

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION EXPERT GROUPS

- ***MISSION BOARD FOR ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE INCLUDING SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION***
- ***MISSION BOARD FOR CANCER***
- ***MISSION BOARD FOR HEALTHY OCEANS, SEAS, COASTAL AND INLAND WATERS***
- ***MISSION BOARD FOR CLIMATE-NEUTRAL AND SMART CITIES***
- ***MISSION BOARD FOR SOIL HEALTH AND FOOD***

1. Background

Following the partial political agreement reached in April 2019 between the European Parliament and the Council on Horizon Europe, the 2021 – 2027 EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation,¹ the European Commission is now preparing for the implementation of this programme, pending agreement on its budget as part of the general agreement on the Union's multi-annual financing framework and adoption of this programme. The Commission has proposed a budget of around € 100 billion for Horizon Europe.

One of the main novelties of ‘Horizon Europe’² is the development and implementation of ambitious missions to maximise the impact of EU support to research and innovation and demonstrate its relevance for society and citizens.³

Missions in Horizon Europe will be high-ambition, high-profile initiatives with the aim to deliver a transformative impact for society, the economy, and/or environment, in relation to the challenges faced by European citizens. They will require identifying a well-defined end-point, fixed in time against which to measure success and the development of a systemic approach to meeting a challenge, combining new knowledge and technology with business model, finance, regulatory, governance, skills and social innovation.

Such missions will be defined and designed with the assistance of Commission expert groups ('the Mission Boards') consisting of a maximum of 15 independent high-level individuals with broad expertise.

The Commission is already now calling for applications with a view to selecting members for the five above-mentioned Mission Boards, which were established by the Commission’s Directorate-General for Research and Innovation ('DG RTD') within the

¹ Common understanding on the Framework Programme, <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7942-2019-INIT/en/pdf>
Corrigendum on Annex III, <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7942-2019-COR-1/en/pdf>
PGA on the Specific Programme: <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-8550-2019-INIT/en/pdf>

² There is partial political agreement of the European Parliament and the Council (the EU-co-legislator) on the Commission’s proposal for ‘Horizon Europe’.

³ See for more information about a mission-oriented approach to research and innovation: https://ec.europa.eu/info/designing-next-framework-programme/mission-oriented-policy-next-research-and-innovation-framework-programme_en

five above-mentioned broad mission areas expected to be identified by the EU co-legislator. There will be one Mission Board per mission area. The Mission Boards shall operate in compliance with the Commission's horizontal rules on expert groups⁴ ('the horizontal rules').

The Mission Boards will be implemented in two phases. During the first phase, the main task of the Mission Boards will be to advise the Commission on the identification and design of one or more possible specific missions, with their respective objectives, indicators and timelines, from the five above-mentioned mission areas. They will do so in dialogue with Member States and the European Parliament, as well as relevant stakeholders and, as appropriate, the interested larger public. The Commission will make the final selection of specific missions in accordance with the procedures established for Horizon Europe.

In a second phase, and once the Horizon Europe framework programme and its budget is formally agreed, the Mission Boards will advise the Commission on the portfolio of research and innovation activities needed to support the mission objectives, providing further advice on the mission implementation including preparation of dedicated mission calls in the Horizon Europe work programme, the criteria for selecting activities to fund, as well as on wider policy measures required to secure the success of the mission.

2. Features of the Groups

2.1. COMPOSITION AND TASKS

Each of the five Mission Boards shall consist of up to 15 members.

Members shall be individuals appointed in a personal capacity. They shall act independently and in the public interest.

The task of the experts will be to advise the European Commission upon the following,⁵ (according to article 5(3) of the PGA on the Specific Programme):

- (a) identification and design of one or more missions in the respective mission areas according to the provisions and criteria as set out in Article 7 (of the PGA on the Framework Programme Regulation);
- (b) content of work programmes and their revision as needed for achieving the mission objectives, with input from stakeholders and, where relevant, the public;
- (c) characteristics of project portfolios for missions;
- (d) adjustment actions, or termination if appropriate, based on implementation assessments according to the defined objectives of the mission;
- (e) selection of independent expert evaluators following the provisions of Article 44 [of the Framework Programme Regulation], briefing of expert evaluators and specific evaluation criteria and their weighting;
- (f) framework conditions which help achieve the objectives of the mission;

⁴ C (2016)3301

⁵ During the first phase of work of the Mission Boards, the emphasis will be on points a) and b).

- (g) communication, including on the performance and the achievements of the mission;
- (h) policy coordination between relevant actors at different levels, in particular regarding synergies with other Union policies;
- (i) key performance indicators.

The Mission Boards will not have a decision-making or executive role.

2.2. APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS AND THE CHAIRPERSON

Members, including the Chairperson and Vice-Chairs, shall be appointed by the Director General of DG RTD, in agreement with other relevant Commission services, from applicants complying with the requirements referred to in chapter 4 of this document. Members shall be appointed for up to 18 months, which corresponds to the first phase of the work on developing missions,⁶ in particular the identification and design of one or more specific mission proposals per mission area.

In order to ensure continuity and the smooth functioning of the Mission Boards, a reserve list of suitable candidates shall be established that may be used to appoint replacements. Applicants shall be asked for their consent before their names are included on the reserve list.

