

## Topic: Horizon Europe

### Brief description and main aims:

Research funding from the European Union is allocated via a rolling seven year programme, which used to be known as the “Framework” programme. The last programme with this title was “Framework 7” and the one after, renamed Horizon 2020, will come to an end in 2020, with very few calls for projects still to be published. Horizon Europe will be the new programme, for which calls for projects are expected to start being published in 2021. This research funding has the overarching aim of securing Europe's global competitiveness, by helping to drive economic growth and create jobs. Research is seen to be an investment in our future and it is at the heart of the EU's blueprint for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and jobs. Horizon emphasises excellent science, industrial leadership and the need to tackle societal challenges. The goal is to ensure that Europe produces world-class science, removes barriers to innovation and makes it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation. Horizon Europe has a proposed budget of €100BN. However, this is unlikely to be finalised until after the UK leaves the European Union, as this event may well impact the amount that can be allocated.

### Why FIEC is dealing with this topic:

Horizon Europe funding will be allocated according to a number of partnerships, between the Commission and relevant stakeholders, which will be agreed in 2020. 48 partnerships have been proposed, but not all will be accepted. The relevant partnership proposed for construction, important for FIEC, its members and their companies is the one with the working title “People centric sustainable built environment” or BUILT4PEOPLE. In addition to work done during the summer and early autumn of 2019, to contribute to the European Commission's Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA), FIEC is a key player in the development of a proposal which will explain how the partnership will be structured and will outline the context, objectives and expected impacts of the BUILT4PEOPLE partnership as well as the expected deliverables. This document is crucial in terms of the decision making by Member States, who will select the successful partnerships based on their completed proposals. Therefore, the document has to be relevant to the needs of contractors in terms of the kinds of research programmes that will ultimately be agreed and the subsequent calls for projects, which will be aimed at universities and industry partners. If the proposal is not accepted, there will be no funding for construction research under Horizon Europe that is directly linked to the needs of contractors and the other relevant stakeholders in the value chain.

### Actions and key dates:

- 14/10/2019** – Stakeholder meeting with European Commission, to discuss template for partnership proposal and agree process and deadlines
- 4/11/2019** – First draft document for comments from stakeholders
- 15/11/2018** – Second draft document for comments from stakeholders
- End November 2019** – Deadline for completed document
- 12/12/2019** – Stakeholder meeting with European Commission to agree partnership proposal
- Q1 2020** – Further consultation, e.g. with members of participating stakeholder organisations

