

Science with and for Society NCP Info Day

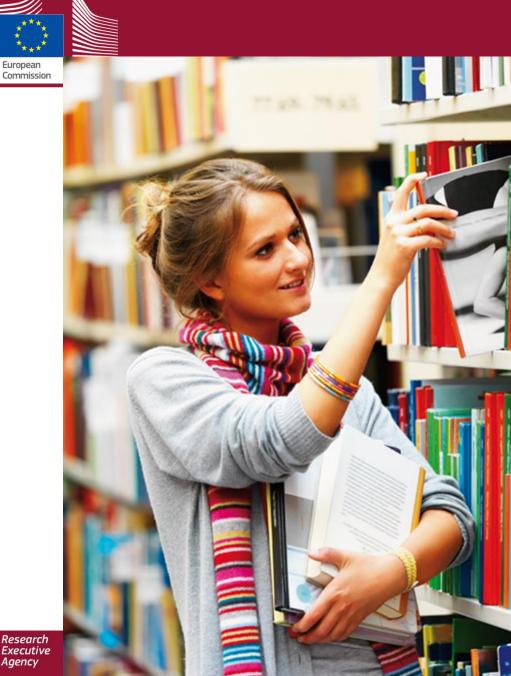
Brussels, 25 November 2019

Proposal submission and evaluation

Niamh DELANEY,
REA.B5
Spreading Excellence, Widening Participation,
Science with and for Society

Outline

- > DG RTD & REA
- > Call overview
- > Evaluation process
- > Tips
- > Ethics



DG RTD & REA



European Commission DG Research&Innovation

- Definition of policies
- Drafting of Work Programme

Research Executive Agency

- Implementation of calls for proposals
- Management of funded projects



REA, Unit B5



Mission: Bridging the Gap

REA unit B5 Bridges the Gap:

Between countries by increasing their research capacity and participation in international networks.

Between Science & Society by improving their interaction and thus the lives of European citizens.



Commission



SwafS-2020 Single submission

12 SwafS topics

55.7 M€

SwafS-2020 Two-stage

2 science education topics

7.5 M€

Opening: 10 December 2019

Deadline: 15 April 2020,

17:00 CET

Opening: 10 December 2019

Deadline:

15 April 2020,17:00 CET *stage 1*

17 Nov 2020, 17:00 CET *stage 2*





All other SwafS topics (single submission)	Type of Action
SwafS-08-2019-2020: Research innovation needs & skills training in PhD programmes	CSA
SwafS-09-2018-2019-2020: Supporting research organisations to implement gender equality plans	CSA
SwafS-25-2020: Gender -based violence in research organisations and universitites	RIA
SwafS-26-2020: Innovators of the future: bridging the gender gap	CSA
SwafS-28-2020: The ethics of organoïds	CSA
SwafS-29-2020: The ethics of technologies with high socio-economic impact	CSA
SwafS-30-2020: Responsible Open Science : an ethics and integrity perspective	CSA
SwafS-14-2018-2019-2020: Supporting the development of territorial RRI	CSA
SwafS-19-2018-2019-2020: Taking stock and re examining the role of science communication	RIA
SwafS-23-2020: Grounding RRI in society with a focus on citizen science	CSA
SwafS-27-2020: Hands-on citizen science and frugal innovation (2 sub-topics)	RIA
SwafS-31-2020: Bottom-up approach to build SwafS knowledge base	RIA

2-stage topics	Type of Action
SwafS-01-2018-2019-2020: Open schooling and collaboration on science education	CSA
SwafS-24-2020: Science education outside the classroom	RIA



Research & Innovation Action (RIA)

- Action consisting of activities aiming at establishing new knowledge and/or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution
- 3 entities in a different EU MS or H2020 associated country
- Page limit 70 pages

Coordination & Support Action (CSA)

- Action consisting primarily of accompanying measures (i.e. not focused on research) such as:
- •standardisation, dissemination, awareness-raising and communication, networking, coordination and support services, policy dialogues and mutual learning exercises and studies, including design studies for new infrastructure; and
- may also include complementary activities of strategic planning, networking and coordination between programmes in different countries
- Minimum 1 entity in an EU MS or H2020 associated country
- Page limit 50 pages