Members who are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the Mission Boards' deliberations, who in the opinion of Commission services do not comply with the conditions set out in Article 339 of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union or who resign, shall no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the Mission Boards and may be replaced for the remainder of their term of office.

2.3 RULES OF ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE MISSION BOARDS

The Mission Board shall act at the request of Commission services in compliance with the horizontal rules.

In principle, the Mission Board shall meet for a minimum of 4 times per year to discuss and accomplish the various tasks associated with the definition of specific missions and the design of their implementation. Ad-hoc meetings are possible either on the initiative of the Chair, or at the request of a simple majority of members, with the agreement of Commission services. Each Board meeting will typically last for 1.5 days. In total, Mission Board members will be expected to work around 15-20 days per year, with the Chairs up to 25 days per year.

Commission services, according to the internal Commission arrangements for governance of the mission, shall provide secretarial services and the resources required for the Mission Boards to accomplish their tasks.

⁶ In a second phase, new Mission Boards will be established following a further call for applications. The new Mission Boards will have the same or revised membership, to maintain continuity, while allowing the possibility for new ideas and expertise to be brought in.

Members should be prepared to attend meetings systematically, to contribute actively to discussions in the Mission Boards, to be involved in preparatory work ahead of meetings, to examine and provide comments on documents under discussion, to act, as appropriate, as 'rapporteurs' on *ad hoc* basis and to be available to engage in communication with other Commission expert groups composed of Member States' representatives, as well as with stakeholder communities and the public at large, in close consultation and with the agreement of Commission services.

As a general rule, working documents will be drafted in English and meetings will be also conducted in English.

The Mission Boards shall normally adopt their opinions, recommendations or reports by consensus. In the event of a vote, the outcome of the vote shall be decided by simple majority of the members. The members that voted against or abstained shall have the right to have a document summarising the reasons for their position annexed to the opinions, recommendations or reports.

The advice provided by the Mission Boards shall be made publicly available.

In agreement with Commission services, a Mission Board may, by simple majority of its members, decide that deliberations shall be public.

Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the Mission Boards shall be reimbursed by the Commission. Reimbursement shall be made in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission and within the limits of the available appropriations allocated to the Commission departments under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

The Mission Boards will provide high-level advice to the Commission of such a nature that without their input the development, design and future definitive iteration of missions would not achieve the desired large scale and breadth of impact. In light of this, and as highly qualified, specialised, independent experts selected following a public call for applications, on the basis of objective criteria, it is justified that the members of the Mission Boards shall be remunerated for the services they offer pursuant Article 21 of the horizontal rules. The payment of the special allowances to members is subject to the approval of the Horizon 2020 Work Programme for 2020, expected in the second quarter of 2019.

The members of the Mission Boards and invited experts, are subject to the obligation of professional secrecy, which, by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them, applies to all members of the institutions and their staff, as well as to the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of Union classified information, laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443⁷ and 2015/444⁸. Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

On a proposal by and in agreement with Commission services, the Mission Boards shall adopt rules of procedure on the basis of the standard rules of procedure for expert groups.

⁷ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security in the Commission (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 41).

⁸ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

Commission services may invite experts with specific expertise with respect to a subject matter on the agenda to take part in the work of the Mission Board or sub-groups on an ad hoc basis.

Commission services may set up sub-groups for the purpose of examining specific questions on the basis of terms of reference defined by Commission services. Sub-groups shall operate in compliance with the horizontal rules and shall report to the Mission Boards. They shall be dissolved as soon as their mandate is fulfilled. The members of sub-groups that are not members of the Mission Boards shall be selected via a public call for applications.

2.4. TRANSPARENCY

The Mission Boards shall be registered in the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ('the Register of expert groups').

Commission services shall publish the name of the members on the Register of expert groups.

Commission services shall make available all relevant documents, including the agendas, the minutes, the participants' submissions and the advice provided by the Mission Boards either on the Register of expert groups or *via* a link from the Register to a dedicated website, where this information can be found. Access to dedicated websites shall not be submitted to user registration or any other restriction. In particular, Commission services shall ensure publication of the agenda and other relevant background documents in due time ahead of the meeting, followed by timely publication of minutes. Exceptions to publication shall only be foreseen where it is deemed that disclosure of a document would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) N° 1049/2001.⁹

Personal data shall be collected, processed and published in accordance with Regulation (EU)2018/1725.

3. Application procedure

Interested individuals are invited to submit their application to the European Commission, DG RTD, by way of email with accompanying documents (listed below) to RTD-HORIZON-EUROPE-MISSION-BOARDS@ec.europa.eu

Applicants should identify their preference for one or more of the Mission Boards, although each appointment will be to only one Mission Board.

Applicants should declare in their cover letter if they are currently members of other Commission expert groups.

Applications must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English would facilitate the evaluation procedure. If another language is used, it would be helpful to include a summary of the application in English.

⁹ These exceptions are intended to protect public security, military affairs, international relations, financial, monetary or economic policy, privacy and integrity of the individual, commercial interests, court proceedings and legal advice, inspections/investigations/audits and the institution's decision-making process.

