



European
Commission



HORIZON EUROPE boosts EU-Africa cooperation in Research & Innovation

June 2021



“The Africa Initiative under Horizon Europe is an immediate result of the first ever EU-AU Research & Innovation Ministerial meeting that took place in July 2020. It will further strengthen long-term cooperation in finding solutions to the human health and socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis”.

Mariya Gabriel Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

Horizon Europe is open to researchers and innovators from around the globe who are encouraged to team up with EU partners in preparing proposals. It will include dedicated actions to support and strengthen cooperation through multilateral initiatives.

AFRICA INITIATIVE

As a strategic partner, the EU seeks to enhance cooperation with **Africa** to promote actions targeted to finding locally adapted solutions to challenges that are global in nature, but which often hit Africa hardest. The **Horizon Europe** work programme 2021-2022 includes around 40 topics with a budget of around €350 million under *Calls for Proposals* that are particularly relevant for cooperation with Africa. This reflects the joint priorities as agreed at the EU-AU Research & Innovation Ministerial meeting in July 2020:



Public Health



Green Transition



Innovation and
Technology



Capacities for Science
(human capital development, science for
policy, Open Science and gender)



The calls for proposals require or encourage participation of African entities. Topics range from climate change, rural innovation, sustainable food systems and sustainable energy to bringing European highly innovative SMEs to the forefront of African markets.



SYNERGIES WITH OTHER PARTNERSHIPS AND PROGRAMMES BETWEEN THE EU AND AFRICA

The Commission proposed to set up **10 new Institutionalised European Partnerships** under Horizon Europe between the European Union, Member States and/or the industry, one of which is the Global Health EDCTP3, which will deliver new solutions for reducing the burden of infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa.

Clear synergies are envisaged with existing or future programmes funded by **the Directorate-General for International Partnerships**. Examples include the African Research Initiative for Scientific Excellence (ARISE) and the [ACP Innovation Fund](#).

Other ongoing partnerships and programmes in research & innovation between the European Union and Africa include the [Research and Innovation Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture \(LEAP-AGRI\)](#), the [Partnership for Research & Innovation in the Mediterranean Area \(PRIMA\)](#), and the [European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership \(EDCTP\)](#).

Research and innovation stakeholders are encouraged to apply to these initiatives as well.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION on the Africa Initiative

The [Calls for Proposals under the Africa Initiative in the first Work Programme of Horizon Europe](#) can be found on the [EU Funding & Tenders portal](#).

More information on [cooperation in research and innovation between the EU and Africa](#) can be found [here](#). On this website you can also find information on various communication actions around the Africa initiative.



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More information:

[International cooperation and association in Horizon Europe Funding and Tenders portal](#)