



European
IP Helpdesk



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Editorial

After a long time in the making, Horizon Europe the European Union’s ninth Framework Programme for Research and Innovation has successfully started this year and the first Calls for Proposals have been launched. With a total budget of €95.5 billion over a period of seven years (2021 – 2027), Horizon Europe is Europe’s biggest-ever R&D programme and one of the largest public funding schemes for research and innovation in the world.

Aiming to bolster ground-breaking research and accelerate the transfer of research results into innovations with societal, scientific and economic impact, Horizon Europe boasts a variety of different funding measures covering the whole innovation cycle: from basic research to the development of application-oriented products and services to their successful exploitation and marketing.

Maximising the impacts of R&D investment is one of the key guiding principles of the programme. While the strategic valorisation of research results has already been a cornerstone of the previous Horizon 2020 Framework Programme, efforts have been stepped up to treat impacts and credible pathways to reach them in a more rigorous and systematic way. It comes as little surprise, that questions related to intellectual property (IP) management, protection and valorisation play a fundamental role in the successful planning, implementation and exploitation of Horizon Europe projects.

With this Bulletin edition we take a look at some of the key features and novelties of the new programme – with a particular focus on IP-related aspects. Plus, we introduce you to a number of helpful initiatives, tools and services such as the Horizon Results Platform, the Horizon Results Booster or the new Horizon IP Scan service, which have been launched by the European Commission to help beneficiaries better deal with IP issues and boost the uptake and exploitation of their research results.

Moreover, an article showcasing the EC’s new Open Research Platform addresses the question of how IP protection and the EU’ Open Science Policy go together. And we draw our attention to two major actors of the European innovation ecosystem and integral building blocks of the programme’s third pillar “Innovative Europe”: the European Innovation Council (EIC) and the European Institute of Technology and Innovation (EIT). Both promote specific IP policies and provisions in their funding actions to ensure beneficiaries do not only have IP strategies in place, but are also able to successfully put them into practice.

Wishing you an insightful read,
The European IP Helpdesk editorial team

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FUTURE

PAST

Introducing Horizon Europe: Promoting Science and Technological Development in Europe

Horizon Europe is the European Union’s newest framework programme for research and innovation with a seven-year programme period from 2021 to 2027. As the main instrument for promoting science and technological development in Europe, it has a total budget of €95.5 billion, making it one of the world’s largest public funding programmes for research and innovation.

The central goal of [Horizon Europe](#) remains the same as for its predecessor programme “Horizon 2020”: to accelerate the transfer of ground-breaking research results into marketable innovations and services through targeted funding measures. Thus, the ninth EU framework programme is striving to make a decisive contribution to Europe’s global competitiveness and economic strength.

Its thematic focus lies on the most pressing social issues of our time such as climate change, sustainable development (keyword “Green Deal”), digitalisation, and health, and here in particular the ongoing fight against the coronavirus as well as measures for sustainable stabilisation and recovery from the consequences of the global pandemic. With these priorities, the European Commission strives to support the achievement of the [UN’s Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Horizon Europe continues to offer numerous opportunities for both individual and collaborative funding and the various funding instruments are taking into account the entire innovation cycle: from basic research to the development of application-oriented products and services to their successful exploitation and marketing. In this context, various questions related to intellectual property (IP) management become relevant at different stages of a Horizon Europe research and innovation project, starting with the proposal preparation through project implementation to actual exploitation of results.

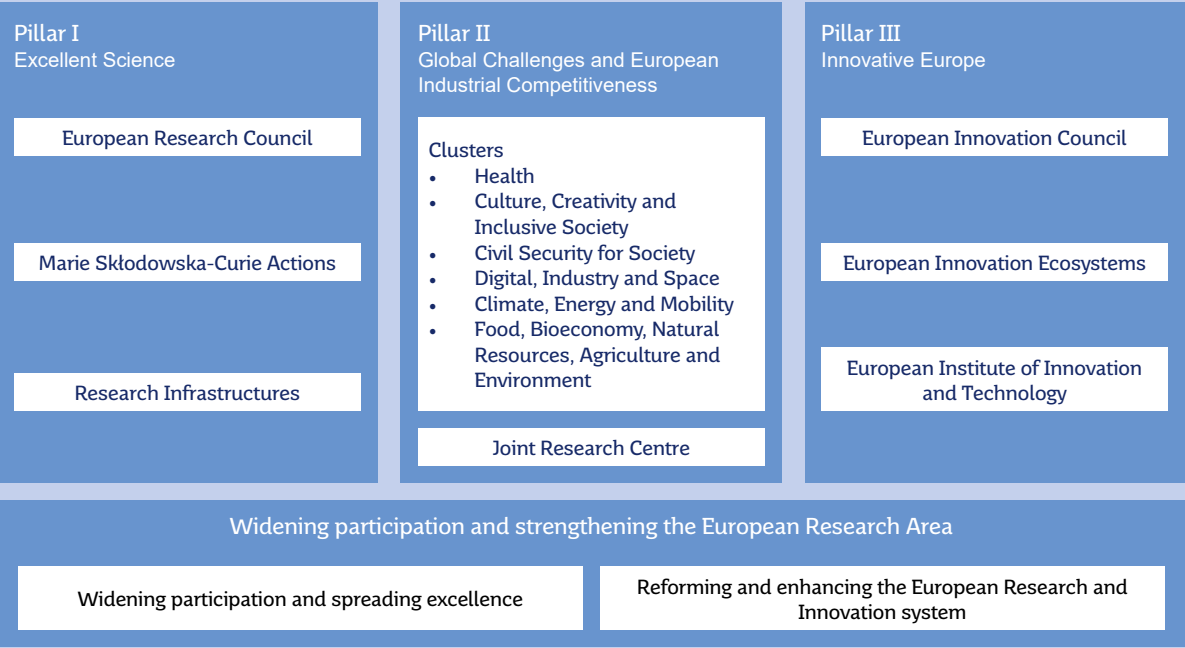
The programme also strongly embraces Open Science principles to increase the quality, efficiency, and impact of research outputs and innovation. Grant beneficiaries are encouraged to share their results openly and as early on in the project lifetime as possible, for example through the new [Open Research Europe](#) platform.

How is Horizon Europe structured?

While the overall structure of Horizon Europe is largely based on the existing structure of Horizon 2020 and adopts many of its programme lines and rules, it also introduces several programme novelties and financial changes which are the result of lessons learnt from Horizon 2020. For the first time, Horizon Europe establishes so-called “missions” as EU-wide research and development instruments that address ambitious goals to tackle challenges with high societal relevance in Europe in an interdisciplinary manner.

Strongly resembling the Horizon 2020 structure, Horizon Europe rests on three central pillars: “Excellent Science”, “Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness”, and “Innovative Europe”. These are complemented by the area “Increasing participation and strengthening the European Research Area”, which focuses on the development of the European Research Area as a whole and aims to reduce the gap between EU Member States with strong research capabilities and those with weaker ones.

Horizon Europe programme structure



Pillar one continues the initiatives under the European Research Council (ERC) focused on excellent frontier research, the mobility funding instruments under Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, and the funding of research infrastructures.

Pillar two is organised into six clusters targeting global societal challenges and European industrial leadership. Research and innovation activities in this pillar will be implemented in and across the following clusters:

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

The third pillar has seen perhaps the largest adjustment in comparison to the previous framework programme. Now focussed even more strongly on stimulating market-creating innovations, encouraging growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and networking of (inter-) national innovation actors, the new third pillar in Horizon Europe introduces several measures that specifically promote innovation, such as the various funding instruments of the European Innovation Council (EIC) and the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT).

Overall, Horizon Europe offers SMEs a wide range of participation opportunities: from individual funding to classic collaborative research by consortia with several partners.

What is the strategic plan behind Horizon Europe?

In March 2021, the European Commission adopted the first strategic plan for Horizon Europe, which defines the key orientations for the research and innovation investments for the initial four years of the programme. It aims to ensure that EU research and innovation actions contribute to the main EU priorities, as briefly outlined above.

The following four strategic orientations have been identified for the programme period 2021–2024:

- Promoting an open strategic autonomy by leading the development of key digital, enabling and emerging technologies, sectors, and value chains
- Restoring Europe's ecosystems and biodiversity, and managing sustainably natural resources
- Making Europe the first digitally-enabled circular, climate-neutral and sustainable economy
- Creating a more resilient, inclusive and democratic European society

Photo by Emily Hoehenrieder on Unsplash



The EU Valorisation Policy: Putting Horizon Europe into Context

Written by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation, Unit E.2 – Valorisation Policies & IPR

Understanding the why and what of the EU Valorisation Policy is a prerequisite to understanding the novelties of Horizon Europe. The guiding principles of the implementation strategy for Horizon Europe include maximising impacts, providing greater transparency and simplification, fostering synergies with other EU funding programmes and providing easy access through the [European Commission's Funding & Tenders Portal](#).

Getting started: why is knowledge valorisation important?

Knowledge valorisation plays an essential role in enabling Europe's systemic transformations into a greener, digital, inclusive and sustainable society. Research and Innovation (R&I), knowledge sharing and collaboration across Member States will accelerate turning publicly funded research solutions into innovative solutions with high socio-economic impact. The Commission's

proposal to revitalise the [European Research Area](#) (ERA) for R&I, clearly identifies knowledge valorisation as key element for the uptake of results by economy and society.

There is a strong political will as demonstrated by the Council of the European Union that translates into concrete actions to support an EU valorisation policy. In May 2020, the ministers stressed in particular the transfer of knowledge and cooperation between industry and academia as milestones for ERA. In their conclusions published in December 2020, they also welcomed the initiative of the Commission to review and update the 2008 Recommendation on the management of intellectual property in knowledge transfer activities by developing Guiding Principles for knowledge valorisation and a Code of Practice for the smart use of intellectual property (IP).

