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GUYANE  
DEVELOPPEMENT  
INNOVATION

# An EU project to foster research and innovation excellence

## in Outermost Regions

FORWARD Coordination Team

Trees and other plants of Cosmetopoeia Conference  
29/03/2022  
Cayenne, French Guiana



This project has received funding from European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 824550

Horizon 2020 Programme  
Research and Innovation



## Fostering Excellence Research in Outermost Regions: Background

- Article 349 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) recognises that:  
**“Outermost Regions differ from the rest of the EU in a number of ways that constrain their economic and social development”** such as:
  - their remoteness
  - their insularity and small size
  - their adverse topographical and climatic conditions
  - dependence on a limited number of local industries
- The **European Commission** proposed a new approach to **better address the specific needs** of each of the 9 outermost regions. [Latest Communication of 24 October 2017 \(COM \(2017\) 623 final\)](#)
- It identified that participation in Horizon 2020 has been so far inhibited by remoteness and the fragmentation of our research communities.
- Launched a **specific call dedicated to outermost regions under Horizon 2020.**

**FORWARD is the only project that has been retained for funding**

## Outermost regions (ORs)



## FORWARD Project

### Project key aims:

1. Improve ORs' excellence in research and their innovation potential;
1. Foster their participation in EU research and innovation funded projects; and
1. Link research activities with territorial development.

The project is a concrete opportunity for collaboration and networking among ORs institutions, representing the quadruple helix (university, business, government, and civil society)

## FORWARD in numbers

- 4.2 million euros budget
- 3.5 years project (Jan 2019 - Jun 2022)
- 9 Work Packages
- 28 deliverables and 9 milestones



