



European Commission

OCTOBER 2017 > JULY 2018

HORIZON 2020 POLICY SUPPORT FACILITY

NATIONAL PRACTICES IN WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING SYNERGIES

MUTUAL LEARNING EXERCISE



PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

-  Belgium
-  Bulgaria
-  Croatia
-  Cyprus
-  Germany
-  Hungary
-  Latvia
-  Poland
-  Portugal
-  Slovenia
-  Spain
-  Sweden
-  Turkey



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OBJECTIVES

The aim is mutual learning, improvement in the exchange of information and the identification of national good practice among the participating countries in order to widen participation in the EU Framework Programmes and facilitate the implementation of synergies between Horizon 2020 and the European Structural and Investment Funds.

SCOPE

In relation to **Synergies**, the MLE will look at national practice in relation to:

- *How to enable an effective and structured dialogue between national managing authorities of the Structural Funds and R&D authorities.*
- *Synergies at policy and strategy level.*
- *Synergies at operational level.*

In relation to **Widening**, the MLE will look at national practice to:

- *Attract qualified R&D staff, including in the business sector.*
- *Encourage science-business cooperation.*
- *Improve networking through participation in various actions.*
- *Support skills development and training.*

SCHEDULE

-  27 October 2017 **Kick-off meeting in Brussels**
-  10-11 January 2018 **1st country visit to Spain, Madrid**
Enable effective dialogue and support skills development
-  6-7 February 2018 **2nd country visit to Croatia, Zagreb**
Attract qualified R&D staff and operational synergies
-  22-23 March 2018 **3rd country visit to Ireland, Dublin**
Improve networking
-  14-15 May 2018 **4th country visit to Portugal, Porto**
Science-business cooperation and strategic synergies
-  12 June 2018 **Final meeting in Brussels**
-  27-28 July 2018 (tbc) **Dissemination event**

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