

CHIST-ERA Essentials

Widening Countries Policy

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Motivation

With the objective to promote high quality proposals and spread research excellence in Europe, CHIST-ERA 'Widening' activities leverage on CHIST-ERA calls for European research proposals to:

- ✓ Open well established non-Widening Countries research networks to most talented researchers in the Widening Countries.
- ✓ Enrich the European S & T landscape with varied perspectives and scientific and technology challenges to tackle.

Support Actions

This policy orientation follows two lines of actions: Involve research funders in the Widening Countries and involve research teams in the Widening Countries in the funded projects. With regard to the latter, the objective targets both higher participation and coordination rates:

- In CHIST-ERA calls, the selection criteria prioritise projects with Widening Countries in case of ex aequo projects.
- Dissemination of CHIST-ERA call funding opportunities is strengthened in Widening Countries.
- A Partner Search Tool is made available at www.chistera.eu.
- An additional funding for coordination support may be granted by some funders of the Widening Countries.

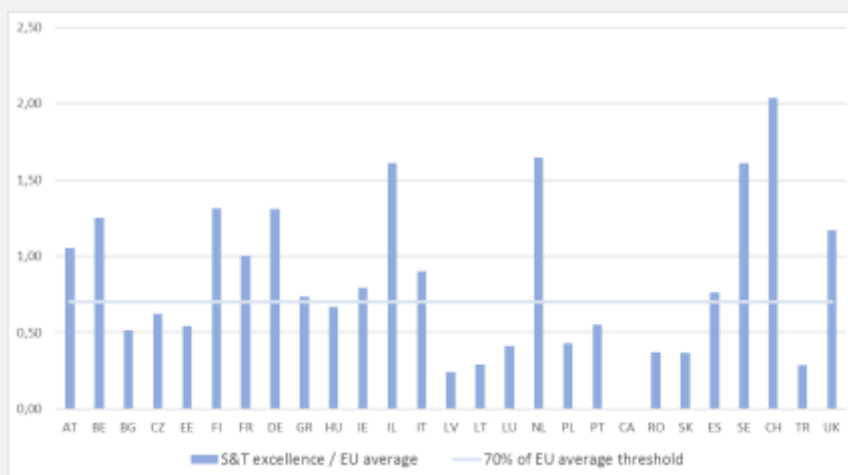
CHIST-ERA Widening Countries

Over the years, the network of research funding organisations in CHIST-ERA has reached an important coverage of the European Union Widening Countries:

Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Slovakia

Origin of the 'Widening' Classification

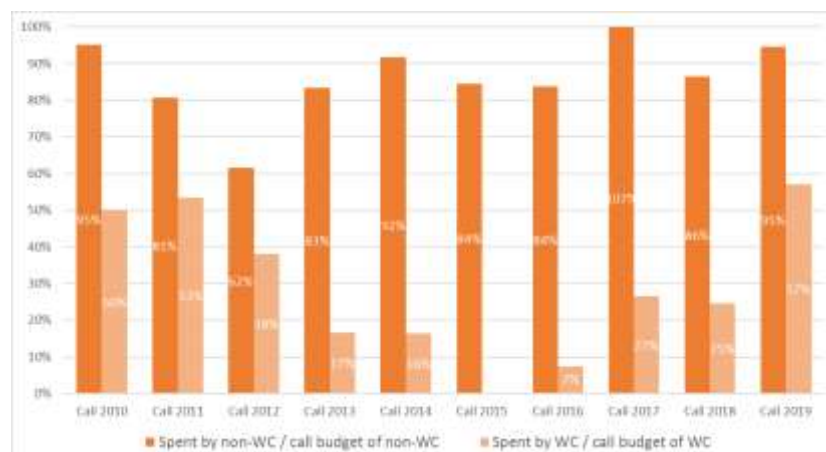
The Widening Countries designate a list of low performing countries in R & I, be they European Union Member States or Associated Countries to Horizon Europe*. A country falls into this category when its score against a composite indicator¹ is below 70% of the European Union average.



* The graph corresponds to Horizon 2020. In Horizon Europe, Luxembourg is replaced by Greece.

