

India Country Page

1. Participation and Funding of Indian Entities in Horizon 2020

The EU's research and innovation framework programme 'Horizon 2020' (2014-2020), is fully **open to participation of entities from across the world** and in addition, many topics are flagged as being specifically relevant for cooperation with international partners.

Indian researchers, universities, research organisations and enterprises are able to team up with any European partners to participate in projects under Horizon 2020 and make the best use of Europe's scientific excellence. Through participation in Horizon 2020, Indian participants can gain great benefits from access to excellent talent, knowledge, data and infrastructures and connection to world-leading teams, networks and value chains.

As to funding, participants from India, just like participants from the other emerging economies (BRIC), are **no longer automatically eligible for funding under Horizon 2020**. Indian participants have therefore to find themselves the financial resources for their participation in Horizon 2020 collaborative projects. These could be own funds, funds from Indian ministries, foundations and other organisations, that fund international research and innovation activities. Contributions can also be made in kind. In exceptional circumstances, funding can be received, if the participation is essential for the execution of the project.

For this purpose, the European Commission has concluded with the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST), the Indian Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) a Co-Funding Mechanism (CFM), to fund the successful Indian participants in a number of pre-identified calls of proposals.

2. Joint call and calls co-funded by Government of India (GOI)

2.1 Joint flagship call on Integrated local energy systems (Energy islands): International cooperation with India

The European Commission (EC) and the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India have agreed to co-fund an Innovation Action on local energy systems. European partners in selected proposals will receive funding from Horizon 2020, while the Indian partners will receive funding from DST.

- **Topic identifier:** [LC-SC3-ES-12-2020](#)
- **Focus area:** Building a low-carbon, climate resilient future (LC)
- **Type of action:** Innovation Action (IA)

Scope:

Proposals will develop and demonstrate solutions which analyse and combine, in a well delimited system, all the energy vectors that are present and interconnect them, where appropriate, to optimise their joint operation that is demonstrated by an increased share of renewables in and higher energy efficiency of the local energy system.

The Technology Readiness Level (TRL) will range between 5 and 8. Proposals will indicate the estimated levels of TRL at the beginning and at the end of the project.

It is considered that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU and the Government of India of between EUR 5 to 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

For more details click [LC-SC3-ES-12-2020](#)

The original deadline for submission of this call was 29 January 2020 but for legal/technical reasons, the call has to be cancelled and will be republished: see note hereunder.



Important Topic Update

Dear applicant,
*the European Commission intends to cancel the topic LC-SC3-ES-12-2020: “Integrated local energy systems (Energy islands): International cooperation with India” and plans to publish a new topic **with the same** thematic scope but with **adjusted formal** requirements as regards the international cooperation **between EU and Indian entities**.*
The Commission intends to call for proposals for the new topic in May 2020 with a submission deadline on 1 September 2020. This cancellation and publication of a new call will be confirmed once all necessary procedural steps are finalized.
As of today, the access to the submission platform for this topic will no more be accessible to new proposers.
Once the new topic is published, you will have to create a new proposal via the Funding & Tenders portal, as your current draft proposal will not be transferred to the new topic. We therefore invite you to download your draft proposal prior to the initially foreseen deadline of 29 January 2020.
We apologize for the inconvenience caused by this modification.

2.2 Co-funding by DBT under Horizon 2020 Work Programmes 2018-2020

In September 2019, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, has agreed to co-fund the successful Indian applicants in [30 calls](#) selected under the Horizon 2020 Work Programmes 2018-2020 as published on 2 July 2019. From these 30 calls, deadline of submission of 10 calls is closed.

Hereby the updated list of 20 calls still open. To note that by 22 January 2020, 10 more calls will close. For calls still open, click on link in the list hereunder.

FOCUS AREA: HEALTH, DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND WELLBEING” (SOCIETAL CHALLENGE 1)

Title	Topic Identifier	Type of Action	Opening Date	Deadline model	Closing Deadline	2 nd Stage Deadline
Better Health and care, economic growth and sustainable health systems						
Digital diagnostics – developing tools for supporting clinical decisions by integrating various diagnostic data	SC1-BHC-06-2020	RIA	4 July 2019	single-stage	7 April 2020	NA

Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) - Prevention and/or early diagnosis of cancer	SC1-BHC-17-2020	RIA	4 July 2019	single-stage	7 April 2020	NA
New approaches for clinical management and prevention of resistant bacterial infections in high prevalence settings	SC1-BHC-34-2020	RIA	4 July 2019	single-stage	7 April 2020	NA
Micro- and nano-plastics in our environment: Understanding exposures and impacts on human health	SC1-BHC-36-2020	RIA	4 July 2019	single-stage	7 April 2020	NA
Towards the new generation of clinical trials – trials methodology research	SC1-BHC-37-2020	RIA	4 July 2019	single-stage	7 April 2020	NA
Coordinating and supporting research on the human microbiome in Europe and beyond	SC1-HCO-17-2020	CSA	4 July 2019	single-stage	7 April 2020	NA
Reliable and accessible information on cell and gene-based therapies	SC1-HCO-19-2020	CSA	4 July 2019	single-stage	7 April 2020	NA

