



COMP-ECO

PROJECT DELIVERABLE

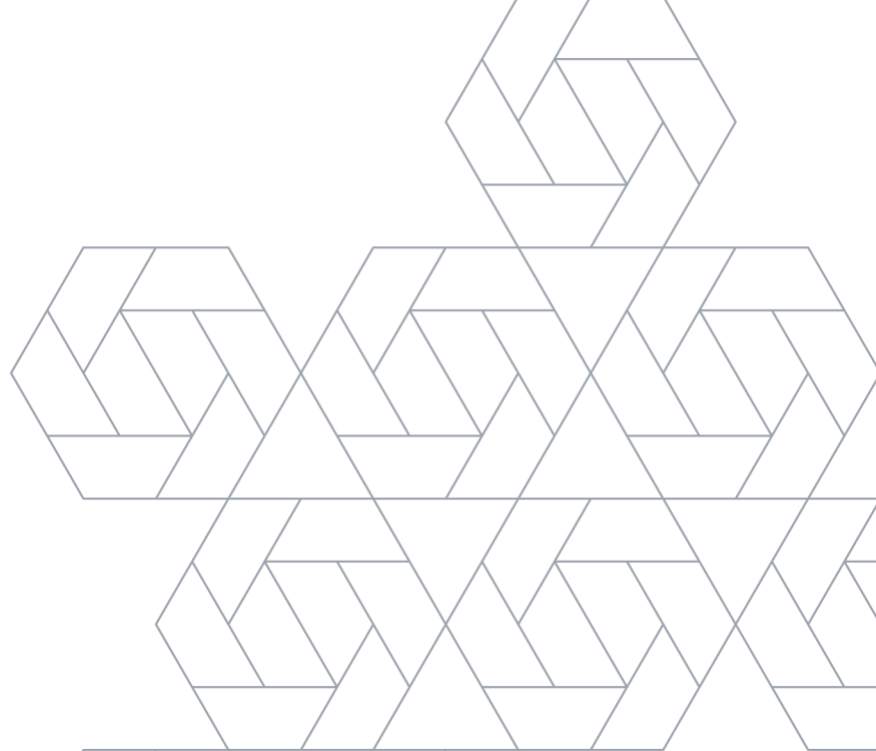
D4.1 REPORT AND MATERIALS FROM WORKSHOP ON PREPARING FOR HORIZON EUROPE AND OTHER FUNDING SCHEMES, AND ON PROPOSAL WRITING

LEAD BENEFICIARY:	TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITAET DRESDEN (TUD)
AUTHOR(S):	Katrin Freudenberg (TUD), Claudia Hawke (TUD)
CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Anna Zmiievska (TPF)
DATE OF ISSUE:	31.07.2023
DISSEMINATION LEVEL:	public

<https://www.comp-eco.eu/>



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101079250



DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version and date	Changes
1.0 – 26/07/2023	First version, developed by Katrin Freudenberg (TU Dresden)
1.1 – 27/07/2023	Reviewed and edited by Anna Zmiiievaska (TPF)
2.0 – 31/07/2023	Reviewed and approved by Michal Towpik (TPF)
3.0 – 24/06/2024	Edited by Anna Zmiiievaska (TPF): section 4 updated and section 5 added
3.1 – 25/06/2024	Reviewed and edited by Katrin Freudenberg (TU Dresden) in section 4 and section 5

DISCLAIMER

This document reflects only the author's view and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

This document contains information which is proprietary to the COMP-ECO consortium. Neither this document nor the information contained herein shall be used, duplicated or communicated by any means to any third party, in whole or parts, except with the prior written consent of the COMP-ECO coordinator or partner on behalf of the project consortium.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101079250



COMP-ECO

CONTENTS

1. Introduction	2
1.1. About the COMP-ECO project.....	2
1.2. Scope of this deliverable.....	2
2. Report on workshops	3
2.1. Background of the workshops.....	3
2.3. Approach and focus of workshops.....	3
2.4. Participants	4
2.5. Agenda of the workshops.....	4
2.6. Impressions.....	6
3. Workshop material.....	8
4. Evaluation of the workshop and outlook.....	17
5. Summary.....	18

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. ABOUT THE COMP-ECO PROJECT

The COMP-ECO project is aiming at improving the research excellence of the Polish Mazovia region-based ecosystem in the field of Fibre-Reinforced Polymer (FRP) multifunctional composites and smart structures. The ecosystem is formed by 3 organizations: Technology Partners Foundation (TPF), Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) and Warsaw University of Technology (WUT). These 3 Polish partners will be supported by two leading EU universities: Delft University of Technology from the Netherlands and Technische Universität Dresden from Germany.

