



Enhancing the Bilateral S&T Partnership with Ukraine*Advanced Innovative Approach

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Abstract

Developed materials focuses to prepare the ground for a well understood approach towards various EU programmes. It aims to provide recommendations on how to exploit synergies between Horizon 2020 and programmes focusing on the regional approach in RTDI and on human resource development in RTDI on the one hand; on the other hand to raise awareness and facilitate the Ukrainian approach towards different programmes under the new financial framework 2014-2020 by avoiding overlaps and creating synergies thus increasing the effectiveness of existing initiatives. At practical level, this report aims to present recommendations on how to use existing mechanisms for enhanced and fruitful STI cooperation leading to the progressive integration of the Ukrainian scientific community into the European Research Area.



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List of Abbreviations

AC	Associated Country (to FP)
CBC	Cross-border Cooperation
COST	European Cooperation in Science and Technology - one of the longest-running European instruments supporting cooperation among scientists and researchers across Europe
EECA	Eastern Europe and Central Asia
EC	European Commission
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
ENPI	European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
ERA	European Research Area
EIT	European Institute of Innovation and Technology
ERC	European Research Council
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
EU	European Union
FP7	7th Framework Programme
H2020	Horizon 2020, the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, 2014-2020
ICPC	International Cooperation Partner Countries
IDP	Innovative Doctoral Programmes
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
IRSES	Innovation-Research Staff Exchange Schemes (MSC)
ITN	Initial Training Network
JRC	Joint Research Centre
LEIT	Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies - The EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.
LGF	Loan Guarantee Facility
MCA	Marie Curie Actions
MESU	Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine
MS	Member State(s)
MSCA	Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions
NASU	National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
R&I	Research and Innovation

RISE	Research-Innovation Staff Exchange (MSC)
RIIs	Research infrastructures
RTD	Research and Technological Development
RTDI	Research, Technological Development and Innovation
SMEs	Small and Medium-size Enterprises
S&T	Science and Technology
STI	Science, Technology and Innovation

1. Executive Summary

The report on synergies between the instruments offered under the 2014-2020 financial framework of the European Union provides an analysis of the existing instruments, experiences from the previous financial period, and recommendations on the possible synergies.

As regards the current state of the Ukraine-EU RTDI cooperation, there is an existing institutional framework for the enhancement of the partnership, namely, the Ukraine-EU Agreement in S&T Cooperation, as well, as Ukraine-EU MS/AC Bilateral Agreements of the governmental and institutional level. Moreover, association of Ukraine to Horizon 2020 provides further opportunities for Ukraine. Nevertheless, it appears that there is significant room for improvements, mainly in the field of the functioning of the Agreement itself and the external context which influences its effectiveness. The need for these improvements appear to be particularly cogent due to the strategic role of research and innovation (R&I) in the Europe 2020 Strategy calling for more coordinated activities amongst actors both in terms of international research and innovation cooperation.

The main objective of the Report is to analyse the cooperation opportunities, possible interaction between the different measures, to overview diverse supporting measures in HORIZON 2020, the European Research Area, and the Innovation Union as well as to develop the recommendations addressing the national stakeholders responsible for RTDI policies to ensure their specific competence and experience for further action.

The report at hand is focused on:

a) Human Resource Development in RTDI (by taking into account experiences from the programmes of the previous funding period, i.e. the Life-Long Learning programme, Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, / DG Education/, Marie Curie Actions, ERC grants, etc. /DG Research/ ; and observing the opportunities provided by actual 2014-2020 funding period, i.e. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), ERC grants and Erasmus +), and

b) on regional approaches in RTDI support (by taking into account experiences from the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument, macro regional strategies such as the Danube Strategy (Pillar C on Knowledge Society, Competitiveness as well as People and Skills), European Transnational Cooperation Programmes (Central Europe and Danube Region ETCs), Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC) programmes / DG External Actions, DG Region) to achieve the goal of furthering and attracting human resources, improving infrastructure, encouraging public-private partnerships in R&D and make input in developing multi-annual roadmaps for EU-Ukraine STI cooperation.

In addition to these parts, measures supporting and/or funding innovative activities (SME instrument, EUREKA, InnovFin, etc.) and research infrastructures (ESFRI) were also analysed.

From the perspective of researchers, the developed materials should improve transparency and an increased level of information regarding the EU RTDI funding opportunities and EU research policy at whole, therefore a funding map was also elaborated consisting of practical information on the various programmes subject to the report.

2. Introduction

2.1. *Policies of Ukraine for international R&I cooperation*

International cooperation in R&I is considered of high importance for Ukraine. The legal basis of the R&I policy in Ukraine is composed of the Constitution of Ukraine and various laws.

The R&I priorities are defined according to the National Target S&T and Innovation Development Forecast Programme of Ukraine. They are discussed by the scientific community and submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for correction.

According to the a/m Law of Ukraine, on September 07, 2011, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted a Resolution “On Approval of the List of Priority Thematic Directions of Scientific Research and Science and Technology Designs for the period up to 2015”.

The Law of Ukraine “On Priorities of Science and Technology Development” defines the following national priorities up to 2020:

- basic scientific research of the most important problems of scientific and technological, social and economic, political and human potential development to ensure Ukraine’s competitiveness in the world and sustainable development of its society and state;
- information and communication technologies;
- energy and power efficiency;
- efficient nature management;
- life sciences, new technologies of prevention and treatment of the most wide-spread diseases;
- new substances and materials.

The Law of Ukraine “On Priorities in Innovation Activities in Ukraine” defines the following strategic innovation priorities for the period 2011-2021:

- assimilation of new technologies of energy transportation, putting into operation of energy-efficient and resource-saving technologies, assimilation of alternative sources of energy;
- assimilation of new technologies of high technology development of the transportation system, rocket and space field, aircraft industry and shipbuilding, armament and military technologies;
- assimilation of the new technologies of materials production, their processing and interconnection; creation of the nano-materials and nano-technologies industry;
- technological modernization and development of agro-industrial complex;
- introduction of new technologies and equipment for a quality medical service, treatment and pharmaceuticals;
- wide use of technologies of cleaner manufacturing and environment protection;
- development of modern information and communication technologies and robotics.

2.2. The European Policy Background

The Europe 2020 Strategy provides the most comprehensive agenda for economic and societal development of the European Union. It aims at “smart, sustainable, inclusive growth” with greater coordination of national and European policies, including RTDI policy. Synergies between RTDI policies and instruments should be exploited, acknowledging the fact that research and innovation (R&I) is a major pillar for sustainable economic and social development. It should be implemented in Ukraine in a way to create new stimuli for growth by improving the conditions and the measures stimulating innovation. In addition, other Flagship Initiatives also address aspects which are relevant to RTDI policy. Horizon 2020 should be used even more effectively than it has been up to now for strengthening the Ukrainian research scene.

In addition to the financial incentives provided by Horizon 2020, multilateral cooperation with the EU should also be promoted. While some initiatives for strengthening multilateral cooperation are embedded in Horizon 2020, others depend exclusively on the initiative of the Member States (MSs). Active implementation of the European Research Area (ERA) will lead to the improvement of the cooperation with the EU as a whole. Implementing ERA in Ukraine requires a series of measures in order to facilitate the realisation of the “internal market for knowledge”, in particular to establish a more effective governance system for dealing with the EU agendas.

The EU agendas concerning the European Research Area primarily provide facilitations and simplifications for the RTDI organisations and individuals dealing with research, technological development and innovation. The EU International Cooperation Strategy¹ in particular provides measures which should improve the conditions for the best talents and the most innovative enterprises, for instance with regard to available infrastructure, access conditions for researchers and enterprises, or by simplifying and standardising application procedures for R&I funding. Intensifying multilateral cooperation is an important aspect. It can take place on different levels and can relate to certain geographical areas, but can also serve the joint or harmonised management of thematic programmes. However, this still requires a learning process regarding the most suitable opportunities, for example, with regard to mutual opening up or joint management of national programmes.

The diversification of instruments at EU level and the intensification of multilateral coordination require respective coordination and preparation processes at national level.

Regarding the international cooperation the EU intends to focus its actions in research and innovation by using the dual approach of openness complemented by targeted international cooperation activities, developed on the basis of common interest and mutual benefit, optimal scale and scope, partnership, and synergy. The ERA framework proposal 2012 aims to create a single market for knowledge, research and innovation complemented by Horizon 2020 through the following means:

- Support to ERA priorities – mobility, infrastructures, knowledge transfer, policy learning
- Enhance partnerships with the private sector to invest more efficiently
- Taking account of gender, ethical issues, researcher careers and open access to results

There is a need to raise further awareness for the opportunities and benefits of participation in the EU STI programs. With this respect, suitable and efficient coordination mechanisms

¹ COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS Enhancing and focusing EU international cooperation in research and innovation: A strategic approach (Brussels, 14.9.2012, COM(2012) 497 final)

despite the generally benevolent attitude towards trans-national cooperation of most of the responding countries, it is not healed up that barriers for trans-national coordination exist.

Most often mentioned are four dimensions in this respect:

- differences in national legislations and administrative regulations which hamper the implementation of trans-national activities (e.g. staff and money transfer; funding regulations; IPR);
- lack of coordinating capacities and resources (e.g. lack of professional management competences; lack of personal resources; lack of knowledge resources);
- lack of awareness of national stakeholders on the possibilities and modalities of the EU RTI programs (lack of dedicated strategies, bodies and instruments)
- lack of knowledge on areas of common interest with the MS/AC;

With this respect, building R&I capacities (in particular institution building; structural capacity/RTDI infrastructure development measures, promotion of brain circulation joint STI activities within the EU programs should become an important issue in the STI strategy in Ukraine.

2.3. Cooperation between Ukraine and the European Union

Deriving from the Europe 2020 Strategy and Strategy of Innovative Development of Ukraine for 2010–2020 in terms of global challenges, both the EU and Ukraine emphasise that innovation is a key instrument in supporting competitiveness and in promoting efficiency in the use of resources to meet societal needs; and both focus on the Ukraine-EU R&I partnership with the aim of enhancing the excellence in research. This current status of the Ukraine-EU RTDI cooperation shows that, while an institutional framework for the enhancement of the partnership exists, there is a room for significant improvements in the implementation of the Ukraine-EU Agreement in S&T Cooperation as well as of bilateral agreements between Ukraine and EU Member States (MS) and Horizon 2020 Associated Countries (AC). These improvements appear to be particularly cogent owing to the strategic role that RTDI plays today.

The policy drive for the EU-Ukraine science and technology co-operation includes the following:

- EU-Ukraine Association Agreement²
- Agreement on Co-operation in Science and Technology between the European Community and Ukraine³
- European Neighbourhood Policy
- Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union on the participation of Ukraine in the Union programme Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)⁴

² signed on 4 July 2002

³ signed on 4 July 2002

⁴ signed on 20 March 2015

The Ukraine-EU S&T Cooperation Agreement is an important vehicle for defining and implementing the multiannual roadmaps. Where appropriate, it will be developed into strategic long-term partnerships, including agreement on the priorities to be addressed.

The *policy objectives* listed for R&I cooperation can be grouped into five categories:

- to extend national R&D through cooperation based on scientific excellence;
- to strengthen ties and cooperation with the EU in general (policy instrument);
- to enhance economic and business development and innovation, knowledge transfer
- to promote mobility opportunities for students, researchers and academics;
- to address global issues (environment, pollution, epidemics);

It exist also a wide variety of bilateral cooperation activities taking place between EU MS/AC and Ukraine⁵, based on agreements on the level of governments, ministries or other administrative entities, but also public and private organizations. They are usually initiated and realised according to their benefit for all partners as measured by strategic, science policy and/or scientific criteria, depending on the individual stakeholders. The agreements usually define specific areas in which scientific potential on the bilateral level can be used most effectively, often including biotechnologies, life sciences, nanophysics and nanotechnologies, new materials, information and communication technologies, energy and environment. It has to be noted that since 2012, high energy physics or elementary particle physics has been highlighted as a new common bilateral thematic priorities in several cases. Ukraine has bilateral S&T cooperation agreements with more than 50 countries, including EU MC/AC as well as EECA. Intergovernmental/inter-ministerial bilateral S&T agreements exist in particular between Ukraine and the following EU member states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain and between Ukraine and the countries associated to Horizon 2020.

