



Horizon Webinar FAQ

How to communicate about and disseminate project results
under Horizon Europe Cluster 1 'Health' and Horizon 2020

CORDIS

Is CORDIS' use expected from project teams or is it optional?

CORDIS supports the Commission's dissemination and exploitation strategy for Horizon Europe with the aim of "increasing the availability and diffusion of the Programme's R&I results and knowledge to accelerate exploitation towards market uptake and boost the impact of the Programme." (Article 51(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council).

As such, information on projects will become available via CORDIS as individual factsheets with the publicly disclosed information. However, the use/presence in other editorial items remains optional.

Booster

Would you say that the Booster is complementary to the *communication, dissemination, exploitation plan* of each project?

Yes, the Booster can be considered as complementary as it helps the project to fulfil the dissemination, communication and exploitation obligations stated in art. 39 in the Annotated Grant Agreement. Moreover, it offers a broad range of services aiming to support research results go to market, contribute to policy, or to enhance further scientific research.

Who are the experts providing the services of the Booster?

The experts are professionals hired by the contractor that is implementing the services. These experts cover various scientific and technological domains, but they are primarily specialists in dissemination and exploitation. They are assigned to projects according to their specific domain or field and according to their level of experience. However, it is important to note that the experts act as facilitators of a process and do not replace beneficiaries in providing content during the delivery of the services.

What is the best time during your project to start applying to the Booster? / Would you suggest that the Booster services be requested towards the end of the project, when all results are available?

Applications can be submitted at the beginning, during, and after the end of the project lifecycle.

Can these services be requested several times within the framework of a project?

The same Booster service for the same key exploitable result(s) cannot be requested more than once.

Are only Horizon Europe projects able to access the Booster or are projects funded by other EU frameworks such as IMI, IHI and EDCTP also included?

Services are available for all ongoing and completed projects or project groups under the 7th Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration activities (FP7), Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe.

They can be directly funded (i.e. with a signed grant agreement with the European Commission/Executive Agency) or indirectly (e.g. through the Joint Undertakings, Partnerships, EIT KICs). Exceptions may apply.

Projects funded by other programmes are also eligible if they join a project group led by an eligible project.

Is technical background needed to request Booster services?

No, the applicant does not need to have any specific technical background. The experts will create a service roadmap with the most suitable services for the applicant, and the Booster services will allocate a mentor to guide the applicant through the process.

What is the difference between the dissemination services that the Booster proposes, and what we commonly call "communication"?

Communication promotes the project throughout its full lifespan with the aim to inform and reach out to society and show the activities performed, as well as the use and the benefits the project has for citizens.

Whereas dissemination is the public disclosure of the results by appropriate means, other than resulting from protecting or exploiting the results, including by scientific publications in any medium.

Booster services enhance the project's dissemination strategies and develop market-oriented exploitation plans, ensuring research results reach the right audience and achieve impactful market uptake.

<u>Horizon Ecosystem</u>

Are hybrid publications allowed in Horizon Europe? Are costs eligible?

In Horizon Europe the beneficiaries can publish in in venue of their choice, including hybrid journals, provided that all the open access-related obligations as detailed in Annex 5, section 6, in the Annotated Grant Agreement are fulfilled. Fees incurred for open access publications in hybrid journals are not reimbursable. Publication fees are reimbursable only if the publishing venue is full open access.

For more information: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/aga_en.pdf

Are institutional repositories trusted?

Institutional repositories can be considered trusted repositories provided that they present the essential characteristic of a trusted repository that relate to elements such as provision of PIDs, ensuring mid- and long-term storage of data, meeting security criteria, etc. More details in Annex 5, section 6 (page 273) of the [Annotated Grant Agreement](#). A trusted repository that the EC supports is www.zenodo.org, which is free for researchers to use.

What about the embargo periods of the journals?

Horizon Europe requires immediate open access, without embargo, for publications resulting from the project work. If a desired journal has an embargo period, we recommend that researchers find an alternative venue that does not obstruct them from fulfilling their obligations for open access.

Are the article processing charges (APC) eligible in case of publishing in hybrid journal?

NO, APC resulting from publishing in hybrid journals are not eligible as cost for Horizon Europe funded projects.

