



# Horizon Europe Work Programme 2023-2024, Africa Initiative II

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Commission

# Overview

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- Horizon Europe & International Cooperation
- Africa Initiative II, building on outcome of Africa Initiative I
- Opportunities for Africa





# EU-Africa cooperation in Research & Innovation (R&I)

- As a strategic partner, the EU seeks to **enhance cooperation with Africa** to promote actions targeted to finding locally adapted solutions to global challenges, that often hit Africa hardest.
- The [Comprehensive EU strategy with Africa](#) and the [Global Approach to Research & Innovation \(R&I\)](#) are the EU's most recent policy initiatives that **prioritise R&I** as a key dimension of **sustainable development**.
  - The *Comprehensive EU Strategy with Africa* proposes to **scale up the EU's academic and scientific cooperation with Africa**, with a view to creating **prosperous knowledge societies**.
  - The *EU Global Approach to R&I* foresees **special openness vis-à-vis African countries** that wish to thrive as knowledge-based economies and accelerate their **sustainable and inclusive development**.
- The [AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue \(HLPD\) on Science, Technology and Innovation \(STI\)](#) (est. 2010) is the **policy forum** where regular exchanges on R&I policy take place and where **long-term priorities** to strengthen cooperation are established. Under its aegis, the **first ever AU-EU R&I Ministerial Meeting** took place in **July 2020**, establishing the **4 joint priorities** of the AU-EU cooperation in R&I:



Public Health



Green Transition



Innovation & Technology



Capacities for Science



# International Cooperation in R&I

## *Global approach to Research and Innovation*

### WHAT IS THE AIM OF THE GLOBAL APPROACH TO RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (R&I)?

To preserve openness in research and innovation international cooperation while promoting a level playing field and reciprocity underpinned by fundamental values.

To strengthen multilateral partnerships to deliver new solutions to green, digital, health and innovation challenges.



### HOW WILL THIS BE ACHIEVED?

Modulating bilateral cooperation in line with European interests and values and EU's open strategic autonomy.

Accelerating sustainable and inclusive development, and the transition to resilient, knowledge-based societies and economies in low and middle-income countries.

Using a *Team Europe* approach, with actions by the EU, its financial institutions and Member States.





# International Cooperation in R&I

## *Global approach to Research and Innovation*

### Guiding principles:

- Commitment to openness
- Values & Principles
- Pursuit of a level playing field and reciprocity
- Pool global efforts to tackle global challenges



# HORIZON EUROPE

THE EU  
RESEARCH &  
INNOVATION  
PROGRAMME 2021 – 27







# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## HORIZON EUROPE

## EURATOM

### SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

*Exclusive focus on defence research & development*

Research actions

Development actions

### SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT\*

*Exclusive focus on civil applications*



**Pillar I  
EXCELLENT SCIENCE**

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures



**Pillar II  
GLOBAL CHALLENGES &  
EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL  
COMPETITIVENESS**

Clusters

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

Joint Research Centre



**Pillar III  
INNOVATIVE EUROPE**

European Innovation Council

European Innovation Ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation & Technology\*

### WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint Research Center

\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

An illustration on the left side of the slide shows a stylized globe with several figures interacting with it. One figure is climbing a ladder on the right side of the globe, another is holding a lightbulb, and others are positioned around the globe, suggesting global collaboration and innovation. The background of the slide is a gradient from light blue at the top to green at the bottom.

# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Based on:

- Openness
- Access to EU funding
- Targeted international cooperation actions
- Safeguarding EU interests





# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## Targeted international cooperation actions

- Flagging of call topics specifically relevant for International Cooperation in the Work Programmes, e.g. in:
  - Strategic thematic areas (topics)
  - Geographical areas (countries/regions)
  - Multilateral initiatives
  - Collaboration with key partners
- WP 23-24: 22% International Cooperation-flagged topics; see F&T Portal – filter for International Cooperation
- Cooperation with Africa and MED under the HE ‘Africa Initiative’



# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## Countries under sanction – **Russia and Belarus**

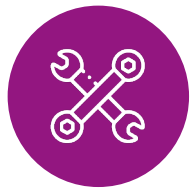
- Work Programme 23-24 – prohibition provision in the General Annexes to the Work Programme
  - For legal entities established in Russia, Belarus, or in non-government controlled territories of Ukraine
  - Exceptions on case-by-case basis
  - Exempted are Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships

See also [EU Sanctions Map](#)

# EU-Africa: Global Gateway Investment Package.

#GlobalGateway #AfricaEU #TeamEurope

- Announced during the **6<sup>th</sup> EU-UA Summit – A joint vision for 2030** of February 2022, it aims to support Africa for a **strong, inclusive, green and digital recovery**.  
**Budget: 150 BEUR.**
- **3 flagship initiatives** foreseen for **Science, Technology and Innovation**:
  - (1) AU-EU Innovation Agenda
  - (2) Earth observation and Space
  - (3) Regional Centres of Excellence in the area of Green Transition



# The Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda

*For building stronger value chains for sustainable growth and decent jobs*



- Flagship Initiative of the **Global Gateway Africa – Europe Investment Package**.
- Outcome of the first ever AU-EU R&I Ministerial Meeting of July 2020, aims to **enhance the impact of STI on socio-economic development, fostering the translation of R&I into products, services, businesses and jobs, in Africa and Europe.**

## 4 objectives:



### Make it real

- **Translate innovative capacities and achievements into tangible outputs**, supporting sustainable growth and jobs, in particular for the youth



### Generate impact by design

- **Foster - strengthen innovation ecosystems** to enhance socio-economic impact



### Strengthen people, communities & institutions

- **Develop sustainable, long lasting and mutually beneficial higher education and R&I partnerships**



### Learn, monitor, and scale it up

- Scale-up instruments that can take forward existing successful programmes and projects, enable - strengthen the knowledge triangle of education, R&I & place special focus on **public participation, transparency, and inclusion**

**Short-, medium- and long-term set of actions, according to four joint priority areas:**



- i. Public Health*
- ii. Green Transition*
- iii. Innovation & Technology*
- iv. Capacities for Science*
- + the area of:*
- v. Cross-cutting issues*



**Mapping of gaps & needs** for each priority area

- **Working document** published on 14 February 2022 & subject to **online public consultation** until 30 June 2022 (report on the outcome [here](#)); further discussed during the **'AU-EU Innovation Agenda Stakeholder Event'** (23-24 November 2022, Nairobi and online).
- Final version of the Agenda expected by Q2 2023, to be adopted through the **2<sup>nd</sup> AU-EU R&I Ministerial Meeting of 13 June 2023.**



## **6<sup>th</sup> European Union - African Union Summit: A Joint Vision for 2030**

Together, we will step up our support to scientific cooperation between researchers to develop knowledge together, as well as sharing technology and expertise, including through a joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda. We will encourage exchanges of young citizens, volunteers and students, through the expanded Erasmus+ programme and develop partnerships between universities, in order to improve our mutual understanding and foster excellence. We will strive to facilitate cultural exchanges and the movement of artists and artworks between our two continents, and encourage mutual undertaking for the restitution of cultural assets and promote access to and protection of cultural heritage.



# Africa Initiative II

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Work Programme of Horizon Europe  
2023-2024



- Building on the positive outcome of the **Africa Initiative I** of Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022.
- A total budget of **~300 MEUR** through **~30 topics** under **calls for proposals** to boost **EU-Africa cooperation on Research & Innovation (R&I)**.
- Enabling the implementation of the **short-term and medium-term actions** of the **AU-EU Innovation Agenda**, aiming to **translate R&I into tangible positive impact on the ground**, particularly in the areas of <sup>1</sup>:
  1. *Green Transition* (260 MEUR) 
  2. *Innovation & Technology* (35 MEUR) 
  3. *Capacities for Science* (9 MEUR) 
- Adoption of **Horizon Europe Work Programme: 6 December 2022**  
([EU funding & tenders' portal](#)).