The other nexus of cooperation between the EU and Ukraine is the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)⁶, aiming to bring Europe and its neighbours closer, to their mutual benefit and interest. Ukrainian authorities and civil society representatives participated actively in the multilateral framework of the Eastern Partnership, and contributed to the working platforms. On a bilateral basis, Ukraine and the EU also discussed institutional capacity building in the frame of the Eastern Partnership Comprehensive Institution Building Programme. Ukraine is a part of the Eastern Partnership region of the European Neighbourhood. With this region a development towards a “Common Knowledge and Innovation Space” is envisaged. To achieve that the Commission will intensify cooperation with Ukraine and will support better networking and co-ordination between Ukraine and the EU in the setting and synchronisation of research priorities.

Specifically, the EU programmes with options for RTDI cooperation with Ukraine have been or are:

- Horizon 2020, EU Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development

⁵ BILAT*UKRAINA, D1.5 Comparative Analysis of EU MS/AC policies and programmes towards Ukraine (DLR)

⁶ developed in 2004

- Erasmus +, replacing the previous programmes Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, Jean Monnet Programme under the Lifelong Learning Programme
- COSME, Competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
- INSC - Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation or Nuclear Safety Co-operation Instrument (NSCI) (from 2007 onward, replacing the Tacis Nuclear Safety Programme) and INOGATE – Interstate Oil and Gas Transport to Europe, both funded through ENPI European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
- ENPI CBC (Cross-Border-Cooperation) Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova, Poland-Belarus-Ukraine, Hungary-Slovakia-Romania and Black Sea Programme (2007-2013)
- South East Europe Programme (Danube Transnational Programme 2014-2020)

2.4. Methodology

As mentioned beforehand, in line with the policy background both of Ukraine and the EU, the main objective of the task is to prepare the ground for a well understood approach towards various EU programmes and provide recommendations on how to exploit synergies between Horizon 2020 and programmes focusing on the regional approach in RTDI and on human resource development in RTDI on the one hand; on the other hand to raise awareness and facilitate the Ukrainian approach towards different programmes under the new financial framework 2014-2020 by avoiding overlaps and creating synergies thus increasing the effectiveness of existing initiatives.

Information is focused on:

a) Human Resource Development in RTDI (by taking into account experiences from the programmes of the previous funding period, i.e. the Life-Long Learning programme, Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, / DG Education/, Marie Curie Actions, ERC grants, etc. /DG Research/ ; and observing the opportunities provided by actual 2014-2020 funding period, i.e. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), ERC grants and Erasmus +), and

b) on regional approaches in RTDI support (by taking into account experiences from the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument, macro regional strategies such as the Danube Strategy (Pillar C on Knowledge Society, Competitiveness as well as People and Skills), European Transnational Cooperation Programmes (Central Europe and Danube Region ETCs), Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC) programmes / DG External Actions, DG Region) to achieve the goal of furthering and attracting human resources, improving infrastructure, encouraging public-private partnerships in R&D and make input in developing multi-annual roadmaps for EU-Ukraine RTDI cooperation.

Since the focus of the report is the brief introduction of the above listed instruments and formulating policy recommendations on their better exploitation, the main body of the report will briefly introduce the programmes subject to the topic. More detailed information on these programmes are available in the founding map in Annex II. Recommendations with regard the better exploitation of these the instruments presented will be summarized in boxes following each section.

2.5. Inputs

The aim of the Report is to build-up on existing initiatives and expertise at both EU and Ukrainian levels as well as on experience and developed materials of similar projects, such as BILAT-UKR, INCO.Net-EaP, Danube-INCO.NET, ERA-Nets in order to pursue a more coherent and structured approach in the Ukraine-EU RTDI cooperation.

Amongst other existing information sources, **this Report is based on the analysis of the following materials:**

- EU programmes & documents on RTDI
 - Horizon 2020 (including ERC grants, mobility and cooperation programmes, widening participation, as well as the SME instrument)
 - Erasmus+ Documents
 - Enhancing and focusing EU international cooperation in research and innovation: A strategic approach (Brussels, 14.9.2012, COM(2012) 497)
 - ESFRI: Inspiring Excellence - Research Infrastructures and the Europe 2020 Strategy (2010)
- Other EU programmes
 - European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI)
 - Cohesion Policy, EU Strategy for the Danube Region - Regional Policy
- SME Instruments
 - Financial intermediation for S&T development and innovative enterprises
 - Main features of the COSME Enterprise Europe Network 2015/2020
 - etc.
- Ukrainian governmental programmes & documents
 - Priorities in Research and Developments (R&D) for the period till 2015 approved by Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministry (order N 942, 7 September 2011)
 - STI National Target Programs (Ukraine)
 - etc.
- EU-Ukraine Association Agreement
- EU-Ukraine S&T Agreement
- project documents
 - BILAT-UKR*AINA Policy Briefs (WP1)
 - Comparative analysis of the EU MS/AC policies and programmes towards Ukraine (D 1.5)
 - Infrastructure (D 3.2 BILAT-Ukr)
 - etc.

Last but not least, the results of the study visit having taken place on 26-27 March, 2015 in Brussels are incorporated into the present deliverable too.⁷

3. The main frame of research and innovation cooperation between Ukraine and the EU: Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever available over 7 years (2014 to 2020). It is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness. By

⁷ Detailed report of the study visit is in Annex I.

coupling research and innovation, Horizon 2020 is helping to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth with its emphasis on excellent science, industrial leadership and tackling societal challenges. The goal is to ensure Europe produces world-class science, removes barriers to innovation and makes it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation.

The main Horizon 2020 work programme comprises 18 thematic sections and the general annexes describing general rules such as standard admissibility conditions and eligibility criteria, types of action, selection and award criteria, etc. Each thematic section is self-contained, and describes the overall objectives, the respective calls for proposals, and the topics within each call.

Horizon 2020's calls for proposals are organised into multiannual "Work Programmes", in the following categories:

1.) Excellent Science

- European Research Council (ERC)
- Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

2.) Industrial Leadership

- Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (LEIT):
 - Information and Communication Technologies
 - Nanotechnologies, Advanced materials, Biotechnology, Advanced manufacturing and processing
 - Space
- Access to risk finance
- Innovation in SMEs

3.) Societal Challenges

- Health, demographic change and wellbeing
- Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research and the bio economy
- Secure, clean and efficient energy
- Smart, green and integrated transport
- Climate action, environment, 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
- Spreading excellence and widening participation
- Science with and for Society
- Actions within European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and Joint Research Centre (JRC) are also intended.

R&D priorities of Ukraine till 2015 approved by the Law of Ukraine in 2011 is much similar to priorities of Horizon 2020:

- Fundamental research on the most important problems of scientific, technical, social, economic, political and human potential for competitiveness of Ukraine in the world and sustainable development of society and state;
- Information and communication technologies;
- Energy and its efficiency;
- Environmental management;

- Life sciences, new technologies for prevention and treatment the most common diseases;
- New materials.

Horizon 2020 which offers new opportunities should be used more effectively than it had been up to now for strengthening the Ukraine research scene.

The diversification of instruments at EU level and the intensification of multilateral coordination require respective coordination and preparation processes at national level. In order to be able to use the extended spectrum of possibilities a more effective governance of RTDI Strategy is required. In addition to strengthening strategic intelligence for the benefit of Ukrainian RTDI players, this also means improving the national mechanisms of policy coordination, in order to be able to react to the greater requirements at EU level in a well-coordinated manner.

Recommendations

Consider general trends and developments in research and innovation as well as in RTDI policy – with a special focus on general trends in the EU and changes of the Ukrainian fundamental position towards EU RTI policy and in order to get the best of the program it needs (under coordination at ministerial level):

- Linking RTDI State priorities systematically with the societal challenges in HORIZON 2020.
- Making national funding programmes available complementing the topics and calls under H2020. These national programmes should entail improved participation of Ukrainian representatives in H2020 by funding the building of competence.
- In some cases bilateral Ukraine/EU MS/AC cooperation based on the long-term partnership is strong and dynamic. Bilateral cooperation might be used for implementation of the initiatives regarding the Horizon projects and mobility schemes.
- Strengthening cooperation with countries which are leaders in relevant thematic fields, including innovative non EU countries.
- Ensuring participation of Ukrainian players (RTDI and industry) in the LEIT priority
- Ensuring national co-funding, promoting further competence development, establishing and continuing targeted complementary national programmes by analysing previous experience
- Promoting cooperation within ERA-NETs, EUREKA, COST etc.
- Developing joint RTI agendas with EU MS/AC partner countries under S&T Agreements with link to the Horizon 2020 priorities
- Enhancing participation in multinational initiatives in the field of the Grand Societal Challenges in H2020 (for example ERA-Nets, ERA-Nets+) by ensuring funding, strategy development and complementary national activities, such as for example setting up national technology platforms.
- Further developing foresight activities carried out within the context of H2020 and the European Research and Innovation Area, and using them strategically.
- Modernising higher education and making it more international by means of measures for supporting the mobility of students and staff in higher education institutions. Universities should have clear internationalisation strategy and develop also supporting structures for the project application and implementation phase. Project management and intercultural communication skills in general, taking responsibility for project implementation as well as openness to international cooperation and networking are crucial assets that characterize successful project teams
- Increasing funding of excellence as an element of higher education reform (strengthening the awarding of research funds on a competitive basis in the science system).
- Providing intensified strategic advice (NCPs) to Ukrainian participants about European funding instruments, improving knowledge about the funding management of EU projects within their respective institutions

4. Strengthening brainpower attraction and circulation through promoting the opportunities and new funding schemes

The stimulation of international in- and outward mobility of individual scientists is one of the classical targets of international R&I cooperation policies. Correspondingly, international mobility is one of the most frequent targets of international cooperation agreements. With the increasing acknowledgement of the crucial role of human resources for successful RTDI, innovation as well as technology transfer processes in a knowledge society, the issue of international mobility has received renewed attention also from a more exploitation-oriented perspective and possible shortages of supply of researchers. International mobility of researchers is also one of the cornerstones of the European Research Area. The promotion and support of mobility of individual scientists is another important activity of R&I policy-making in the field of internationalisation. A focus on brain circulation is often a top priority in countries with a rather high RTDI performance, while attraction and retention of researchers is more frequently identified in countries with a less developed RTDI system in order to catch-up.

Information of this part of Report is focusing on the analysis of instruments of the Human Resource Development in RTDI by taking into account experiences from the programmes of the previous funding period and observing the opportunities provided by actual 2014-2020 funding period, i.e. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), ERC grants and Erasmus +.

4.1. *Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)*

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), formerly Marie Curie Actions (MCA), are the most popular and successful scheme regarding the Ukrainian involvement in the FP7/Horizon 2020. A new scheme introduced by the Commission in FP7 provides specific short-term stays and exchanges (IRSES and RISE in Horizon 2020), mostly elaborated for countries which concluded S&T cooperation agreements with the EU including Ukraine. Ukraine is one of the leading countries in terms of participation in the MCA.

Based on the available funded project data, we may conclude that the largest part of the funding goes to the fields of nano-sciences and high-tech, followed by considerably weaker represented physics, mathematics and chemistry.