An application will be deemed admissible only if it is sent by the deadline and includes the documents referred to below. All documents submitted by applicants should be duly filled in, legible, signed and numbered sequentially.

Supporting documents

Each application shall include the following documents:

- a cover letter explaining the applicant's motivation for answering this call and stating what contribution the applicant could make to the group;
- a classification form duly filled in specifying the member category for which the application is made (Annex I);
- a selection criteria form duly filled in documenting how the applicant fulfills the selection criteria listed in chapter 4 of this call (Annex II);
- a curriculum vitae (CV) shall also be provided, preferably not exceeding three pages and if possible in the European format.
(<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions>).
- **A declaration of interests ('DOI')** form (Annex III)

Members of these Mission Boards will be individuals appointed in a personal capacity. Applicants must disclose any circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest by submitting a declaration of interests ('DOI') form, consisting of a series of standard questions requesting individuals to disclose any interest relevant to the subject of the work to be performed.

Applicants who answer questions in the affirmative are required to supply detailed information about it.

Submission of a duly completed DOI form is necessary in order to be eligible to be appointed in a personal capacity. Commission services shall perform the conflict of interest assessment in compliance with the horizontal rules.¹⁰

Members shall be required to promptly inform the Commission services of any relevant change in the information previously provided, including as regards upcoming activities, in which case they must immediately submit a newly completed DOI form describing the change, in order to enable the Commission services to assess it in due course. The Chair of each Mission Board shall, at the first meeting of each calendar year, remind all members of this obligation.

Mission Board members shall not take part in evaluations relating to calls for the specific missions.

Members shall not be directly included in proposals for calls for specific missions in the Horizon Europe work programme, although organisations which employ the Mission Boards members shall be permitted to submit or be included in such calls for proposals.

Additional supporting documents (e.g. publications) may be requested at a later stage.

¹⁰ Article 11 of the horizontal rules.

Deadline for application

The duly signed applications must be sent by 12:00 (Brussels time) on 11th June 2019 at the latest, to the following e-mail address: RTD-HORIZON-EUROPE-MISSION-BOARDS@ec.europa.eu, the date and time of the e-mail will be the date and time of sending.

4. Selection criteria

The Commission seeks a good mixture of high level individuals with broad expertise, including where appropriate Social Sciences and Humanities experts, from across Europe and beyond, including relevant end-users' representatives and with profiles from the following:

- industry, innovation and business, from sectors, companies and organisations relevant in one or more fields covered by the respective mission areas;
- academia and research organisations, including researchers and managers in one or more fields covered by the respective mission areas;
- policy makers and practitioners;
- former public figures including politicians such as former city Mayors;
- end-users and key stakeholders for one or more fields covered by the respective mission areas, e.g.
 - public sector from national, regional and local administrations, patient groups, citizens associations, associations for public engagement and science education, sector specific associations;
 - international agencies, e.g. the UN, WHO;
 - social partners from EU Member States and Civil Society Organisations e.g. NGOs, foundations;
 - financial sector;
 - communications sector.

Members of Mission Boards should bring strategic skills and expertise in one or more of the profiles identified above, combined with a deep commitment to the success of the mission.

The strategic capacity required from Mission Board members is to:

- work across sectors in a systemic way, for the definition of expected long term impacts and design of a coherent set of activities at European and international level to realise such impacts, rather than in terms of expertise in a single discipline or sector;
- Identify possible solutions to broad challenges as well as the best ways to support research and innovation that leads to such solutions while paying attention to framework conditions that allow the deployment at scale of successful solutions.

In addition to the generic criteria above, the specific criteria for the groups are as follows:

Mission Board for Adaptation to Climate Change, including Societal Transformation.

Expertise in sectors, policies and systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, services, behavioural changes, investments) in fields including notably:

- climate change adaptation and mitigation; climate services; natural resources; systemic and nature-based solutions; environmental advocacy and citizen engagement; sustainable production and consumption; disaster risk reduction and management including public health and critical infrastructures; international development in the field of climate change; science communication; water management; biodiversity; agriculture, finance and insurance.

Mission Board for Cancer

Expertise in sectors, policies and systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, services, behavioural changes, investments), in fields including notably:

- cancer prevention, prediction, detection, diagnosis and treatment including clinical expertise in these areas; quality of life and end of life care; public health policy and practice; patient representation incl support groups and family counselling, innovation and business development; ethics.

Mission Board for Healthy Oceans, Seas, Coastal and Inland Waters

Expertise in sectors, policies and systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, services, behavioural changes, investments), in fields including notably:

- systemic solutions for the prevention, reduction, mitigation and removal of marine pollution including plastics; transition to a circular and blue economy; public awareness raising; users affected by the need to adapt to and mitigate pollution and climate change in the ocean; sustainable use and management of ocean resources; development of new materials including biodegradable plastic substitutes, new feed and food; urban, coastal and maritime spatial planning; ocean governance; ocean economics applied to maritime activities;

Mission Board for Climate-neutral and Smart Cities

Expertise in sectors and policies for systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, services, behavioural changes, investments), in fields including notably:

- climate change mitigation and adaptation; air quality; spatial planning (incl. land urban and green spaces) and development; energy efficient buildings (retrofitting); urban infrastructures and networks, including transport and logistics systems, energy, ICT and water ; clean energy transformation; urban manufacturing; urban circularity and regeneration; ecosystem services and nature-based solutions; public health and well-being in cities; urban resilience; social impacts of climate change.

