – Soren Bowadt and Technology Platforms.
- At EU Events, NCPs traveling with clients/Potential applicants, Introduction and clarification that way.
- NCPs with a dual role as NDs might have a more fluent relationship as they have more contact, PC meetings, HLG meetings, other events, info days.



PO – NCP Interactions – The Process –

- WP will be launched and EC will provide NCPs with a list of POs assigned to the projects. This list is confidential.
- NCPs will have approximately 6 months to deal with queries posed by clients. Usually summer break is in the middle.
- Nature of the queries:
 - 2/3 if the queries will be about the process/logistics/TRLs/lobbying groups ect. Experienced NCPs might not need to contact PO, day to day NCP role.
 - 1/3 of the queries will be of technical nature which will require contact with the EC.
- Clients should not approach POs. NCP to liaise with PO on their behalf. Agreed at the start of H2020.



PO – NCP Interactions – The Process II

- Clarifications can be done via email, phone, in person if NCP in Brussels or meet PO at event
- Clarification interaction is based on PO-NCP personal relationship.
- IT IS CLEAR FOR NCPS: reply is not binding and only the opinion of the PO. Project will be evaluated by external reviewers not the PO. PO will only moderate evaluation. NCPs should convey that message ALWAYS.
- Most commonly used channel: email.
- Interaction is needed as otherwise EC will be inundated with proposals:
 - Out of scope
 - Not addressing the technical challenge correctly
 - Not addressing the Impact and policy implications.

PO – NCP Interactions – Example I

NCP query: According to the scope of the call text, proposals should address one or more of the following subjects: (a) The development of low cost advanced materials for solid state storage of hydrogen at low pressure. (b) The development of direct synthesis of chemicals from CO₂-H₂O co-electrolysis using materials (c) The development of efficient low cost photochemical water splitting reactors with optimized flow behaviour. D) The optimization of low-cost electro-chemistries to separate and purify hydrocarbon streams. Is it correct to assume that (a) and (c) go together? Similarly, do subjects (b) and (d) go together? Is there any correlation between the 4 points in the way of tackling them? As a non-expert I would appreciate some direction as this is the type of questions I am getting from potential coordinators.

PO Reply: Dear Mr Fernandez-Ceballos. Thank you for your email and the interest in Horizon 2020 call topics. The NMBP-19-2017 topic description and scope are clearly defined and do not explicitly discriminate specific solutions a priori. Of course, it is up to the proposers to justify that their proposal meets the call topic requirements. The evaluators will make the judgement as to how well the proposal meets the call requirements.

NCP: can we have a short discussion about this? what is your direct line for a conf call please?

PO's secretary: Dear NCP, Thank you for your email.

Mr. XXX will not be available today for a conf-call. However, we would prefer, for transparency and fairness reasons, to receive and reply to such inquiries by email.



PO – NCP Interactions – Example II

***NCP query:** I have a coordinator from Ireland planning a submission for NMP04. They are planning to develop a self healing material pavement for roads. The topic scope covers Transport but just to make sure that proposal is in scope as it could be seen by the evaluators as the development of a materials for Infrastructure (yes Transport, highways/roads, is the ultimate aim, but depends what it is understood by Transport). I would appreciate your views here.*

***PO Reply:** Thanks for this email indeed you are right to wonder. Transport here is not used for infrastructures for transport this time it is more related to the vehicles for transport. Mainly automotive but since it is not specified it can include other transport means such as buses, long vehicles, marine, air transport. The subject they deal with is more in infrastructure –construction and it is hot and will come certainly back as topic but not to this one and I am sorry.*

***NCP:** thank you for this, very useful and open to interpretation yes. I forwarded information to coordinator and I believe they still planning a submission as they tell me they have done 80% of the work and they believe 'a car or a train is no more 'transport' than the road or the railway track'. They are aware of the risk they take*

***PO:** The idea of limiting the application field is **that I did not want to end up with so many proposals** and be rather fair to the proposers with an acceptable success rate. It seems to me that people do not understand that.*



PO – NCP Interactions – Lessons learnt

- EC to organise a workshop/meet and greet with Project Officers and NCPs as soon as the new WP is launched potentially even when WP in draft format before the summer break.
- EC may consider provide TECHNICAL BACKGROUND NOTES intended to provide background information and technical commentary on Topic topic X published as part of the Horizon 2020 work programme. The official work programme text is the only legally binding source of information on the topic. [Disclaimer: Should any inconsistency between the present explanatory document and the official text be detected it is always to be resolved in favour of the work programme text]. – for some topics from DG CONNECT.
- Publish in an accessible Q&A site. Make aware NCPs new posts are uploaded (NCP Networks role?).
- EC to clarify for new POs and new NCPs what is the preferred communication channel and make clear rules of engagement. (ie. Reply from a PO not binding!)
- POs should be available to NCPs via:
 1. Email as a first way of contact. POs should avoid generic replies.
 2. A phone conversation might be more convenient in cases and might be preferred by some POs. It might save a lot of email back and forward.



Thank you for your attention



www.ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020

www.horizon2020.ie

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