

# Research and Innovation Participant Portal

# Introduction to the Participant Portal services

CSC Communication Office RTD J3



## What's new with Horizon 2020?

- The Participant Portal is the single gateway to funding-related interactions between applicants and the Commission/Agencies
- New ways of presenting calls
- New ways of presenting documentation and guidance
- New integrated Grant Management System
- Paperless exchanges no more blue ink signatures



# **Research Participant Portal**

 Offers external stakeholders a unique entry point for the interactions with the European Commission or Agencies in handling grant-related actions, based on:

## **ECAS**

Single sign-on

(1 ECAS account = 1 e-mail address = 1 person)



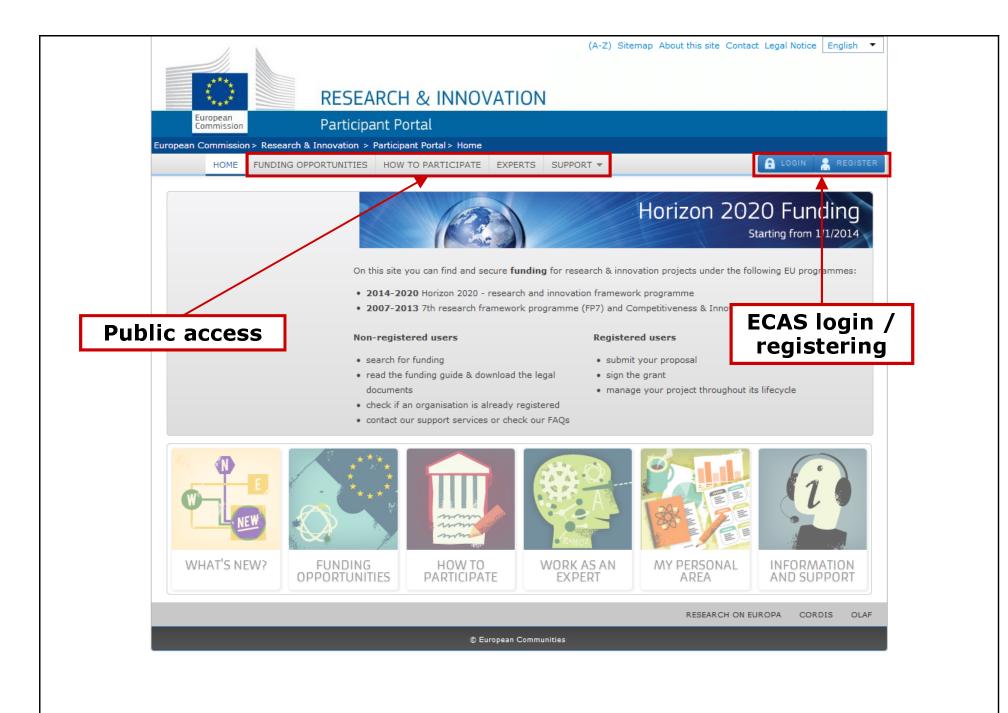
## **IAM**

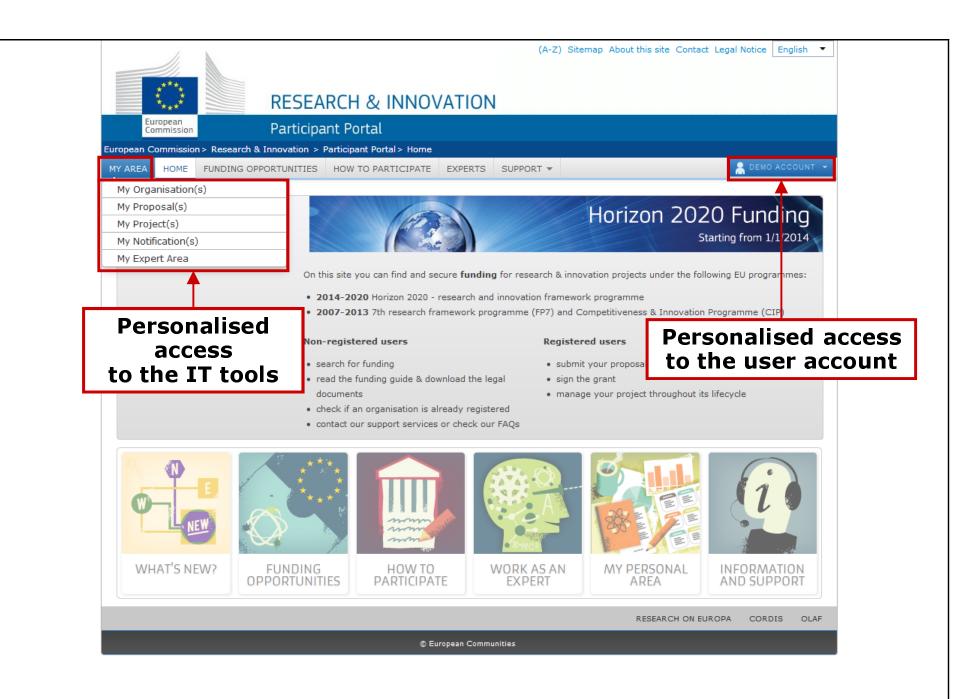
Access rights based on role authorisation



# Personalised services on the Participant Portal

 Brings homogeneity, transparency and better service integration for grant management.







## **Participant Portal services: overview**

**Funding Opportunities** 

**How to Participate** 

**Experts** 

**Support** 

My Organisation(s)

My Proposal(s)

My Project(s)

My Notification(s)

**My Expert Area** 

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# Participant Portal services available without login

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## **Funding Opportunities**

## 1. Funding opportunities

- Open/closed/forthcoming H2020 calls
- Links to FP7 & CIP calls and other calls
- Latest information on published calls
- Call search: full-text search
- Tagging of all topics additional search options with synonyms, colloquial expressions, circumscriptions
- "Stay tuned" options: electronic agenda, RSS feeds, email notifications

## 2. Access to the electronic proposal submission system

Create a proposal through the link on the call page







### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

#### Participant Portal

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Participant Portal > Funding Opportunities

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

EXPERTS SUPPORT ▼

🔒 LOGIN 🧎 REGISTER

H2020 ONLINE MANUAL



na Opportunities

Other Fu

"Stay tuned":

Dynamic agenda

RSS feed



### **Funding Opportunities**

Find the European Union funding opportunities and search for new or closed calls, grouped by the following programmes:

- Horizon 2020 EU research funding from 2014
- Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)
- Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)
- other research and innovation programmes

#### Horizon 2020



Horizon 2020 is the new EU funding programme for research and innovation running from 2014 to 2020 with a €70 billion budget. The first calls for proposals for Horizon 2020 are envisaged for December 2013. Its simplified rules and submission and grant management tools should facilitate participants' tasks. For practical guidance, see the H2020 online manual.

H2020 supports SMEs with a new instrument that runs throughout various funded research and innovation fields, so it should be easy for SMEs to find opportunities in many calls.

H2020 also aims to enhance EU international research cooperation so there are more opportunities for Third Country participation.

Having built H2020 around the main societal challenges like an ageing population, food security, energy efficiency, the EU attaches high importance to embed socio-economic sciences and humanities into the work

#### FP7 and CIP - previous programmes

FP7 and CIP are previous instruments to fund research and innovation activities in Europe for the period 2007 to 2013. You can view closed calls information of these programmes.

#### COSME

Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs (COSME) will run from 2014 to 2020, with a planned budget of €2.3bn. It will facilitate SME access to finance, create supportive environment for business creation, help small businesses operate outside their home countries and improve their access to markets.

#### Other Funding Opportunities

This page lists additional research activities, initiatives executed by several Member States or joint programmes, co-funded calls, thematic opportunities, and intergovernmental actions.

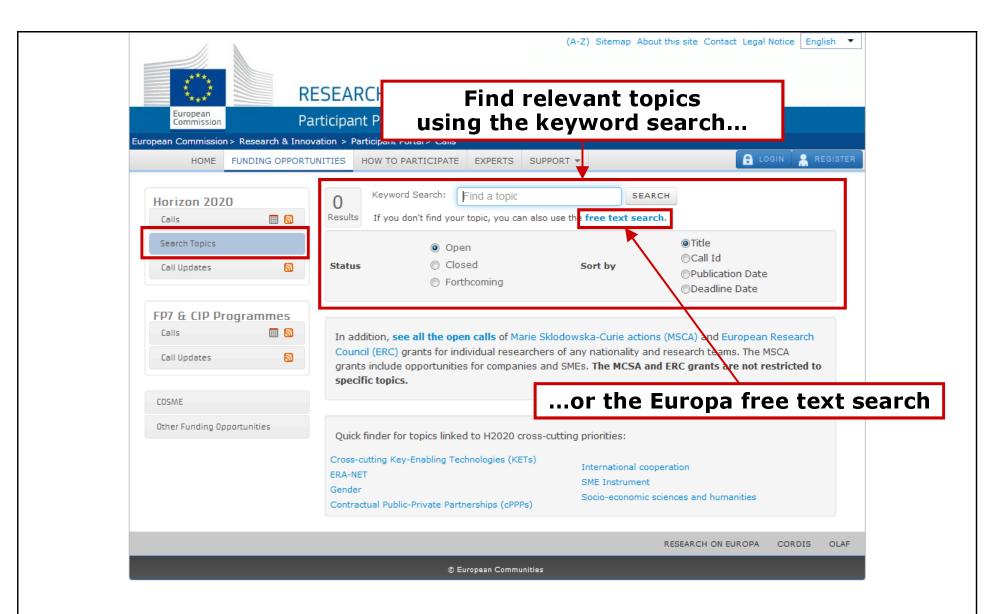
#### Call updates

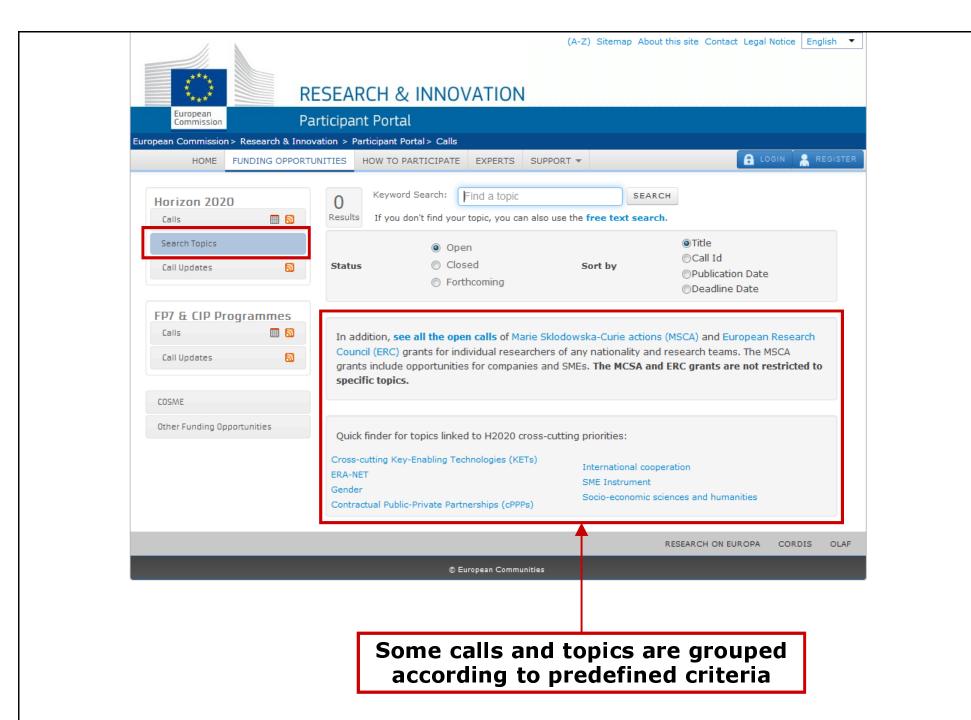
The page displays the latest updates to the calls, like change of deadlines.

