



Aktivity pro
výzkumné
organizace



EU funds
to support
international
cooperation

**GET
INVOLVED**



INTRODUCTION

The aim of this publication is to analyse the possibilities of open calls to Horizon 2020, Danube Programme or Interreg Europe, and also to prepare a Strategy and Action plan for the period from August to December 2016 in order to enable the R&D members of the QUENTIN platform to be more involved in the EU projects. The main aim of this publication is to gather information published on various web pages, and to provide a quick summary. The links for additional information are referred to in the following texts.

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The publication is divided into two following sections.

1 THE FIRST IS TO INTRODUCE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND PROVIDE A CALENDAR OF OPEN CALLS

2 THE SECOND WILL SUMMARIZE A STRATEGY REGARDING HOW TO GET INVOLVED, AND WILL ALSO SUMMARIZE THE POSSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL FUNDING

There are case studies included where students and researchers can acquire practical inspiration for international project preparation.

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1. CHAPTER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND OPEN CALLS

There are several international programmes supporting the international cooperation. As these are managed by different Managing Authorities, the administration differs. The following sections briefly describe each international programme and provide key information about the current or latest call.

1.1 Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 is a research and innovation framework programme designed for the period 2014–2020 that provides condition for EU support of research and innovation. The programme gathers following priorities

- I. Excellent Science
- II. Industrial Leadership
- III. Societal Challenges
- IV. Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation
- V. Science with and for Society
- VI. Non-nuclear Direct Actions of the Joint Research Centre
- VII. The European Institute of Innovation and Technology
Program EUROATOM

There is also a National Information Centre for European Research (NICER) which is established in each V4 country that serves as a national contact point. It is primarily focused on supporting the participation of the Czech Republic, Slovakian Republic, Hungary and Poland in the European Research Area.

NICERs in V4 provide following institutions:

- + The Technology Centre of the Czech Academy Of Science in the Czech Republic
- + Slovenská Akadémia Vied in Slovakia https://www.sav.sk/?lang=sk&doc=services-news&source_no=25
- + Polska Akademia Nauk in Poland <http://www.pan.pl/>
- + Hungarian Academy of Science in Hungary <http://mta.hu/english/>

NICERs provide also informations about open calls, seminars and support for applicants.

The Technology Centre of the Czech Academy Of Science in the Czech Republic provides web pages dedicated to the Horizon 2020 programme – www.h2020.cz/cs/seznamy/vyzvy. Currently, these calls are open and available for applicants:

01

MSCA-ITN-2017 Innovative Training Networks

430 mil. € | Deadline 10th January 2017

[MORE INFO](#)

02

INNOSUP-07-2017 Innovating SMEs - segmentation along lifecycle and sectors (analytical research)

1,000,000 € | Deadline 4th April 2017

Creating a higher societal impact from innovation support requires increasing its efficiency. In the recent past innovation support agencies recognised that successful innovation is not originating only from scientific research and technological development.

[MORE INFO](#)

03

H2020-SC6-CULT-COOP-2016-2017 UNDERSTANDING EUROPE - PROMOTING THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC AND CULTURAL SPACE

Deadline 2nd February 2017

The resilience and cohesion of European societies are strongly conditioned by beliefs and identities, as well as by collective representations and constructions of past and present realities and expectations about the future. Research in the humanities and social sciences is well-placed for making important contributions to creating a new narrative for Europe by studying the drivers of and obstacles to the emergence of a European public sphere and a European cultural space. The role that technology can play in promoting a better understanding of the richness of Europe's heritage and diversity equally deserves further exploration as well as solutions-driven options.

1.2 Interreg DANUBE Programme

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/>

The Danube Transnational Programme finances projects for the development and practical implementation of policy frameworks, tools and services and concrete small-scale pilot investments. Strong complementarities with the broader EU Strategy for the Danube Region are sought. The Danube Transnational Programme promotes economic, social and territorial cohesion in the Danube Region through policy integration in selected fields.



The first call in numbers:

- 1st step - 23rd September to 3rd November
- 2nd step - 29th March to 9th May 2016
- 576 Expressions of Interest were submitted for the 1st step
- 91 Application Forms were submitted for the 2nd step
- 55 projects were approved with conditions by the Monitoring Committee on 27th and 28th September 2016

The second call is expected to be launched at the beginning of 2017.

1.3 Interreg CENTRAL Europe

<http://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/home.html>

The programme funds partnerships that jointly address challenges shared across central European cities and regions - related to either innovation, CO2 reduction, natural and cultural resources or transport. The programme supports partners to work together beyond borders to improve cities and regions in Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.



The first call in numbers:

- 1st step 23rd September to 3rd November 2015
- 2nd step 29th March to 9th May 2016
- 620 applications were received and assessed by the programme
- 35 project proposals were selected

The second call for proposals

- one step application 26 April 2016 till 23rd June
- projects are expected to be selected by spring 2017 and will be funded with around 90 million Euro

It is common practice to see to it that after projects are selected, a new call is likely to be open, therefore we can expect the **third call in spring 2017**.