In the previous funding programme, i.e. under FP7, Ukraine was one of the most active (non-associated) third country participating in the Marie Curie programme. Ukraine participated in 79 signed grant agreements within all actions of this programme, involving 99 organisations of which 911 Ukrainian researchers were going to EU MS/AC organisations and 647 EU MS/AC researchers to Ukrainian organisations.

In the frame of H2020, the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Programme continues to support diverse possibilities for cooperation between the EU and Ukraine. In addition, one new and one revised scheme were introduced under the Initial Training Network (ITN) umbrella: the Innovative Doctoral Programmes (IDP-pilot) and the European Industrial Doctorates (EID), which will offer possibilities for Ukrainian doctoral students. Ukrainian research organisations may also become associated partners in the consortia implementing the activities.

4.2. *Erasmus +*

The European Commission supported a wide range of external policy activities aimed at

enhancing cooperation in higher education between EU and third countries (Erasmus Mundus) and at modernising the higher education sector in third countries by focusing on their alignment to the Bologna goals (Tempus). As of 2012 calls, there was a significant increase in budget available for Eastern Partnership Countries. Ukraine seems to have used this opportunity to the full.

To illustrate, in 2012 Erasmus Mundus Action 1 calls (individual mobility scholarships for students, doctoral candidates and scholars), the top-up has resulted into the additional funding of 34 individual student scholarships (totalling to 52 scholarships which is the historically highest number of scholarships, moving Ukraine close to Russia with 55 awarded scholarships). Thus, we can conclude that the additional budget in mobility measures was well exploited.

In Erasmus Mundus Action 2 calls (Partnerships), which run under geographical “lots”, additional funding has enabled funding of 9 instead of 3 proposals for the whole group of the Eastern Partnership countries. Ukraine is represented in all of the proposals retained for funding.

In Ukraine, the Tempus programme doubtlessly facilitated internationalisation of Ukrainian universities and contributed to initiation of the new research projects or exchange programmes.

The new Erasmus+ programme⁸ aims to support actions in the fields of Education, Training, Youth and Sport for the period 2014-2020. Erasmus+ replaces seven programmes bringing together

- the Lifelong Learning Programme (Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci, Comenius, Jean Monnet and Grundtvig)
- the Youth in Action programme
- five international cooperation programmes (Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, Alfa, Edulink, the programme for cooperation with industrialised countries)
- the new sport action.

The programme gives opportunities to students, trainees, staff and volunteers to spend a period abroad to increase their skills and employability. It supports organisations to work in transnational partnership and to share innovative practices in the fields of education, training and youth. The new sport action will support grassroots projects and cross-border challenges such as combating match-fixing, doping, violence and racism. The actions of the Erasmus+ programme are divided into decentralised actions and centralised actions. The decentralised actions are managed in each programme country by National Agencies that are appointed by their national authorities. The centralised actions are managed at a European level by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) located in Brussels

The majority of MS/AC plan new mobility-oriented national policy measures relate to EU initiatives which could be taken into consideration in Ukraine.

⁸ ERASMUS+ Web-site: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm

Recommendations

- develop measures aimed to raise the attraction of domestic universities and research institutes.
- put more emphasis on 'brain connection' with domestic researchers who work abroad (Scientific Diaspora) in order not to lose the liaison with the national system of research and strengthening the domestic absorption capacity
- integrate and enhance the EU's mobility, university and researchers' programmes (such as Erasmus+ and MSCA) and link them up with national programmes and resources
- explore ways of promoting entrepreneurship through mobility programmes for young professionals
- enhance Alumni systems, which might be supported through funds for follow-up visits of foreign researchers to their previous hosting institution in Europe
- Steps towards increased mobility actions between Ukraine and the EU should be supported by the government at the legislative and strategic level on the one hand; on the other hand, at the implementation level, universities or research institutes are responsible.

4.3. *European Research Council*

The European Research Council (ERC), which was launched in 2007 to support pioneering research across Europe, is widely seen as a successful initiative.

The European Research Council supports frontier research, cross disciplinary proposals and pioneering ideas in new and emerging fields which introduce unconventional and innovative approaches. The ERC's mission is to encourage the highest quality research in Europe through competitive funding and to support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields of research, on the basis of scientific excellence.

ERC grants are awarded through open competition to projects headed by starting and established researchers, irrespective of their origins, who are working or moving to work in Europe. The sole criterion for selection is scientific excellence. The aim here is to recognise the best ideas, and confer status and visibility on the best brains in Europe, while also attracting talent from abroad. Ultimately, the ERC aims to make the European research base more prepared to respond to the needs of a knowledge-based society and provide Europe with the capabilities in frontier research necessary to meet global challenges.

Regarding research organisations, the ERC aims to *"help universities and other research institutions gauge their performance and encourage them to develop better strategies to establish themselves as more effective global players. The ERC aims to stimulate research organisations to invest more in the support of promising new talent ..."*⁹

Types of grants:

- ERC Starting Grant for young, early-career top researchers (2-7 years after PhD) - up to 5 years.
- ERC Consolidator Grant for already independent excellent researchers (7-12 years after PhD) - up to 5 years.

⁹ Mission statement: <http://erc.europa.eu/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.display&topicID=12>

- ERC Advanced Grant for senior research leaders with significant research achievements in the last 10 years - up to 5 years.
- ERC Proof of Concept Grants for ERC grant holders who want to check the market and/or innovation potential of research results from ERC-projects - up to 12 months.
- ERC Synergy Grants for small groups of individual researchers - up to 6 years.

Within FP7 more than 3400 group leaders have received grants so far totalling more than €5.7 billion. But most of these successful group leaders are based in northern and Western Europe. Still, there are signs that ERC is having positive effects on national research systems across Europe, encouraging competition between host countries and institutions, spurring the creation of ERC-like national funding agencies as, for example, in Poland and Slovenia to fund their best ERC runners-up.

Recommendations

Taking the specific importance of the ERC into consideration in particular its effects on their integration in international research structures and networks of excellence it should be proposed the following measures:

- Fund excellent basic research by expanding Ukrainian ERC participation; supporting applicants and their host institutions when competing for funds from the European Research Council (ERC), in order to fulfil Ukraine's potential with regard to acquiring ERC Grants and to increase Ukraine's success in the ERC funding.
- Support applicants and their host institutions when competing for funds from the European Research Council (ERC), in order to fulfil Ukraine's potential with regard to acquiring ERC Grants and to increase Ukraine's success in the ERC funding lines further:
- Creating internationally competitive research conditions: conditions which are attractive to top level research. Host institutions and national ministries should create an environment in which more success can be encouraged.
- Increasing funding of excellence as an element of higher education reform (strengthening the awarding of research funds on a competitive basis in the science system).

5. Regional approaches in RTDI support

The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) is one of the European Union's newest external relations policies, aiming to bring Europe and its neighbours closer, to their mutual benefit and interest. Ukrainian authorities and civil society representatives participated actively in the multilateral framework of the Eastern Partnership, and contributed to the working platforms. On a bilateral basis, Ukraine and the EU also discussed institutional capacity building in the framework of the Eastern Partnership Comprehensive Institution Building Programme. Ukraine is a part of the Eastern Partnership region of the European Neighbourhood. With this region a development towards a "Common Knowledge and Innovation Space" is envisaged. With a view to promoting preparation of Ukraine's research community for the Horizon 2020, the Commission will support Ukraine in building up research capacity, promote the increased collaboration between Ukrainian and EU researchers and research organisations and strengthen the dissemination of information

on Horizon 2020 in Ukraine. The Commission will also support special information events on Horizon 2020.

A comparative analysis of legislation on regional development, regional and cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and the EU and the EU norms in this domain allows to conclude that further concretization of cooperation directions is needed between Ukraine and the EU.

In order to come to practical implementation of this work, on 22 July 2009 Ukraine and the EU signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Establishing of a Dialogue on Regional Policy and development of regional cooperation between the Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine and the European Commission (further on – Memorandum). In fulfilment of this document the parties elaborated a Working Program on Implementation of the Memorandum that set a list of events for the period by 2011.

Practical cooperation between Ukraine and EU in regional policy is currently focused on the following areas:

- Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding for Establishing of a Dialogue on Regional Policy (as above mentioned);
- Establishment of a dialogue mechanism between the representatives of the local and regional governance of Ukraine and the EU within the frameworks of the Committee of Regions.- Cross-border cooperation programmes (component CBC ENPI –program on trans-border cooperation „Hungary – Slovak Republic – Romania –Ukraine”, „Ukraine – Poland – Belarus”, „Ukraine – Romania – Moldova ” and regional programme „Black Sea”);
- Cooperation in implementation of the EU Joint Initiative on Crimea;
- Involvement of Ukraine to the development of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region;
- Cooperation in the framework of regional organizations and the European associations in particular Assembly of European Regions, Council of European municipalities and regions, Conference of European Regional Legislative Assemblies, Association of European Border Regions, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, Conference of President of Regions with legislative power and European Association of elected representatives from Mountain Areas and EUROCITIES.

5.1. Cross-border cooperation (CBC)

Cross border cooperation supports the overall ENI objective of progress towards ‘an area of shared prosperity and good neighbourliness’ between EU Member States and their neighbours. To advance this goal, CBC under the ENI has 3 overarching strategic objectives:

- to promote economic and social development in regions on both sides of common borders;
- to address common challenges in environment, public health, safety and security;
- to promote better conditions for ensuring the mobility of persons, goods and capital.

Cross-border cooperation (CBC) can be considered as a tool of the border areas’ development and means of fostering Ukraine’s move towards the European Integration.

In this context, the role of cross-border co-operation in regional/spatial development is stipulated by its ability to mobilise and efficiently use the existing potential of border areas and to join resources of border regions of neighbouring countries to find solution to common problems and to foster co-operation within transborder regions.

Cross-border cooperation is effected by two major factors: 1) discrepancies in legislation between Ukraine and the EU and 2) interest of local authorities in those programmes and their awareness how active participation in implementation of the ENPI programmes is related to financial support of the EU and influence the reputation of Ukraine.

Support to local cross-border “people-to-people” actions is at the heart of all activities funded under the CBC programmes. This can include support for enhanced cooperation among local and regional authorities, NGOs and other civil society groups, universities and schools, chambers of commerce etc. The Ukrainian regions participating in the CBC Programmes point out that participation in the projects and the Programmes activities provides possibility to establish contacts with interested institutions outside Ukraine as well as to improve investment attractiveness of the regions and raise investments themselves.

The Ukrainian regions bordering the EU are of strategic importance as gateways for transport and energy. Western Ukraine remains largely agricultural, compared to the central and eastern regions of the country.

For the period 2014-20, a total of 17 programmes will be funded under ENI CBCs, including 12 land-border and 1 sea-crossing programme, as well as 4 sea-basin programmes. Ukraine is involved in the following ones:

- Poland - Belarus - Ukraine
- Hungary - Slovakia - Romania - Ukraine
- Romania - Ukraine
- Black Sea region

Thematic objectives for CBC programmes range from business development and promotion of local culture to environmental protection and border security and mobility.

Important to note that the national financial regulations in Ukraine, in particular in budgetary planning, are not in accordance with the similar EU regulations that complicate international R&I cooperation because the budget for international cooperation has to be fixed on the single project level very well in advance before the projects can actually start.

Developing of the cross-border cooperation strategy would allow strengthening ties between public authorities, researchers, SMEs and NGOs. It would affect positively formal cross-border cooperation as well.