**FOCUS AREA: FOOD SECURITY, SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, MARINE, MARITIME AND INLAND WATER RESEARCH AND THE BIO ECONOMY”
(SOCIETAL CHALLENGE 2)**

Title	Topic Identifier	Type of Action	Opening Date	Deadline model	Closing Deadline	2 nd Stage Deadline
Sustainable Food Security						
Healthy terrestrial livestock microbial ecosystems for sustainable production	SFS-02-2020	RIA	15 October 2019	two-stage	22 January 2020	8 September 2020
Stepping up integrated pest management	SFS-06-2018-2020	CSA	15 October 2019	single-stage	22 January 2020	NA
Genome and epigenome enabled breeding in terrestrial livestock	SFS-13-2020	RIA	15 October 2019	two-stage	22 January 2020	8 September 2020
Rural Renaissance						
Reducing food losses and waste along the agri-food value chain	RUR-07-2020	IA	15 October 2019	single-stage	22 January 2020	NA
Closing nutrient cycles: C.[2020] Bio-based fertilisers from by-products of the agri-food, fisheries, aquaculture or forestry sectors (IA)	CE-RUR-08-2018-2019-2020	IA	15 October 2019	single-stage	22 January 2020	NA
Closing nutrient cycles: D.[2020] Bio-based fertilisers from waste water and sewage sludge (RIA)	CE-RUR-08-2018-2019-2020	RIA	15 October 2019	two-stage	22 January 2020	8 September 2020

Food and Natural Resources						
Industrial microbiomes – learning from nature	FNR-12-2020	RIA	15 October 2019	two-stage	22 January 2020	8 September 2020
Pilot action for the removal of marine plastics and litter	CE-FNR-09-2020	IA	15 October 2019	single-stage	22 January 2020	NA
Innovative textiles – reinventing fashion	CE-FNR-14-2020	IA	15 October 2019	single-stage	22 January 2020	NA
Pilot circular bio-based cities – sustainable production of bio-based products from urban biowaste and wastewater	CE-FNR-17-2020	IA	15 October 2019	single-stage	22 January 2020	NA

**FOCUS AREA: “SECURE, CLEAN & EFFICIENT ENERGY”
(SOCIETAL CHALLENGE 3)**

Title	Topic Identifier	Type of Action	Opening Date	Deadline model	Closing Deadline	2 nd Stage Deadline
Global leadership in renewables						
Combined clean biofuel production and phytoremediation solutions from contaminated lands worldwide	LC-SC3-RES-37-2020	RIA	3 December 2019	single-stage	21 April 2020	NA
International cooperation with Japan for Research and Innovation on advanced biofuels and alternative renewable fuels	LC-SC3-RES-25-2020	RIA	5 May 2020	single-stage	1 September 2020	NA
International cooperation with Canada on advanced biofuels and bioenergy	LC-SC3-RES-36-2020	RIA	5 May 2020	single-stage	1 September 2020	NA

For details on how to qualify for Co-Funding, see Web notice published on DBT website:

<http://dbtindia.gov.in/latest-announcement/opportunities-india-eu-co-funding-joint-proposals-under-horizon-2020-work>

To be noted

- The DBT co-funding is applicable to the above preselected calls;
- The Indian applicants have to comply with DBT's eligible conditions;
- Indian entities eligible to participate are:
 - Government of India supported or recognised (Public or Private) academia; research organisations and urban or other local bodies;
 - Government of India recognised not-for-profit, NGO(s)/ VO(s)/ Trust(s)/ Research foundations, having research as one of the imperative mandates;
 - Indian Industry can be a partner in the consortium and are eligible for funding subject to fulfilment of DBT's technical, administrative and financial norms.
- The successful Indian participant(s) are not required to sign the EC Grant Agreement

(GA) but they should indicate that they participate as International Partner(s) ([Article 14a of Model Grant Agreement](#)) already at the proposal preparation stage itself that thus, they will not sign the EC Grant Agreement (GA);

All proposals should be submitted to the Horizon 2020 Funding & Tenders Portal as well as to DBT (via email), including the budget requested from DBT. In the absence of this, DBT will disqualify the Indian participants from funding.

2.3 Co-funding by Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) under Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020

EU and India are joining forces to understand Climate Change and combat it together through increased efforts on research and innovation. Ministry of Earth Sciences identified two calls for co-funding in the EUs Horizon 2020 Work programme 2018-2020 on Climate change and polar sciences.

