

NICP BULLETIN

Updates on Horizon Europe from the Northern Ireland Contact Point Network

Spring 2025 Edition

www.horizoneuropeni.com

Horizon Europe: The Time is Now



HORIZON EUROPE

On January 1 2024, the UK officially re-associated to Horizon Europe – giving UK businesses and researchers access to the world's largest research and development collaboration programme.

And with the EC due to launch 2025 Calls in April for autumn submission, there is no better time to consider an application to Horizon Europe. All call information will be published on our [Website](#) and we encourage you to contact your [NICP](#) for information and advice in advance of the calls.



The EC will also host a series of online Information Days on the funding opportunities. Details of these webinars are on [Page 8](#) of this bulletin.

In order to increase Horizon Europe participation, businesses and researchers are being encouraged to seize the enormous opportunities presented by the programme. The average Horizon Europe grant is worth £530,000 to a UK business. In addition to funding, collaboration with European partners through the programme can help unlock export markets for UK businesses.

Researchers, academics, and businesses of all sizes can bid for a share of more than £80 billion (2021 - 2027) available through the programme. This follows the UK reinforcing its commitment to R&D with a record £20.4 billion government investment awarded at the 2024 Autumn Budget, including full funding association with Horizon Europe. DSIT's own R&D budget rose to £13.9 billion, alongside record core research funding of £6.1 billion, solidifying the UK's position as a global leader in science and innovation.

Further information, including practical support on how to apply is available on [Innovate UK's website](#). Innovate UK and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) also host regular events that help guide businesses and researchers through the opportunities on offer and the application process. More info can be found via the above link.

IN THIS EDITION

- **Boosting Participation Event in Lisburn a Huge Success**
- **Latest Horizon Europe drawdown figures for N.Ireland**
- **NICP Network Attend all Ireland Horizon Event**
- **British Academy Pump Priming Programme Now Open**
- **NICP Network at UKRI Innovation Event in Belfast**
- **Upcoming Events and Infodays**
- **Latest Horizon Europe Call Information**

