

Brokerage event

Green technologies, energy and
digitalisation for a sustainable future



Acute from Brussels. How things function.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Draško Veselinovič
President of the Board
Slovenian Business & Research Association, Brussels

15th February 2024

The event is organized in the framework of the project KR PAN - Strengthening Research Support and Activities for Progress in European Research Projects, co-financed by the Republic of Slovenia, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, and the European Union - NextGenerationEU.



UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI
University of Ljubljana



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND INNOVATION



THE RECOVERY
AND RESILIENCE
PLAN



Funded by
the European Union
NextGenerationEU

Our SBRA Structure

- Established in 1999 – this year Silver Anniversary;
- Five employees;
- Connects research, business and local communities in Slovenia with other European research, business and local communities and the EU institutions and other public and private bodies at the EU level;
- EU funding;
- High level events incl. conferences, promotion and collecting all useful info for our clients/members;
- Our clients are not only Slovenian entities since our presence, references and respect in Brussels date 25 years back in history

Core Activities

S B R A

Slovenian Business & Research Association

- **Informing** members on economic developments, with a renewed focus on EU projects, programs and funds. A weekly scan of news, relevant calls, events, publications, etc. – disseminated via **weekly e-news bulletin**. Additional, bimonthly news bulletin regarding the economy.
- **Partner Search** – besides informing members of relevant EU programs and projects, we actively strive to find and search for relevant partners and potential project consortia.
- **Training** – preparing workshops and study trips for its members
- **Networking** – Secretariat of Network of European Financial Institutions for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (**NEFI**), membership in **IGLO** (Informal Group of RTD Liaison Offices), **ERRIN** (European Regions Research and Innovation Network), **UnLiOn** (Universities Informal Liaison Offices Network), **Vanguard initiative** (regional network for promoting regional innovation ecosystems) and **ENDR** (Network of Defence Related Regions).
- **Promotional** events, publishing reports and organizing conferences. Publication **MOST** allows us to widely disseminate our members' achievements.



klad za inovacije bo podpiral
Septembra bodo zagnali enajst

UnLiON (Universities Informal Liaison Offices Network)

- [Ghent University](#)
- [KU Leuven](#)
- [Vrije Universiteit Brussel](#)
- [University of Zagreb](#)
- [European Office of Cyprus](#)
- [Aalborg University](#)
- [Central Denmark EU Office](#)
- [Greater Copenhagen EU Office](#)
- [Helsinki EU Office](#)
- [LUT University](#)
- [University of Eastern Finland](#)
- [University of Helsinki](#)
- [Aix-Marseille University](#)
- [École Polytechnique](#)
- [Université de Lorraine](#)
- [Bavarian Research Alliance \(BayFOR\)](#)
- [Berlin University Alliance](#)
- [Technical University of Munich](#)
- [Kansai University](#)
- [Kobe University](#)
- [Waseda University](#)
- [Maastricht University](#)
- [Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam](#)
- [Universities of Applied Sciences Netherlands](#)
- [Norwegian University of Science and Technology \(NTNU\)](#)
- [University of Bergen](#)
- [Pomorskie Regional EU Office](#)
- [Slovenian Business and Research Association](#)
- [Boğaziçi University](#)
- [Alliance 4-Universities](#)
- [Galician Enterprise-University Foundation \(FEUGA\)](#)
- [University of Extremadura](#)
- [University Rey Juan Carlos – University of Alcalá](#)
- [Lärosäten Syd \(Universities in South Sweden\)](#)
- [North Sweden European Office](#)
- [Stockholm Trio](#)
- [Uppsala University](#)
- [Bristol & Bath Brussels Office](#)
- [Coventry University](#)
- [University of Kent](#)
- [Welsh Higher Education Brussels](#)
- [West Midlands Europe Hub](#)
- [University of Münster](#)
- [Eötvös Loránd University \(ELTE\)](#)
- [Free University of Bozen-Bolzano](#)
- [Politecnico di Torino](#)
- [Tour4EU](#)
- [University of Bari Aldo Moro](#)
- [Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore](#)
- [University Suor Orsola Benincasa](#)
- [University of Turin](#)