H2020 Cross-cutting issues integrated in SwafS WP				
RRI	Gender	Open Science	SSH	International co-operation
SwafS-08 SwafS-09 SwafS-14 SwafS-19 SwafS-23 SwafS-25 SwafS-26 SwafS-27 SwafS-28 SwafS-29 SwafS-30 SwafS-31 SwafS-01 (2S)	SwafS-08 SwafS-14 SwafS-19 SwafS-28 SwafS-29 SwafS-01 (2S) SwafS-24 (2S)	SwafS-08 SwafS-27 SwafS-28 SwafS-29	SwafS-19 SwafS-27	SwafS-27 SwafS-28 SwafS-29 SwafS-30

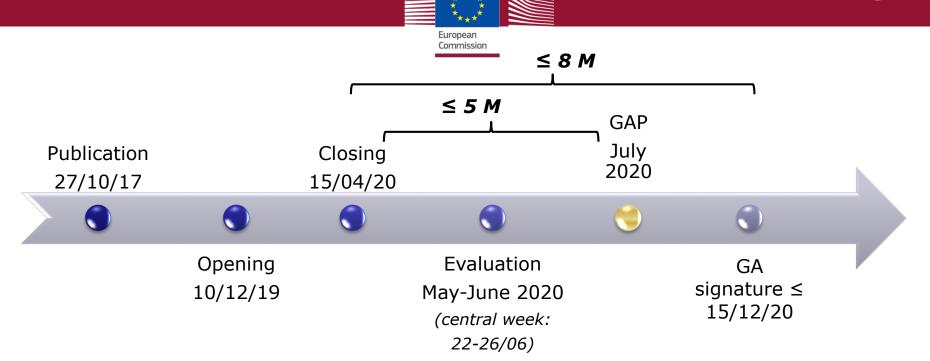
Applicants need to consider these elements in their proposals

RRI, gender, open science, SSH, international cooperation

- FAQs available on how to address these cross cutting priorities and see also the Online Manual
- As stated in the general introduction of the WP, all SwafS topics are expected to support one or more of the <u>Sustainable Development Goals</u>

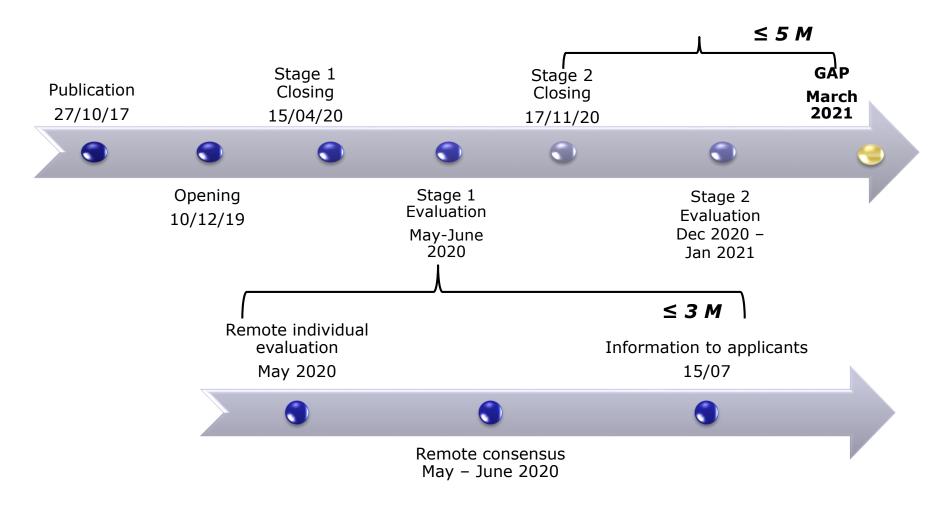


Single





Two-stage





- Based on a peer-review process
- Commission/Agency does not evaluate proposals & assigns independent external experts to assess them
- Evaluation outcome is based on consensus
- All evaluated proposals receive written feedback (ESRs)
- Proposals are evaluated as submitted (not on their potential if certain changes were to be made):
 - Identified **shortcomings are reflected** in lower score
 - **No recommendations** are given
 - There is **no negotiation phase** for successful proposals



