



# The NCP Wallonie in few words





# Agenda

- ▶ Our Team
- ▶ Our mission and services
- ▶ The Consortium Agreement
- ▶ The DESCAs model





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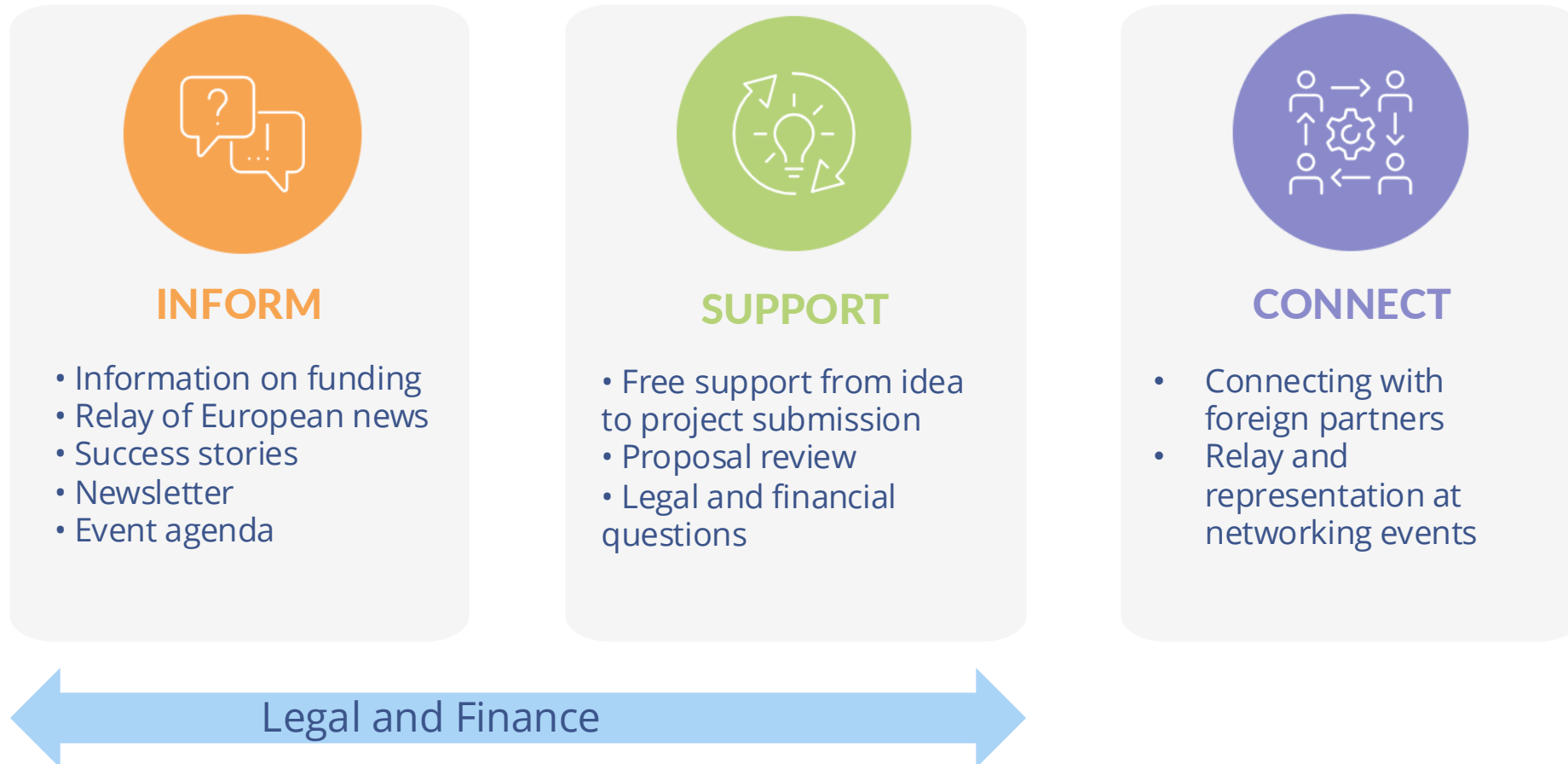
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# NCP Wallonie : mission and services