Mission Board for Soil Health and Food

Expertise in sectors and policies for systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, services, behavioural changes, investments), in fields including:

- soil management in agriculture and forestry for food and nutrition security, and the delivery of non-food products and public goods; soil management beyond agriculture and forestry, e.g. peatland, wetland; restoration and remediation of soils, brownfields, soil sealing; potential of soils and soil management practices for climate mitigation and adaptation; soil functions and ecosystems' services, and the

role of practises to improve soil health; sustainable land(scape) management, land use and land use change, spatial planning; ecology, agroecology, soil microbiology; systems science / systems approaches, considering financial impacts of soil and land degradation.

Furthermore, The Commission will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

- strategic capacity in long-term and systemic planning and programming of activities;
- absence of circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interests;
- good knowledge of the English language allowing active participation in the discussions;
- aptitude for communicating with a broad range of stakeholders and citizens.

5. Selection procedure

The selection procedure shall consist of an assessment of the applications performed by Commission services against the selection criteria listed in chapter 4 of this call, followed by the establishment of a list of the most suitable applicants, and concluded by the appointment of the members of the group.

When defining the composition of the groups, Commission services shall aim at ensuring, as far as possible, a high level of expertise, as well as a balanced representation of relevant know-how and areas of interest, while taking into account the specific tasks of the group, the type of expertise required, as well as the relevance of the applications received.

Commission services shall also seek a geographical and gender balance.

For any further information please contact RTD-HORIZON-EUROPE-MISSION-BOARDS@ec.europa.eu.

ANNEXES:

Annex I - Classification form

Annex II - Selection criteria form

Annex III - Standard declaration of interests

Annex IV - Guidance for filling in the declaration of interests

Annex V - Privacy statement

(In addition to this pdf version, annexes I to III are also available separately in word (docx) documents for easy completion).

Annex I - Classification form¹¹

To be filled in by all applicants

This application concerns the following Commission expert group (please fill in **one** ‘Annex I’ per application).

<input type="radio"/>	Mission board for adaptation to climate change, including societal transformation
<input type="radio"/>	Mission board for cancer
<input type="radio"/>	Mission board for healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters
<input type="radio"/>	Mission board for climate-neutral and smart cities
<input type="radio"/>	Mission for soil health and food

I hereby declare that I am **an individual applying to be appointed in a personal capacity and** if appointed I shall act independently and in the public interest.

Title:

Surname:

First name:

Date:

Signature

¹¹ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Annex II: Selection criteria form¹²

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call.

Mission Board for Adaptation to Climate Change, including Societal Transformation

The strategic capacity required from Mission Board members is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• work across sectors in a systemic way, for the definition of expected long term impacts and design of a coherent set of activities at European and international level to realise such impacts, rather than in terms of expertise in a single discipline or sector;• Identify possible solutions to broad challenges as well as the best ways to support research and innovation that leads to such solutions while paying attention to framework conditions that allow the deployment at scale of successful solutions.	
Expertise in sectors, policies and systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, behavioural changes, investments) in fields including notably: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• climate change adaptation and mitigation; climate services; natural resources; systemic and nature-based solutions; environmental advocacy and citizen engagement; sustainable production and consumption; disaster risk reduction and management including public health and critical infrastructures; international development in the field of climate change; science communication; water management; biodiversity; agriculture, finance and insurance.	
Good knowledge of the English language	

Title:

Surname:

First name:

Date:

Signature

¹² This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Annex II: Selection criteria form¹³

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call.

Mission Board for Cancer	
The strategic capacity required from Mission Board members is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• work across sectors in a systemic way, for the definition of expected long term impacts and design of a coherent set of activities at European and international level to realise such impacts, rather than in terms of expertise in a single discipline or sector;• Identify possible solutions to broad challenges as well as the best ways to support research and innovation that leads to such solutions while paying attention to framework conditions that allow the deployment at scale of successful solutions.	
Expertise in sectors, policies and systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, behavioural changes, investments), in fields including notably: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cancer prevention, prediction, detection, diagnosis and treatment including clinical expertise in these areas; quality of life and end of life care; public health policy and practice; patient representation incl support groups and family counselling, innovation and business development; ethics.	
Good knowledge of the English language	

Title:

Surname:

First name:

Date:

Signature

¹³ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Annex II: Selection criteria form¹⁴

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call.

Mission Board for Healthy Oceans, Seas, Coastal and Inland Waters	
The strategic capacity required from Mission Board members is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• work across sectors in a systemic way, for the definition of expected long term impacts and design of a coherent set of activities at European and international level to realise such impacts, rather than in terms of expertise in a single discipline or sector;• Identify possible solutions to broad challenges as well as the best ways to support research and innovation that leads to such solutions while paying attention to framework conditions that allow the deployment at scale of successful solutions.	
Expertise in sectors, policies and systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, behavioural changes, investments), in fields including notably: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• systemic solutions for the prevention, reduction, mitigation and removal of marine pollution including plastics; transition to a circular and blue economy; public awareness raising; users affected by the need to adapt to and mitigate pollution and climate change in the ocean; sustainable use and management of ocean resources; development of new materials including biodegradable plastic substitutes, new feed and food; urban, coastal and maritime spatial planning; ocean governance; ocean economics applied to maritime activities	
Good knowledge of the English language	

Title:

Surname:

First name:

Date:

Signature

¹⁴ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Annex II: Selection criteria form¹⁵

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call.