#### Search

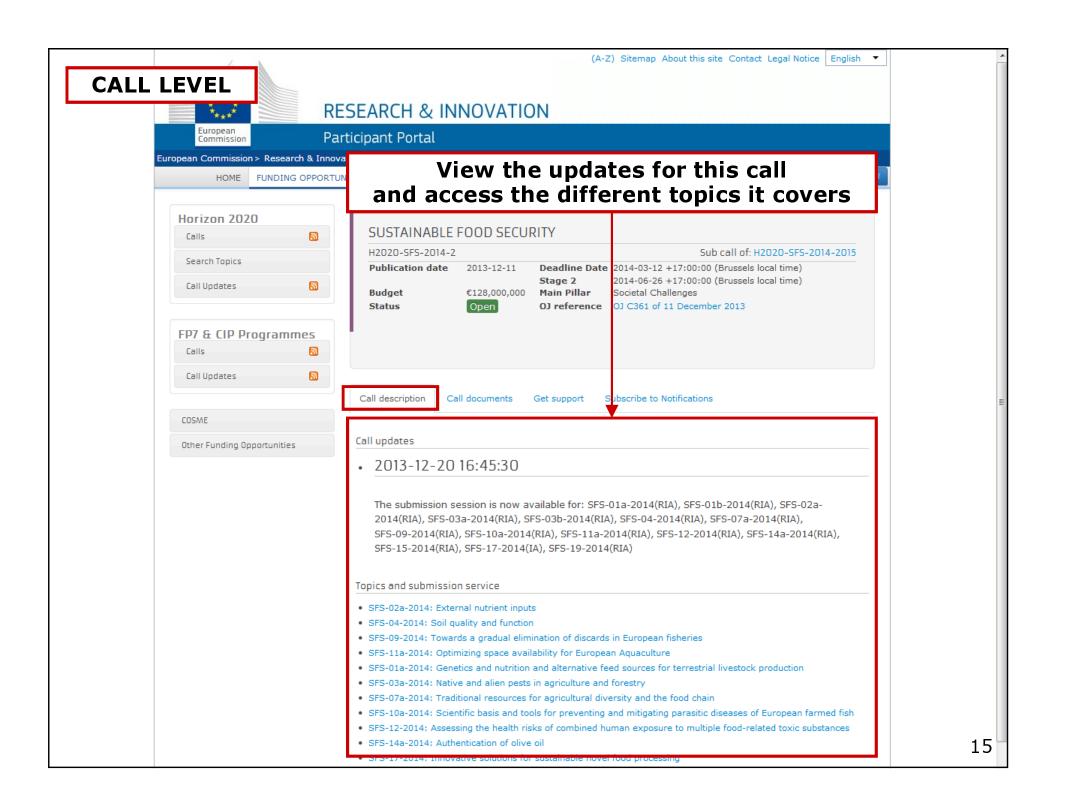
The call search tool has several filtering options to help you select funding opportunities that are most relevant

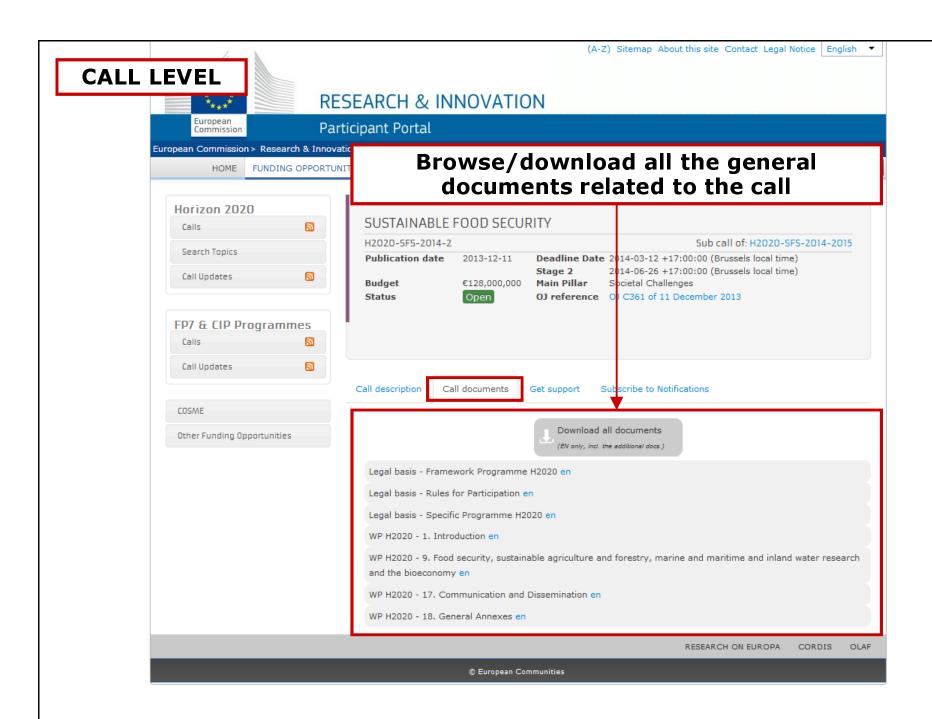


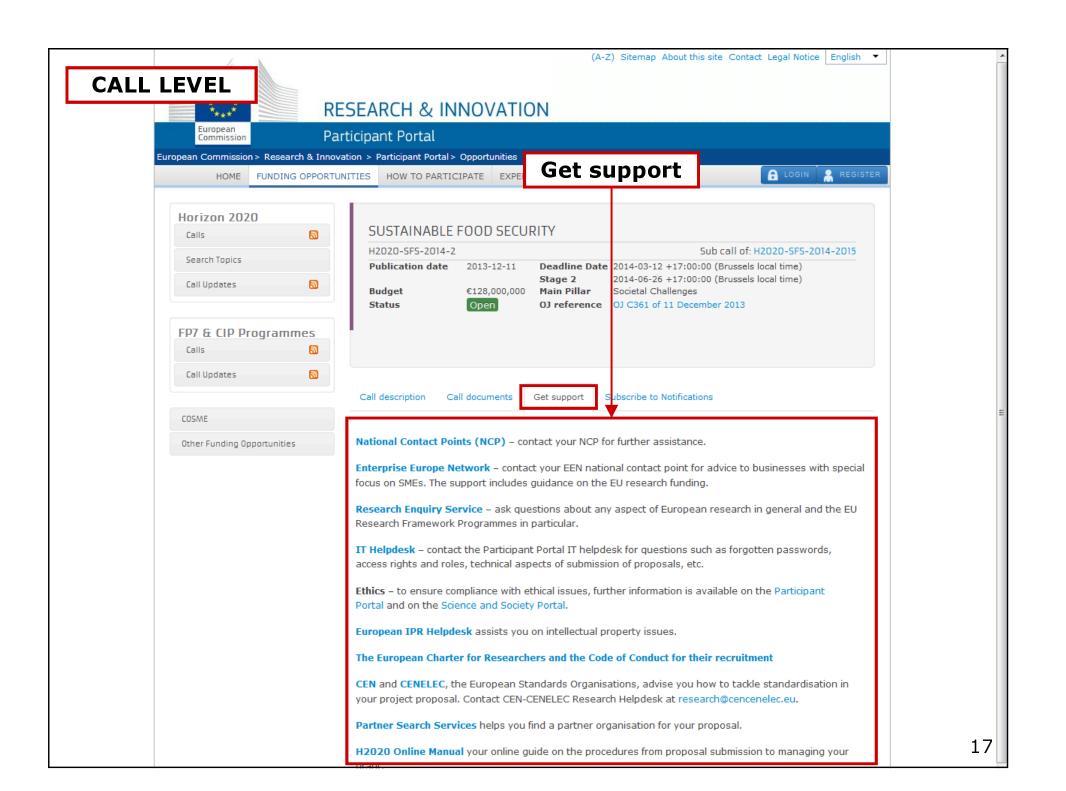












selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Improved capacity and methods to assess soil-management interactions and their impact on soil functions

Expected Impact:

Information on the outcome of one-stage evaluation: maximum 5 months from the final date for submission.





## **How to Participate**

## 1. H2020 Online Guide

- New online guide divided into business processes
- Aims at providing all the information, list of documents
   & useful links (IT wiki, etc.) for each specific process
- 2 ways of finding info: General overview with drill-down approach Direct linking to specific sections from some Participant Portal pages (via the "H2020 Online Guide" button)

### 2. Reference Documents

List of all useful reference documents



## **How to Participate**

## 3. Organisation Register

- Check whether your organisation is already registered via a PIC search
- Access the organisation registration tool

## 4. Financial Viability Self-Check

 Coordinators are strongly encouraged to do this non-binding check before submitting a proposal

