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1. /DFG/ African-German Scientific Exchange in the Field of Public Health, Deadline: 30.09.2021

In close collaboration with the Fundo Nacional de Investigaçã (FNI) of the Republic of Mozambique and the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) of the Republic of Zambia, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) of the Federal Republic of Germany would like to invite researchers to engage in a scientific exchange in the field of public health.

This initiative covers all research questions that are primarily concerned with population health. Subject areas include public health issues relating to infectious diseases and non-communicable diseases; One Health; availability, quality and utilisation of data for health monitoring and surveillance; mental health; prevention strategies; population movement/migration; health policies.

The aim of the initiative is for participating researchers to identify joint interests in the area of public health and initiate new collaborative ventures.

The partner funding organisations aim to facilitate this exchange by means of the following measures:

1. An invitation to submit posters reflecting the participating researchers' expertise, research interests and ideas for collaborative research projects and subsequently to view other participants' posters.
2. A subsequent call for DFG proposals for funding of the Initiation of International Collaboration.
3. A Status Workshop in Bonn/Germany to convene all researchers due to receive funding under this call for the Initiation of International Collaboration.

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Further Information:

https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/ausschreibungen/info_wissenschaft_21_61/index.htm
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2. /EU Horizon Europe*/ Expanding Acceleration Ecosystems (HORIZON-EIE-2021-SCALEUP-01-01), Deadline: 10.11.2021 17:00 Brussels time

Incubators, accelerators and different types of 'company-builders' play a crucial role in providing start-ups with growth support. Due to the diverse innovation landscape in Europe, start-ups from better-connected innovation ecosystems benefit from more local accelerators with greater funding opportunities and more qualified business support services compared to their counterparts elsewhere[1]. This geographical gap often requires start-ups from less connected ecosystems to move to more established hubs elsewhere in Europe[2]. Consequently, there are fewer scale-ups in less connected innovation ecosystems, creating unbalanced business activity and employment opportunities. The Expanding Acceleration Ecosystems

should reverse this flow by making 'modest' and 'moderate' innovation ecosystems more attractive to international companies interested in setting up their businesses outside the established centres and tapping into the potential of local ecosystems.

The action supports co-designed programmes of activities, of at least two (2) calendar years, proposed jointly by business acceleration entities located in less connected innovation ecosystems ('modest' and 'moderate') and innovation hubs ('strong innovators' and innovation leaders')[3], to improve the quality of business acceleration services, their network outreach and scale-up support, such as:

- o share business acceleration related best practices, knowledge, tools and methods;
- o exchange of promising start-ups and SMEs, including women-led businesses, involving participation in acceleration programmes abroad and introduction to foreign financing institutions;
- o exchange of accelerator programme experts, including evaluators, thematic experts, mentors and investors;
- o establishing links between local actors in developing ecosystems, particularly research, education institutions and local authorities and incoming start-ups, international accelerators and experts to enhance transfer of technology and knowledge to supply them with innovative solution;
- o establishing a virtual platform with an overview of accelerator programmes, financial resources, mentors, events in partner ecosystems.

To ensure that the impact of the action goes beyond consortium members and their respective countries, it is encouraged that the consortium works closely with innovation agencies from their respective territories and beyond, and seeks for synergies with relevant EU initiatives such as the European Europe Network.

target group(s): Business-acceleration providers such as incubators, accelerators, company-builders, innovation agencies, business clubs and networks, regional public authorities and educational institutions. In today's competitive landscape, innovative companies thrive through the support of an ecosystem that provides additional capabilities, data, customers and knowledge. Network connectivity within and between innovation ecosystems greatly contributes to sustainable business growth with high societal value. An ecosystem focused on the meeting concrete needs of companies helps them to stimulate their expansion at European and global level and lead to accelerated growth.

This destination aims at strengthening and expanding cooperation between innovation players to better support the next generation of innovative companies whose solutions will lead the shift towards a more competitive EU and a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient world.