Mission Board for ‘Climate-neutral and Smart Cities’	
The strategic capacity required from Mission Board members is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work across sectors in a systemic way, for the definition of expected long term impacts and design of a coherent set of activities at European and international level to realise such impacts, rather than in terms of expertise in a single discipline or sector; • Identify possible solutions to broad challenges as well as the best ways to support research and innovation that leads to such solutions while paying attention to framework conditions that allow the deployment at scale of successful solutions. 	
Expertise in sectors and policies for systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, behavioural changes, investments) in fields including notably: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate change mitigation and adaptation; air quality; spatial planning (incl. land urban and green spaces) and development; energy efficient buildings (retrofitting); urban infrastructures and networks, including transport and logistics systems, energy, ICT and water ; clean energy transformation; urban manufacturing; urban circularity and regeneration; ecosystem services and nature-based solutions; public health and well-being in cities; urban resilience; social impacts of climate change. 	
Good knowledge of the English language	

Title:

Surname:

First name:

Date:

Signature

¹⁵ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Annex II: Selection criteria form¹⁶

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call.

Mission Board for Soil Health and Food	
The strategic capacity required from Mission Board members is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• work across sectors in a systemic way, for the definition of expected long term impacts and design of a coherent set of activities at European and international level to realise such impacts, rather than in terms of expertise in a single discipline or sector;• Identify possible solutions to broad challenges as well as the best ways to support research and innovation that leads to such solutions while paying attention to framework conditions that allow the deployment at scale of successful solutions.	
Expertise in sectors and policies for systemic, transformative solutions (governance, technological, non-technological, behavioural changes, investments), in fields including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ soil management in agriculture and forestry for food and nutrition security, and the delivery of non-food products and public goods; soil management beyond agriculture and forestry, e.g. peatland, wetland; restoration and remediation of soils, brownfields, soil sealing; potential of soils and soil management practices for climate mitigation and adaptation; soil functions and ecosystems' services, and the role of practises to improve soil health; sustainable land(scape) management, land use and land use change, spatial planning; ecology, agroecology, soil microbiology; systems science / systems approaches, considering financial impacts of soil and land degradation.	
Good knowledge of the English language	

Title:

Surname:

First name:

Date:

Signature

¹⁶ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Annex III - Standard declaration of interests (DOI) form for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity

Legal basis:

Commission Decision C(2016)3301 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups, Articles 2(4) and 11.

Definitions:

"Conflict of interest" means any situation where an individual has an interest that may compromise or be reasonably perceived to compromise the individual's capacity to act independently and in the public interest when providing advice to the Commission in relation to the subject of the work performed by the expert group or sub-group in question.

"Immediate family member" means the individual's spouse, children and parents. "Spouse" includes a partner with whom the individual has a registered non marital regime. "Children" means the child(ren) the individual and the spouse have in common, the own child(ren) of the individual and the own child(ren) of the spouse.

"Legal entity" means any commercial business, industry association, consultancy, research institution or other enterprise whose funding is significantly derived from commercial sources. It also includes independent own commercial businesses, law offices, consultancies or similar.

"Body" means a governmental, international or non-profit organisation.

"Meeting" includes a series or cycle of meetings.

Please answer each of the questions below. If the answer to any of the questions is "yes", please briefly describe relevant interests and circumstances, as appropriate.

If you do not describe relevant interests, your DOI form will be considered incomplete and, therefore, your application to be appointed as a member of an expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity shall be rejected.

Mission Board members shall not take part in evaluations relating to calls for the specific missions.

Members shall not be directly included in proposals for calls for specific missions in the Horizon Europe work programme, although organisations which employ the Mission Boards members shall be permitted to submit or be included in such calls for proposals.

First name:

Family name:

Expert group/sub-group: Commission expert group (tick one):

<input type="radio"/>	Mission board for adaptation to climate change, including societal transformation
<input type="radio"/>	Mission board for cancer
<input type="radio"/>	Mission board for healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters
<input type="radio"/>	Mission board for climate-neutral and smart cities
<input type="radio"/>	Mission for soil health and food

1 EMPLOYMENT CONSULTANCY AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION

	<i>Within the past 5 years, were you employed or have you had any other professional relationship with a natural or legal entity, or held any non-remunerated post in a legal entity or other body with an interest in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question?</i>	yes	no
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1a	Employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1b	Consultancy, including services as an advisor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1c	Non-remunerated post	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1d	Legal representation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Activity	Time period (from... until month/year)	Name of entity or body	Description

2 MEMBERSHIP OF MANAGING BODY, SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BODY OR EQUIVALENT STRUCTURE

	<i>Within the past 5 years, have you participated in the internal decision-making of a legal entity or other body with an interest in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question or have you participated in the works of a Scientific Advisory Body with voting rights on the outputs of that entity?</i>	yes	no
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2a	Participation in a decision-making process	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2b	Participation in the work of a Scientific Advisory Body	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Activity	Time period (from... until month/year)	Name of legal entity or body	Description