According to the Ukrainian experts, some programmes for international R&I cooperation between Ukraine and the EU are often not compatible in terms of objectives and expectations. The experts point out that improvement of cross-border cooperation and effective use of its different forms is very important for Ukraine in view of its European aspirations and geopolitical situation of its regions. The main forms of effective cross-border cooperation may be euro-regions: interregional agglomerations, cross-border clusters and strategies, state and regional agreements, programmes and projects. There are also important co-funded activities within the ERA.NETs schemes.

Another possibility to strengthen R&I cooperation between Ukraine and the EU within ENPI would be an extended use of already existing instruments. If politically supported from both sides, transfer of different instruments could be extended to other spheres of cooperation that are linked to S&T (e.g. innovation, technology transfer etc). That would

provide an appropriate framework for S&T policy cooperation and allow identify driving motivations to overcome possible barriers.

Ukraine is eligible for twinning measures in the European Neighbourhood Policy: this instrument could be used for capacity building in science administration. The Ukrainian side has every chance for a better use of this possibility.

R&I infrastructure is an important policy issue when it comes to the intensification of the dialogue between the EU and Ukraine to explore options for optimum access to each other's R&I infrastructures and develop a joint agenda setting for upgrading existing and establishing new R&I infrastructures of different scale.

In comparison to other policy fields such as economy, energy, transport etc., the field of R&I is for the time being, rather considered as a "soft" issue although in case of Ukraine the R&I cooperation part of ENPI can be considered as the most active one. R&I cooperation should be transformed into a "hard" policy issue. For that, awareness raising among stakeholders responsible for the implementation of the European Neighbourhood Policy in Ukraine as well as in the EU is needed.

Better implementation of cross-border cooperation within ENPI needs either better motivation of the local authorities and their staffing with personnel, in particular having experience in project management and Twinning activities.

To promote ENPI programmes mass media and the Internet resources should be used on a quality higher level.

Effective implementation of ENPI in Ukraine depends a lot on the legislation, in particular in terms of financing within ENPI. There is a Law of Ukraine "On Cross-Border Cooperation", but it is not flexible enough to take into account the change of mechanisms of cross-border cooperation support, in particular as regards introduction of new instruments.

Finally, the political dialogue with Ukraine should be strengthened in order to create a genuine and effective partnership. It is obvious that strong political commitment is a very important prerequisite for successful implementation of the ENPI in Ukraine.

Recommendations

The main objective of the development of cooperation within ENPI is to achieve the goal of furthering and attracting human resources, improving infrastructure, encouraging public-private partnerships in R&D and make input in developing multi-annual roadmaps for EU-Ukraine RTDI cooperation.

- increase awareness about ENPI goals among RTDI related institutions.
- promote targeted cooperation with the ENPI projects in particular through Ukraine's active participation in the "Danube Region Strategy" of the European Union in particular more active exploitation of the mobility schemes)
- many projects under ENP instruments are delivering training to different actors (mainly policy makers), the impact of the seven years of ENP instruments should be evaluated with respect to training of scientists and policy makers. In particular, it needs to be looked at which programmes were the best for training the young scientists and, consequently, which programmes should be reinforced.
- capacity building activities in the field of innovation could be included, e.g. training measures for managers of incubators and entrepreneur trainings (i.e. supporters of research, not only researchers), support in setting-up an educational program for technology transfer or integrating courses for technology transfer into existing courses (Twinning activities could be the most suitable approach).
- EU projects are rather large, while in some cases bilateral cooperation projects may be more tangible and the output more concrete. Therefore, ways to use ENPI for improving the bilateral research cooperation should be further explored.
- regional roadmap for infrastructure could be helpful for connecting leading research infrastructure in the region in order to help alleviate brain drain.

5.2. *European Transnational Cooperation Programmes (ETCs)*

The Southeast Europe (SEE) programme was a transnational integration and cooperation programme of the European Union, founded in 1996. The main goal of the programme was facilitating innovation, and the further improvement of environment, accessibility and growth areas in Southeast Europe, including Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, Italy (some regions), Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and some regions of Ukraine. The funding of the programme was twofold: it was mainly funded by the EU (75-85%), but national contribution was necessary apart from the in-kind contribution of applicants.

In 2014 three new programmes have been launched as successors of SEE: Adriatic Ionian 2014-2020, focusing on research, environment, transport and governance in 4 EU countries (Greece, Italy and Slovenia, and Croatia) and in 4 non-EU countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia) of the Adriatic-Ionian Region; Balkan-Mediterranean 2014-2020, focusing on economic, social, environmental and institutional cohesion and development in Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece; and Danube Transnational 2014-2020, focusing on innovative and socially

responsibility, environment and culture responsibility, better connected and energy responsibility and a well-governed Danube Region.

The Danube Transnational Programme aims to improve research and innovation. Potential applicants of the proposals are institutions of higher education, research institutions, SMEs, policy makers and local governments. Main target areas include the improvement of transport and environment, although the programme invests ample resources in fostering eco-innovation, knowledge transfer, cluster policy, social innovation and skilled entrepreneurship including technological and non-technological aspects, disaster prevention, environment preservation, TEN-T network, environment friendly transport, regional energy planning, multi-level and transnational governance, improved EUSDR. The total estimated budget of the programme would reach 269 million Euros, although a minimum of 15% contribution consisting of national and private funding is needed.

Similarly to the CBC programmes, the participation of Ukrainian entities was marginal in the Southeast Europe Cooperation Programme. Local authorities, higher education or research institutes in the bordering regions are neither aware of the opportunities nor have the resources to pre-finance projects.

5.3. EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)

The EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) provides an integrated framework for countries and regions to address these issues, which cannot be satisfactorily handled in an isolated way, but require transnational strategic approaches, projects and networking. The Strategy strengthens the integration of countries into the EU, and brings countries in the Western Balkans, Moldova and regions of the Ukraine closer to the Union. The Danube Region covers fourteen countries, nine EU Member States and five non Member States with Ukraine as one of them.

The Danube Region Strategy addresses a wide range of issues; these are divided among 4 pillars and 11 priority areas (PAs) – from the view of R&I, PA7 “Knowledge Society, PA8 Competitiveness, and PA9 People & skills shall be highlighted.

Each priority area is managed by 2 Priority Area Coordinators (PACs). PACs ensure the implementation of the Action Plan defined for the Priority Area by agreeing on planning, with targets, indicators and timetables, and by making sure there is effective cooperation between project promoters, programmes and funding sources.

Initiatives/projects Ukraine is involved in:

- **Innovative vessels**

New research projects on innovative vessels, such as the project NEWS or the pilot project financed by the European Commission are studying and/or developing technological solutions to renew the Danube fleet, with more competitive and environmentally friendlier approaches, e.g. through more efficient, cleaner engines, and better ship body design. This contributes to the overall goal to increase sustainable cargo transport on the river by 20 % by 2020, compared to 2010.

- **Design environmental research**

The Commission’s Directorate General for Research and Innovation has launched a call for research projects to design environmental research and improve the uptake of results in the Region. This has mobilised significant actors and resources from public (national and EU) and private sources for efficient river-delta-coast-sea management overall.

- **Police cooperation**

A high-level police chief meeting in January 2012 in Munich launched the initiative for increased cooperation of police authorities in the Danube Region, including measures against river related crimes (including organised crime) and the setting up of a transnational law enforcement platform. In addition, EUROPOL has developed a specific project on threat analysis for the Danube Region.

- **Scientific Support to the EUSDR**

The Joint Research Centre has launched an initiative to provide scientific support to the Strategy, in cooperation with key scientific partners from the Region. Work has started on setting up a Danube-wide reference data and service infrastructure on common challenges such as environment protection, navigability, irrigation and agricultural development and energy production. Four thematic scientific clusters had being launched to foster scientific cooperation and to streamline research activities. A special focus on Smart Specialisation Strategies supports countries and regions in setting up regional innovation strategies.¹⁰

Recommendations

Participation of Ukraine in macro regional and transnational programmes of the EU should be reinforced. To do so, in addition to recommendations formulated with respect to ENI, the following ones are suggested:

- Increase awareness of Ukrainian entities on European programmes including transnational ones and macro regional ones.
- Networking opportunities of potential Ukrainian project partners should be improved to take part at events, conferences, workshops.
- Funding opportunities under transnational and macro regional programmes should be better exploited and used, if possible, used to complement other kind of funding (i.e. H2020, Erasmus+, national funding, etc.) to enlarge the impact, scope, and potential beneficiaries of research and innovation actions.

6. Innovation related activities

Horizon 2020 takes an integrated approach to SMEs based on a different dynamic. It stimulates SME participation across the whole programme, yet with a particular focus on close-to-market support. Great ideas need to be picked up by users, customers and the market, before they can really transform society. Overall, it is expected that 20% of the total combined budget for all Societal Challenges and the specific objective Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies (LEITs) will go to SMEs. This means that at least € 8.65 billion in EU support for Research and Innovation activities will find its way directly to SMEs, most of them part of consortiums participating in EU collaborative Research and Innovation projects.

Main EU initiatives

- The Communication and action plan to improve **access to finance** for SMEs recognises that Europe's economic success depends largely on the growth of SMEs but that difficulty in accessing finance is the main obstacle to their growth.

¹⁰ EU Strategy for the Danube Region, EU Strategy for the Danube Region

- The 2014-2020 programme for the **Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (COSME)** will make it easier for SMEs to access loans and equity finance.
- COSME financial instruments will operate in conjunction with those of the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation: **InnovFin – EU Finance for Innovators**
- **The SME Instrument of the Horizon 2020** Framework Programme for Research and Innovation offers funding and support for innovation projects that help SMEs grow and expand their activities into other countries.

The Commission works with financial institutions to improve the funding available to SMEs by stimulating the provision of loans and venture capital through financial instruments. EU financing programmes for SMEs are generally not provided as direct funding. Aid is channelled through local, regional, or national authorities, or through financial intermediaries such as banks and venture capital organisations that provide funding through financial instruments. Direct aid is only available to projects that specifically contribute to the implementation of an EU programme or policy. Since Ukraine became associated to Horizon 2020, these funds became available for Ukrainian SMEs, even though their awareness on these programmes are up to now marginal.

6.1. COSME - the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)

The Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) was designed to provide small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with better access to finance, as well as support for innovation, and regional business support. CIP has been replaced by COSME - the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). COSME runs from 2014 to 2020, with a planned budget of €2.3bn.

This instrument has provided risk capital to:

- innovative SMEs in their early-stages;
- SMEs with high growth potential in their expansion phase.

The main objectives are:

- facilitating access to finance for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
- creating an environment favourable to business creation and growth
- encouraging an entrepreneurial culture in Europe
- increasing the sustainable competitiveness of EU companies
- helping small businesses operate outside their home countries and improving their access to markets.

COSME programme includes the following 4 areas of support:

- Improving access to finance for SMEs in the form of equity and debt;
- Improving access to markets for SMEs, particularly inside the Union but also at global level;
- Improving framework conditions for the competitiveness of enterprises;
- Promoting entrepreneurship.

6.2. SME instrument under H2020

Horizon 2020 funds high-potential innovation through a dedicated SME instrument, which offers seamless business innovation support under the section Societal Challenges and the

specific part Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies (LEITs). By this instrument, business can receive up to €2.5 million in funding and world-class business coaching. The instrument will take place in three phases, with the aim of transforming disruptive ideas into concrete, innovative solutions with a European and global impact.

SMEs are recommended to apply for Phase 1, but may also apply for subsequent phases depending on the progress of their proposals:

Phase 1. Concept & Feasibility Assessment

- Idea to concept (6 months)
- The European Union will provide €50 000 in funding, and carry out a feasibility study to verify the viability of the proposed disruptive innovation or concept.

Phase 2. Demonstration, Market Replication, R&D

- Concept to Market-Maturity (1-2 years)
- Assisted by the EU, the SME will further develop its proposal through innovation activities, such as demonstration, testing, piloting, scaling up, and miniaturisation.