Are the rules different in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) projects regarding hybrid journals and APCs?

The Open Access obligations are the same for all the different Horizon Europe programmes, therefore also for MSCA.

A lot of journals are transferring to full open access. From what moment do you consider a journal full open access?

The journal has to be full open access, i.e. provide open access to all its articles at the time of the publication to ensure your publication complies with the Horizon Europe open access requirements as detailed in the Annotated Grant Agreement.

What is the impact of Open Research Europe (ORE)?

Open Research Europe does not have an impact factor but is indexed by many indexing services, including Scopus. The Commission is part of an increasing number of funding agencies, institutions and organisations supporting the view that the significance of a publication/scientific contribution lies in its own scientific value, and does not reside with the venue, journal or platform where an article is published, which are essentially used as proxies for excellence. Additionally, Open Research Europe features a wide range of article-level metrics to support responsible research and researcher assessment and evaluation by measuring different kinds of impact including scientific and societal (e.g. through citations, uploads, or social media shares, among others).

ORE is one of the few publishing platforms supported by funders. Currently, the Commission is discussing with numerous European funding agencies to transition the platform into a collective funding scheme, which means it will be supported by funders from many countries as of mid-2026.

The Open Research Europe seems to be an alternative to comply with the open access policy of the EU. However, this limits us to reach the target audiences of our research and, thus, poses a barrier for reaching our impact. Do you have information on the audiences of Open Research Europe?

ORE implements an innovative post-publication open peer-review model, which is not yet very common amongst traditional publishers. It is also a large platform, accepting papers from all disciplines. These are organised in researcher-led and curated collections, to address the interest of specific researcher communities. As content grows, we expect that more such researcher communities, which very much resemble journals, will emerge in ORE, in particular once ORE is also funded by other European funders, beyond the Commission, as are the plans for mid-2026.

Specialised audiences are reached in ORE also through its inclusion in many indexers, such as Scopus, PubMed, Google Scholar and Inspec, among others. The information we have from researchers is that they find the publishing model of ORE transparent and are supportive of it. They, however, have reservations when ORE is not included in approved lists of journals for their professional advancement. The EC is working with funders, national agencies and policymakers to support the inclusion of ORE in such lists, alongside its work on reforming research assessment to move away from heavy reliance on the impact factor. Some institutions and countries already include ORE in their national approved list and this will become a growing trend in the near future.

Are Open Research Europe publications indexed in PubMed or Google Scholar?

Yes. Open Research Europe publications, after passing the peer-review process, are indexed in PubMed and Google Scholar and other relevant databases including Scopus.

Does what is published on the Open Research Europe need a digital object identifier (DOI)?

Yes, all the research outcomes published in ORE get a DOI, including the Peer Review reports.

Success stories

Who should apply for success story application? Project leader or partners?

Usually, it is your project officer who requests the success story. All articles are available at <https://projects.research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/en/projects/success-stories/all>

Who is the audience a success story?

We have a wide range of audiences we reach out to through success stories. Apart from publishing the articles on our website and social media channels, we use them in citizens' exhibitions and events. Success stories are also included in Commissioner's speeches. The main audience is people interested in research and innovation (R&I), including citizens and R&I stakeholders, policymakers, lawmakers.

Horizon Magazine

In Horizon Magazine, is it mandatory to have a video that complements the article?

No. In most cases, if your project is selected and published in the Horizon Magazine, DG RTD's communication unit will also produce a short video about the project.

How often is the magazine published?

The magazine publishes one article and one video per week.

Can you only apply for an article once the project is finished? Or even during the project?

You can request an article about a project that is not finished.

What is the average number of views that articles in the Horizon Magazine receive?

Horizon Magazine achieves an average of 400 000 website visitors, 5 000 000 total impressions, more than 1 million of total video views of at least 3 seconds, and 100 republications by news media per month.

Can Horizon Magazine articles only be proposed by the project officers or also by the coordinators themselves?

The project coordinator can propose their project to the project officer, who can then propose it to the Horizon Magazine editorial team.

Where is Horizon Magazine advertised?

Horizon Magazine ad campaigns run on Alphabet and META platforms.