



#InvestEUresearch



Horizon 2020 Work Programme for Research & Innovation 2018-2020

'Health, demographic change
and well-being' – Ethics, social sciences
and humanities, gender, and
communications

Philippe Cupers, Deputy Head of Unit
Health Directorate
DG Research and Innovation
European Commission

Research and
Innovation



Ethics

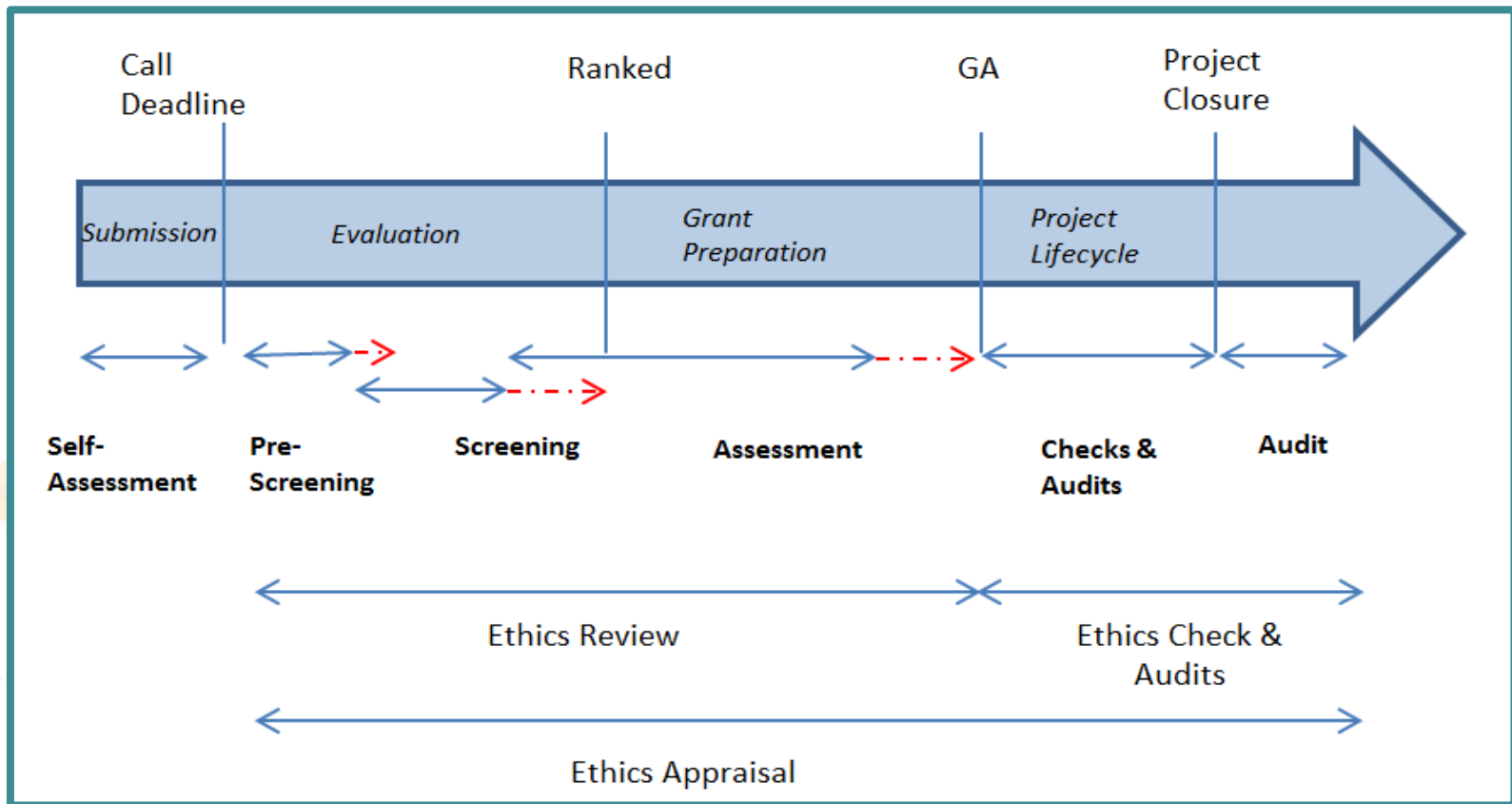


Ethics

- Ethics issues to be carefully considered in proposals
- Check on EU guiding principles
- Ethics evaluation of all proposals included in priority lists
- Ethics requirements to be implemented in funded projects



Ethics Process in Horizon 2020



What are the requirements ?

