USASK Horizon Europe Information Session

USask International Office

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Land Acknowledgement

The land is acknowledged as our Mother, the Earth. The University of Saskatchewan is committed to honor and support the *Indigenous peoples, Indigenous cultures, Indigenous values, and Indigenous languages that belong to the land of Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis. The University of Saskatchewan is committed to working towards mending colonized lands and protecting the land in a way that demonstrates honour, respect, and love. The University of Saskatchewan extends this commitment to the lands and Treaty territories (Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10) that constitute kisiskâciwan ([Saskatchewan], "the swift current", Cree/Saulteaux), and all Indigenous people that call kisiskâciwan home. We are born to the land and the land claims us.

Agenda

- Part 1: What has changed about the Horizon Europe for Canadian researchers?

- Part 2: What are the opportunities under Pillar 2?

- Part 3: Considerations and Recommendations

- Part 4: 5-Step-Approach to Horizon Europe Application

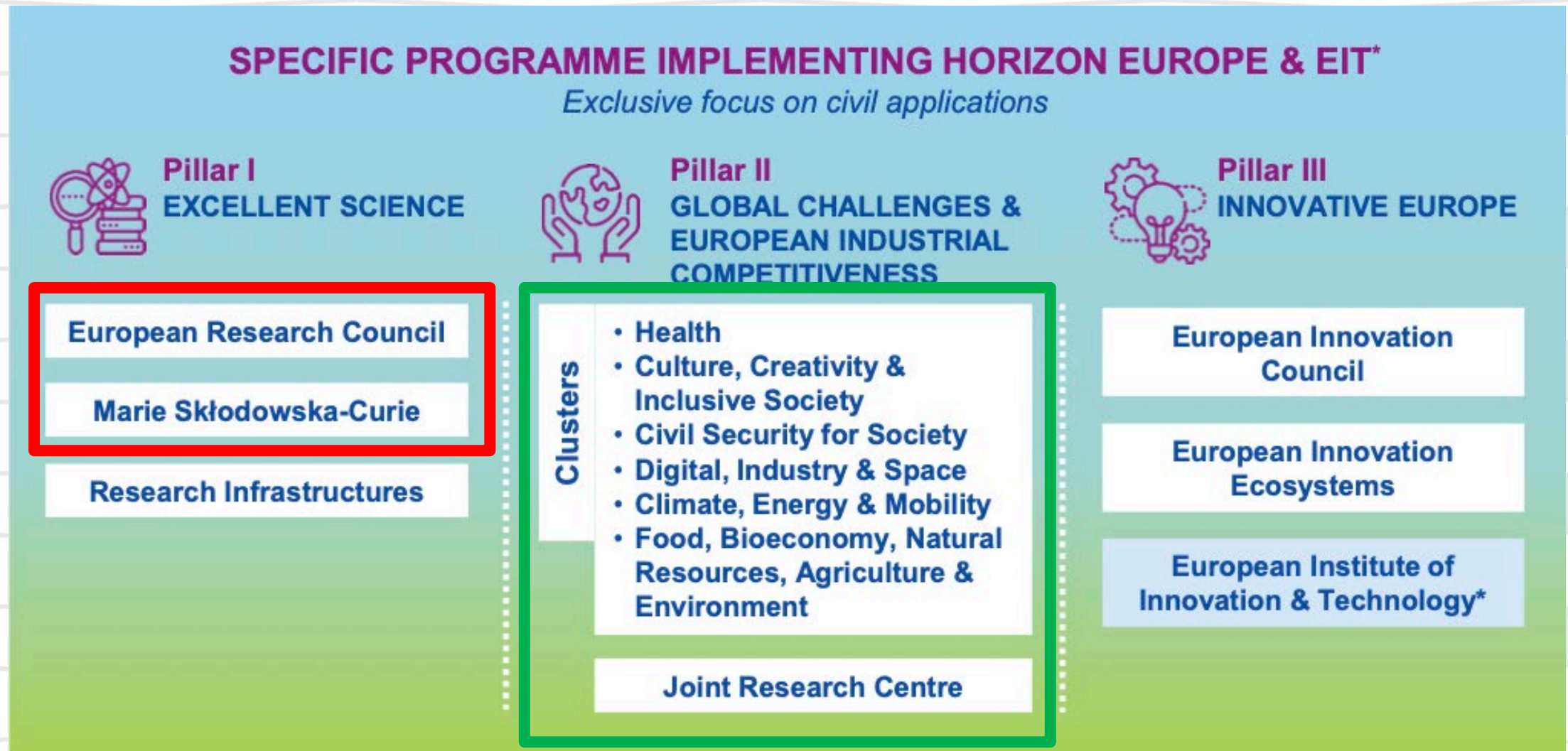- Part 5: What can we do for you?

