



European  
Commission

# EU International Strategy for Research & Innovation

- Global Challenges
- International Science
- Innovation Opportunities

# International cooperation

- **International cooperation** = key cross-cutting priority of Horizon 2020, in particular to:
  - ✓ Strengthen the Union's excellence/competitiveness (growth and jobs)
  - ✓ Tackle global societal challenges
  - ✓ Support the Union's external policies
- Clear **benefits of encouraging international participation** for MS/AC (through NCPs): access to knowledge, open up markets, attract talent, science diplomacy etc.
- **Basic approach provided by** Horizon 2020 Regulation and Rules for Participation
- **Strategy** for international cooperation (COM(2012) 497): enhancing and focusing international cooperation activities (in terms of areas and partners)

# International cooperation in Horizon 2020

## Key messages:

*Horizon 2020 is open to participation from across the world!*

*Clear ambition to substantially increase participation of international partners!*

## How:

- **General opening**
- **Targeted international cooperation actions** across Horizon 2020
- Supported by **horizontal international cooperation activities** (in Horizon 2020 Challenge 6: follow-up to Capacities INCO programme)

# General opening

- *Horizon 2020 is **open to participation** from across the world*
- **Automatic funding:**
  - *Member States (including overseas departments and overseas territories)*
  - *Associated Countries*
  - *exhaustive list of countries in annex to work programme (but: no longer BRIC + Mexico in this list!)*
- *Participants from other countries only funded in **exceptional cases:***
  - *when provision is made in the call text*
  - *bilateral agreement (e.g. Health challenge – NIH)*
  - *when the Commission deems it essential (case by case assessment)*

# Promotion of general opening

- *Important to get **key messages and information** on Horizon 2020 across to third countries:*
  - ✓ *World's largest funding programme for research and innovation*
  - ✓ *Strong investment in growth and jobs*
  - ✓ *Tackling societal challenges*
  - ✓ *Open to all and providing access to European excellence and innovation*
  - ✓ *Simplified access*
- *Important **communication campaign** planned towards third countries to stimulate participation*

# Targeted actions

- **Targeted international cooperation activities** across Horizon 2020: area for cooperation and partner specified upfront
- Areas identified based on analysis of a **set of criteria** to ensure common interest and mutual benefit:
  - Research and innovation excellence
  - Framework conditions/access to markets
  - Contribution to international commitments
  - Frameworks to engage in cooperation and lessons learned
- Differentiation by **countries/regions**: enlargement/neighbourhood/EFTA, industrialised and emerging countries, developing countries
- International cooperation as part of **strategic planning** for each part of Horizon 2020
- Result: **roadmaps** for international cooperation with international partners (to be published early 2014)

# Implementation in Horizon 2020

- *Regular calls for proposals:*
  - **topics inviting projects** where third country participation is required and/or encouraged
  - **topics stimulating networking** between existing projects
- **Joint initiatives** of Union and third countries:
  - bilateral coordinated/joint calls
  - multi-lateral initiatives
  - contribution of Union to third country/international organisations
  - ERA-Net

# International cooperation as part of Challenge 6

- *Follow-up to FP7 Capacities INCO programme*
- *Includes coordination and support actions to offer horizontal support for **mainstreaming of international cooperation** across Horizon:*
  - ✓ *Promotion of general opening towards international partners*
  - ✓ *Support development of targeted international cooperation actions*
  - ✓ *Identify and eliminate obstacles to international cooperation*
- *Projects targeted mainly towards limited number of **partners of Union***
- *For **2014-15**: Australia, USA, Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa, Ukraine, Southern Mediterranean, Eastern Partnership, Black Sea, Middle East, Africa*



# INCONTACT 2020

- *INCONTACT 2020 (start 31/12/2013, building on INCONTACT) aims to **increase third country participation** by:*
  - ✓ *Raising **awareness** of the opportunities of cooperating in research and innovation with Europe towards third countries (e.g. info days, conferences etc.)*
  - ✓ ***Capacity building** of INCO experts in third countries with trainings/courses so they can work as promotion/information multipliers in their countries/regions*
- *Enhance **involvement of third country NCPs in European NCP networks**, e.g. by covering travel cost for meetings, training, running help-desk*
- *Coordinator: Mr Epaminondas Christofilopoulos (epaminondas@help-forward.gr)*