- Requirements are conditions for the funding to be possible, within the Horizon 2020 ethics framework
- They list conditions (or documents) to comply to
- Some can be totally fulfilled BEFORE start
- Some are fulfilled later in the project
- Ethics permissions/opinions for research
- Generally:
 - "Conditions" can be put in ethics section "documents" to be obtained for the project
 - Deliverables to be kept by coordinator/PI

Ethics and quality in research

- All projects need excellent ethics
- Scientific and management quality will have ethics on an equal level
- Good ethics shows scientific purpose, technical ambition and foresight
- Ethics is content of future product/patent in the research from the beginning
- Indications of ethics can be vital for successful product

Inclusion of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)



SSH disciplines

sociology
psychology
anthropology
cultural studies
demography
education
religion

history
economics
administration
political science
philosophy
ethics
law

What does it mean SSH-flagged topic?

- SSH-flagged topics are those topics having the potential to include SSH scientists and scientific components (e.g. WPs or tasks) in projects
- This is usually reflected in the topic description: 'expertise from the social sciences and the humanities', 'the integration of social sciences is strongly encouraged', 'proposals should be based on trans-disciplinary research, involving behavioural, sociological, psychological'...
- Important that SSH scientists are fully involved in projects as integral part of the study to be carried but...
- ... not necessarily all topics have the potential to include SSH, and therefore these are not flagged

How to include/ assess SSH

- Some specific SSH areas that might be considered for health research are: ethics, vulnerability, inequality and legal matters
- SSH needs to be initiated upstream, and not simply considered as an add-on => Help achieving impact through SSH
- Important to check: a) the level of interaction between Sciences, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) and SSH; b) the level of rigour of application of SSH c) and, in the scope, the areas that go beyond health economics
- Evaluators → look for evaluators who have a broader knowledge (economics, statistics, psychology, anthropology and behavioural science)
- Importance to disseminate more information on good practices in embedding SSH

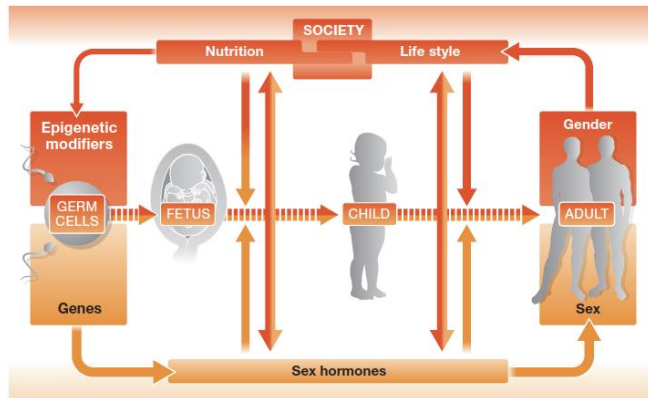
Evaluating a Combination of Immune-based Therapies to Achieve a Functional Cure of HIV Infection

- Coordinator: Consorci Institut d'Investigacions Biomediques August PI I Sunyer plus 13 participants (EC contribution € 6.7 million)
- Specific workpackage: Socio-Economic and Psycho-Social Impact and Patient Engagement
 - To accurately assess the potential psychosocial impact of the development of a functional HIV cure
 - To analyse the cost of HIV and its impact in health policy making
 - To assess the expectations of the public and avoid excessive optimism
- Start date: 1 February 2017 (for 5 years)
- Website: www.hivacar.org

Gender



What does gender dimension mean?



Integrating the gender dimension in research content means taking into account the biological characteristics of both females and males (sex) and the evolving social and cultural features of women and men, girls and boys (gender)



Definitions

Sex

refers to biological characteristics of women and men, boys and girls, in terms of reproductive organs and functions based on chromosomal complement and physiology. As such, sex is globally understood as the classification of living beings as male and female, and intersexed.

Gender

refers to the social and cultural construction of women and men, of femininity and masculinity, which varies in time and place, and between cultures.

Integrating the gender dimension in European health research

Why?

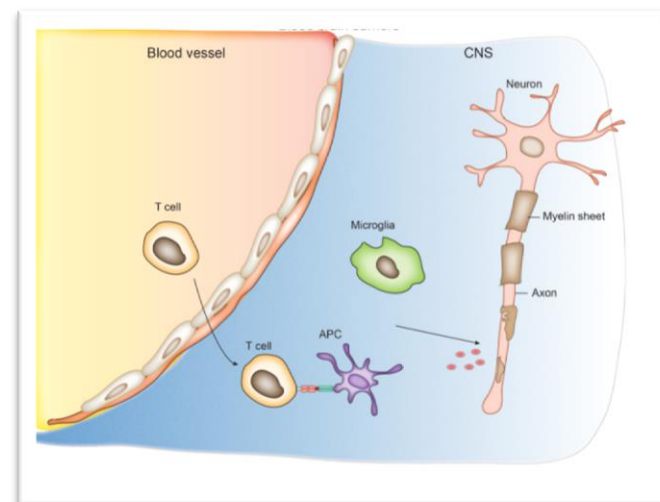
- It helps improve the scientific quality and societal relevance of the produced knowledge, technology and/or innovation

How to include/assess gender dimension?