Maximizing the participation of companies (and SMEs), universities, and research centers from Wallonia in European research and innovation programs





# NCP Wallonie's mission



## INFORM

- Information on funding
- Relay of European news
- Success stories
- Newsletter
- Event agenda

- ▶ Disseminate general and specific information about Horizon Europe, including participation conditions, proposal submission opportunities and conditions, the funding opportunities offered by the pillars of the program, as well as missions or partnerships.
- ▶ Organize information and promotional activities – in coordination with the Commission services, if necessary – such as information days, seminars, conferences, newsletters, website updates, networking events, etc.





# NCP Wallonie's mission



## SUPPORT

- Free support from idea to project submission
- Proposal review
- Legal and financial questions

- ▶ Support and assist researchers and organizations, especially new players and SMEs, in order to increase and enhance the Walloon participation in Horizon Europe.
- ▶ Assistance with registration on the Funding and Tender platform (PIC), help with assigning roles (LEAR, LSIGN, FSIGN...), SME self-assessment (how to proceed, documents to provide...)
- ▶ Help to understand a call; important documents (EU priorities, the Commission's strategic plan on the topic...), flagship initiatives...
- ▶ Pre-award and post-award support: selection of appropriate funding, project review, assistance with electronic project submission, Consortium Agreement (preparation, analysis, and validation); interim, final technical and financial reportings, etc





# NCP Wallonie's mission



## CONNECT

- Connecting with foreign partners
- Relay and representation at networking events

- ▶ Partner search, particularly using the Commission's databases, the NCP network in Europe, cooperation networks, and partnership services such as EEN
- ▶ Organization and participation in networking events (supporting or presenting actors of the Walloon ecosystem).



# FP Horizon Europe

## HORIZON EUROPE



\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

**+ Missions.**

**+ Partnerships :** EuroHPC, Circular bio-based Europe, Clean Aviation, Clean Hydrogen, Europe's Rail, Innovative Health Initiative, Key Digital Technologies.



# Other programmes



Digital Europe Programme



EUROPEAN UNION  
**EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND**



 **M-ERA.NET**

 **eureka**  
innovation beyond borders

  
**eurostars™**

Voir : <https://recherche.wallonie.be/home/nos-aides-1/minscrire-dans-une-demarche-internationale-international.html>



