EURAXESS Webinar

Strengthening the innovation capacities of EU research and innovation projects

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EU Projects – Horizon Europe

- Funding type: **CSA** - Coordination and support actions (100% funding)
- Funding type: **R&I** - Research and Innovation (100% funding)
- Funding type: **IA** - Innovation Action (70% funding - for-profit, 100% funding - not-for-profit)

Consortium-run projects

**Plus many others!!**
EU Projects – Horizon Europe

1. Work programme
   - Overarching thematic area & political drivers

2. Destination
   - Break down into different expectations for WP

3. Call
   - Specific focus areas for sector-based funding

4. Topic
   - Individual project opportunities

5. Project!
   - Project implementation
EU Projects – Horizon Europe

- Complex processes!
- Strong but limited community!
- Actions limited to topic requirements!
- Tight deadlines!
HOWEVER!...

- Many opportunities in a wide range of industries and sectors!
- Focus on exploration, not success!
- Experienced companies can support with entry!
- Large budgets to support R&D activities!
- African countries also eligible for receiving funding!
So, what do I do?

- Check out the calls available on the ‘Funding and Tenders’ Portal
- Conduct a call analysis of interesting topics
- Start building your network!
- Actively participate in information days, webinars, activities from the European Commission
- Know your own goals!
- Understand your own barriers and limitations
- Research the market – what is needed politically and industrially
But how can this strength be maximised??
Tips through case study!

- Horizon 2020 CSA project
- Extension of existing ENRICH actions
- Topic requirement: create a network of incubators and accelerators across Africa and Europe
- Limitations acting as learnings from previous ENRICH projects
Concept

Human-centric project, working to:
1. Understand user needs,
2. Develop solutions, in co-creation with the users, to meet those needs,
3. Generate impact for the innovation ecosystem of Africa and Europe.

‘By the community, for the community’
Concept

Human-centric project:

- Useful
- Usable
- Accessible
- Findable
- Desirable
- Credible

Valuable

UX Honeycomb - Peter Morville, 2004
Hit the ground running!
Strength in ancillary tasks and management

BENEFIT!!
Services for Champions (members)

- Incubation programmes
- Acceleration programmes
- Virtual Academy
- Mentoring
- Startup programmes
- Platform development
- Bootcamps
- Twinning
- Scaleup programme

Support with ancillary tasks and management

- Project coordination
- Communication
- Outreach
- Dissemination
- Stakeholder management
- Policy recommendations
- SME/startup needs assessment matching

Developed by the Champions, for the Champions!
Champion members tripled in 3 years!

Over 500 startups and SMEs supported!

Legacy entity created!
**Legacy outcome from the project?**

- **New legal entity**
- **Office in Cape Town, South Africa**
- **Transitioning the knowledge and services of the project**
- **Active participation of project partners as shareholders or service delivery partners**
- **Further engagement in EU projects (e.g., SEADE)**
  - Strengthening EU and AU Research ecosystem – focus on new user group not previously supported through EIА project. Bring entire innovation ecosystem together!
Tangible ecosystem impact

Strong project management & implementation
Keys to success?

- Passion
- Experience
- Networks
- Community
- Diversity
- Creativity
- Flexibility

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Keys to success?

VALUE!