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WORKING PAPER

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From:	ERAC Secretariat
To:	ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)
Subject:	European Partnerships

Dear ERAC delegates,

Please find attached the following presentation of the agenda of the ERAC plenary on 2 October 2019:
item 6: European Partnerships

European Partnerships

#HorizonEU

**ERAC Plenary
2 October 2019**



Strategic Coordinating Process for R&I Partnerships

Objectives

1. Ensure transparent and evidence-based selection of partnerships
(part of strategic planning Horizon Europe)

2. Support the effective and efficient implementation of partnerships throughout their lifecycle

3. Provide strategic guidance on the overall policy approach and the future objectives and composition of the partnership portfolio

Functionalities

Consultation
(selection phase)

Evidence base
(biennial monitoring)

Portfolio development
(foresight)

Strategic discussion

Strategic Configuration Programme Committee

"Forum for R&I Partnerships" (starting in 2021)

Structured Consultation of MS on European Partnerships

Aim: To gather early input of Member States on the portfolio and all individual partnership candidates, ensuring transparent and evidence-based selection of partnerships, rationalising and reforming the landscape and maximising their impacts.

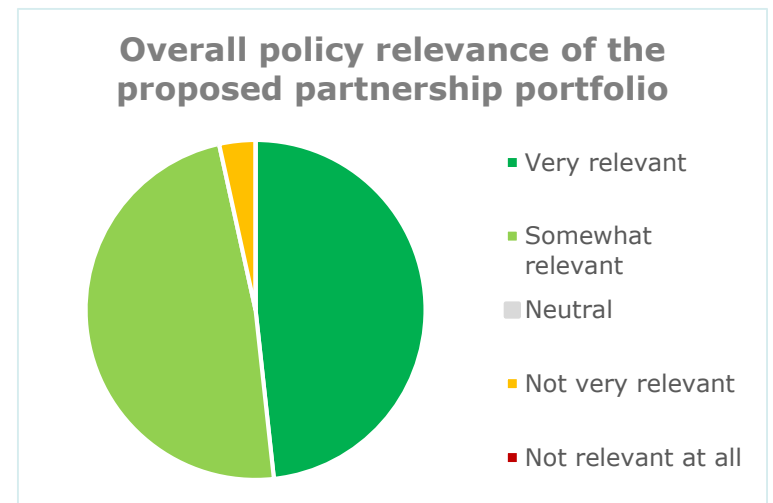
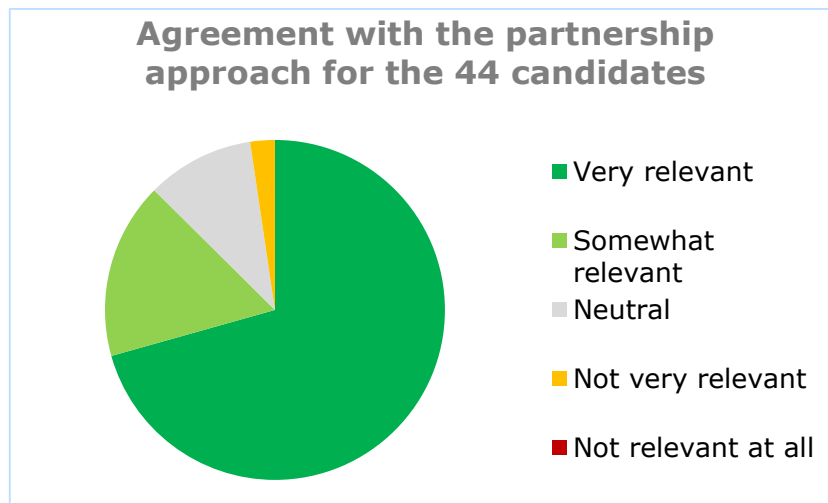
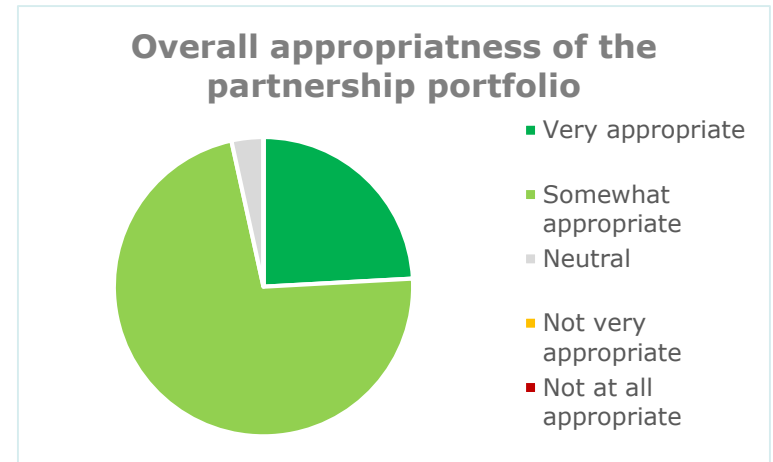
It complements the strategic planning of Horizon Europe, ensuring a coherent overall approach.

