



NCP_WIDERA.NET project

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NCP_WIDERA.NET: Transnational Network of National Contact Points (NCPs) for Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

Project number: 101055286

Programme: Horizon Europe

Call: HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-NCP-IBA

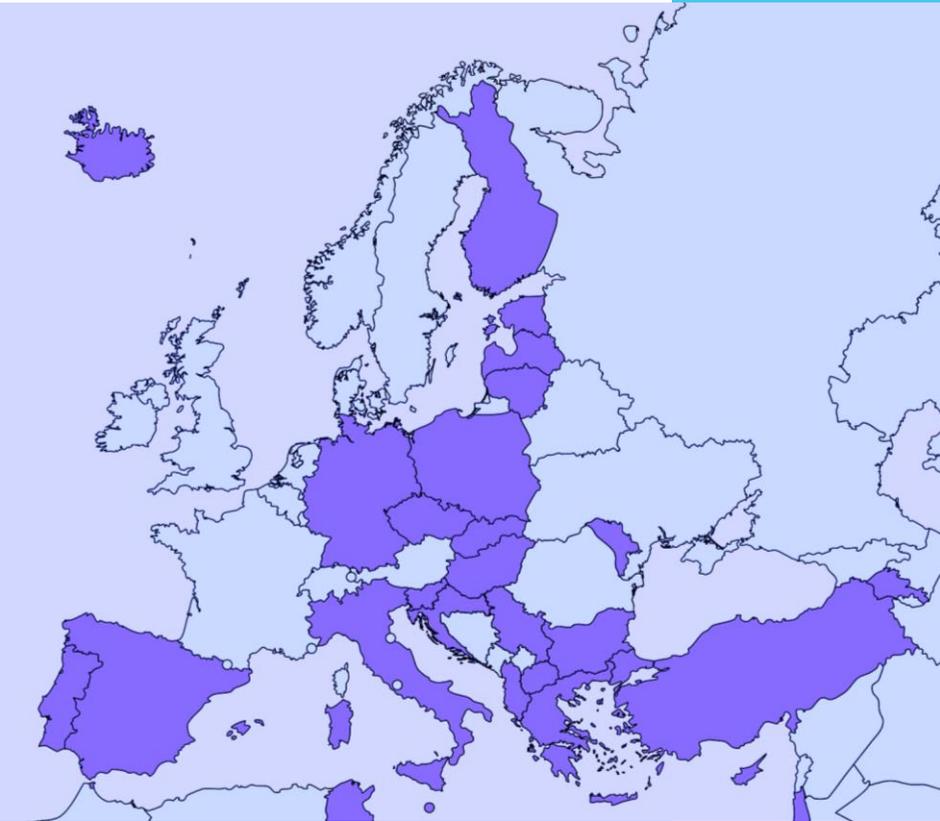
Type of action: Coordination and Support Action (HORIZON-CSA)

Project starting date: 1 April 2022

Project duration: 36 months

Project coordinator: National Centre for Research and Development, Poland

● Project Consortium



MEMBER STATES

Bulgaria | MON
Croatia | AMEUP
Cyprus | RIF
Czechia | TC CAS
Estonia | ETAg
Finland | Suomen Akatemia
Germany | DLR
Greece | FORTH/PRAXI
Hungary | NKFIH
Iceland | RANNIS

Italy | APRE
Latvia | VIAA
Lithuania | RCL
Malta | Xjenza Malta
Poland | NCBR
Portugal | FCT
Slovakia | CVTISR
Slovenia | MIZS
Spain | CSIC
Spain | FECYT

ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES

Albania | NASRI
Armenia | SIPAC
Faroe Islands | GRANSKING
Israel | Innovation Authority
North Macedonia | IZIIS
Moldova | NARD
Serbia | MPNTR
Tunisia | MHESR
Türkiye | TUBITAK



Project objectives

- NCP_WIDERA.NET **supports the capacity and effectiveness of the WIDERA National Contact Points** in low performing Member States and Associated Countries and **fills knowledge gaps to improve access to funding opportunities** under the Framework Programmes.
- The project aims to support **international networking and coordination**, and to **improve the quality of proposals** through better access to services provided by the NCPs during the application process, in particular with regard to Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area, as well as Pillar II actions.
- NCP_WIDERA.NET identifies and **shares good practices** within the NCP community and **raises the standard of support** provided by NCPs to applicants.

