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Your network of Transport National Contact Points

International Cooperation in Horizon 2020 Transport R&I area



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Global Strategies and Priorities

International cooperation in Transport is part of a **global strategy** in order to strengthen the EU's R&I excellence, attractiveness, economic and industrial competitiveness, tackling global societal challenges (including "Smart, green and integrated Transport"), and supporting the EU's external policies.

International Cooperation in R&I Global Strategy	
Partner Country or Region	Specific Objectives
<i>EEA/EFTA/EU</i>	Integration within European Research Area (ERA)
<i>European Neighbourhood Policy countries</i>	Support a Common Knowledge and Innovation Space
<i>Industrialised Countries</i> <i>Emerging Economies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing competitiveness - Joint tackling of Global Challenges - Increasing participation in International value chains
<i>Developing countries</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting sustainable development - Addressing global challenges

Regarding transport issues at large, depending on the key challenge at stake, there is a different way to cooperate. Indeed bilateral approaches are not always able to achieve the critical mass that is a prerequisite to successfully operate on global markets.

International Cooperation Means versus Key Challenges ¹			
Global challenges	Exchange of best practices	Enhancement of the competitiveness	Access to new markets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CO2 and polluting emissions - Oil dependency - Transport safety and security - Noise pollution - Standardisation of many services, products and procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic congestion - Land use planning - Behavioural issues 	Promoting the take-up and trade of novel technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where the applicable regulatory regime is international - When it results in barriers to the market introduction of innovative solutions coming from EU actors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High-end European produced vehicle - Strong European know-how

¹ See "Smart, Green and Integrated Transport" Work-Programme 2016-17

Mutually beneficial cooperation		
US	China, Brazil and other countries	Africa
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Road transport automation, - Green vehicles, safety, - Infrastructure, - Climate change mitigation and adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green vehicles - Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transport Safety

Tools for multinational collaboration in H2020

There is not only one-way of cooperating with international partners within SC4. Horizon 2020 has developed several tools and ways for cooperation:

Beneficiary: This is the traditional way of including an international partner within a project. The international partner will have the same rights and obligation as a European partner (i.e. IPR, open access, open data, ethics...)

Associated Partner: When submitting your proposal, you can identify international associated partners within the part B and therefore plan dissemination activities with them. They will not carry core tasks of the project but can participate in the project activities, for instance to the advisory board, be invited to workshops...

Twinning: In some of the SC4 flagged international topics, a twinning scheme is encouraged. This means than previous to the publication of the call, the EC and another funding agency from a third country agreed on path for collaboration, Similar projects from both sides will be twinned by the funding agencies.

When preparing your proposal, you should therefore plan activities tailored for collaboration such as data sharing, exchange of good practices, and organisation of workshops...).

ERANET: Some ERANETs can foresee the participation of international partners. For instance, in 2014, projects funded by INFRAVATION had to have US partners within the consortium.

2017 Funding Opportunities

Within the Work Programme 'Smart green and integrated transport', with reference to the 2017 calls for proposals, 10 open topics are flagged as relevant for international cooperation:

	Call	Type of collaboration
H2020 – SC4 Work Programme 2017 (Flagged Topics)	MG-1-2-2017: Reducing aviation noise	Encouraged
	MG-1-5-2016-2017: Identification of gaps, barriers and needs in the aviation research	More than encouraged
	MG-3.2-2017: Protection of all road users in crashes	Encouraged, in particular with industrial and emerging countries Twinning scheme with US DOT
	MG-5-4-2017: Potential of the Physical Internet	Encouraged in particular with US, Canada and Hong Kong
	MG-7-1-2017: Resilience to extreme (natural and man-made) events	Encouraged Twinning scheme with US DOT
	MG-7-2-2017: Optimisation of transport infrastructure including terminals	Encouraged, in particular with Neighbouring Partner Countries Collaboration with Infravation projects
	MG-7-3-2017: The Port of the future	Encouraged, in particular with Mediterranean and other Neighbouring Partner Countries
	ART-07-2017: Full-scale demonstration of urban road transport automation	Encouraged Twinning scheme with US DOT
	GV-07-2017: Multi-level modeling and testing of electric vehicles and their components	Potential international cooperation in establishing standard procedures
	GV-08-2017: Electrified urban commercial vehicles integration with fast charging infrastructure	Potential cooperation with entities funded by Japan and US

Key reference processes

I am preparing a proposal and I would like to include an international partner within the consortium:

If you cannot find an international partner within your current partners' network or find new ones via their business networks, there is a partner search tool developed by ETNA2020 to publish your organisation profile or identify contact proposal: <http://www.transport-ncps.net/partner-search/>.

The participation in brokerage events and information days can be another opportunity to find project partners from Third countries. And, last but not least, the National Contact Points (NCP) from a third countries or from European Member States as well as Associated Countries can help you find an international partner (please, check SC4 NCPs contacts on <http://www.transport-ncps.net/find-your-ncp/>).

Is it possible for a participant from a third country to coordinate a project under Horizon 2020?

Yes, in principle, entities from third countries can become project coordinators in Horizon 2020. There are no limitations regarding the coordinator's place of establishment. However, participants from industrialised countries and emerging economies would nevertheless not be automatically eligible for funding. Therefore they also would be not be reimbursed for the costs related to the specific tasks of coordination. It should be taken into account that being coordinator involves an additional effort in comparison to being a normal project participant.

Does my partner will be automatically reimbursed, even if it is from a Third Country?

Type of country	Funding
About 130 non-European countries across the world (list of countries in General Annex A)	Automatically eligible for funding
Industrialised countries and emerging economies (Brazil, China, India, Mexico, Russia)	Only eligible for funding in exceptional cases
International Organisations	Only eligible for funding in exceptional cases

Where can I find information on national funding for international partner participating to H2020 projects?

The European Commission prepared [short factsheets](#) for countries not automatically eligible for funding listing the possibilities for national funding.

Should my partner sign a letter of intent?

In SC4 calls for proposal, the letter of intent is not mandatory. However, it is advised to prepare and sign one with your international partner, stating clearly the purpose of the proposal, the non-disclosure of confidential information and the acknowledgement of the coordinator.

Future perspective for the Transport sector

- Joint R&I activities
- Novel instruments development (incentives, standards, multilateral policy dialogue...)
- Foster education programmes directed to the next generation of transport leaders in other regions of the world
- Reciprocal and compatible regulations for trade (i.e. automated vehicles exportation...)
- International governance catalyser
- Awareness of global state of research.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[ETNA 2020 network](#)

[Find your national Transport NCP](#)