

## Funding opportunities through «HORIZON 2020»

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises that are EU-based or established in a country associated to Horizon 2020 can now get EU funding and support for innovation projects that will help them grow and expand their activities into other countries – in Europe and beyond.

Horizon 2020, with a total budget approximately €80 billion, funds high-potential innovation through a dedicated SME instrument, which offers seamless business innovation support under the section Societal Challenges and the specific part Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies (LEITs). The actions of the programme target to fund investment projects of small and medium enterprises, emphasising in innovation (SME Instrument). In particular, the strengthening of innovative investment projects by SMEs will be implemented through two successive stages, as follows:

### Phase 1 - Feasibility assessment

**Funding is available for:** exploring and assessing the technical feasibility and commercial potential of a breakthrough **innovation** that a company wants to exploit and commercialize. The project should be aligned to the business strategy, helping internal growth or targeting a transnational business opportunity.

**Amount of funding:** lump sum of €50,000 (per project, not per participating business).

**Activities funded could be:** risk assessment, design or market studies, intellectual property exploration; the ultimate goal is to put a new product, service or process in the market, possibly through an innovative application of existing technologies, methodologies, or business processes.

**Duration:** typically around 6 months

**Outcome:** The outcome of a phase 1 project is a feasibility study (technical and commercial), including a business plan.

### Phase 2 - Innovation project

**Funding is available for:** innovation projects underpinned by a sound and strategic business plan (potentially elaborated and partially funded through phase 1 of the SME Instrument).

**Amount of funding:** in the indicative range of €500,000 – € 2.5 million or more (covering up to 70% of eligible costs, or in exceptional, specific cases up to 100%).

**Activities funded in phase 2 can be of several types:** prototyping, miniaturisation, scaling-up, design, performance verification, testing, demonstration, development of pilot lines, validation for market replication, including other activities aimed at bringing innovation to investment readiness and maturity for market take-up.

**Duration:** typically around 1 to 2 years

**Outcomes:** a new product, process or service that is ready to face market competition; a business innovation plan incorporating a detailed commercialisation strategy and a financing plan in

It is noted that:

- Although it is not required, successful participation in Stage 1 is significant for competing in stage 2 .
- For participating in stages 1 and 2 is required business plan, based on proposed models
- The evaluation of proposals is connected with innovation , the impact on the economy and the soundness of the business plan , along with the ability of the members of the team to implement the business plan .
- Eligible costs must be directly associated and related to the research work and to meet the "reasonable cost ."

The invitations for the two phases during the years 2014-2015, are scheduled as follows:

Phase 1	Phase 2
18/06/2014	-
24/09/2014	09/10/2014
17/12/2014	17/12/2014
18/03/2015	18/03/2015
17/06/2015	17/06/2015
17/09/2015	17/09/2015

**Stochasis Management Consultancy SA is able to:**

- 1. evaluate your idea at first,**
- 2. integrate processes for participating in the Stages 1 & 2 of the program,**
- 3. elaborate the business plan.**

We are at your disposal for any further information or clarification on 210 7475830-8 (Mr. Vasilis Siemos, Mr. Adam Regouzas).