



Grant Agreement Preparation

Overview: calendar, IT system and roles

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Horizon 2020 Grant Management Lifecycle

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GAP (Grant Agreement Preparation) is the starting piece



Fully electronic process

- Harmonized rules
- Uniform interpretation
- Standard processes

Principles

Single gateway: Funding and Tenders Portal

- **Deep integration** of IT tools and services in the Portal
- Uniform experience
- Common business processes

Electronic-only paperless process flows

- Digital sealing of documents
- Digital signature on all formal documents
- Single, common document repository
- Full traceability and audit trail ensured (who-what-when)
- Pre-defined business rules implemented in the IT suite ensure compliance



Time-bound process

Committed to make it simpler and quicker





A time-bound process

- Deadlines for submission are firm
- GA must be countersigned by FCH2 JU on 29/12/2020 latest



If you have not been granted an extension, and you fail to meet the established deadlines, preparation of your grant agreement may be terminated and your proposal rejected.

No-negotiation, your proposal is "project ready"



No negotiation does not mean "no control"

Your proposal is taken "as is"

- The Grant Agreement (GA) is prepared on the basis of the proposal selected for funding
- Proposals are evaluated on their merit and not on their potential

BUT this does not mean "no change at all"

- Changes to meet legal and/or financial requirements (additional instructions)
- Changes that are necessary:
 - Requirements resulting from ethics review
 - Due to removal of a participant (if agreed)
 - Correction of clerical errors and obvious inconsistencies
 - Recommendations in Evaluation Summary Report



GAP – the main process steps

From 7th August 2020 to 29th January 2021



When?	What?	Who?
7 Aug. 28 Sept.	 Invitation to grant preparation (evaluation results letter) Grant preparation (first iteration) Validation of participants (automatically triggered, sinultaneous process) Setting user roles Review by FCH2 JU services (feedback by 12 Oct.) 	CO and beneficiaries each beneficiary each beneficiary

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29 Dec.	 Signature of the GA (e-signature) Signature of the GA by the FCH2 JU services 	со
29 Jan.	 Payment of pre-financing Accession of beneficiaries (e-signature) 	each beneficiary

Electronic signature in the Grant Agreement Preparation (GAP)



Important signatures in GAP



IT system suite for grant management

Fully integrated in the Tenders and Funding Portal







IT system suite for grant management

Working on process task: inside the grant management tool













European Commission	Funding & tender opportunities Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)	Welcome Lionel BOILLOT
Manage my area	SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS 🔻 HOW TO PARTICIPATE 🔻 PROJECTS & RESULTS WORK AS AN EXPERT SUPPORT 👻	My roles
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	Personalised access to the IT tools	



I have no EU Login

What should I do?



 Go to Funding & tender opportunities portal and create one 	Create an accoun
European Commission Funding & tender opportunities Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)	Help for external users First name Last name
Funding & tender opportunities (the Single Electronic Data Interchange Area) is the entry point for participants and experts in funding programmes and tenders managed by the European Commission and other EU bodies.	E-mail Confirm e-mail
Find calls for proposals and tenders	E-mail language English (en)
Search calls for proposals and tenders by keywords, programmes	

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home



Personalised services

Access to personalised space is based one 3 elements

- Each user is supposed to have a unique EU Login account, which is the unique identifier for persons (linked to their professional email address).
- Each EU Login account is linked to one (or more) PIC(s), the unique identifier of the organisation.
- EU Login account is linked to all roles that the user has in projects and/or organisations.
 One user can have as many roles as necessary.





Roles - Nomenclature







Roles and access right – <u>ORGANISATION</u> data

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Organisation

Role	Read	Write	Assign/ Revoke AcAd role	Assign/ Revoke LSIGNs and FSIGNs
LEAR	~	~	~	~
AcAd	~	~	x	~
LSIGN	~	X	×	X
FSIGN	~	x	×	×



Roles and access right – <u>PROJECT</u> data



Project

Role	Read	Write/ Save	Submit to Coordinator	Submit to EU service	SIGN GA	SIGN FS financial statement	Assign revoke access to project
CoCo	~	~	~	~	x	X	~
PaCo	~	~	~	x	x	x	~
TaMa	~	1	x	×	×	x	x
TeMe	~	×	x	x	x	X	x
PLSIGN	~	~	x	x	~	×	x
PFSIGN	~	~	x	x	x	~	x



Important remarks

- No FCH2 JU/REA services intervention in defining the roles (except for the LEAR and Primary Coordinator Contact)
- The **minimum configuration** of a consortium is:
 - ✓ The Primary Coordinator Contact
 - ✓ 1 Participant Contact per beneficiary
 - ✓ 1 LEAR per organisation
 - ✓ 1 Legal Signatory per organisation
 - ✓ 1 Financial Signatory per organisation



 One person (= 1 EU Login account) can have as many roles as necessary at the same time (e.g. the owner of a one-person SME can be PaCo, LEAR, PLSIGN and PFSIGN)





The nomination/revocation process

Who can appoint and revoke project roles?







The nomination process "original roles"



Some roles are automatically provisioned in the early stages of the Project ("original roles") as follows:



The proposal initiator in the proposal submission phase will automatically be recognised by the Commission as the Primary Coordinator Contact.



 The "Main Contacts" of the participating organisations identified during proposal submission will become Participant Contacts at the beginning of the grant preparation.



The LEAR is validated by the Commission during the validation process of his/her organisation.



Roles – Right management - principles

Chain of trust



- **LEAR** is formally nominated by the legal representative of the organization
- LEAR appoints on the funding & tender opportunity portal a list of persons authorised to sign legal documents (LSIGN) and financial statements (FSIGN)
- Only these persons get access to sign relevant documents on the funding & tender opportunity portal after Project contacts (PaCos and CoCos) have appointed them to a given project (becoming PLSIGN and PFSIGN)
- "Sign and submit" triggers creation of digitally signed pdf documents
- All persons that need to know about signature are notified and have access to the signed documents
- Full audit trail of all electronic transactions



Who is my LEAR – in 4 steps?

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- 1. Funding & Tender opportunities Portal
- 2. Participant register
- 3. Search for your organisation
- 4. Use "Contact Organisation" function

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Documentation and Guidance

Where to find help?



Online Manual: online guide divided by business processes. Provides full information on the process & reference documents, and links to the relevant IT How To sections http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/index_en.htm

IT How To wiki: screens & step-by-step guidance on the tools, including videos https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/wikis/display/ECResearchGMS/IT+How+To

FAQ database – searchable by categories and keywords https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/fag H2020 ONLINE MANUAL online guide divided by business processes. Provides full information on the process, reference documents

(b) HOW TO screens & step-by-step guidance on the tools, including videos

FAQ database – searchable by categories and keywords



Documentation and Guidance

The nomination process for LEAR - documents



- LEAR appointment letter: <u>http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/lev/h2020-lear-applet_en.doc</u>
- LEAR role and tasks: <u>http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/lev/h2020-lear-roltas_en.doc</u>
- Terms and conditions of use of the electronic exchange system: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/lev/h2020-lev-terms-of-use_en.pdf
- Declaration of consent to the terms and conditions of use: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/lev/h2020-lev-declaration-consent_en.doc