3 RESEARCH SUPPORT

	<i>Within the past 5 years, have you, or the research entity to which you belong, received any support from a legal entity or other body with an interest in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question?</i>	yes	no
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3a	Research support, including grants, rents, sponsorships, fellowships, non-monetary support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Activity	Time period (from... until month/year)	Name of legal entity or body	Description

4 FINANCIAL INTERESTS

	<i>Do you have current investments in a legal entity with an interest in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question, including holding of stocks and shares, and which amounts to more than 10,000 EUR per legal entity or entitling you to a voting right of 5% or more in such legal entity?</i>	yes	no
--	---	------------	-----------

4a	Shares	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4b	Other stock	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Investment	Name of legal entity	Description

5 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

	<i>Do you have any intellectual property rights that might be affected by the outcome of the work carried out by the expert group/sub-group in question?</i>	yes	no
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5a	Patent, trademarks, or copyrights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5b	Others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Intellectual property	Description

6 PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND POSITIONS

	<i>Within the past 5 years, have you provided any expert opinion or testimony in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question, for a legal entity or other body as part of a regulatory, legislative or judicial process? Have you held an office or other position, paid or unpaid, where you represented interests or defended an opinion in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question?</i>	Yes	no
--	--	------------	-----------

6a	For a legal entity or other body as part of a regulatory, legislative or judicial process	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6b	Represented interests or defended an opinion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Activity	Time period (from... until month/year)	Name of legal entity or body	Description

7 INTERESTS OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS

yes no

7a	To your knowledge, are there any interests of your immediate family members which could be seen as undermining your independence when providing advice to the Commission in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Interests	Time period (from... until month/year)	Name of legal entity or body	Description

7b	If interests of your immediate family members are declared, it is your responsibility to inform them about the collection and publication of information on their interests included in the DOI and to provide them with the privacy statement attached to the guidance for filling in this DOI, and this at the latest when you file the DOI form with the Commission.
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8 OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

yes no

8a	Are there any other elements that could be seen as undermining your independence when providing advice to the Commission in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Description:

I hereby declare on my honour that I have read the guidance for completing this form.

I also declare on my honour that the information disclosed in this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Should there be any change to the above information, including as regards upcoming activities, I will promptly notify the competent Commission department and complete a new DOI form describing the changes in question.

I am informed that my personal data are stored, processed and published by the Commission in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001).

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Your DOI form shall be made publicly available on the Register of Commission Expert Groups and Other Similar Entities, as long as you are appointed as member of the expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity. Technical measures will be taken to indicate to search engines that your DOI form should not appear in search results.

Annex IV- Guidance for filling in the declaration of interests (DOI) form by individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity

According to the Commission's horizontal rules on expert groups ('the horizontal rules'), Commission expert groups and other similar entities are consultative bodies¹⁷, the role of which is to provide advice and expertise to the Commission and its departments in relation to a number of tasks¹⁸. Individuals appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity are due to act independently and in the public interest¹⁹.

In order to ensure the highest integrity of experts, you are requested to duly complete the DOI form. You are required to disclose any circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest, i.e. any situation where your interests may compromise or may reasonably be perceived to compromise your capacity to act independently and in the public interest in providing advice to the Commission, in relation to the subject of the work performed by the expert group or sub-group in question. In particular, you must disclose in this DOI form any relevant professional and financial interests.

You must also declare relevant interests of your immediate family members. If interests of your immediate family members are declared, it is your responsibility to inform them about the collection and publication of information on their interests included in this DOI form and to provide them with the privacy statement attached to this guidance, and this at the latest when you file the DOI form with the Commission.

Please submit the completed DOI form to the competent Commission department, together with your CV, as part of your application to become member of an expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity. If there is any change concerning the information provided in the form, including on upcoming activities, you must promptly inform the competent Commission departments by completing a new DOI form which describes the changes in question.

Please note that having a declared interest does not necessarily mean having a conflict of interest. Answering "Yes" to a question on this DOI form does not automatically disqualify you or limit your participation in an expert group or sub-group. The competent Commission departments will review your answers in accordance with the horizontal rules and determine whether a conflict of interest relevant to the subject at hand exists²⁰.

Where the competent Commission departments conclude that no conflict of interest exists, you are eligible to be appointed in a personal capacity. Where the competent Commission departments conclude that your interests may compromise or be reasonably perceived to compromise your capacity to act independently and in the public interest when providing advice to the Commission in relation to the subject of the work performed by the expert group or sub-group in question, they shall take one of the following measures to deal with the conflict of interest detected, depending on the specific circumstances:

¹⁷ C(2016) 3301, Article 2.1.

¹⁸ Idem, Article 3.

¹⁹ Idem, Article 7.2. (a).

²⁰ Idem, Article 11.

