



The purpose of this Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is to provide information on the potential European Partnership on Metrology.

This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document **will be updated as further information becomes available** to EURAMET from the European Commission (EC). **Please be patient whilst we await further information from the EC.**

## **1. What is the current status of any follow-on programme to EMPIR?**

In 2020 EURAMET submitted a draft proposal to the EC for a further research programme to be established under article 185 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) to follow on from EMRP and EMPIR. The initiative would be called the European Partnership on Metrology. This was published by the EC at [https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe/candidates-digital-industry-and-space\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe/candidates-digital-industry-and-space_en).

The Commission commissioned an impact assessment into this proposal and 11 others in similar priority areas, and, based on those findings, published their own proposal for the Partnership, their response to the impact assessment and a draft of the Decision on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021. See:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2021:89:FIN>

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_702](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_702)

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52021SC0035&qid=1614677899327>

That draft Decision is currently under discussion in the European Council and the European Parliament. EURAMET currently anticipates that if progress is successful the basic act for a decision would be passed in mid-October 2021.

## **2. What are the expected dates for the potential Call 2021?**

As per Question 1, EURAMET currently anticipates a decision from the European Parliament in mid-October 2021, on the potential European Partnership on Metrology.

Unfortunately, **EURAMET is unable to provide provisional opening and closing dates for the proposed Call 2021 for Joint Research Projects at present.**

This information will be updated once further information is received from the EC.

## **3. Is there any guidance for potential Call 2021 proposals?**

Under the assumption that the Council and Parliament pass the basic act which would form the legal basis for this research programme, and that the participating countries named in the Draft Decision submit the required commitment letters, EURAMET is pre-publishing the potential Selected Research Topics and draft guidance notes for potential calls on Green Deal and Pre- and Co-Normative, see

[https://msu.euramet.org/current\\_calls/greendeal\\_2021/index.html#stage2](https://msu.euramet.org/current_calls/greendeal_2021/index.html#stage2) and

[https://msu.euramet.org/current\\_calls/pre\\_norm\\_2021/index.html#stage2](https://msu.euramet.org/current_calls/pre_norm_2021/index.html#stage2).

These documents are not approved by the Commission nor will they lead to a binding decision by EURAMET e.V. for any further negotiation or funding.

**PLEASE NOTE: All published guides and templates are subject to amendment by the EC and EURAMET e.V.** as further information becomes known, particularly as the EC publish more documentation related to Horizon Europe.

#### 4. What will the financial rules be for any potential Call 2021 proposals?

Whilst the EC has published the Model Grant Agreement for Horizon Europe (HE MGA), the Horizon Europe Annotated Model Grant Agreement which provides much of the guidance, including on the financial rules, has yet to be published (as of the end of June) but will become available in due course.

The financial rules for the potential European Partnership on Metrology (i.e. regarding the eligibility of costs) have yet to be agreed by the EC. Whilst many of the financial rules are likely to be the same between Horizon Europe and the potential Partnership, there may be some differences.

EURAMET recommends that for the time being potential consortia follow the draft guidance published by EURAMET, which is based on the HE MGA (see Question 3). Once the Horizon Europe Annotated Model Grant is published EURAMET's draft guidance will be updated to reference guidance on the financial rules in the Horizon Europe Annotated Model Grant.

**PLEASE NOTE: all draft Call 2021 documentation is subject to change** particularly as the EC publish more documentation related to Horizon Europe, and particular requirements related to the potential Partnership are not yet known.

#### 5. Are countries that plan to be associated to Horizon Europe eligible to be included as a funded partner in a potential proposal?

At the time of issue of this FAQ document (June 2021) no countries have yet been associated to Horizon Europe.

The Commission has published the following guidance in the 'General Annexes to the Horizon Europe – Work Programme 2021 2027' [wp-13-general-annexes\\_horizon-2021-2022\\_en.pdf](#), which EURAMET will follow.

*“At the date of the publication of the Horizon Europe work programme, there are no countries associated to Horizon Europe. Considering the Union’s interest to retain, in principle, relations with the countries associated to Horizon 2020, most third countries associated to Horizon 2020 are expected to be associated to Horizon Europe with an intention to secure uninterrupted continuity between Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. In addition, other third countries can also become associated to Horizon Europe during the programme. For the purposes of the eligibility conditions, applicants established in Horizon 2020 Associated Countries or in other third countries negotiating association to Horizon Europe will be treated as entities established in an Associated Country, if the Horizon Europe association agreement with the third country concerned applies at the time of signature of the grant agreement.”*

This means that legal entities from countries that were associated to Horizon 2020 (H2020), together with countries that were not associated to H2020 but plan to associate to Horizon Europe, should be included in any potential proposal as if they were from an Associated Country.

#### 6. How and when might any evaluations of potential proposals be held?

Any evaluations, which would be held as virtual online meetings, would be dependent on the successful progress of the potential Partnership through the European Council, Parliament and the European Commission and a call being formally launched (see Question 2).

**EURAMET is unable to provide information on dates of potential evaluations at present** as the dates of the evaluations would be dependent on the call dates (see Question 2), but any evaluations would not be held before mid/late November at the earliest. It anticipated that pre-recorded video presentations would not be required, but JRP representatives would need to attend both Day 1 and Day 2 of the virtual event as a result.