

Our Horizon Europe Path: Lessons Learned

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Table 42. Net EU contribution to Research and Innovation through the Horizon framework programmes to the Eastern Partnership and Baltic States (as of February 2025)

	Net EU Contribution (Million Euros)	Per capita (Euros)
Eastern Partnership Countries		
Armenia		
Azerbaijan		
Georgia		
Moldova		
Ukraine		
Baltic States		
Estonia		
Latvia		
Lithuania		

Sources: Compiled by the AUA Acopian Centre for the Environment from a) EU Horizon Dashboard accessed on February 25, 2025 and b) World Bank, country population data for 2023, accessed February 25, 2025.

Table 42. Net EU contribution to Research and Innovation through the Horizon framework programmes to the Eastern Partnership and Baltic States (as of February 2025)

	Net EU Contribution (Million Euros)	Per capita (Euros)
Eastern Partnership Countries		
Armenia	15.79	5.28
Azerbaijan	2.73	0.27
Georgia	21.25	5.72
Moldova	19.46	7.92
Ukraine	146.50	3.88
Baltic States		
Estonia	682.20	497.85
Latvia	297.10	158.25
Lithuania	343.40	119.59

Sources: Compiled by the AUA Acopian Centre for the Environment from a) EU Horizon Dashboard accessed on February 25, 2025 and b) World Bank, country population data for 2023, accessed February 25, 2025.

Table 43. Top six research and innovation grantees funded by the EU Horizon framework programmes (as of February 2025)

Grant Recipient Organisation in Armenia	Net EU Contribution (Euros)
American University of Armenia	€3,903,249
L. A. Orbeli Institute of Physiology	€2,415,000
Institute of Informatics and Automation Problems	€1,236,186
Yerevan State Medical University after Mkhitar Heratsi	€930,144
Institute for Physical Research	€928,838
National Academy of Science of the Republic of Armenia	€910,764

Source: EU Horizon Dashboard accessed on February 25, 2025

AUA Acopian Center's Horizon Framework Programme Journey

1. Prior experience with European research and capacity building funding, which often require forming and working in consortia addressing complex challenges. Key were our work with Erasmus+ (MARUEEB, etc.), DG ECHO (ALTER), and Black Sea Interreg (BSEEP, WasteNet, PONTOS)
2. Respondrone – Drone support to first responders (DLR lead)
3. Peritia -- Trust, Science, and Policy (UCD lead)
4. Iliad – Digital twinning of marine environments (NetCompany-Intrasoft lead)
5. Otters – Citizen Science for water stewardship (**AUA Acopian Center** lead)
6. STREACS – Enhancing research capacity in Armenia for energy transition (**AUA Acopian Center** lead)
7. ETICA – AUA Center for Ethics in Public Affairs (AUA; Maria Baghramian will talk more)
8. CS-MACH1 -- Supporting citizen science to protect marine environments (CMCC Foundation)
9. For the September/October deadlines, we submitted 6 proposals to Horizon Europe calls (and we plan to apply to more in the coming months)

Key Lessons

Proposal phase

1. Read the Call carefully! It's often not about your narrow area of research. Your task is to make your area of research relevant to the Call.
2. When writing or reviewing your consortium members' contribution to the proposal, ask yourself, is this meeting the expectations of the Call?
3. Assess your consortium's capacity to deliver. The coordinator is key.
4. If it's your first proposal, I would suggest not taking the lead.
5. It's OK to use brokers, but select carefully. Look at their track record of success
6. It's OK to lose, sometime.

Key Lessons

Implementation phase

1. You have to do your tasks with excellence. You have to shine. This often means going over and above what is expected. All with excellence.
2. Build relationships with consortium partners and related project partners
3. Most likely your next project will come to you from one of these partners
4. Staff your participation adequately
5. Plan for post-project activities

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