The Member States confirmed their commitment in the abovementioned update and an ERA subforum was created to co-create and co-design the new Guiding Principles. Through this update, knowledge generators as well as businesses and other actors in the Open Science and Open Innovation ecosystems will benefit from concrete guidance to enhance the transformation of R&I results into sustainable solutions for society that underpin the twin green and digital transitions. This action is expected by the end of 2022 and will support a common valorisation strategy for research and innovation based on existing good practices.

EU valorisation strategy: making research results work for society

As a first step towards developing a knowledge valorisation strategy, the European Commission carried out a policy review "[Valorisation Channels and Tools](#)" that identifies and analyses the six main channels for knowledge valorisation. The latter include 1) academia-

industry joint research and mobility; 2) the creation of research-driven spin-offs and start-ups; 3) intermediaries and knowledge transfer professional support; 4) the engagement of citizens and local communities; 5) IP management and standardisation; and 6) knowledge dissemination and policy uptake.

The review provides a toolbox to promote the uptake of R&I results and data. To enhance the diffusion of excellent national, regional and organisation-level initiatives, it also includes references to European and international best practices.

Ongoing and planned actions of the European Commission with regard to the six main channels encompass:

1. Academia-industry joint research and mobility
Exchange between industry and academia helps academic knowledge and results flow into industry. Likewise, it gives researchers the opportunity to increase their skills and gain a better knowledge of industry needs.

What the EU is doing: Contractual public-private partnerships (cPPPs), Future and Emerging Technology (FET Flagships), Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

2. Research-driven spin-offs and start-ups
Spin-offs and start-ups are of key importance, as they offer students or academics an entrepreneurial route to commercialising the knowledge they have developed. Structured access to finance is crucial for these early stage companies.

What the EU is doing:

[European Innovation Council \(EIC\)](#), [European Research Council Proof of Concept \(ERC-POC\)](#)

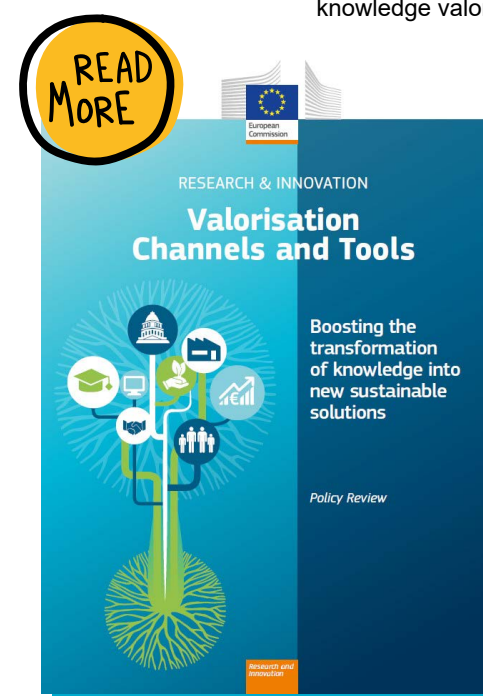
Find out more:

[Factsheet: The bridging role of academic start-ups](#)

3. Intermediaries and knowledge transfer

Intermediary organisations, such as knowledge transfer offices, technology transfer offices, business incubators and science parks, help researchers and innovators commercialise their solutions, products and services.

These are the first contact point for researchers and industry looking for new opportunities. They also promote additional instruments and services to boost the innovation potential of research through networking, mentoring activities, coaching and exchange of best practices.



What the EU is doing:

EIT - Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs), [Horizon Results Booster](#), [Technology Transfer Offices \(TTO\) Circle](#)

4. Citizens and public bodies

Engaging with citizens ensures that new knowledge leads to innovative solutions that matter to people. Citizen-led solutions have higher societal acceptance and are therefore more effective.

Citizens-led demand for science-based solutions has been a driving force for policymaking. The European Green Deal is a case in point: the Commission pledged “to involve local communities in working towards a more sustainable future, in initiatives that seek to combine societal pull and technology push”. In Horizon Europe, citizen involvement has gained even more importance.

What the EU is doing:

[European Capital of Innovation \(iCapital\) Award](#)

Find out more:

[Factsheet: Engaging citizens to accelerate use of research results to benefit all](#)

5. Intellectual property and standards

A ‘fit-for-purpose’ IP framework ensures the creators of research outputs have a competitive advantage. Good IP management fosters innovation, creativity and knowledge sharing, and improves the chances of knowledge reaching the market and benefiting society.

The valorisation of the IP generated by the European research framework programme enables fair and transparent access to well-being as well as ecological and digital solutions.

Standards form a common language that allows researchers, people and industry to communicate, produce and commercialise products and services. This is especially important in the European single market.

Standards are a crucial tool to get the most out of research results, because they:

- help researchers bring their innovation to the market by making their results transparent and ensuring high quality,
- build consumer trust in innovative technology because they guarantee safety and quality,
- codify the technology requirements and inform both manufacturers and consumers on what to expect
- allow technologies and materials to be interoperable: because a standard provides details on the use and content of a technology or a material, it is much easier to know when and how it can be used in combination with other technologies

In Horizon Europe, the increased emphasis on standardisation has resulted in an updated standardisation table.

What the EU is doing:

- [Manifesto for EU COVID-19 Research](#), several IP support services such as the [European IPR Helpdesk](#), [Horizon IP Scan](#) or [IP Booster](#)

Find out more:

[Factsheet: Intellectual Property fosters innovation and societal impact](#)
[Factsheet: From research to standards](#)

6. Knowledge dissemination and policy uptake

Ensuring that advances in science and technology are as open as possible is vital in our knowledge-driven world, where data are increasingly valuable and access to data considered a competitive advantage.

Research results such as studies, data, models, experiments and theoretical analyses greatly benefit data-informed policy making. They can help decision-makers better understand the nature of the challenges they face and the possible implications of the decisions they may take.

What the EU is doing:

[Horizon Results Platform](#), [JRC Policy Lab](#), [Scientific Advice Mechanism \(SAM\)](#)

Find out more:

[Factsheet: Sharing knowledge and informing policy](#)

In addition to the policy review, the report of the survey [“Towards a Policy Dialogue and Exchange of Best Practices on Knowledge Valorisation”](#), published in February this year, summarises feedback and comments from the EU Member States and interested European Economic Area (EEA) countries on concrete areas for a policy dialogue and exchange of best practices. Furthermore, it contains a collection of best practices, drawing upon the experience of the participating countries taking into account the survey results.



Best practices and first-hand experiences have also been shared during the [knowledge valorisation week](#) organised in April 2021. The Member States have showcased excellent examples of strategies and tools to boost the uptake of research results that benefit all. It has connected policy makers and stakeholders from across Europe and nudged dialogue and knowledge sharing.

In addition, a [knowledge valorisation platform](#) was launched during this year's R&I days by Commissioner Gabriel that will serve as discussion and collaboration forum between the Member States and the Commission and will host a repository of knowledge valorisation best practices.

In a nutshell

Why do we need an EU valorisation policy?

People expect science to be a driving force in the transition towards a greener and fairer society. For research and innovation to play a crucial role in this transition, excellent research results and data need to be made available quickly and put into practical use across Europe.

What does the policy aim to do?

Its goal is to increase the impact of the EU's investment in research and innovation, involving all players and ensuring that data, research results and innovations are transformed into sustainable products, processes and services that bring economic value and benefit society.

How to ensure we fully exploit research results?

The policy review is the first milestone in the definition of a European knowledge valorisation strategy. It describes the different means available to:

- improve how we transform research results into new sustainable solutions,
- identify and analyse the main channels for the uptake of research and innovation results,
- get better at spreading excellent national practices,
- highlight and communicate best practices from Europe and beyond.

Find out more:

[Factsheet: Making results work for society](#)

What Is New?

Central Novelties Related to Research Valorisation in Horizon Europe

Written by European Commission, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation, Unit E.2 – Valorisation Policies & IPR and Unit GH.6 - Common Knowledge and Data Management Service



Photo by Paweł Janiak on Unsplash

The valorisation policy of the European Union (EU) illustrates the EU's strategic focus on making research results work for society: Research and Innovation (R&I), knowledge sharing and collaboration across Member States will accelerate turning publicly funded R&I results into innovative solutions with high socio-economic impact. To this end, the EU's valorisation policy is reflected in a number of strategic principles and activities of Horizon Europe. This article takes a look at some of the Programmes key novelties linked to valorisation along with their *raison d'être*.

Horizon Europe legislation defines three types of contribution to impact on society: Scientific, Societal and Economic, tracked through nine Key Impact Pathways. Additions to the Dissemination & Exploitation activities of results, to help maximise the impacts of EU R&I funding, are also covered, including proposal redesign, continuous reporting and reinforced intellectual property (IP) management.

To facilitate the uptake of research results by third parties, the [Horizon Results Platform \(HRP\)](#), the central showcase for EU-funded R&I results, now offers

beneficiaries increased guidance and tools. In addition, the new [Horizon Results TV](#) offers experts' advice on how to exploit research results, as well as inspirational stories by researchers who have succeeded in becoming entrepreneurs.

Key Impact Pathways: a modernised monitoring approach

Horizon Europe is an impact-focused programme: from project selection to monitoring of its results and impact. We know from the previous programmes that EU's research and innovation is excellent, but at times may leave room for improvement when it comes to bringing new knowledge to the market and achieving a larger impact on society and economy.

The new Key Impact Pathways set a new, ambitious framework for Horizon Europe. They introduce new focus on impact next to consistent monitoring tools to track it on a granular level. Communication, dissemination and exploitation of results are some of the ways in which Horizon Europe projects can maximise their impact within this framework.