# The consortium agreement in Horizon Europe

# Consortium agreement ?

## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe

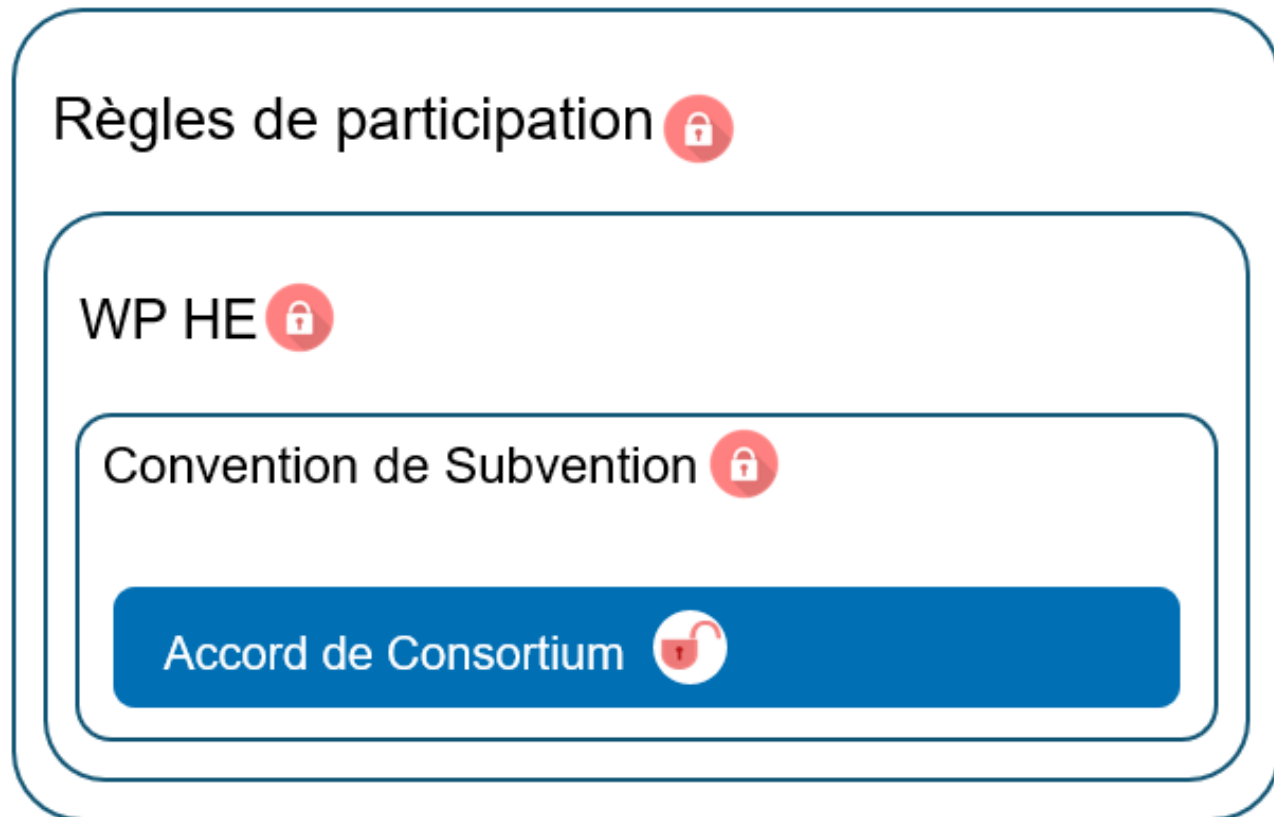


- ▶ A **Consortium Agreement** is a legal contract signed between the various partners of a collaborative research and innovation project funded by Horizon Europe. It defines the rights and obligations of each partner, as well as how the project will be managed.
- ▶ The conclusion of a **Consortium Agreement** is mandatory for all Horizon Europe collaborative projects involving at least three partners from three different member states or associated countries to the Horizon Europe framework program.



# The consortium agreement within the contractual structure of a Horizon Europe project

The positioning of the consortium agreement within the contractual structure of Horizon Europe can be represented as follows:



## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe



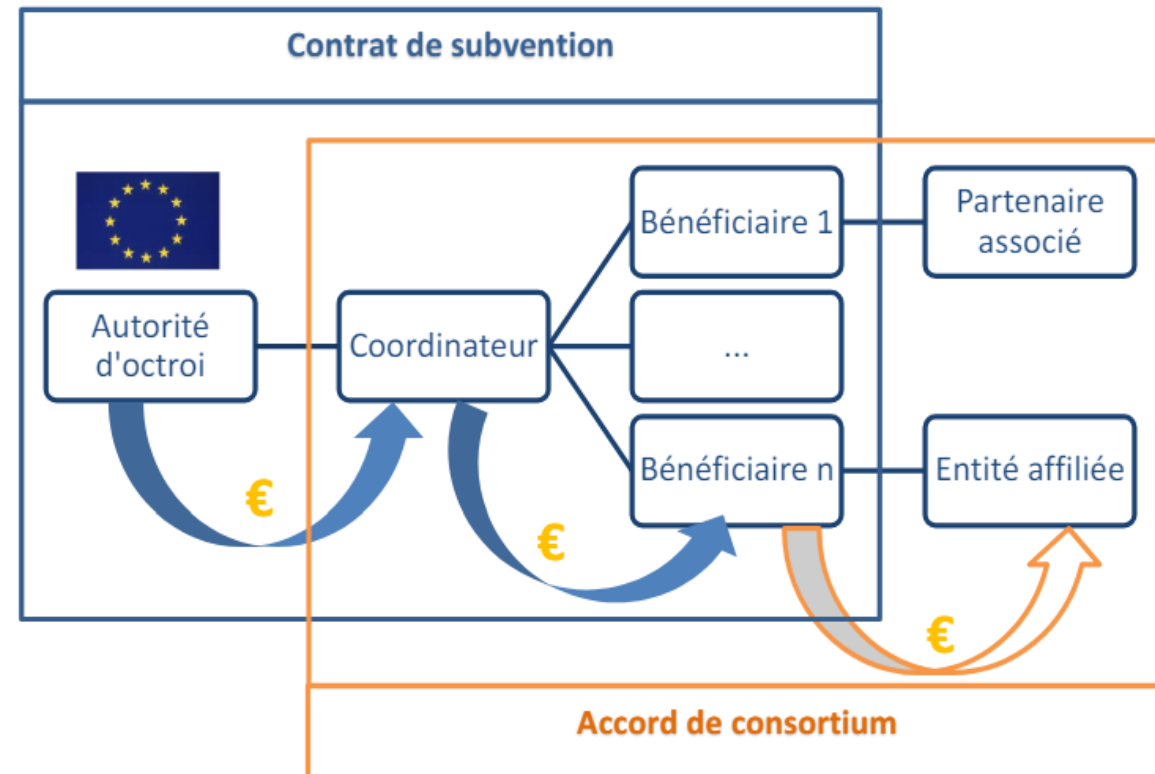
# The consortium agreement within the contractual structure of a Horizon Europe project

The positioning of the consortium agreement within the contractual structure of a Horizon Europe project can be represented as follows:

## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe



Organisation contractuelle d'un projet Horizon Europe



# What is the purpose of a consortium agreement and what must it contain?

## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe

- ▶ A **Consortium Agreement** serves primarily two objectives:
  1. **Define the rights and obligations of each consortium partner**  
The agreement outlines the responsibilities of each partner regarding the project. This includes:
    - The expected contribution of each partner (financial, technical, human resources, etc.)
    - The specific roles and tasks of each partner in the project's execution
    - The decision-making process within the consortium (majority vote, unanimity, etc.)
    - The distribution of anticipated benefits and project results (intellectual property, publications, etc.)



# What is the purpose of a consortium agreement and what must it contain?

## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe



### 2. Establish the framework for managing the collaborative project

The agreement defines the operational rules of the consortium and clarifies how the project will be managed. This includes:

- The governance structure of the consortium (steering committee, project manager, ethics committee, scientific committee, etc.)
- Procedures for meetings, communication, and reporting between partners
- Management of the project's budget and finances
- Resolution of potential conflicts between partners
- Procedures for modifying the consortium agreement if needed

► In summary, the **Consortium Agreement** is the cornerstone of any Horizon Europe collaborative project. It ensures transparency, effective collaboration, and protects the interests of all partners involved in the project.



# Points to bear in mind when joining a consortium

## ▶ 1. Partners

- ▶ **Skills and expertise:** Ensure that each partner has the necessary skills and expertise to contribute effectively to the project.
- ▶ **Complementarity:** Look for partners whose skills and expertise complement each other.
- ▶ **Trust and collaboration:** Choose partners with whom you have a trusted relationship and who are willing to collaborate effectively.

## ▶ 2. Defining the project's objectives and scope

- ▶ **Clear and measurable objectives:** The objectives of the project must be clear, concise, and measurable..
- ▶ **Well-defined scope:** The scope of the project should be clearly defined to avoid misunderstandings.
- ▶ **Specific deliverables:** Define specific and measurable deliverables to be produced during the project.

## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe





# Points to bear in mind when joining a consortium

## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe



### ▶ 3. Distribution of tasks and responsibilities

- ▶ **Fair distribution of tasks:** Distribute tasks and responsibilities fairly between partners, taking into account their skills and expertise.
- ▶ **Clear responsibilities:** Clearly define each partner's responsibilities for each task.
- ▶ **Coordination mechanisms:** Set up effective coordination mechanisms to ensure that partners work together coherently.