Phase 3. Commercialisation

- Prepare for Market Launch
- SMEs will receive extensive support, training, mentorship and facilitating access to risk finance as the project is further polished into a marketable product.

Additional support and networking opportunities will be provided by Enterprise Europe Network (EEN). The EU will not provide additional direct funding in this phase.

The European Commission uses financial instruments and helps EU countries in sharing good policy in areas such as loans and guarantees, venture capital, business angels, growth stock markets, and crowdfunding. The Commission monitors developments in SMEs' access to finance through the joint European Commission/European Central Bank Survey on the access to finance of enterprises (SAFE) and the SME Access to Finance Index.

6.3. *The SME guarantee facility (SMEG)*

This provides loan guarantees that encourage banks to make more debt finance (including microcredit and mezzanine finance) available to SMEs by reducing the banks' exposure to risk. SMEG has provided direct, counter- and co-guarantees to financial intermediaries providing SMEs with loans, mezzanine finance, and equity.

SMEs wishing to benefit from funding under SMEG need to contact the financial intermediaries that have signed an agreement with the EIF.

What the EU does for SMEs:

1. Creates a business friendly environment
2. Promotes entrepreneurship
3. Improves access to new markets and internationalization
4. Facilitates access to finance
5. Supports SME Competitiveness and Innovation
6. Provides key support networks and information for SMEs

The concrete goal is to support and facilitate access to sources of debt and equity financing by innovative companies of all sizes and also by research centres and universities, public-private partnerships, special-purpose companies or projects, and joint ventures.

Particular support is required for innovative SMEs (and in some sectors, microenterprises), especially in the start-up phase or after diversifying into new markets. The availability of early-stage and growth-stage equity finance for innovative firms also needs improvement, with better access to finance a must for the concept and proof-of-concept stage of the innovation process. For commercial-scale, first-of-a-kind demonstration plants and their market uptake and wider deployment, a more predictable and stable supply of risk capital is needed: this is a key factor in attracting the public and private input necessary for commercialisation to happen. The availability of debt finance for R&I infrastructures also needs enhancing.

6.4. *InnovFin*

InnovFin – EU Finance for Innovators is the name under which the EU promotes a range of debt and equity products and advisory services in order to effectively give a boost to the availability of finance for research and innovation activities in Europe.

InnovFin - EU Finance for Innovators consists of a range of tailored products – from guarantees for intermediaries that lend to SMEs to direct loans to enterprises - helping support the smallest to the largest R&I projects in the EU and countries associated to Horizon 2020. InnovFin builds on the success of the Risk-Sharing Finance Facility, developed under the seventh EU framework programme for research and technological development (FP7), which helped provide over €11 billion of finance to 114 R&I projects worth more than €30 billion.

The InnovFin products will operate in conjunction with those of EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME).

The European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Investment Fund (EIF) will play an important role, as entrusted entities, in implementing each financial instrument facility on behalf of and in partnership with the European Commission.

The European Investment Bank will provide loans to medium to larger companies, or guarantees to banks lending to them. The European Investment Fund will provide guarantees to banks lending to small and medium-sized firms and – at a later stage – invest in venture capital funds providing start-ups and fast-growing firms with equity.

6.5. *EUREKA*

EUREKA is an intergovernmental organisation for market-driven industrial R&D. Participants promote international, market-oriented research and innovation through the support they offer to small and medium-sized enterprises, large industry, universities and research institutes. Through EUREKA, these organisations are introducing new products, processes and services to market, helping make Europe economically strong and socially sound.

EUREKA Clusters are long-term, strategically significant public-private partnerships. Most of Europe's leading companies participate in EUREKA Clusters, developing generic technologies of key importance to European competitiveness. EUREKA Umbrellas are thematic networks that focus on a particular technology or business sector. Their goal is to generate and support R&D projects in their specific field of operation.

EUREKA's Eurostars Programme is the first European funding and support programme to be specifically dedicated to research-performing SMEs. Eurostars stimulates them to lead international collaborative research and innovation projects. The Eurostars mission is "To support R&D-performing entrepreneurs, by funding their research activities, enabling them to compete internationally and become leaders in their sector".

EUREKA provides companies with up to 50% financial support towards the cost of participating in such events. For researchers in HEIs, 100% funding up to a maximum of €250,000 can be provided to cover additional research costs.

With the shift from research to innovation, a special emphasis is on the private sector. Yet, the participation of the Ukraine's private sector is low. Owing to the heavy procedures for the submission of projects are scarcely attractive for the private sector. Therefore, research institutions and companies tend to turn to bilateral cooperation with more accessible application procedures. The gap between science and industry – and between research and innovation – can be reduced by enhancing the involvement of the private sector in Ukraine-EU S&T cooperation.

Recommendations:

Innovation could be used as entry point for RTDI in National Strategies as it is closely linked to RTDI.

- Capacity building activities in the field of innovation could be included, e.g. training measures for managers of incubators and entrepreneur trainings (i.e. supporters of research, not only researchers), support in setting-up an educational program for technology transfer or integrating courses for technology transfer into existing courses (Twinning activities could be the most suitable approach).
- Focussing and strengthening the role of EUREKA in the context of the European Research Area, both in the European context by being actively involved in shaping the developments within EUREKA, and on the national level, in order to optimise Ukrainian participation further against the background of the ERA.
- Enhancing participation in multinational initiatives in the field of the Grand Societal Challenges.
- Ensuring funding, strategy development and complementary national activities, such as for example setting up national technology platforms.
- Ensuring participation of Ukraine players (RTI and industry) in the LEIT priority of H2020: promoting further competence development, establishing and continuing targeted complementary national programmes
- Enhancing the participation of Ukraine industry in the large industry led European RTI initiatives,
- Continuing, and expanding respectively, the participation of industry, in particular of SMEs, in Horizon 2020 (including promoting cooperation with universities, research institutions, universities of applied sciences and large enterprises), as well as using SME specific instruments in the best possible manner; applying a broad concept of advice, so that the SMEs are “guided” towards the instrument best suited for them (SME specific instrument in Horizon 2020, Eurostars2, EUREKA).

7. Research infrastructures

Research Infrastructures (RIs) play an increasingly important role in the advancement of knowledge and technology. They are a key instrument in bringing together a wide diversity of stakeholders to look for solutions to many of the problems society is facing today. RIs

offer unique research services to users from different countries, attract young people to science, and help to shape scientific communities. New knowledge and, by implication, innovation, can only emerge from high-quality and accessible RIs.

Moreover, RIs help to create a new research environment in which all researchers - whether working in the context of their home institutions or in national or multinational scientific initiatives - have shared access to unique or distributed scientific facilities (including data, instruments, computing and communications), regardless of their type and location in the world. RIs are therefore at the centre of the knowledge triangle of research, education and innovation, producing knowledge through research, diffusing it through education, and applying it through innovation. The term 'research infrastructures' refers to facilities, resources and related services used by the scientific community to conduct top-level research in their respective fields, ranging from social sciences to astronomy, genomics to nanotechnologies.

A European approach for research infrastructures is required for promoting open access for users to the infrastructures in all Member States. It should avoid duplication of efforts and coordinate and rationalize the use of the facilities, also by sharing construction and operation costs. In this way, the European research infrastructures can position themselves as an international partner in the growing global cooperative developments. European mechanisms to drive required developments were the establishment of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) and a number of funding mechanisms to support design studies, (e-)infrastructure cooperation, and preparatory/implementation projects for ESFRI projects. The mission of ESFRI is to support a coherent and strategy-led approach to policy-making on research infrastructures in Europe, and to facilitate multilateral initiatives leading to the better use and development of research infrastructures, at EU and international level.

The structuring impact of the FP7 instruments is continued in Horizon 2020 with emphasis on priorities such as an excellent science base, industrial and competitive leadership, tackling societal challenges, addressing thematic gaps (for example hydrology or environmental technology), the data challenge, and global cooperation. The additional instrument of EU Structural Funds will become more important in the upcoming years. Activities to support research infrastructures are dispersed through all Horizon thematic priorities.

Recommendations

For further promoting networking and cooperation of Ukraine research infrastructures in the technology fields of Horizon 2020 with EU infrastructures the following actions should be supported:

- Participation in ESFRI and international research infrastructures, as well as coordinated building and expanding of e-research infrastructures according to national needs and possibilities, while taking the European and international development into account. It is likely that the associated membership may stimulate Ukraine to strengthen and develop its research and technological infrastructure in order to obtain an opportunity to enjoy in full all privileges of the full integration to Horizon 2020, more specifically, more active use of researchers' academic mobility. On the other hand, it would provide incentives for Ukraine to make additional efforts and revise its research and development policy, research programs and investments into research.
- Consolidating existing Ukrainian participations in ESFRI projects and securing them in the long term.
- Establishment of the National Roadmap for Research Infrastructure (including analyse in which projects Ukraine should participate).

7. Conclusion

The reason why the EU urges to focus on synergies lies in the need for a better use of resources available for RTDI and achieving more impact of RTDI investments. Therefore, in addition to the programme synergies, inherent synergies in well designed and well implemented projects should be reinforced. Those of course depend on the quality of the participants and their cooperation, but also, and to an important degree, on the better planning of the concrete RTDI actions in the overall programme contexts, as well, as on systematic seek for increased impacts of the programmes and the broader cooperation policy objectives (i.e. ENPI, EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, EU-Ukraine S&T Agreement).

The report at hand aimed to provide an overview of the background of RTDI cooperation between the EU and Ukraine and the evaluation of experiences gained in the previous funding period. Then the focus was put on presenting available funding opportunities in the programming period 2014-2020; apart from Horizon 2020 which is the running framework programme of the EU support research and innovation actions, other programmes having any relevance to funding related actions were analysed in line with the two pre-defined criteria, namely (1) human resource development and (2) regional RTDI cooperation. In addition, supportive measures targeting innovation and research infrastructure was also subject to the report.

In order to ensure their best use, a number of recommendations was articulated with respect to each programme. These recommendations address both the political and practical levels. The report is concluded with a funding source map aiming to enlist and provide further practical details on the funding instruments which were subject to the report.

8. Bibliography

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 - <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/european-research-council>
 - <http://erc.europa.eu/funding-and-grants>
 - <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/marie-sklodowska-curie-actions>
 - <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/spreading-excellence-and-widening-participation>
 - <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/sme-instrument>
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- ESFRI: Inspiring Excellence - Research Infrastructures and the Europe 2020 Strategy (2010)
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- Other EU programmes
 - European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI), European Neighbourhood Instrument
 - https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/funding/european-neighbourhood-and-partnership-instrument-enpi_en
 - <http://www.enpi-info.eu/ENI>
 - Cohesion Policy
 - http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/basic/basic_2014_en.pdf
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 - EU Strategy for the Danube Region
 - <http://www.danube-region.eu/>
 - Regional Policy

- http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/
- SME Instruments
 - Main features of the COSME Enterprise Europe Network 2015/2020
 - http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=7229&lang=en&tpa_id=201&title=COSME-Enterprise-Europe-Network-2015%2F2020
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- EU-Ukraine S&T Agreement
 - <http://ec.europa.eu/world/agreements/downloadFile.do?fullText=yes&treatyTransId=665>
 - <http://ec.europa.eu/world/agreements/prepareCreateTreatiesWorkspace/treatiesGeneralData.do?step=0&redirect=true&treatyId=223>
 - http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/ukraine_road_map_2011-2013.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none
- BILAT-UKR*AINA documents
 - Policy Briefs: <http://www.bilat-ukraina.eu/en/360.php>
 - Comparative analysis of the EU MS/AC policies and programmes towards Ukraine (D 1.5) http://www.bilat-ukraina.eu/media/BILAT-UKRAINA_D1.5_Programme-analysis_20140331.pdf
 - Infrastructure (D 3.2 BILAT-Ukr) http://archive.bilat-ukr.eu/media/Analysis_SnT_Infrastructure_Ukraine.pdf
- other projects:
 - IncoNet Eastern Partnership: www.inco-eap.net
 - IncoNet EECA: www.inco-eap.net/en/99.php
 - Danube-INCO.NET: www.danube-inco.net

9. Annexes

9.1. *Annex I: Report on the study visit, 26-27 March, 2015, Brussels*

9.1.1. Summary

A study visit to Brussels was organized for stakeholders responsible for STI policy-making and budgetary planning from the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) and the Ministry for Education and Science of Ukraine (MESU) on 26-27 March, 2015.