Proposals have 2 parts

Both parts need to be assessed

Page limitation for Part B sections 1-3: 50 (CSA) or 70 pgs (RIA)

(excess pages not visible to experts)

No page limit

sections 4-5

Part A

- General Information Abstract
- Participants and contacts
- Budget
- Ethics
- Call specific question(s): Open Research Data Pilot & stage 2 consistency with stage 1 proposal

Part B

- Section 1: Excellence (objectives; relation to WP; concept & approach; etc.)
- Section 2: Impact (expected impacts; measures to maximise impact which include dissemination & exploitation of results and communication activities)
- Section 3: Implementation (work plan; management structure & procedures; consortium; resources)
- Section 4: Members of the consortium
- Section 5: Ethics and security





???

Evaluators

- Evaluate proposals in a fair and independent way
- Submit individual evaluation reports
- Participate in Consensus meetings / Approve Consensus Reports
- Participate in panel review

Rapporteurs

- □ Draft consensus reports (do not evaluate proposals)
- Observe the panel review

Vice-chairs

- Moderate consensus meetings (do not evaluate proposals)
- Quality check individual / consensus / evaluation summary reports
- Observe the panel review

Independent Observer

- Observes the overall evaluation process
- □ Provides advice / improvement suggestions to the REA

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How do we brief experts

- Experts receive the same information as applicants
- Focus on topic specifics
 - Work Programme topic description
 - Note cross-cutting issues published in Portal
 - FAQs published on topic
 - Proposal template
 - > Evaluation criteria

Policy briefing

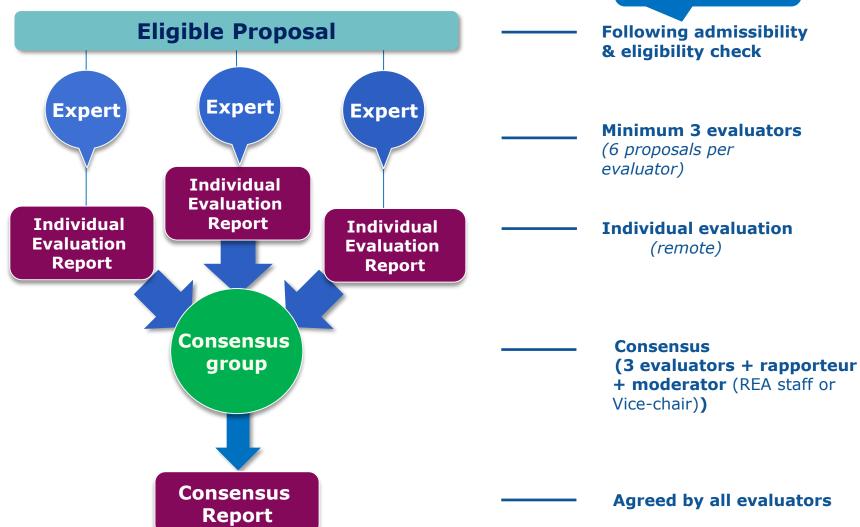
NB: see policy briefing to be published on Portal in December

- Only evaluate what's in the proposal
- Reminder of H2020 'no negotiation' principle: proposal becomes the project
- Process ensures best proposals come out on top



