

### HORIZON EUROPE IN SUPPORT OF WIDENING COUNTRIES

NID on Life Science in Horizon Europe, 13 October 2020

Anna Vosečková, TC CAS



## WIDENING INSTRUMENTS

- support to less performing countries in R&I in H2020 (2014-2020) for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in EU Framework Programme
- three basic instruments: TEAMING, TWINNING and ERA Chairs, complemented by COST programme, Policy Support Facility (PSF) and Widening Fellowships (MSCA)
- Widening countries must be coordinators
- evolution in course of H2020 according to the lessons learned and needs of the users
- continuation in Horizon Europe (2021-2027) with new elements
- new instruments added
- specific package of measures Advancing Europe:
  - horizontal part Widening Participation and Strengthening of ERA (WPSERA)
  - targeted measures across Horizon Europe



### **HORIZON EUROPE STRUCTURE**





## **ADVANCING EUROPE**





## **WIDENING INSTRUMENTS**

- Coordinated and Support Actions CSA) exception on eligibility of R&I costs for Widening instruments (Regulation establishing Horizon Europe, Article 2 – Definitions, paragraph (25h):
- "coordination and support action" means an action contributing to the objectives of the Programme, excluding research and innovation activities, **except when undertaken under the component "widening participation and spreading excellence" of the part "Widening Participation and strengthening the ERA"**; ...



#### INFORMATION ON FOLLOWING SLIDES CANNOT BE CONSIDERED AS LEGALLY BINDING - DISCUSSION ON THE DETAILS OF IMPLEMENTATION IS STILL GOING ON WITHIN THE SHADOW COMMITTEE ON WPSERA



# **NEW ELEMENTS 1**

### TWINNING

**Objective:** to strengthen a defined field of research in a university or research organisation by linking it with at least two internationally-leading research institutions in other Member States or Associated Countries

#### **New elements:**

- research, consumables and small equipment costs become eligible (around 25% of the requested total funding)
- prolonged duration (up to 4 years)
- project budget: M€ 1.5 max



## **NEW ELEMENTS 2**

### **ERA CHAIRS**

**Objective:** to create appropriate conditions and attract in a sustainable manner outstanding scientists and innovators to universities or research organisations to initiate structural changes

#### **New elements:**

- strengthen position and quality of ERA Chair holder by two parties applications – coordinator and partner organisation (current employer of the prospective ERA Chair holder)
- research, consumables and small equipment costs become eligible (up to 10% of the requested total funding)



# **NEW ELEMENTS 3**

### **TEAMING FOR EXCELLENCE**

**Objective:** to support the creation of new Centres of Excellence or upgrading the existing ones in eligible countries in a chosen scientific domain

#### **New elements:**

- merger of formerly two phases in a single project
- duration up to 5 years; budget unchanged (M€ 15)
- two-stage evaluation procedure
- possibility to opt for a joint evaluation in case that complementary funding comes from ERDF



## **EXCELLENCE HUBS**

- establishment of long-term strategic partnerships between and within innovation ecosystems or clusters of at least two different Widening countries (possibility to include excellent partners from outside)
- development of competencies and skills in promising interdisciplinary R&I domains; alignment with national, regional or macro-regional RIS3; conducting pilot R&I projects
- budget between M€ 3 5; duration ???



### **EUROPEAN EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE** (EEI) preparatory action 2021

- strengthening capacity for excellence in universities
- capacity building to strengthen networks of higher education institutions and cooperation with surrounding ecosystems
- at least 2 organisations in a Widening country (or different Widening countries) and at least 2 leading institutions from 2 different MS or AC
- budget M€ 1, duration 2 years



### FOSTERING BALANCED BRAIN CIRCULATION (BBC)

- attract more R&I talents to widening countries early postdoctoral researchers and innovators moving or returning to Widening countries
- duration up to 2.5 years
- modalities under discussion with MSCA



### HOP ON INCENTIVE SCHEME

- integrates participants from Widening countries as full project partners from the start
- topping up a continuous mentoring and capacity building during the project - incentive prime or lump sum of maximum 5% of project budget
- on a voluntary basis without affecting the freedom of choice for the consortium
- Art. 125 of the Financial Regulation: an incentive to be paid to consortia under HE Pillar 2 for the additional efforts needed to integrate one or more partners from W. countries



## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

#### **SEWP Brochure**

3<sup>rd</sup> and final update includes the results of the last H2020 calls a newly also Widening Fellowships (MSCA-IF-EF 2018 and 2019 call outcomes), September 2020 (only electronic version), only in Czech, accessible <u>here</u>

#### Webinar on Widening Programme, 21 October 2020

Co-organized by Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague and Technology Centre CAS, agenda and registration <u>here</u>, webinar will be held in English



## **Thanks for your attention**