

# HORIZON EUROPE

## *WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA (WIDERA)*

### CALL TOPIC FAQ'S

European Commission  
[EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

Hop-on facility | [HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06](#)

Call Opening: 10.01.2023  
Call Deadlines: 28.09.2023 | 26.09.2024

Call Topic ID & Title	Instrument	Single Stage or Two Stage?
<a href="#"><u>HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01</u></a> Hop on Facility	RIA	Two Cut-off Dates

- **Under the call Hop-on facility (HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01), when is the ultimate moment for an eligible project to include a widening entity and therefore to submit an application?**

[FAQ ID: [36572](#)]

*To ensure that the activities can be financed, correctly implemented, and achieve the intended impacts according to the call conditions and objectives of the Hop On facility, the projects should have 18 months or more left in the duration of the ongoing grant agreement at the submission deadline (28/9/2024). Projects with less than 18 months duration left at the submission deadline are discouraged from submitting a proposal as given the time constraint, the possibility to achieve in a meaningful way the intended impact and objectives of the Hop-on facility will be severely limited/jeopardised.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, what is expected to be included in the proposal to demonstrate the added value of the new partner?**

[FAQ ID: [21861](#)]

*In accordance with the proposal template for the Hop On Facility, proposals should include a detailed description of the profile of the new partner and its role in the existing project. This presentation should detail all activities which will be impacted due to the addition of the new Widening partner (e.g. new/updated work packages, deliverables, milestones). Applications must demonstrate the R&I added value of the new partner and describe the concrete tasks to be carried out either as a separate new work package or contributions to existing work packages.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, can a proposal request a contribution below EUR 0.2 or above EUR 0.5 million?**

[FAQ ID: [21860](#)]

*The range 0.2 to 0.5 million EUR for the requested EU contribution in Hop On proposals is indicative and not an eligibility condition. Therefore, proposals requesting lower or higher amounts are possible but, in all instances, requests need to be justified and will be assessed during the evaluation of proposals.*

- **Who can submit a proposal for the Hop on facility under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01?**

[FAQ ID: [21858](#)]

*The proposal must be submitted by the coordinator of a consortium funded under Pillar 2 or the EIC Pathfinder of Horizon Europe with a valid grant agreement that does not have any participant from a country eligible to host the coordinator under the Widening component (Widening country). The proposal must include the accession of one additional partner from a widening country.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, which supporting document/annex must be provided besides the application part B when submitting the proposal in the submission system?**

[FAQ ID: [21857](#)]

*The Coordinator must submit an additional mandatory annex titled "Project Grant Agreement". This mandatory annex should be the PDF document (max. 50 MB) of the running GA, Part A & Part B and the Budget table.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, can the coordinator of a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) project apply to the Hop On facility call?**

[FAQ ID: [21856](#)]

*No they cannot. Only ongoing Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Action (RIA) projects are eligible to apply to the Hop On Facility call. The Commission has published on the Hop On Facility call page, a link to the list of eligible running projects already funded under Pillar 2 and the EIC Pathfinder which is designed in a filtered way. This shows only those projects that are suitable matches for the Hop On Facility call.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, what is the typical minimum and maximum duration of Hop On projects?**

[FAQ ID: [21855](#)]

*The duration of the "new" Hop On activities will depend on the duration of the ongoing Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Action (RIA) projects which the new partner will join. The time elapsed between the start date of the project and the signature of the amendment allowing the new partner to participate in the consortium will also impact the duration of the proposed "new" activities that cannot be extended after the end of the original grant agreement.*

- **What will be the key factors in the evaluation of Hop On proposals under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01?**

[FAQ ID: [21854](#)]

*As indicated in the Work Programme, the main selection criteria will be the excellence and added value of the new partner and of the work package or task(s) assigned to this institution in the context of the ongoing project. The ongoing project, as such, is not subject to evaluation.*

- **What is the reimbursement rate for a project under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01?**

[FAQ ID: [21853](#)]

*Participants are entitled to claim direct eligible costs in full (reimbursement rate of 100%) and this amount is topped up by an additional flat rate of 25% of direct costs to cover for the indirect costs (overheads).*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, will a partner organisation from an Associated Country be allowed to claim costs? And from a Third Country?**

**[FAQ ID: [21852](#)]**

*Only partner organisations from Associated Countries eligible for the Widening part of the Horizon Europe Work Programme can benefit from the Hop On Facility. The costs of such partner organisations will be considered as eligible in the same way as for an EU partner organisation. However, partner organisations from Third Countries are not eligible for the Hop On Facility action.*

- **HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01: for applicants submitting proposals related to the calls of the Pillar 2 or the EIC Pathfinder, is it more convenient to exclude a potential partner from a Widening country and apply later for the Hop On call?**

**[FAQ ID: [21851](#)]**

*Applicants should always include all relevant partners when submitting proposals. Leaving a partner at the sideline can impair the quality of the consortium and result in lower evaluation scores. Proposals might also lack adequate geographical scope or diversity. Furthermore, even if a proposal without a Widening partner is funded, there are no guarantees at all that an extra partner will be funded through the Hop On facility, as this is a competitive call based on the excellence principle.*

- **HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01: which legal entity is eligible to prepare and submit a proposal to the Hop On Facility call and which legal entity is eligible to join as a new partner in an ongoing Horizon project (Pillar 2 and EIC pathfinder)?**

**[FAQ ID: [21850](#)]**

*Proposals must be submitted to the Hop On facility call from the coordinator of a consortium funded under Pillar 2 or EIC Pathfinder of Horizon Europe with a valid grant agreement that does not have any participant from a country eligible to host the coordinator under the Widening component (Widening country).*