● Activities



Workshops on proposal preparation, **Info Days**, and **materials** for applicants in national languages



ERA Knowledge Days and Brokerage Events, Fact Sheets, Policy Briefs, Success Stories, ERA Opportunities document



Meetings for **NCPs**: training, exchange visits and mutual learning workshops; informal meetings: *Friday chat over coffee*



Matchmaking: travel grants for applicants to participate in Pillar II clusters & partnerships brokerage events, as well as **study visits** to advanced partners research institutions



Wideraexperts.eu: portal for NCPs and applicants from Widening countries, where external experts from around the world offer professional **pre-screening of proposals**



Financial Support to Third Parties (FST) call to implement the Advancing Europe Package activities: matchmaking and pre-screening services

Login

E-mail

Please enter e-mail

Password

Please enter password

Remember me

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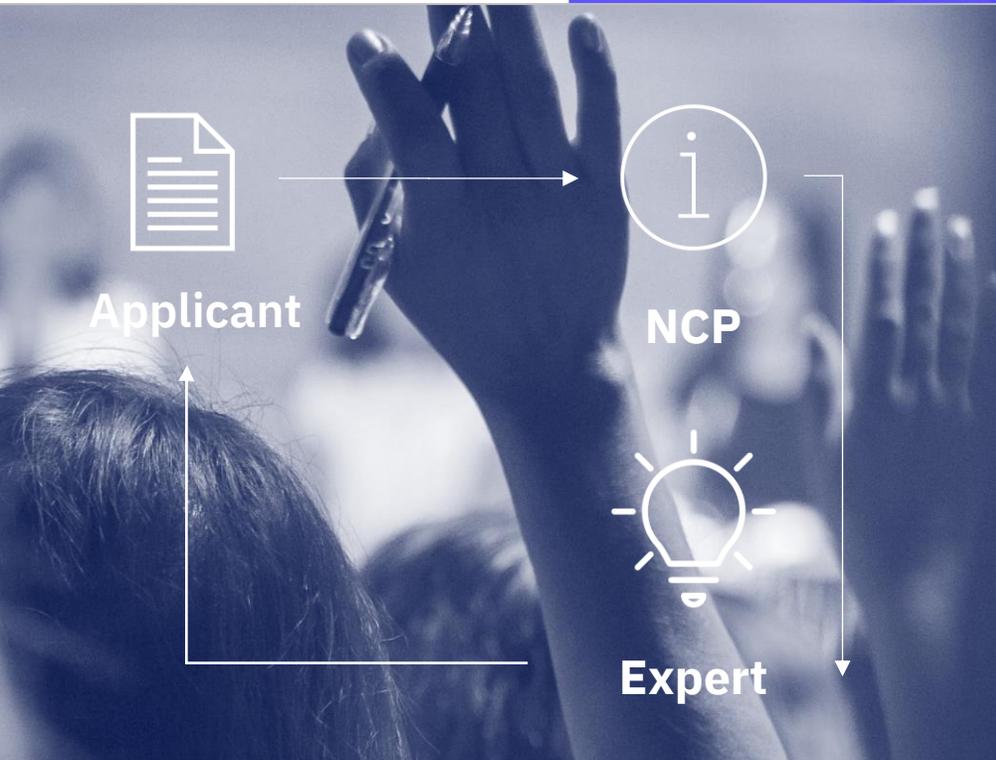


Register



Advancing Europe Package wideraexperts.eu portal

- free-of-charge portal that facilitates the matchmaking of experts from any country with applicants from the Widening countries preparing proposals within the Widening, ERA, Pillar II clusters, Institutionalised European Partnerships, and EIC Pathfinder schemes under the Horizon Europe programme
- the goal is to improve the quality of proposals thanks to the feedback that the applicants receive from the experts.