Organisation of numerous high-level events



SBRA itself involved in various EU Projects: including CIMULACT & HIGHER

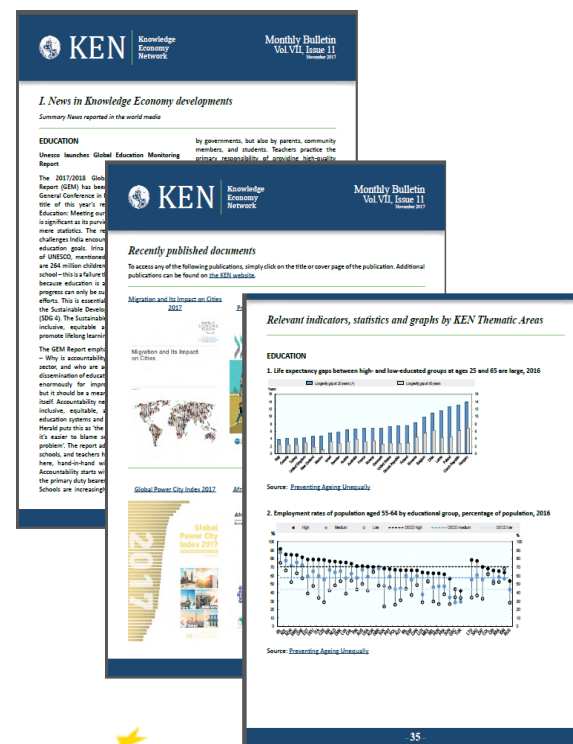
- **CIMULACT: Citizen and Multi-Actor Consultation on Horizon 2020**



- **HIGHER: Better Policy Instruments for High Innovation Projects in the European Regions**
- Previous EU Projects include: WBC-INCO.NET, BIOENERGIS, E-BUSINESS FOR CRAFT, BIS-RTD, REGIONS4RESEARCH, TASBOR, Great IST, SYCP, etc.

SBRA acts in Brussels as the Secretariat of global **KEN** and European development banks' association **NEFI**

- **KEN** - Knowledge Economy Network (aisbl, completely separate from SBRA). Established in 2011, successor of EREF (European Regional Economic Forum).
- 51 members from 14 countries (completely different members compared to SBRA) – i.e. the Mexican National Council of Science and Technology
- Organized conferences and workshops in Europe, but also in South Africa, Canada, Turkey.
- Information services in form of weekly briefs and monthly bulletin (not just coordination of network, but also provide content)
- **NEFI** – Network of European Financial Institutions for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises. Established in 1999.
- 21 financial institutions, follows information of financial, political and legal developments and measures adopted by the European Institutions in the fields of European economic and financial policies – with focus on SMEs' access to finance



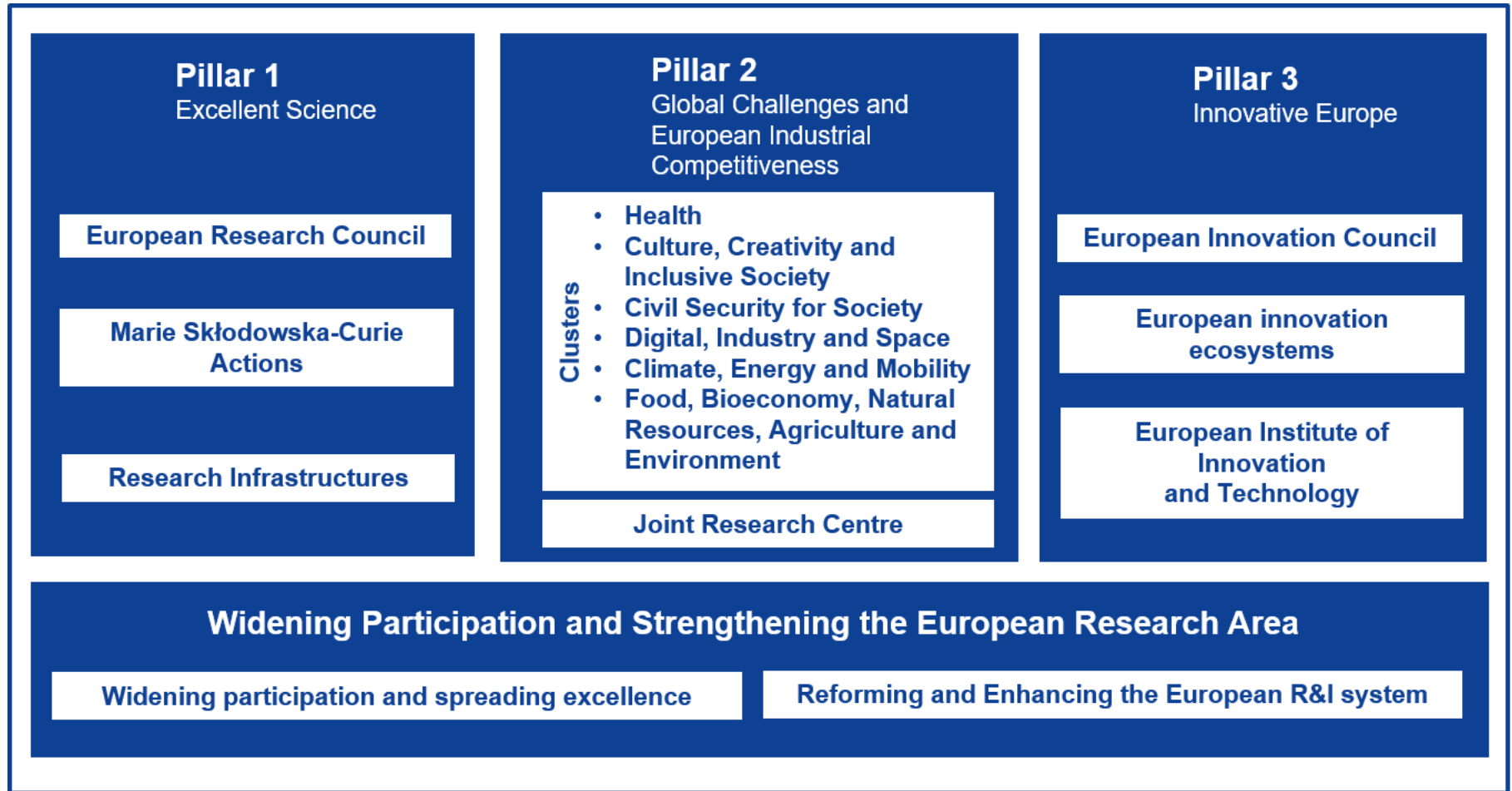
Why is it important to be present in Brussels

