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LIMITE

RECH

WORKING PAPER

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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	ERAC Secretariat
To:	ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)
Subject:	PowerPoint presentation: ERAC Ad-hoc Working group on Partnerships Roadmap towards Criteria Framework and the Strategic Coordinating Process for Partnerships

Delegations will find attached the PowerPoint presentation "ERAC Ad-hoc Working group on Partnerships - Roadmap towards Criteria Framework and the Strategic Coordinating Process for Partnerships" given by the Commission under item 5.1 of the ERAC plenary agenda of 17/05/2018.



ERAC Ad-hoc Working group on Partnerships

Roadmap towards Criteria Framework and the Strategic Coordinating Process for Partnerships

ERAC meeting 17 May 2018
Joerg Niehoff, RTD B2.01

Request towards the Commission

- Commission to elaborate, in close cooperation with Member States and Associated Countries, an objective and impact oriented life-cycle-based criteria framework for all R&I partnerships in view of making it fully operational before May 2019;
- Commission to elaborate, in close consultation with the Member States and Associated Countries, a proposal for the Council on the operational design of the strategic coordinating process, to be discussed at the ERAC meeting in December 2018;
- ERAC underlines that the strategic coordinating process needs to advise on the selection of new and/or renewed R&I partnerships under the future FP and consequently calls on all partners, that the strategic coordinating process should be operational by May 2019;
- ERAC calls on the Commission to ensure an early and structured consultation of Member States and Associated Countries on any R&I partnership initiative be funded under the future FP, in particular those based on Article 185 and 187, on the basis of their Inception Impact Assessment, in case their preparation is expected to start before the strategic coordinating process is formally established;

Issues to be taken into account

- Partnership provisions in the proposal for Horizon Europe
- Monitoring and evaluation Framework of Horizon Europe
- Existing decision making, advisory and governance mechanisms, including comitology
- ERAC documents on Criteria Framework and Strategic Coordinating Process
- Framework of the Strategic Programming Process for Horizon Europe, starting in June 2018 (need to ensure full alignment)

➔ need to find a better terminology for the "Strategic Coordinating Process for Partnerships" (avoid confusion)

➔ no discussion on partnership topics, first step is the priority setting with the Strategic Programming Process

Scope of criteria framework and process

It will cover:

- All Partnership Initiatives funded by the future Framework Programme;
- R&I Partnerships of European relevance that do not receive substantial investments or funding for research from the Framework Programme (current and future partnership initiatives between Member States and Associated Countries on their priorities);
- The criteria and process will follow a life-cycle approach covering the
 - a) Selection of Partnerships (e.g. integrated in the Strategic Programming of Horizon Europe), and
 - b) Their implementation, monitoring, evaluation and phasing-out.

Operationalisation of criteria framework

- **Commission:** Internal Coordination Group with all services relevant for partnership initiatives, including horizontal services (strategic programming process, evaluation and monitoring, indicators, policy coordination, etc.)
 - **Feedback from MS/AC:** meeting with the ERAC Ad-hoc working group on Partnerships
 - **External expertise:** Feedback on draft Criteria Framework, including Key Performance Indicators (e.g. workshops/hearings with experts from the Horizon 2020 interim evaluations on partnerships, representatives of current initiatives)
- **Ensure user practicality and user acceptance**

Indicative Timeline

When	What
June 2018	Proposal for Horizon Europe adopted by COM 1 st Meeting of the COM coordination group with the ERAC-WG
Early September 2018	2 nd Meeting of the COM coordination group with the ERAC-WG
Late September 2018	Stakeholder feedback on draft criteria framework
October 2018	3 rd meeting with ERAC-WG: Presentation and discussion of - draft Criteria Framework and - draft proposal for Strategic Coordinating Process
November 2018	(optional: 4 th meeting with ERAC-WG) Submission of finalised draft to ERAC
December 2018	Presentation and discussion in the ERAC Plenary - Criteria Framework and - Proposal for Strategic Coordinating Process

Approach for a transitional period (Article 185/187 initiatives)

*"8. ERAC calls on the Commission to ensure an early and structured consultation of Member States and Associated Countries on any R&I partnership initiative be funded under the future FP, in particular those based on Article 185 and 187, **on the basis of their Inception Impact Assessment**, in case their preparation is expected to start before the strategic coordinating process is formally established;"*

Inception Impact Assessment: sets out the Commission's initial analysis of the problem, policy objectives and different solutions as well as their likely impacts. It is followed up by a fully-fledged impact assessment which includes a stakeholder consultation on all key aspects through open public consultations, and that accompanies the legislative proposal of the Commission.

The timing for the political validation of the Inception Impact Assessment (providing authorisation to start with impact assessment) will depend on the overall approach of the Commission towards planning and validation of initiatives post-May 2018.

Approach for a transitional period (Article 185/187 initiatives)

December 2018: Draft Strategic R&I plan, including the identification of areas for potential institutional initiatives

After political validation of Inception Impact Assessments for candidate Article 185/187 initiatives by Secretariat-General:

- Consultation of Member States and Associated Countries on the candidates for Article 185 and Article 187 initiatives (national assessments, 2 months)
- Consolidation of input received, presentation and political discussion at the ERAC meeting
- Commission Services take into account input received for the preparation of the Impact Assessment and potential preparation of COM proposals

January – November 2019: Coherent approach for Impact Assessments:

An external dedicated study (incl. thematic expert groups, as foreseen in WP 2019) will support the coordinated analysis of potential Article 185/187 initiatives under Horizon Europe and the preparation of related Impact Assessments, based on the criteria for European Partnerships.

Thank you for your
attention!

Any questions?