## **5. SME Participation**

Starting page for information related to participation of SMEs



🚘 H2020 Online Manual

Grants

> Login with ECAS > Roles & access rights

Applying for funding Find a call

> Registration of

self-check

Data update Submit a proposal

Grant preparation Grant signature

Deliverables

distribution of EU

> Final report

Amendments

Working as an expert

Dissemination of results

Audits & certifications

> Project technical review

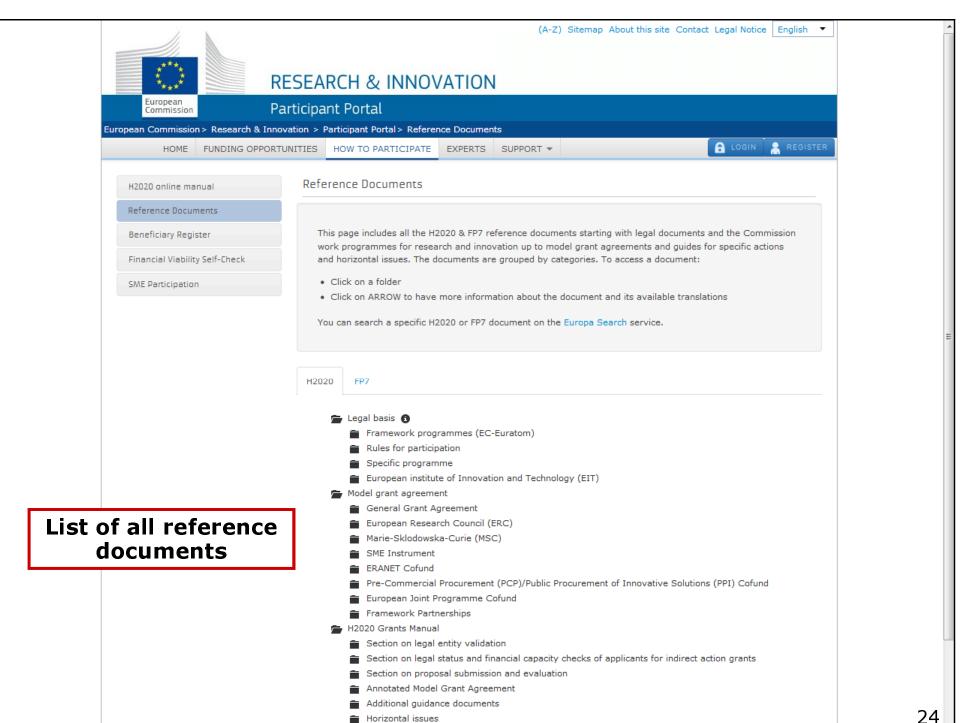
Grant management Reports

### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

### Participant Portal H2020 Online Manual

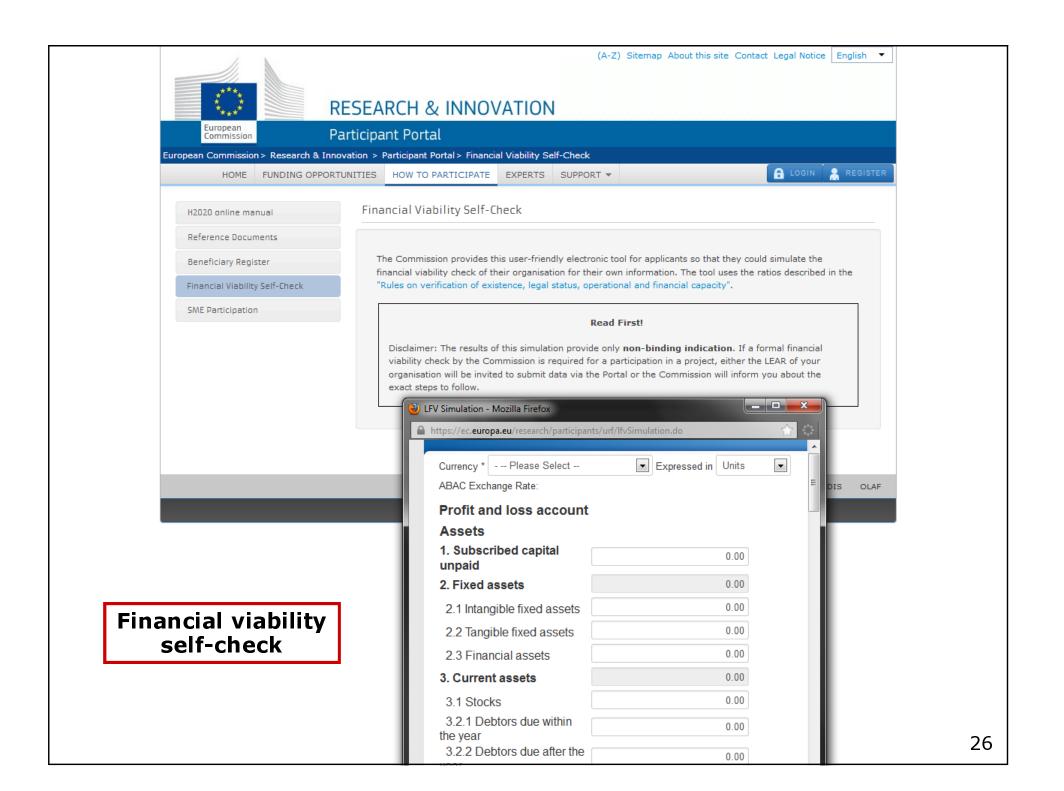
#### Your user account & roles Tour user account & roles Grants Applying for funding Find a call Find partners Register an organisation Submit a proposal > Horizon 2020 structure Evaluation & Grant signature > What you need to know about Horizon 2020 calls Evaluation of proposals Grant preparation Grant signature > Find partners or apply as Grant management Register an organisation Reports Dissemination of results Amendments Audits & certifications LEAR appointment > Validation of organisation Working as an expert > Financial viability Expert registration Contracting & payment Expert roles & tasks From evaluation to grant Cross-cutting issues > Evaluation of proposals International cooperation Regional aspects Ethics SMEs Gender Intellectual property Periodic report Financial report FP7 Funding Guide Scientific report > Patents & publications > Report on the final

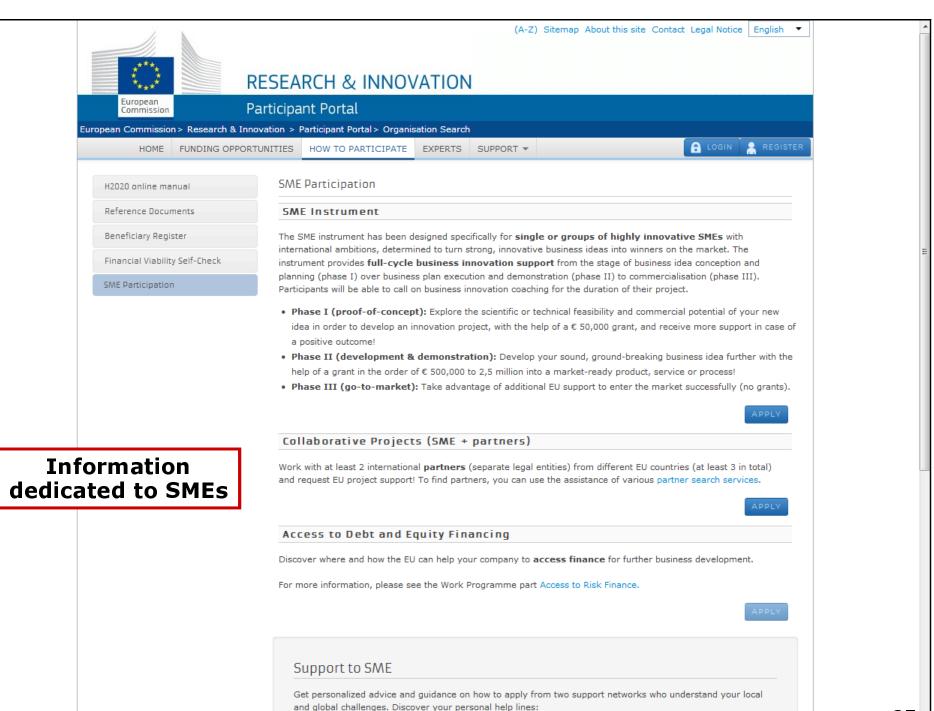
Find guidance, process by process (drill-down approach)



H2020 Prizes Manual







Enterprise Europe Network



## **Experts**

The Experts section in the Participant Portal is a web-based application for communication between experts (evaluators of research proposals, reviewers of ongoing projects, etc.) and the European Commission.

## 1. New experts can create their profile

The expert registration tool itself is only available after an ECAS login.



## **Experts**

New calls for expression of interest <u>for individual experts</u> and <u>for organisations to suggest experts</u> were just published in OJ C342 of 22 November 2013. European Commission will soon need experts to evaluate first Horizon 2020 proposals. Don't forget to tick the H2020 box in the registration platform and update your expertise.

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/ShowDoc/Participant+Portal/portal\_content/docs/experts/H2020%20Call-individual%20experts OJ%20C342 03.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/ShowDoc/Participant+Portal/portal content/docs/experts/H2020%20Call-relevant%20organisations OJ%20C342 03.pdf



### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

#### Participant Portal

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Participant Portal > Experts

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES HOW TO PARTICIPATE

**EXPERTS** 

SUPPORT ▼

🔒 LOGIN 🤰 REGISTER

H2020 ONLINE MANUAL



#### News

H2020 call for expression for interest for experts (11/2013) New calls for expression of interest for individual experts and for organisations to suggest experts were just published in OJ C342 of 22 November 2013, European Commission will soon need experts to evaluate first Horizon 2020 proposals. Don't forget to tick the H2020 box in the registration platform and update your expertise.

#### **Quick Links**

- . FAQ for Experts
- · Expert recommendations

#### Logistics for Brussels

- · Map of evaluation area
- · Info on hotels
- Metro map
- . From airport to Brussels



#### Experts

Join the database of independent experts for European research and innovation.

The European Commission appoints independent experts to assist with research and innovation assignments including the evaluation of proposals, monitoring of projects, and evaluation of programmes, and design of policy.

#### New experts

## **Registration for new experts**

#### Who can be an expert?

You have a chance of being selected as an expert if

- · have high-level of expertise in the relevant fields of research and innovation (see call for details on type of expertise).
- can be available for occasional, shop assignments



#### What do expert assignments involve?

Experts, as peer eviewers, assist in the:

- · evaluation of proposals
- monitoring of actions

In addition, experts assist in the :

· preparation, implementation or evaluation of programmes and design of policies. This includes the Horizon 2020 Advisory Groups.

Assignments mainly concern research and innovation, falling within the Horizon 2020 programme designed to address the challenges Europe is facing through funding excellent science, technology and innovation.

Take a look at the most recently funded projects.

In order to access the expert registration form, you are first asked to login with a valid Participant Portal (ECAS) account. If you do not have it yet, it easy to create your Portal (ECAS) account.

#### Registered experts

- · Registered experts can complete or update their profile at any time by logging-in to their Portal account (ECAS) and accessing My Expert Area.
- . Your profile is only available to the Commission for consideration once it is complete and valid.



## **Support**

- 1. H2020 Helpdesk
  - Service provided by the Europe Direct Contact Centre
- 2. Enterprise Europe Network (& other help services for enterprises and industry)
  - Free support for organisations applying for projects under the SME Instrument
- 3. National Contact Points (NCP) database
- 4. Glossary



## **Support**

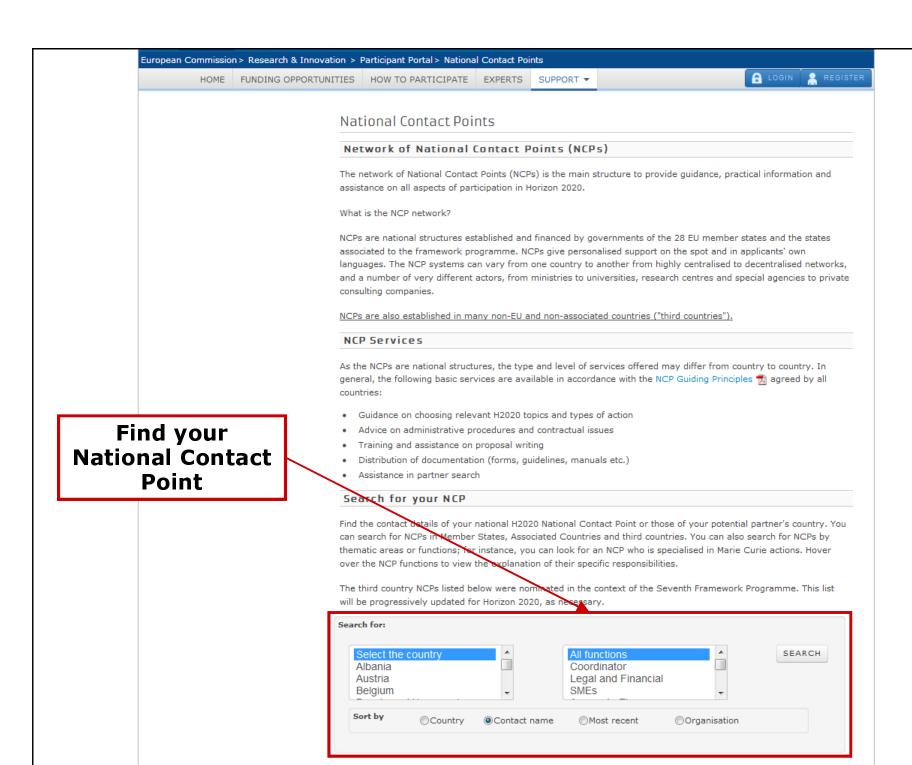
## 5. FAQ

- FAQ database
- Useful information along with additional guidance (user manuals, latest PowerPoint presentations, etc.)

## 6. IT Helpdesk contact form

## 7. Other Help Services

• Ethics helpdesk, European IPR helpdesk, European Committee for Standardisation, IGLO, National Services



#### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

This page is updated with the answers to the most frequent questions that were submitted to the IT Helpdesk. You can also find additional help in the following documents:

- The H2020 Funding Guide and FP7 Funding Guide give you overview of all steps you need to know for the electronic management of proposals or grants.
- The "Role management changes in brief" gives an overview of the Portal roles, like LEARs, Coordinators, etc. and
  their related rights to carry out actions and access information in the secured My Area. It also explains shortly the
  authentication mechanism of the Portal.
- . User manuals for the PP services:
  - Organisation registration User Manual
  - Submission Service User Manual
  - o FP7 Negotiation, Amendments and Periodic reporting: online Manual
  - o FP7 Financial reporting User Manual
  - FP7 Reporting and deliverables User Manual

#### 1. Participant Portal

#### · What is the Participant Portal?

The Participant Portal is the single-entry point for interactions about the EU research and innovation programmes with the European Commission. It offers you the services and tools that facilitate the monitoring and the management of your proposals and projects.

· What services and tools are available on the Participant Portal?

The following services are available on the Portal:

- H2020 and FP7 & CIP Calls: since July 2011 the Participant Portal is the single authoritative web site that
  publishes the calls of the EU research and innovation programmes.
- Proposals submission system: accessible from the calls and topics (thematic sub-division of calls in H2020) pages, this service allows you submitting electronically your project proposal to the Commission.
- Organisation registration: the service allows a participant to register his/her organisation and to get a Participant Identification Code (PIC).
- Services for managing your project and organisation data: Depending on his or her role on PP
  (after login), a user can access his/her organisation's data, the list of ongoing projects, information about
  grant preparation, submit amendments and periodic reports. You will need an ECAS account to access
  these PP services.
- · Expert area where experts can register and manage their expert profiles, contracts and payments.
- H2020 and FP7 Reference Documents: all the legal and guidance documents of the research and innovation programmes.