# Capacities for Science + Innovation & Technology



Horizon Europe Thematic Cluster	Calls	Action type	Budget (MEUR)	Year	AU-EU R&I Cooperation Priority Area
Research infrastructure	1. Strengthen the bilateral cooperation on research infrastructures with Africa	CSA	1.5	2024	Capacities for Science / Innovation & Technology
European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)	2. The African Union-European Union Innovation Platform	CSA	2.5	2024	
Digital, Industry and Space (Cluster 4)	3. R&I cooperation with Sub-Saharan Africa	CSA	2	2023	
	4. Promoting EU standards globally	CSA	3	2023	
	5. Earth Observation platform, products and services for raw materials	IA	20	2023	Innovation & Technology
	6. Designing space-based downstream applications with international partners	RIA	6	2023	

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CSA = Coordination and Support Action  
 IA = Innovation Action  
 RIA = Research & Innovation Action

# Green Transition, 1 of 2



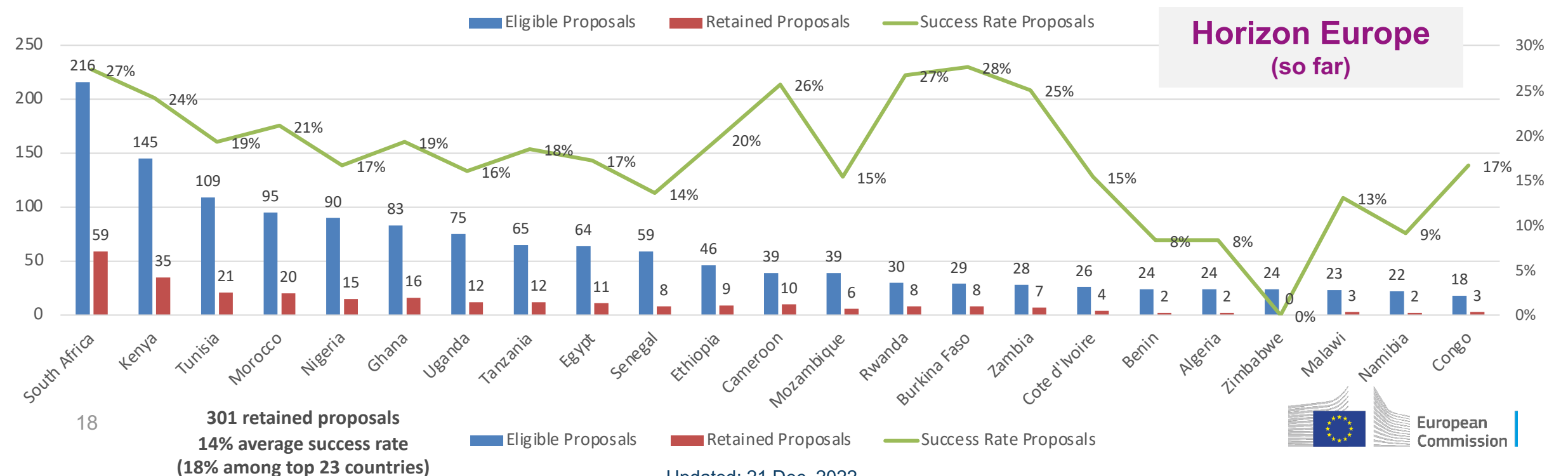
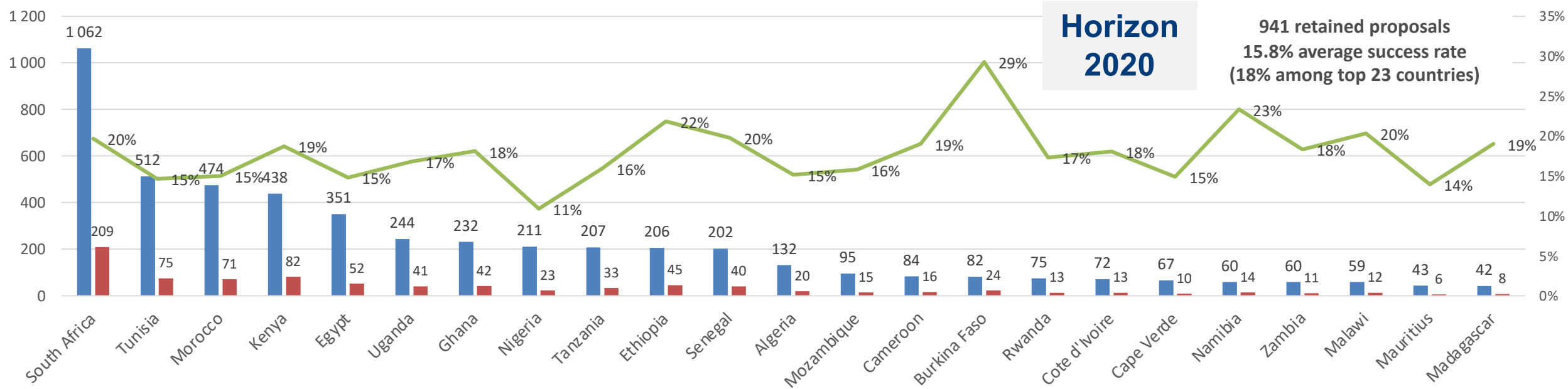
Horizon Europe Thematic Cluster	Calls	Action type	Year	Budget (MEUR)
Climate, Energy and Mobility (Cluster 5)	7. Needs-based adaptation to climate change in Africa	RIA	2023	10