- You shall not be appointed in a personal capacity to the expert group or sub-group in question; in such case the competent Commission department shall inform you about the outcome of the conflict of interest assessment performed;
- You shall be appointed as member of the expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity with a number of specific restrictions: you may be excluded from certain meetings and/or activities carried out by the group, such as drafting opinions or recommendations; you may also be required to abstain from discussing certain agenda items and/or from any vote on those items;
- You shall be appointed as member of the expert group or sub-group representing a common interest shared by a number of stakeholders, after consultation of the stakeholders concerned.

Your DOI form shall be made publicly available on the Register of Commission Expert Groups and Other Similar Entities, as long as you are appointed as member of the expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity. Technical measures will be taken to indicate to search engines that your DOI form should not appear in search results.

If you decline to complete a DOI form, you are not eligible to be appointed as a member of the expert group or sub-group in question in a personal capacity.

Personal data shall be collected, processed and published by the Commission in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.



Annex V - Privacy statement

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

This privacy statement provides information about the processing and the protection of your personal data.

Processing operation: *Selection of members of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ("the expert groups") and their sub-groups²¹ and publication of personal data on the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ("the Register of expert groups").²²*

Data Controller: *Secretariat-General, Unit G4, and Commission services and departments responsible for the management of the expert groups.*

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²¹ Provisions included in this privacy statement referring to expert groups equally apply to their sub-groups.

²² The legacy notification under Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 on the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities is under revision, and data protection records under Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725 on the selection of members of expert groups and on publication of personal data on the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities are being created.

1. Introduction

The European Commission (hereafter ‘the Commission’) is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1725](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data (repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001).

This privacy statement explains the reasons for the processing of your personal data, the way we collect, handle and ensure protection of all personal data provided, how that information is used and what rights you have in relation to your personal data. It also specifies the contact details of the responsible Data Controller with whom you may exercise your rights, of the Data Protection Officer and of the European Data Protection Supervisor.

This privacy statement concerns the following processing operations:

(1) “selection of members of the expert groups ” undertaken by the Commission service which runs the selection process for your group and which is the Data Controller for the selection process, and

(2) “publication of personal data on the Register of expert groups” undertaken by the Commission, Secretariat-General, Unit G.4 which is the Data Controller together with the Commission service managing your group.

As a rule, the selection of expert group members is carried out via public calls for applications, except for Member States’ authorities and other public entities and for certain representative bodies established by Union legislation for advice in specific areas.

The Register of expert groups is a public database containing a list of Commission expert groups and other similar entities and their sub-groups. For each expert group, the Register provides valuable information including personal data on the members of the expert groups, and their alternate, if any, members’ representatives, as well as of the groups’ observers and their representatives. The Register also includes documents that are produced and discussed by expert groups and which can contain personal data.

2. Why and how do we process your personal data?

Purpose of the processing operations:

The Data Controllers collect and use your personal data to manage expert groups, in particular by selecting their members and observers, and to ensure transparency on expert groups’ membership and activities. In that context, in order to select among the applicants who best fulfil the selection criteria mentioned in the call for applications, Commission services collect and assess personal information of candidate members and observers of the expert groups, of representatives of candidate members and observers, and of immediate family members of candidate members and observers appointed in personal capacity.

Furthermore, Commission services collect and assess personal information of observers and members’ and observers’ representatives of the expert groups which are not selected through a public call for applications.

For candidates, personal data is stored by the Commission service managing the expert group. Some types of personal data of members appointed in personal capacity are made publicly

available on the Register of expert groups (see sections 4 and 5 of this privacy statement). Some types of personal data of the representatives of organisations, Member States and other public entities may also be made publicly available on the Register of expert groups.

Your personal data will not be used for an automated decision-making including profiling.

3. On what legal ground(s) do we process your personal data

We process your personal data, because processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest (Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725), since it allows for the selection of members of expert groups (individuals appointed as members in a personal capacity, individuals appointed to represent a common interest and organisations) and also increases the transparency on expert groups. Processing is also necessary to comply with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject (Article 5(1) b) of Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725). The Union act for such necessary processing under Article 5(1)(a) and (b) of Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725 is Commission Decision C(2016)3301 of 30 May 2016 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups and in particular Articles 10 and 22 thereof.

As regards, in particular, the declarations of interests filled in by candidate members to be appointed in a personal capacity in expert groups, the processing of personal data serves the public interest of enabling the Commission to verify in the process of selection the experts' independence in providing advice to the Commission. Furthermore, the public disclosure of declarations of interests of those experts once appointed allows for public scrutiny of the interests declared by these experts, which is necessary in order to ensure public confidence in the independence of these experts. The public disclosure of declarations of interests also ensures a high degree of transparency with respect to the membership of expert groups and aims at contributing to fostering the integrity of the experts in question.

Any publication of names of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities in the Register of expert groups is based on consent (Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725).

4. Which personal data do we collect and further process?

In order to carry out these processing operations, the Data Controller may collect the following categories of personal data:

- *Name;*
- *Function;*
- *Contact details (for example, e-mail address, telephone number, mobile telephone number, fax number, postal address, company and department, country of residence, IP address);*
- *Information for the evaluation of selection criteria or eligibility criteria (for example, expertise, technical skills and languages, educational background, professional experience, including details on current and past employment);*
- *Nationality;*
- *Gender;*
- *Interest represented (only for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups representing a common interest shared by stakeholders in a particular policy area and for organisations applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups, as well as for their designated representatives);*

- *Information included in the declarations of interests (only for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity).*

The provision to the Commission service of the personal data required is mandatory to meet a legal requirement of selecting members of expert groups. In principle, the types of personal data listed above, with the exception of contact details and information for the evaluation of selection criteria or eligibility criteria, are made publicly available on the Register of expert groups, in order to comply with the legal requirement to ensure transparency on the composition and functioning of expert groups. If you do not provide the personal data required, possible consequences are that you will not be considered for selection as a member of an expert group or, if already selected, your membership will be suspended.