For 3 years the COMP-ECO partners jointly implement exploratory research work to develop a technology for a permanent on-line non-destructive quality assessment of composite structures. For this purpose, 2 possible innovative sensing capabilities are being developed: (1) self-diagnostics capabilities through the introduction of electroconductive carbon nano tubes in the composite's matrix during the manufacturing process and (2) self-sensing capability through embedding PZT sensors, encapsulated in a thermoplastic fibrous material (veils), in the composite structure.

In addition to the research work, the project will organize technical workshops aimed on raising the research profile of Mazovian composite community, and management and administrative training workshops to strengthen research management capacities and administrative skills of the Polish partners' administrative staff.

The COMP-ECO activities will establish and strengthen a regional competence hub formed by TPF, AFIT and WUT, whose increased science and innovation capacities will lead to more ambitious collaboration with top EU research organisations and industry, higher participation in Horizon Europe, and a more attractive educational offer for students and young researchers.

1.2. SCOPE OF THIS DELIVERABLE

The scope of this deliverable is to provide a comprehensive overview of the organised series of workshops on Horizon Europe in general and proposal writing for Horizon Europe that took place in Warsaw in June 2023. The report encompasses selected materials prepared for and generated during the workshops which could be used for further trainings of staff and students of the consortium partners, but also disseminated externally.

This document constitutes a short report on these two workshops. The following sections of this deliverable include:

- the background of the workshop;
- the approach and focus of the workshop;

- an overview on the level of experience of the participants;
- a short photo protocol about the materials used and produced on-site;
- an assessment of the follow-up feedback given by the workshop participants.

2. REPORT ON WORKSHOPS

2.1. BACKGROUND OF THE WORKSHOPS

Polish institutions have a very low number of H2020 participations and a very low number of H2020 project co-ordinations. This is partly due to: (1) the lack of leadership in topics interesting to the international research community, (2) the low level of networking with high profile institutions willing to join a consortium led by a Polish co-ordinator, but also to (3) lack of skills and resources necessary for efficient, effective and successful proposal writing and co-ordination. While the first two reasons are addressed by other WPs of the COMP-ECO project, the WP4 focuses among others on proposal preparation and co-ordination skills.

In June 2023, a series of workshops on Horizon Europe in general and proposal writing for Horizon Europe was organized in Warsaw. The two workshops were delivered by partner TUD (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany). The workshops took place in Warsaw, Poland, on June 19-21, 2023. The trainers Claudia Hawke and Katrin Freudenberg belong both to the European Project Center (EPC), which is a unit of TUD's Directorate for Research. The European Project Center was established in 2005 to support international project management throughout all phases of EU-funded projects. TU Dresden team of experts has been successfully providing advice and support for EU-funded projects in a wide range of programmes, for example Horizon Europe, Horizon 2020, FP7, Erasmus+, TEMPUS, LLP, ESF and INTERREG.

2.3. APPROACH AND FOCUS OF WORKSHOPS

The two workshops were aimed to strengthen the research management capacities and administrative skills of researchers and admin staff of COMP-ECO Project Partners: Technology Partners Foundation, Warsaw University of Technology and Airforce Institute of Technology. The training was designed by applying a mix of collaborative and interactive methods allowing the participants to actively participate and to cope consciously with their own, needs and challenges, required knowledge and skills.

Accordingly, the focus of the workshops was as follows:

- Day 1, 19th June 2023: Presentation of different funding lines in Horizon Europe, Partnerships in Horizon Europe and further funding possibilities.
- Day 2 and Day 3, 20th and 21st June 2023: From project idea to the project proposal: How to write a competitive proposal for Horizon Europe.

2.4. PARTICIPANTS

23 participants took part in the workshops, and 3 more had connected online. They got a comprehensive overview of the funding opportunities and programme rules, and actively engaged in various practical exercises centred around developing proposals sections for specific calls. The workshop participants had very different levels of experience. Some participants already had experience with projects funded under Horizon Europe or with proposals prepared for Horizon Europe calls. Others only had experience with Horizon 2020 projects and applications or with national calls and projects. Table 1 shows the different level of experience of the participants attending the two workshops.