Users:
900 Experts
137 NCPs
80 pre-screenings
via the portal

The image displays the user interface of the Widera Experts portal. The top left features the logo for NCP_WIDERA.NET. Below it is a sidebar menu with categories: CRM, Applicants, Applications (highlighted), Experts, Keywords, Questionnaires, Translations, SETTINGS, Email, Admins&NCPs, Permissions, and Dictionaries. The main content area is titled 'Applications list' and includes a search bar and a table of applications. The table has columns for No., Program details, Organization, Applicant's details, Applicant's role, Status, Date assigned, Expert assigned, and Assigned by. The table contains six rows of application data. Below the table is a blue banner with the word 'Register' and three circular icons labeled 'Expert', 'Applicant', and 'NCP', each with a corresponding icon.

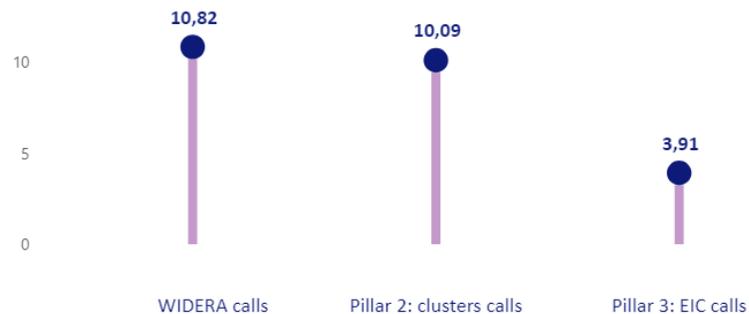
No.	Program details	Organization	Applicant's details	Applicant's role	Status	Date assigned	Expert assigned	Assigned by
	Search	Search	Search	Search	Search	Date from Date to	Search	Search
	Proposal ID: SEP-21...	94535 Saaremaa Est...	+3725515057					
2	[Partnerships] Ins... Call ID: HORIZON-JU... Proposal ID: SEP-21...							
3	[Partnerships] Ins... Call ID: HORIZON-JU... Proposal ID: SEP-21...							
4	[Pillar III EIC] Path... Call ID: HORIZON-EL... Proposal ID: SEP-21...							
5	[Pillar II Cluster 5]... Call ID: HORIZON-CL... Proposal ID: SEP-21...							
6	[WIDERA] Wideni... Call ID: HORIZON-WI... Proposal ID: SEP-21...							

Scores for pre-screened vs not pre-screened proposals (mixed mode)

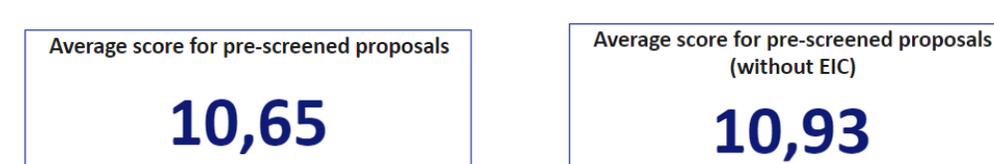
Not pre-screened



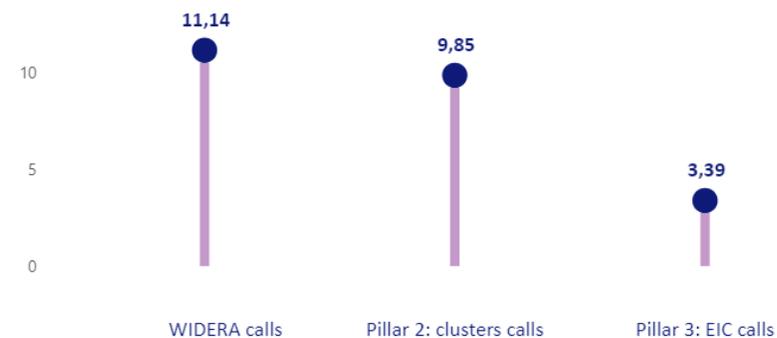
Average score for proposals without pre-screening by call group



Pre-screened



Average score for pre-screened proposals by call group



Pre-screening of proposals



Applicant

- **Coordinator or Work Package Leader** from a Widening country with an advanced proposal (e.g. including description of work packages, consortium almost formed)



NCP

- National Contact Points of the relevant Horizon Europe area (from a Widening country)