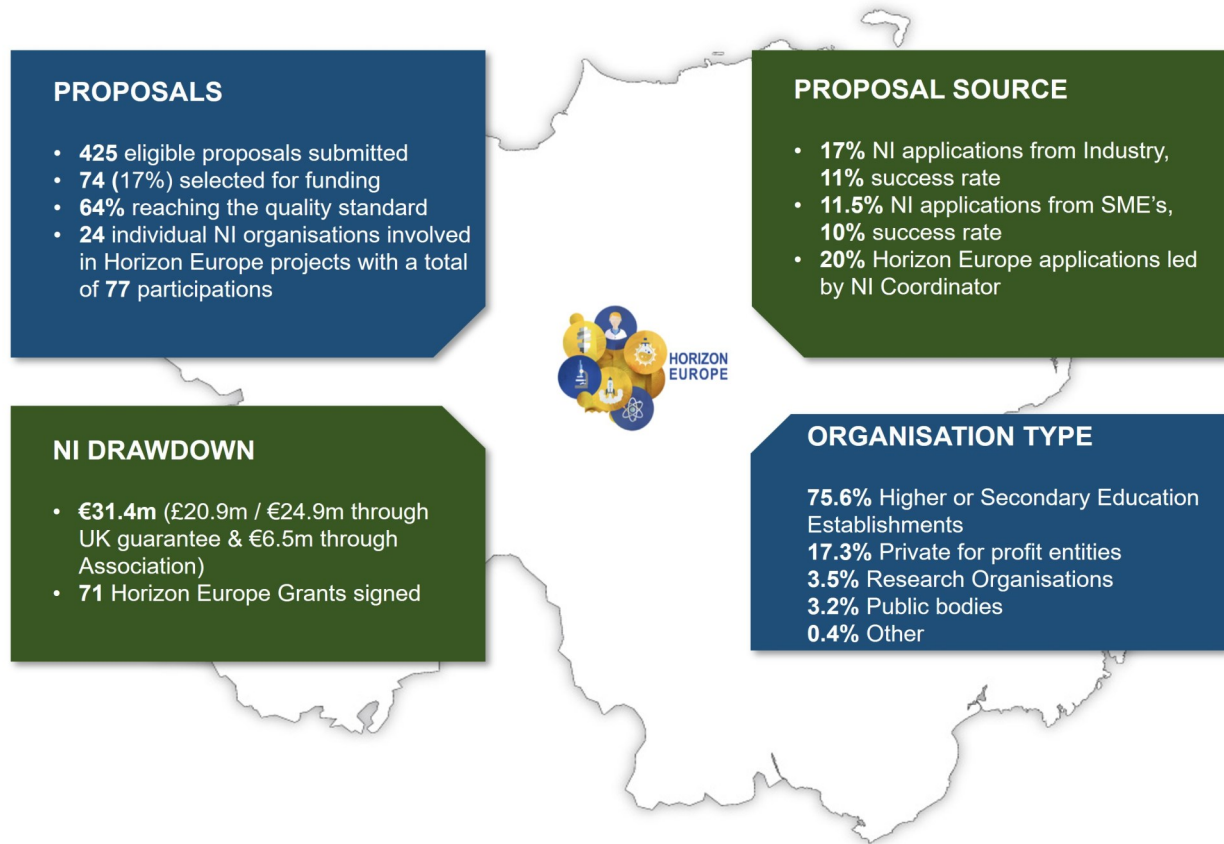
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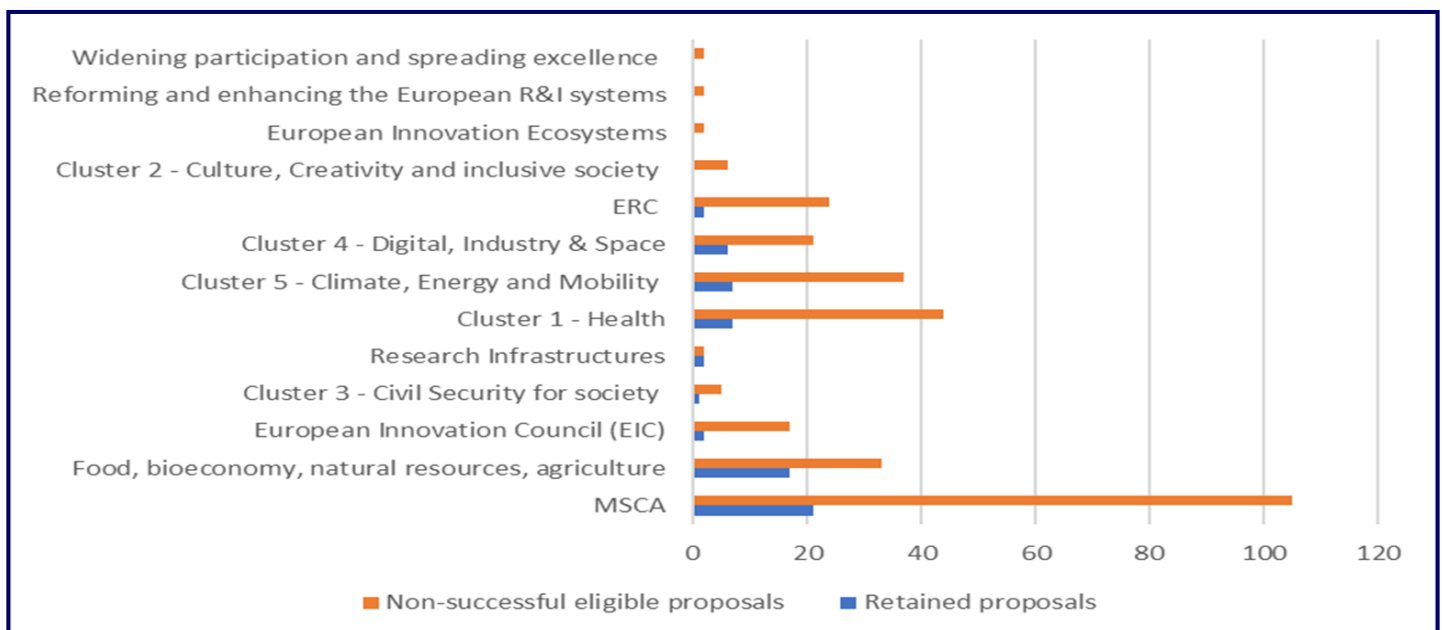
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N. IRELAND HORIZON EUROPE 2024 RESULTS



BREAKDOWN BY PROGRAMME AREA



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Horizon Europe Roadshow in Lisburn a Huge Success

Innovate UK in collaboration with the Department for the Economy, Invest NI, Ulster University, Queens University Belfast, the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI), and the Department for Science Innovation and Technology (DSIT) held an exciting in-person networking and information event at the Lagan Valley Island Center in Lisburn in October.

