



EUROPEAN UNION

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2021 - 2027

THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME

# Impact in Horizon Europe

BE NCPs  
Training Session  
26 May 2025



NCP FLANDERS





# The EU Framework Programme and its impact logic

From policy ambition to successful application

*Sven Schade  
Common Policy Centre for Horizon  
Europe, DG RTD  
European Commission*

# HORIZON EUROPE

# EURATOM

## SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

*Exclusive focus on  
defence research  
& development*

Research  
actions

Development  
actions

## SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT\*

*Exclusive focus on civil applications*



### Pillar I EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures



### Pillar II GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre



### Pillar III INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation  
Council

European Innovation  
Ecosystems

European Institute of  
Innovation & Technology\*

## WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint  
Research  
Center

\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

# Horizon Europe legislation defines three types of impact tracked through Key Impact Pathways

1. Creating high-quality new knowledge
2. Strengthening human capital in R&I
3. Fostering diffusion of knowledge and Open Science

**Scientific  
Impact**



4. Addressing EU policy priorities & global challenges through R&I
5. Delivering benefits & impact via R&I missions
6. Strengthening the uptake of R&I in society

**Societal  
Impact**



7. Generating innovation-based growth
8. Creating more and better jobs
9. Leveraging investments in R&I

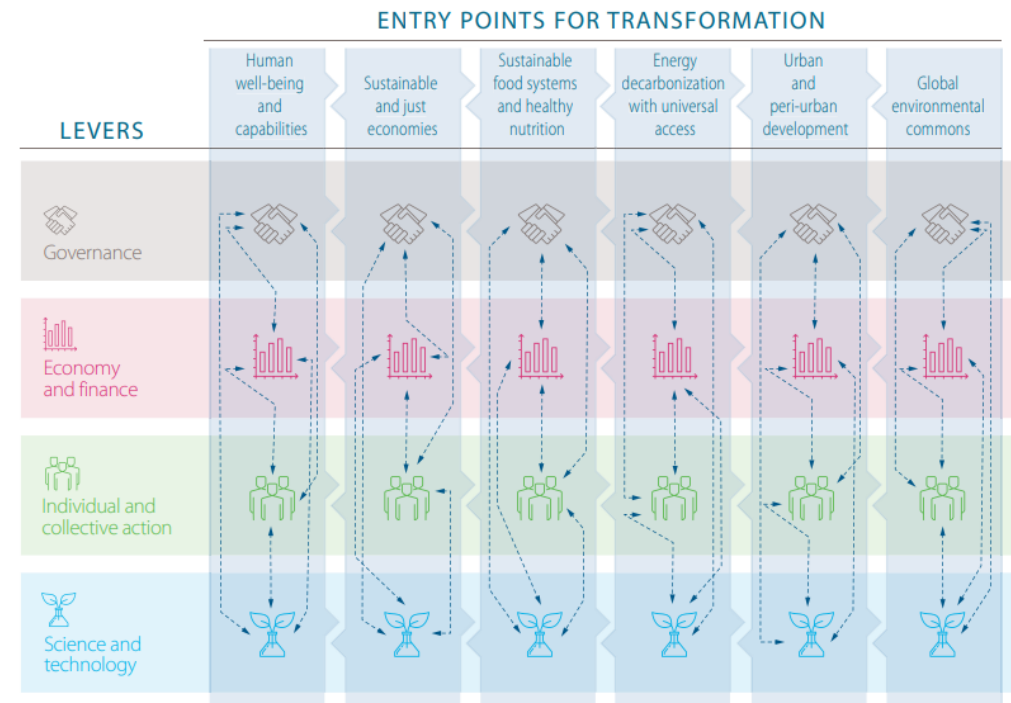
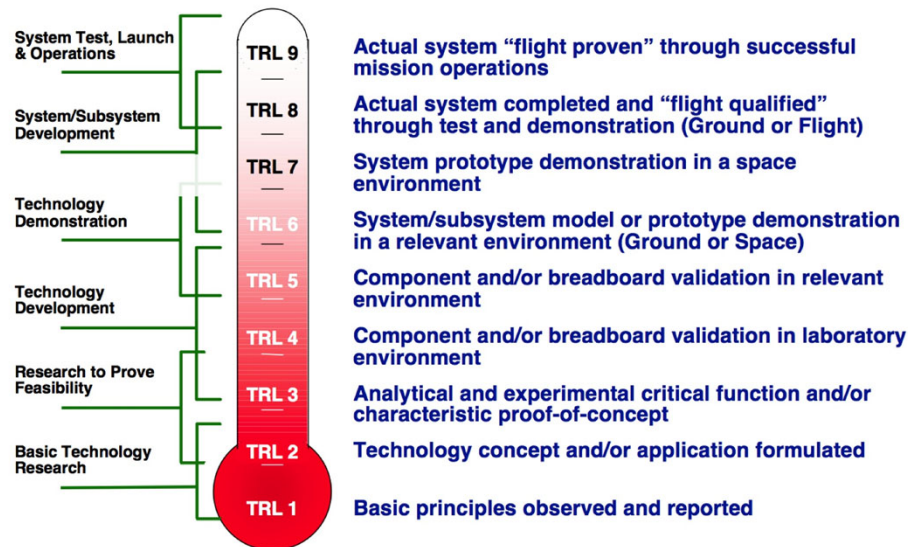
**Economic  
Impact**