Expert

- Experienced professionals with a high level of expertise in the field that corresponds to Pillar II of the Horizon Europe programme
- **From any country**

<https://www.ncpwideranet.eu/wideraexperts/>

Pre-screening of proposals

Register as Applicant and then register your proposal at <https://wideraexperts.eu/>:

- indicate the relevant area of Horizon Europe
- select the keywords – as many as you see relevant - **matchmaking** between the proposal and the expert is done based on the **keywords**
- indicate the call ID and the proposal ID (from F&T)
- provide the summary of your proposal and other relevant information

MY SUBMISSIONS

New submission

Pre-proposal check preferences

Select the parts of the Horizon Europe program for which you agree to perform pre-screening:

[Pillar II Cluster 6] Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Select the keywords that describe your proposal

Water resources

Nature Based Solutions x Water management x Sustainability x Cost efficiency x drought x climate adaptation x Biodiversity Strategy x

Water resources x

Select the call ID you are planning to submit your proposal

HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01

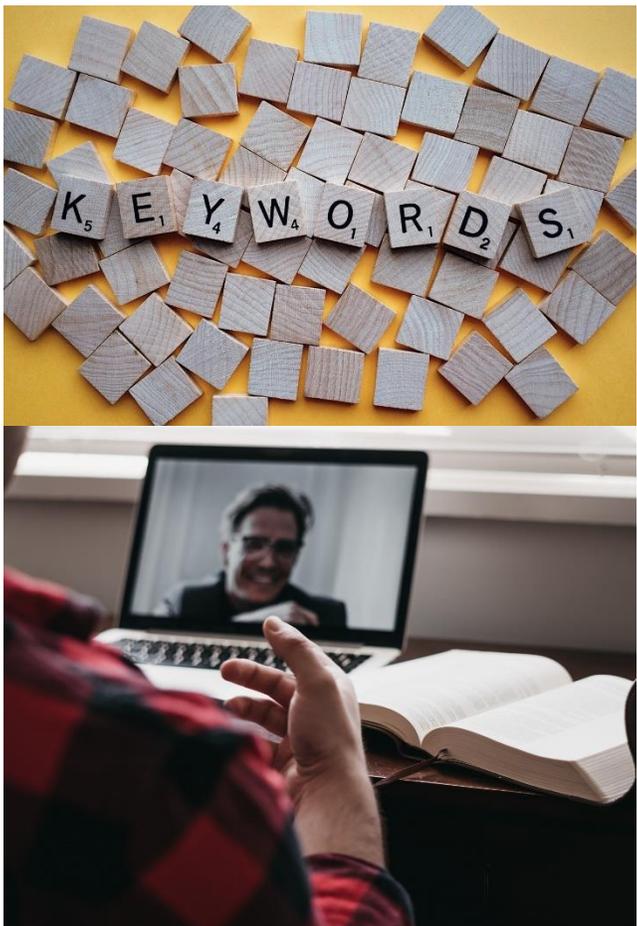
Proposal ID

Description of your proposal

Other information that can be helpful match the right expert to your proposal

Submit

Pre-screening of proposals



- NCP organisation **signs the contract** with the expert, which includes **confidentiality clauses**
- **Pre-screening**: analysis of the proposal and online consultations
- **Written recommendations** from the expert how to improve the proposal
- **Remuneration** for the service (up to 600 EUR) paid by the NCP organization from the NCP_WIDERA.NET project budget

● Feedback from the applicants

(...) We got **very helpful recommendations** regards both the research part and both the impact and other parts of the proposal. In our case we had a meeting with our NCPs as well and it was **definitely worth to have more people involved**.

The service **helped enormously** the team preparing the Twinning proposal. Since the team had no experience with preparation of a proposal in Horizon Europe, the **evaluator's comments helped a lot to understand the requirements of the call**, the sense of the information to be provided in each section of the proposal and the role of the evaluator.

The service **significantly contributes to the quality of the proposal**. It is, in my view, **one of the most effective ways how to help** coordinators from Widening countries to close the gap with regard to their experienced counterparts.

Very useful service, especially for those with low experience in handling EU projects.