The actions of this destination will help innovation ecosystems to support companies to better sustain their growth and gain new competitive advantage. Besides stronger innovation performance, increased competitive sustainability and more rapid transitions to a green and digital society, ecosystem integration can provide companies with access to new markets and customers and contribute to disruptive strategies. By being actively engaged in their local, national and European networks, companies can increase their overall growth potential.

Expected impact

Proposals for topics under this destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to elevating the scalability potential of business, and more specifically to one or several of the following impacts:

- o Enhanced network connectivity within innovation ecosystems by reinforcing their capacity to support existing and emerging innovators and companies;
- o Strengthened and expanded cooperation between innovation ecosystems worldwide;
- o More inclusive and gender equal innovation ecosystems.

Further Information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-eie-2021-scaleup-01-01;callCode=null;freeTextSearchKeyword=;matchWholeText=true;typeCodes=1,0;status=1,0;statusCodes=31094501,31094502,31094503;programmePeriod=2021%20-%202027;programCcm2Id=43108390;programDivisionCode=null;focusAreaCode=null;destination=null;mission=null;geographicalZonesCode=null;programmeDivisionProspect=null;startDateLte=null;startDateGte=null;crossCuttingPriorityCode=null;cpvCode=null;cpvCode=null;performanceOfDelivery=null;sortQuery=sortStatus;orderBy=asc;onlyTenders=false;topicListKey=;topicListKey=topicSearchTablePageState>

3. /EU Horizon Europe*/ Woman TechEU (HORIZON-EIE-2021-SCALEUP-01-03), Deadline: 10.11.2021 17:00 Brussels time

Women TechEU supports early-stage deep tech European start-ups. The initiative complements the activities funded under the European Innovation Council (EIC), paving the way for the participation of their start-ups in future EIC calls.

Women TechEU targets highly innovative start-ups founded, or co-founded by women, holding a top management position (CEO, CTO or equivalent) in the company at the time of submission. The company must be registered and established in an EU Member State or a Horizon Europe Associated Country for at least six months at the time of the submission.

In today's competitive landscape, innovative companies thrive through the support of an ecosystem that provides additional capabilities, data, customers and knowledge. Network connectivity within and between innovation ecosystems greatly contributes to sustainable business growth with high societal value. An ecosystem focused on the meeting concrete needs of companies helps them to stimulate their expansion at European and global level and lead to accelerated growth.

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4. /EU Horizon Europe*/ Preparatory action for setting up joint programmes among innovation ecosystems actors, Deadline: 26.10.2021 17:00 Brussels time

The urgent challenges of today are inherently complex and systemic and will not be solved by individual actors or territories in isolation. To foster enabling innovation ecosystems across Europe requires a systemic approach that is inclusive and collaborative, involves diverse actors, institutions and places, maximises the value of innovation to all and ensures equitable diffusion of its benefits.

This destination offers a holistic package of actions that:

- o foster the implementation of co-funded multi-annual programmes of activities among Member States, Associated Countries and EU regions;
- o encourage the inclusion of more stakeholders from across the quadruple helix[[A model of cooperation between industry, academia, civil society and public authorities, with a strong emphasis on citizens and their needs.]] (academia, industry, public bodies, civil society and citizens) and a wider participation of territories in existing successful initiatives and networks towards the deployment of innovation;
- o stimulate innovation procurement to help the market uptake of innovative solutions and the integration of social innovation that responds to the needs of people and society.

The destination is open for any thematic area and will focus on building interconnected, inclusive innovation ecosystems across Europe by drawing on the existing strengths of national, regional and local ecosystems and encouraging the involvement of all actors and territories to set, undertake, and achieve collective ambitions towards challenges for the benefit of society, including green, digital, and social transitions and the European Research Area.

The topic will allow national, regional and/or local authorities from Member States, Associated Countries and/or EU regions in charge of innovation policies and programmes, in cooperation with private and research and innovation actors, to prepare joint multi-annual programmes of activities (action plans) with the aim of strengthening their efficiency, capacities and interconnection and jointly tackle challenges at EU, national, regional and local level.