- **6 June:** Input from all Member States (+ NO and IS) on the 44 fiches for partnerships candidates received;
- Feedback was analysed, draft report validated by services;
 - **Structure: Key issues for further discussion, overall analysis, analysis per partnership;**
- **20 June:** submission of the draft report to the Shadow Strategic Configuration of the Programme Committee (shadow SPC);
- **27 June:** discussion on the 44 candidates and additional priorities proposed
- **12 September and 24 October:** discussion on additional candidates proposed by MS during consultation and the way forward

→ **Information will feed into the Impact Assessment for partnership candidates based on Article 185 or 187 TFEU, and the preparation of all partnerships.**

Positive aspects of the proposed portfolio from MS consultation

- Appropriate portfolio to deliver clear impacts for the EU and its citizens;
- Considered to be highly relevant for national and EU policies;
- Strong agreement with the relevance of a partnership approach for the 44 candidates proposed.



Critical issues in general raised during MS consultation

- Strong criticism on the **absence of partnerships** in the clusters "Culture, creativity and inclusive society" and "Civil Security for Society";
- Critical view on the high number and openness of **Joint Undertakings**;
- Many countries **miss a systemic approach to developing mobility** and addressing related challenges, due to mode specific approach;
- **Some proposals are more mature than others**
- **Societal dimension** needs to be better articulated in many partnerships;
- Large number of **additional priorities** (25) proposed by delegations;
- Need to clarify the possible role **of Member States in industry led partnerships.**

Ongoing discussions on additional candidates proposed

- A number of additional priorities received strong support from delegations to be implemented as a European Partnership.
- Shadow SPC meeting 27 June:
 - future discussion would be limited to 8 (instead of 25)
 - additional time over summer to develop fiches and provide priorities.
- Shadow SPC meeting 12 September with tentative conclusions, for validation at the next meeting on 24 October:
 - Two additional partnership candidates more or less ready to be added: Smart and sustainable cities; One health/AMR;
 - Three additional partnership candidates require more work before a judgement can be made: Forestry; European Geo-surveys; Waterborne transport;
 - Three partnership candidates are important but rather in view of the next strategic planning process by 2024: social transformations; brain health; materials and production;
 - Commission raised reservations on the proposed partnership for cultural heritage with the invitation to re-assess, given the multitude of ongoing and planned activities related to cultural heritage. If it would develop a strong vision and ambition beyond what is proposed so far, then this could be relevant post 2024 (to be confirmed).

Transitional Forum for R&I Partnerships

- **1st meeting** of the transitional Forum on 11 September, with 23 delegations, the GPC chair and the Commission attending;
- **Co-chaired by the European Commission and Member States:**
 - Kurt Vandenberghe, DG Research and Innovation, Director for Policy Development and Coordination in DG Research and Innovation;
 - Erik Hansalek, Head of Unit for Research and Innovation in the EU, BMBF, Germany;
- **Support group** with Szonja Csuzdi (HU), Mafalda Dourado (PT), Alex Grablowitz (for the MS co-chair), Timo Haapalehto (FI), Joerg Niehoff (for the Commission co-chair);
- **Next meetings:** support group 23/10, Transitional Forum 18/12 December ;
- Immediate next steps: **develop a timeline**, start work on **first deliverables**
 - Recommendation for the scope and structure of the biannual monitoring and the necessary processes and data request;
 - Recommendation for the scope, approach and necessary resources of foresight activities;
 - Common guidelines (enabling conditions) for the design and implementation of national governance structures, national monitoring mechanisms, etc.

State of preparation – current activities

- Survey: "Horizon Europe Co-design 2021-2024" on the orientations towards the first strategic plan for Horizon Europe, until 4 October;
- Survey: "Horizon Europe Implementation Strategy", until 4 October;
- Draft Inception Impact Assessments for 12 partnership candidates for institutionalised European Partnerships based on Article 185/7 published;
- Impact Assessment Work has started
→ supported by a single external study that will provide coordinated input and develop a single common methodology;
- Open Public Consultation for partnership candidates for institutionalised European Partnerships based on Article 185/7, open until 8 November 2019;
- First R&I days in Brussels on 24-26 September, center stage for the new policy approach, as well as current and potential future partnerships.