Horizon Europe legislation defines three types of impact tracked through Key Impact Pathways





Dissemination & Exploitation

In Horizon Europe, Dissemination & Exploitation (D&E) remains a key aspect of research valorisation of the programme. Furthermore, a greater emphasis will be placed on gathering feedback from beneficiaries and providing integrated D&E support services. In order to accelerate the uptake of R&I results, various events and initiatives will be organised to connect beneficiaries and targeted stakeholders e.g. policy makers, investors, national and regional actors, universities, social entrepreneurs, etc.

D&E can be seen as an “ecosystem,” where its main actors will be brought closer together to create a dynamic sharing of knowledge for the benefit of making EU-funded R&I research results matter.

In the following section, we spotlight some of the main D&E novelties under Horizon Europe:

What is new at the proposal stage?

No more D&E plan in the proposal

If you have applied to a Horizon Europe call, you may have noticed that the D&E plan is no longer a requirement. Instead, we ask beneficiaries to draft an outline of their D&E measures and IP strategy, where relevant.

You may wonder why this change? There are several reasons. Firstly, simplification. We just ask beneficiaries to list a few measures they intend to undertake for D&E and communication activities. Second, this puts all the applicants on an equal footing. In the past, we noticed that many beneficiaries used consultants to draft their D&E plans. Those projects received a very strong score when evaluated. However, at the moment of implementation, the consultants were no longer present to support the projects in the implementation of the foreseen plans.

In other cases, the projects drafted the D&E plans listing numerous ambitious activities but failed to deliver during the actual implementation. This is why under Horizon Europe, we ask projects to provide their D&E plans six months after the signature of the grant. The idea is that at this stage they will already have a better idea of the kind of (key) results to expect, the pressure of the selection process will be over, and they can truly focus on how to best disseminate, use and valorise their results.

Why did we group D&E with Communication (C)? Why isn't it CDE? D&E is present in the legal basis, whereas communication is not. However, we know that in practice beneficiaries tend to group D&C together. We know that they are complementary and sometimes overlapping, this is why the measures should be listed in the same section.

What is new with regard to project reporting?

Structured continuous reporting

Under Horizon Europe, continuous reporting templates have been adapted. The new reporting system entails filling in a structured template with prefilled answers. This brings along several benefits. By filling in the templates, the beneficiaries will have an indication of what the European Commission expects from them; it may also give them ideas of D&E activities to undertake. Beneficiaries will no longer need to fill in part B for D&E, unless if they want to.

Union interest

If any exploitation is to take place in non-associated third countries, beneficiaries must include justification on how this exploitation remains in the Union's interest. Another EC policy that is aligned with this notion is the Industrial Policy.

Post grant survey

Two years after the end of the grant, there will be a structured questionnaire for beneficiaries to report on their progress, needs and obstacles on their path towards exploitation. This questionnaire may become part of the EC grant management system and will

remain open until the conclusion of the follow up period after the end of the project where a final report will be created. Once the survey is available, beneficiaries will be duly informed.

To sum up, this new reporting system aims to provide a clear picture on: the number of patents (or lack of); whether there are Key Exploitable Results; ownership and more. The new monitoring and reporting for Horizon Europe will bring into spotlight what is being accomplished in each project in real time. It will also inform on indicators, such as the number of patents per country.

What is new with regard to managing IP?



For the management of IP, each Horizon Europe beneficiary shall use their best efforts to exploit the results they own, or to have them exploited by another legal entity, in particular through the transfer and licensing of results. Beneficiaries are thus required to adequately protect their results – if possible and justified – taking account of possible prospects for commercial exploitation and any other legitimate interest.

New elements concerning the IP strategy for projects, within the terms of Article 39 of the Horizon Europe legislation, include:

- **Mandatory Results Ownership List (ROL):** Beneficiaries must now inform on the owner(s) of the results (results ownership list) in the reporting. This includes whether the ownership is single or joint, the name of the owner(s), the country of establishment of the owner(s) and whether the results will be exploited by the owner(s). Failure to do so will block both the submission of the final periodic report and the final payment.
- Horizon Europe has a specific objective: to strengthen the exploitation of research results. This calls for clarity as to results ownership. Until Horizon Europe, lack of clarity has been an obstacle that has prevented certain results from being exploitable.
- **Public emergency provision:** Where the call conditions impose additional exploitation obligations in case of a public emergency, the granting authority may have the beneficiaries grant non-exclusive licences of their results to the legal entities that need the results to address the public emergency, for a limited period of time (four years maximum).
 - Public emergencies could cover events such as pandemic diseases (like Covid-19), terrorist attacks, hacking, earthquakes, tsunamis, CBRN events, e.g. novel and highly fatal infectious agents or biological or chemical toxins, as well as those from resulting cascading risks.

What is new with regard to what happens after the end of the project and the support services?

New obligation of beneficiaries to exploit their results on Horizon Results Platform

In Horizon Europe, the follow-up of the exploitation activities will continue after the end of the project. As formalized in the Model Grant Agreement: ***“If despite the best effort for exploitation no uptake happens within a specific period after the end of the project (one year), then the project must use the Horizon Results Platform (HRP) to make exploitable results visible (unless obligation is waived).”***

The Horizon Results Platform, as part of the Funding & Tenders portal, provides multiple benefits to beneficiaries: greater visibility and faster matchmaking, targeted innovator promotional events, free access to support services, quick searches, and more.

Learn more about the Horizon Results Platform in the dedicated article “Making Results Matter” also published in this issue.

Conclusion

To sum up, Horizon Europe has introduced new measures and practices to facilitate collaboration and to maximise the impact of research and innovation in delivering on the EU’s strategic priorities.

The European Commission’s Dissemination & Exploitation strategy in Horizon Europe bolsters the European Union’s key objective of the valorisation policy: transforming R&I into innovative solutions and valuable policy inputs.

In Horizon Europe, the new Key Impact Pathways to monitoring impact, the continuous reporting and the reinforced IP management are fundamental building blocks, enabling Europe’s systemic transformations into a greener, digital, inclusive and sustainable society.

Where to find further information on Horizon Europe?

The Horizon Europe **Funding & Tenders Portal** is the central information hub giving access to key reference documents and supporting material:

- [Rules for Participation](#)
- [Model Grant Agreement](#)
- [Online Manual](#) (please note: the IP section is a work in progress)
- [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#)
- Applicable Work Programmes (to be selected individually via the Portal)

Watch now!

Interested in diving deeper into “Dissemination & Exploitation” under Horizon Europe?
Then watch the recording of our webinar session specifically dealing with this topic:



HORIZON RESULTS PLATFORM

MAKING RESULTS MATTER

Introducing the Horizon Results Platform and Horizon Results Platform TV

Written by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation, Directorates G and H – Common Policy Centre (CPC) and Common Implementation Centre (CIC), Unit GH.6 - Common Knowledge and Data Management Service

The [Horizon Results Platform](#) (HRP), launched in September 2019, promotes EU Research & Innovation funded results and facilitates matchmaking between:

- ✓ beneficiaries of EU-funded Research & Innovation (R&I) Framework Programmes, looking to take their research solutions to the next level, and
- ✓ potential investors, partners or policy makers, looking for specific thematic R&I research results.

As of 14 June 2021, we counted 1670 results on the platform.

“The Horizon Results Platform is a place where EU Research project results can flourish into innovations that contribute to our society and economy, and to a sustainable future!”

European Commissioner for Research & Innovation,
Mariya Gabriel

A dedicated team is focused on increasing the chances of uptake of the R&I research Key Exploitable Results with investors, partners or policy makers. In order to provide a maximum of visibility for our beneficiaries

on the platform, we work closely together with a broad range of partners from the R&I ecosystem such as the European Innovation Council (EIC), the European Institute of Innovation & Technology's Knowledge and Innovation Communities (EIT KICs), DG MARE EMFF, BlueInvest, DG GROW, Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), European Business Angels Network (EBAN), National Contact Points (NCPs), the Horizon Impact Award, and others.

To achieve our mission of “Making Results Matter”, the following objectives were set for the Horizon Results Platform, which is offered free of charge:

1. Free tool facilitating dissemination and uptake of results

The HRP serves as a free tool for beneficiaries in disseminating their Key Exploitable Results (KERs) to targeted audiences and maximising their chances of being discovered by the right audiences for exploitation purposes.

In a nutshell: Key Exploitable Results

A Key Exploitable Result (KER) is an identified main interesting result, which has been selected and prioritized due to its high potential to be “exploited” – meaning to make use and derive benefits- downstream the value chain of a product, process or solution, or act as an important input to policy, further research or education.

In order for you to select and prioritize your results, we would recommend that you use the following criteria: degree of innovation, exploitability and impact.

This matchmaking can encompass participants looking to continue their research at a Research and Technology Organisation (RTO) or University, find a research infrastructure to test their lab results, collaborators or partners in taking their research results to the next level. Moreover, the platform helps beneficiaries to find public funding or investment opportunities, or raise awareness on results with important implications or influence on policy-making.

2. Providing support service and guidance

The HRP addresses beneficiaries' specific needs and challenges in exploiting their KERs by providing appropriate free services, platforms, or guides, within or outside the Commission, such as Horizon Results Booster services (dissemination and exploitation, Business Plan development, Go2Market – pitching, IP guidance, training in innovation management, how to search for a partner, how to search for investors, how to search for funding, etc.)

3. Networking

The HRP offers networking opportunities to foster potential business partnerships and collaborations. It is an integral part of the Funding & Tenders (F&T) Portal inviting various stakeholder groups (e.g. policy makers, investors, researchers, entrepreneurs, etc.) to browse the results. By encouraging them to create a profile in the F&T Portal, they will get access to additional features and information, enabling them to better engage with the beneficiaries.