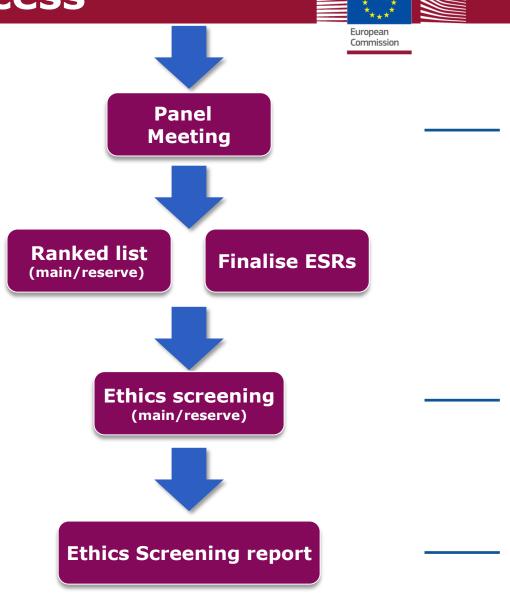


Based on criteria set out in WP General Annexes



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Verify consistency across evaluation Endorse results Prioritise proposals of equal scores Recommend a list of proposals in priority order

(No panel for stage 1 of a 2-stage call)

Main and reserve list proposals Dedicated ethics experts

Ethical requirements-contractual obligation
To be met before and/or after GA signature 16

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Research & Innovation Actions

To the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the topic description in the work programme:

- •Clarity and pertinence of the objectives
- •Soundness of the concept, and credibility of the proposed methodology
- •Extent that proposed work is beyond the state of the art, and demonstrates innovation potential (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models)
- •Appropriate consideration of interdisciplinary approaches and , where relevant, use of stakeholder knowledge and gender dimension in research and innovation content.

Impact

Excellence

- The expected impacts listed in the work programme under the relevant topic
- Any substantial impacts not mentioned in the WP, that would enhance innovation capacity; create new market opportunities, strengthen competitiveness and growth of companies, address issues related to climate change or the environment, or bring other important benefits for society
- Quality of proposed measures to exploit and disseminate project results (including IPR, manage data research where relevant); communicate the project activities to different target audiences

Implementation

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which resources assigned in work packages are in line with objectives/deliverables
- Appropriateness of management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management
- Complementarity of the participants which the consortium as a whole brings together expertise
- Appropriateness of allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfill that role



Coordination & Support Actions

Excellence

To the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the topic description in the work programme:

- •Clarity and pertinence of the objectives
- •Soundness of the concept, and credibility of the proposed methodology
- •Quality of the proposed coordination and/or support measures

Impact

- The extent to which the outputs of the project would contribute to each of the expected impacts mentioned in the work programme under the relevant topic
- · Quality of proposed measures to:
 - Exploit and disseminate project results (including management of IPR) and to manage research data where relevant;
 - Communicate the project activities to different target audiences

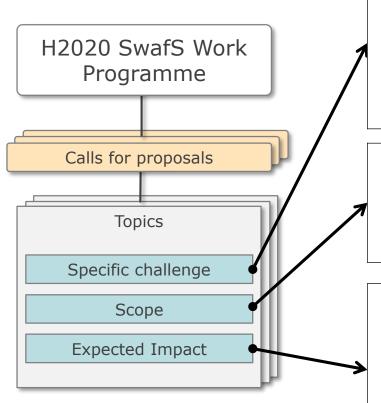
Implementation

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which resources assigned to work packages are in line with objectives/deliverables
- Appropriateness of management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management
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Carefully read WP topic: proposal should answer scope &

expected impacts



The 'problem'

Identifies challenge to be tackled

WP text does not outline the expected solutions to the problem, nor the approach to be taken by the applicant

The 'problem in detail'

