



KNOWING YOUR DESTINATION ON HORIZON EUROPE'S CLUSTER 6

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When writing your impact section in your Horizon Europe proposal you need to show to the reader how your project is targeting the appropriate destination linked to the specific topic.

These destinations have been defined through the [Strategic Plan](#). This is valid for all clusters.

Finding the destination linked to your topic can sometimes become akin to a “Treasure Hunt” game as depending on the topic you are targeting and the work programme from the specific topic, this quest could be sometimes cumbersome and not completely straight forward.

In the present publication we will give you an example of how this is done with a topic from Cluster 6, especially now that an important number of topics have just opened calling for proposals in the fields from this cluster. Let’s first take a quick look at those new topics that have just opened.

New batches of topics for your proposed collaboratives projects

Horizon Europe Cluster 6 covers the goal of leading human economic activities on a path towards sustainability. This cluster covers the regrouped but related areas of “Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment”.



On October 28, eleven new batches of topics have opened for proposals covering these related fields:

- Two of the eleven batches cover “Biodiversity and ecosystem services”, with the first one being for single stage proposals and deemed at “understanding biodiversity’s decline” and a second one for two stage proposals covering the “management of biodiversity in primary production
- Two more of these batches cover the subject of food and food systems from primary production to consumption, with one stage proposals on one batch and two stage proposals on the second one, both batches on “enabling sustainable farming”
- Two more on the circular economy and bioeconomy sectors, one batch for one stage, the second for two stages, with the goal of “enabling a circular economy transition”
- Two additional ones on “green rural, coastal and urban communities” again, one stage and two stages separated in two batches
- One on “innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal” with the purpose of “innovating with governance models and supporting policies”
- Another one on “clean environment and zero pollution” one stage proposals with proposals targeting the purpose of “halting emissions of pollutants to soils and waters”
- And finally, one on “land, ocean and water for climate action” for one stage proposals covering an additional five topics

Find the related [work-programme for cluster 6](#).

These eleven new batches cover a total of 77 topics where you can easily find your interest and something that can suit your business if you are involved in the fields of food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture, and environment.

The importance of your destination in Horizon Europe

The underlying theme for Cluster 6 is always the subject of sustainability and how we can ensure that human activity can find a virtuous path towards a greener, healthier future for our planet. The Horizon Europe programme is driven by a desired impact approach to promote research and innovation, as opposed to previous programmes which were activity driven.

Four key strategic orientations are defined in the strategic plan, to drive research and innovation. These orientations are:

- Promoting an open strategic autonomy by leading the development of key digital, enabling, and emerging technologies, sectors, and value chains
- Restoring Europe’s ecosystems and biodiversity, and managing sustainably natural resources
- Making Europe the first digitally enabled circular, climate-neutral and sustainable economy
- Creating a more resilient, inclusive, and democratic European society

These are then broken down into 30 expected impacts which are also referred to as “destinations”, which are specific directions and points of arrival Horizon Europe is aiming at.

This is starting to look more like an escape game than a treasure hunt game but let me take you further down this path and give you an example from our Cluster 6.

How to find your destination

In the proposal template for section 2 on Impact, you get the following instructions:

“The results of your project should make a contribution to the expected outcomes set out for the work programme topic over the medium term, and to the wider expected impacts set out in the ‘destination’ over the longer term.”

and then more specifically:

“Describe the unique contribution your project results would make towards (1) the outcomes specified in this topic, and (2) the wider impacts, in the longer term, specified in the respective destinations in the work programme.”

For the outcomes specified in the topic it is pretty straight forward, but then for (2), the wider impacts and how this is linked to the destinations, not so much. Let’s take as an example from one of the 77 topics that have just opened.

We spin the picker wheel, and the following topic comes out!

Let’s focus on the topic “HORIZON-CL6-2022-FARM2FORK-01-06”

“HORIZON-CL6-2022-FARM2FORK-01-06: Biosecurity, hygiene, disease prevention and animal welfare in aquaculture”

You can find it on the [work Programme for Cluster 6 on pages 203 to 205](#).



To find first the specific outcomes for the topic is easy, just listed in bullets on page 204 (also under the topic description of the online version):

- Advancement of knowledge about how farmed fish react to farming conditions and their effects on their welfare and growth
- Development of innovative and less invasive disease prevention, monitoring, control and treatment approaches for a more sustainable production
- Healthier seafood production through improvement in farming practices and thus contribute to increase its competitiveness
- Improve the professional skills and competences of those working and being trained to work within the blue economy

Your section 2.1 starts by stating how your project is providing an impact on these four specific expected outcomes, whether the impacts are scientific, economic/technological, or societal. Then you need to specify how you are targeting the wider impacts from the strategic plan and this is where looking for your destinations comes into play.

First, to see how your work programme is structured, go into the table of content of it and see under which destination is your topic. The topic is clearly under the destination of “Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption” (page 136).

When you scroll up from your topic page, you see that your topic is included under Enabling sustainable fisheries and aquaculture (on bold on page 201). On page 138 you will also spot out

that of the three specific impacts specified the one which applies the best is the middle one on fisheries, as per the subject:

“sustainable fisheries and aquaculture increasing aquatic biomass production, diversification and consumption of seafood products for fair, healthy, climate resilient and environment friendly food systems with low impact on aquatic ecosystems and high animal welfare”

But you should also check according to your topic and what you will be developing if the other two partly or fully apply.

Finally, on page 139 you will see it states that topics under this destination should have impacts in the following impact areas of the Horizon Europe strategic plan for 2021-2024:

- Sustainable food systems from farm to fork on land and sea
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Enhancing ecosystems and biodiversity on land and in waters
- Good health and high-quality accessible healthcare
- Clean and healthy air, water and soil
- A resilient EU prepared for emerging threats
- Inclusive growth and new job opportunities.

All this information is also picked up on the topic online under “Destination”.

Care should be taken nevertheless to see if each of these impacts really apply to your development, as in the guidelines it states clearly to *“only include such outcomes and impacts where your project would make a significant and direct contribution. Avoid describing very tenuous links to wider impacts.”*

The PNO group can support you!

ARTTIC & PNO Consultants France from the PNO group can certainly provide you with support for your proposal writing whether a topic on Cluster 6 or on any other Cluster that your institution is targeting. A smart way of proceeding to produce a highly competitive proposal within the intricacies of the Horizon Europe programme is at your reach, with our support. [PNO Consultants France](#) & [ARTTIC](#) are here for you and your success in this new framework programme!

This publication was written by Carlos TRIAY from ARTTIC.

PNO Consultants France and ARTTIC have joined forces to deliver services covering the complete innovation cycle, from strategy to implementation, while maximising technical and sectoral complementarities. An unrivalled expertise, attested by over 120 successful Horizon 2020 proposals in the transport, health, security, defence, energy, food and bioeconomy fields; three decades of experience serving a portfolio of 400 clients; and a strong European presence through our offices in Paris, Toulouse, Derby (UK) and Brussels make PNO Consultants France and ARTTIC sound partners to advise your organisation in the financing, set-up and management of research and innovation projects.