





EU programme "Support to Georgia's Researchers' Mobility" &

EU ENI East Twinning project "Supporting inter-sectoral collaboration possibilities between Research and Industry"

Practical advice on NCP activities for promoting the Framework Programme: Information sources, duties and opportunities



















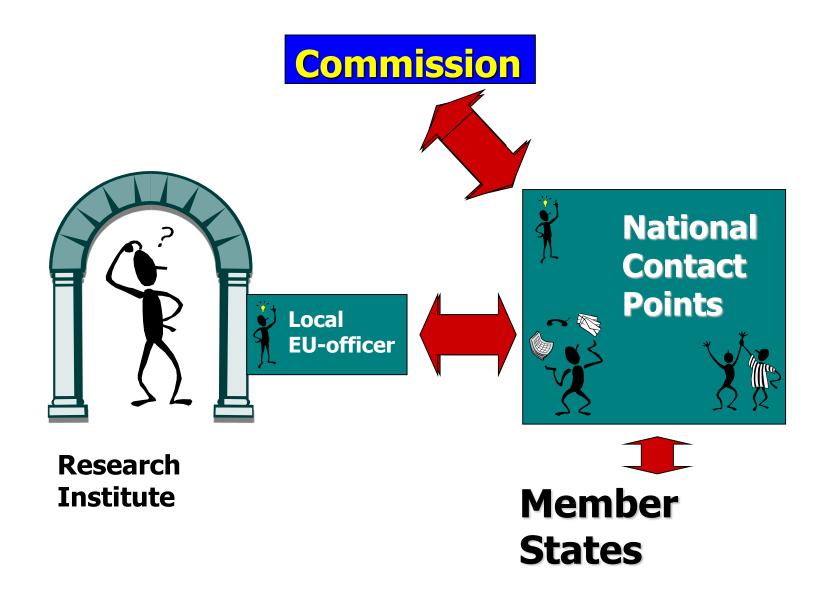


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Information Sources

- Horizon Europe Portal Georgia: http://horizoneurope.org.ge/en
- NCP Guiding Principles: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ncp-guiding-principles_he_en.pdf
- Horizon Europe NCP Portal: <u>Home | Horizon Europe NCP Portal</u> (central landing spot with access to all NCP network projects)
- WIDERA Project: Widening & ERA | Horizon Europe NCP Portal
- Funding and Tenders Portal: <u>Funding & tenders (europa.eu)</u>

The role of NCP's and Grant Offices



Characteristics of NCP Organisations

- Becoming centre of expertise of EU R&I, a supporting structure for national entities of specific sector to participate in Horizon Europe
- Independency and impartiality
- Adequate human resources and equipment
- Knowledge of the research landscape
- Reaching the research community
- Proactively providing services to all actors
- Having skills in R&I management & financing
- Becoming an active and accepted partner of the international system for partner search

Strategic Networking

Partners at home

- Ministries and other authorities
- Economic chambers or other representations
- Rectors conferences, academy of science
- Universities, research institutions and scientific societies
- EU member states embassies in your country
- Individual experts, evaluators etc.

Strategic Networking

Partners abroad

- EU-Commission, INCO Directorate
- NCP partner organisations
- Partners of your national organisations
- Your country's embassy abroad

Cooperation with the European Commission

- Provide information and data related to the mandate of the NCPs.
- Participation of NCPs in information and awareness actions (of the Commission),
 thematic conferences, seminars and transnational networks of NCPs
- Meetings with the national NCP coordinators to discuss the collaboration, share experience, identify good practices and address problems
- Provide leaflets, brochures and other relevant information for further distribution by NCPs
- Provide information at the earliest possible time on work programmes and roadmaps, upcoming calls, administrative procedures, statistics and evaluations
- be invited to participate in the activities and events
- will receive selected data on the proposals and evaluation

The role of NCP's at the national level



Mailing Lists, Websites, Infodays, Training Seminars, Direct Communication



Proposal Prescreening, Assisting with Partner Search, Resolving Queries



Based on proposers' needs (IPR Issues, Consortium Agreements, Grant Agreements, etc.)

Disseminating Information, Assisting with Proposal Preparation Customised Support

Tasks of the NCPs 1: Informing, Awareness Raising

- Circulate general and specific documentation on Horizon Europe
 - Conditions for participation, submission of proposals, project budgeting and reporting
- Organise information and promotional activities (in liaison with EC)
 - Infodays, conferences, newsletter, web sites, etc.
- Raise awareness of
 - Innovation activities in Horizon Europe (esp. participation of industry and SMEs)
 - Further funding opportunities, such as Articles 185 and 187 initiatives as well as EIT KICs
 - Interdisciplinary nature of Horizon Europe
 - Horizontal issues (gender balance, link between science and civil society)
 - Other European RTD-programmes (COSME, Eureka, COST, R&D related parts of European Structural and Investment Funds, etc.)

Tasks of the NCPs 2. Advising, Assisting and Training

- Assist researchers and organisations, in particular new actors and SMEs
- Assist in partner search
 - Internet based tools, cooperation networks, Enterprise Europe Network for SMEs
- Advise on administrative procedures, rules and issues
 - funding schemes, roles and resposibilities in a consortium, rights and obligations, costs, ethical rules
- Organise courses and training sessions
 - for information multipliers or specific target groups (SMEs, universities, business organisations)
 - on specific topics (legal & financial aspects, research and innovation areas, modalities for participation)

Tasks of the NCPs – 3. Signposting and cooperation

- Signpost to other business network services
 - for instance matters relating to internal market, technology transfer, intellectual property rights (IPR) or regional development (EEN, EIB, Structural Funds, etc.)
- Signpost to national funding programmes and to ERA Net Projects

Challenges in NCP Work - 1

- To reach the target research community knowledge of the "national research area" and key players
- Building good personal contacts with local partners as well as gaining a good reputation of quality of provided information is a long time process
- Motivation of researchers to participate in FP (competition of "national grant schemes" – often higher success, less administrative)
- Information about EU projects in preparation and respective coordinators most research teams want to join the consortium not to coordinate a project
- Availability and different formats of statistical information

Challenges in NCP Work – 2 (International)

- Priority setting for FP work programmes is seen as a "black box" for international partners
- Difficult integration into the European NCP network e.g. attending NCP meetings in Europe
- Availability of "grey information" draft work programmes topics addressed in future calls
- Often take on this role in addition to their existing workload additional remuneration often limited on reimbursement of travel expenses
- New appointments and changes in staff regularly

Group Work: Core functions of NCP, current measures and opportunities for Georgia

- Study NCP Guiding principles and relevant, targeted core functions (according to group topics)
- Identify the tasks and elaborate:
 - Which tasks are already implemented sufficiently by the Georgian NCP system?
 - Which tasks are not implemented sufficiently?
 - Which additional measures make especially sense for Georgia?
 - Identify/draft concrete measures, which would effectively support Georgian R&I stakeholders and therefore upgrade the NCP system (e.g. specific events, training tools, informations campaigns).
- Summarise and describe your results and present to the whole group (select 1 or 2 people to do so in advance!)

Group Work: Core functions of NCP, current measures and opportunities for Georgia

Divide into 3 groups, consisting of both NCPs + Grants office representatives:

- Group 1: Informing and awareness raising
- Group 2: Assisting, advising and training
- Group 3: Signposting and cooperation





EU Twinning in Science-Business links

EU Georgia's Researchers' Mobility Programme