Organization	Position	Experience in HEU (excluding COMP-ECO)		Experience H2020, FP7, etc ²		Experience in national funding programmes	
		Proposal	Funded Project	Proposal	Funded Project	Proposal	Funded Project
AFIT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	N	Y
AFIT	senior researcher	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
AFIT	senior researcher	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
AFIT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	N	N
AFIT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	N	N
AFIT	senior researcher	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y
AFIT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	N	N
AFIT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	N	N
AFIT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	N	N
AFIT	senior researcher	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
AFIT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y
AFIT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	N	Y
TPF	senior researcher	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WUT	early stage researcher	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WUT	senior researcher	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
WUT	senior researcher	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
WUT	early stage researcher	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WUT	senior researcher	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
WUT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
WUT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
WUT	early stage researcher	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
TPF	senior manager	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
TPF	senior manager	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
TPF	senior manager	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
TPF	senior manager	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Table 1: Participants of the workshops

2.5. AGENDA OF THE WORKSHOPS

With its professional expertise behind the university, partner TUD offered two workshops with the following agenda:

Day 1: 9am to 4pm

HEU in general + different funding lines

- Introduction
- Horizon Europe in a nutshell (including general objectives, budget, general structure, different funding lines in general)
- ERC and MSCA
- EIC and funding opportunities in Cluster 4 + 5

EU Partnerships + M-ERA + COST ACTION

- EU Partnerships
- Process4Planet, Clean Aviation, Europe's Rail, Batt4EU, Clean Hydrogen, 2ZeroEmission, Circular bio-based Europe, EIC Manufacturing, EIC Raw materials
- M-ERA.Net
- COST-ACTION

HEU – Strategic Plan and Lobbying

- How to find a topic? Where to find WPs / Calls?
- HEU – From Strategic Plan to Work Programme
- HEU – Networking / Lobbying
- How to lobby for HEU / my project idea?

Day 2: 9am to 4.30pm

Proposal Writing - How to get started? How to build a consortium?

- How to analyze my topic?
- How to find consortium partners? Which roles are needed in the project? How do I make a stakeholder analysis?

Proposal Writing- Objectives and pathway to impact

- Identify your objectives for the selected topic / your project idea.
- What's is your project's pathway to impact?

Proposal Writing- Pathway to impact and measures to maximize impact

- Identify the impact of your project.
- How to maximize the expected impact?

Day 3: 9am to 12.45pm

Proposal Writing - Develop your work plan

- WP description
- GANTT chart

Proposal Writing - Analyze of potential risks and cross-cutting issues

Proposal Writing - Tipps and tricks, Next Steps

Table 2 shows the agenda of the workshops including the timeline.













 <p>Preparing for Horizon Europe & Proposal Writing Workshop</p> <p>Agenda</p> 	<p>Preparing for Horizon Europe Monday, June 19th</p> <p>9am to 10.30am: HEU in general + different funding lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizon Europe in a nutshell • ERC and MSCA • ERC and Cluster 4 + 5 <p>10.30am to 10.45am: Coffee break</p> <p>10.45am to 12.15pm: EU Partnerships + M-ERA + COST ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Partnerships • M-ERA.Net • COST-ACTION  
<p>Preparing for Horizon Europe Monday, June 19th</p> <p>12.15pm to 1.15pm: Lunch</p> <p>1.15pm to 2.45pm: HEU - STRATEGIC PLAN + LOBBYING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to find a topic? Where to find WPs / Calls? • HEU - From Strategic Plan to Work Programme • HEU - Networking / Lobbying <p>2.45pm to 3.00pm: Coffee break</p> <p>3pm to 4pm: GROUP WORK</p> <p>Group work: Project ideas for topic HORIZON-CLS-2023-03-02-15</p>  	<p>Proposal Writing Tuesday, June 20th</p> <p>9am to 10.45am:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • Analyze your HEU topic • Consortium building <p>10.45am to 11am: Coffee break</p> <p>11am to 12.30pm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define your objectives (SMART objectives) • Your pathway to impact - part 1 <p>12.30pm to 1.30pm: Lunch break</p>  
<p>Proposal Writing Tuesday, June 20th</p> <p>1.30pm to 3.15pm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your pathway to impact - part 2 • Measures to maximize impact <p>3.15pm to 3.30pm: Coffee break</p> <p>3.30pm to 4.30pm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop your work plan - part 1 • Wrap-up  	<p>Proposal Writing Wednesday, June 21st</p> <p>9am to 10.20am:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop your work plan - part 2 • Analyse potential risks • Addressing cross-cutting issues <p>10.20am to 10.40am: Coffee break</p> <p>10.40am to 12.45pm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tips and tricks • Next Steps • Wrap-up / Feedback  

Table 2: Agenda of the workshops

2.6. IMPRESSIONS

All participants took part very actively and engaged in the two workshops. The following pictures give a short impression of the two workshops that took place in Warsaw.