*To benefit from the Hop On Facility, the new hop-on partner must be a Member state, Associated country or outermost region legal entity established in a "Widening country". The member states which are Widening countries are: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. The Associated countries which are Widening countries are: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine.*

*The Outermost Regions are: Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Réunion, Mayotte Saint-Martin, The Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, can a second widening partner apply if there is already a partner from a Widening country in the consortium?**

[FAQ ID: [21849](#)]

*No, the Hop On Facility is limited to the addition of a single partner to consortia with no participants from widening countries.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, is it possible to exceed the page limit foreseen in the original RIA call due to the inclusion of the new task/partner?**

[FAQ ID: [21848](#)]

*The Hop On proposals will not be bound by any page limit of the original calls under Pillar 2. Nevertheless, applicants should provide a concise and accurate description of the widening partner and of the proposed new activities assigned to it by filling in the template part B available in the call submission page. The page limit for the Hop On Facility part B application is 8 pages maximum.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, in cases where the new partner will be involved in more than a single Work Package, how should the applicants deal with it?**

[FAQ ID: [21847](#)]

*In the context of Hop on, “Work Package” should be understood as all the activities/tasks to which the new partner will contribute. New partners can contribute to new or existing work packages. Applicants are expected to provide details on the new work package and/or the changes to existing work packages resulting from the addition of the widening partner.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, how do the consortia select the new members from a widening country if there are more applicants?**

[FAQ ID: [21846](#)]

*The selection of the most suitable partner is left to the discretion of the consortium. For the sake of a successful evaluation, we advise to base this solely on the expected R&I added value for the host projects and not on country preferences.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, is it possible for a coordinating entity based in France to bring into the consortium one of its department based in outermost countries?**

[FAQ ID: [21845](#)]

*Yes, this is possible because the partner from an Outermost Region will be considered a widening partner, provided it has a legal address over there.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, should only the coordinator and the new partner be mentioned in part A?**

**[FAQ ID: [21844](#)]**

*Yes, this is correct. Only the hosting coordinator and the widening partner are relevant for this part.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, what is the expected success rate for this call?**

**[FAQ ID: [21843](#)]**

*The success rate is dependent on the ratio between the requested cumulative budget of the submitted proposals and the available call budget. Accurate predictions are therefore difficult but for 2023, we may expect sufficient budget for the majority of proposals if we extrapolate from the experience of the 2022 call.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, for what purpose is the coordination fee foreseen?**

**[FAQ ID: [21842](#)]**

*The coordination fee should cover any additional administrative and managerial efforts to be taken on board by the coordinator, as a consequence of the extension of the consortium. For example, this could include increased reporting and monitoring work load, increased number of meeting, visits, etc.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, how will the matchmaking between hop-on candidates and potential host projects work?**

**[FAQ ID: [21841](#)]**

*The matchmaking is primarily left to the initiative of applicants, both coordinators interested in extending their consortia and hop-on candidates seeking suitable host projects. For the latter case, candidates are encouraged to screen the list of eligible projects published on the call web site on the Funding & Tenders Portal, while also using information published under CORDIS. Coordinators may use the partner search tool and also contact NCP organisations, notably the project NCP WIDERANet.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, shall the application under pillar 2 and EIC refer to potential future Hop On partner?**

**[FAQ ID: [21840](#)]**

*No it shall not. In cases where a potential partner from a widening country is already known, it should already be integrated into the consortium from the very beginning in the first proposal. We discourage 'stand-by' solutions because there is no guarantee of the success of a second proposal via hop-on.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, does the use of hop-on indicate that the original consortium needs to be changed?**

[FAQ ID: [21839](#)]

*No, the hop-on action should rather be regarded as a possibility for the original consortium to start additional activities not planned from the beginning and to widen the scope and impact of the project.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, can a consortium submit a proposal for the two cut-offs?**

[FAQ ID: [21838](#)]

*Yes, a resubmission to the second cut-off line will be possible.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, how does the objective to “mobilise excellence” translate into concrete requirements for the profile of the hop on partner?**

[FAQ ID: [21837](#)]

*In fact the objective of the call is to mobilise the ‘hidden’ excellence of the hop-on partner that has not yet been invited to the consortium due to lack of visibility. Therefore, we expect excellence with the hop-on partner but not necessarily world class. The excellence of the host consortium will not be examined because it has already been evaluated and approved previously.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, are the same evaluators and criteria who evaluated the original RIA project used for the hop on?**

[FAQ ID: [21836](#)]

*Indeed, the Executive Agencies (EAs) in charge of the evaluation aim at using the same evaluators who evaluated the host project in order to ensure consistency and to best recognise the added value of the new partner and its tasks. Standard evaluation criteria for RIA will apply.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, how long after the signature of the grant agreement could an Hop-on application be submitted?**

[FAQ ID: [21835](#)]

*The work programme up to now has not yet imposed any restrictions since the vast majority of projects were not launched earlier than mid 2022. However, we will expect a reasonable timing for the phasing in of the hop-on partner that should ensure a minimum duration of the hop-on participation of 18 months in order to achieve the intended impacts.*

- **Under the call HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01, how many applications with different widening entities can an applicant submit to an ongoing open call?**

[FAQ ID: [21834](#)]

*An applicant may submit only one proposal. The eligibility conditions set in the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 (Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area) clearly state that: "The proposal must be submitted by the co-ordinator of a consortium funded under Pillar 2 or a EIC Pathfinder call of Horizon Europe with a valid grant agreement that does not have any participant from a country eligible to host the coordinator under the Widening component (Widening country). The proposal must include the accession of one additional partner from a widening country." Consequently, only the coordinator of the ongoing eligible grant, funded under Horizon Europe, is entitled to apply to have only one additional partner from a widening country. This is because multiple submissions might be interpreted as demonstrating a lack of focus and prioritisation which could compromise the objectives of the call.*