With the consent of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities, their names may also be published on the Register.

5. How long do we keep your personal data?

The Data Controller only keeps your personal data for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing. The following modalities apply:

- The competent Commission services keep personal data submitted to them as part of rejected applications for six months after the end of the selection process and do not process them for other purposes; these data are not published on the Register of expert groups.
- The expert group and some types of personal data of its members and observers, as described in section 4, are published on the Register of expert groups during the duration of existence of the expert group.
- When an individual is no longer member or observer or representative of a member or observer of an expert group listed in the Register of expert groups, all personal data related to this individual, including a declaration of interests, is removed from the Register and is therefore not public anymore.
- The competent Commission services keep personal data for the period during which the relevant individual is a member or an observer or a representative of a member or of an observer of the group and for five years after the date on which the individual is no longer member or observer or representative of a member or observer of the group.
- When a group is closed down, it remains published in the Register of expert groups for five years, with the indication 'Closed'. Those types of personal data other than the declarations of interests of members and observers appointed in personal capacity that were published while the group was active remain visible on the Register of expert groups during these five years. On the contrary, the said declarations of interests are removed from the Register after closure of a group and are therefore not public anymore; they are however kept by the competent Commission service for a period of five years after the closure of the group.
- An XML file is created daily with all the information regarding active groups. All versions of this file, showing the situation of the Register of expert groups as of the day it was created, are stored in a file server for 5 years and are not public.

6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal data?

Personal data submitted in paper form is stored in the competent Commission service. All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data, etc.) are stored either on the servers of the Commission or of its contractors. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to the [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2017/46](#) of 10

January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission.

The Commission's contractors are bound by a specific contractual clause for any processing operations of your data on behalf of the Commission, and by the confidentiality obligations deriving from the General Data Protection Regulation in the EU Member States ('GDPR' [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/679](#))

In order to protect your personal data, the Commission has put in place a number of technical and organisational measures. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorised access, taking into consideration the risk presented by the processing and the nature of the personal data being processed. Organisational measures include restricting access to the personal data solely to authorised persons with a legitimate need to know for the purposes of this processing operation.

7. Who has access to your personal data and to whom is it disclosed?

Access to your personal data collected in the course of the process of selection of members of expert groups is provided to the Commission staff responsible for carrying out this processing operation and to authorised staff according to the "need to know" principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements.

Certain personal data collected, as explained in sections 4 and 5, is publicly available on the Register of expert groups.

The XML files referred to in section 5 are only accessible to a reduced number of users in the Secretariat-General (System Owner) and IT development team within the Commission (System Supplier).

8. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?

You have specific rights as a 'data subject' under Chapter III (Articles 14-25) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, in particular the right to access your personal data and to rectify them in case your personal data is inaccurate or incomplete. Under certain conditions, you have the right to erase your personal data, to restrict the processing of your personal data, to object to the processing and the right to data portability.

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data on grounds relating to your particular situation in accordance with Article 23(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

As indicated in section 4, if you are a representative of an organisation, Member State or another public entity, you may consent to have your name published on the Register of expert groups. You can withdraw your consent at any time by notifying the Data Controller. The withdrawal will not affect the lawfulness of the processing carried out before you have withdrawn the consent.

Finally, and only as regards the publication of your name on the Register of expert groups, you may submit a request to the competent Commission service for a derogation where justified on compelling legitimate grounds in relation to your specific situation (such as the case where the publication of your name on the Register of expert groups could endanger your security or integrity).

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller or, in case of conflict, the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you can also address the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is given under section 9 below.

Where you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please provide their description (i.e. their Record reference(s) as specified under Heading 9 below) in your request.

Any request for access to personal data will be handled within one month. Any other request mentioned above will be addressed within 15 working days.

9. Contact information

- The Data Controller

Regarding the personal data collected in the course of the process of selection of the members of the expert groups, if you would like to exercise your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if you have comments, questions or concerns, or if you would like to submit a complaint, please contact [functional mailbox of the Commission service managing the expert group].

Likewise, as regards the data published on the Register of expert groups, please contact the Data Controller, SG-EXPERT-GROUPS@ec.europa.eu.

- The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu) with regard to issues related to the processing of your personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

- The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)

You have the right to have recourse (i.e. you can lodge a complaint) to the European Data Protection Supervisor (edps@edps.europa.eu) if you consider that your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the Data Controller.

10. Where to find more detailed information?

The Commission Data Protection Officer (DPO) publishes the register of all processing operations on personal data by the Commission, which have been documented and notified to him. You may access the register via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register>.

These specific processing operations will be included in the DPO's public register with the following Record references: DPR-EC-01066 and DPR-EC-00656.