Part 1:
What has changed about Horizon Europe for Canadian researchers?

General Overview

- *Horizon Europe is the world's largest research and innovation collaboration program, C$140 billion (2021-2027).*

- *Canada is a deemed associated country participant to Pillar II project calls, with a budget of roughly **C$10 billion a year**.*

- *Associated country means **Canadians can participate under equivalent conditions** as legal entities from the EU Member States and **receive grants directly** from the European Commission.*

- *Average grant size under Pillar 2 research calls: €3 million*

What has changed and what has stayed the same?

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT*

Exclusive focus on civil applications

Pillar I
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar II
GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters
- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre

Pillar III
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

- European Innovation Council
- European Innovation Ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation & Technology*

Pillar 1: European Research Council Grants

Quick facts

- Open to researchers conducting pioneering research projects

- Open to anyone, anywhere to establish a research group (for most grants, host institution must be established in EU member state or associated country)

- Work in someone else's lab – with European PI or Europeans to work anywhere in the world

- How to apply: [Step by Step to the ERC application process](#)
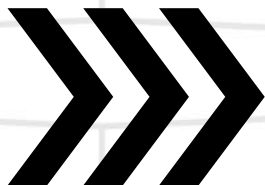
Grant types

StG Starting Grant: up to €1.5 million. Duration: up to 5 years. 2-7 years of experience since completion of PhD.

CoG Consolidator Grant: up to €2 million. Duration: up to 5 years. 7-12 years of experience since completion of PhD.

AdG Advanced Grant: up to €2.5 million. Duration: up to 5 years. An excellent scientific track record of recognized achievements in the last 10 years.

SyG Synergy Grant: 2-4 researchers (one can be based outside Europe). Up to a maximum of €10 million for a period of 6 years.

Pillar 1: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Doctoral Networks and Staff Exchanges

Networking and learning opportunities for doctoral candidates and staff in Europe and beyond

Post-Doctoral Fellowships

For PhD holders who wish to carry out research activities abroad to acquire new skills and for career development

COFUND

The COFUND action provides funding for regional, national and international programmes for training and career development
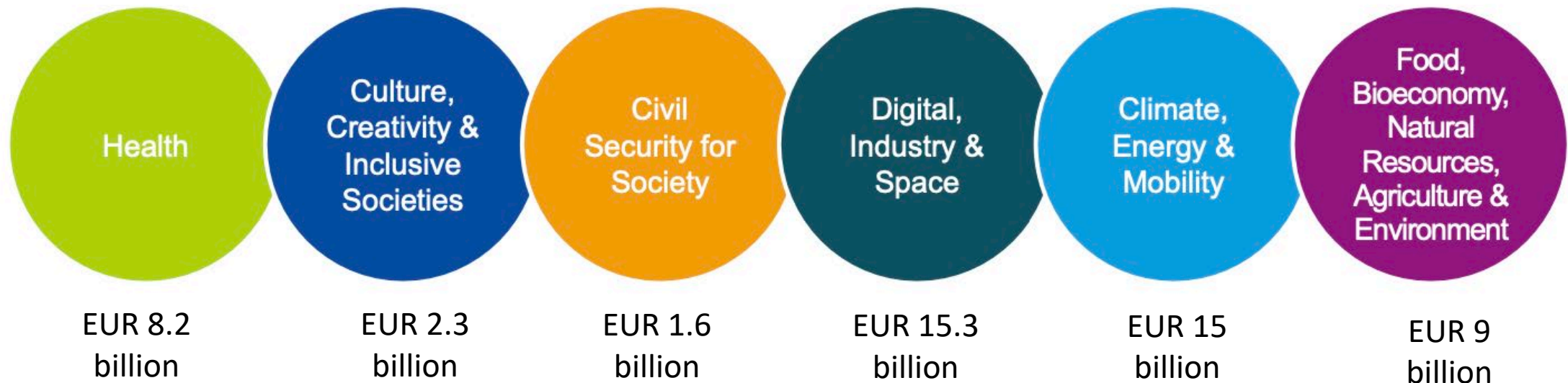
MSCA and Citizens

