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IN FOCUS

Association to H2020

On July 1st 2014, the Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and European Union on participation of the Republic of Moldova within the European Union Research and Innovation Programme "Horizon 2014-2020" (H2020) was signed in Brussels, together with the similar agreements for the five Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia).

The association agreement allows Moldovan research and innovation entities to take full advantage of the funding opportunities offered under Horizon 2020.

Thus, Moldova became the first Eastern Partnership Country associated to this program, H2020 being the first community program within which the country has this advanced status.

The Academy of Sciences of Moldova developed the necessary institutional framework for assuring a proper participation of Moldovan institutions within H2020 calls.

The European Union Delegation to the Republic of Moldova through External Actions offers support for the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the EU Programme HORIZON 2020.



Mr. Gheorghe Duca, President of Academy of Sciences of Moldova and Mr. Robert-Jan SMITS, General Director, Research and Innovation, European Commission

Objectives and Components

Specific Objectives:

- Facilitate the participation of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova to the Research and Innovation Programme "Horizon 2020": Moldova participates as full right member to H2020.
- Moldova strengthens its Research and Innovation system: Moldova is actively involved in the activities of H2020.

Specific Components:

- Reorganization of the H2020 National Contact Point Network;
- Development and realization of the new Grant Programmes to stimulate participation in H2020.
- Establishment of a series of Training Activities for Proposals Writing, Project management, Financial Administration, Academic English;
- Organization of H2020 and EU promotional and visibility events: Researcher's Night, Science Slam, Science & Business Club, etc.

- Disseminations of H2020 opportunities: consulting, infodays, networking & brokerage events and partner search assistance.

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RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES

New Grants Programmes to stimulate participation in HORIZON 2020, <http://cpi.asm.md>

Academy of Sciences of Moldova (ASM) elaborated **three new Programmes** using the EU approach in order to stimulate and assure participation of R&D Community, SMEs, NGOs and other institutions to the H2020 which are the following:

1. **Connection of the Moldovan Centers of Excellence to the EU Research Infrastructure:** The main objective of this call was focused on connection the Moldovan research centers to the thematic Pan-European Research Infrastructure, such as ESFRI (European Scientific Forum for Research Infrastructure), ERICs (European Research Infrastructure centers), ETPs (European Technology Platforms) and other EU Research Infrastructure Networks that will increase scientific excellence, the visibility of Moldovan teams and assure participation in H2020 within created consortiums. From 19 proposals submitted, 12 projects were approved for funding: 6 from universities and 6 from research institutions, which clearly demonstrated participation in the forthcoming H2020 open Calls. The first time the review of proposals was organized by independent foreign experts only and not by experts from Moldova.
2. **Increasing participation in H2020 through mobility of researchers:** This Programme offers the mini-grants for travel to support participation at the H2020 related networking and brokerage events and H2020 projects preparatory meetings. Up to now for 10 persons were awarded the travel mini-grants to participate in the above meetings in order to promote their ideas, join the international consortiums within the H2020 calls and proposals writing.
3. **European BONUS Programme** has the purpose to encourage and appreciate participants who submitted eligible proposals to H2020 and is open on a rolling base.

2015 EVENTS

Europe days in Moldova



Representatives of ASM at the Europe days in Moldova



On May 10 2015, Europe Day celebration took place in the Chisinau Downtown within which the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, Centre for International Projects and National Contact Points Network wide and actively promoted the Horizon 2020 information materials, open funding opportunities, success stories on participation in the EU Framework Programmes.

At the same time visitors were invited to take part at the "Science Slam Moldova" on May 28, 2015 and "Researchers' Night" on September 25, 2015 events to be held in Chisinau.

This activity was continued on May 16, 2015 within the European Village organized in Soroca accompanied with the official opening of the Soroca Fortress, restored with support of European funding under the "Medieval Jewellerias: Khotyn, Soroca, Suceava Mejekss" Project.

Science Slam

Academy of Sciences of Moldova in collaboration with the Centre for International Projects, National Contact Points Network and DAS Foundation organize the 2nd edition of "**SCIENCE SLAM MOLDOVA**".

Science Slam phenomenon arose from the need of popularization of science and allows young researchers to compete connecting the science with innovation in a creative way.

Participants may come from all areas of science and stages of research. Creativity and fun are strongly encouraged.

At the end of the evening the audience will vote Moldovan Science SLAM Winner who will be able to provoke laugh and cry, joy and inspiration.