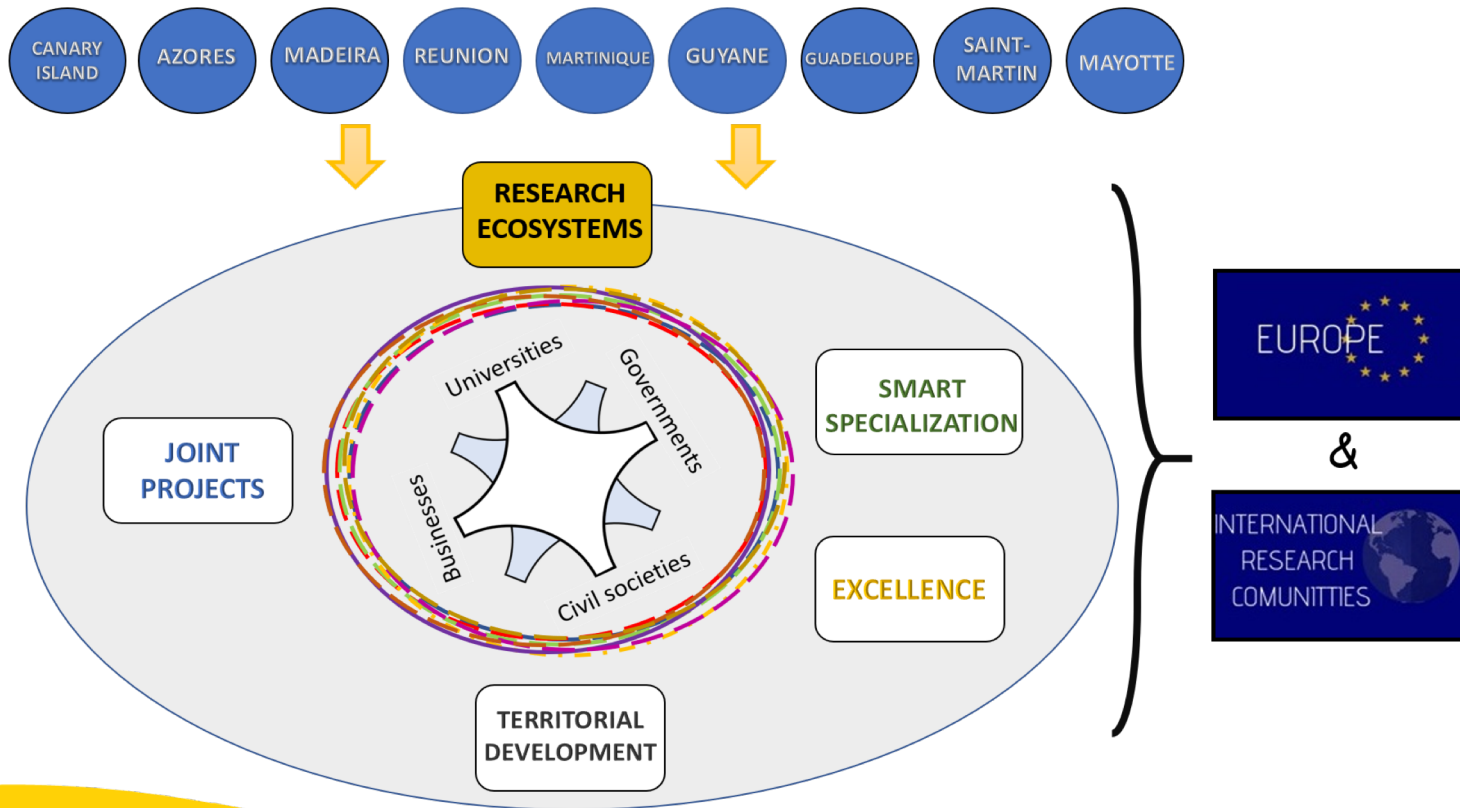
# THE 24 PARTNERS OF FORWARD



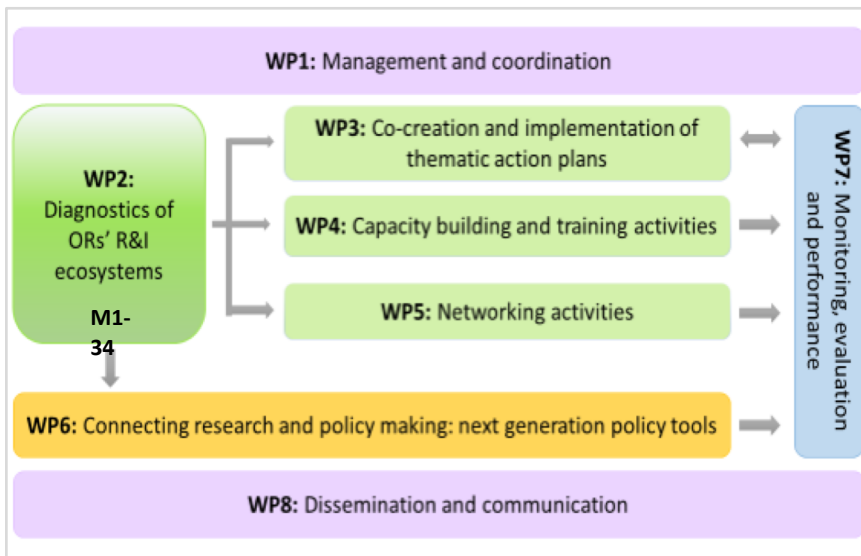
The FORWARD H2020 project involves 24 partners from the 9 European Outermost Regions:

- Canary Islands
- French Guiana
- Guadeloupe
- La Reunion
- Madeira
- Martinique
- Mayotte
- Saint-Martin
- The Azores

## Project framework



## 9 Work Packages



WP No	Title	Lead beneficiary
WP1	Management & coordination	GOBCAN
WP2	Diagnostics of ORs R&I ecosystems	NEXA
WP3	Co-creation and implementation of thematic action plans	ITC
WP4	Capacity building and training	FRCT
WP5	Networking	GOBCAN
WP6	Connecting research & policy making	ARDITI
WP7	Monitoring, evaluation, performance	CDM
WP8	Dissemination & communication	CTG
WP9	Ethics requirements	GOBCAN



## Technical Work Packages

### **WP2 Diagnostics of OR's R&I ecosystems (NEXA, La Réunion)**

- Understanding of needs and obstacles of ORs in terms of infrastructure, equipment, knowledge & skills, and networks;
- Identification of assets and opportunities for ORs;
- Definition of a joint strategy for OR R&I ecosystem performance improvement.

### **WP3 Thematic Work Groups (ITC, Canary Islands)**

- Reinforcement of the actual and reveal the potential competitive advantages of ORs in their respective sectors or fields of expertise;
- Establishment and coordination of 8 thematic working groups, composed of experts from ORs or from other countries e.g., health, marine sciences, biodiversity, climate & energy, ICT.

### **WP4 Capacity building (FRCT, Azores)**

- Design and implementation of tailored capacity building actions to increase skills for participation in EU projects;
- Creation of a network of ORs R&I Officers to promote and support on the long term the participation of ORs in EU Research Framework Programmes.

## Technical Work Packages

### **WP5 Networking activities (ACIISI, Canary Islands)**

- Strengthened collaboration between ORs and other research and innovation organizations in EU and Third countries;
- Organisation of mobilities among researchers and scientific/brokerage events for networking.

### **WP6 Connecting research and policy making (ARDITI, Madeira)**

- Facilitation of dialogue between the research community and policy makers;
- Production of policy recommendations to better tackle ORs' gaps and challenges in the future Framework Programmes.