4. Giving valuable policy input

The HRP also contributes to having an impact on policy making for the Commission's strategic priorities.

Horizon Results Platform: what are the benefits?

Publishing their research results on the HRP offers a number of concrete benefits to beneficiaries, including:

- Pitching their results to investors at a dedicated investor event or Corporate Day and participating in digital events (e.g. e-pitching events, webinars, meetings, live demos or workshops) and benefitting from dedicated support actions via the Horizon Results Booster.
- Being selected for various EC initiatives such as the BlueInvest (co-organized with DG MARE) pipeline of projects.
- Gaining visibility by having a dedicated interview on HRP TV or being featured in top media channels, focusing on success stories. Recently, Euronews Business Planet featured HRP in a story on EU R&I results valorisation, focusing on the award-winning tech company, RedZinc and their innovative solution on telemedicine. Donal Morris, CEO and Founder, mentions that HRP has been very beneficial for his business. “It has allowed us to go out and connect with investors across Europe. But more importantly, it has allowed us to get our business investor-ready.”

HRP Benefits

FAST MATCHMAKING	FREE ACCESS	EASY TO NAVIGATE
Advanced search criteria filters allowing third parties to rapidly find the EU-funded innovations that best match their interests	Free use by both programme participants uploading results and for external users that want to discover EU-funded innovations	Quick searches, intuitive to customise, advanced filters, instant dashboards* to summarise searches (*coming soon)
INNOVATORS PROMOTION	COMMUNITY	DEDICATED SUPPORT
Tailored results profiles designed to best highlight the valorisation potential of the EU-funded solutions, focused on attracting the adequate targeted audience	Discover similar projects with which to forge partnerships Connect with the EU-funded innovations' owners directly	Needs & innovations' readiness based boost services envisaged, Investors/Funding opportunities, Knowledge sharing ...

- Benefitting from greater visibility to and networking with third parties conducting a search on a specific theme for investment, partnership or policy-making purposes.
- Having their project results available on an EU corporate and trusted source of information; the profile created can be directly shared via HRP to other networking platforms (e.g. Twitter, LinkedIn),
 - third parties can contact result owners directly when in any of the result profiles on our platform.
- Having access to upcoming DG R&I Dissemination & Exploitation events relevant for result authors - communicated on the HRP News section on the HRP landing page.

HRP also offers benefits to the investor community by acting as a bridge between innovators and investors: it saves investors valuable time when conducting a targeted search or due diligence. Venture capital fund manager, Cyril Demaria, recently talked with Euronews' "Business Planet" about the benefits in using HRP as an investor: "The Horizon Results Platform is essentially a valuable meeting point to access interesting investment opportunities. The platform provides me with a much wider investment universe, but without the risk of being flooded by projects. It aims to bridge the gap between investors and entrepreneurs. It is designed for me, as I have the option to filter opportunities, assess fairly rapidly which opportunity I should explore, and use the

time and effort that I've saved to actually analyse in detail the selected opportunities." Read the [full article](#) or watch the corresponding "Business Planet" episode.

Why was the Horizon Results Platform TV created?

The [Horizon Results Platform TV](#) (HRP TV), launched 14 April 2021, is a source of knowledge sharing and practical insights, with a clear mission to support and inspire our R&I programme participants in their efforts to bring their research solutions to market.

Looking ahead: What are the future plans for HRP and HRP TV?

Many other events and initiatives will be taking place in the future to offer continued guidance and support to beneficiaries. For instance, we will be expanding the HRP with results from other EU-funded R&I programmes similar in nature (also including co-funded programmes), we will be collaborating with various communication channels such as Euronews, and much more! Please keep an eye on the news section of our [landing page](#), also for the calendar of upcoming events.

Thus, whether you are a researcher, investor, policy-maker or company, we invite you to capitalise on the Horizon Results Platform's wide range of innovative solutions and the videos available on HRP TV.



1. The experts say...

Alessia Melasseche Germini:
Introduction to HRBooster

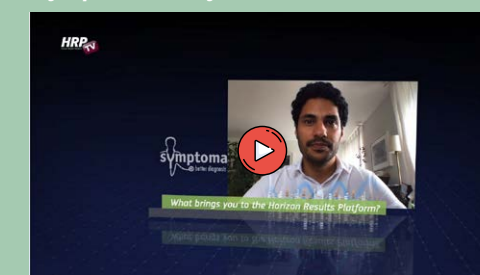


Cyril De Maria: How to Approach Venture Capitalists...

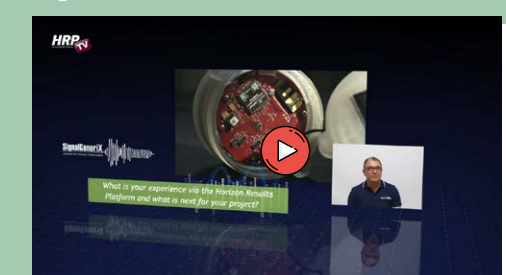


2. Get inspired!

Symptoma: Why We Use HRP



SignalGeneriX, an R&D SME



To beneficiaries of FP7, Horizon 2020 and soon Horizon Europe in particular: Join our mission! Upload your Key Exploitable Results onto HRP and benefit from the diverse opportunities to showcase your R&I research results to third parties.

For any comments, questions or ideas,
please contact us:

EC-HORIZON-RESULTS-PLATFORM@ec.europa.eu

Written by Alessia Melasecche Germini & Catherine Collins, Horizon Results Booster

The future is green, and tidal energy is a promising future energy source. Unlike other renewable energy technologies, like wind and solar power, the amount of energy that can be harvested from tidal sources is entirely predictable, because it relies on the never-changing gravitational pull of the moon.

This, according to Alejandro Marques of Magallanes Renovables, is exactly why tidal energy will account for 10 % of Europe's energy mix by 2030.

Magallanes Renovables

Founded in 2007, Magallanes Renovables SL is currently developing a floating platform to obtain energy from tidal currents.

The Horizon 2020 project OCEAN_2G brings together Magallanes Renovables and their parent company SAGRES as well as companies EMEC, Leask Marine and IM Future to help develop the second-generation Magallanes Renovables tidal technology.

As part of the EU-funded OCEAN_2G project, Magallanes Renovables has developed a unique, cost-effective system for harvesting tidal energy – based on windmill turbines that are used under water.

“What we do is transform a flow of fluid in motion into power. That is exactly what a windmill does with wind, but we do it with the flow of water,” says Marques.

Water is also 800 times denser than air, so OCEAN_2G can harness much more energy with a smaller turbine than an equivalent wind turbine.

“The research and technology that drove the OCEAN_2G project forward have been under development for the past ten or fifteen years,” says Marques. Now, the final step is to launch their product on the market, which is where [Horizon Results Booster](#) comes in.

Horizon Results Booster Supports Tidal Energy Take-off

Photo by Daniel Sorm on Unsplash

Steering research towards strong societal impact while concretising the value of R&I activity for societal challenges is one of the main objectives of the new EC framework programme. The Horizon Results Booster is a new initiative backed by the European Commission which aims to maximise the impact of research projects funded by FP7, Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe (closed or ongoing). It offers free of charge, tailor-made services to increase a project's results use potential and to improve access to communities and markets.

“Because we are now at this final stage of development, we have to focus not only on the technology, but also on the market, on the commercialisation and the business development,” says Marques. He explains that up until now, the OCEAN_2G team has been very focused on technology development, but the time has come for the business side to take over.

According to Gustavo Marcos Cancelas, an innovation and exploitation expert working with Horizon Results Booster, there is a huge amount of commercial potential in the OCEAN_2G project.

“Every morning, every evening, the tides rise and fall because of the moon's gravitational pull on the Earth. That's not going to change any time soon. This is a dream for other renewable technologies,” he says.

The race is on for OCEAN_2G to be the first on the market, ahead of companies in Canada, the USA and Asia. After the European Union's investment into developing these technologies, it would be a pity to lose during the final stretch to a foreign competitor.

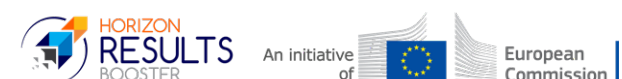
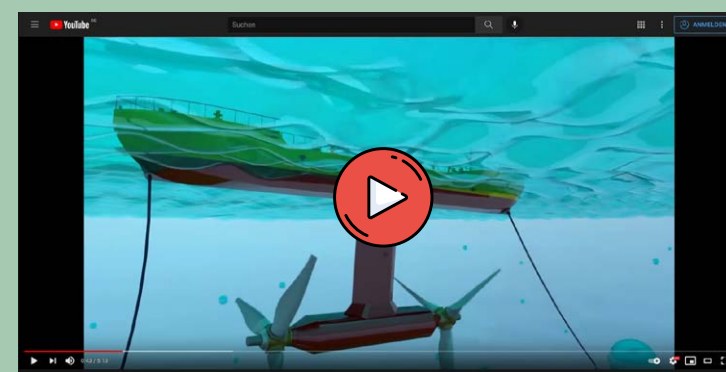
OCEAN_2G decided to apply for services on Portfolio Exploitation and Dissemination Strategy as well as Business Plan Development.

“We always thought that once we had the technology, we would have the business, of course. But what kind of business, what type would be best? What type of company do we want to be? Do we want to be an energy producer or a technology developer?”, says Marques.

The Horizon Results Booster services helped them to find answers to these questions. Within their technology, OCEAN_2G learned how to identify different risks, they analysed the business strategy, they mapped out their competitors and they collected and provided the financial information that was needed.

Find out more about [Horizon Results Booster here](#), and [follow OCEAN_2G's journey here!](#)

Watch the OCEAN_2G tidal energy platform in motion





Horizon IP Scan: Helping SMEs Manage and Valorise Intellectual Property in R&I Collaborations

Introducing a new Intellectual Property (IP) advisory service for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) involved in Horizon (2020/Europe) collaborative projects.