The goal of the study visit was to identify synergies on the use of existing mechanisms for RTDI support available for Ukraine, which became an associated country to Horizon 2020 and leading to the progressive integration of the Ukrainian scientific community into the European Research Area. The study visit consisted of arranged interviews at the respective units of funded programmes. Outcomes resulting from the study visit were incorporated into D1.16 Report on possible synergies between the instruments offered under the financial framework 2014-2020.

9.1.2. Objectives

The main objective of the task was to prepare the ground for a well understood approach towards various EU programmes and provide recommendations on how to exploit synergies between Horizon 2020 and programmes focusing on the regional approach in RTDI and on human resource development in RTDI on the one hand; on the other hand to raise awareness and facilitate the Ukrainian approach towards different programmes under the new financial framework 2014-2020 by avoiding overlaps and creating synergies thus increasing the effectiveness of existing initiatives.

To do so, in parallel to the preparation of the report D1.16, a **study visit to Brussels** was organized for Ukrainian stakeholders. The aim of the study trip was to arrange personal interviews among policy makers, based on which the participants are supposed to complete a funding map (see Annex II) and gain a better understanding on EU programmes available for Ukraine and on their possible exploitation.

9.1.3. Implementation

The study visit took place on 26-27 March, 2015 in Brussels. In the frame of informal meetings and arranged interviews, the representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (MESU), National Academy of Science of Ukraine (NASU) as well as project partners had opportunity to receive information on existing programs and available instruments, discuss necessary actions and possibilities for Ukraine. Ukrainian participants visited

- the Directorate General for Education and Culture, Erasmus +,
- the European Research Council Executive Agency,
- the Directorate General for Education and Culture, Unit Responsible for MSCA Actions,

- the DG Regional and Urban Policy (Danube Region Strategy) and

familiarized with activity of the European Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations (KoWi).

9.1.4. Agenda

26 March 2015, Day 1	
10:00-11:00	Erasmus +: Informal meeting with <i>Kamila Touykova</i> Policy officer for Eastern partnership Platform 4 and bilateral relations EC, Directorate General for Education and Culture
12:00-13:00	European Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations (KoWi) Informative meeting with <i>Claudia Eggert</i> Deputy Director KoWi, Head of Brussels Office
13:30-14:30	Working Lunch
15:00-16:00	European Research Council: Information meeting with <i>Theodore Papazoglou</i> European Research Council Executive Agency Head of Unit UNIT A1 – Support to the ERC Scientific Council
27 March 2015, Day 2	
10:00-11.30	Danube Region Strategy: Interview with <i>Marco Onida</i> Responsible for the Danube Macro Regional Strategy EC, DG Regional and Urban Policy, Unit D1 Competence Centre Macro-regions and European Territorial Co-operation, Transnational and Interregional Co-operation
12:00-13:00	Working Lunch
14:00-15.30	Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions: Informal meeting with <i>Bodo Richter</i> Deputy Head of Unit Responsible for MSCA Actions EC, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, Unit B.3 – Innovation in education, EIT and MSCA

9.1.5. List of Participants

Name/ Title	Position/institution/ organization	Nationality:
Ms. Liubov Dienga	Head of Division of Planning and Funding of the Budget Programs	Ukrainian
Ms. Nataliia Kosmach	Leading Specialist, Division of International Scientific and Technical Cooperation Department of International Cooperation and European Integration Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine	Ukrainian
Ms. Karina Shakhbazyan	Scientific Manager of the Center of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer of NASU	Ukrainian
Prof. Valery Kukhar	full member of NASU, Head of the State Fund for Fundamental Research of Ukraine	Ukrainian
Elena Koval	BILAT-UKR*AINA project partner	Ukrainian
Marina Gorokhovatska	BILAT-UKR*AINA project partner Scientific manager, NASU	Ukrainian
Lidiya Kavunenko	BILAT-UKR*AINA project partner Centre for S&T Potential and Science History Studies (STEPS), National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine	Ukrainian
Béla Kardon	BILAT-UKR*AINA project partner, Chief Scientific Officer, RCISD	Hungarian

9.2. Annex II: Programmes analysed for the report – Funding Map

Programmes/Sub-programmes	Short description	Web-site	Beneficiaries	Deadlines	Amount	Responsible Agency
<p>Horizon 2020 is the EU's new framework programme for research and innovation (2014 to 2020)</p> <p>Horizon 2020 is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness and creating new growth and jobs in Europe.</p> <p>Horizon 2020 is basically divided into three pillars and complemented by a horizontal layer focusing on spreading excellence and widening participation in Europe as well as by science with and for society actions:</p> <p><u>Pillar 1: Excellent Science</u></p> <p>Under pillar one, Horizon 2020 will focus funding on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting the most talented and creative individuals and their teams to carry out frontier research of the highest quality by building on the success of the European Research Council (ERC); • collaborative research to open up new and promising fields of research and innovation through support for Future and Emerging Technologies (FET); • providing researchers with excellent training and career development opportunities through the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions; • ensuring Europe has world-class research infrastructures (including e-infrastructures) accessible to all researchers in Europe and beyond. 						
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)	The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions support researchers at all stages of their careers, irrespective of nationality.	http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/	Colleges and universities, research institutions, companies and SMEs, European NGOs, social and economic actors	12.03.2015-10.09.2015 COFUND: 14.04.2015-01.10.2015	215.00m EUR 80.00 m EUR	Research Executive Agency DG Research & Innovation

European Research Council (ERC)	The main goal of the European Research Council (ERC) is to encourage high quality research in Europe through competitive funding.	http://erc.europa.eu/funding-schemes				
ERC Starting Grant	for young, early-career top researchers (2-7 years after PhD) - up to 5 years.	http://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC_Work_Programme_2015.pdf	Colleges and universities, research institutions, companies and SMEs, European NGOs, social and economic actors	7.10.2014-3.02.2015	2m EUR	ERC Executive Agency
ERC Consolidator Grant	for already independent excellent researchers (7-12 years after PhD) - up to 5 years			13.11.2014-12.03.2015	2.74m EUR	
ERC Advanced Grant	for senior research leaders with significant research achievements in the last 10 years - up to 5 years.			10.02.2015-2.06.2015	3.5m EUR	
ERC Proof of Concept Grant	for ERC grant holders who want to check the market and/or innovation potential of research results from ERC-projects - up to 12 months			7.11.2014-5.02.2015 28.05.2015	150,000 EUR	

				1.10.2015		
ERC Synergy Grant	for small groups of individual researchers - up to 6 years.			not available currently		
European strategy forum on research infrastructures (ESFRI)	Strategic instrument to develop the scientific integration of Europe and to strengthen its international outreach. The competitive and open access to high quality Research Infrastructures supports and benchmarks the quality of the activities of European scientists, and attracts the best researchers from around the world.	http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/index_en.cfm?pg=esfri		25.09.2014- 31.03.2015	56 – 66m EUR	Science and Technology Facilities Council, Polaris House DG Research & Innovation

Pillar 3: Tackling Societal Challenges

Under pillar three, Horizon 2020 will focus funding on

- Health, demographic change and well being
- Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research, and the bioeconomy
- Secure, clean and efficient energy
- Smart, green and integrated transport
- Climate action, environment, 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
- Science in society
- Spreading excellence and broadening participation

Science with and for Society The aim of this programme is to build effective cooperation between science and society, to recruit new talent for science and to pair scientific excellence with social awareness and responsibility. http://www.apre.it/en/horizon2020/science-with-and-for-society/						
Making Science Education and Careers Attractive For Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Developing scientific citizenship by promoting innovative pedagogies in science education, attracting more young people towards science, with a special emphasis on girls, and addressing the challenges faced by young people, in pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and innovation; -Developing Responsible Research and Innovation in Higher Education Curricula; -Easing the access to scientific careers by increasing the service level of the EURAXESS Services Network 	http://www.apre.it/en/horizon2020/science-with-and-for-society/bandi/		11.12.2013-16.09.2015	421m EUR	National NCP
Promoting Gender Equality in Research and Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Encouraging girls to study science and female students to further embrace a career in research; -Analysing the impact of gender diversity in research teams on research and innovation outcomes; -Developing a common framework to evaluate national initiatives to promote gender equality in research policy and research organisations; -Supporting research organisations to implement gender equality plans. 			11.12.2013-16.09.2015		

Integrating Society in Science and Innovation	<p>-Developing citizens' interest and capacities for science and allowing them to actively participate in various scientific activities (e.g. exhibitions and science cafés, grass roots "Do It Yourself" (DiY) creative re-use communities, on-line mechanisms for knowledge-based policy advice);</p> <p>-Fostering the dissemination of information and good practices through a Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP), including networking, monitoring and assessing relevant initiatives;</p> <p>-Supporting structural change in the research organisation and higher education institutions to promote Responsible Research and Innovation.</p>			11.12.2013 16.09.2015		
<p>European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)</p> <p>The aim of the EIT is to fully integrate all three sides of the Knowledge Triangle (higher education, research and business). It works to reinforce the innovation capacity of the European Union in order to address grand challenges facing European society.</p> <p>http://eit.europa.eu/</p>						
EIT Digital	EIT Digital is the EIT's Knowledge and Innovation Community with a focus on future Information and Communication Society. It breeds entrepreneurial ICT top talent by transforming higher education towards promoting innovation and entrepreneurial spirit. The KIC's Co-location Centres and mobility programs	https://www.eitdigital.eu/about-us/overview/	Corporations, SMEs, universities, research institutes and start-ups	2014-2016		EIT Digital IVZW

	help bring people from different countries, disciplines and organisations together.					
EIT Health	EIT Health is one of the largest healthcare initiatives worldwide. Its goal is to sustainably advance the foundations of healthcare and thus promote the future conditions for healthier living and wellbeing of people across Europe. Chosen by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) to form EIT Health, the consortium offers best-in-class research capabilities, higher education and business expertise.	https://www.eit-health.eu/	Healthcare organisations such as Pharma, MedTech, Payers, Research Institutions and Universities	2015-2018	2 billion EUR	EIT Health Headquarter in Hungary
EIT Raw Material	EIT Raw Materials has the ambitious vision of turning the challenge of raw materials dependence into a strategic strength for Europe. Its mission is to boost the competitiveness, growth and attractiveness of the European raw materials sector via radical innovation and entrepreneurship.	http://eit.europa.eu/eit-community/eit-raw-materials	start-ups, SMEs, radical innovation and education	2014-2022		EIT Raw Materials Headquarters, Spreepalais c/o Helmholtz HQ
KIC InnoEnergy Innovation Projects	KIC InnoEnergy is an organisation that brings together education, research and industry to boost sustainable energy and related technology innovations across Europe. It supports research institutions, companies and universities with the last stage of the go-to-market process for innovative sustainable energy products and services. It helps organisations to create public-private consortia that have the ability to take high-potential ideas to	http://cip.kic-innoenergy.com/	public-private consortia which currently has an innovative technology project and are looking to accelerate the deployment of their lab idea		2 711,4 million	KIC InnoEnergy Benelux Brussels

	the market faster and more effectively, and offer significant financing schemes.		into a marketable product			
Climate-KIC	Climate-KIC is Europe's largest public-private innovation partnership, working together to address the challenge of climate change. We drive innovation in climate change through creative partnerships large and small, local and global, between the private, public and academic sectors. All partners bring their industry experience to the community and are connected through a national or regional centre.	http://www.climate-kic.org/about/our-community/	SMEs, start-ups, students	2014-2020		Climate-Kic headquarter in Budapest

H2020 Widening participation

Despite serious efforts deployed at national and European level, the European Union sees significant internal disparities in terms of research and innovation performance as also identified in the Innovation Union Scoreboard. These trends are further exacerbated by the continuing severe financial crisis, and the subsequent adverse effects on public research and innovation budgets. Also, there is significant evidence pointing to the fact that the pathway to economic growth and competitiveness is strongly connected to the scaling up of investment in research and innovation. In order to address these challenges, Horizon 2020 introduces specific measures for spreading excellence and widening participation. These measures are targeted at low-performing Member States in terms of research and innovation, and they will be implemented by the Member States most in need of the new Cohesion policy for the 2014-2020 programming period.

