



The EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

HORIZON 2020

Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

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Call H2020-Widespread-05-2017: "TWINNING"



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Twinning: Aim, Objectives & Partnership

Aim of the action:

Strengthen a **defined field of research** in a university or research organisation from a Widening country by linking it with at least two internationally-leading research institutions in other Member States or Associated Countries.

Main objectives:

- Enhance the **S&T capacity** of the institutions-Focus on institution in Widening country
- Raise the research profile of the **institution and** of its research **staff**

The Partners: (Minimum Conditions)

- **ONE** institution located in a "Widening" MS/AC (**COORDINATOR**)
- A **minimum of TWO** additional partners from two different MS or AC other than the country of the coordinator.

Some FAQ on: Aim, Objectives & Partnership

How is a university or research organisations defined?

- *Universities can be public or private legal entities. "Research organisation" means a non-profit making organisation which carries out scientific or technical research as its main objective. But no proposal will be non-eligible for having an organisation of an incorrect nature.*

Is there a maximum number of partners in a Twinning proposal?

- *There is no maximum number of partners as long as the minimum eligibility requirements are respected. Additional partners are allowed according to the needs and objectives of each proposal.*

Can a proposal outline several defined areas of research or is it necessary to outline one defined area of research in one proposal?

- *A Twinning proposal must outline one defined area of research.*



Twinning: Proposal Design & Impact

Proposals:

- Scientific **strategy for excellence and innovation** in a defined area of research;
- Outline the scientific quality of the **partners**;

Activities supported:

- Short term staff exchanges; expert visits and short-term training; workshops; conference attendance; dissemination and outreach activities.

Expected Impact:

- Research **excellence**, in particular, in the selected field of research;
- Improved capability to succeed in competitive **research funding**;
- Enhanced reputation, **attractiveness** and networking;
- The expected potential impact of the project illustrated by a number of **indicators**.

Twinning: Costs & Call 2017 details

Eligible Costs:

- Coordination and networking;
- Joint activities;
- Dissemination and outreach activities.

Infrastructure, equipment & research costs will NOT be funded.

Twinning Call 2017:

Budget: €20 million

Call publication: 14 October 2015

Call opening: 11 May 2017

Call deadline: 15 November 2017

Project Size: up to €1 million (eligibility condition)

Project Duration: up to 3 years (eligibility condition)

Implementation: Coordination and Support Action

Some FAQ on: Costs & Call 2017 details

Can a proposal request a contribution below or above € 1 million?

- *The requested EU contribution in proposals shall not exceed EUR 1 million. This is an eligibility condition. However, proposals requiring lower values are allowed.*

And project duration?

