



# Horizon 2020

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**SSH in the Challenges Pillars:  
"Climate Action, environment,  
resource efficiency and raw  
materials"**

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A graphic for Horizon 2020 featuring a globe in the center, with the word "HORIZON" on the left and "2020" on the right, all in white capital letters. The globe is set against a blue background with a bright light source behind it, creating a lens flare effect. The bottom of the image shows a curved horizon line over a dark blue, textured surface representing the Earth.

**HORIZON 2020**

# The growing need for an integrated, holistic approach

- *The Innovation Union Flagship Initiative of the Europe 2020 Vision has listed a limited number of societal challenges Europe is facing.*
- *These societal ("grand") challenges mentioned concern energy, resources and climate change as well as health and ageing.*
- *The interesting aspect for research is the **interdisciplinary** or **holistic view** that seems necessary to tackle these challenges.*
- *These highly complex problems need to gain input and solutions from different disciplines, requiring change in the traditional discipline-based approach, and they cannot be solved by thinking in "silos".*

## A look at the past: SSH under the European Framework Programmes

- *Since 1994 European Social Scientists have been able to obtain research funding via the European Research Programmes.*
- *FP4 (1994-1998) → socio-economic research was targeted under the Targeted Socio-Economic Research Action (TSER) which received € 147 million, an equivalent of 1.1% of the total FP budget.*
- *FP5 (1998 -2002) → a total of 203 relevant SSH projects were funded for roughly € 155 million.*
- *FP6 (2002-2006) opened the way for SSH predominantly under priority 7: Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-based Society and "Structuring the ERA" line on "Science in Society" → Under both priority areas roughly € 430 million were spent for 307 research projects→ 2005: the development of the **HERA ERA-net (Humanities in the European Research Area)***

## A look at the past: SSH in FP7 (ii)

- *FP7 (2007-2013) has offered €623 million for SSH research equalling 1.9% of the Co-operation specific programme → progressive increase of EU funding for SSH.*
- *In particular, an evaluation of the current FP7 calls shows that the SSH intensity ranged 50% in Theme 6: Environment (including climate change).*



# Looking at the present with an eye to the future: VOICES Programme

- *VOICES (Views, Opinions and Ideas of Citizens in Europe on Science) is a 1 year long EU funded project with very innovative and challenging objectives.*
- *VOICES aims at running a Europe-wide public consultation initiative, but also at providing valuable know-how on methodological and procedural aspects for the structural employment of citizens participation in defining the European research agenda in the framework of Responsible Research and Innovation.*
- *The present action is a pilot focused on “Waste as a Resource” within the Societal Challenge “Climate action, resource efficiency, raw materials” of Horizon 2020 that aims to introduce a citizen dimension in the preparation of the Horizon 2020 Work Programmes*



# Looking at the future: Horizon 2020

- **Commission proposal for a 80 billion euro research and innovation funding programme (2014-2020)**
- **A core part of Europe 2020, Innovation Union & European Research Area:**
  - **Responding to the economic crisis** to invest in future jobs and growth
  - **Addressing people's concerns** about their livelihoods, safety and environment
  - **Strengthening the EU's global position** in research, innovation and technology

# Horizon 2020 proposal

Europe 2020 priorities

International cooperation

European Research Area

*Shared objectives and principles  
Common rules, toolkit of funding schemes*

### Societal Challenges

- Health, demographic change and wellbeing
- Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research and the bioeconomy
- Secure, clean and efficient energy
- Smart, green and integrated transport
- **Climate action, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials**
- Inclusive, innovative and secure societies

### Industrial Leadership

- Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (ICT, nano, materials, bio, manufacturing, space)
- Access to risk finance
- Innovation in SMEs

### Excellent Science

- European Research Council
- Future and Emerging Technologies
- Marie Curie actions on skills, training and career development
- Research infrastructures

Simplified access

Dissemination & knowledge transfer

*Supporting the objectives:*

European Institute for Innovation and Technology

Joint Research Centre



## Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials

- ***Objective:*** achieve a resource efficient and climate change resilient economy and a sustainable supply of raw materials, in order to meet the needs of a growing global population within the sustainable limits of the planet's natural resources
- ***Activities:*** contributing to increasing European competitiveness and improving well-being, whilst assuring environmental integrity and sustainability, keeping average global warming below 2°C and enabling ecosystems and society to adapt to climate change

## *Fighting and adapting to climate change*

- The natural science have a dominant position in the analysis of the processes and causes of global climate change.
- However, SSH can contribute to new insights and understanding of societal aspects of this global phenomenon. For instance by examining philosophical and legal question of how to (re)distribute climate change-related risks among several societal actors. Also social factors that drive excessive production and consumption patterns leading to high-throughput and high-waste economies have to be investigated thoroughly.
- Culture is another important factor to understanding how societies deal with and respond to climate change. We therefore need to draw on a broad range of SSH research – including sociology, anthropology, history, literature and cultural studies – in order to grasp the impact that climate change has on the articulation of values, norms and cultures.



## *Sustainably managing natural resources and ecosystems*

- *Further our understanding of the functioning of ecosystems, their interactions with social systems and their role in sustaining the economy and human well-being.*
- *SSH research can shed light on the interconnectedness of the social causes of these issues, explain the complex trajectories and policies that have led to unsustainable lifestyles, draw lessons from earlier processes of societal change and find solutions.*



## ***Enabling the transition towards a green economy through eco-innovation***

- *Strengthen eco-innovative technologies, processes, services and products and boost their market uptake.*
- *Support innovative policies and societal changes.*
- *Although socio-technical innovations will prove vital to the transformation to a green economy, these will not suffice alone.*
- *In fact, any societal transformation will require action by governments, markets and civil society → Therefore SSH contribution is needed.*
- *For instance, sociological and psychological contributions can provide insight into how consumers change their practices and point out the importance of sustainable lifestyles, among others.*



**Thank you for your  
attention!**

Find out more:

[www.ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020](http://www.ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020)