The objective of the MSCA and Citizens action is to bring research and researchers closer to the public at large, with a focus on families, pupils and students.

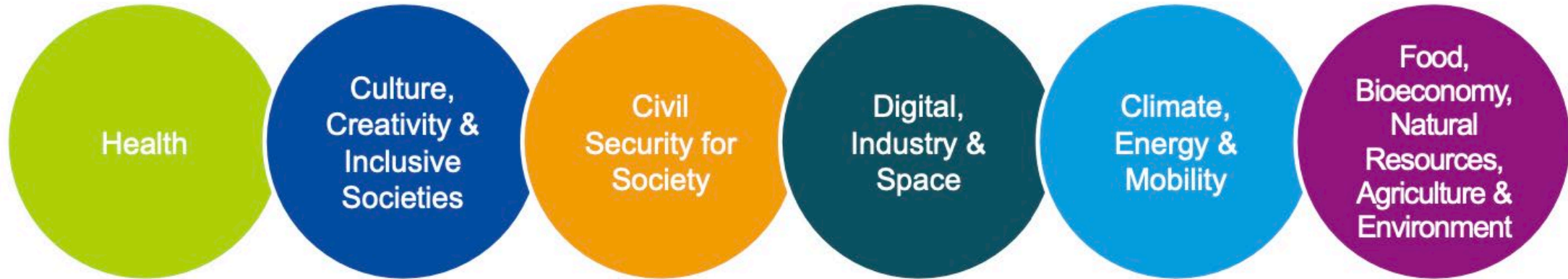# Part 2

What are the opportunities under Pillar 2?

Pillar 2: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness Clusters (53.5B Euros)

- The Canadian science, technology and innovation community can now apply to Horizon Europe Pillar 2 calls under association status.

- Eligible individuals and organizations are: academics, industrial researchers, small-to-medium sized enterprises, non-profit and charity sector entities, and other research and innovation actors in Canada

Health	Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Societies	Civil Security for Society	Digital, Industry & Space	Climate, Energy & Mobility	Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment
EUR 8.2 billion	EUR 2.3 billion	EUR 1.6 billion	EUR 15.3 billion	EUR 15 billion	EUR 9 billion

6 Clusters and Expected Impacts
Horizon 2025-27 strategic plan

- Specific expected impacts of Horizon Europe are included in detail in the 2025-27 strategic plan
- The strategic plan might assist those developing proposals to frame their proposals to fit with Horizon's goals and strategy
- https://op.europa.eu/en/web/eu-law-and-publications/publication-detail/-/publication/6abcc8e7-e685-11ee-8b2b-01aa75ed71a1

Technology Readiness Levels (TRL)

- Horizon Europe implements the use of Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) to assess the maturity and market readiness of new technologies and innovations. The TRL scale ranges from TRL 1 (the lowest level of technological maturity) to TRL 9 (the highest level which indicates full scale deployment and commercialization). Each funding call will state the expected TRL range for prospective projects.