This was the latest in a series of Horizon Europe roadshows organised by Innovate UK and more than 120 delegates from across the Northern Ireland and the UK gathered at the Lisburn event to learn, connect and discuss the Horizon Europe collaborative research and innovation opportunities.

The day's proceedings started with an introduction and welcome address from Mark Lee, Director of Higher Education at the Department for the Economy (DfE).

This was followed by keynote speeches from Professor Chris Johnson, the UK Government's Chief Scientific Adviser in the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) and Professor Helen McCarthy, the Chief Scientific and Technology Adviser for Northern Ireland. Both emphasised the importance of international collaborative research and enthused the audience to grasp the multitude of funding opportunities which Horizon Europe represents to both academia and industry.



Professor Chris Johnson



Professor Helen McCarthy



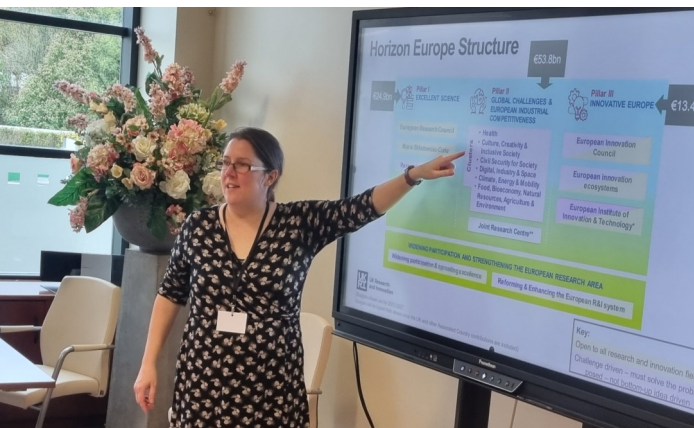
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Horizon Europe Roadshow in Lisburn a Huge Success



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Horizon Europe Roadshow: Post Event Resources

The slide decks from the Horizon Europe roadshow are now available to download. Please click on the links below to access the slides from whichever session you're interested in. For additional materials please contact your NICP.

Horizon Europe NI Roadshow – Keynote Speakers & Morning Session

- Introduction and welcome from Mark Lee, Director of Higher Education, at DfE
- Keynote addresses from the UK and NI's Chief Scientific Advisors
- Setting The Scene for the Day— an Introduction to the NICP Network
- What is Horizon Europe?
- Horizon Europe – Ireland's performance to date
- Success in Horizon Europe – Panel Session featuring Ulster University, Queens University, Almac Group, NUADA

Horizon Europe NI Roadshow – Cluster Sessions

- Cluster 2 Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space
- Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment
- AMIC: The Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Centre

Horizon Europe NI Roadshow – Afternoon Breakout Sessions

- European Research Council
- EUREKA Opportunities
- AXIAL-3D Case Study

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE

The NICP Network are delighted to announce the launch of our new website, dedicated to providing up-to-minute resources for all Northern Ireland applicants to Horizon Europe

<https://www.horizoneuropeni.com/>



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NICP Events Update

The NICP Network have been busy over the past six months engaging with the business and research communities across the island of Ireland to promote current and future opportunities in Horizon Europe. Here's just a sample of some of the events we have attended.



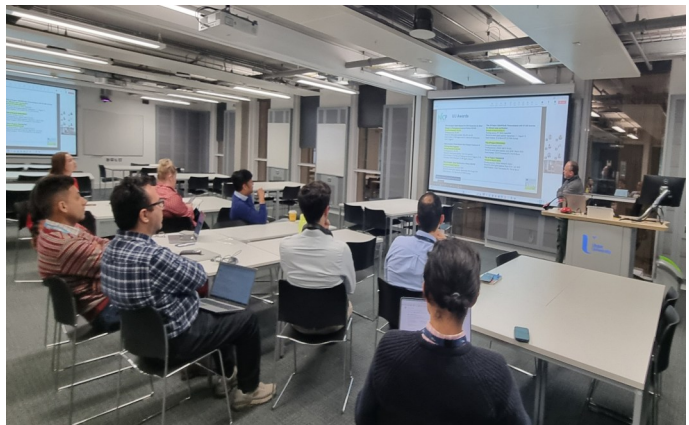
Horizon Europe Impact Conference in Dublin, December 2024



Innovate UK 'Innovate Local' Event in Belfast, February 2025



Health Summit Ireland, Dublin, February 2025



UU Webinar on Horizon Europe, December 2024



Sustainable Innovation & Impact Event at Ulster University, February 2025



NICP Network Meeting at Ulster University, January 2025

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Find Your Northern Ireland Contact Point



Ryan Gabel

r.gabel@qub.ac.uk

Ryan is responsible for supporting local ICT stakeholders with a focus on cybersecurity, digital technologies, advanced computing, Artificial Intelligence and next generation internet.

Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society ● Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space



Mary Harte

m.harte@qub.ac.uk

Mary is focused on supporting engagement from stakeholders in the aerospace supply chain, mechanical/civil engineering, materials and manufacturing sectors. Key strategic priorities for these areas are increased circularity, climate neutrality, innovation and digitisation.

Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space ● Cluster 5: Energy, Climate and Mobility



Elaine Groom

Elaine.Groom@afbini.gov.uk

Elaine's role is to strengthen the participation of local industry, SMEs, researchers and others in agriculture, food and related research and innovation for Horizon Europe Programmes.

Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment



Patricia McCrory

p.mccrory@qub.ac.uk

Key priorities for the Health Cluster are: staying healthy in a changing society; living and working in health-promoting environments; tackling diseases; access to high quality healthcare; new tools, digital solutions for a healthy society; and maintaining a competitive health-related industry in Europe

Cluster 1: Health



Nina Shiel

n.shiel@qub.ac.uk

Nina provides strategic guidance, proposal support and awareness raising on inter- and transdisciplinary research, particularly in terms of involving AHSS fields in collaborative research as equal and meaningful partners. She is experienced in European research culture and an expert in gender in research as well as at research ethics & integrity.

Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive society



Laura Fitzmaurice

l.fitzmaurice@ulster.ac.uk

Laura's role is to strengthen the participation of industries, research centres, universities and SMEs in energy-oriented Research Development and Innovation for Horizon Europe Programmes.

Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility



Patrick Cullen

p.cullen1@ulster.ac.uk

Patrick has a responsibility to engage with EU digital healthcare related research and development programmes. He provides advice and support on accessing Horizon Europe funding for research, development, demonstration, innovation and market transformation.

Cluster 1: Health (Digital)



Declan Callaghan

declan.callaghan@investni.com

Working in partnership with sector specialist NICPs, Declan operates as a Northern Ireland Contact Point for Horizon Europe from his base in Invest NI's Innovation, Research, & Development team. As part of the Innovation Funding Advisory service, Declan assists SMEs and industry organisations in exploring relevant Horizon Europe opportunities.

NICP - SME and Industry



Susan Bell

susan.bell@investni.com

Susan offers an Innovation Funding Advisory service, helping businesses explore relevant Horizon Europe opportunities aligned with their growth objectives. Susan works in close partnership with sector specialist NICPs to deliver a connected service.

NICP - SME and Industry



Lisa Braniff

lisa.braniff@investni.com

Lisa offers an Innovation Funding Advisory service, helping businesses explore relevant Horizon Europe opportunities aligned with their growth objectives. Lisa works in close partnership with sector specialist NICPs to deliver a connected service.

NICP - SMEs and Industry

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Upcoming Information Days and Events

Cluster Information Days

Horizon Europe info days - Cluster 1: 22nd May 2025 08:00 (GMT+01:00)

This event aims to inform potential applicants about the funding opportunities of the Horizon Europe Cluster 4 Work Programme 2025

Full details and Registration available [HERE](#)

1

Horizon Europe info days - Cluster 4: 13th & 14th May 2025 08:30 (GMT+01:00)

This event aims to inform potential applicants about the funding opportunities of the Horizon Europe Cluster 4 Work Programme 2025

Full details and Registration available [HERE](#)

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Horizon Europe info days - Cluster 5: 6th May 2025 08:00 (GMT+01:00)

Focusing on the twin green and digital transitions to achieve climate neutrality in Europe by 2050

Full details and Registration available [HERE](#)

5

Horizon Europe info days - Cluster 6: 20th and 21st May 2025 08:00 (GMT+01:00)

Horizon Europe info days - Cluster 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Full details and Registration available [HERE](#)

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Horizon Europe info days - WIDERA Work Programme: 20th May 2025 08:00 (GMT+01:00)

This information day aims to inform interested applicants about calls in the new WIDERA Work Programme.