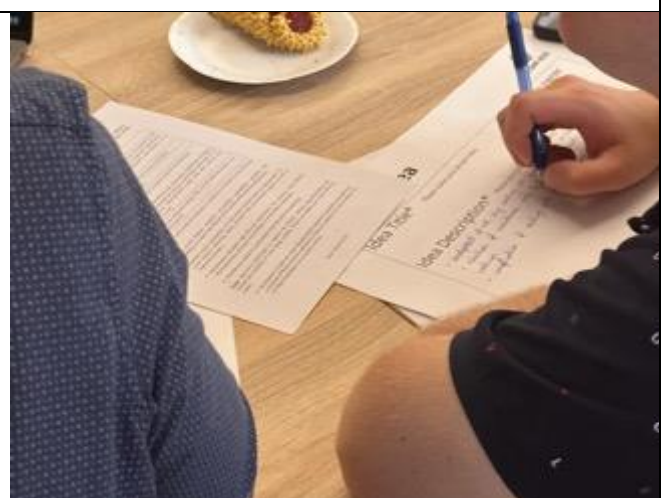




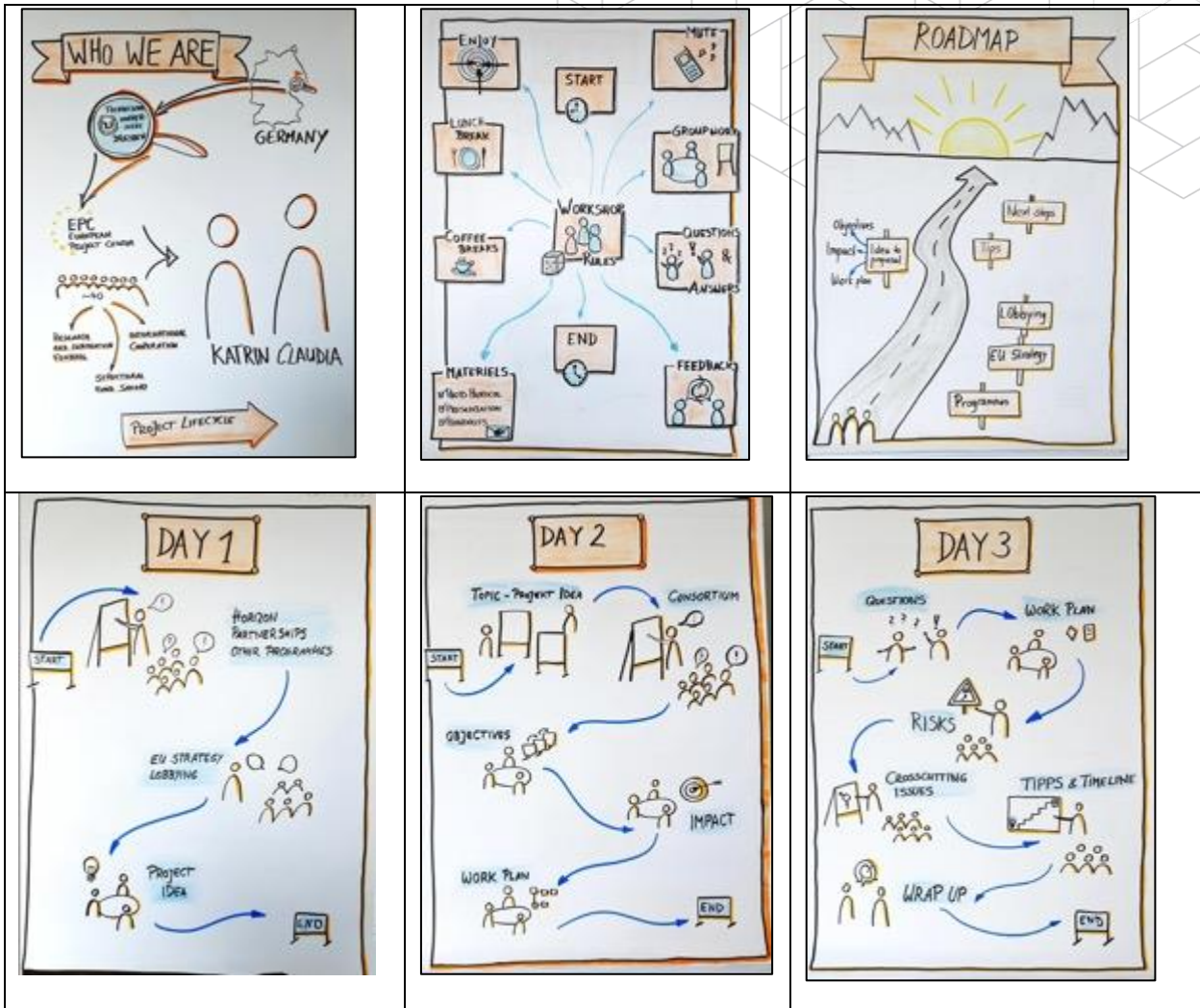
Table 3: Impressions of the workshops

3. WORKSHOP MATERIAL

The training was designed by applying a mix of collaborative and interactive methods, including presentations and a series of group works. Many of the exercises were conducted with an eye toward preparing a proposal for a selected Horizon Europe topic.


To effectively disseminate the workshop's outcomes and facilitate access for engineers, scientists, and researchers an open-access repository is established on the COMP-ECO webpage: <https://www.comp-eco.eu/open-repository> . The materials from the Workshops can be found at this dedicated page: <https://www.comp-eco.eu/workshop-on-horizon>

This repository will serve as a comprehensive platform for sharing state-of-the-art knowledge, not only among the participating partners but also with researchers around the world. It will feature the workshop presentations and supplementary teaching materials. These valuable resources are readily available and easily accessible to a diverse audience seeking to enhance their understanding of the topic.




Networking / lobbying

How could you lobby for your project idea / Horizon Programme?



Your aim of lobbying?	Who?	How? Which channel?	Next steps?

Project Idea



<p>Idea Title* Please name your project idea.</p>	<p>Idea owner</p> <p>Name*</p> <p>Institution*</p> <p>Profession:</p> <p>Background:</p>
<p>Idea Description* Please describe your idea in keywords.</p>	
<p>Ranking</p>	

* Mandatory

Partners / Stakeholders

What are the target groups for your project idea?



Project idea title:	Idea owner Name: Institution:
---------------------	-------------------------------------

Target group	Interest in	Role in project / possible benefit and/or concern?

Project Objectives



Project idea title:	Idea owner Name: Institution:
---------------------	-------------------------------------

Overall goal

Specific objectives

-
-
-
-
-

Pathway to impact

What is your project's pathway to impact?



Project idea title:	Idea owner Name: Institution:
---------------------	-------------------------------------

Specific need	Expected results	Outcomes (check topic)	Impacts (check destinations)

Measures to maximize impact

What are your dissemination/exploitation/communication activities?



Project idea title:	Idea owner Name: Institution:
---------------------	-------------------------------------

Target group	Channel	Message/Results	KPI (Key Performance Indicators)

Develop your work plan

Work packages



Project idea title:	Idea owner Name: Institution:
---------------------	-------------------------------------

Develop your work plan

What are potential risks in your project?



Project idea title:	Idea owner Name: Institution:
---------------------	-------------------------------------

Potential risk	Likelihood	Severity	Mitigation measures


<p>PROPOSAL PART B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Excellence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 Objectives 12 Methodology 2 Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 Pathway 22 Measures to maximize impact 23 Summary 3 Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31 Work plan and resources 32 Consortium as a whole 	<p>CONSORTIUM BUILDING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expertise Geographic area European vs. Non-European Type of organisation Experience Roles, position Resources Personnel costs rate
<p>FROM IDEA TO SUBMISSION</p> 	

Table 5: Impressions of group work done by all participants

26.07.2023



Horizon Europe and other Funding Opportunities
Content and Structure
16.11.2022
Workshop 3



WORKSHOP AGENDA
Preparing for Horizon Europe

1. Welcome & Introduction
2. Horizon Europe
3. Horizon Europe
4. Horizon Europe
5. Horizon Europe
6. Horizon Europe
7. Horizon Europe
8. Horizon Europe

26.07.2023



HORIZON EUROPE
Structure


Pillar I: Excellent Science
Pillar II: Global Challenges & European Research Infrastructure
Pillar III: Knowledge & Innovation Partnerships



HORIZON EUROPE
Structure


Pillar I: Excellent Science
Pillar II: Global Challenges & European Research Infrastructure
Pillar III: Knowledge & Innovation Partnerships

