

Mandate of SDU Strategic Groups for Horizon 2020

Version 1; 18/11-2014

Background

Horizon 2020 is the European Commission’s funding programme for research and innovation. Horizon 2020 will run from 2014-2020 and consists of three distinct pillars:

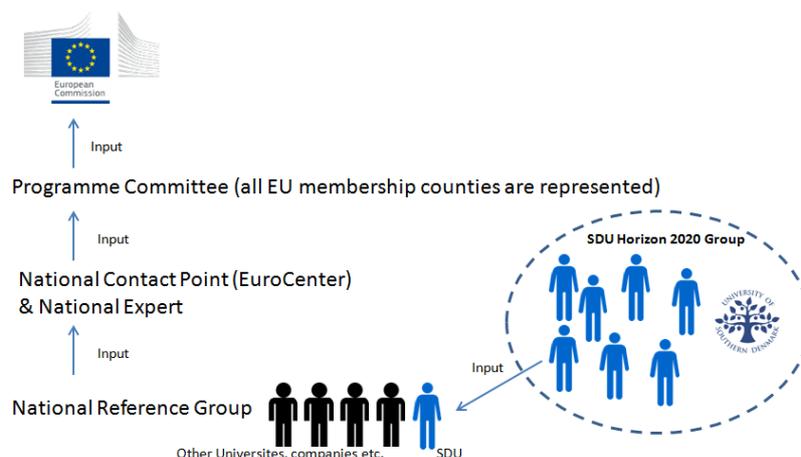
- **Pillar 1: Excellent Science** includes the European Research Council (ERC), Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), Future and Emerging Technologies (FET) and Research Infrastructures.
- **Pillar 2: Industrial Leadership** includes “Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies” (LEIT) (Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing (NMP) Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)), and Access to Risk Finance and Innovation in Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SME’s).
- **Pillar 3: Societal Challenges** includes 7 challenge-based themes (1. Health, demographic change and wellbeing; 2. Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy; 3. Secure, clean and efficient energy; 4. Smart, green and integrated transport; 5 Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials 6. Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies and; 7. Secure societies – Protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens)

More information [here](#)¹

The Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation (DASTI) (Styrelsen for Forskning og Innovation (FI)) has appointed national reference groups with experts advising on Danish priorities for Horizon 2020. University of Southern Denmark (SDU) is represented in all these reference groups with one member on a thematic area related to the structure of Horizon 2020.

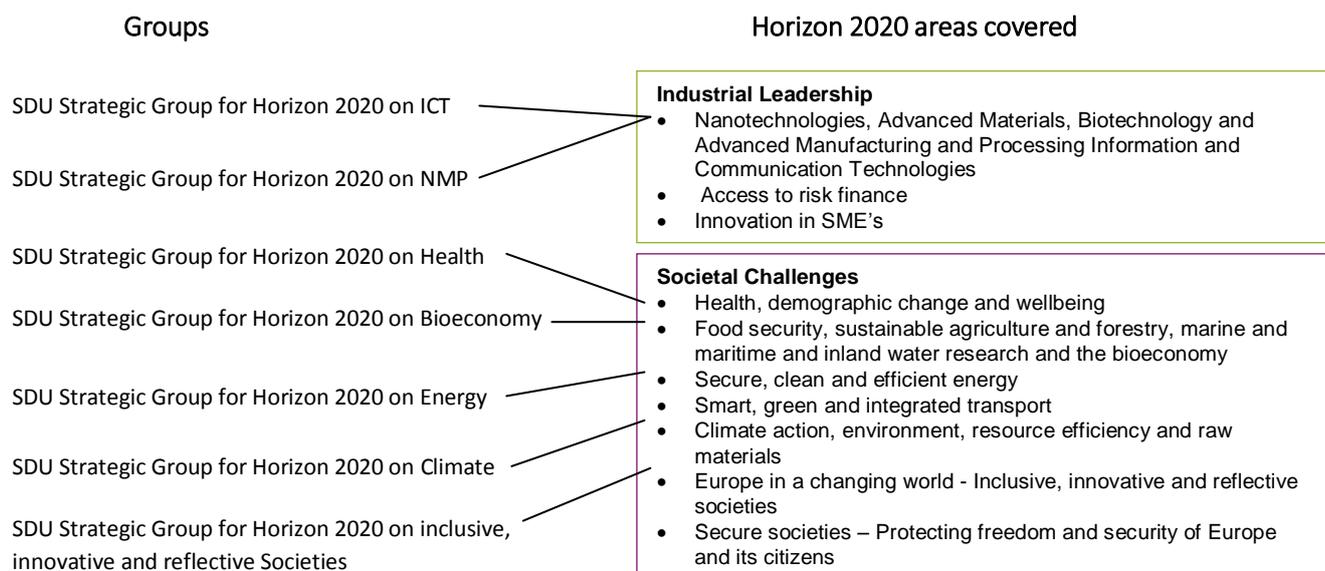
Structure of the Horizon 2020 Groups

The SDU Strategic Horizon 2020 Groups are each chaired by a SDU reference group member. The size of the groups is decided by the chair and the group members, but should in principal be open for interested members from all faculties. The structure is illustrated here:



¹ http://southdenmark.be/media/40300/Horizon-2020-QA_september-2014.pdf

Seven interdisciplinary groups have been established at SDU with the purpose of intensifying and increasing the influence on EU's research and innovation programmes. The groups will represent and promote the interest of the scientific community of SDU. The groups were established June 18th 2014 by SDU Grants Office and will run until the end of Horizon 2020. The groups will cover the areas of societal challenges (pillar 3) and leadership in industrial and emerging technologies (pillar 2):



A group on transportation has not yet been established due to low ministerial activity. New groups can be established at any time if there e.g. is a change in demand.

Objectives

The groups are free to organize as they please and take upon them the tasks they wish. However, a number of recommended objectives are:

- To influence the Work Programmes of Horizon 2020 by supporting SDU's members of the national reference groups and use other chances of influence that might arrive.
- To assist in spreading Horizon 2020 information throughout SDU.
- To enforce an inter-faculty knowledge of ongoing projects and pitching of research ideas.
- To discuss consortia building and funding opportunities.

Support and secretariat

The groups can meet as often as they please and will be assisted by research support staff from the reference group member's faculty. In case of strong need for support, the chair of the groups should discuss this with the support staff and possible relevant management at the SDU to make the necessary changes. The overall coordination and input to the groups will be run by the coordinator of the interdisciplinary EU-Team at SDU and the SDU Representative at South Denmark European Office in Brussels.

The core task for the research support staff will be to:

1. Help setting up the meetings (room booking, participation, sending out agenda, minutes etc.)
2. Assist in providing information and material for the meetings.

3. Follow the flow of information from the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation and assisting in 'translating' this to the chair of the group and the members.

The chair of the group decides the agenda for the meetings in consultation with the members of the group and the support staff.

Operational guidance

As stated earlier the groups can organise as they please but a meeting frequency of every quarter or every ½ year is recommended. If not everyone reads or speaks Danish the language in use is English. The Horizon 2020 groups may form subgroups when necessary if certain specific actions or coordination is needed. These subgroups may include other researchers from the academic environment of SDU. Preferably these subgroups should report back to the relevant Horizon 2020 group.

The members of the groups and the names of the reference group members will quarterly be updated on the website of the Research Support and linked to at South Denmark European Offices webpage.

Any questions can be directed to your local research support or the South Denmark European Office (contact [here](#)²)

² <http://www.sdu.dk/Forskning/Forskerstoette/kontakt>