

RECOMMENDATIONS

Increase engagement of EU13 countries in the SET Plan and their participation to Horizon Europe Programme

1. LINK NATIONAL R&I PRIORITIES TO EUROPEAN ONES

EU13 should align their national priorities in terms of R&I with those at the EU level, enhancing also their participation in the SET Plan through selected Implementation Plans.



2. STRENGTHEN PARTICIPATION IN EU R&I NETWORKS

EU13 would benefit from being involved in R&I European communities and networks to bring their national priorities closer to the EU ones and, at the same time, to have a say over and contribute giving shape to the latter.



3. INCREASE NATIONAL R&I FUNDING AND ALIGN THEM WITH EU FUNDS

It is important that R&I funding adopt a long-term vision and align the national R&I funding with the European ones, identifying also complementarities and possible overlaps.



4. FOSTER STRONGER ACADEMIA-BUSINESS COOPERATION

EU13 should strengthen this connection, tracing a stronger link between universities and industry, accelerate uptake by industry and translate research into concrete business opportunities.



5. REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE BARRIERS AND IMPROVE APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Develop, modernise and enhance the administrative and management capacities of research institutions to allow for an efficient management of EU funded projects, but also better communication and coordination between faculties and departments.



6. ENHANCE THE ROLE AND ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS

The roles and activities of NCPs across Europe should be homogenised, so RTOs across EU have access to the same level of services (e.g. application guidelines for EU funded projects, Info days, Brokerage events etc.).



7. SUPPORT CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR EU GRANT APPLICATIONS

EU13 countries should take measures to improve the administrative expertise of institutions applying for Framework Programme grants by creating national bodies providing administrative assistance and guidance to applying institutions.



8. ENCOURAGE RTOS TO CULTIVATE A "PROJECT CULTURE"

RTOs should take decisive steps to cultivate a "project culture" within their institutions. EU13 countries should also focus on their competitive advantage and in the areas where they are strong compared to other countries.