[Horizon IP Scan](#) is a tailored, free-of-charge, first-line IP support service provided by the European Commission specifically designed to help European start-ups and other SMEs involved in EU-funded collaborative research projects to efficiently manage and valorise IP in collaborative R&I efforts.

Like any other asset, IP needs to be managed and used strategically to ensure smooth cooperation and maximise the impact of project results. Hence, IP management plays an essential part in the entire lifecycle of research and innovation projects funded under the European Commission's Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe Framework Programme.

However, SMEs often struggle when it comes to assessing and protecting the IP they bring into these collaborations. Plus, the task to develop a strategy for managing and exploiting new IP, jointly generated with other partners, may seem daunting.

This is where Horizon IP Scan comes into play: It is an IP support service specifically addressing SMEs that cooperate in Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe projects with one or several entities, including other SMEs. The overall objective is to help SMEs address central IP issues that may arise at different stages of a collaborative research project.

What are typical IP strategies for SMEs participating in R&D collaborations?

In principal, the motivations and expectations of SMEs participating in R&D collaborations are characterised by three main scenarios:

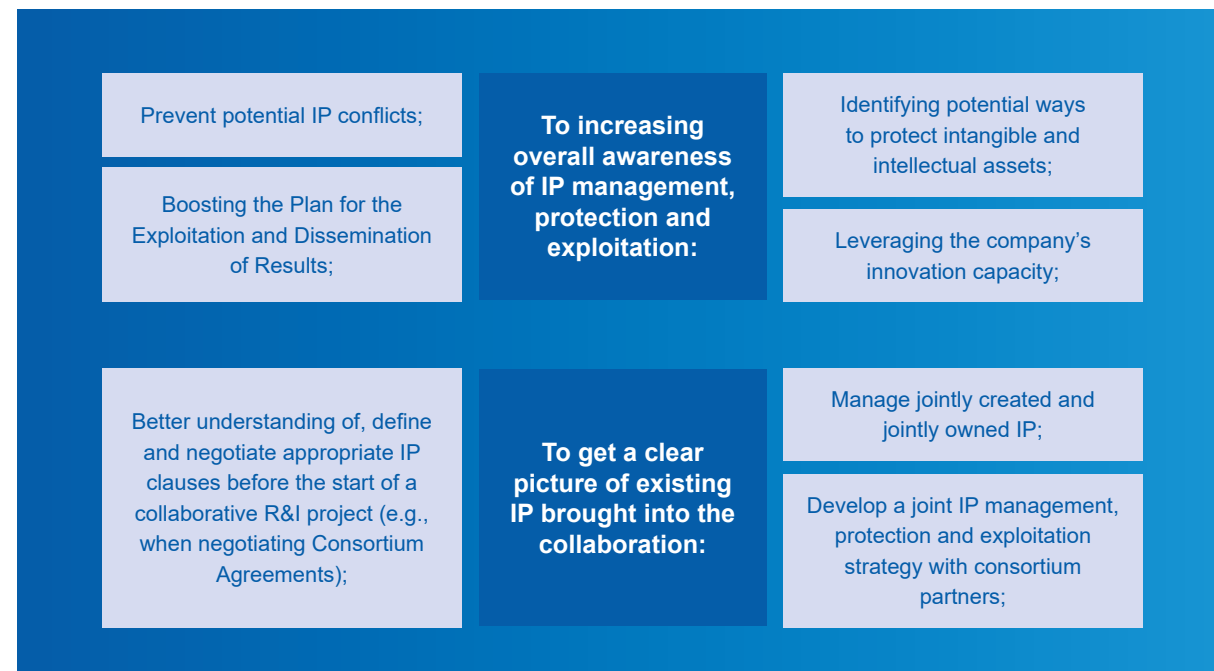
- **Inside-out collaborations (Technology push);**
The SME developed innovative technologies in-house and desires to first commercialise it, license-out, expand its target markets.
- **Outside-in collaborations (Technology pull);**
The SME owning an existing process, product or service aims to optimise or complement their innovation by absorbing additional R&D solutions/innovations.
- **Joint innovation;**
The SME seeks for complementary knowledge, necessary assets and research capacities with the aim to synergise research and innovation efforts and embark in joint development and commercialisation activities.

All strategies (single or in combination) may be pursued through participation in Horizon collaborative projects.

What are the benefits for SMEs?

The primary objective of Horizon IP Scan is to facilitate the exploitation of the jointly developed innovations. For this purpose, the service will support SMEs in defining strategies and appropriate measures to a) give access to existing IP, b) to protect, c) to share and d) to exploit IP created during research and innovation collaborations.

In more detail, the benefits for SMEs are:



How is the service provided in detail?

Managed by a central coordination team, Horizon IP Scan builds on a network of local IP experts covering all EU Member States, and Horizon 2020/Europe associated countries.

Following a first come, first serve approach, it may either be provided to a single SME or, preferably, a group of SMEs involved in a collaborative research project. The successful SME(s) applicant(s) will be matched individually with the corresponding local IP expert(s). Usually, the language applied will be that of the applicant(s) or English.

Horizon IP Scan entails three major steps:

1. a preparation phase including a pre-interview;
2. the main interview, which is done in an in-person or online meeting;
3. and the provision of a report and recommendations.

The Horizon IP Scan service is divided into three basic steps:



Joint Innovation: Managing Joint Ownership!

Horizon Europe encourages the use of the R&I results through beneficiaries or third-party exploitation (where appropriate). Therefore, consortium partners are requested to identify and manage jointly-owned results in collaborative R&I projects.

Besides the Results Ownership List (mandatory in Horizon Europe), a thoughtful Joint Ownership Agreement (JOA) should be put in place to control how the foreground IP is managed, paid for, and exploited, as well as to agree on any benefit sharing arrangements. The JOA will only cover the treatment of foreground IP that has been invented jointly. Any other IP, which is clearly invented by only one partner, will be handled according to the terms of the Consortium Agreement that has been agreed and signed before project start. It is worth noting that if no joint ownership regime is agreed the default one, laid down in the Consortium Agreement, will apply.

Once the expected joint results have been defined, partners should deal with co-ownership taking into account the following essential IP issues (non-exhaustive list), which usually to be addressed when handling jointly owned assets in contractual arrangements:

- Allocation of shares
- Conditions of use of jointly owned IP
- Conditions of exploitation of jointly owned IP
- IP protection and maintenance
- IP monitoring and enforcement
- Governing law and jurisdiction

There are different model agreements in place, which ensure that co-owners still have freedom to operate under the joint IP, and provide maximum flexibility without constraining the actions of any co-owner involved.



The service will be delivered either by a private IP professional (patent or IP attorney) or otherwise qualified IP experts, such as specifically trained staff from a national IP office or an innovation agency.

cooperation with other entities on a R&I project, are also eligible for the service up to six months after the beginning of a project, but preferably before any agreement is signed.

Who can apply?

The service is open to European start-ups and SMEs that are about to sign a Horizon (2020/Europe) Grant Agreement or have recently signed one (up to six months after signature). It also caters to SMEs signposted by the Horizon Results Booster (maximum until half of the project duration).

How to apply?

SMEs can apply for the Horizon IP Scan at any time. Please take a look at the Guide for Applicants and fill in the service request form. This will only take a few minutes. All of the information you provide will be treated strictly confidentially, and will only be processed for the purpose of delivering the service.

Find out more about [Horizon IP Scan here](#).

In addition, SMEs that are referred to Horizon IP Scan by the Enterprise Europe Network in view of a planned

Horizon IP Scan 

Introducing Open Research Europe (ORE)

A Q&A with the ORE Team

Launched by the European Commission in March 2021, the new Open Research Europe (ORE) platform publishes results originating from H2020 and Horizon Europe funded research. ORE is a peer-reviewed publishing service that promotes open science principles by immediately publishing articles from all fields of science. In this interview, the ORE Team introduces the platform, discusses its licensing practices, and what adhering to open science principles means for protecting intellectual property.



What are the benefits of publishing on Open Research Europe?

Publishing with [Open Research Europe](#) ensures an efficient, impactful and stress-free publishing experience. It is very rapid with the initial checks being conducted within one week of submission and articles being published on the website within on average 32 days from submission. We would say the main benefit of publishing with us is the authors' peace of mind that their publication will be automatically compliant with all the open access requirements set out in their grant agreement. We take all the administrative burden from them in this regard – that is probably the biggest benefit to them!

What type of research outputs can be published there?

As we cover a wide variety of subjects, we have a diverse range of article types to suit the needs of the different research areas and also to ensure that no research resulting from H2020 and Horizon Europe funding is 'wasted'. That it can all be translated into some form of an article with us to be utilised by other researchers (and/or the public) in the future. This means, we have all the standard article types (Research Articles, Reviews, Essays) alongside some alternative formats (Data Notes, Software Tool Articles, Open Letters). There really are too many to list but they can all be found on the website under the subject area Article Guideline pages.

What licensing practices are applied on Open Research Europe for different research outputs?

Open Research Europe articles are usually published under a CC-BY license, which permits unrestricted use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited, and leaves copyright of the article with the current copyright holder (usually the author or their institution). As the specific version of the CC-BY license may change due to periodic updates, the copyright information is shown on each article below the abstract. The peer review reports are also published with this license. Data should be deposited in a repository and access provided under a CC-BY or CC0 license or another license with equivalent rights. There are exceptions for open access to research data in some circumstances that are laid out in our data preparation guidelines.

