

Pump Priming Collaboration between UK and UK Partners 2024-5

Presenters:

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The British Academy

The British Academy is the UK's national academy for the humanities and social sciences.

Our Strategic Plan for 2023-27 has three priorities:

- Strengthening and championing the humanities and social sciences
- Mobilising our disciplines for the benefit of everyone
- Opening up the Academy

Core objectives:

- To invest in the very best researchers and research
- To celebrate and promote the humanities and social sciences
- To inform and enrich debate around society's greatest questions
- To ensure sustained international engagement and collaboration
- To make the most of our people, partnerships and resources to secure the Academy for the future

Assessment Rounds

Applications must be submitted by **Wednesday 4 December 2024, 17.00 (UK time)** considered initially, then a second deadline (if funding remains available) of **Wednesday 15 January 2025, 17.00 (UK time)**, then a third deadline (if funding remains available) of **Wednesday 12 February 2025, 17.00 (UK time)**, and then a final deadline (if funding remains available) of **Wednesday 5 March 2025, 17.00 (UK time)**.

If there is a high number of applications submitted before the 4 December 2024 deadline, the Academy reserves the right to begin assessment prior to the formal deadline.

Pump Priming Collaboration aims to . . .

Develop collaborative activity between UK and EU/Associated Countries' entities in Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe. **The purpose of this call is not to implement the proposed projects that will be submitted to Horizon Europe, but to give the UK-based partners the resources needed to collaborate with EU organisations and stakeholders to further develop the idea and the market opportunities.**

Value: up to **£10,000**.

Awards will begin no earlier than 1 January 2025. All grants will be paid to the employing institution of the PI, and not to the individual researchers involved. Institutions must be officially recognised by the British Academy prior to the proposal being submitted.

Duration: awards should last a minimum of 3 weeks.

Funded by the UK Government's Department for Science, Innovation and Technology.



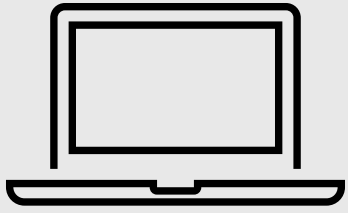
Horizon Europe and Pillar 2

- Horizon Europe is the largest ever EU Framework Programme for research and innovation, with a budget of over €95bn (2021–2027, excluding contributions from Associate Countries).
- Such EU programmes offer significant opportunities to access new knowledge, partners, markets, customers and suppliers.
- This programme is providing pump priming funding to seed collaborations for applications to specific Horizon Europe topics in **Pillar 2 - Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness**.



Within Pillar 2, applications for this pump priming funding can be used in one of two ways.

1. The first is **Calls and Topics** from the **2024 Work Programmes** onwards (i.e. Calls and Topics with 2024 in the call code) that are listed on the [Horizon Europe portal](#) as either ‘open for submission’ or ‘forthcoming’.
2. The second is to review the **Strategic Orientations** documents that the **European Commission** has published as listed on the British Academy website [here](#), which give an indication of the content that future calls will focus on.



Source 1: Horizon Europe Portal

Applicants will be required to complete a short form that will include detailing the following:

- ❑ The **Call and Topic** within Pillar 2 that the application is targeting, including title and call code;
- ❑ An indication of the expected UK participation in the proposed Horizon Europe project (i.e. the extent/scale of involvement the application is looking to see UK organisations have – the level of involvement is not a factor in assessment, however, that there is some level of involvement is a requirement);
- ❑ The alignment of the application with the proposed targeted Call and Topic explaining how the application would address the scope and expected outcome specified in the Call and Topic text;
- ❑ An overview of the research proposed in the pump priming application with an outline of activities, including the role and expertise of both the UK and non-UK potential partners and how together they will meet the requirements of the Call and Topic that is being targeted in Pillar 2;
- ❑ An outline on how this pump priming funding would add value in enabling and improving the development of the proposal;
- ❑ The deliverable: providing information on the anticipated level of funding that will be sought from Horizon Europe and the activities that would be fulfilled if the Horizon Europe bid is successful;



Source 2: Strategic Orientations

Applicants will be required to complete a short form that will include detailing the following:

- Confirming the **Destination of the Strategic Orientations** documents that their application is focused on;
- The alignment of the application with the expected opportunities in the ‘Destination’ area chosen, explaining how the application would address the selected aspect and/or expected outcome(s) of the Destination;
- An overview of the programme plan proposed in the pump priming application with an outline of activities, including the role and expertise of both the UK and non-UK potential partners and how together they will be able to take advantage of the expected opportunities in the ‘Destination’ area chosen;
- An outline on how this pump priming funding would add value in enabling and improving the development of a future proposal to Horizon Europe Pillar 2, including where relevant how the application would enable new collaborations to be forged and/or enable applicants who have not yet had the opportunity to apply to Horizon Europe to do so;
- An indication of the expected UK participation in the proposed Horizon Europe project (i.e. the extent/scale of involvement the application is looking to see UK organisations have) and the scale of overall funding sought (you can see previous calls on the Portal and get a sense of the funding available);

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thebritishacademy.ac.uk

From either source, applicants may target any type of action and focus on any cluster in Pillar 2:

1. Health
2. Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
3. Civil Security for Society
4. Digital, Industry and Space
5. Climate, Energy and Mobility
6. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Person Specification & Applicant Eligibility

The PI must be a researcher in the eligible disciplines for this call and from an eligible UK-based organisation.

Proposals are welcome in all disciplines – engineering, natural sciences, medical and health sciences, humanities, and social sciences.

The PI must be of postdoctoral or above status (or have equivalent research or innovation experience).

The PI is expected to direct and manage the grant and has responsibility for the overall project reporting requirements.

The PI's position must last at least the duration of the grant funded by the Academy.

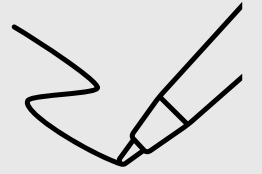
Co-applicant and partner organisation eligibility

Proposals are welcome from research organisations and universities based in the UK. Proposals that involve collaboration with any other type of organisation eligible for Horizon Europe funding (based in the UK and/or the EU/Associated Countries), including small and medium sized businesses (SMEs), third parties, end users and similar bodies/organisations such as hospitals, libraries, regulators, commercial partners, creative industry partners, museums, local authorities and associations, NGOs, charities and companies are encouraged and welcome.

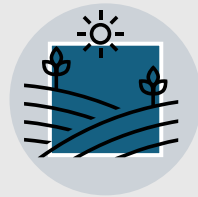
Projects may also include any number of specified ‘Other Participants’, who may, for example, be relevant stakeholders participating in networking or dissemination events, academic or policy advisers, practitioners, industry representatives, etc.



Activities and Outputs



Funding will cover collaboration preparation activities to enable multinational consortium building, as well as costs for developing the project ideas and gaining a better understanding of the market opportunities.



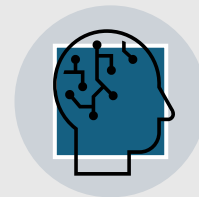
Application advice
and training



Partnership
building



Dedicated resource
to take forward an
application



Feasibility studies

HE Portal Selection criteria

- The expertise of the applicants in the specific selected Horizon Europe Call and Topic and the alignment of that expertise and the content of the application with that Call and Topics;
- The feasibility of the pump priming proposal including the timescale of the award, and its plan of action in terms of supporting the delivery of a successful application to Horizon Europe (noting that the deadline of your chosen Call and Topic must be at least three weeks after the planned start of the award);
- The commitment and ability of the organisations involved to work together and make a successful application to Horizon Europe;
- The added value of this funding to the proposed pump priming activity, including a particular focus on the relevance of the items listed in the budget and the quality of the financial justification.

Strategic Orientations Selection criteria

- The expertise of the applicants in the area of the expected opportunities as set out in the Destination selected from the Strategic Orientations documents;
- The alignment of the applicants' expertise with the focus selected from the relevant Strategic Orientations Destination;
- The feasibility of the pump priming proposal including the timescale of the award, and its plan of action in terms of supporting the delivery of a successful application to Horizon Europe's future calls;
- The commitment and ability of the organisations planned to be involved to work together and make a successful application to Horizon Europe;
- The added value of this funding to the proposed pump priming activity, including a particular focus on the novelty of the collaboration for the partners involved, the early or mid-career stage of the applicants or lack of previous experience engaging with EU Framework Programmes, and the relevance of the items listed in the budget and the quality of the financial justification.

