

# Benefits of being a Horizon 2020 Expert/Evaluator



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

The community of practice of Welsh Horizon 2020 experts and evaluators have developed this informal guidance for the Horizon 2020 community in Wales to promote and demonstrate the benefits of being an evaluator.

## What is an expert/evaluator?

The European Commission appoints independent experts to assist with research and innovation assignments including the evaluation of proposals, monitoring of projects, evaluation of programmes and design of policy.

**Anyone can register as an expert** if they have a high level of expertise in the themes of the Horizon 2020 programme and can be available for occasional, short-term assignments. Evaluations usually consist of short sessions lasting around 10 days a year. These may be carried out remotely (i.e. at the evaluator's home or place of work) and/or in Brussels - or Luxembourg for some innovation actions.

As an expert/evaluator you are entitled to a fee of EUR 450 for each full day actually worked and the reimbursement of travel expenses (to and from the point of departure and to and from the place of meeting) as well as subsistence expenses.

You can register under your own initiative (see the [Expert area](#) in the Participant Portal). There is no need or advantage to being recommended by an organisation, although there will be benefits in making your organisation aware of your involvement.

## Benefits of being an expert/evaluator

- Gaining invaluable knowledge and experience on the Horizon 2020 evaluation process. You will learn a lot about bid writing – it will compliment any course you go on;
- Evaluators gain knowledge and confidence in knowing what a good proposal looks like, seeing a range of applications that you wouldn't otherwise see;
- It is a great opportunity to meet useful contacts, find potential partners, and learn from other Member States and regions;
- As an evaluator, you will have an input in to the European Commission and will have access to information and networks which can then be used for your own/your organisation's benefit;
- It is a great opportunity for specialists in their field and as early career researchers who want to learn more about research across the world as well as how competitive research funding works.

- Evaluators are in demand as collaboration partners because of the knowledge they have;
- Organisations/institutions with several evaluators see significant benefits as the exchange of experience and knowledge within the faculty leads to better quality bids and interactions with partners.
- It is a great opportunity to 'sell' Wales to the world.

Use this document as a starting point within your organisation to discuss the benefits of undertaking this role.

## Handy tips for evaluator applicants and registered existing and new evaluators

Anyone can apply to be an evaluator, public and private sector, individuals, and retirees. The European Commission ensures rotation of evaluators by making sure that 25% of Horizon 2020 evaluators have not been involved in assisting Horizon 2020/FP7 calls in the previous 3 years, as well as setting a maximum number of 120 working days for evaluators in the Horizon 2020 programme. The European Commission have lots of people to choose from, here are some tips to help to get selected as an evaluator:

- Make sure that your profile and CV on the Participant Portal is fully complete and you regularly update your information to date - only evaluators with a valid profile can be considered;
- The European Commission look for evaluators with experience in turning research results into products/services/investment/intellectual property, as well as. And those with experience of the science-policy connection.
- Geographical diversity and gender is considered when selecting evaluators, the European Commission like to have a 50/50 gender split on the panel;

For more information or to register as an expert go to the [Expert area](#) in the Participant Portal. Alternatively, get in touch with the community of practice of Welsh Horizon 2020 experts and evaluators at [horizon2020@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:horizon2020@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

## Further information

Mail to: [Horizon2020@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Horizon2020@wales.gsi.gov.uk)  
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