	8. Next generation low-emission, climate-resilient pathways and NDCs for a future aligned with the Paris Agreement	RIA	2024	14
	9. Technologies for sustainable, cost-efficient and low carbon footprint downstream processing & production of battery-grade materials (Batt4EU Partnership)	RIA	2023	21
	10. Hybrid electric energy storage solutions for grid support and charging infrastructure (Batt4EU Partnership)	IA	2023	12
	11. Non-Li Sustainable Batteries with European Supply Chains for Stationary Storage (Batt4EU Partnership)	IA	2024	21
	12. Development of microalgae and/or direct solar fuel production and purification technologies for advanced aviation and /or shipping fuels	RIA	2023	8
	13. Accelerating the green transition and energy access in Africa	IA	2023	20
	14. Africa-EU CO-FUND action	Co-fund Action	2024	10
	15. Improvement of light harvesting and carbon fixation with synthetic biology and/or bio-inspired//biomimetic pathways for renewable direct solar fuels production	RIA	2024	8
	16. Frugal zero-emission vehicles concepts for the urban passenger challenge (2ZERO Partnership)	IA	2023	12
Missions	17. Mission Ocean & waters and Mission Soil Deal for Europe – Joint demonstration of approaches and solutions to address nutrient pollution in the landscape-river-sea system in the Mediterranean sea basin	IA	2023	16