The topic will allow applicants to prepare and agree on a common programme of activities (action plans); the applicants are encouraged to consider a project duration of up to two years and in their proposals they should:

- o identify areas and activities of cooperation, to improve the efficiency and performance of Europe's innovation ecosystems, fostering their interconnection and scale-up while tackling EU, national, regional and/or local challenges; the proposals may focus on a thematic/technological area of common interest and innovation priorities with an EU added-value, and/or around one or more EU priorities; the proposals are encouraged to contribute to one or more EU priorities and challenges, including climate action, green deal and digital transformation, and should pay attention to gender equality objectives;

- o plan their long-term commitment; the applicants are encouraged to consider planning commitments of at least five (5) years, towards engaging in the joint cooperation activities set up in the frame of the projects;
- o explain the potential for growth and competitiveness foreseen in the targeted sector and/or expected impact in EU challenge(s) through the proposed cooperation;
- o ensure inclusiveness and diversity with the involvement of all innovation actors applicants, enhance complementarities of EU, national and/or regional funds and programmes and encourage the alignment of their innovation agendas;
- o provide a justification on the need for those joint activities that should be scalable at European level and demonstrate their strong EU added value;
- o explain how the proposed action plans complement and reinforce their national and/or regional and/or local innovation plans, policies and/or strategies in synergy, including with their smart specialisation strategies;
- o explain the process that they plan to follow, with an open, clear, realistic and impact-oriented approach, including relevant guidance mechanisms and tools;
- o present what common knowledge assets are expected from the proposed action plans, and the benefit of the intended beneficiaries of the plans;
- o present the targeted milestones to be achieved.

The proposals for the development of a joint long-term action plan may include the following two (2) phases:

- o A first phase to foster close dialogue among key stakeholders for strategy/partnership building, mapping and analysis of existing national and/or regional and/or local innovation agendas/strategies/policies/plans/activities, the relevant active/inactive actors (including financial actors and citizens) and ways to motivate their inclusiveness, identification of areas of competitive advantage for sustainable economic growth mapping of gaps, needs and opportunities. Any activities are encouraged to consider existing tools, knowledge and expertise. Responsible Research and Innovation expertise may be relevant in this regard;
- o A second phase dedicated to the concretising, setting up and finalising the joint action plan(s) and allocation of the activities over a period of the proposed action plans.

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- o Open the dialogue, prepare the ground and facilitate the agreement among Member States, Associated Countries and EU regions, in cooperation with the private sector and research and innovation actors, towards more dynamic, inclusive, gender diverse, and connected innovation ecosystems, via co-creation, co-planning and co-investments around promising areas of joint and European interest;
- o Prepare the implementation of joint long-term programme of activities (action plans) fostering collaboration and creation of common knowledge assets among EU, national, regional and/or local level innovation ecosystems' stakeholders, enhancing synergies and complementarities of their programmes and encouraging the alignment of their innovation agendas;
- o Ensure the inclusiveness of all key innovation players from across the quadruple helix, and all EU territories;

Target group(s): National, regional and/or local authorities together with private actors, including public-owned enterprises, and research and innovation actors.

Further Information:



<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-eie-2021-connect-01-01;callCode=null;freeTextSearchKeyword=;matchWholeText=true;typeCodes=1,0;status=1,0;statusCodes=31094501,31094502,31094503;programmePeriod=2021%20-%202027;programCcm2Id=43108390;programDivisionCode=null;focusAreaCode=null;destination=null;mission=null;geographicalZonesCode=null;programmeDivisionProspect=null;startDateLte=null;startDateGte=null;crossCuttingPriorityCode=null;cpvCode=null;cpvCode=null;performanceOfDelivery=null;sortQuery=sortStatus;orderBy=asc;onlyTenders=false;topicListKey=topicSearchTablePageState>