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/spreading-excellence-and-widening-participation>

ERA Chairs	ERA is a unified research area open to the world based on the Internal market, in which researchers, scientific knowledge and technology circulate freely. Through ERA, the Union and its Member States will strengthen their scientific and technological bases, their competitiveness and their capacity to collectively address grand challenges.	http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/era-chairs_en.html		11.12.2013-2020	800 m EUR	
Twinning	Twinning is an instrument for the cooperation between Public Administrations of EU Member States (MS) and of beneficiary countries. Beneficiaries include candidate countries and potential candidates to EU membership, as well as countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy.	http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/tenders/twinning/index_en.htm				

TEAMING	The Teaming action (associating advanced research institutions to other institutions, agencies or regions for the creation or upgrade of existing centres of excellence) is a new feature under Horizon 2020. It will provide new opportunities to the parties involved, with real prospects for growth through tapping into new collaboration and development patterns, including the establishment of new scientific networks, links with local clusters and opening up access to new markets.	http://www.mpg.de/6877962/WP_Teaming_for_excellence.pdf		2014-2020		
European Industrial Doctorates (EID)	EIDs have the objective of training highly-skilled researchers and stimulating entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation in Europe.	http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/10054-msca-itn-2015-eid.html				
Erasmus+ Erasmus+ will support transnational partnerships among Education, Training, and Youth institutions and organisations to foster cooperation and bridge the worlds of Education and work in order to tackle the skills gaps we are facing in Europe. http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm						
Individual Mobility of Learners in the field of youth	Education, training and youth activities play a key role in providing people of all ages with the necessary means to participate actively in the labour market and in society at large.		students, trainees, apprentices, volunteers, youth workers and	4.02.2015 30.04.2015 1.10.2015	112.496.691 EUR	

			professionals involved in education, training and youth			
Individual Mobility of Staff in the field of youth	Strategic Partnerships aim to support the development, transfer and/or implementation of innovative practices as well as the implementation of joint initiatives promoting cooperation, peer learning and exchanges of experience at European level.		any type of organisation active in any field of education, training and youth or other socio-economic sectors as well as to organisations carrying out activities that are transversal to different fields.	4.03.2015 30.04.2015	19.265.017 EUR	
Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees	An Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJMD) is a high-level integrated international study programme of 60, 90 or 120 ECTS credits, delivered by an international consortium of HEIs from different countries and - where relevant - other educational and/or non-educational partners with specific expertise and interest in the study areas/professional domains covered by the joint programme. Their specificity lies in their high		higher education institutions, public or private, a small, medium or large enterprises, public bodies at local, regional or national level, non-profit organisations, associations, NGOs, research	4.03.2015	25.784.000 EUR	

	integration/"jointness" ⁶¹ and the excellent academic content and methodology they offer. There is no limitation in terms of discipline.		institutions			
Large scale European Voluntary Service events	This Action aims to support large-scale volunteering projects (involving at least 30 EVS volunteers) in the framework of European or worldwide events in the field of youth, culture and sport (e.g. World Youth Summits, European Capitals of Culture; European Youth Capitals, European sport championships, etc.).		Any public or private organisation established in a Programme Country and directly involved in the organisation of the European/international event in the field of youth, culture or sport, or having concluded a formal written cooperation agreement with the event organisers.	3.04.2015	300,000 EUR	
Knowledge Alliances	Knowledge Alliances aim at strengthening Europe's innovation capacity and at fostering innovation in higher education, business and the broader socio-economic environment. They intend to achieve one or more of the following aims:		higher education institutions, public or private, small, medium or large enterprises (including social enterprises); research institutions; public bodies at	26.02.2015	7,650,939 EUR	

Sector Skills Alliances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop new, innovative and multidisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning; - stimulate entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial skills of higher education teaching staff and enterprise staff; - facilitate the exchange, flow and co-creation of knowledge. 		<p>local, regional or national level;</p> <p>organisations active in the field of education, training and youth;</p> <p>intermediaries or associations which represents education, training or youth organisations;</p> <p>intermediaries or associations which represents enterprises;</p> <p>accreditation, certification or qualification bodies</p>		7,650,939 EUR	
Capacity building in the field of higher education	<p>This action which aims to support the modernisation, accessibility and internationalisation of higher education in the Partner Countries is to be carried out in the context of the priorities identified in the Communications</p> <p>“Increasing the impact of EU Development Policy: an Agenda for Change” and “European Higher Education in the World”</p>		<p>a public, private small medium or large enterprises(including social enterprises);</p> <p>public bodies at local, regional or national level (including ministries);</p> <p>social partners or other representatives of working life, including chambers</p>	10.02.2015	110,805,109 EUR	

			<p>of commerce, craft/professionals associations and trade unions; research institutions</p> <p>foundations;</p> <p>schools/institutions (on any level, from pre-school to upper secondary education, including vocational education and adult education);</p> <p>non-profit organisations, associations, NGOs (including national or international</p> <p>associations or networks of higher education institutions, students or teachers associations, etc.); cultural organisations, libraries, museums; bodies providing career guidance, professional counselling and information services.</p>			
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Capacity building in the field of youth	Capacity Building projects are transnational cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in the field of youth in Programme and Partner Countries. They can also involve organisations from the fields of education and training, as well as from other socio-economic sectors.		non-profit organisations, associations, NGOs (including European Youth NGOs); national Youth Councils; public bodies at local, regional or national level; schools/institutes/ educational centres (at any level, from pre-school to upper secondary education, and including vocational education and adult education); public or private, a small, medium or large enterprises (including social enterprises); social partners or other representatives of working life, including chambers of commerce, craft/professionals associations and trade unions; higher education institutions; research institutions; foundations; inter-	3.04.2015 2.09.2015	9,056,934 EUR	
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			company training centres; cultural organisations, libraries, museums; bodies providing professional counselling and information services			
Meeting between young people and decision-makers in the field of youth	Structured Dialogue projects can take the form of meetings, conferences, consultations and events. These events promote the active participation of young people in democratic life in Europe and their interaction with decisionmakers. As a concrete result of these events, young people are able to make their voice heard (through the formulation of positions, proposals and recommendations) on how youth policies should be shaped and implemented in Europe.		non-profit organisations, associations, NGOs; European Youth NGOs; public bodies at local or regional level;	4.02.2015 30.04.2015 1.10.2015	900,000 EUR	
Sport actions	Collaborative Partnerships offer the opportunity to develop, transfer and/or implement innovative practices in different areas relating to sport and physical activity between various organisations and actors in and outside sport, including in particular public authorities at local, regional, national and European levels, sport organisations, sport-related organisations and educational bodies		public bodies in charge of sport at local, regional or national level; National Olympic Committees or National Sport confederations; sport organisations at local, regional, national, European or international level; national	22.01.2015	1,600,000 EUR	
Collaborative partnerships in the sport field related to the European Week of Sport 2015 only						

Sport actions			sports leagues; sport clubs; organisations or unions representing athletes; organisations or unions representing professionals and volunteers in sport (such as coaches, managers, etc); organisations representing the 'sport for all' movement; organisations active in the field of physical activity promotion; organisations representing the active leisure sector; organisations active in the field of education, training or youth.	14.05.2015	13,178,938 EUR	
Collaborative partnerships in the sport field not related to the European Week of Sport 2015						
Jean Monnet actions	A Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence is a focal point of competence and knowledge on European Union subjects. The academic responsibility of a Centre must be assumed by a Jean Monnet Chair holder. A Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence gathers the expertise and competences of high-level experts (including Jean Monnet Chairs and/or	http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf	A higher education institution (HEI) established in any country of the world. HEIs established in Programme Countries must hold a valid Erasmus Charter	26.02.2015	5,666,414 EUR	
Centres of Excellence						

	Jean Monnet Module coordinators) and aims at developing synergies between the various disciplines and resources in European studies, as well as at creating joint transnational activities and structural links with academic institutions in other countries. It also ensures openness to civil society.		for Higher Education (ECHE).			
Jean Monnet actions	A Jean Monnet Module is a short teaching programme (or course) in the field of European Union studies at a higher education institution. Each Module has a minimum duration of 40 teaching hours per academic year. Teaching hours are taken to include direct contact hours in the context of group lectures, seminars, tutorials and may include any of the aforementioned in a distance learning format but do not include individual instruction. Modules may concentrate on one particular discipline in European studies or be multidisciplinary in approach and therefore call upon the academic input of several professors and experts.	http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf	higher education institutions (HEI) established in any country of the world. HEIs established in Programme Countries must hold a valid Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE).	26.02.2015		
Modules						
Jean Monnet actions	A Jean Monnet Chair is a teaching post with a specialisation in European Union studies for university professors. A Jean Monnet Chair must be held by only one professor, who must provide the minimum of 90 teaching hours per academic year. Teaching hours are taken to include direct contact hours in the	http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf	Higher Education Institutions (HEI) established in any country of the world. HEIs established in Programme Countries must hold a valid Erasmus Charter	26.02.2015		
Chairs						

	context of group lectures, http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf seminars, tutorials and may include any of the aforementioned in a distance learning format but do not include individual instruction and/or supervision. If the higher education institution has established a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, the Jean Monnet Chair must assume the academic responsibility of the Centre.		for Higher Education (ECHE).			
Jean Monnet actions	Jean Monnet supports institutions that enhance teacher and training activities on European Union subjects at the postgraduate level and/or for other relevant stakeholders. It also fosters activities aimed at elaborating, analysing and popularizing European Union subjects and their teaching.	http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf	Institutions active in the field of European integration studies, established in any country of the world are eligible, excluding the Jean Monnet designated institutions identified in the legal basis of the Erasmus+ Programme	26.02.2015	1,500,000 EUR	
Support to Institutions						

			and the higher education institutions recognised as such by their national authorities.			
Jean Monnet actions	Jean Monnet supports associations that have as their explicit purpose to contribute to the study of the European integration process. Such associations should be interdisciplinary and open to all interested professors, teachers and researchers specialising in European Union issues in the relevant country or region. They should be representative of the academic community in European Union studies at regional, national or supranational level. Support will be given only to associations that are officially registered and have independent legal status.	http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf	Any association of professors and researchers specialising in European Union Studies, established in any country of the world. The explicit purpose of the association must be to contribute to the study of the European integration process at national or transnational level. The association must have an interdisciplinary character.	26.02.2015		
Support to Associations						