# Green Transition, 2 of 2



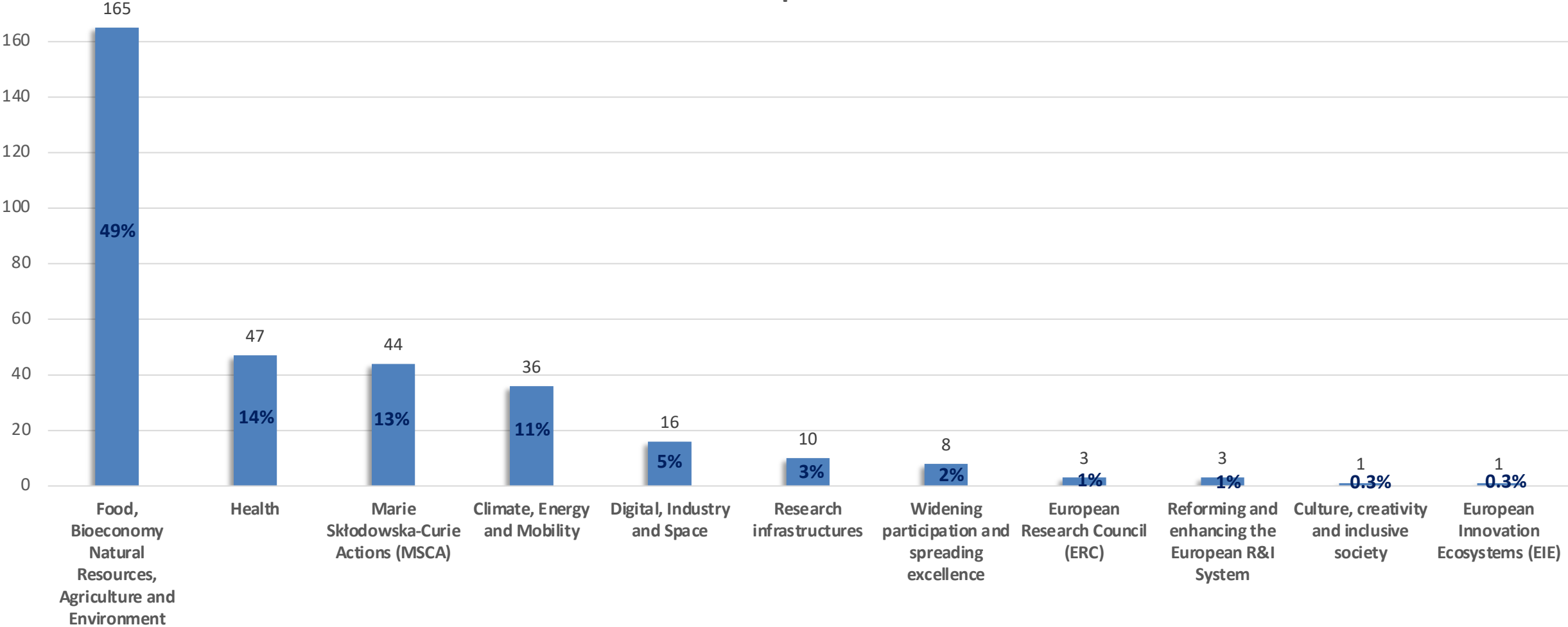
Horizon Europe Thematic Cluster	Calls	Action type	Year	Budget (MEUR)
Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment (Cluster 6)	18. European partnership on sustainable food systems for people, planet and climate	Co-fund Action	2023	45
	19. EU-African Union cooperation – linking the activities of the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership and those of the Pan-African Network for Economic Analysis of Policies (PANAP)	CSA	2023	4
	20. Support for the implementation of a sustainable platform for the EU-AU cooperation under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership	CSA	2023	4
	21. Support to the markets and trade of agroecological food products under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership	IA	2023	7
	22. EU-Africa Union – food safety*	RIA	2023	10
	23. Reinforcing science policy support with IPBES and IPCC for better interconnected biodiversity and climate policies	CSA	2023	4
	24. EU-African Union cooperation on agroforestry management for climate change adaptation and mitigation	RIA	2024	18
	25. EU-African Union – towards climate-neutral, social just fair trade food systems	RIA	2024	9
	26. Supporting the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance and Declaration	CSA	2024	4
27. Bio-based solutions for humanitarian applications	CSA	2023	3	



# Horizon Europe, WP 2021-2022, Granted Projects involving African countries

334 participations; 241 unique participations; 126 signed grants; 84 MEUR of net EU contribution

### Participations





# Examples of successful EU-AU R&I Partnerships



## Public Health

- The **European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)**:
  - Main initiative AU-EU cooperation in global health research, tackling poverty-related infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa
  - Joint investment of 1.4 BEUR, 417 projects funded until EDCTP2 + 1.6 BEUR for the ongoing **Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking** (0.8 BEUR from EU, 0.4 BEUR from the EDCTP Association and 0.4 BEUR from other contributing)
  - 14 EU and 20 AU countries; 178 EU and 321 AU partners involved