#### Are there presentations on the Participant Portal?

You can download the following presentations on the Participant Portal:

- · Introduction to the Services of the Participant Portal
- o Changes of the Identity and Access Management of the Participant Portal
- User registration: How to create an ECAS account (PDF version)
- · Electronic-only submission of Forms C
- o Introduction to the submission of proposals
- · How to prepare the explanation of the use of resources in the reporting tools? (PDF version)
- o General presentation of the Experts services



# The principle of personalised webspace:

# **European Commission Authentication Service (ECAS)**

CSC Communication Office RTD J3





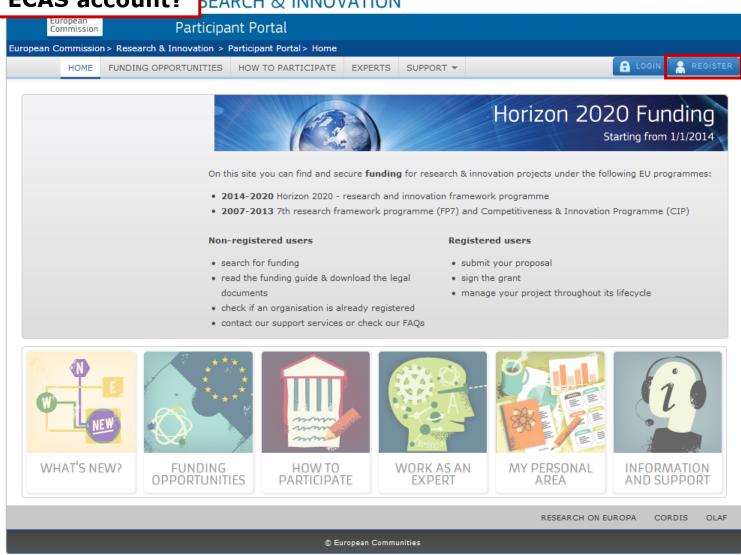
## What is "ECAS"?

**ECAS** means **E**uropean **C**ommission **A**uthentication **S**ystem. It is the system for logging on to a whole range of web sites and online services run by the Commission.

This ensures a **secure**, "**single sign-on**" **approach**: **1** person = **1** e-mail address = **1** ECAS account.

The creation of an ECAS account is free and easy.

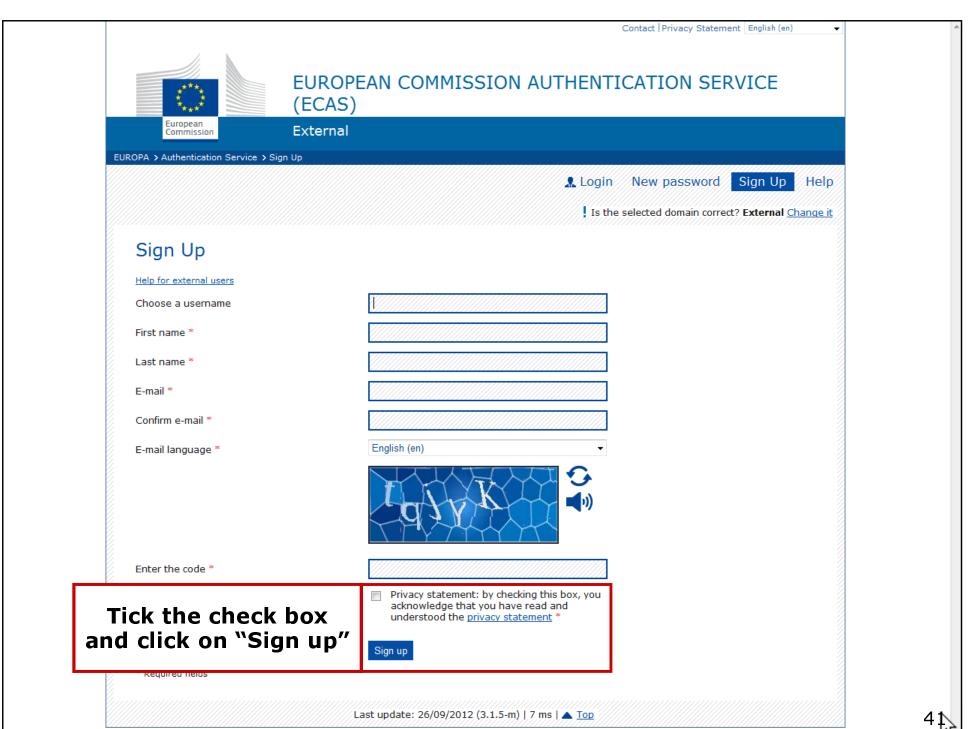
#### **How to register** for an ECAS account? **EARCH & INNOVATION**





Last update: 26/09/2012 (3.1.5-m) | 7 ms | A Top









## EUROPEAN COMMISSION AUTHENTICATION SERVICE (ECAS)

External

EUROPA > Authentication Service > Sign Up

♣ Login New password Sign Up He

Is the selected domain correct? External Change it

#### Sign Up

Thank you for registering, you will receive an e-mail allowing you to complete the registration process.

Last update: 26/09/2012 (3.1.5-m) | 4855 ms | A Top

Check your mailbox, a confirmation e-mail will arrive within a few minutes.

This process must be completed within 1 hour and a half after the original request.



# Click on the link in the confirmation e-mail to be redirected to the Password initialisation page of ECAS

#### 

You have been registered in ECAS, the European Commission AuthenticationService.

Your user name is man course

To create your password, click:

#### this link

You have a maximum of 1h30, starting from the time that this message was sent, to create your password, but you are encouraged to do so immediately if possible. After this time, you can make another request by following the same link: you will then need to re-enter your username and confirm your request.

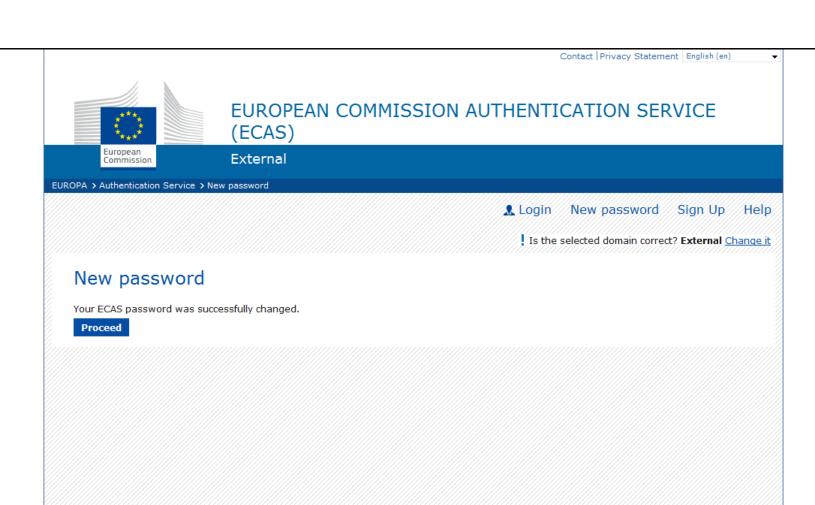
If the above link does not work, you can copy the following address(make sure the complete address is copied!) and paste it into yourbrowser's address bar:https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/init/initialisePasswordLogin.cgi? wayf.domain=external&wayf.remember=checked&wayf.submit=Select&uid=naccouec&resetCode=zMNyYdvwQQHtk1IzWYPjiD04pdtu9yqBZzcksdAfy

Whenever you login, please choose the domain "External", not "European Commission".

Instead of replying to this message, if you have a problem, please followthe help or contact information on the site where you were trying to register.

Sent to you by ECAS - European Commission Authentication Service

Contact | Privacy Statement | English (en) EUROPEAN COMMISSION AUTHENTICATION SERVICE (ECAS) External EUROPA > Authentication Service > New password ♣ Login New password Sign Up Help Is the selected domain correct? External Change it New password Please choose your new password. Create Username XXXXXXX a new password New password \* and click on "Submit" Confirm new password \* Submit \* Required fields Passwords cannot include your username and must contain at least 10 characters chosen from at least three of the following four character groups (white space permitted): ▶ Upper Case: A to Z Lower Case: a to z Numeric: 0 to 9 Special Characters:!"#\$%&'()\*+,-./:;<=>?@[\]^\_`{|}~ Examples: vrHxLuQHh^ g}\YpHjlTO .TEfJtc8&u [Generate other sample passwords] Last update: 26/09/2012 (3.1.5-m) | 23 ms | 🔺 Top



Your new ECAS password is successfully created. You can now log in to the Portal.

Last update: 26/09/2012 (3.1.5-m) | 73 ms | A Top

**Important: ECAS credentials are strictly confidential!** 



Login with your ECAS account



The Login page (ECAS authentication) appears





### **Participant Portal services: overview**

**Funding Opportunities** 

**How to Participate** 

**Experts** 

**Support** 

My Organisation(s)

My Proposal(s)

My Project(s)

My Notification(s)

**My Expert Area** 

Personalised services



# The principle of personalised webspace:

# Identity and Access Management (IAM), roles

CSC Communication Office RTD J3



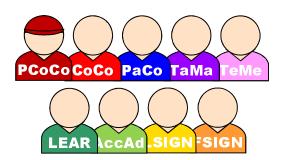
#### **Personalised services**

The Participant Portal allows each user to have access to a personalised space, based on 3 main elements:

 Each user is supposed to have a unique ECAS account, which is the unique identifier for persons (linked to their professional email address).



- Each ECAS account is linked to one (or more) **PIC number**(s), which are the **unique identifier for organisations**.
- Each ECAS account is linked to all the roles that the user has in projects and/or organisations through IAM.
   One user can have as many roles as necessary.



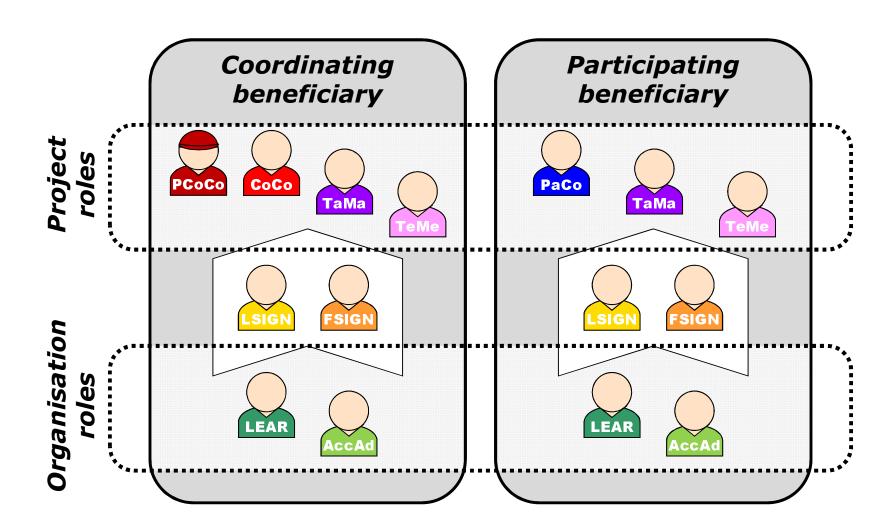


### The Identity and Access Management

- The <u>I</u>dentity and <u>A</u>ccess <u>M</u>anagement allows us to define and/or manage changes of <u>access rights</u> of users of the Participant Portal.
- It gives a personalised and secure access to the different services of the Participant Portal.
- Minimum involvement by the Commission/Agency staff allowing for flexibility in the online management of the consortium.
- Any change in the roles of the users is saved to allow a monitoring & tracking service.