Check out the topics and modalities of cooperation in MoES Web notice: https://moes.gov.in/writereaddata/files/REVISED-Webnotice-CoFunding_IND-EU_2019-20.pdf

Title	Topic Identifier	Type of Action	Opening	Deadline model	Single Stage	second-Stage
The cryosphere						
Polar climate: understanding the polar processes in a global context in the Arctic and Antarctic Regions	LC-CLA-17-2020	RIA	12 November 2019	two-stage	13 February 2020	03 September 2020
Knowledge gaps						
Developing the next generation of Earth System Models	LC-CLA-18-2020	RIA	12 November 2019	two-stage	13 February 2020	03 September 2020

To be noted

- The MoES co-funding is applicable to the above pre-selected 2 calls only;
- The Indian applicants have to comply with MoES's eligible conditions;
- The successful Indian participant(s) are not required to sign the EC Grant Agreement (GA) but they should indicate that they participate as International partner(s) ([Article 14a of Model Grant Agreement](#)) at the proposal preparation stage itself and that thus they will not sign the EC Grant Agreement (GA);

3. Call Targeting the Participation of India to strengthen cooperation on Innovation

- **Title:** Centres/Networks of European research and innovation
- **ID:** GOVERNANCE-20-2020
- **Type of action:** Coordination and support action (CSA)
- **Deadline Model:** single-stage
- **Opening date:** 5 November 2019
- **Deadline:** 12 March 2020- 17:00:00 Brussels time

Scope:

To establish new centres or networks of centres, in close cooperation with local technology and innovation structures located in third countries and regions. See complete call text under this link:

<http://bit.ly/2Z8sr28>

The Commission considers that proposals requesting an EU contribution of around EUR 2-3 million, for duration of 3-4 years, would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

To be noted

Due to the specific challenge of this topic, legal entities established in the target country (India) are eligible for funding from Horizon 2020

4. Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)

Indian researchers are eligible for the Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual fellowships (IF) for PhD/Post-Doc. Indian research centres, universities and private companies performing research can also host European MSC fellows through a Global Fellowship Scheme.

Indian research centres, universities and private companies are also eligible to participate in the MSC Innovative Training Network (ITN) and the MCS Research and Innovation Staff Exchanges (RISE).

Open 2020 Calls

Innovative Training Networks (PhD) ([H2020-MSCA-ITN-2020](#))

Call Open Date: 12 September 2019

Deadline: 14 January 2020

Indicative Budget: €530 million

Open 2020 Calls

Research and Innovation Staff Exchange ([H2020-MSCA-RISE-2020](#))

Call Open Date: 5 December 2019

Deadline: 28 April 20

Indicative Budget: €80 million

Individual Fellowships (Post-Doc) ([H2020-MSCA-IF-2020](#))

Call Open Date: 8 April 2020

Deadline: 9 September 2020

Indicative Budget: €328 million

MSCA COFUND ([H2020-MSCA-COFUND-2020](#))

Call Open Date: 8 April 2020

Deadline: 29 September 20

Indicative Budget: €100 million

For more details and calls see: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>

5. European Research Council (ERC) Grants

The ERC aims to fund the best research undertaken by the best researchers of any nationality at any research institute or university in Europe (Member State or country associated to Horizon 2020). Excellence is the only evaluation criterion (excellence of the PI and excellence of the research project). ERC is open to all disciplines and calls are bottom up. Interdisciplinary proposals are encouraged.

ERC Consolidator Grant ([ERC-2020-CoG](#))

Call opened: 24 Oct 2019

Deadline: 4 Feb 2020

ERC Advanced Grant ([ERC-2020-AdG](#))

Call opened: 14 May 2020

Deadline: 26 Aug 2020

For more details and call see: <https://erc.europa.eu/>

In addition, an 'Implementing Arrangement' between the European Commission (EC) and the Indian [Science and Engineering Research Board](#) (SERB), allowing Indian researchers to join and collaborate with an ERC Principal Investigators (PIs) in Europe, was signed on 6th October 2017. This arrangement allows for short term (6 -12 months) collaboration opportunities between an ERC Team and Indian researcher beneficiary of a SERB grant.

For details on this 'Implementing Arrangement'

- See <https://erc.europa.eu/funding/additional-opportunities>
- Write to ERC-IMPLEMENTING-ARRANGEMENTS@ec.europa.eu
- Visit the SERB website <http://www.serb.gov.in/home.php>.

Expression of interest to host a SERB grantee in 2020, will be provided by SERB in the first quarter of 2020 (tbc).

6. Website of the Delegation of the EU to India and functional mailbox

- Delegation of the European Union to India: https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/india_en
- Questions may be addressed to the Delegation e-mail: DELEGATION-INDIA-RI@eeas.europa.eu

7. Local contact points

<u>Within DST:</u> Integrated local energy systems (Energy islands) call Dr JBV REDDY, Scientist – E Department of Science and Technology Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road New Delhi - 110 016, Phone: +91-11-26590328 (Direct) jbvreddy@nic.in	<u>Within DBT:</u> Dr Amit Parikh, Scientist 'E' International Cooperation, Department of Biotechnology, Fax: 91-11-24362884 icone@dbt.nic.in
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<u>Within MoES:</u> Dr Vijay KUMAR Scientist 'G' Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, Prithvi Bhavan, Opp. India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003 Phone : +91-11-24669518 vijay.kumar66@nic.in	<u>Within MoES:</u> Dr P.G. Dastidar Scientist 'G' Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, Prithvi Bhavan, Opp. India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003 Phone : +91-11-24669518 Prabir.gd@nic.in
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