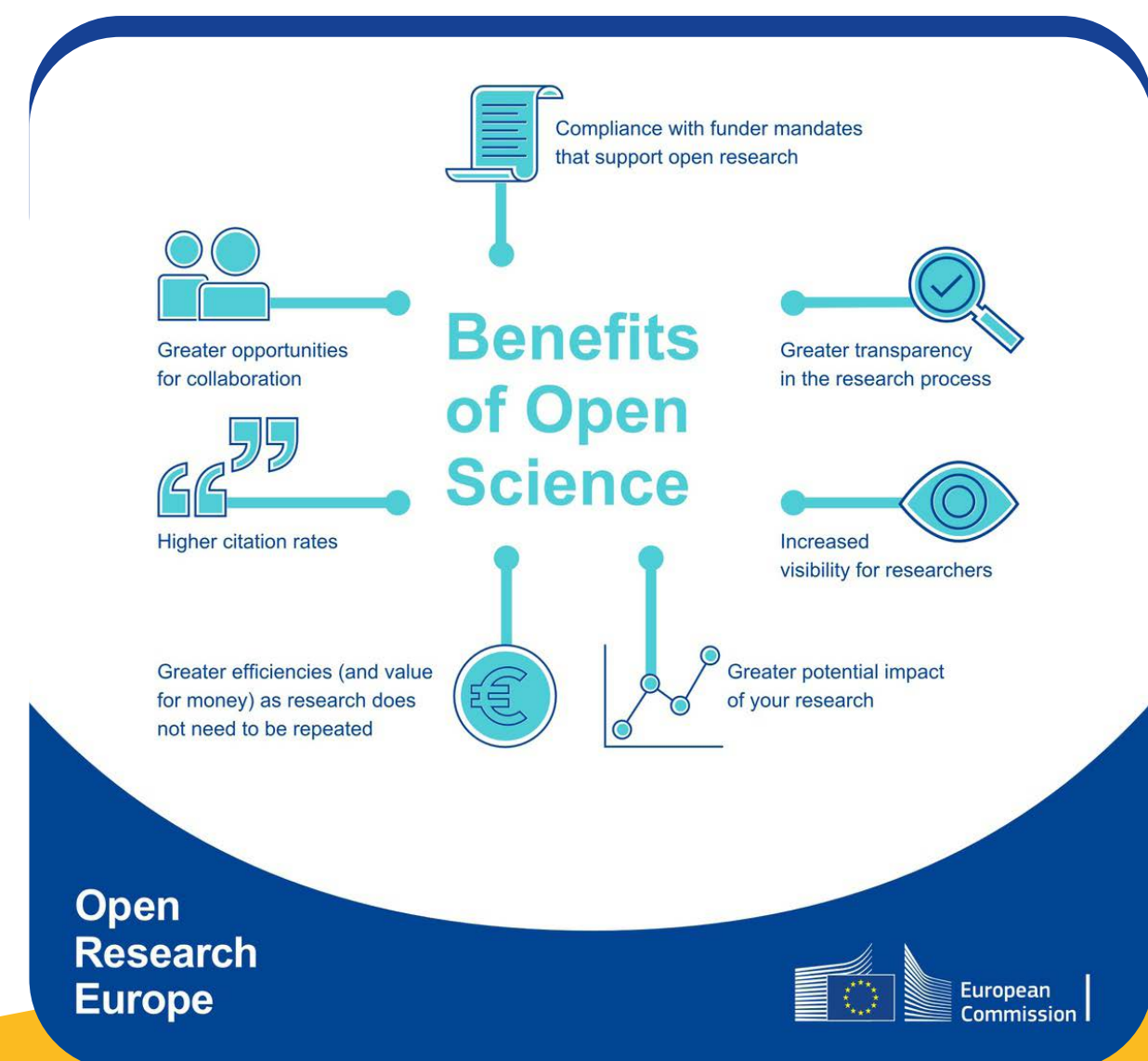
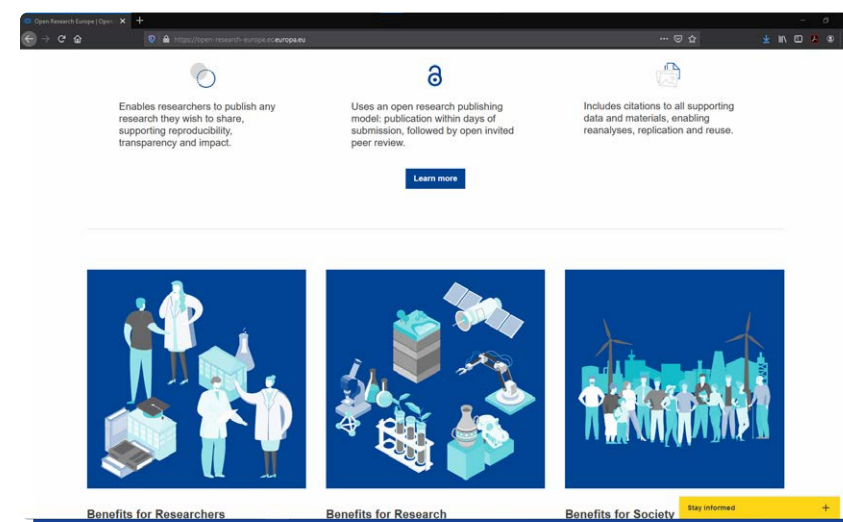
When talking about “Open Access” and intellectual property (IP), we often hear of the alleged conflict between “publishing vs. protecting”. What is your view on this, and which aspects related to IP protection should beneficiaries pay attention to when considering to publish on ORE?

While it is often perceived that IP and Open Access are conflicting ideologies, we believe the two principles work hand-in-hand to determine how and to what extent the work can be shared and exploited. On Open Research Europe we operate on a basic principle of ‘as open as possible and as closed as necessary’ and IP rights are fundamental to determining to what extent background and results can be made open and when this should happen.

Our open access and open data policies are fully in line with the policies from the current Horizon Europe work programme so beneficiaries need to consider IP rights wherever they choose to publish, not just when publishing on ORE. It is imperative to think carefully about the expected results of a grant to ensure appropriate IP rights are defined from the onset of a research project and form part of the grant agreement, so if there is a valid reason for the results to be kept closed, this has been agreed and documented clearly. It is also worth mentioning that making something open does not mean it is left unprotected. Work which is made openly accessible can still be protected by copyright and other related rights with regard to how the work can be re-used and exploited. We would strongly encourage grantees to make use of the European IP Helpdesk for all their IP related queries and concerns to ensure they can comply with the OA requirements of the grant agreement whilst safeguarding the results and data where necessary.

In Horizon Europe, beneficiaries will have to provide a Plan for Dissemination and Exploitation already in month 6 of the project. Are beneficiaries required to include ORE in this plan?

Beneficiaries are not required to include ORE in their Dissemination and Exploitation Plan but should they wish to utilise the service, of course we would be more than happy to assist. ORE can offer the possibility to publish research outputs that might not be considered in other more traditional journals so there may be some additional publications they can gain by choosing to publish these outputs with ORE.






The European Innovation Council: Accelerating the Scale-up of Game-changing Innovations to Shape Europe’s Future



The [European Innovation Council](#) (EIC) is an integral part of Horizon Europe’s third pillar “Innovative Europe”. The EIC was initially launched by the European Commission as a pilot in 2017 to help tackle the much-debated market failure of European innovation projects known as the infamous “Valley of Death of European Innovation”.

Now fully implemented under Horizon Europe, the EIC is Europe’s flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale up breakthrough technologies and game-changing innovations of all kinds. With a total budget of €10.1 billion the EIC supports innovations throughout the entire lifecycle: from early-stage research, to proof of concept, technology transfer, and the financing and scale up of start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

This is reflected in three major, complementary funding actions targeting different development stages of an innovation project and corresponding technology readiness levels (TRLs): the EIC Pathfinder, EIC Transition and EIC Accelerator. While the [EIC Pathfinder](#) addresses highly visionary ideas and early-stage research for future breakthrough technologies set in the TRL 1-4 spectrum, [EIC Transition](#) projects aim to further mature and validate a technology, advancing their business and market readiness by taking these technologies from “Proof of Concept” to feasible demonstrators and applications with at least TRL 5. EIC Transition projects thus serve as a link to the [EIC Accelerator](#), which supports market launch and business growth activities of start-ups, SMEs and entrepreneurs with a business plan to develop and scale-up high-risk, **disruptive** innovations.

	 Pathfinder	 Transition	 Accelerator
Target Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project teams from all scientific disciplines and technology sectors• Universities, research institutions, SMEs, start-ups, industrial partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual SMEs, spin-offs, start-ups, research organisations or universities• Small consortia consisting of a maximum of five partner organisations• Important: Applications must be based on results from previous Pathfinder or European Research Council (ERC) “Proof of Concept” projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SMEs including start-ups and spin-outs, as well as applicants about to start an SME.
Core Objective	Supporting early-stage research on breakthrough technologies	Maturation and validation of novel technologies: from “proof of concept” to business & market readiness	Development and scale-up of deep-tech/disruptive innovations by start-ups/ SMEs in any field of technology or application → Successor of the previous “SME Instrument”
Grant	Grants up to €3–4 million	Grants up to €2.5 million	Blended finance: grants up to €2.5 million; equity investment up to €15 million through the EIC Fund

These major funding opportunities are flanked by the Horizon Prizes EIC Fellowships and the EIC Business Acceleration Services, which are designed to provide access to various coaching and mentoring services for EIC participants.

The EIC is strongly interlinked with other funding instruments of Horizon Europe such as the ERC, collaborative Horizon projects or the [European Institute of Technology and Innovation \(EIT\)](#) providing follow-up

funding for results generated in those programmes. In particular, the cooperation between the EIC and the EIT has been reinforced by a Memorandum of Understanding signed in January 2021 to support and enable innovators, innovative SMEs and start-ups, higher education institutions and research organisations to receive quality support services to deploy and scale up innovations faster and with greater impact.

