

GETTING INVOLVED IN HORIZON EUROPE: A PRACTITIONER'S PERSPECTIVE

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CL4 IN CONTEXT: UNDERSTANDING THE FRAMEWORK

CL4



- EU's €95.5B R&I programme (2021–2027)
- Structure: 3 Pillars Excellent Science, Global Challenges, Innovative Europe
- Cluster 4 sits in Pillar II Global Challenges and EU Industrial Competitiveness
- Strategic focus 2025-2027: Green and **Digital Transition**, and a more Resilient, Inclusive and Democratic Europe



CL4 EXPECTED IMPACTS



- 15. Achieving global leadership in climate neutral, circular and digitised industrial and digital value chains
- 16. Achieving technological leadership for Europe's open strategic autonomy in raw materials, chemicals and innovative materials
- 17. Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for dataset services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services
- 18. Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies
- 19. Achieving open strategic autonomy in global space-based infrastructures, services, applications, anddata
- 20. Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation

Source: Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-2027



CL4 DESTINATIONS















Destination 3: Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services

- ✓ Edge-to-cloud infrastructure pilots (e.g. Telco Edge Cloud, 3C networks)
- ✓ Trustworthy & compliant GenAl, risk assessment, and open-source Al frameworks
- ✓ Interoperable digital commons: Open Internet Stack, roadmap for next-gen computing

Destination 4: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies

- ✓ Quantum, semiconductors, photonics, robotics, GenAl for science and industry
- ✓ Boost deep tech scale-up, EU fabless semiconductor ecosystem, AI in robotics

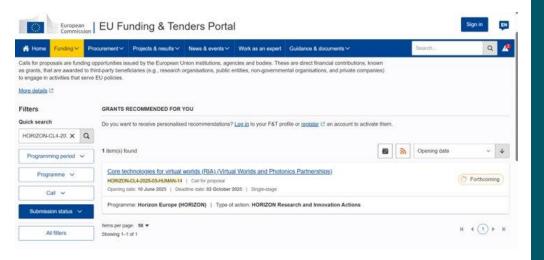
Destination 6: Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation

- ✓ Immersive technologies: virtual worlds, Web 4.0, GenAI personalisation
- ✓ Responsible Al adoption: knowledge valorisation, standardisation pilots
- ✓ Empowerment through Industry 5.0: augmentation, resilience, inclusion



FINDING THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITIES

THE WORK PROGRAMME



- ✓ All work programmes are published by the EC (<u>link</u>)
- ✓ Use the <u>EU Funding & Tenders Portal</u> to access the latest version of the topics:
- Scope, Expected Outcomes, Destination, Budget
- Topic conditions and documents
- Q&A
- Partners search
- Call results
 - ✓ Carefully review topic's scope, expected outcomes, TRLs
 - Cross-reference with SRIAs of ADRA, Photonics21, etc, Policy and Regulations, Standards, previous projects ...



Coordinator



Participants (37)



FINDING THE RIGHT PARTNERS



- Use <u>cordis</u> to identify past project coordinators and consortia
- ✓ Leverage PPP, JU and networks (e.g., ADRA, EuroHPC, BDVA, Photonics 21, ...)
- ✓ Use matchmaking tools and participate in brockerage events: <u>Ideal-ist</u>, <u>EEN</u>, <u>NCP4Industry</u>, <u>EC</u> <u>Info days</u>
- ✓ NCPs and National Innovation Agencies provide support
- ✓ R&D consultancy companies

POSITION YOURSELF AS A PARTNER



1-page Partner Profile:



✓ Clear, relevant, tailored

Who you are, what you bring, what you're seeking

✓ Propose contributions to the Scope and Expected outcomes of the topic

Position yourself within the expected TRLs

✓ Include key references related to the topic and your contributions

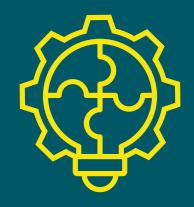
Scientific papers, previous projects, products

- ✓ Involvement in standardisation organisations, industrial associations
- ✓ Use clear, technical EU-style language
- ✓ Avoid generic or promotional content



FINAL TIPS & TAKEAWAYS





- ✓ Align with strategic goals (SRIA, Destination)
- ✓ Analyse previous projects (CORDIS)
- ✓ Build relationships with EU partners (matchmaking, B2B) showcase and grow your network!
- ✓ Tailor your profile and outreach to each call/topic
- ✓ Rely on external support when needed



USEFUL WEBSITES & RESOURCES

EC programmes, databases and tools

- EC Research and innovation Portal
- Horizon Europe Strategic Plan
- Funding & Tenders Portal
- CORDIS Project Database

Matchmaking and B2B

- Ideal-ist
- Enterprise Europe Network
- NCP4Industry
- EC Info days



EC Agencies and policies

- European Health and Digital Executive Agency
- > DG-CONNECT
- Internal Market, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

CONTACT



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