

## EU-US Cooperation agreements

The United States of America (US) are a long-standing partner of the European Union (EU). For research and innovation, the cooperation between the EU and the US is governed by the "[Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation](#)" that was originally signed in 1998, renewed four times for 5 years each time, and is now valid until October 2018. In October 2016, an [Implementing Arrangement](#) has been published by both the European Commission and the Government of the United States of America, which simplifies cooperation between a selected EU-funded project and a US entity by enabling researchers to organise their cooperation outside the formal Grant Agreement signed for each project with the European Commission, in accordance with applicable laws, rules, policies, and regulations of their respective funding programmes in EU and US.

This fact sheet summarizes Internet of Things open opportunities in [Horizon 2020](#), the European research and innovation framework programme. It describes the research and innovation stakeholders' ecosystem existing around this priority area, and the funding priorities for Calls for Proposals in the future.

## European Strategic framework

According to a [recent European Commission study](#), the generating market value of the IoT in the EU is expected to exceed one trillion euros in 2020. The [Digital Single Market Directive \(DSM\)](#), adopted in May 2015, leads Europe a step further in accelerating developments on IoT. The DSM consolidates initiatives on security and [data protection](#), which are essential for the adoption of this technology, and promises to tackle interoperability and standardization under a new action under on the Data economy initiative. Technical requirements will be fostered and

enhanced, such as: i) a smaller, lighter, more power-efficient and cheaper hardware; ii) more intelligent sensors and actuators; iii) new platforms; vi) ubiquitous wireless connectivity; v) available data analytics tools.



In order to develop and support the dialogue and interaction among [the Internet of Things \(IoT\)](#) players in Europe, in March 2015 the European Commission initiated the creation of the [Alliance for Internet of Things Innovation \(AIOTI\)](#). The overall goal of AIOTI is the creation of a dynamic European ecosystem to unleash the potentials of the IoT. This ecosystem is going to build on the work of the [IoT Research Cluster \(IERC\)](#) and will spill over innovation across industries and business sectors of IoT transforming ideas into solutions and business models. The Alliance also assists the European Commission in the preparation of future IoT research, innovation, and standardisation policies through the activities implemented by four horizontal and nine vertical groups: IoT European Research Cluster; Innovation Ecosystems; IoT Standardisation; IoT Policy; Smart living environment for ageing well; Farming and Food Security; Wearables; Smart Cities; Smart Mobility; Water Management; Smart Manufacturing; Smart Energy; Smart Buildings and Architecture.

On April 19, 2016, a [staff working document on the Internet of Things](#) was published by the European Commission, accompanying the Communication "[Digitising European Industry - Reaping the full benefits of a Digital Single Market](#)", with specific provisions and measures to advancing the IoT in Europe.

The Alliance for Internet of Things Innovation converted to a European association based in Brussels on September 22, 2016.

## Funding opportunities under the Horizon 2020 Programme

The important investments on Internet of Things technologies that have already been taken at EU and Member States level anticipate the next big step towards the funding and implementation of large-scale pilots. In 2016, the European series of IoT large scale pilots, with a budget between 15M and 30M Euros each, in the following domains: Smart living environments for ageing well; Smart Farming and Food Security; Wearables for smart ecosystems; Reference zones in EU cities; Autonomous vehicles in a connected environment.

The [pilots](#), which started working in January 2017 and involve all value-chain actors, are delivering IoT practical solutions in terms of applicable technology and standards, privacy and security, business models as well as usability, acceptability and user validation. The pilots should also serve to deduce methodologies to assess privacy and security impacts of IoT. They will serve as up-scaling of open platforms like [FI-Ware](#), [CRYSTAL](#), [UniversAAL](#), by providing cascade funding to new suppliers located in Europe

### Calls for Proposals

The Calls for Proposals under Horizon 2020 Work Programme on Information and Communication Technologies will be launched by September 2017, within the adoption of the H2020 WP LEIT ICT 2018-20.

More information at: [link](#)

## US Participation Conditions

In most cases, US beneficiaries are not eligible to receive EC contributions and are required to cover the costs they will incur in during the project. In these cases, the European Commission has established standard (invariable) text provisions that may be included to facilitate arrangements. The Implementing Arrangement published in October 2016 also facilitates a more effective cooperation in such a case. If a grant applicant can convincingly demonstrate that without the participation of a US partner the objectives or impact of the proposal cannot be achieved, the EC can allow the US partner to access funding.

### US Participation in Horizon 2020

In the last three Horizon 2020 Calls for Proposals (2014-16), 15 participants of a total of 45 US applicants have been selected in 10 signed grant agreements under Information and Communication Technologies theme.

The ten European running projects mainly refer to Future Internet Experimentation; Smart Networks and novel Internet Architectures; Smart Cyber-Physical Systems; Internet of Things and Platforms for Connected Smart Objects; Technologies for Learning and Skills.

US academic expertise is primarily present, but American Small and Medium Enterprises are also collaborating with European stakeholders. Participants came mostly from California, New Jersey, and New York state.

## PICASSO Helpdesk



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