Eligible Costs

Please note that this award is **not** made on a FEC basis.

Funding may be used to support:

- costs for concept or proof of market work and proposal development
- costs of meetings for the organisations involved in the UK or the EU to prepare the proposal
- travel and subsistence, including costs to participate in information days, brokerage events directly related to Horizon Europe objectives, relevant discussions with European Commission officials or similar
- research and/or clerical assistance (based in the UK or internationally)
- due diligence work on partners
- costs towards child or parent care if activity is conducted away from home and it is not possible to make alternative arrangements
- contributions towards support services such as proposal writing not exceeding 50% of the total value sought

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Non-Eligible Costs

- Directly allocated salary costs. No directly allocated costs can be attributed to this award.
- monetary incentives for workshop participants/ honorariums/ speaker fees;
- purchasing of assets;
- equipment costs;
- computer hardware including laptops, electronic notebooks, digital cameras, etc;
- books and other permanent resources;
- the preparation of camera-ready copy, copy-editing, proof-reading, indexing, nor any other editorial task;
- subventions for direct production costs (printing, binding, distribution, marketing etc);
- costs of publication in electronic media;
- carbon offsetting;
- open access fees;

Additional Needs Funding

The British Academy has set aside specific funding to support any additional needs that applicants and award holders may have. This funding is available both to applicants, to assist in making an application to British Academy schemes, and award holders.

Funding is managed outside of the Pump Priming Collaboration between UK and EU Partners application process.

Further information can be found here: <https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/funding/additional-needs/>

Reporting

An **interim report** with a final financial statement must be submitted, and all award activity concluded, prior to the deadline of the Horizon Europe call being applied to.

For example:

- To what extent did you achieve the objectives set in your original proposal?
- Please state the deadline of the Horizon Europe pillar 2 call deadline you are applying to, and please also provide an expected timeline for the outcome of results from the call you are applying to (including if there are two stages).

Funds must not be used after submission of the interim report, and any underspend must be returned to the British Academy.

Awards will be required to provide **further reporting** on their award after the interim report, including in relation to the outcome of their application to Horizon Europe.

For example:

- Can you please state below whether your application to Horizon Europe was successful/unsuccessful/unsubmitted
- Please state, in euros, the total funding received from Horizon Europe for the project

Q&A

- If our application is successful, what are the implications for the Horizon application? Do the same partners need to be involved, does the same UK institution need to lead the application?
- Is there any guidance on the inclusion of non-academic partners in pump priming applications?
- My research topic could cover two clusters in Pillar 2, can I apply for this scheme?
- How many co-applicants can there be?
- Can an application be made for a Mission call within Pillar 2?
- Which calls are covered if applying via the Horizon Europe Portal, and what is possible through reviewing the Strategic Orientations documents?
- Can the Academy help me to find collaborators?
- What makes a successful application?
- Can you share the details of previous awards?
- Can you confirm which disciplines are eligible to apply for this call?
- Are there any restrictions with regards to applicants' career stage?
- Is this call open to applicants planning to apply for starter, consolidator, or advanced ERC grants?
- Are the following eligible costs: travel of partners, writing workshop costs, the support of a bid writer?
- Can this funding be combined with funding from the EIC to create innovation consortia?
- Can this pump priming be used to add value or match fund capacity-building EU initiatives (like specific COST actions) that are themselves designed to build capacity towards submitting Pillar 2 2024-Work-programme calls?

Useful Links

Visit our webpage on Pump Priming: <https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/funding/Horizon-Europe-Pump-Priming-Collaboration-between-UK-and-EU-Partners/>

Our Frequently Asked Questions page: <https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/funding/Horizon-Europe-Pump-Priming-Collaboration-between-UK-and-EU-Partners/horizon-europe-pump-priming-collaboration-between-uk-and-eu-partners-2025-frequently-asked-questions/>

Award holders from previous rounds can be found here: <https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/news/the-british-academy-awards-horizon-europe-pump-priming-collaboration-funding-to-develop-horizon-europe-collaborations/>

European Research Council's website: <https://erc.europa.eu/homepage>

ERC Consolidator Grant webinar: <https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/projects/europe-futures-research-and-collaboration/erc-consolidator-grant-webinar-monday-2-december/>

Please contact **internationalgrants@thebritishacademy.ac.uk** for further information.