- **Across Pillar 2, TRL levels will typically range between 3/6.**

Pillar 2 – Types of projects

- HE funds different types of collaborative projects including, for example:

Research and innovation action (RIA) that establishes new knowledge or explores a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution. The EU funding covers up to 100% of the project costs. Lower Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) and involve more basic research. Typically delivered over 3-4 years.

Innovation action (IA) that produces plans or designs for new or improved products, processes or services including prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication. The EU funding covers up to 70% of the project costs. Higher Technology Readiness Levels (TRL), where innovations or technologies are almost ready to be demonstrated in a controlled operational environment. Last around 3 years.

Pillar 2 – Types of projects (cont'd)

Coordination and support Actions (CSA) that improve cooperation among EU and associated countries to strengthen the European Research Area including, for example, standardisation, dissemination, awareness-raising, communication and networking activities, policy dialogues, mutual learning or studies. The EU funding covers up to 100% of the project costs. This project type DOES NOT support research.
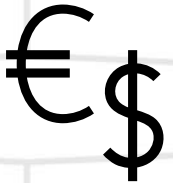
Programme co-fund action (COFUND) that provides multi-annual co-funding for European partnerships bringing together public and private partners. The EU funding covers between 30 and 70% of the project costs.

A program guide is available with more details: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/programme-guide_horizon_en.pdf

Part 3

Considerations and Recommendations

How to become Horizon Europe ready?

- Excellent science

- Strategic partnerships and networking

- Research novelty

Evaluation criteria

- Excellence

- Impact

- Quality and efficiency of the implementation

To lead or not to lead?

Leading organization (Coordinator)'s administrative duties:

- Proposal development

- Consortium management

- Project planning and implementation

- Financial management

- Reporting and evaluation

- Dissemination and communication

Time is (really) your BEST ally!

- Average 6 months to a year to organize a consortium and prepare a proposal

- Get familiar with Work Programmes (WP) before specific calls are open

  - WP 2021 – 2023 Closed

  - WP 2023- 2024 Current: **70+ call topics with upcoming submission deadlines**

  - WP 2025 Upcoming (Spring 2025)

  - WP 2026-2027 Upcoming

- Stay connected with EU collaborators for information

Get support!

External:

- **National Contact Points (NCPs)**
  - Guidance on choosing relevant Horizon Europe topics and types of action
  - Advice on administrative procedures and contractual issues
  - Training and assistance on proposal writing
  - Distribution of documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.)
  - Assistance in partner search

- Horizon Europe Program Officers

- Canadian Trade Commissioners

- Representatives with the EU Delegation to Canada

Internal:

- International Office

- College/school/centre research facilitation

- RASI

- IMP

Dos and Don'ts

- Common mistakes to avoid: https://rea.ec.europa.eu/news/common-mistakes-avoid-when-applying-horizon-europe-funding-2023-02-09_en

- Proposal writing tips:
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyG7UcjkFBs
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DeY8RSucJwI

- Learn from previously funded projects: www.cordis.europa.eu

Part 4

5-Step-Approach to Horizon Europe Application

How to develop a Horizon Europe application?