## Green Transition

- R&I Partnership on **Food Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA)** channeled a joint investment of 710 MEUR for over 300 projects thus far, on four priorities:
  - 1) Sustainable intensification
  - 2) Agriculture and food systems for nutrition
  - 3) Expansion and improvement of agricultural trade and markets
  - 4) Cross-cutting topics
  - 27 EU and 47 AU countries, 875 EU and 557 AU partners involved
- R&I Partnership on **Climate Change Sustainable Energy (CCSE)**, with an investment of 106 MEUR for climate services, renewable energy and energy efficiency which will support adaptation and mitigation efforts in various sectors for Africa and implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.
  - 11 projects funded thus far. 11 EU and 20 AU countries, 150 EU and 105 AU partners involved.

## Innovation & Technology

- **ENRICH in Africa (EiA) - Horizon 2020 project** (2021-2023) developing a network of innovation incubators and accelerators: 10 from Africa and 10 from Europe.
- Over 100 entrepreneurs supported thus far, exploring the needs of companies willing to expand into Africa or Europe.
- Over 350 members of the EiA community: 227 companies (60% from Africa and 40% from Europe), 80 investors, 51 business support organisations,





# Synergies on EU-Africa R&I Partnerships

## Horizon Europe – Africa Initiative (EC DG RTD)

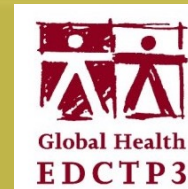
- [Global Gateway Africa – Europe Investment Package](#), with 300 MEUR dedicated to its Flagship Initiatives on STI: (i) AU-EU Innovation Agenda; (ii) Earth Observation and Space; (ii) Regional Centres of Excellence on Green Transition
- African Research Initiative for Scientific Excellence ([ARISE](#))
- [ACP Innovation Fund](#)
- [Erasmus +](#)

(EC DG INTPA)

## AU-EU R&I Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA)

- DG INTPA's [DeSIRA projects](#)
- African Union Research Grants projects

EC DG RTD & DG INTPA





# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

- The EU flagship programme for **researchers' mobility and training** through the development of excellent **doctoral programmes, collaborative research and fellowship schemes**, contribute to excellent research and a highly skilled research-based human capital.

See: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions>



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# Upcoming events (Africa-focussed)

- **1-3 February 2023 – Horizon Europe Africa Initiative II Regional African Webinars:**
  - English-speaking Africa (1 February)
  - French-speaking Africa (2 February)
  - Portuguese-speaking Africa (3 February)
  - Focus on Energy (7 February)
- **7 or 8 February 2023 (TBC):**  
**Horizon Europe Africa Initiative II Webinar in Senegal**
- **8 February 2023:**  
**Horizon Europe Africa Initiative II + NCP Network Launch in Nigeria** (hybrid event)
- **14 February 2023:**  
**Horizon Europe Africa Initiative II Webinar in Mauritius**
- **15 February 2023 (TBC):**  
**Horizon Europe Africa Initiative II + NCP Network Launch in South Africa** (hybrid event)
- **More to be confirmed soon.**



# Follow us, engage and keep up to date via:

- [EU-Africa Cooperation in Research and Innovation](#)
- [AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation](#)
- [EU-Africa R&I Cooperation Factsheet](#)
- [Horizon Europe website](#)
- [Africa Initiative I Factsheet](#)
- [Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda: Presentation, Promotional Video, Working Document and Pre-print of Commentary Paper](#)
- [International Cooperation website](#)
- [Union for the Mediterranean \(UfM\) Portal](#)
- [Euro-MED Factsheet](#)
- [Horizon Europe Funding & Tenders' Portal](#)
- [National Contact Points \(NCPs\) Portal](#)
- [Coronavirus Global R&I Collaboration Portal](#)





# Thank you!

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