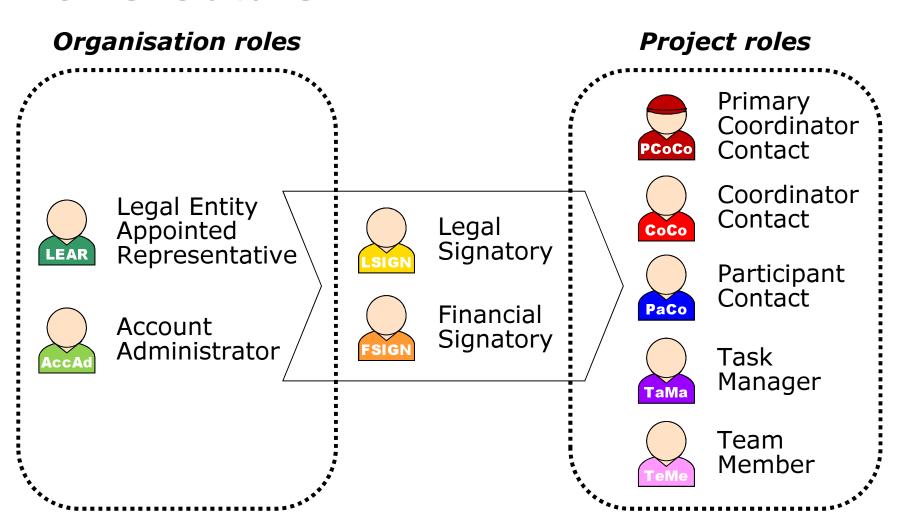
### The new version of IAM (January 2014)

European Commission





#### **Nomenclature**





### **Important remarks**

 Only the key roles of the LEAR and Primary Coordinator Contact are defined/modified by the Commission.

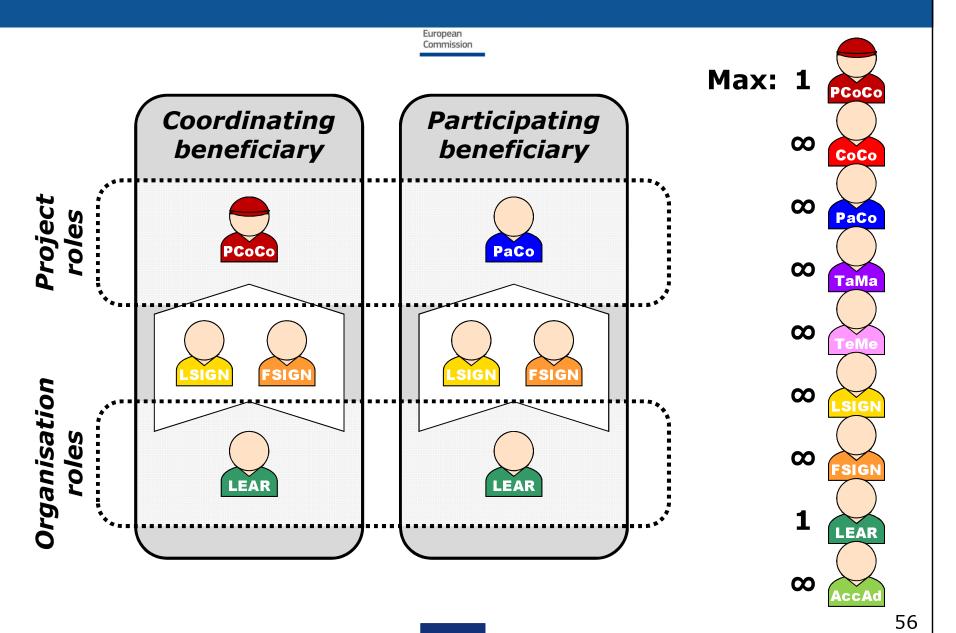




The rest is left at the discretion of the consortium.

- One person can have several roles at the same time.
- The complexity of the consortium depends on the participants.
   The minimum configuration is:
  - ✓ The Primary Coordinator Contact
  - ✓ 1 Participant Contact per beneficiary
  - ✓ 1 LEAR per organisation
  - ✓ 1 Legal Signatory per organisation
  - ✓ 1 Financial Signatory per organisation

## **Minimum configuration**



#### **Access rights**



#### Project roles







Read all forms



Write all forms



Submit all forms to EC





Read own forms





Submit own forms



Sign and submit own financial forms





📆 Read own forms





Submit own forms (except financial forms)

Organisation roles







📆 Read own forms





Submit own forms to coordinator (except financial forms)





Read own forms

Write own forms

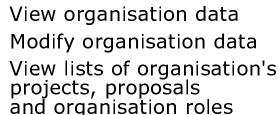




Read own forms









AccA



View organisation data View lists of organisation's projects, proposals and organisation roles



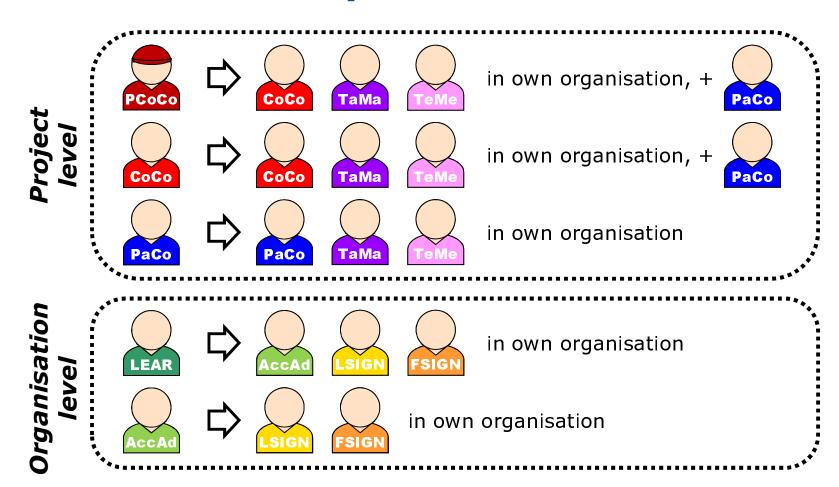
### The nomination process: "Original roles"

Some roles are automatically provisioned in the early stages of the Project ("original roles") as follows:

- The proposal initiator in the proposal submission phase will automatically be recognised by the Commission as the Primary Coordinator Contact.
- The contact persons of the participating organisations identified during proposal submission will become Participant Contacts at the beginning of negotiations.
- The LEAR is validated by the Commission during the validation process of his/her organisation.



#### The nomination process





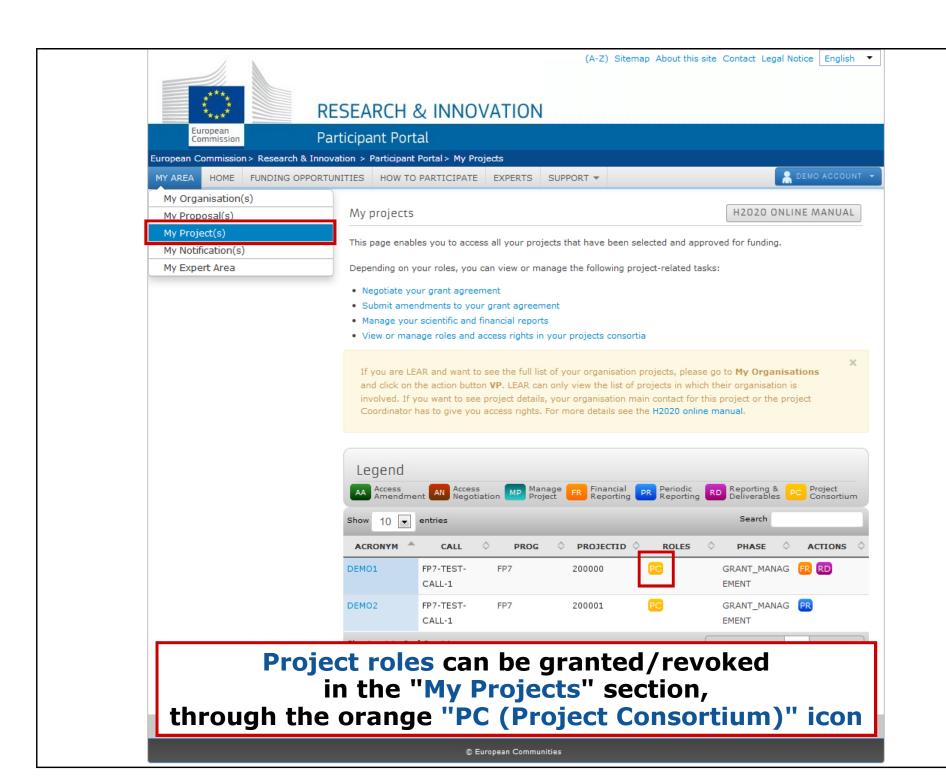


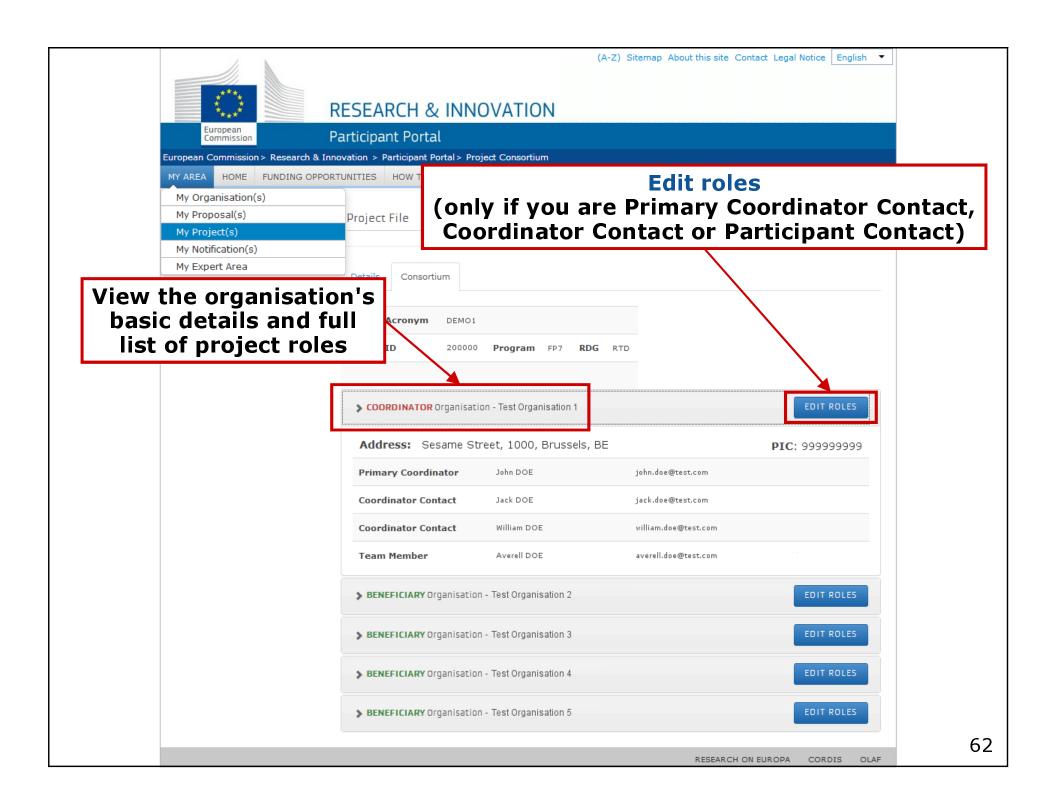
# The nomination process: how to nominate/revoke someone?