Step 1: **Identify a call for proposal**

Step 2: Build an eligible consortium

Step 3: **Create an EU Login account and link it to the USask PIC**

Step 4: Create a proposal and invite consortium members to the application

Step 5: Follow up your proposal

Step 1: Identify a Call for Proposal

- Use the Funding and Tenders Portal to search

→ **Search funding and tenders**
→ **How to participate**
→ **Projects & results**
→ **Work as an expert**
→ **Support**
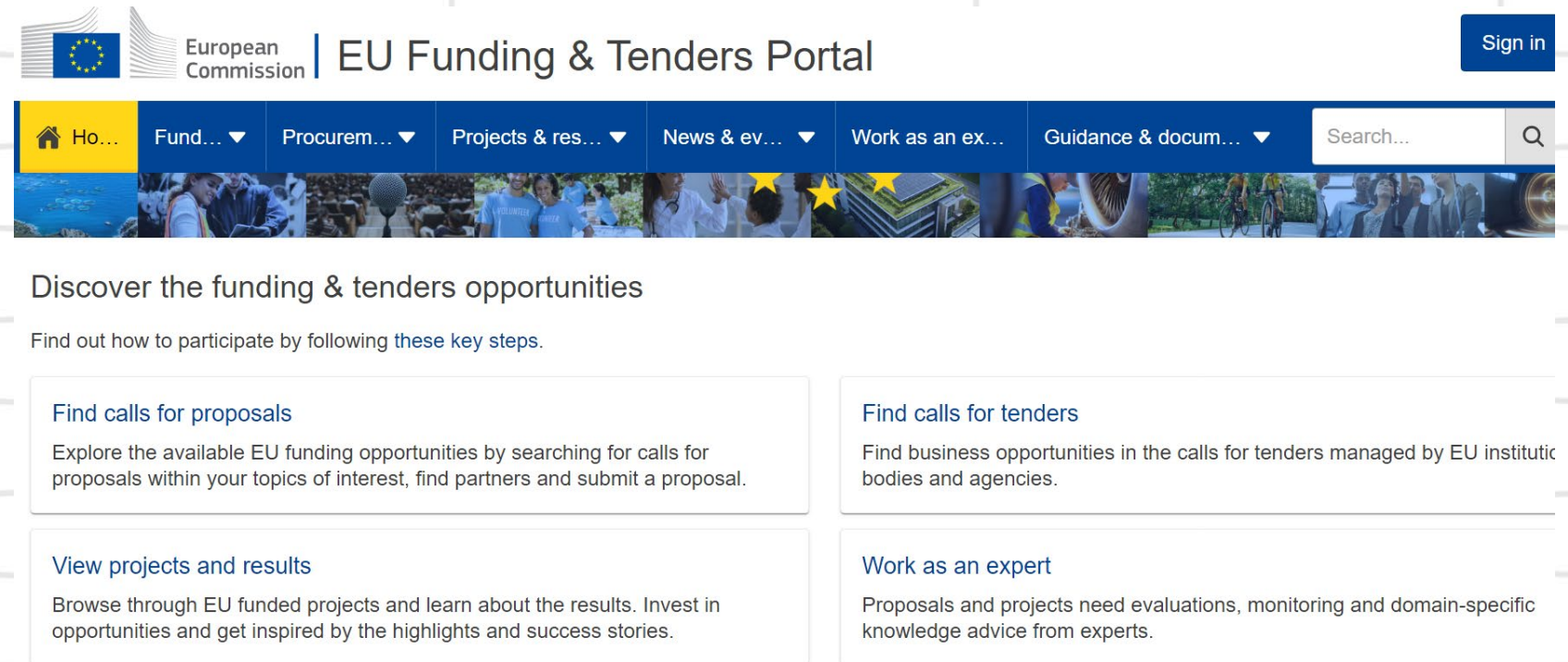
- The Online Manual, Program Guide , and Work Programs will help you with any questions you may have regarding funding opportunities and the application process.

Step 2: The Consortium

Consortium Requirements:

- You must apply as a team of at least **3 partner organizations** from **3 different EU or associated countries**. At least one of the 3 partners must be from an EU country;

- Leadership of each consortium has to be EU or associated country;

- Some calls for proposals require a so-called **multi-actor approach** (e.g., a diverse set of stakeholders, including end-users);

- A list of **countries eligible to participate** in Horizon Europe funding calls can be found **here.**

Horizon Europe Eligible Countries

- All EU countries

- Most low- to middle-income countries are automatically eligible for funding

- Third countries associated to Horizon Europe: Several non-EU countries are eligible to participate in Horizon Europe through various mechanisms

| Albania	Faroe Islands	Montenegro	Switzerland
Armenia	Georgia	Morocco	Tunisia
Australia	Iceland	New Zealand	Turkey
Bosnia and	Israel	North Macedonia	Ukraine
Herzegovina	Kosovo	Norway	UK
Canada	Moldova	Serbia	

