

**Create an NCP system
and support your country's participation to H2020**



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Building Bi-regional Partnerships for Global Challenges



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Constantine Vaitsas
FORTH/PRAXI Network
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What is an NCP

A National Contact Point (NCPs) is a trained person in charge of providing guidance & advice, practical information and individual assistance on all aspects of participation in the EC main funding instrument for Research and Innovation

*NCPs give **personalised support to researchers preparing proposals and contracts for the EC main funding instrument for Research and Innovation on the spot and in the proposers' own languages***

What does an NCP do (1)

NCP Tasks divided into three sections:

- **1. Informing, awareness raising**
 - Circulate documentation on the EU RTD programmes
 - Circulate general and specific information on Horizon 2020 conditions for participation, submission of proposals, project budgeting and reporting
 - Organise promotional activities in liaison with the EC (e.g. info-days, seminars, newsletters, web sites, etc.)
 - Raise awareness of
 - Innovation activities in Horizon 2020 (esp. participation of industry and SMEs)
 - Further funding opportunities, such as Articles 185 and 187 initiatives as well as EIT KICs
 - Interdisciplinary nature of Horizon 2020
 - Horizontal issues (gender balance, link between science and civil society)
 - Other European RTD-programmes (COSME, Eureka, COST, R&D related parts of European Structural and Investment Funds, etc.)

What does an NCP do (2)

- **2. Advising, assisting and training**
 - Assist researchers and organizations, in particular new actors and SMEs
 - Assist in partner search
 - Internet based tools, cooperation networks, Enterprise Europe Network for SMEs
 - Advise on administrative procedures, rules and issues
 - Funding schemes, roles and responsibilities in a consortium rights and obligations, costs, ethical rules
 - Organize courses and training sessions
 - for information multipliers or specific target groups (SMEs, universities, business organizations)
 - On specific topics (legal & financial aspects, research and innovation areas, modalities for participation)

What does an NCP do (3)

- **3. Signposting**

- Provide feedback to the EC on any problems or difficulties,
- Signpost to other EU services, for example to the *Enterprise Europe Network*
- Signpost to other business network services, for instance matters relating to internal market, technology transfer, intellectual property rights (IPR) or regional development (EEN, EIB, Structural Funds, etc.)
- Signpost to national funding programs and to ERA Net Projects

Co-operation between the NCPs and the European Commission

Since the Commission considers the NCP systems as important partners for the implementation and management of its funding instrument, it:

- publishes widely the nominated NCPs (CORDIS)
- provides timely information on WP and roadmaps, upcoming calls, changes in thematic priorities or administrative procedures, statistics of calls and evaluations...etc....
- invites NCPs to participate in information and awareness actions related to RTD
- informs NCPs about the evaluation results

NCP system in Horizon 2020

Mission:

Highly professional support services operating nationally will form an essential component of Horizon 2020 implementation. By spreading awareness, giving specialist advice, and providing on-the-ground guidance, they will ensure that the new programme becomes known and readily accessible to all potential applicants, irrespective of sector or discipline.

NCPs in Horizon 2020

- National NCP Coordinator
- Legal and Financial aspects
- SMEs
- Access to Finance*
- European Research Council
- 'Future and Emerging Technologies';
- 'Marie Curie actions on skills, training and career development';
- 'European research infrastructures;
- 'Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)';
- 'Nanotechnologies, advanced materials and advanced manufacturing and processing';
- 'Space';
- 'Health, demographic change and wellbeing';
- 'Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research and the bio-economy'; & 'Biotechnology';
- 'Secure, clean and efficient energy';
- 'Smart, green and integrated transport';
- 'Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials';
- 'Inclusive, innovative and secure societies';
- Security'
- Joint Research Centre

How to create an NCP system

- The Ministry that would like to host the NCP should write a formal letter of appointment
- The formal letter should be sent through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the interested country to
 - the European Commission Delegation of your Country, or if there is no Delegation,
 - directly to the European Commission

Directorate-General for Research and Innovation

European Commission, ORBN 2/65

B-1049 Brussels - Belgium

Basic documents and electronic tools for NCPs

- Minimum standards and guiding principles (document)
 - Key principles and minimum standards
 - Core functions of an NCP
 - Cooperation between NCPs and Commission services
 - Nomination and recognition process
- Participant portal: www.ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/
 - Horizon 2020 documents
 - Work Programmes and open calls
 - Participation registration and proposal submission
 - Contract negotiation and reporting
- CORDIS: www.cordis.europa.eu
 - Basic information
 - Partner search and project database
 - Contacts to NCPs
- INCO-Wiki: www.ncp-incontact.eu
 - Information on international cooperation in Horizon 2020

Thank you



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FORTH/PRAXI Network

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