The role of Intellectual Property (IP) in the different EIC funding schemes

Given the strong market- and application orientation of the different EIC funding instruments intellectual property (IP) provisions and measures safeguarding proper IP management and protection are a fundamental building block of any innovation endeavour supported by the EIC.

EIC Pathfinder/EIC Transition

As for EIC Pathfinder/Transition projects, beneficiaries are requested to develop and agree on an effective IP management strategy. The latter should outline rules and procedures for sharing results between researchers and investors as well as appropriate plans and measures to protect, disseminate and exploit the key intellectual assets generated in the collaboration.

Particularly, SMEs must make best use of all relevant knowledge and IP to maximise the benefits of collaborative projects, to achieve their business objectives, and to develop and successfully commercialise innovations. This includes, of course, the outputs from the collaborative project itself, their own existing knowledge and IP, and potentially also that of the other partners or 3rd parties involved.

In addition to the “normal” Horizon Europe rules related to IP rights, specific provisions for EIC Pathfinder and Transition actions can be found in the [EIC Work Programme Annex 7](#) and in the [Model Grant Agreement Annex 5](#). These additional provisions primarily concern the exchange of information on preliminary findings and results as part of the EIC portfolio activities, e.g. this relates to information - not disclosure! - via the EIC Market Place, which beneficiaries are required to use and which provides in-built confidentiality/protection measures) next to specific rules with regard to dissemination and exploitation activities as well as specifications as regards IP access rights granted to EIC inventors at non-profit organisations. These specific provisions shall continue to be in force for a period of 60 months after the end of the project.

The EIC encourages a broad spectrum of protection forms of intellectual assets, not only as Industrial Property (e.g. patents, utility models), but also Creative Commons, open source/data, trade secrets, or copyright.

Moreover, the EIC supports innovative modalities and incentives to share and protect research results e.g. by using standardised meta-data on each asset that characterises the content without disclosure, or dynamically granted disclosure on a need-to-know basis.

Open Call: Strategic EIC Pathfinder Challenges

As part of the EIC Pathfinder funding is available for projects addressing specific challenges. The five challenges defined by the EIC for 2021 are:

- Awareness inside
- Tools to measure & stimulate activity in brain tissue
- Emerging technologies in cell & gene therapy
- Novel routes to green hydrogen production
- Engineered living material

The deadline for submission of proposals is 27 October 2021.

[Find out more and apply!](#)

In the particular case that a beneficiary neither intends to exploit nor disseminate project results for subsequent exploitation, the granting authority is entrusted with the right to disseminate and promote the exploitation of these results.

EIC Accelerator

As for the EIC Accelerator, IP is addressed in various parts of the [EIC Fund Investment Guidelines](#). For instance, it is underlined that “eligible applicants under EIC Accelerators are for-profit SMEs, including start-ups and early-stage companies, and small mid-caps, from any sector, and typically with a strong intellectual property component.” Beneficiaries need to demonstrate that necessary IP assets are directly owned or accessible by the company and are not subject of litigation.

Moreover, a dedicated chapter on “Intellectual Property management and European Union interests” states that the investing party and co-investors should be given maximum autonomy regarding IP management, to the best interests of the company’s development, so as to attract further investments to scale-up and allow for an effective exit strategy for the EIC Fund.

However, it is also emphasised that “in particular but not only in the cases where interests of the Union are at stake and the EIC Fund acquires a blocking minority, the EIC Fund will seek to secure European ownership of IP and of the company wherever it makes sense for its development.”

Want to dive deeper into the EIC Community? Browse the [EIC Community Platform](#) or visit the [EIC data hub](#) to learn more about the projects and companies supported by the EIC.



The European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT): Powering Solutions and Nurturing Entrepreneurial Talent in Europe

Written by Michal Gorzynski, Head of Section Impact, European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT)



As one of Europe's "innovation powerhouses" and an integral part of Horizon Europe, the EIT supports various activities along the entire innovation pipeline. In this article we shed light on some of the key building blocks of the EIT innovation ecosystem, and take look at the role of Intellectual Property (IP) in successfully bringing novel solutions, products and services from the EIT community to the market.

The [European Institute for Innovation and Technology](#) is Europe's largest innovation ecosystem with close to 3,000 partners and over 60 innovation hubs spread across Europe. The EIT strengthens Europe's ability to innovate by powering solutions to pressing global challenges and by nurturing entrepreneurial talent to create sustainable growth and skilled jobs in Europe. To date, the EIT Community has powered more than 3,800 start-ups and scale-ups that have gone on to raise EUR 3.9 billion and create more than 13,000 jobs. The EIT has brought over 1,400 new products to the market, while equipping close to 4,000 MSc and PhD graduates with entrepreneurial skills, with thousands more enrolled in our training programmes.

The EIT supports the development of dynamic, long-term European partnerships among leading companies, research labs and higher education institutions. These partnerships are called EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) and there are currently eight. Each is dedicated to finding solutions to a specific pressing global challenge from climate, digitisation, sustainable energy to health, raw materials, food, manufacturing, and urban mobility.

EIT-supported activities cover the entire innovation pipeline: offering unique entrepreneurial education courses that combine technical skills to budding and experienced entrepreneurs; supporting innovation driven research projects; and furthering business creation through acceleration services. Innovation is at the heart of all the EIT's activities. The EIT innovation projects are aimed at supporting the integration of the knowledge triangle (higher education, research and innovation) in specific applied research and innovation projects. EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities

select projects with the high potential to yield solutions, products and services on the market, contributing to the KICs' financial sustainability.

Financial sustainability is a key feature of the EIT's funding model, with each community aiming to become financially sustainable within a period of seven to 15 years after its selection. Return on investments, equity stakes in start-ups, membership fees schemes and revenue from intellectual property (IP) rights are among the various revenue streams that KICs rely upon for financial sustainability.

Each EIT KIC is advised to set its own IP policy for management and exploitation in line with their specific business model and thematic area. They may also establish IP Boards, responsible for the management of knowledge transfer and intellectual property related issues. EIT KICs also provide support to their partners in developing suitable IP frameworks for their innovation activities.

It is clear that innovation and intellectual property go hand in hand. With an established collaboration with the European Union Intellectual Property Office, European Patent Office, and the European IP Helpdesk, the EIT supports its KICs in developing their operational IP frameworks, including consortia implementing activities and tailored IP training. With a strengthened commitment to the protection of innovation and creativity through IP, innovators and entrepreneurs are given the support they need to power solutions for a greener, healthier, and competitive Europe.



A body of the European Union



At the Centre of the Energy Transition: How EIT InnoEnergy Puts IP Strategies into Practice

An interview with Bart Lindekens, IP Director of EIT InnoEnergy.

What role does IP play in bringing innovative ideas to the market, i.e. in potentially attracting investment, foster business partnerships etc.? Why is this important especially for start-ups and scale-ups?

When innovative companies are in their early stages, their value is entirely concentrated in people and intangible assets. There is no relevant track record of revenues. IP rights offer an opportunity to pre-emptively stake an exclusivity claim on using technology or brands in the future. Once commercial operations emerge, success will be secured against free riding competition thanks to the IP rights. Not having IP rights will lower expectations, attractiveness and therefore reduce value to investors or partners. That value is key for raising capital while retaining sufficient ownership by the founders and early investors.

How does EIT InnoEnergy promote IP policies/strategies on project and on programme level?

EIT InnoEnergy follows the Horizon IP policies. As accelerator, investor and asset manager of start-ups and scale-ups we insist on our members being diligent and transparent when it comes to IP. Valuable creations need to be protected and managed properly to the sustainable benefit of the enterprise. Companies must also take steps proactively for reassuring access to IP, IP belonging to partners but also to what is owned by third parties. At the same time, they need to make sure balancing the cost and value of doing all that.

What support structures do you offer to help innovative entrepreneurs and projects tackle IP management?

Our local business creation officers, who are in almost daily contact with our entrepreneurs, are supported by a small team of IP officers, the IP & Intelligence unit. The IP&I unit makes sure that IP is at the top of the agenda of our local officers. The IP&I unit acts as an expertise centre of IP, raising IP awareness, dealing with requests for assistance in all matters of IP. We work in direct contact with our entrepreneurs and our officers, delivering four major types of support: 1) giving IP structure, 2) help-desking and teaching, 3) providing intelligence on technology and 4) valuating IP assets.

Based on your experience, what would be your three pieces of advice to innovators when it comes to managing IP?

First, make sure that you have an internal owner of IP, who is accountable even if you are a small venture. Discuss the IP situation in full on regular meetings, at all levels, for example the executive board. Second, put sufficient work in selecting the right external IP service providers. And third, communicate in full transparency on IP with your investors



About Bart Lindekens

Bart Lindekens oversees the IP and Intelligence activities at EIT InnoEnergy. He joined EIT InnoEnergy in 2013. Previously he worked as the manager of the EPO PATLIB centre at Sirris, the collective centre for the technological industry. Prior to that he held several positions in Industry, after graduating as an engineer at the KU Leuven in 1995.

(CLOSE-UP: EIT INNOENERGY IP SUPPORT STRUCTURES

1. Giving IP structure

- To the community as a whole by leading the implementation of the IP policy mentioned.
- To the supported ventures by helping them to manage IP in a strategic way: defining a strategy and devising a plan to put it to practice.

2. Help-desking and teaching

- Help-desking: quick answers – gateway to other service providers
- Coaching and teaching
- Awareness and Interest raising: we draft and publish case stories

3. Providing Intelligence on technology

While almost always customized, specific formats are:

- opportunity assessment of a candidate for InnoEnergy's support schemes.
- identify and profile relevant players
- identify new applications of a technology and map trends in the field of technology
- map the patent strategy of other players

4. Valuating IP Assets

The IP&I team collaborates with an expert in producing an income-based method for putting an indicative price tag on the IP assets of a venture.