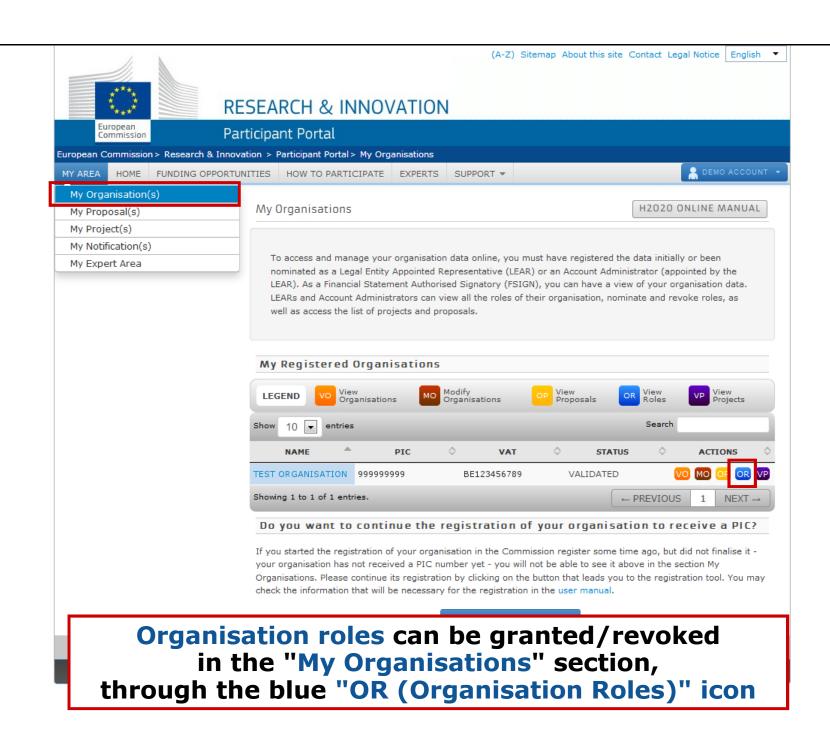
To grant a role, the e-mail address of the "new user" will have to be filled in; this e-mail address should be the same as the one used for the ECAS account of the "new user".

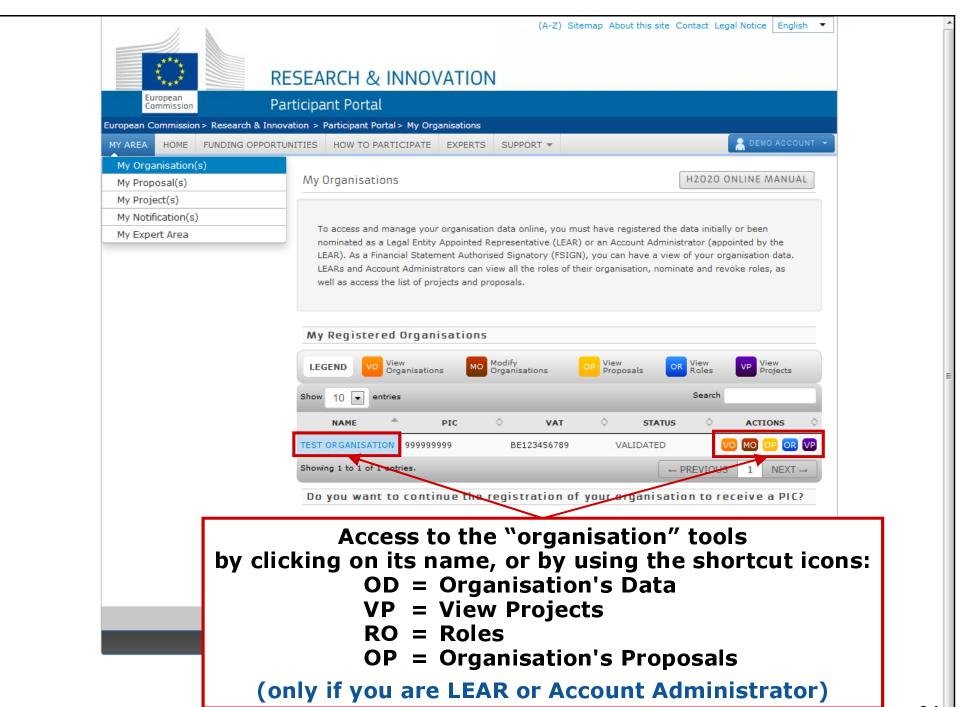
#### If this "new user" has no ECAS account,

he/she will automatically receive an invitation to create his/her ECAS account.



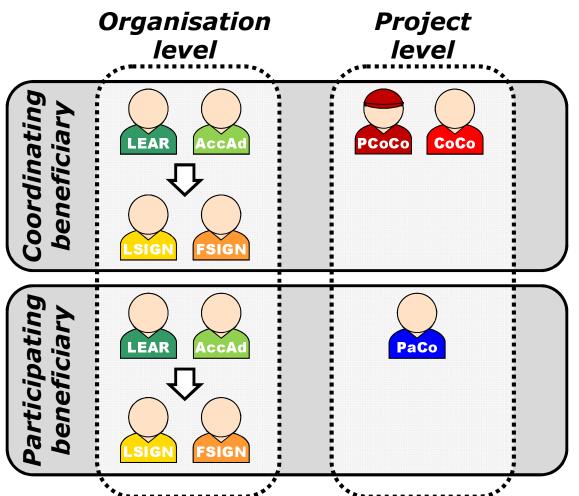








## The nomination process: LSIGN/FSIGN



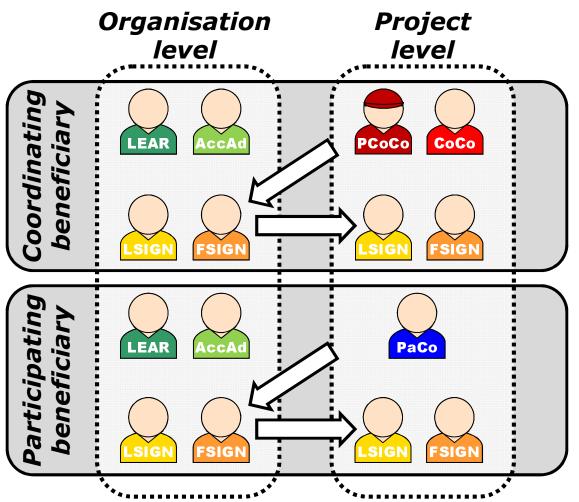
1. The LEAR (or Account Administrators)

nominate as many LSIGNs/FSIGNs as they want.

At this stage, the FSIGN cannot do anything, while the LSIGN has read-only access to the organisation's data and lists of projects, proposals & roles.



# The nomination process: LSIGN/FSIGN



# 2. The (Primary) Coordinator Contacts / Participant Contacts

need to assign to their project as many LSIGNs/FSIGNs for their own organisation as needed.

The LSIGN and FSIGN now have their own access to the tools.



# Participant Portal services available after login

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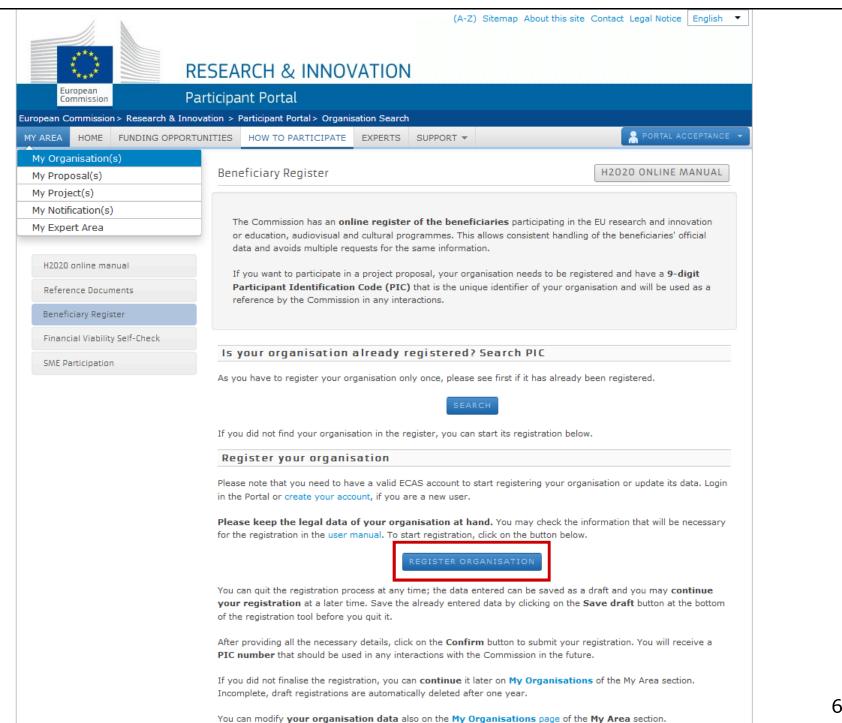


### Participant Portal services: after login

My Organisation(s)

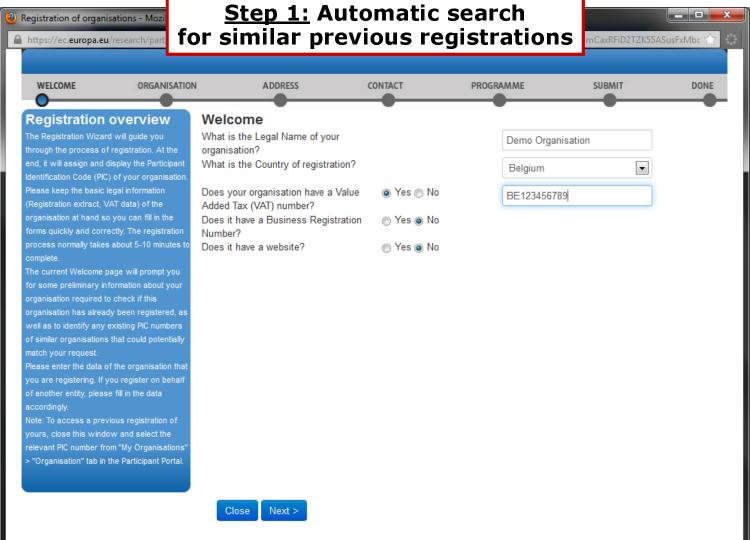
#### 1. Registration of organisations

- The person registering the data (Self-Registrant) receives online the PIC number for his/her organisation.
- Participants are encouraged to register their organisations as soon as possible before drafting a proposal.
- Possibility to register an organisation on behalf of someone else.
- Management of multiple PICs is possible.
- 2. Access to organisation-related data
- 3. Update of organisation's data