# How do we imagine societal impact to realise ?



## NASA/DOD Technology Readiness Level



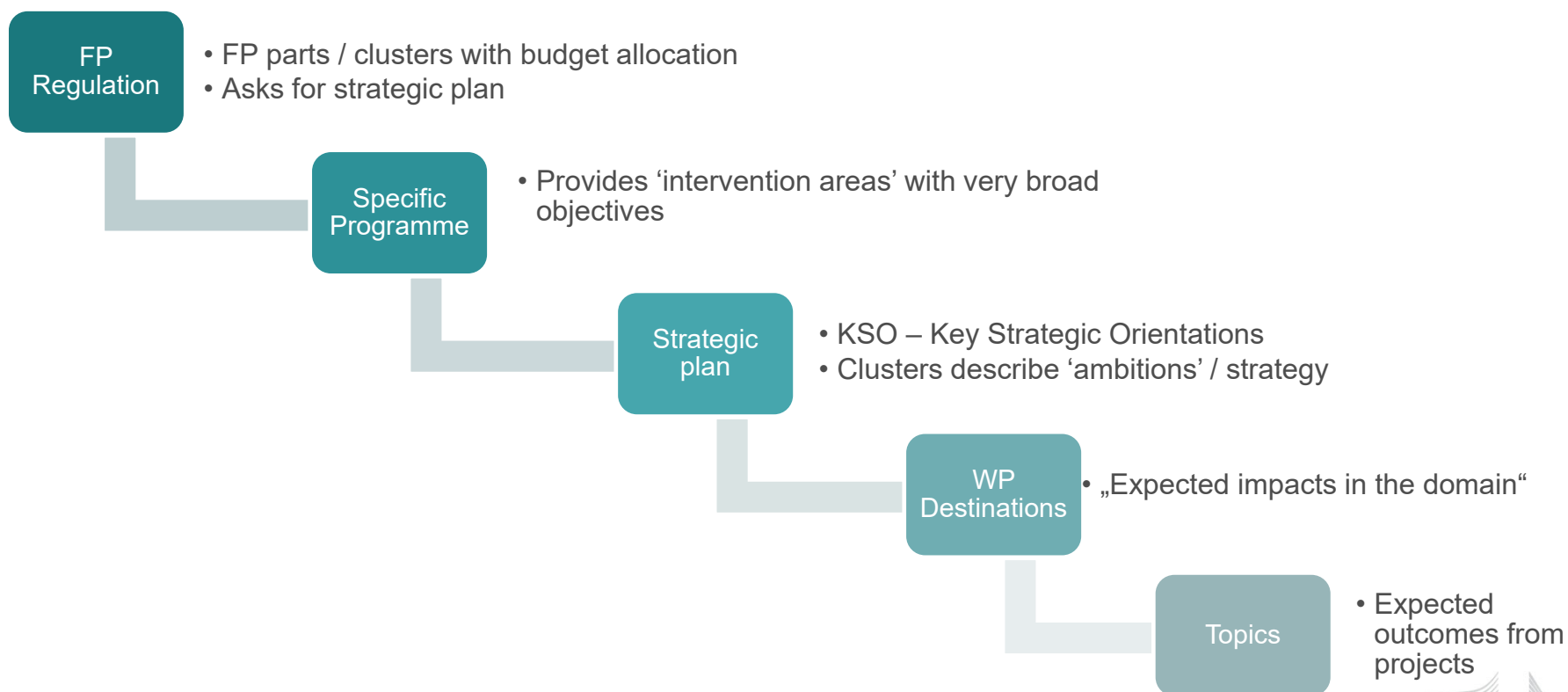
Source : The future is now – report to UNGA