The valuation report gives:

- A shortlist of profiles of potential buyers/investors
- A monetary value that facilitates negotiations in IP transfer or M&A.



EIT InnoEnergy: Accelerating Sustainable Energy Innovations

EIT InnoEnergy brings people and resources together, catalysing and accelerating the energy transition. The community promotes new ideas, products and solutions that make a real difference, and new businesses and people to deliver them to market. Operating at the centre of the energy transition, EIT InnoEnergy builds connections worldwide, bringing together innovators and industry, entrepreneurs and investors, graduates and employers.

All this is made possible thanks to the rich network of more than 500 key players from 18 different countries. Together the InnoEnergy community acts as a key vehicle for the European Green Deal and makes up the ingredients needed to bring a constant pipeline of sustainable energy innovation to market.

Established in 2010 and supported by the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#), EIT InnoEnergy has [offices and hubs](#) across Europe and in Boston, US. Find out more in the [corporate brochure](#).

Success Story: Minesto

Want to learn more about how to successfully include intellectual property (IP) rights in an innovation process? Then take a look at the [success story of MINESTO](#), a member of the EIT InnoEnergy KIC and creator of an innovative marine energy technology called 'Deep Green'. The article was recently published by EUIPO's ["Ideas Powered for Business" initiative](#) in collaboration with the IP & Intelligence team at EIT InnoEnergy.



Like a kite in the wind: Deep Green, the future of renewable energy

[Ideas Powered for Business](#)
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[EIT InnoEnergy](#)

MINESTO, a member of the EIT InnoEnergy KIC, was founded in 2007 as a spin-off from Swedish aerospace manufacturer Saab. MINESTO is the creator of an innovative marine energy technology called 'Deep Green'. This technology generates electricity from low-flow tidal streams and ocean currents using a unique principle similar to a stunt kite flying in the wind. The equipment developed by MINESTO consists of a wing and turbine attached by a tether to a fixed point on the ocean bed, which has minimal negative effects on the ecosystem.

The company's team, made up of more than 50 professionals, combines basic technical skills and extensive experience in bringing new technology to market. They are an example of how to successfully include intellectual property rights (IPR) in an innovation process.

news

Update from the Team

India IP SME Helpdesk: New Addition to the IP Helpdesk Family

The [India IP SME Helpdesk](#) is the latest addition to the IP Helpdesk family supporting SMEs from the European Union (EU) and COSME associated countries to both protect and enforce their IP in India. In line with the overall approach of the IP Helpdesk the India IP SME Helpdesk team offers a broad range of supporting materials such as [fact sheets](#), [infographics](#) and [case studies](#). In addition, a [Helpline service](#) answers individual IP questions confidentially within three working days.



All Under One Roof: Joint IP Helpdesk Website

As many of you might have noticed already, all IP Helpdesk have now one joint internet presence serving as a central access point to delve into the vast array of IP resources and supporting materials available for currently five different regions: China, Europe, Latin America, South-East Asia and India.

The launch of the [joint IP Helpdesk website](#) has been a key building block in the European Commission's **strategy** to establish a strong IP Helpdesk brand and create an **information hub** helping SMEs to navigate the individual IP Helpdesk services in the five regions.



Updated Fact Sheets and Infographics Now Back Online

Due to the relaunch of the website, we have been busy updating a number of our most sought-after fact sheets and infographics in the past months. Just in time for the end of the summer break, we are pleased to inform you that the polished publications are back on the shelves of our online library. [Take a look!](#)

Successful Technology Transfer: European IP Helpdesk and EPO Collaborate on New Case Study Series

The European IP Helpdesk has teamed up with the Chief Economist unit of the European Patent Office (EPO) and the European Patent Academy to develop a new series of case studies showcasing how patents facilitate technology transfer from universities and public research organisations in Europe and help boost their market success.

The first three cases of this new series have been published on the [EPO's website](#). Additional case studies are set to be released later this year. Featuring spin-outs and start-ups from Ireland, Sweden and Turkey, this initial set of case studies traces the success stories of innovative technologies for new textiles, wound treatment, and novel therapies for stress urinary incontinence.

The case studies are accompanied by a series of podcasts on the EPO's channel "[Talk Innovation](#)", which are hosted by the European IP Helpdesk. The first two podcasts introduce you to the successful technology transfer journeys of [Oxeon](#) and [Atlantic Therapeutics](#).

The launch of the new case study series forms an important milestone in the EPO's and European IP Helpdesk's shared mission to develop hands-on, relatable and practical information material to raise awareness of the value of intellectual property (IP) in general, and to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), academic institutions and public research organisations make better use of the patent system in particular.

Save your seat: Want to learn more about the case study series and how patents facilitate technology transfer and promote market success? Join us for an online event with the EPO team on 19 October 2021, 2–3.30 PM (CET) and hear directly from the experts involved in two of the cases about their major takeaways and learnings along the way. [Register here!](#)

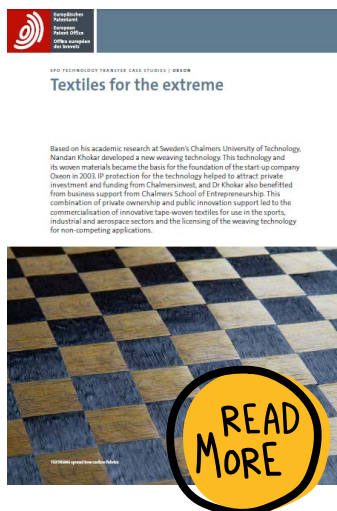
From Lab to Market - Successful Technology Transfer Journeys

Online Event

How patents and other Intellectual Property rights help translate research results into marketable goods and services. Introducing EPO's new technology transfer case study series.

Tuesday, 19 October 2021
2–3.30 PM (CEST)

A joint event organised by
European
IP Helpdesk



Upcoming European IP Helpdesk Webinars

Our online training calendar is fully packed until the end of this year with sessions covering a broad variety of topics: from “IP in Horizon projects” to “IP and Artificial Intelligence” to “IP in Biotechnology” – just to name a few.

Plus, next to our regular schedule we bring you specific webinar collabs addressing more specialised IP topics such as our joint training series with the [COPORA](#)

dealing with different IP issues in the realm of Plant Variety Protection or a special webinar at this year’s “Chem-Match” specifically dealing with IP challenges in the context of collaborations between start-ups and large corporate partners from the chemical industry.

Find a list of our webinars in October below, and check out our [complete webinar calendar](#) with all upcoming sessions until December.

European IP Helpdesk Supports New High-Growth Technology Business Initiative as a Strategic Partner

High-growth technology businesses are key drivers of the European economy. Mostly consisting of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) including start-ups, they are major players in fostering innovation. Intellectual property (IP) management beyond protection plays a fundamental role in this.

The European Patent Office (EPO), in cooperation with the Licensing Executives Society International (LESI), launched the High-growth Technology Business Initiative (HTB Initiative), which is supported by the European IP Helpdesk in a strategic partnership. Geared mainly towards SMEs, the mission of the HTB initiative is to share how intellectual property can support growth across the different stages of technology-based business models. It addresses aspects such as developing a sound IP strategy, operational excellence, growth financing and how to successfully manage various strategic transactions.

Follow the dedicated [LinkedIn](#) page to stay up-to-date on recent publications, upcoming events of the initiative, or to get in touch with the experts.

The initiative hosts the „High-growth technology business forum“ consisting of a series of three online events. Find out more on the dedicated [event website](#).



High-growth technology business forum 2021

Format

- Three online events
- One-hour live case-study discussion
- Optional 30-minute Q&A session

Objectives

- To share best practices on intellectual asset management facilitated by success stories of innovative enterprises
- To enable high-growth technology enterprises and stakeholders in their innovation ecosystem to gain deeper insights, based on expert discussions
- To address specific questions in the Q&A session

Audience

- Business decision-makers in SMEs and start-ups
- IP professionals
- Investors
- Managers of large, high-growth technology businesses
- Research institutions

Programme

Licensing
30 September 2021

- Case study: Unilever Inc. (Philippines)
- Industry: Pharma
- Panel chaired by Susie London (Head of Consumer Electronics Licensing Program, Nestle)

Growth-financing
28 October 2021

- Case study: Pharmapop Co. (South Korea)
- Industry: Medical electronics
- Panel chaired by Willem Buijsman (Founder and CEO, Corporate Ventures Advisory)


Build-to-sell
18 November 2021


- Case study: Paul Attentio, serial technology entrepreneur (CEO)
- Panel chaired by Jürgen Gruner (Founder and CEO, GIGAFLOW)

For more information, programme details and registration:
[epon-htb.eu/Registration-Details](#)




Webinars







6 October 2021
[IP in Horizon Projects \(H2020/HEurope\)](#)




7 October 2021
[IP Assessment](#)




8 October 2021
[Webinar for start-ups at B2B-event Chem-Match: IP and software in collaborations: Corporates meet Startups 2021 „Green & Digital“](#)




13 October 2021
[IPR & Software](#)




14 October 2021
[Technology Transfer](#)




19 October:
[Webinar Coop with the European Patent Office: From Lab to Market - Successful Technology Transfer Journeys](#)




20 October:
[IP Commercialisation and Licensing](#)



21 October:
[Webinar & CIOFORA coop: Growers' Guide to Intellectual Property Protection for Plants](#)



27 October:
[Consortium Agreements](#)



28 October:
[Freedom to Operate](#)

The European IP Helpdesk Bulletin

The Bulletin is published twice a year with the second issue dealing with "Go-to-Market Strategies" at the end of this year. All issues can be found in our [library](#) on the European IP Helpdesk website.

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