Jean Monnet actions	Jean Monnet Networks foster the creation and development of consortia of international players (HEIs, Centres of Excellence, departments, teams, individual experts, etc.) in the area of European Union studies. They contribute to gathering information, exchanging practices, building knowledge and promoting the European integration process across the world. This Action can also support the enhancement of existing networks supporting specific activities, notably fostering the participation of young researchers in EU-related themes. These projects will be based on unilateral proposals, focused on activities that cannot be achieved successfully at a national level and require the involvement of a minimum of five partner institutions (including the applicant institution) from five different countries. Their aim is to undertake projects that have a multinational rather than a national dimension.	http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf	A higher education institution (HEI) or other organisation active in the European integration area, established in any country of the world. HEIs located in Erasmus+ Programme Countries must hold a valid Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE). An ECHE is not required for participating HEIs in Partner Countries. The applicant must be the coordinator of the network that comprises a minimum of	26.02.2015		
Networks						

			five participating institutions from five different countries. The designated European institutions (identified in the legal basis of the Erasmus+ Programme) pursuing an aim of European interest are not eligible to apply under this Action.			
Jean Monnet actions	<p>Jean Monnet Projects support innovation, cross-fertilisation and the spread of European Union content. These projects will be based on unilateral proposals - although the proposed activities may involve other partners – and may last between 12 and 24 months.</p> <p>- "Innovation" projects will explore new angles and different methodologies in view of making European Union subjects more attractive and</p>	http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf	Higher education institutions or other organisations active in the European Union subject area, established in any country of the world.	26.02.2015	178,765 EUR	

Projects	<p>adapted to various kinds of target populations (e.g. projects on Learning EU @ School);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Cross-fertilisation" projects will promote discussion and reflection on European Union issues and enhance knowledge about the Union and its processes. These projects will aim at boosting EU knowledge in specific contexts; - "Spread content" projects will mainly concern information and dissemination activities. 		<p>HEIs located in Erasmus+ Programme Countries must hold a valid Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE). An ECHE is not required for participating HEIs in Partner Countries. The designated institutions (identified in the legal basis of the Erasmus+ Programme) pursuing an aim of European interest are not eligible to apply under this Action. Primary and secondary education establishments</p>			
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			are not eligible to apply, although they may actively contribute to the realisation of the activities.			
COSME Enterprise Europe Network 2015/2020	The Network will contribute to the objectives of the COSME programme by facilitating access to European and international markets for European SMEs and by providing growth-oriented, integrated business and innovation support services that help strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of European enterprises.	http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=7229&	European SMEs,	22.01.2014-3.06.2014	336 m EUR	Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME)
European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) COST has a very specific mission and goal. It contributes to reducing the fragmentation in European research investments and opening the European Research Area to cooperation worldwide. As a precursor of advanced multidisciplinary research, COST plays a very important role in building a European Research Area (ERA). http://www.cost.eu/about_cost						
Biomedicine and Molecular Biosciences (BMBS)	The Domain Biomedicine and Molecular Biosciences covers all areas of medicine as practiced in Europe and basic, preclinical and clinical medical research developed to materialise the “bench to bedside” concept.	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/bmb s	All fields of S&T SMEs/industry participation All countries		300 m EUR	

Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies (CMST)	<p>The Domain Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies has the mission of fostering European expertise in discovering, understanding, producing and manipulating molecular species.</p> <p>These research activities aim to develop experimental, theoretical and analytical tools to enhance the development of chemical transformations, reactivity and function.</p>	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/cmst	<p>All fields of S&T</p> <p>SMEs/industry participation</p> <p>All countries</p>		300 m EUR	
Earth System Science and Environmental Management (ESSEM)	<p>The Domain of Earth System Science (ESS) and Environmental Management addresses the interactions within and between the major Earth compartments of the lithosphere and pedosphere, hydrosphere and cryosphere, biosphere, anthroposphere and atmosphere, and includes influences of the Sun and the near-space environment.</p>	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/essem	<p>All fields of S&T</p> <p>SMEs/industry participation</p> <p>All countries</p>		300 m EUR	
Food and Agriculture (FA)	<p>The Food and Agriculture Domain covers all aspects of research in the fields of agricultural and food sciences, aquaculture and fisheries in its widest sense. The primary aim of the Domain is to encourage high quality networking of research in any field linked to these activities, as well as the related demands and needs.</p>	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/fa	<p>All fields of S&T</p> <p>SMEs/industry participation</p> <p>All countries</p>		300 m EUR	
Forests, their Products and Services (FPS)	<p>The Domain Forests, their Products and Services is concerned with complex</p>	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/fps	<p>All fields of S&T</p>		300 m EUR	

	processes which form the basis for present and potential capacity to provide renewable resources for human needs as well as environmental services.		SMEs/industry participation All countries			
Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health (ISCH)	The Domain Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health will promote the creation of knowledge, expertise and insights for citizens, democratic debate and decisionmaking in the public, private and voluntary spheres.	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/isch	All fields of S&T SMEs/industry participation All countries		300 m EUR	
Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)	The Domain Information and Communication Technologies covers scientific research and technological innovation in all areas of information and communication science and technologies.	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/ict	All fields of S&T SMEs/industry participation All countries		300 m EUR	
Materials, Physics and Nanosciences (MPNS)	The Domain Materials, Physics and Nanosciences is home to material science, extending from conception through to production and includes characterization, examination, evaluation, fabrication and development, to actual application and service, as well as related databases, codes, standards and inspections.	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/mpns	All fields of S&T SMEs/industry participation All countries		300 m EUR	
Transport and Urban Development (TUD)	The Transport and Urban Development Domain fosters research coordination in the fields of transport and the built environment, which play a strategic role in the modern society and economy.	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/tud	All fields of S&T SMEs/industry participation All countries		300 m EUR	
Trans-Domain Proposals (TDP)	Trans-Domain Proposals give researchers the possibility to create interdisciplinary	http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/TDP	All fields of S&T		300 m EUR	

	or transdisciplinary research networks that do not lie only within one Domain of COST.		SMEs/industry participation All countries			
Partnership Instrument — Policy Support Facility <p>The policy support facility will provide quick, effective and targeted responses. It will support the evolving policy agenda with partner countries on a wide range of issues arising from the 'Europe 2020' strategy and beyond. The facility will support the EU's priorities and influence the partner countries' agenda positively to align with EU policies and objectives.</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/announcements/news/20140820_en.htm</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/documents/grants_tenders/policy_support_facility/2014_prior_info_notice_policy_support_facility_en.pdf</p>						
Clean Energy Network II	The aim of this project is to enhance EU-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) energy relations in the area of clean energy technologies through developing new structures and instruments of mutual interest. This will be done on the basis of the achievements of the first Clean Energy Network.	http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/announcements/tenders/20150310_1_en.htm	energy-related research entities, universities, administrations, utilities, industry and policy makers	04.2015	3 600 000 EUR	European Commission

Partnership Instrument – EU Emission Trading System to Korea	The overall objective of the project is to assist the Republic of Korea in its efforts to meet its carbon emission reduction target of 30% by 2020 against a BAU trajectory set up in 2009 by establishing an effective emission trading system (ETS) in Korea. The project is to provide technical assistance on issues necessary for the implementation and operation of the KETS in its initial phase.	http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/announcements/tenders/20150213_2_en.htm		03.2015	3 500 000 EUR	European Commission
Partnership Instrument – Public Procurement Initiative	The project's main objective is improving the availability, coverage and quality of data on public procurement markets in an international context. In a first step, an appropriate methodology for government procurement data collection and for assessing the contestability of public procurement markets in third countries would need to be developed. At a second stage, the methodology would be applied in a number of pilot countries (non-EU key trading partner countries). The project deliverables would cover detailed public procurement data (including cross-border data) and the economic assessment of the impact of policy instruments and practices that may discriminate or restrain market access in third countries' public procurement	http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/announcements/tenders/20150123_1_en.htm		01.03.2015	4 500 000 EUR	European Commission

	markets.					
Partnership Instrument – Policy Support Facility	<p>The Partnership Instrument (PI) is one of the funding instruments that enable the European Union</p> <p>(EU) to promote its core values and take part in shaping global change. The PI Multiannual Indicative</p> <p>Programme 2014-2017 foresees the creation of a large policy dialogues facility to support the Union's</p> <p>relations with key partner countries. Such a facility is needed to respond to the dynamic and fastchanging</p> <p>global environment that European policies are being confronted with and to promote</p> <p>European interests in a timely manner.</p>	http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/announcements/tenders/20150316_1_en.htm	natural and legal persons	10.06.2015		European Commission
European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)	<p>The European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) acts in several areas connected with atomic energy, including research, the drawing-up of safety standards, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.</p>	http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/euratom/euratom_en.htm				Euratom Supply Agency

ENPI

The ENPI is a “policy driven” instrument that operates in the framework of the existing bilateral agreements between the European Union and the neighbouring countries. It is focused in particular on supporting the implementation of the European Neighbouring Policy (ENP) Action Plans. Compared to the previous financial tools, ENPI introduces several innovations, which are most evident in the Cross-Border (CBC) component, that finances “joint programmes” bringing together regions of EU Member States and Partner Countries sharing common borders.

http://www.enpicbmed.eu/documenti/29_153_20120517163414.pdf

Eastern Partnership Culture Programme	It aims at assisting the Partner Countries in their cultural policy reform at government level, as well as capacity building and improving professionalism of cultural operators in the Eastern ENP region. It contributes to exchange of information and experience among cultural operators at a regional level and with the EU. The programme seeks to support regional initiatives which demonstrate positive cultural contributions to economic development, social inclusion, conflict resolution and intercultural dialogue.	http://www.euroeastculture.eu/en/				
Neighbourhood-wide Cooperation	Neighbourhood-wide cooperation programmes include: Promoting administrative reform and institution-building; Promoting higher education ; Promoting interregional dialogue ; Promoting investment through the Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF).	http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/neighbourhood/neighbourhood-wide/index_en.htm				
Eastern Partnership SME Finance Facility	The Eastern Partnership SME Finance Facility aims to rebuild the confidence of financial intermediaries to extend financing to SMEs, including micro-enterprises, following the financial crisis. It seeks to enhance their capacity to assess and monitor the related risks and manage their SME financing, to	http://www.enpi-info.eu/maineast.php?id=547&id_type=10				

	strengthen and deepen SME credit markets, to expand financing options available to the real economy, promote the continued development of market-based financial institutions and contribute to institution building, and to support the expansion of private and entrepreneurial initiatives, working with local and international financial intermediaries.					
Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation Support Programme	The programme aims to promote sustainable cross-border cooperation between border regions of the EaP partner countries in order to facilitate the search for joint solutions to common challenges in their border areas.	http://eaptc.eu/	local authorities, communities and civil society organisations, from the whole territory of the Republic of Moldova and three eligible regions	15.04.2015-14.06.2015	3.3m EUR	EaPTC Managing Authority North office
Eastern Partnership Youth Window	The Eastern Partnership (EaP) Youth Window aims to support partner countries in responding to the needs of disadvantaged young people while seeking to promote youth work development. In particular, it aims to help build the capacity of government bodies, which deal with youth policy, including ministries of education, health, social affairs and labour.	http://ec.europa.eu/youth/orphans/eastern-partnership-youth-window_en.htm	young people living in rural or deprived urban areas in Eastern Partnership countries	2012-2014	29m EUR	
Regional Communication	The Programme seeks to increase public	http://www.enpi-				

Programme	knowledge and awareness of the EU and its relationship with the Neighbourhood countries and to create a local sense of involvement and shared ownership. It clarifies policies but also highlights the cooperation actions implemented by the EU in the region.	info.eu/mainmed.php?id=405&id_type=10				
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