## Transversal Work Packages

WP1 Management (ACIISI, Canary Islands)

WP7 Monitoring, evaluation, and performance (CDM, Mayotte)

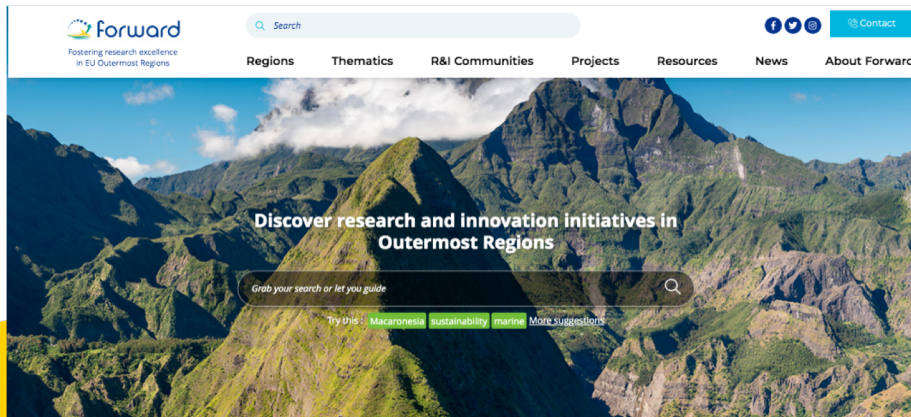
WP8 Dissemination and communication (CTG, Guyane)

# Relevant impacts & results for exploitation #1

WP2 ORs' diagnostics generated:

- A replicable methodology to analyze regional participation in the EU Framework Programme and design an effective action plan to increase it.
- An [online platform](#) to showcase OR R&I capacities based on WP2 mapping:

<https://forward-h2020.eu/>



This is a screenshot of a table from the 'forward' platform. The table has four columns: 'Name', 'Country', 'R&I', and 'Participating'. The table is currently empty, showing only the header row.

This is a screenshot of a detailed table from the 'forward' platform. The table is titled 'EUROPEAN UNION' and has several columns. The columns include 'Region', 'Country', 'R&I', 'Participating', and 'Contact'. The table contains multiple rows of data, with some cells highlighted in yellow. The data appears to be organized by region and country, listing various research and innovation initiatives.

## Relevant impacts & results for exploitation #2

### Capacity building, policy-making, and networking

Continuous **webinars, trainings, and workshops** on EU funding management and writing, policy-making, and networking organised by FORWARD partners. Follow our media networks and our website, where there is a section dedicated “[Events](#)” regularly updated.

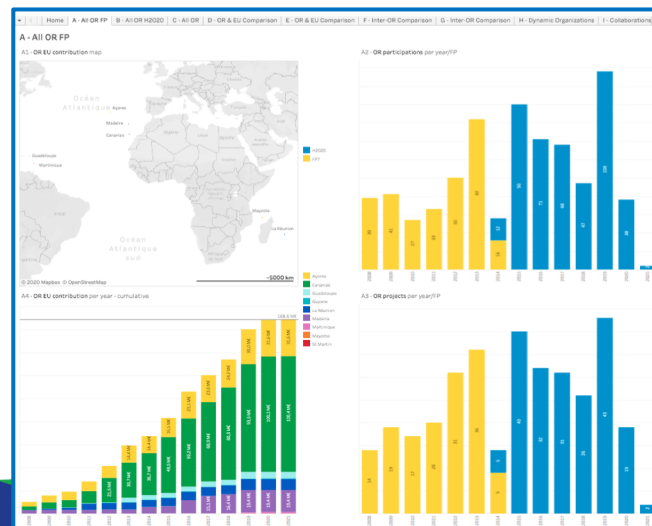
### FORWARD public deliverables

All deliverables and project reports are made available open-access on our website, section “[Resources](#)”.

### Two open-data dashboards on:

[R&I indicators](#)

[FP participation](#)



## Relevant results for exploitation #3

### FORWARD thematics and thematic working groups

The 8 thematics of the project are presented on the website, and if interested, you can join our thematic working groups (TWGs).

<https://forward-h2020.eu/thematics/>

R&I researchers from other EU regions and Third Countries could benefit from:

1. meeting counterparts from the ORs
2. gain visibility in an international quadruple-helix network
3. training and networking activities
4. new tenders' opportunities and international partners

To join TWGs, you can contact the responsible partner:

Instituto Tecnológico de Canarias S.A.

[forward@itccanarias.org](mailto:forward@itccanarias.org)

#### 8 THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS





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THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION



JOIN-US !

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