26.07.2023



HEU FUNDING LINES
Different types


Individual
Collaboration
Research & Innovation



HEU FUNDING LINES
Different types


Top-down
Bottom-up
Research & Innovation

26.07.2023



HEU FUNDING LINES
Different types


Research & Innovation
Research & Innovation
Research & Innovation



HEU FUNDING LINES
Different types

Research & Innovation
Research & Innovation
Research & Innovation

EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL
5 Funding lines



EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL
5 Funding lines

1) Starting Grants
• 1st career grant for researchers
• 1-3 years, up to €1.5 million
• 100% EU funding

2) Consolidator Grants
• 2nd career grant for researchers
• 1-3 years, up to €1.5 million
• 100% EU funding

3) Advanced Grants
• 3rd career grant for researchers
• 1-3 years, up to €2.5 million
• 100% EU funding

4) Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellowships
• 1st career grant for researchers
• 1-3 years, up to €2 million
• 100% EU funding

5) Synergy Grants
• 2nd career grant for researchers
• 1-3 years, up to €2.5 million
• 100% EU funding

3

MICA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS – DIFFERENT TYPES

1) European Postdoctoral Fellowship

- 12 months research stay in Europe (EU/EEA)
- Postdoctoral research of any nationality or origin
- Researcher must already hold the mobility grant
- Researcher must submit a proposal to participate in the next call
- Max. 100 positions in the last 2 years (2019 to date)



MICA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS – DIFFERENT TYPES

2) Global Postdoctoral Fellowship

- Researcher with PhD (not necessarily an MSc) from non-EU/EEA country
- Working Phase: 12 months in the host institution (at least 1 month on-site)
- Return Phase: 6 months in the home country (at least 1 month on-site)
- Max. 100 positions in the last 2 years (2019 to date)

4

FUNDING LINES WITH OPEN CALLS
European Investment Council (EIC)

The EIC is a European flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale up innovative ideas and projects.



1) EIC Accelerator
• Early stage technology research
• Starts: 1 July 2019
• Max. 100 positions in the last 2 years (2019 to date)

2) EIC Transition
• Technology commercialisation
• Starts: 1 July 2019
• Max. 100 positions in the last 2 years (2019 to date)

3) EIC Pilot
• Research and innovation
• Starts: 1 July 2019
• Max. 100 positions in the last 2 years (2019 to date)

EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL
EIC PARTNERS

- Supports the development of bold ideas for radically new technologies and potentially high-impact
- Addresses high-risk, high-growth and transformational cutting-edge research challenges
- Give Horizon a shot at private sector
- Supports early stage projects with potential to address social, scientific and industrial grand challenges
- Provides expertise, financial resources of researchers and other partners from all across Europe (non-EU/EEA)
- 100:1:4
- Open to (scientific) challenges or challenges from defined areas of research
- Researcher/Innovation proposition can be e.g. scientist, student

5

FUNDING LINES WITH TOP-DOWN CALLS
Pillar 2 – Cluster 4 & 5

100 TOPIC CLUSTERS



HORIZON EUROPE
Funding & Tendering Portal



6

26.07.2023



HORIZON EUROPE
Funding & Tenders Portal

FIND THE RIGHT CALL
Second Level Approach: Work Programmes

Find out what is possible and possible work programmes

Funded by the European Union

26.07.2023



EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS
A new approach to European Cooperation

- Partnership approach to address key strategic objectives
- Delivery types
 - Partnership with Member States
 - Partnership with universities, national or regional centres
 - Partnership with research organisations, SMEs and start-ups in each country
 - International European Partnerships
 - Strategic international cooperation
 - Publication of work programme jointly authored



EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS
Today's focus




Funded by the European Union

26.07.2023



OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
M-ERA.NET - General information

- Aims to fund ambitious transnational RTO projects addressing materials research & innovation covering materials for batteries & low carbon energy technologies
- Intensive to co-fund international R&D projects between partners receiving funding from regional/national programmes



OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
M-ERA.NET - Overview

- Small to medium sized research (2-6 partners on average per proposal) are selected
- Cooperation and proposal writing needed: "Real co-funded" projects
 - Co-funded projects
 - Small and medium sized consortia
 - Financial management dedicated to the partners involved
- More options for bigger international joint projects

Funded by the European Union

26.07.2023



OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
M-ERA.NET - Call 2022 - See Topics

- Technological and social innovation for energy
- Next generation materials for industrial electronics
- Advanced materials and technologies for health applications
- Advanced materials, modelling and simulation
- High performance computing
- Functional materials



OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
COST

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a pan-European intergovernmental framework dedicated to European-based S&T research activities aiming at allowing their participants to jointly develop their ideas, and new research areas of scientific disciplines through trans-European coordination of nationally or otherwise funded research activities.