Provides more details and indicates the **framework for tackling the challenge**

The 'change' to be achieved

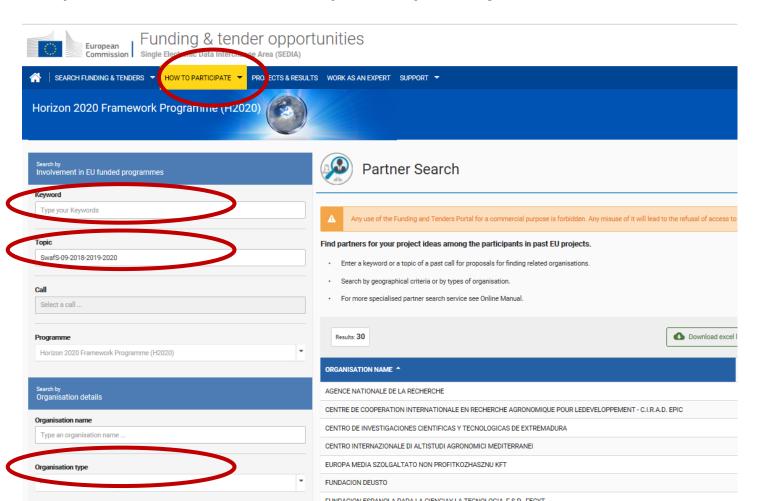
Describes the **impact to be achieved through** the funded project(s)

The **dissemination and exploitation** of project results are vital for the impact



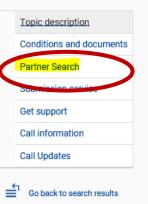


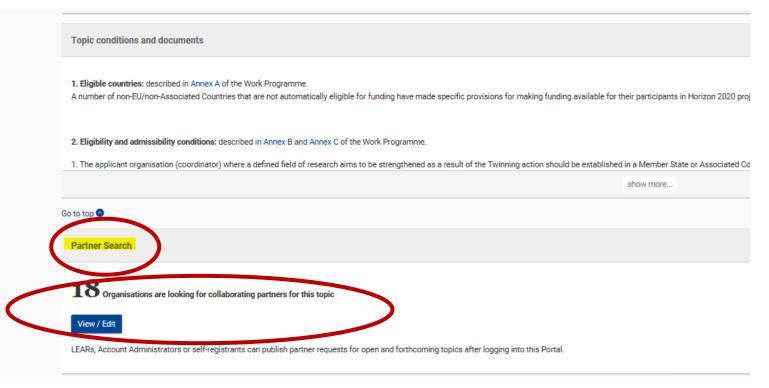
 Partner search: via a <u>general partner search</u> (e.g. to check previous successful participants)





 Partner search: via the <u>call page</u> (e.g. to check those looking for partners for open topic)









- Subscribe for updates in Funding & Tenders Portal
- Policy briefings will be made available in December on the topic page under 'Conditions and documents' – Section 8
- Keep Work Programme topic text in mind throughout
- Ensure cross-cutting priorities are addressed
- Read carefully proposal template and follow template structure and guidance to ensure you address each evaluation sub-criteria





- General Annexes of the WP (general admissibility, eligibility conditions, general evaluation criteria & rules)
- **Completeness**: one section missing ->proposal inadmissible
- Page limit: 70 pages for RIA / 50 pages for CSA
- Partnerships: check eligibility criteria
- Resubmissions: (declared in part A) make sure that proposal fits the topic
- Financial support to third parties in form of grants (no prizes!) and for dedicated topics only (topics 1, 14, 23, 27, 28) Annex K of the WP!
- Additional dissemination obligations for certain topics (topics 19, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30)





- Part A: fill in mandatory fields, validate feature to highlight issues
- One contact person per organisation is mandatory
- LEARs immediately notified, if PIC is used in a proposal
- Access to IT Help via the 'IT HOW To' button on each process page







- For 2-stage calls (Topics 1 & 24), Part B template is different, page limit only 10 pages!
- Download Part B template from Submission system!

 Topics with financial support to third

Excess pages will not be visible to evaluators (could results in proposal being incomplete/inadmissible)

- Consistency between Part A and Parts B of proposal
- When submitting proposal, check correct section uploaded in respective place-holders: 1-3 and 4-5
- Call deadline 15 April 2020 17:00:00 CET: prepare proposal well in advance - don't leave it to last day to submit!





Quality = key to success

Demonstrate WHAT - WHY - HOW!

An **excellent** idea is the basis for a successful proposal but is not sufficient....

See expected impacts section of WP

Proposal becomes project 'no negotiation' principle

The expected **impacts** and **implementation** aspects are as important

The proposal should excel in each of the 3 criterion!





