



**THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF FINLAND
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Horizon 2020, opportunities for the NSPA

Horizon 2020

- Budget ca. 72 billion euros (77 in current prices) for 2014-2020
- Main pillars:
 - Science
 - Industry
 - Societal Challenges
- Stronger innovation focus
- Simplified administration (?)



Association of non-EU Nordic countries

Article 7 - Association of third countries

- 1. Horizon 2020 shall be open to the association of:
 - ...
 - (b) **European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members**
- 2. Specific terms and conditions regarding the participation of associated countries in Horizon 2020, including the financial contribution ■ based on the GDP of the associated country, shall be determined by international agreements between the Union and the associated countries.
- **The terms and conditions regarding the association of the EFTA States that are party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA) shall be in accordance with the provisions of that Agreement.**



HORIZON 2020: SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 'SPREADING EXCELLENCE AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION

- €816 million for 2014-2020
- Main objectives:
 - **Teaming** of excellent research institutions and low performing RDI regions aiming at the creation of new (or significant upgrade of existing) centres of excellence in low performing RDI Member States and regions.
 - **Twinning** of research institutions aiming at significantly strengthening a defined field of research in an emerging institution through links with at least two internationally-leading institutions in a defined field.
 - Establishing '**ERA Chairs**' to attract outstanding academics to institutions with a clear potential for research excellence, in order to help these institutions fully unlock this potential and hereby create a level playing field for research and innovation in the ERA. Possible synergies with ERC activities should be explored.
 - A **Policy Support Facility** to improve the design, implementation and evaluation of national/regional research and innovation policies.
 - Supporting **access to international networks** for excellent researchers and innovators who lack sufficient involvement in European and international networks, including **COST**.
 - Strengthening the administrative and operational capacity of transnational networks of **National Contact Points**, including through training, so that they can provide better support to potential participants.