Funded by the European Union

26.07.2023

STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2024

- The **General Science Strategy Plan 2021-2024** adopted in March 2021
- Key Strategic orientations for research and innovation support and their expected impacts
- Identification of European co-funded and co-programmed partnerships
- Identification of EU priorities
- Areas of international cooperation
- Initiatives for specific issues like gender, the EU economy and other cross-cutting issues

STRATEGIC PLAN Key strategic orientations

Key Strategic Orientation 1 Support for excellence through leading international research networks, with a particular emphasis on excellence in the field of high-impact research and innovation	Key Strategic Orientation 2 Strengthen research excellence and leadership, and supporting excellence in the field of high-impact research and innovation
Key Strategic Orientation 3 Address Europe's key digital, industrial, societal and environmental challenges and priorities	Key Strategic Orientation 4 Strengthen international research networks, with a particular emphasis on excellence in the field of high-impact research and innovation

26.07.2023

EUROPEAN COMMISSION PRIORITIES 6 priorities for 2019-24



STRATEGIC PLAN 2021 - 2027 Main Phases

- Creating the analytical foundation for the post-2020 plan and consulting stakeholders (Q1-2020)
- Shaping the Strategy Plan (Q2-Q4 2020) by Strategic Programme Committee
- Call high level expert groups (Q4 2020)
- Adopted Strategy Plan (Q1 2021)
- Publication Strategy Plan (Q3 2021)
- Adopted WP 2020/2021 (Q4 2021)

26.07.2023

EU LEGISLATION

Important actions in legislative procedures



HORIZON EUROPE

Important actions



26.07.2023

ASSOCIATIONS FOR Universities / Research Institutions



ASSOCIATIONS FOR RTDs

EARTO - an example

- Founded in 1999
- Promotes Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs) and represents their interests in Europe
- Network counts over 200 RTOs in more than 30 countries
- Members represent 150,000 of highly skilled researchers and engineers managing a wide range of technology infrastructures
- Members' technologies cover all scientific fields
- Their work ranges from basic research to new products and services development





 	 
---	---

Table 6: Extract from the presentations shown during the workshops

4. EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP AND OUTLOOK

The Proposal Writing Workshop included a practical exercises. The participants had been asked in advanced to select the call topic of potential interest for all 3 Polish partners.

The following topic under Cluster 5 had been selected: HORIZON-CL5-2023-D3-02-15 "Critical technologies to improve the lifetime, efficient decommissioning and increase the circularity of offshore and onshore wind energy systems", Namely the 2 areas from the topic scope were of interest:

- Development of improved, more damage-tolerant materials (composites and adhesives) considering different external conditions in which the materials are used (consider very low/high temperatures, ice, corrosion, erosion).
- Alternatives in materials/new advanced materials.

During the workshop the trainers helped to analyze the topic in detail, and the participants worked in groups to implement the practical exercises on stakeholder analysis, formulation of project objectives, impact, and work plan.

In the "Horizon Europe and other funding opportunities" workshop, participants also used practical exercises to analyse which funding lines and instruments were particularly suitable and promising for their institutions and employees. They also analysed whether and to what extent active participation in partnerships and associations such as CESAER and EARTO could be helpful in developing their own networks.

Following the workshop, feedback was obtained from all participants. The majority of participants were very satisfied with the two workshops, both with the content of the workshop and the organization of the workshop. The different exercises were evaluated very positively and as profitable by the participants. In addition, after the workshop, further work was done on a proposal for the selected topic. A submission of a proposal for the selected topic is planned for September 2023.