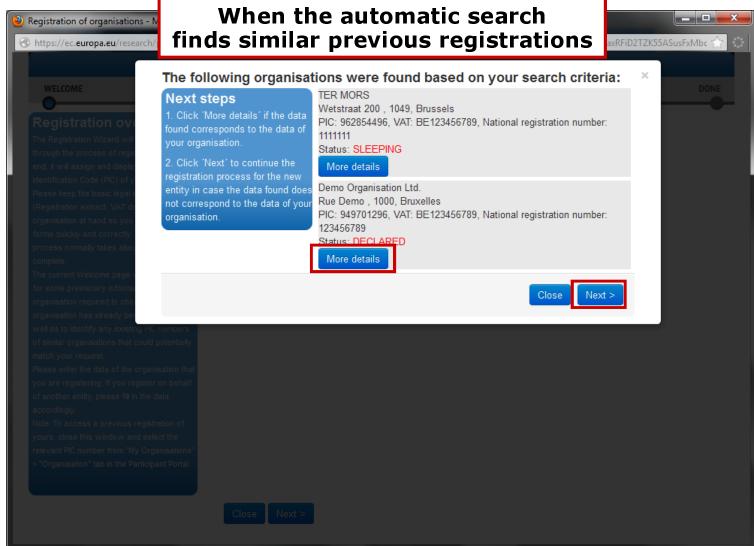






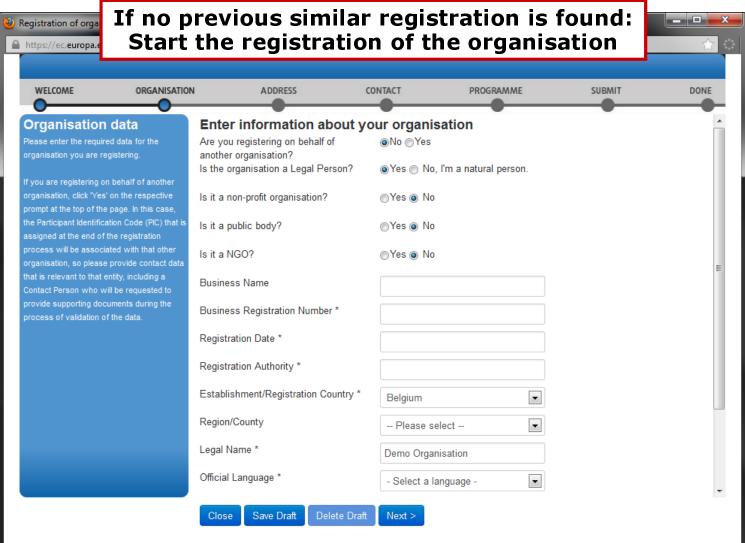






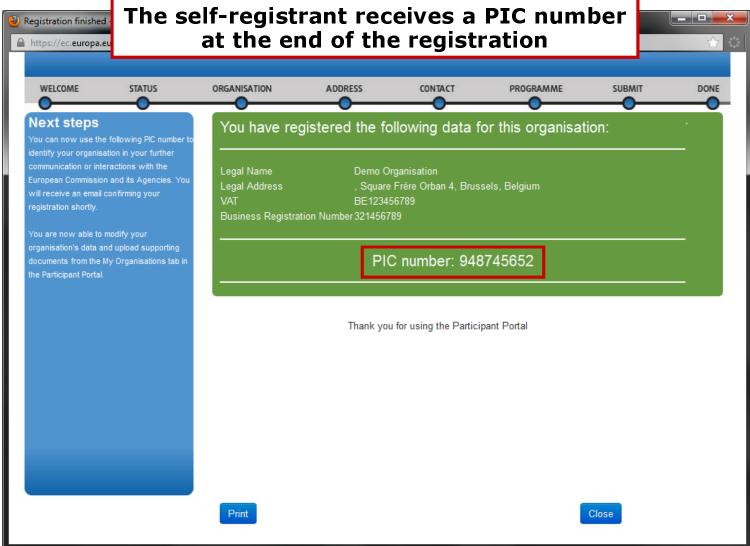


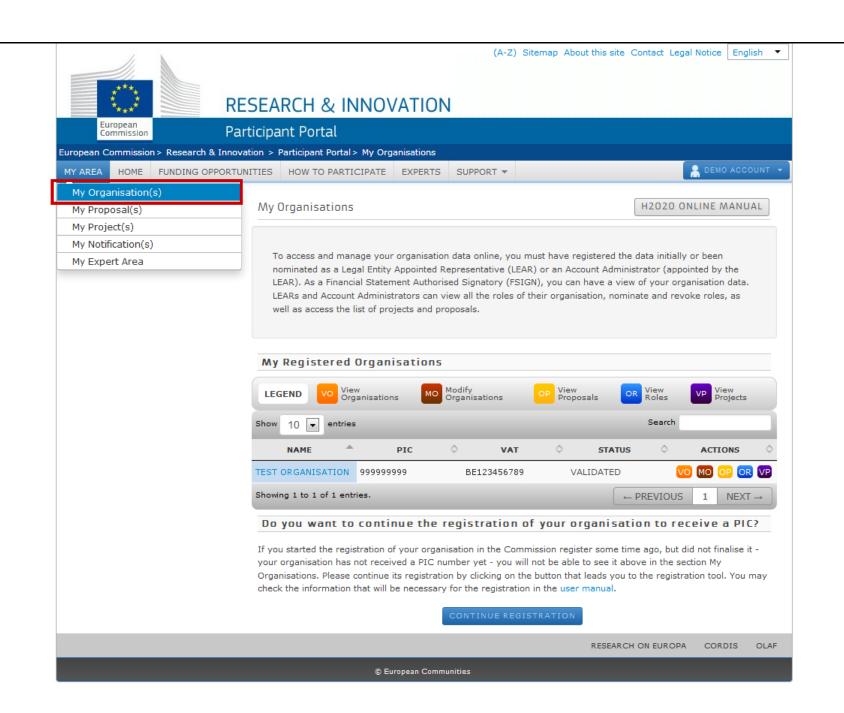
















My Proposal(s)

1. Access to the list of draft and submitted proposals

The proposal submission service is available on the call's page (after an ECAS login).

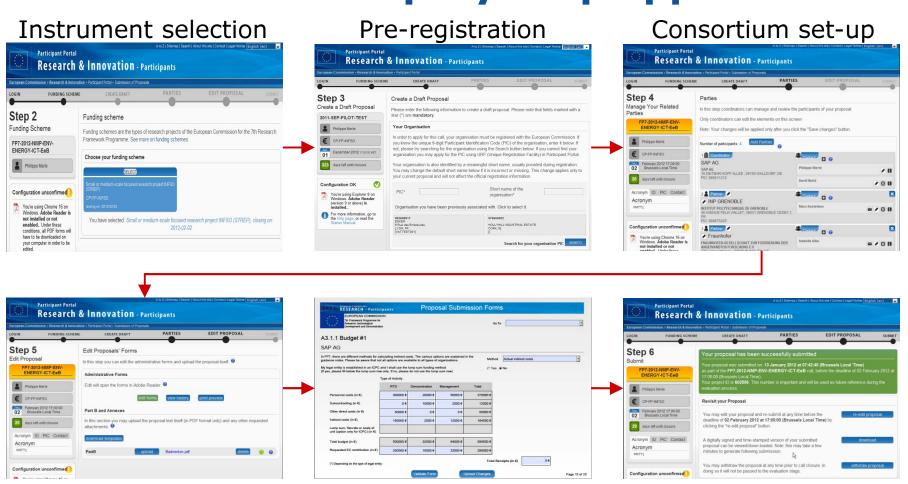
It is a wizard that helps users **creating and submitting a proposal step by step**, while ensuring **data confidentiality**.

This tool is available from **call launch** to a **strict deadline**.

Draft proposals can be saved and submitted later.



## Preview of the step-by-step approach



Forms & documents

Form filling

Submission





My Proposal(s)

**PIC numbers are required in the new proposal submission system**, therefore participants are encouraged to register their organisations as soon as possible before drafting a proposal.

Proposals are composed of:

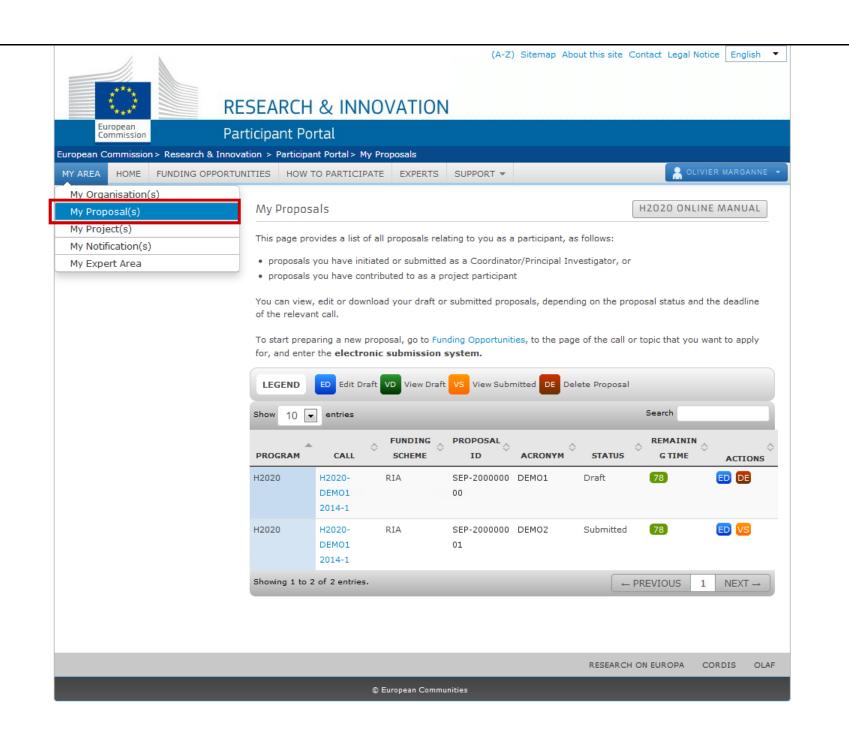
- Part A: the administrative information (list of participants, legal and financial structured forms, etc.);
- Part B: a PDF document with the scientific and technical contents;
- There may be additional documents (optional).





### My Proposal(s)

- Access rights now enabling different access to proposals:
   Full access (= Coordinator Contact or Participant Contact)
   or read-only rights (= Team Member) for any contact person of the proposal.
- The access rights need to be managed in the Submission tool until the call closure (after that in the "My Projects" page of the Participant Portal).
- All contact persons receive access rights and are listed in Part A: main contact persons with full details; other contacts with minimum data; Fellows/Principal Investigators with a researcher 'profile'
- Authorised representative data is not required in the proposals.



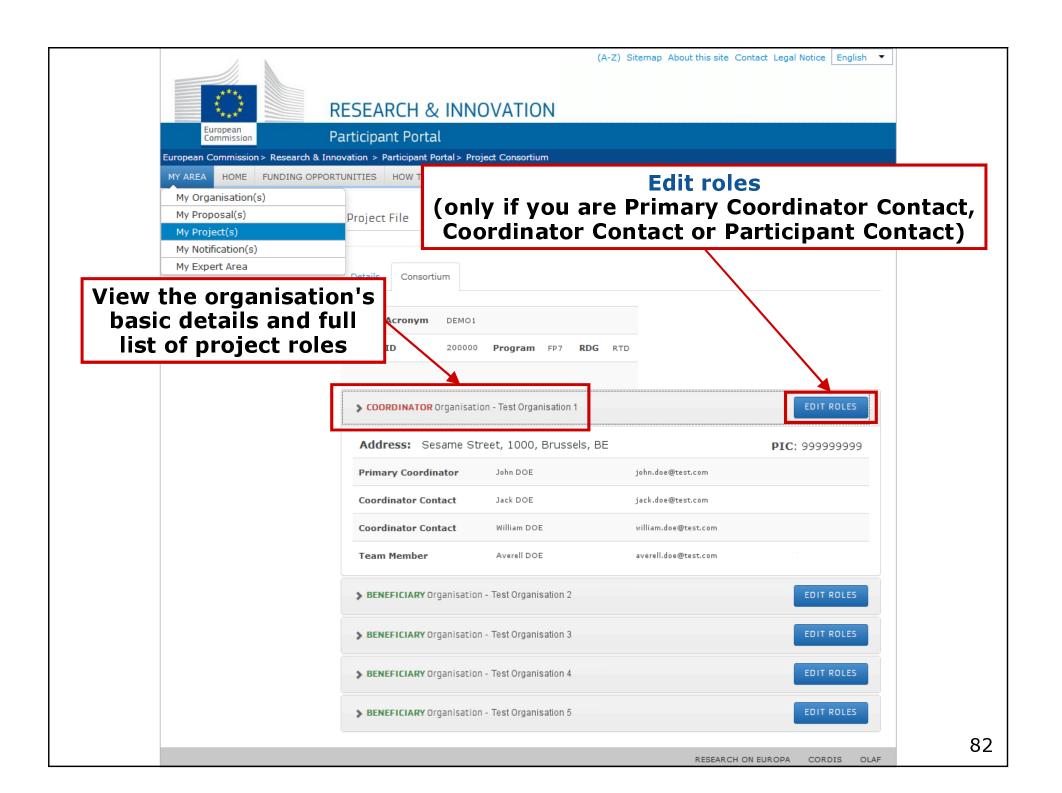




My Project(s)

- 1. Access to the list of projects the user is involved in
- 2. Access to the project-related services:
  - Grant preparation
  - Amendments
  - Reporting tools
- 3. View of the consortium's roles for a given project
- 4. Grant/revoke roles for a given project (provided the user has the authorisation to do so)









My Notification(s)