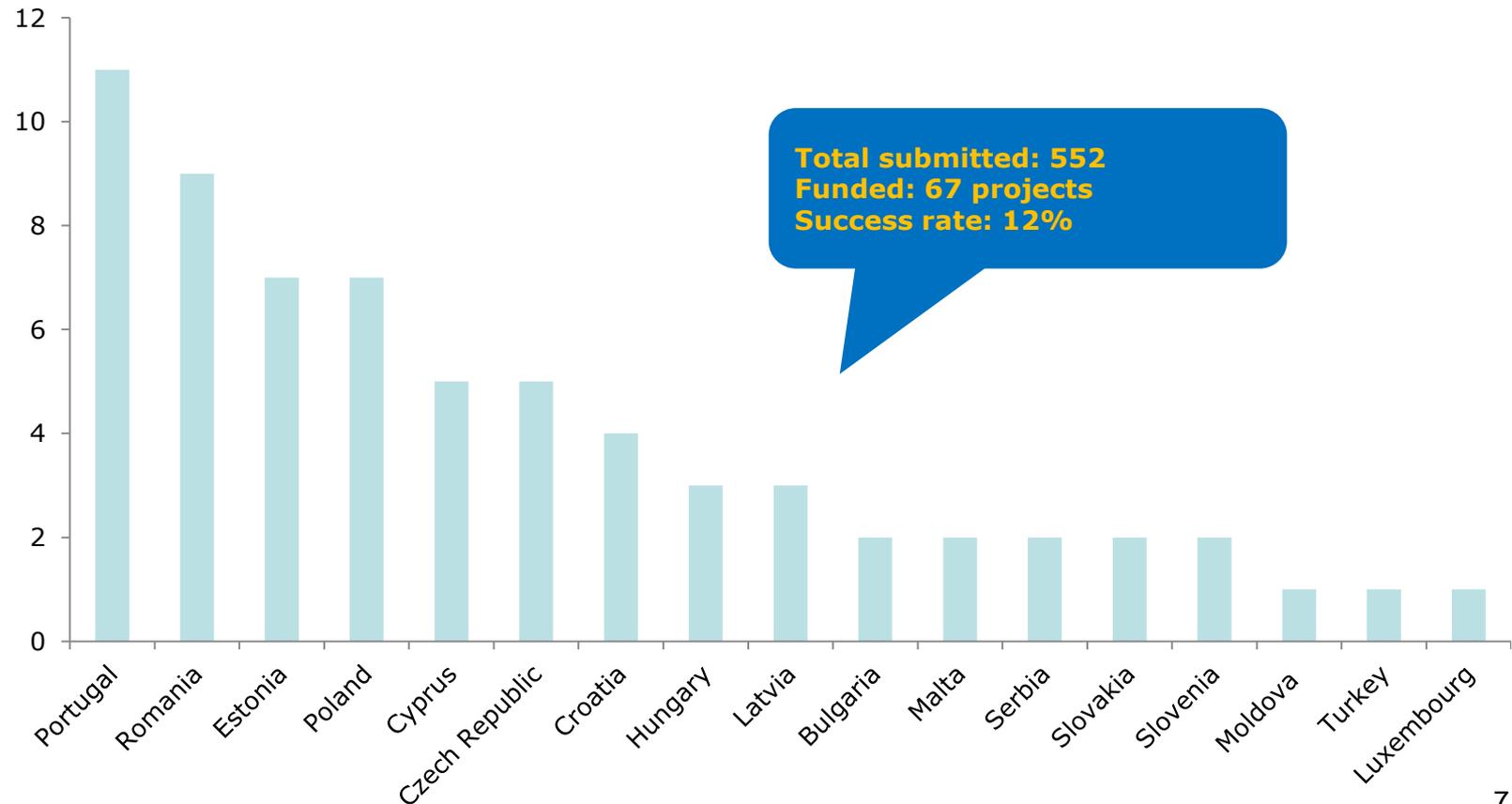
- *As above: up to 3 years and proposals requiring longer duration will be deemed ineligible but shorter projects are allowed.*

Are personnel costs (i.e. salaries) eligible in a Twinning project?

- *Twinning is not aimed at hiring new researchers (permanent or temporary).*
- *However, the hours that the employees of all types (i.e. researchers, administrators or managers) of both the coordinating institution and the internationally-leading (advanced) partner address to project activities (non-research) are eligible costs.*

Previous Twinning call (2015): statistics

Successful Proposals: country of coordinator



Twinning: 2015 call "advanced" partners

Successful Proposals: "advanced" partners by country



Twinning: Lessons learned (1)

Some points learned from the Interim Evaluation:

- + The establishment of the Twinning **collaborations** was highlighted as the most important result achieved so far.
- + The institution's capabilities in networking and competing for **international funding** have been increased.
- The project coordinators find that **research costs** need to be covered.
- Some of the Twinning institutions are managing for the **first time a large EU project** and the extent of this challenge was not expected.

Twinning: Lessons learned (2)

Lessons learned for future calls:

- Clear definition of the **scientific strategy** towards excellence in the relevant research field;
- Better illustration of the scientific qualities of "**advanced**" **partners** and their added value to the project;
- Outline the expected impact of the twinning exercise on the institution in the Widening country (and even at the national/regional level) based on **specific indicators**.

Learn more:

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/widespread-05-2017.html>

Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation
website:
<http://europa.eu/!ym83BF>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