### ▶ 4. Budget and finances

- ▶ **Detailed budget:** Draw up a detailed budget outlining each partner's costs and sources of funding.
- ▶ **Clear financial management procedures:** Set up clear procedures for managing the project's finances, including payment and reporting procedures.



# Points to bear in mind when joining a consortium

## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe



### ▶ 5. Intellectual property and confidentiality

- ▶ **Defining intellectual property:** Clearly define the ownership of intellectual property created during the project.
- ▶ **Sharing results:** Define how project results will be shared with partners and third parties.
- ▶ **Protecting intellectual property:** Implement appropriate measures to protect intellectual property.
- ▶ **Confidentiality:** Protect sensitive project information.

### ▶ 6. Dispute resolution

- ▶ **Dispute resolution mechanisms:** Put in place effective dispute resolution mechanisms to quickly and fairly resolve any disputes that may arise between partners.
- ▶ **Applicable law:** Define the law applicable to the consortium agreement.
- ▶ **Dispute resolution forum:** Define the dispute resolution forum in the event of a dispute.



# Points to bear in mind when setting up of a consortium

## The Consortium agreement in Horizon Europe



### ▶ 7. Communication and risk management

- ▶ **Regular communication:** Check that regular communication procedures between partners are in place.
- ▶ **Risk management:** Identify potential risks to the project and put in place mitigation plans.
- ▶ **Amendment procedures:** Define clear procedures for amending the consortium agreement.

### ▶ 8. Compliance with Horizon Europe program requirements

- ▶ Ensure that the consortium agreement complies with all Horizon Europe program requirements.
- ▶ Consult the Horizon Europe Participant's Guide for more information and the NCP Wallonie advisors.

By following these tips and taking care of all the legal and practical aspects, you can ensure that your Horizon Europe consortium agreement is solid and will contribute to the success of your project.



# The DESCAs model

- ▶ The DESCAs (**Development of a Simplified Consortium Agreement**) template is a valuable tool for drafting your Horizon Europe consortium agreement.

It offers a number of advantages, including :

- ▶ **Simplicity and clarity:** The DESCAs template is written in clear, concise language that is easy to understand for all consortium partners, even those without in-depth legal knowledge.
- ▶ **Completeness:** The DESCAs model covers all essential aspects of a consortium agreement, including partners' rights and obligations, project management, intellectual property, dispute resolution and compliance with Horizon Europe program requirements.
- ▶ **Adaptability:** The DESCAs model can be easily adapted to the specific needs of your project by adding or deleting clauses.

## The DESCAs model



# The DESCA model

- ▶ **Saving time and money:** Using the DESCA model can save you time and money by avoiding the need to draw up a consortium agreement from scratch.
- ▶ **Recognition by the European Commission:** The DESCA model is recognized by the European Commission. Its use can facilitate the evaluation process of your project proposal.
- ▶ **Collective expertise:** The DESCA model was developed by a group of experts in contract law and collaborative project management. It therefore benefits from the collective expertise of these professionals.

In addition to these benefits, using the DESCA model can also help to:

- ▶ Improve communication and collaboration between consortium partners
- ▶ Reduce the risk of disputes between partners
- ▶ Protect the interests of all partners

## The DESCA model





# Who can help you ?



[www.ncpwallonie.be](http://www.ncpwallonie.be)



[www.reseaulieu.be](http://www.reseaulieu.be)

Cellules Europe

Ask help from your own university



[https://intellectual-property-helpdesk.ec.europa.eu/regional-helpdesks/european-ip-helpdesk\\_en](https://intellectual-property-helpdesk.ec.europa.eu/regional-helpdesks/european-ip-helpdesk_en)



# Merci pour votre attention

Retrouvez-nous sur [ncpwallonie.be](http://ncpwallonie.be)