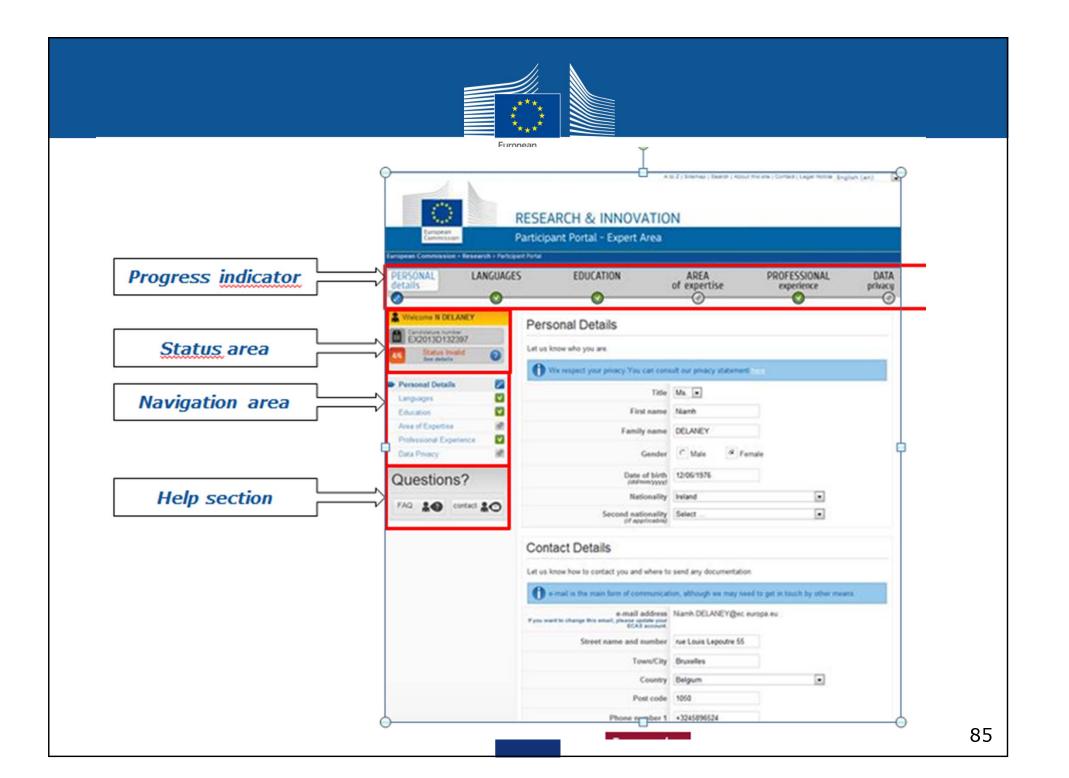
- 1. View all personal notifications for the services of the Participant Portal
  - Examples: change of roles, forms ready to be signed, availability of e-receipts, etc.



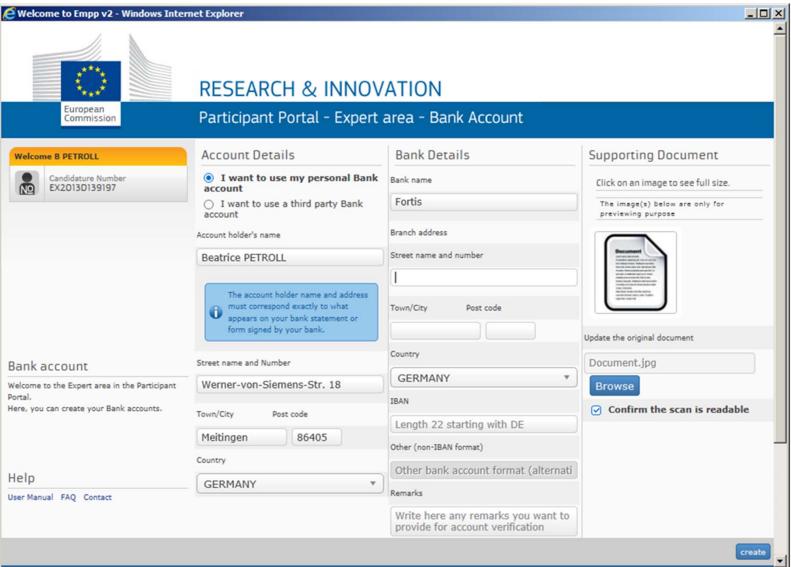


**My Expert Area** 

- 1. New experts can create their profile
- 2. Experts can update their profile
- 3. Experts can manage their contracts









## The new Grant Management System

CSC Communication Office RTD J3



## Paperless submission: principles

- LEAR nominates a list of persons authorised to sign legal documents and financial statements
- Only these persons get access to the "Sign and submit" function in the appropriate tool
- "Sign and submit" triggers the creation of an eReceipt that is stored in the electronic project archive
- All persons needing to know (including the LEAR) are notified on the transaction and have access to the eReceipt



## Value of the eReceipt

- Electronic receipt = digitally signed PDF version of the submitted document.
- Both the content of the document and a set of metadata (time stamp, ECAS credentials of submitter) are digitally sealed.
- The digital signature mechanism, using a public-private key pair mechanism, uniquely binds the eReceipt to the transaction and ensures its full integrity. Therefore a complete digitally-signed trail of the transaction is available both for the beneficiaries and the Commission.
- Any attempt to modify the content will lead to a break
   of the integrity of the electronic signature, which can be verified
   at any time by clicking on the signature in the PDF document.
- The eReceipt is stored in the project archive where it can be downloaded at any time by any actor in the project and stored on other electronic media.



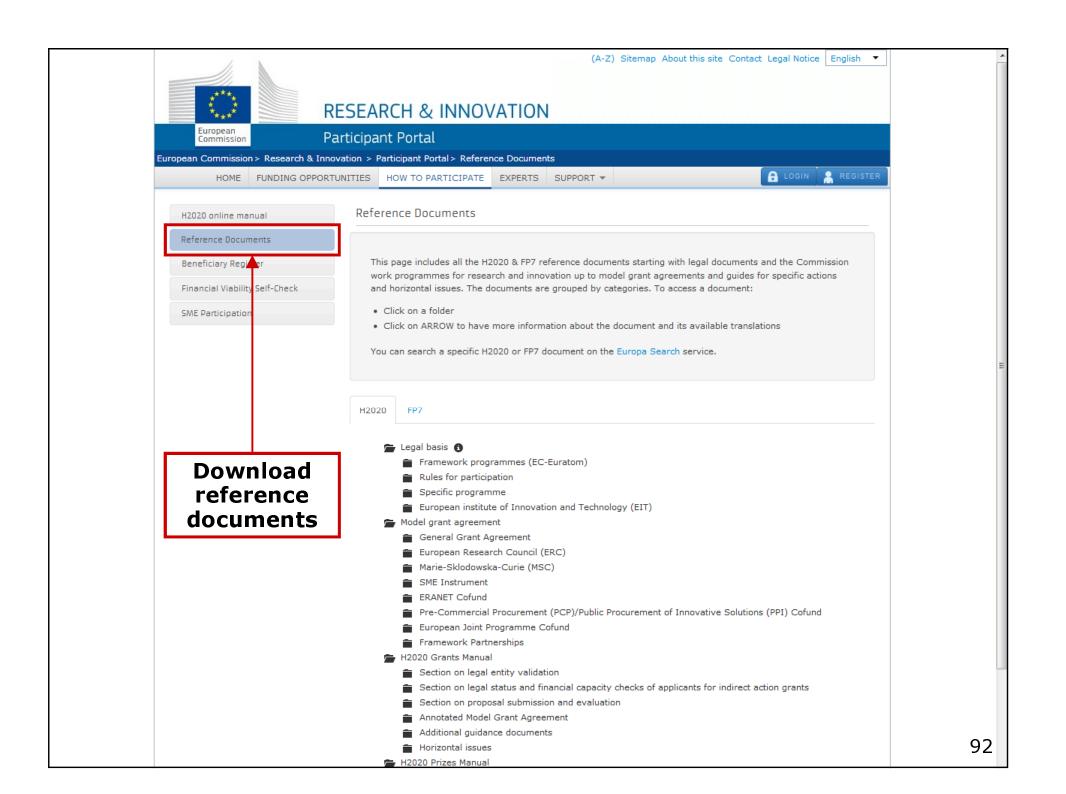
## Getting support in the new Participant Portal

CSC Communication Office RTD J3



## Multiple ways to documentation and guidance

- Traditional: download PDF documents (work programmes, model grant agreements, manual...)
- Topic-specific in the call service: get the package that is pertinent to the proposal you are about to prepare
- Context-related online guidance in the web tools (ghost text in forms, tooltips...)
- H2020 Online Manual drill down from high-level overview to the level of detail needed



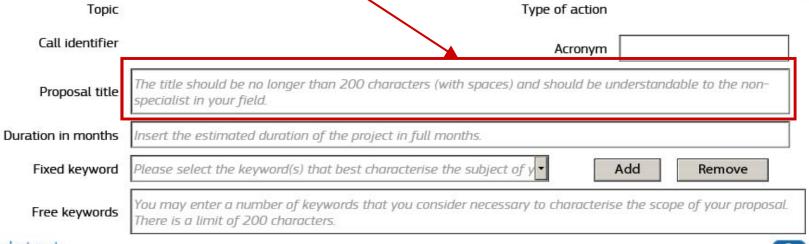
# \*\*\*\* European Commission

## Context-related online guidance

#### 1 - General Information



Section 1 provides basic data on the proposal. It can be filled in by contacts of the coordinator. Other participants may view this section only. Read-only parts are marked in blue.



#### abstract



The abstract should provide the reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of the proposal, how they will be acheived, and their relevance to the Work Programme. This summary will be used as the short description of the proposal in the evaluation process and in communications to the programme management committees and other interested parties. It must therefore be short and precise and should not contain confidential information.

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> Project technical review

Final reportDissemination of results

Audits & certifications

Amendments

Working as an expert

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

#### Participant Portal H2020 Online Manual

#### 🚘 H2020 Online Manual Your user account & roles Tour user account & roles > Login with ECAS > Roles & access rights Grants Grants Applying for funding Applying for funding Find a call Find a call Find partners Register an organisation Submit a proposal > Horizon 2020 structure Evaluation & Grant signature > What you need to know about Horizon 2020 calls Evaluation of proposals Grant preparation Grant signature > Find partners or apply as Grant management Register an organisation > Registration of Reports Dissemination of results Amendments Audits & certifications LEAR appointment > Validation of organisation Working as an expert > Financial viability self-check Expert registration Contracting & payment Expert roles & tasks Data update > Submit a proposal From evaluation to grant Cross-cutting issues > Evaluation of proposals International cooperation Regional aspects Ethics Grant preparation > Grant signature SMEs Intellectual property Gender Grant management Reports Periodic report > Financial report FP7 Funding Guide Scientific report Deliverables > Patents & publications > Report on the final distribution of EU

**H2020 Online Manual** 



## **Annotated model grant agreement**

ARTICLE xx — COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES

#### xx.1 Form and means of communications

Communication under the Agreement (information, requests, submissions, formal notifications, etc), must:

- be made in writing and
- bear the number of the Agreement.

**Until the payment of the balance**, all communication must be made through the electronic exchange system and using the forms and templates provided there.

After the payment of the balance, formal notifications must be made in the form of registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt (in paper and by post).

• • • • •

#### Annotation:

By default, the communication between the consortium and the Commission/Agency is in electronic form via the Commission's electronic exchange system. As a rule, communication from and to the Commission/Agency passes via the Coordinator. In specified exceptional cases, direct communication between beneficiaries (non-coordinators) and the Commission is possible.

Derogating from the "electronic-only principle", formal notifications (as defined in this model grant agreement) after the final payment (payment of the balance) must be sent by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt.

...



### Some useful links

#### **The Participant Portal:**

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/home

#### **ECAS FAQ:**

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/help.html

#### **IAM** quick info guide:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/ShowDoc/Participant+Portal/portal content/webcasting/iam-changes quick-info.doc

#### **The Participant Portal FAQ:**

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/faq

#### The Participant Portal user manual:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/ShowDoc/Participant+Portal/portal content/help/participant portal usermanual.pdf