1.4 Interreg EUROPE

Interreg Europe helps regional and local governments across Europe to develop and deliver better policy. By creating an environment and opportunities for sharing solutions, we aim to ensure that government investment, innovation and implementation efforts all lead to integrated and sustainable impact for people and place.



The first call for projects:

- one step application (May–July 2015)
- 261 applications received and assessed by the programme
- 64 projects were conditionally approved on 9 February 2016

Second call (April - May 2016):

- 211 applications received is available here
- 66 projects were approved

The third call will be open from **1st March until 30th June 2017**.

1.5 Calendar

All of the deadlines mentioned above are summarized in the following table.

PROGRAM - CALL	January	February	March	April
Horizon 2020 Innovative Training Networks	10.1.2017			
Horizon 2020 Innovative Innovating SMEs - segmentation along lifecycle and sectors (analytical research activity)				4.4.2017
Horizon 2020 UNDERSTANDING EUROPE - PROMOTING THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC AND CULTURAL SPACE		2.2.2017		
Interreg DANUBE Programme 2 nd call	beginning of 2017			
Interreg CENTRAL Europe 3 rd call			spring 2017	
Interreg EUROPE 3 rd call			will be open from 1st March until 30th June 2017	

2. CHAPTER STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

This section should provide inspiration and insight into the preparation of the project. The project preparation is indeed intense work that requires devotion, creativity, flexibility and most of all – patience. However, it is also a rather amusing activity, we can assure you, it is not boring at all!

There are four key steps. These are described briefly below:

2.1 How to prepare an international project



The documentaion of The Technology Centre of the Czech Academia of Science in the Czech Republic clearly shows that the evaluators (especially program H2020) emphasize mainly **detailed preparation of SWOT analysis, information on the transferability of results, the quality of long-term strategic measures, care of created innovations, international overview of the competition in the area, lack of quantified impact (on industry, economic development, academy, sustainable development), good development of the work packages and coherence with the goal of the project.**

2.2 Supporting team of experts

In other words - the project preparation requires capital resources – you will need to build a team of experts to prepare a solid project proposal, which should include at least:

- + **Expert of the selected topic** (bioenergy, agriculture, waste water treatment etc.)
- + **Financial Manager** – you will need to estimate budget and cost breakdown
- + **Programme Expert and Team Leader** – one team member shall be experienced in the chosen programme (H2020, Interreg CENTRAL etc.), there are a considerable amount of programme materials to be studied and inspected, this person should also coordinate the project preparation and he or she is responsible for successful project preparation, she will set tasks for the other team members
- + **Assistant** – who will be responsible for providing administrative documents (balance sheets, contracts), search information, provide a to-do list and check deadlines

The expert team will therefore systematically provide these activities:

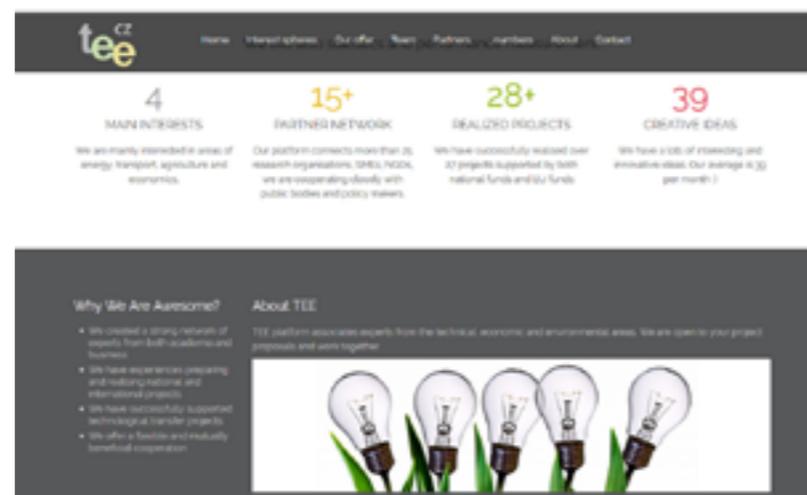
- + actively seek opportunities for the involvement in international projects, through
- + continuous monitoring of calls' timetables and monitoring of announced calls of (inter)national research programmes
- + search for suitable partner organizations primarily coordinators of international projects (within the partner search international programs)
- + from the experience with involvement in international research we know how important an appropriate form of presentation of research partners is - especially the advantage of their involvement in the consortium, specific knowledge or networks— **you should prepare a presentation dedicated to various topics that you are interested in – transport, economy, energy, it will save you a lot of time when communicating with the coordinator!**
- + processing of documents for application, where you might need:
 - to provide thematic comparative analysis,
 - analysis of the benefits of the project's added value and impact quantification

International projects preparation requires coordination meetings with the secretariats of programs (eg. Secretary of INTERREG - EUROPE in Lille, INTERREG - Danube in Budapest, Horizon in Brussel) if you are the Lead Partner or meetings with a project lead partner if you are just a project partner.