List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe

Finding Partners

1. Consider your connections and current international partners

2. Contact our International Office

3. Matchmaking supports from

   - Brokerage events organized by EU Commission

   - Canadian National Contact Points

   - Private and public agencies

4. Use the Partner Search option on the Funding and Tenders Portal

Use the Partner Search to select an organization based on their profile or their previous participation
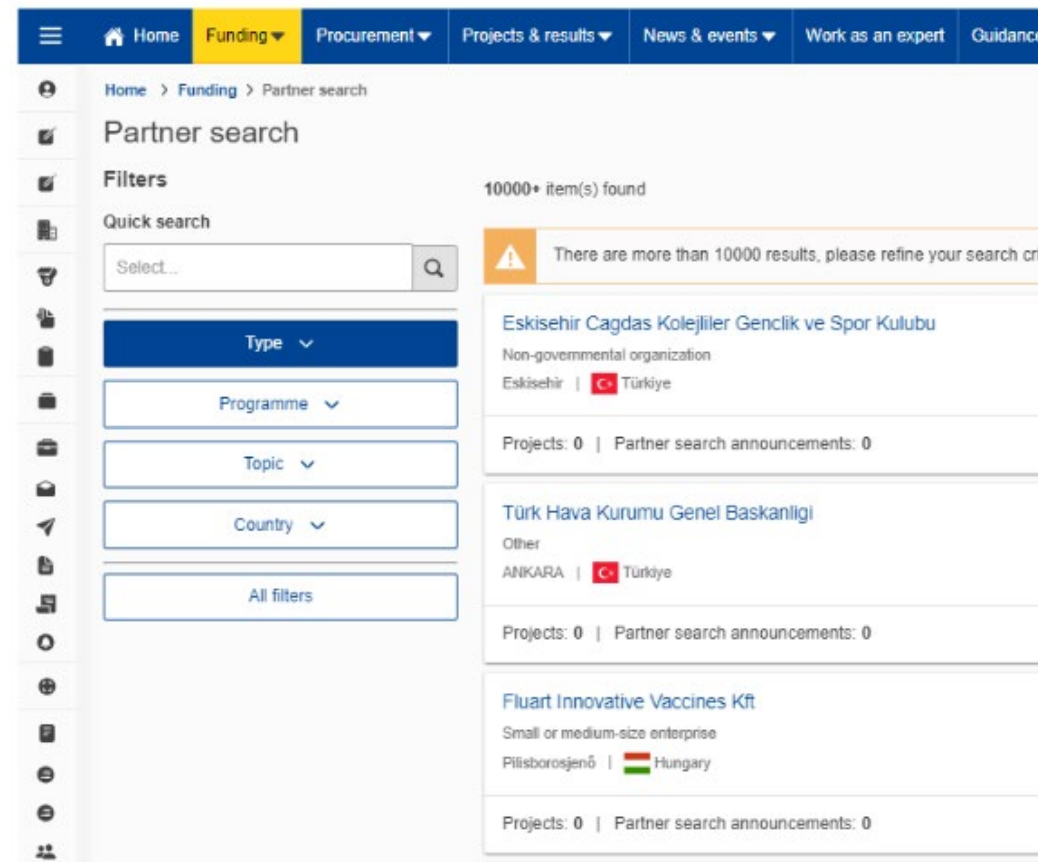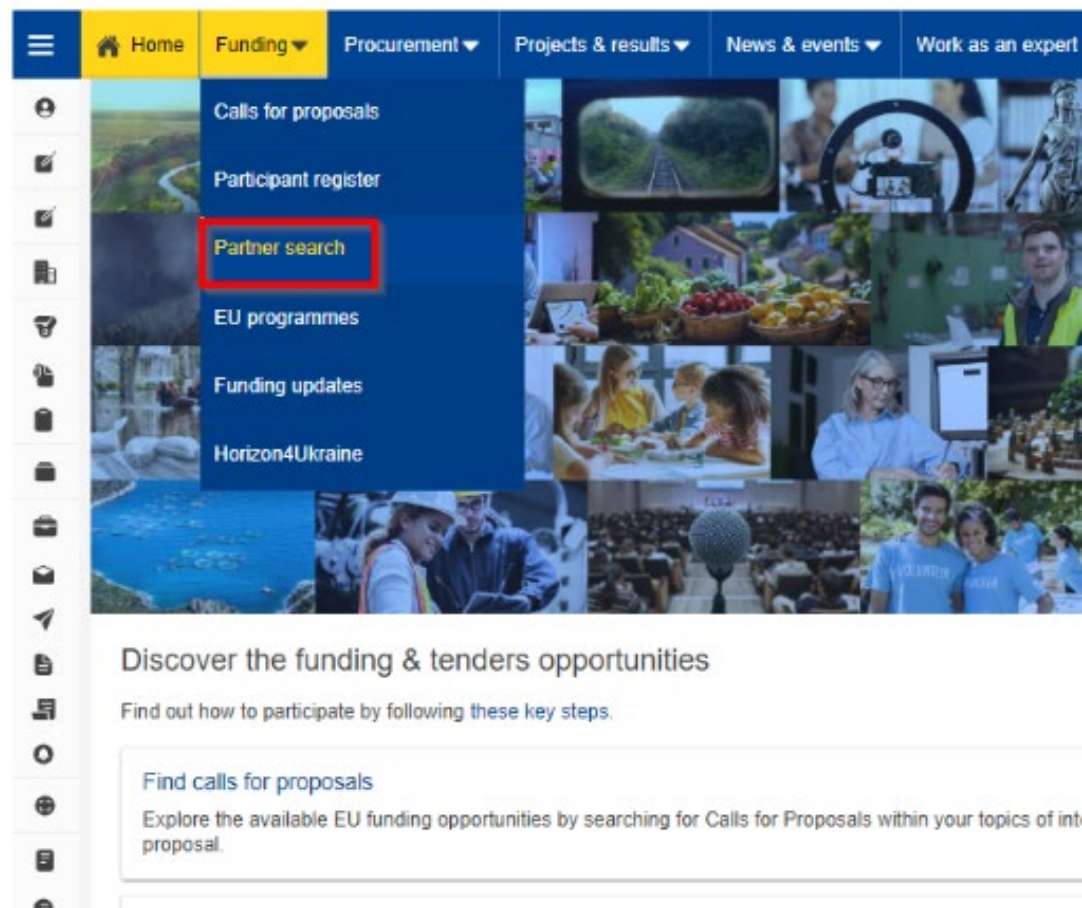
Step 3: **Create an EU Login Account in**
[EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