[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/24797GSDR\\_report\\_2019.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/24797GSDR_report_2019.pdf)

*Societal transformative innovation processes do not follow the logic of TRLs and are not restricted to product / service innovation (-> economic impact): There are more stakeholders interacting, innovation in governance, by community action (civil society) etc.*

**-> How do we identify and formulate 'needs' and 'opportunities'?**

# The societal 'impact logic' from 'specific programme' to topic



## Some well formulated „Topic-Outcomes“

### For „Research and Innovation Action“

Policy-makers are provided with proposals for revised indoor air quality standards for the main determinants identified to support regulatory measures and improve regulatory monitoring.

### For „Innovation Action“

European security practitioners benefit from better, modern and validated tools and training curricula on the use of travel intelligence to prevent, detect and investigate terrorism and other forms of serious crime.



# Some hidden elements

## Prescriptiveness & bottom-up nature

- The outcome is derived from the expected impact as part of a larger portfolio of outcomes
- The **outcome statement does rarely define outputs or methods** to be used
- It is therefore **not prescriptive**
- Topics based on ‘stakeholder needs’ can hardly be ‘bottom-up’ – within the topic you find many opportunities for SSH

## Exploitation & dissemination

- The outcome statement mentions the stakeholder group that would benefit
- That is an invitation to include this group
- Breaks with traditional ‘dissemination and exploitation’ – i.e. first produce the output and look then (‘after the project’?) for its ‘usability’



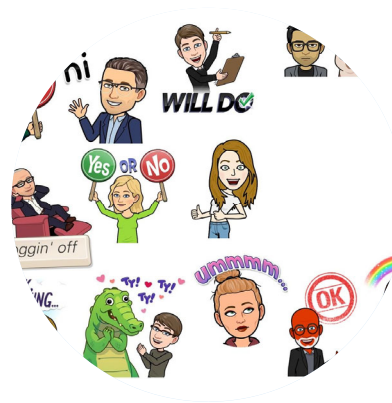
# Some challenges to reach 'impact'



**Unreached  
Stakeholder**



**Restricted roles  
of established  
Stakeholder**



**,Multi-level  
Governance' of  
societal  
transformation**



**European  
dimension in /  
from, local  
community  
innovation'**

# Thank you



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Slide xx: element concerned, source: e.g. Fotolia.com; Slide xx: element concerned, source: e.g. iStock.com



# Who are the National Contact Points (NCPs) who can help you ?

5 centralised NCP systems in Belgium providing free services



# National Contact Points

Supporting you all along your journey to Horizon Europe

## Your assigned NCPs

<https://ncpfederal.belspo.be>

[ncpfederalbe@belspo.be](mailto:ncpfederalbe@belspo.be)

<http://ncpbrussels.be>

[info@ncpbrussels.be](mailto:info@ncpbrussels.be)

<http://www.ncp.fnrs.be>

[ncp@frs-fnrs.be](mailto:ncp@frs-fnrs.be)

<https://www.ncpflanders.be>

[info@ncpflanders.be](mailto:info@ncpflanders.be)

<http://www.ncpwallonie.be>

[contact@ncpwallonie.be](mailto:contact@ncpwallonie.be)

A teal-colored map of Belgium is positioned on the left side of the slide. It shows the country's outline with internal regional boundaries. A scale bar in the bottom left corner indicates 30 km.