- In the proposal template → Under '**Concept and methodology**', applicants need to answer carefully the following question: "*Where relevant, describe how sex and/or gender analysis is taken into account in the project's content*"
- Under SC1 about 60% of topics in 2018-2019 WP make explicitly reference to including/respecting sex and gender differences in the proposed research (gender-flagged topics). However, depending on the content also proposals addressing other topics should integrate gender issues whenever appropriate

MultipleMS is about multiple manifestations of genetic and non-genetic factors in Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

- **The project combines data in a stratified approach from more than 50,000 MS patients and 30,000 healthy individuals**
- **There is a striking sex effect in MS:**
 - About 75% of relapsing-remitting MS patients being women
 - While the risk of progressive MS is higher among men
- **MultipleMS addresses these issues by sex-specific analyses to identify:**
 - Pathways only active in female patients
 - Risk genes regulated by sex steroid hormones
 - Sex-biased outcomes



Communication



What is good communication ?

- Start at the outset, continue through entire lifetime
- Plan strategically
- Identify and set clear communication objectives
- Target audiences beyond own community
- Choose pertinent messages
- Use the right medium and means



Communicating Horizon 2020 projects

Communication ≠ Dissemination

- Dissemination (GA article 29) is a separate obligation (e.g. through scientific articles and conferences)

Increased importance of communication

- Communication plan and work package in the proposal and the grant agreement (GA article 38.1)
- **Inform EC/ Agency in advance of communication activities expected to have a major media impact**
- Promote your project and its results beyond the projects own community
- Communicate your research in a way that is understood by non-specialist, e.g. the media and the public

Acknowledgement of EU funding is mandatory!

Obligation and right to use the EU emblem (GA Art. 29.4)

Unless the [Commission][Agency] requests or agrees otherwise or unless it is impossible, **any dissemination of results (in any form, including electronic - publications, brochures, leaflets, posters, infographics, factsheets, slides) must:**

(a) **display the EU emblem** and

(b) **include the following text:** This project has received funding from the [European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme][Euratom research and training programme 2014-2018] under grant agreement No [Number].



Non-compliance (GA Art. 29.6)

Reduction of grant	Penalties
Rejection of costs	Damages
Recovery	Suspension

Use the EU emblem



Horizon 2020 Programme



Horizon 2020, an EU Programme



Horizon 2020 European Union Funding for Research & Innovation

More info: <http://europa.eu/!ph96PW>



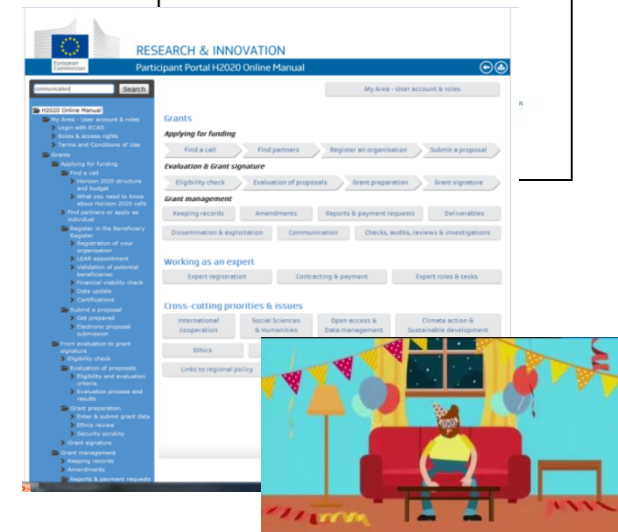
European Commission

Guidance

Horizon 2020 Online Manual

- Section: [Communicating your project](#)
- Section: [Acknowledging EU funding](#)

- [Horizon 2020 Annotated Grant Agreement](#)
- [Brochure "Communicating EU Research & Innovation - Guidance for project participants"](#)
- [The EU Guide to Science Communication \(videos\)](#)
- [Webinar - 60-minute Comms Workout!](#)



Thank you!

@EUScienceInnov

#InvestEUresearch

#EUHealthResearch

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/health>

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>