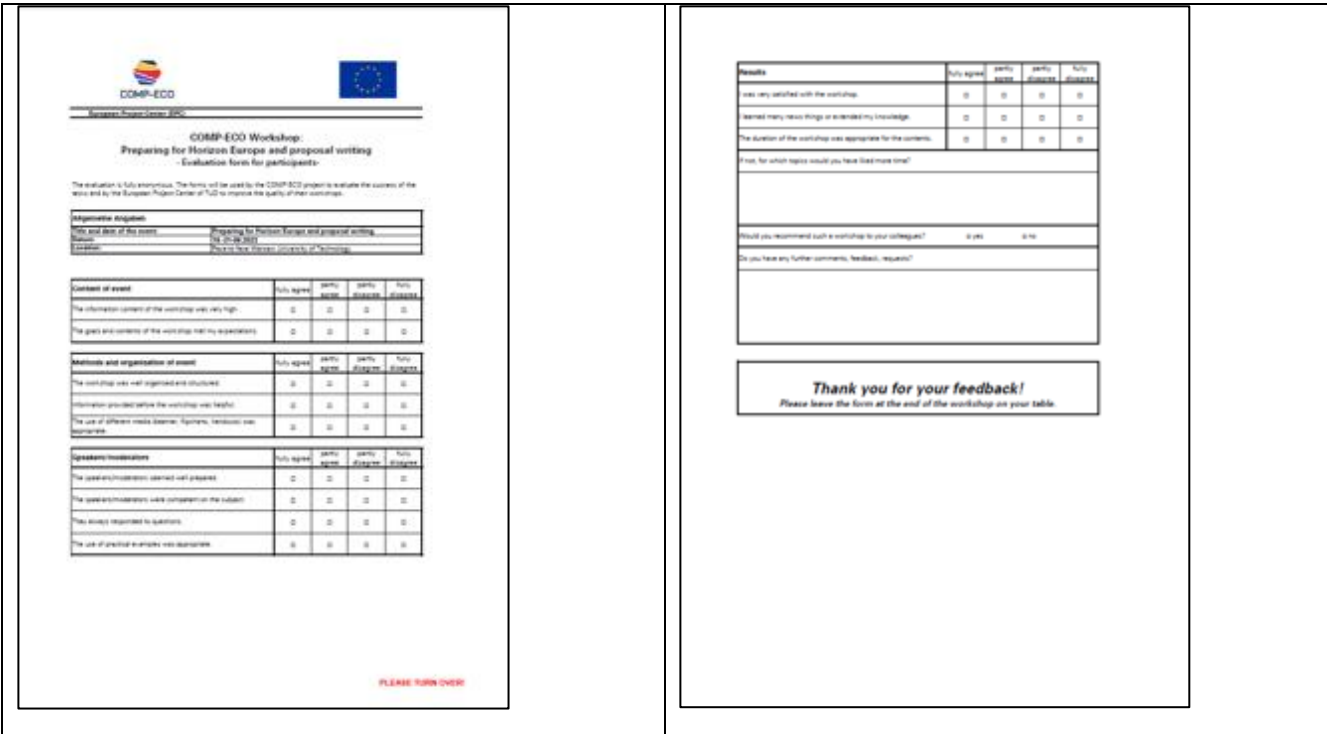


Table 6: Evaluation form for the two workshops

5. SUMMARY

The workshops generated valuable materials and knowledge which are now accessible through the COMP-ECO open repository. Key materials include comprehensive presentations on Horizon Europe funding opportunities, detailed guidelines on proposal writing, and various interactive exercises aimed at enhancing participants' skills in developing competitive proposals. Additionally, the workshops facilitated the creation of tailored project ideas and initial draft for potential proposal under the selected topic of mutual interest.

Key areas of knowledge generated during the workshops include:

- Deep understanding of Horizon Europe, including its structure, funding lines, and strategic objectives
- Techniques for writing compelling proposals, including the formulation of objectives, impact pathways, work plans, and risk assessments.

- Effective methods for finding and collaborating with consortium partners, a critical component for successful Horizon Europe proposals.

The workshops achieved several important outcomes. Firstly, the participants reported significant improvements in their understanding of Horizon Europe structure and peculiarities. Secondly, the interactive nature of the workshops fostered a collaborative environment, resulting in the development of initial proposal draft and strategic plan for future proposal preparation. Thirdly, the knowledge on calls topics analysis will help to utilize the upcoming opportunities in Horizon Europe and select appropriate topics.

The knowledge and experience gained during the two workshops has already been utilized by all three Polish partners and passed on to other colleagues during internal works on developing new proposals. In total, more than 10 proposals had been submitted by Polish partners after the workshop, both together with COMP-ECO partners from TU Delft and TU Dresden, and in other consortia with external partners. So far 2 of the submitted proposals had been successfully evaluated and got funded.

Summarizing, thanks to the workshop the participants acquired important skills and resources necessary for efficient, effective and successful proposal writing and coordination, which is a part of the COMP-ECO project overall objective of strengthening research management capacities and administrative skills of Polish researchers.