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28 August 2023

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST Horizon Europe Travel Grants (08/2023)

Support Event Participation for Enhancing the Involvement in «Horizon Europe»

The **Research and Innovation Foundation** (RIF) announces a Call for Expression of Interest (EoI) for supporting individuals from Organizations established in the Republic of Cyprus in participating in networking Events organized abroad, with the aim to encourage their participation in proposals to be submitted in the context of Horizon Europe, the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation 2021-27.

More specifically, this EoI covers the travel costs of individuals to participate to Events that offer important opportunities for finding partners and collaborating with entities abroad, aiming to enhance the proposal submission to Horizon Europe Calls for Proposals.

This Call for EoI particularly targets interested Organizations that are planning to submit Proposals as Coordinators and/or Work Package Leaders and/or lead particular activities as Task Leaders in potential Project consortia submitting in Horizon Europe Calls for Proposals. The participants are expected to have active participation in the Events (e.g. scheduled meetings, short and/or detailed presentations etc), enhancing their networking capacities and developing collaborations.

This Call for EoI is co-funded by the European Union in the context of the [NCP_WIDERA.NET](#) Project of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (under Grant Agreement no: 101055286), as well as from national funds.

Eligible Events

This Expression of Interest covers the participation of individuals in **Brokerage Events or other type of Events or networking activities**, that are interested in submitting Proposals in Horizon Europe Calls for Proposals, and are taking place **abroad** and require the **physical presence** of the participants. These events may be organized by the networks of National Contact Points (NCPs) for specific Thematic Priorities, the EU, and/or other entities, networks, and initiatives, and must provide significant opportunities for networking and collaboration, targeting joint proposal submissions to Horizon Europe.

Call Budget

€100.000, of which €45.000 will be funded by the [NCP_WIDERA.NET](#) Project.

Maximum Funding per Participation

€1.000

Funding to the beneficiaries will be provided on the basis of the ***DeMinimis Aid Regulation***.

Beneficiaries

Eligible for participation in the current Call EoI are Entities such as Universities, Research Organizations, Enterprises, Non-Governmental Organizations, public services, etc., legally established and are active in **territories under the control of the Republic of Cyprus**.

Specific Restrictions and Conditions for Participation

Each Enterprise will be able to receive funding for the participation of one (1) employee per Event.

Submission of Expression of Interest

Expressions of Interest are submitted through RIF's IRIS Portal (<https://iris.research.org.cy>). The dedicated **Application Form, together with the requested documentation specified in the Form**, must be duly completed and uploaded to the [IRIS Portal](#), in a **pdf format**.

It should be noted that applicants need to be registered beforehand in the [IRIS Portal](#) in order to submit their EoI and are therefore, advised to read the «**IRIS Portal User Manual**» which can be found on the [IRIS Portal](#).

The EoI Application Form must be submitted to the RIF as soon as possible and **no later than three (3) weeks before the start date of the Event concerned**, and in any case, **before the deadline for submitting EoI** mentioned below.

Deadline for submitting Expressions of Interest: 31 May 2024 at 13.00.

Selection Procedure

For the EoI that will be submitted, an **eligibility check process** will follow, based on the following criteria:

- The minimum requirements in regards to the beneficiaries are met, as these are described in the present Call for EoI.
- The **rationale for participating** in the Event is justified and the **expected impact** of participation is adequately described, and particularly relating to the enhancement of the Entity's capacity in participating in Horizon Europe.

Considering that the funding to the beneficiaries will be provided on the basis of the ***DeMinimis Aid Regulation*** (EU Regulation 1407/2013), at the application stage the ***De Minimis Declaration*** will be requested to be submitted, together with the ***Single Undertaking Declaration***, in order to ensure that the maximum limit is not exceeded.

Applications will be examined on a **first-come-first-served basis and according to the date of submission of the Application Form**, and **until the total requested funding of approved EoI, equals the total Call for Expression of interest budget**.

It is noted that in the case of no-show, for any reason, to the Event to which an individual has received RIF's approval to participate in, the Foundation will not compensate any expenses incurred in advance.



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Upon participating to the Event for which the participation has been approved by RIF, beneficiaries must submit to the e-mail address travelgrants@research.org.cy **no later than one (1) month after the completion of their participation in the event**, an **Activity Report** (available [here](#)) which must be accompanied by the relevant documentation required, as presented within the Report. The funding will be provided by RIF to the beneficiary Organization after the participation in the Event and following the approval of the Activity Report and the related documentation requested in the Report.

RIF Support Service

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The Research and Innovation Foundation may at its discretion, proceed to the extension or revocation of the present Call by applying the same publication procedure.