Ethics Legal Basis

Rules for Participation Horizon 2020

Article 13 – Proposals

Article 14 – Ethics Review

Article 18 – Grant Agreement

Article 23 – Implementation of Actions



Grant Agreement Horizon 2020

Article 34 - Ethics

- **34.1** Obligation to comply with ethical principles
- 34.2 Activities raising ethical issues
- 34.3 Activities involving human embryos or hESC

Article 39 – Processing of Personal Data*

^{*}The new General Data Protection Regulation entered into force on 25 May2018.





Ethics appraisal

Ethics Self-Assessment		Ethics Screening	Ethics Assessment	Ethics Checks	
Consortium					
Proposal Preparation	Scientific Evaluation		Grant Preparation	Project Implementation	

Project life cycle





Fill-in the Ethics issues table in Part A in SEP

Lui opeai		
2. HUMANS		Page
Does your research involve human participants?	⊙ Yes ⊜No	
Are they volunteers for social or human sciences research?		36
Are they persons unable to give informed consent?	○Yes • No	
Are they vulnerable individuals or groups?	○Yos ⓒ No	
Are they children/minors?	CYes € No	
Are they patients?	○Yes No	
Are they healthy volunteers for medical studies?	CYes € No	
Ooes your research involve physical interventions on the study participants?	CYes € No	
3. HUMAN CELLS / TISSUES		Page
Does your research involve human cells or tissues (other than from Human Embryos/ Foetuses, i.e. section 1)?	CYes € No	

Read the document 'How to complete your ethics self-assessment': http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/ethics/h2020_hi_ethics-self-assess_en.pdf





For each ethics issue:

If answer is **YES**, update **Section 5.1**, **part B of proposal**:

Include detailed **description** of the identified issue

Describe related project activities

Describe how you plan to address the ethics

issue





Examples:

Does research involve human participants?

If YES in part A, then in Part B Section 5.1:

Typical information to be provided:

Details on recruitment procedures, inclusion and exclusion criteria and informed consent procedures

Does your research involve further processing of previously collected personal data (secondary use)?

If YES in part A, then in Part B Section 5.1

<u>Typical information to be provided:</u>

Details of database used or source of data;

Permissions from the owner/manager of data sets; Confirmation of open public access to the data



What researchers should do....

- Actively seek advice from colleagues with expertise in ethics of research to cater for specific needs/legal environment
- Start thinking (and discussing) about ethics while designing research protocols
- Consider that ethics issues arise in many areas of research beyond obvious medical field e.g. personal data
- Create an ethics-compliant research environment to protect all researchers

As NCPs your role is to **raise awareness** about ethics and encourage applicants to follow the guidance **"how-to complete your ethics self-assessment"** (no need for long essays)



'How to complete your ethics self-assessment':

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants manual/hi/ethics/h2020 hi ethics-self-assess en.pdf

Ethics and data protection

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/ethics/h2020_hi_ethics-data-protection_en.pdf



References



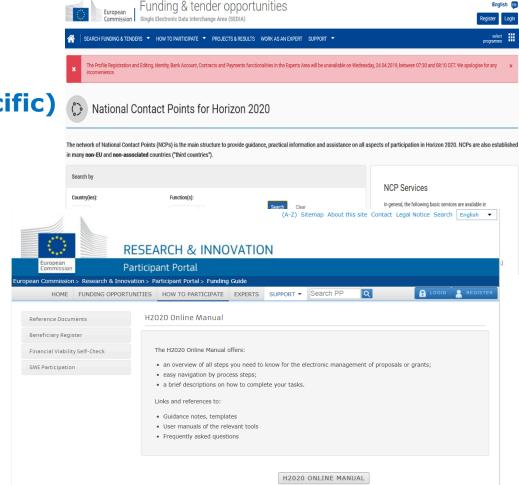
References

Read carefully introduction to WP + topic description

- Work Programme 2018-2020
- Policy briefings

To be published in December in Portal

- FAQs SwafS (topic specific)
- Proposal template
 - CSA
 - RIA
- Your NCP
- H2020 online manual







Thank you for your attention...

Any questions?

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