# National Contact Points

NCP Federal BE

Pascale Van Dinter

NCP Coordinator

<https://ncpfederal.belspo.be> [ncpfederalbe@belspo.be](mailto:ncpfederalbe@belspo.be)



# National Contact Points

NCP Brussels

Brussels-based stakeholders

Ji-Hyeon Kim Vanguers

NCP Coordinator

<http://ncpbrussels.be>

[info@ncpbrussels.be](mailto:info@ncpbrussels.be)



# National Contact Points

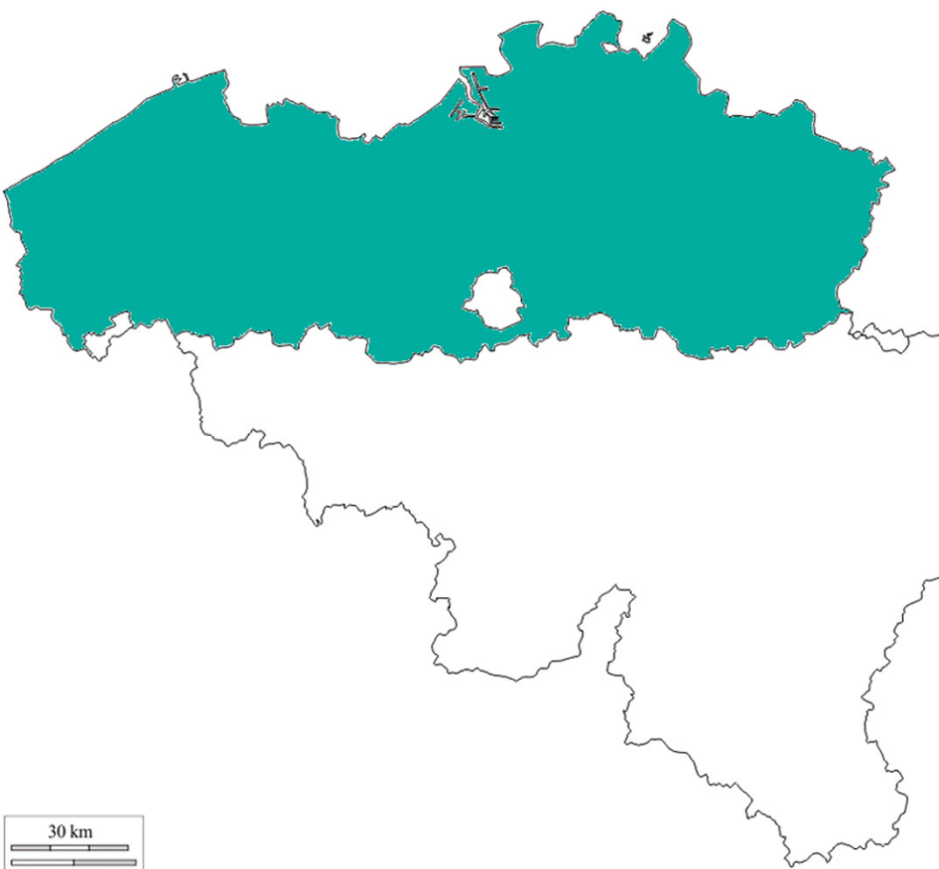
NCP FNRS      Higher education institutions from  
Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles

Natacha Wittorski

NCP Coordinator

<http://www.ncp.fnrs.be>

[ncp@frs-fnrs.be](mailto:ncp@frs-fnrs.be)



# National Contact Points

NCP Flanders

Flanders-based stakeholders

Ann Van Hauwaert

NCP Coordinator

<https://www.ncpflanders.be> [info@ncpflanders.be](mailto:info@ncpflanders.be)





# National Contact Points

NCP Wallonie

Wallonie stakeholders

Francisco Santana Ferra

NCP Coordinator

<http://www.ncpwallonie.be> [contact@ncpwallonie.be](mailto:contact@ncpwallonie.be)

30 km

**HORIZON  
EUROPE**



THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION  
PROGRAMME 2021 - 2027

**#HorizonEU**



**Your opinion matter to us!**  
**Help us improve our future events**




NCP FLANDERS






## Contact Us

 <https://ncpfederal.belspo.be>

 [ncpfederalbe@belspo.be](mailto:ncpfederalbe@belspo.be)

 <http://ncpbrussels.be>

 [info@ncpbrussels.be](mailto:info@ncpbrussels.be)

 <http://ncp.fnrs.be>

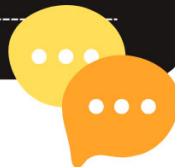
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 <http://ncpwallonie.be>

 [contact@ncpwallonie.be](mailto:contact@ncpwallonie.be)



# Thank You

for your  
participation