Link your profile to the USask using Participant Identification Code (PIC)

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

PIC 999818577

SASKATOON | 🍁 Canada

Validated | ✉ Contact

Registration number: - |

Find how to participate through [IT How To](#)

How to Participate

Learn all that you need to apply for EU funding, from how to register your organisation to how to submit your proposal, including how to manage the roles and access rights to your organisations, proposals and future projects.

Manage your Grant

All IT support information to help you with the signature of your Grant Agreement, as well as the management of your project in the IT tools: amendments, continuous and periodic reporting, communication with the granting authorities, audits, etc.

Work as an Expert

Learn all you need as an expert, from the registration process, including how to read and sign your expert contracts and how to draft and submit payment requests, to how to evaluate the proposals assigned to you using the IT tools.

Part 5

What can IO do for you?

IO Team Support

- Search for suitable calls/topics and digest key elements with you

- Search for international partners (Horizon channels, government networks, USask partnerships (iMap), SciVal analysis)

- Help connect you with potential internal collaborators

- Help link you with external supports (National Contact Points & EURAXESS North America) and resources (toolkits, webinars and networking events)

- Liaise with internal administrative resources (Ethics, Financial, IMP, IT Security, RASI, RDM, Research Security, TLSE)

We look forward to working with you

Please contact us at:

international.office@usask.ca

(Please subscribe to USask Research Listservs)