



ENRF Briefing Note on Horizon 2020 Open Calls

Work Programme 2018 - 2020

The last phase of Horizon 2020 has been launched with the publication of the [Work Programme 2018 -2020 for Societal Challenge 1](#) (SC1) - Health, demographic change and wellbeing, that calls for proposals with an overall budget of about €2 billion. The calls are divided into three clusters of topics: Better health and care, economic growth and sustainable health systems; Digital transformation in health and care; Trusted digital solutions and cybersecurity in health and care. These three calls enclose the health priorities that need to be developed through detailed actions:

1. Better health and care, economic growth and sustainable health systems – This call covers 5 priorities: personalised medicine; infectious diseases, decoding the role of environment for health and well-being; innovative health and care systems - integration of care; innovative health and care industry.
2. Digital transformation in health and care – This call aims to: provide better access to healthcare and sustainability of health and care systems; to empower the participation of citizens and facilitate the transformation of healthcare services to more digitised, person-centred and community based care models; and promote the use of Ehealth and mHealth.
3. Trusted digital solutions and cybersecurity in health and care – This call aims at multidisciplinary technologies and solution in healthcare with a focus on cybersecurity to assure data privacy, security and protection of health and care infrastructures.

Although these three areas are important for the nursing researchers to get involved, let's focus on the actions under the digital transformation in health and care calls:

SC1-DTH-03-2018 adaptive smart working and living environments supporting active and healthy ageing - Proposals should develop and validate digitally enabled adaptive services and solutions leading to smart work environments for older adults, supporting them to remain actively involved in professional life, helping them to sustain and renew their work and personal life related skills and support independent active and healthy lifestyles while taking into account reduced capabilities due to age-related health risks and conditions. Proposals should build on active user engagement.

SC1-DTH-07-2018: Exploiting the full potential of in-silico medicine research for personalised diagnostics and therapies in cloud-based environments - Proposals are expected to develop and validate software tools and devices for diagnostic or treatment based on computational modelling and simulation applied in biology and physiology. The solutions should enable decision making in complex situations and contribute to a more precise and personalised management of diseases in order to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases, such as cancer – important to gather existing infrastructures.

SC1-DTH-08-2018: Prototyping a European interoperable Electronic Health Record (EHR) exchange - The focus is on developing and testing an extensible, secure and interoperable platform in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Network and Information Systems Directive. The work should include the development of a European prototype implementation with embedded security and large-scale testing and validation in a set of use cases with demonstrated relevance for citizens' health and with involvement of citizens and health professionals across Europe. Health authorities should be involved in the relevant parts of the proposed work.

SC1-HCC-03-2018: Support to further development of international cooperation in digital transformation of health and care - The action should develop and deliver a roadmap for international cooperation which outlines key relevant research and innovation areas in digital solutions and services for active and healthy ageing. The selection of topics and potential funding schemes should be based on a clear methodology which also takes into account the European added-value and identifies relevant existing and emerging initiatives which can form the

basis for such a cooperation. The action should also ensure that relevant stakeholders are engaged during the process through regional and international workshops and a set of communication and dissemination actions.

SC1-HCC-05-2018 Support to a Digital Health and Care Innovation initiative in the context of Digital Single Market (DSM) strategy - The proposal should provide appropriate indicators to measure its progress and specific impact in the following areas:

1. Effective support to and engagement of stakeholders active on the third DTHC priority of the DSM, resulting in tangible impact from the beginning of the action and sustainably throughout its duration.
2. Functional collaboration platforms on key aspects of the three DTHC priorities of the DSM and instrumental contribution to the implementation of EU policy on DTHC in the context of the DSM.
3. Actionable strategic vision for EU policy on DTHC beyond 2020, including appropriate mobilisation of EU instruments.

SC1-HCC-04-2018: Digital health and care services—support for strategy and (early) adoption - Create favourable framework conditions for cross-border Communities of Practise and create a network that will assist the health & care research and innovation ecosystems in taking investment decisions on future procurement of research and innovation and, eventually, on (large scale) deployment of eHealth systems and new care delivery models. The network should support existing ecosystems, create capacities, promote, co-ordinate, collaborate with other innovation accelerators and investors, and focus on adoption and scale of health innovation European wide. To facilitate sufficient knowledge brokerage all appropriate actors in the innovation chain and systems should be engaged

SC1-DTH-10-2019-2020: Digital health and care services - The call aims to address digital solutions supporting a continuum of care across a range of health and care services to provide more cost-effective health and care systems by improving utilisation of healthcare and health outcomes. Key challenges that could be addressed are patient empowerment, self-management, patient safety, patient involvement, chronic disease management, diagnosing, home-care logistics, hospital logistics, skills and independent living. These challenges could be addressed by applicable ICT domains e.g., telemedicine, mHealth, IoT, shared open source IT-based platforms, etc. as will be defined in the market consultation process. This should result in early adoption and demonstration of the potential for scaling-up the services and positive impact with evidence of appropriate incentives of various actors. The service innovation should facilitate the early adoption and transferability (to other local contexts) of successful solutions addressing the innovation gap.

This is just a snapshot of the current H2020 Open Calls.

The specific rules of participation to the calls are available in the Work Programme, whereas in the [General Annexes](#) you can find all criteria concerning the eligible countries, the standard admissibility conditions, the standard eligibility conditions, the provisions for specific actions, and the evaluation rules.

Following the submission of the proposals, the evaluation results will be available in 5 months from the deadline and the grant agreement will be set up within 8 months. As most of the calls have their deadline in April 2018, the projects coming out of this call are supposed to start beginning 2019.

The participation rules also clarify the role of third parties and beneficiaries that carry out work in the action. Beneficiaries are the ones who are signing the grant agreement, while the third parties are not signatories but still participating in the project. There are two types of third parties: not signing but part of the project (affiliated entities), and sub-contractors (signing, but they don't charge cost but invoice). The difference relates to the link with the participants and the cost.

An essential aspect to take into account when developing a proposal concerns ethics, a part of the project idea that is crucial to include as a core element and not only as a simple add-on. Also, it is important to address the gender dimension, and to have a specific session on communication and to distinguish it from dissemination.

It is also central to clarify that all SC1 topics are open to international cooperation, which is encouraged. In effect, it is demonstrated that the success rate of proposals with different numbers of applicants from non-associated countries and third countries increases.

A crucial aspect for the nursing community is the nurses' role that end-users will play in the projects. In this context, the European Commission has stressed that there is a need for policies, strategies to be implemented in a concerted manner, as all the innovation in healthcare should be users-driven, therefore their involvement should be promoted in the consortium. So, it is key nurses negotiate their position in submission! In this sense, the Commission has clarified that in the composition of consortia it is important to explain how end-users are included in the proposal.

The H2020 Work Programme 2018 – 2020 for SC1 includes many opportunities that offer nurses to concretely engage and provide their inputs. Building on ENS4care, the EFN led DG Connect project in 2015, it is crucial to explore consortia willing to focus on the upcoming call, to meet and to develop proposals prior April 2018.

If you are interested in exploring further these calls, and even planning to submit or being partner of a strong consortium, please let us know. It is key nurses support each other, even in a competitive world. If the Digital Internal Market is a priority for the Commission, let's make sure nurses, nursing is in the driving seat!

Finally, if you are selected by the commission as an evaluator for H2020 calls, please let us know. It is key EFN provides a platform where nurse evaluators in H2020 can meet, talk and get to know each other. I assume the Brussels evaluation will take place end May, beginning June! Please feel free passing by the EFN office!

ENRF Briefing Note – 9 December 2017

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