The reviewer provided **comprehensive feedback on the Excellence and Impact Sections**, covering not only **technical aspects but also market perspectives**. Our interaction lasted over 4 hours and **greatly enhanced our proposal across all areas**.

Extremely good. Despite the short deadline, the **expert was very efficient** in providing me with the **relevant feedback**. (...) Very good initiative, it **should be made permanent service**.

The **expert assigned was very qualified**, gave very **interesting remarks and feedback**. (...)The expert has the arts & crafts & history & culture background, **very high level of knowledge**.

The **interface is client oriented**, very clear and simple. The work of the **expert was very professional and well structured**. The **communication of the recommendations was also very clear**, no ambiguities.

Advancing Europe Package Matchmaking

→ Travel grants programmes to support participation of applicants from the Widening countries to Pillar II clusters & partnerships brokerage events organised on-site launched by 21 partners: Armenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain – Canary Islands, Tunisia Türkiye

LEITAT

Innovation Procurement and Horizon Europe City Mission & CL5
Brokerage event | 10 & 11 October, 2024 | Barcelona

**Secure Societies 2024:
Horizon Europe Cluster 3
Brokerage Event in Istanbul**

April 30, 2024 | İstanbul, Türkiye

Horizon Europe Digital technologies brokerage event
October 30, 14.00-18.00 (EET), ATTA CENTRE (Kırsatı 60)

5G TECHTRITY

FOCUS ON TOPICS:

- Telco Edge Cloud deployments and 5G Networks
- Quantum Technologies and Quantum Computing
- Semiconductors
- Robotics
- AI and Generative AI
- Next Generation Computing Technologies
- Advanced Sensor Technologies
- Virtual Worlds
- High-Performance Computing

EVENT SESSIONS:
TO MAXIMIZE ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Info session
- Pitching session
- Matchmaking session

Participation is free of charge. Register until OCT 29 or until all spots are filled. www.ncpwidernet.eu/travel-grants/travel-grants-are-available
MORE INFO & REGISTRATION: www.b2match.com/e/horizon-europe-digital-brokerage-event

Event is part of 5G Techtrity Forum and is organized as a co-creation event by:

Matchmaking

- Up to 1,000 EUR to reimburse the travel expenses
- Easy application process:
 - Application form
 - Confirmation of registration
 - Follow-up form
- List of upcoming brokerage events available at <https://www.ncpwideranet.eu/brokerage-events/>

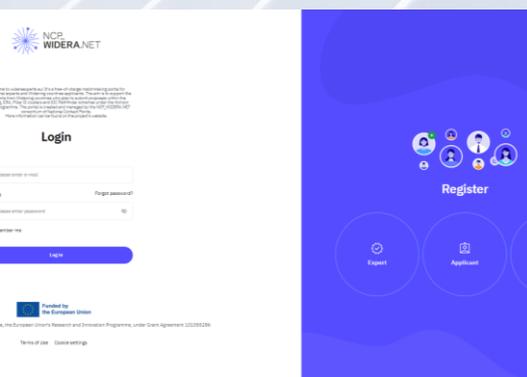
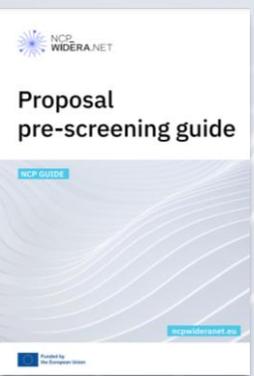


Advancing Europe Package

Study visits

- 1st study visit for Research Managers and Administrators (RMAs) was held on **14-16 February 2024** at the **Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia** (Spain)
- 2nd study visit for RMAs was organised on **14-16 May 2024** at **Tampere University** (Finland)
- 3rd study visit for RMAs was held on 26-28 June 2024 at consortium of **Spanish Institutions in Health – Environment** (ICM/CSCI, IDAEA/CSIC, ISGlobal, VHIO)
- 4th study visit for Researchers was organised on **25-27 September 2024** at **University of Turku** (Finland)
- Upcoming study visits at and **German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence** (DFKI)
- A grant up to 1,000 EUR to reimburse the travel expenses





Contact

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