

# Horizon Europe Stakeholder Workshop

- The way forward together with the new NCPs -

**Date: June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Venue: [GIZ Rooftop](#), Tirana**

## Background

The event gathers representatives from higher education institutions as beneficiaries of the Horizon Europe programme and newly selected National Contact Points under Horizon Europe. The objective of the event is to develop a common understanding of participation in the HE programme by sharing perspectives and best practices. The findings from the workshop will provide recommendations to support and enhance Albanian institutions' participation in Horizon Europe. The recommendations will outline the further actions by the EU4Innovation and NASRI to help institutions overcome existing barriers to further benefit from the HE programme.

## Agenda

**09:00 - 09:30**      **Registration**

**09:30 - 10:00**      **Opening Remarks**

*Moderator: Elona Xhaferri, Advisor for Horizon Europe, EU4Innovation*

- Mr. Michael Oos - Project Manager, EU4Innovation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
- Ms. Ana Kapaj - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES)
- Ms. Mirela Muça - General Director, National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation (NASRI)

**10:00 - 10:30**      **Presentation of the Study "The Research & Development Landscape in Albania - Perspectives of Higher Education Institutions to Participate in the Horizon Europe Programme"**

- Prof. Assoc. Dr Genci Alimehmeti, Faculty of Economy, University of Tirana
- Q&A Session
- The study can be accessed from the [EU4Innovation website](#)

**10:30 - 11:15**      **"Horizon Europe Programme"**

- Mr. Robert Dumi – Director, Directorate of International Programmes, National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation (20min)
- Ms. Elona Xhaferri, Advisor Horizon Europe, EU4Innovation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (20min)

**11:15 - 11:45 Coffee break****11:45 - 12:30 Break Out Sessions: "Shared Experiences and Perspectives"**

*Moderators: Elona Xhaferri, Advisor for Horizon Europe, EU4Innovation  
Genc Alimehmeti, Local Expert, EU4Innovation  
Klodjan Seferaj, Local Expert, EU4Innovation  
Franceska Korance, Local Expert, EU4Innovation*

The participants will be divided into 4 focus groups and engage in a discussion to address the following topics:

- Best practices, success stories, individual challenges and needs addressed by Horizon Europe beneficiaries.
- Role and current involvement of Albanian NCPs in offering support to HE beneficiaries and interested organizations.
- Recommendations on the support NCPs should provide to address beneficiaries' challenges and needs.
- Future joint initiatives of Horizon Europe beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders.

**12:30 - 13:00 Presentation of the Findings from Break Out Sessions**

- Elona Xhaferri, Advisor for Horizon Europe, EU4Innovation
- Genc Alimehmeti, Local Expert, EU4Innovation
- Klodjan Seferaj, Local Expert, EU4Innovation
- Franceska Korance, Local Expert, EU4Innovation

**13:00 - 14:30 Networking Lunch**