- 70% of all national legislation is decided in Brussels
- Horizon Europe is centralised funding worth 95,5 bn EUR for the period 2021-2027
- For the EU Twins (Green Deal and Digitalisation) really a lot of money available
- About 12.000 different representations in Brussels with more than 50.000 employees

Getting the EU funding for R&I activities is a gradual process that requires:

- Early access to working programmes and information on calls for proposals
- Constant communication with EU institutions
- Regular promotion of R&I activities on EU level
- Networking and matchmaking activities for building project proposals
- Membership and constant presence in different R&I partnership that co-decide EU funding programmes and research policies
- Personal contacts and cooperation with other representatives
- Having someone in Brussels helping you with all of these activities above

Structure of the **Horizon Europe**



- [Cluster 1: Health](#)
- [Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society](#)
- [Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society](#)
- [Cluster 4: Digital, Industry & Space](#)
- [Cluster 5: Climate, Energy & Mobility](#)
- [Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment](#)
- [Missions](#)
- [European Innovation Council](#)
- [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)
- [Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area](#)
- [Research Infrastructures](#) [European](#)
- [Innovation Ecosystems](#)
- [European Research Council](#)



Green Deal Call Thematic and Horizontal Areas & Timeline

MAIN PART OF THE CALL FOCUSING ON INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Area 1:
Increasing
Climate
Ambition:
Cross
sectoral
challenges

Area 2:
Clean,
affordable
and secure
energy

Area 3:
Industry for
a clean and
circular
economy

Area 4:
Energy and
resource
efficient
buildings

Area 5:
Sustainable
and smart
mobility

Area 6:
Farm to
Fork

Area 7:
Ecosystems
and
Biodiversity

Area 8:
Zero-
pollution,
toxic free
environment

Area 9: Strengthening our knowledge in support of the European Green Deal

Area 10: Empowering citizens for the transition towards a climate neutral, sustainable Europe

Area 11: International cooperation (tbc)

**Adaptation to climate
change, including societal
transformation**



Cancer

**5 mission
areas**



**Healthy
oceans,
seas, coastal
and inland
waters**



**Climate-neutral
and smart cities**



**Soil health
and food**

The European Innovation Fund, possibly the world's largest funding programmes for demonstration of innovative low-carbon technologies

Previously known as NER400, this new instrument replaces the old NER300. More than a programme, it is a fund entirely managed by the EC, financed through the EU's own resources, collected via the Emission Trading Scheme (ETS). The Innovation Fund will focus on highly innovative technologies and big flagship projects with European added value that can bring on significant emission reductions. The Fund's budget is estimated at potentially €40bn for the period 2020-2030, depending on how much the ton of CO₂ will be valued.

LIFE, the programme for Environment and Climate Action

Do you remember the Rio Earth Summit, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held for the first time in 1992? Well, the LIFE programme was launched the same year. The programme provides direct grants to beneficiaries to share best practices, test technologies and speed up the implementation of relevant EU legislation and policies. The programme focuses on EU Environment and climate policies. Priorities are tightly linked with the ongoing political priorities, for 2021-2027 these are: **Nature and Biodiversity; Circular Economy and Quality of Life; Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Clean Energy Transition**, the latter being the main novelty of the new LIFE programme.

In fact, we can expect some Coordination and Support Actions in the area of renewable energy or energy efficiency dealt within Horizon 2020, or before that in the Intelligent Energy Europe programme (it disappeared at the end of 2013), to be moved to LIFE. LIFE traditionally provides support between 55% to 60% of eligible costs. One important condition to make this transfer of programme possible is the increase of LIFE's funding rate for projects whose costs are usually financed at 100%.

The budget proposed for LIFE is €5.45bn, compared to the €3.5bn allocated in 2014-2020. Although this programme remains limited in size, this represents a significant increase and sends a clear signal in line with the **Green Deal** priorities.

Thank you!

Slovenian Business & Research Association

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