Case study czTEE

VŠB – TUO is a partner of a Technical – Economic – Environmental Platform - a network of research institutions, professional association and SME from the Czech republic who are focused on interdisciplinary research, technology transfer and support innovation in businesses.

The main goal is to foster innovation particularly in the energy, agriculture, economical field connecting R&D institution with the SME partners and finding public support.



As the project preparation usually begins months before the call is open and requires almost 100 % of team members capacity, the total cost of project preparation varies between 10 - 20 ths EUR. Therefore, in some countries there is national funding available that provides financial resources for the international project preparation. In the following chapter we will present the results of our findings in V4 countries, amongst the possible national fundings.

2.3 National funding for international project preparation



THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Programme INTER-EXCELLENCE

The program focuses on supporting the initiation and further development of international cooperation in research and development and integration of the Czech Republic into the European and global research structures. The program conveys cooperation of Czech institutions in projects of European cooperation and bilateral cooperation with countries outside the European Union and will create conditions for Czech research teams to publish international results, knowledge and skills, and enable them to participate in their creation and usage.

Duration and sub-program

The program is proposed for the years 2016 - 2024 for projects with a maximum duration of five years, whereas the following sub-programs were identified:

INTER-A(CTION)

promotion of the cooperation of Czech research institutions and their partner institutions in countries where an existing agreement is in place / document of a bilateral intergovernmental or interagency nature for research and development activities.

INTER-C(OST)

promotion of involvement of Czech research teams in European multilateral cooperation COST in basic or applied research in the form of new activities (ie. topics levied to support the COST competent authorities), proposed by Czech scientific teams, or their connection to the activities (thematic areas) which has been proposed by other research teams.

INTER-T(RANSFER)

support for the participation of Czech scientists in international research and development projects, by promoting their involvement in top international research teams located in research centers and / or projects of international organizations or governments abroad. In the case that direct membership is allowed or where participation in the activities of organizations or governments with international status is not possible due to the existing membership of the Czech republic in the member countries and the fees being paid by the state in connection with this membership.

INTER-I(NFORM)

support for building and sustainability of information networks and services in research and development in order to increase the participation of Czech research institutions in international research and development programs

INTER-V(ECTOR)

strengthening of active representation of Czech researchers in the governing bodies of leading non-governmental organizations with an international character, which are engaged in research and development

INTER-E(UREKA)

support for international cooperation between industrial enterprises and research organizations, directly linked to the international program EUREKA

Only the INTER – E(UREKA) programme is supported in other V4 countries:



THE SLOVAKIA REPUBLIC

<https://www.minedu.sk/eureka/>

<http://www.eurekanetwork.org/calls-for-projects>



POLAND

<http://www.ncbr.gov.pl/en/programy-miedzynarodowe/eureka/>

<https://www.ewt.gov.pl/strony/o-programach/przeczytaj-o-programach/programy-europejskiej-wspolpracy-terytorialnej/>



HUNGARY:

<http://www.eurekanetwork.org/countries/hungary>

Case study EURECA

As only the EURECA project is supported in all V4 countries, we have prepared a short case study of one EURECA project preparation based on a real project, where some information has been withdrawn.



Project Objective

The main goal of this project is the development of the new technology of chemical treatment of digestate, originating from the biogas plants enabling the extension of its use. The chemically pre-treated liquid phase will possibly be treated further by common biological processes; anaerobic sludge together with biological sludge originating from a wastewater treatment plant can be subsequently used as substrate for biogas plants or for the composting. New technology will also make better use of digestate as manure. New devices for digestate treatment originating from the biogas plants together with creation of digestate methodology use will be created in the scope of this project.

Key outputs

- a) new technology of chemical pre-treatment of digestate coming from the wastewater treatment plant can be subsequently used as substrate for the biogas plants or as a manure.
- b) New methods of usage of treated digestate, in the form of composting or as a manure
- c) Design of a prototype device for digestate treatment

New devices developed in the scope of this project will increase the competitiveness of biological reactors producers, biogas plant operators and producers of devices for biogas treatment. The results of this project will directly improve the operational efficiency of biogas plants, improve the methods of the products use after the fermentation process as well as improve the final overall quality of biogas. The results of this project will contribute to higher reliability and security of the supplies from renewable sources and contribute to a better environment.

Time schedule of this project

1.1.2014-31.12.2016

1st year = development of chemical pre-treatment process of liquid waste from the biogas plants

2nd year = construction and testing of prototype devices

3rd year = creation of new technological know-how

Partners and their roles

1st country – Czech Republic

Coordinator

construction design of device –
design and creation of methods as well as way of digestate use

2nd country – Slovak Republic

– construction of device in container

3rd country – Serbia

– testing and evaluation



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