Full details and Registration available [HERE](#)

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Horizon Europe info days - EU Missions: 22nd & 23rd May 2025 08:30 (GMT+01:00)

The event aims to inform potential applicants about the new topics included in the EU Missions programme.

Full details and Registration available [HERE](#)

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Upcoming Information Days and Events

Events and Updates



European Maritime Day Cork, Ireland

Wednesday 21st to Thursday 23rd May, 2025

Anyone considering getting involved in a waterborne project would be well advised to attend this event in Cork. UK based SMEs can apply for up to £700 towards their travel and hotel cost but need to do so before 23rd April.



Clean Aviation launches its Third Call for Proposals with €950 million research effort.

The purpose of the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking (CAJU) is to develop disruptive new aircraft technologies to support the European Green Deal and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. See [HERE](#)



The Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking has published its 2025/26 Biannual Work Programme and this includes the 2025 Calls for Proposals (Annex VI)

There is €138.7m available across 10 Topics, nine of which have a planned opening date of October this year with a proposal submission deadline of February 2026. Only one project per Topic will be funded and for those marked FA1, FA2, etc, will build upon work already underway. So it will be important to find out who is delivering the ongoing projects.



Horizon Implementation Day: Grant Agreement Preparation in Horizon Europe.

Thursday 20th March 2025

For further information please click [HERE](#)



Lump Sum Funding in Horizon Europe: How does it work?

Thursday 27th March, 2025

For further information please click [HERE](#)



Horizon Implementation Day: Grant Management in Horizon Europe.

Thursday April 3rd, 2025

For further information please click [HERE](#)

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Online Horizon Europe Webinars

If you'd like a refresher on key aspects of Horizon Europe then please follow the links below for online webinars hosted by the European Commission over the past six months.

Horizon Implementation Day: Finding opportunities and submitting a proposal in Horizon Europe (26 September 2024)

Click to watch YouTube Webinar:



Horizon Implementation Day: Grant Management in Horizon Europe (05 November 2024)

Click to watch YouTube Webinar:



Lump Sum Funding in Horizon Europe: How does it work? How to write a proposal?

Click to watch YouTube Webinar:



Horizon Implementation Day: Grant Agreement Preparation in Horizon Europe

Click to watch YouTube Webinar:



Certificates on the financial statements (CFS) in Horizon Europe

Click to watch YouTube Webinar:



Personnel Unit Cost – New cost method in Horizon Europe

Click to watch YouTube Webinar:



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Horizon Europe Supports

This is a list of financial supports available for preparation of Horizon Europe Proposals



Horizon Europe Pump Priming collaboration between UK and EU partners 2025

The British Academy with the support of the Royal Society, the Academy of Medical Sciences, and the Royal Academy of Engineering are inviting proposals from UK and EU/Associated Countries-based researchers to pump prime collaborations to support the effective uptake of the opportunities provided by the UK's association to Horizon Europe.

[Click for further information](#)



Travel Vouchers

InterTradelreland's Horizon Europe travel schemes support those working in partnership on a cross-border basis in Horizon Europe to travel both on the island and across the EU. The Cross-Border Collaboration Voucher offers up to £500 or euro equivalent to early-stage partnerships travelling across Ireland and Northern Ireland to scope out potential project ideas.

[Click for further information](#)

The EIC Accelerator Programme



Are you an SME with a game-changing product, service or business model with the potential to create new markets or disrupt existing ones in Europe and globally?

The [EIC Accelerator](#) under Horizon Europe could potentially support you. Eligible SMEs can receive up to €2.5 million in funding to scale their innovations. The programme offers EIC Accelerator Open (open to all fields of technology) and EIC Accelerator Challenges (focused on predefined topics).

The selection process consists of three steps: a short proposal (submitted anytime), a full proposal (**next deadline - 1st October 2025**), and a face-to-face interview for final selection.

SMEs looking to develop and scale their breakthrough innovations are encouraged to apply. Your local NICPs are available to help scope your potential and support you throughout the application process.

For more information, contact either Lisa Braniff at lisa.braniff@investni.com or Susan Bell at susan.bell@investni.com



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HORIZON FUNDING MAKES THINGS HAPPEN



CLICK ON THIS [LINK](#) TO GET STARTED TODAY