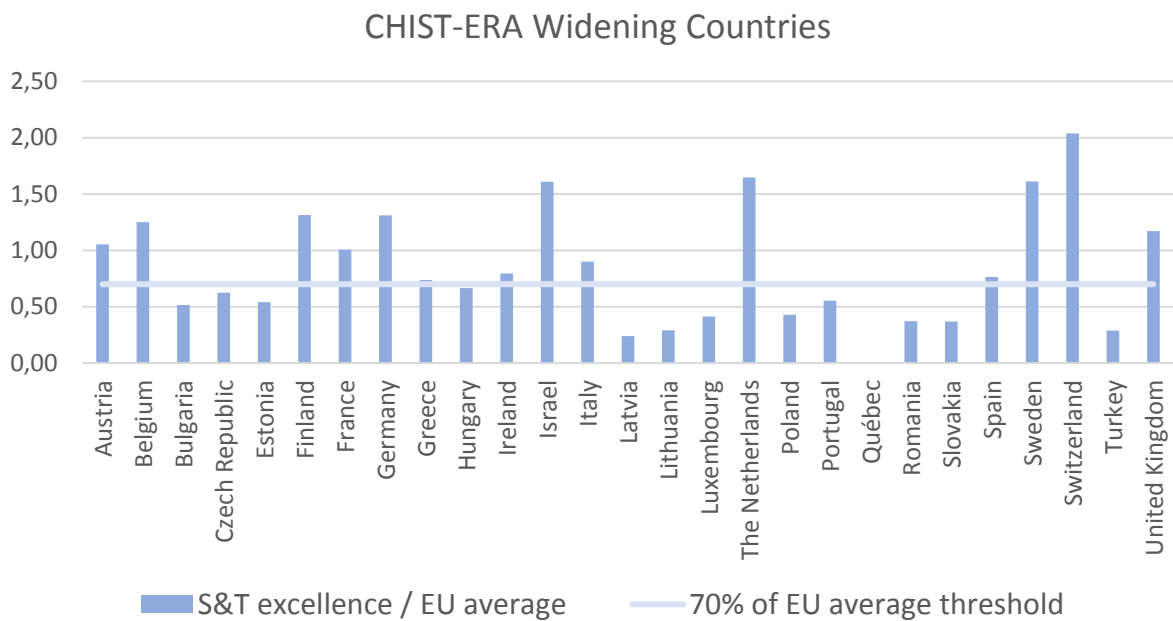
Funding Opportunity

Past data show that the call budget available for the researchers in the Widening Countries remains underspent compared to the percentage of budget spent by the funders of the non-Widening Countries.

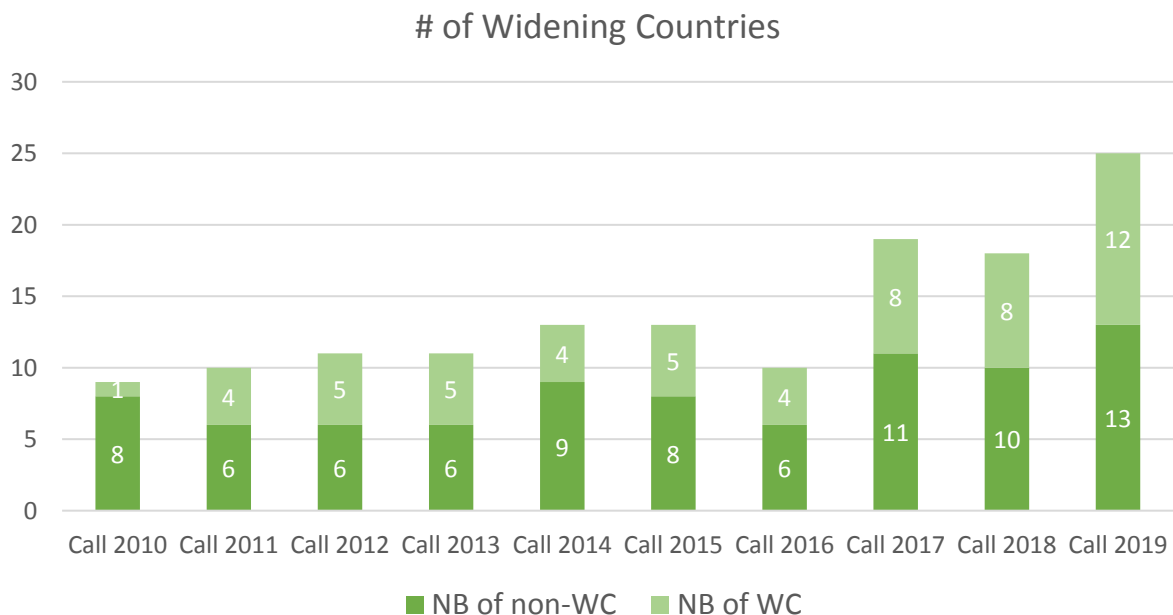


Annex: 2020 Statistics on Widening Countries Participation in CHIST-ERA

As of 2020, CHIST-ERA comprises 12 Widening Countries: 11 European Union Members States and 1 Associated Country to Horizon 2020.

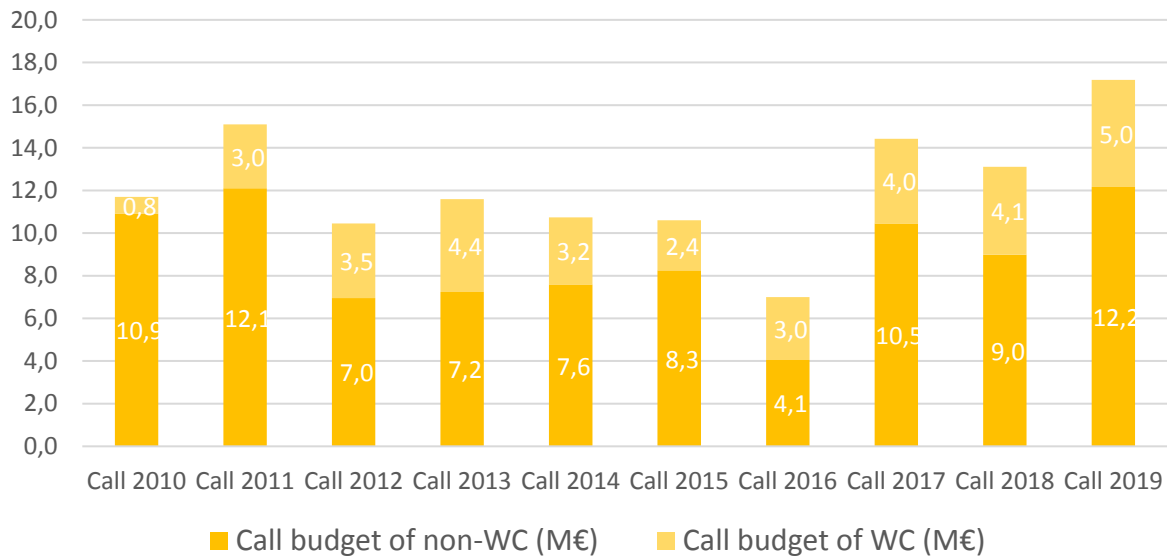


Over the 10 calls of CHIST-ERA, the participation of Widening Countries has increased from 11% in 2010 to 48% of the call countries in 2019.



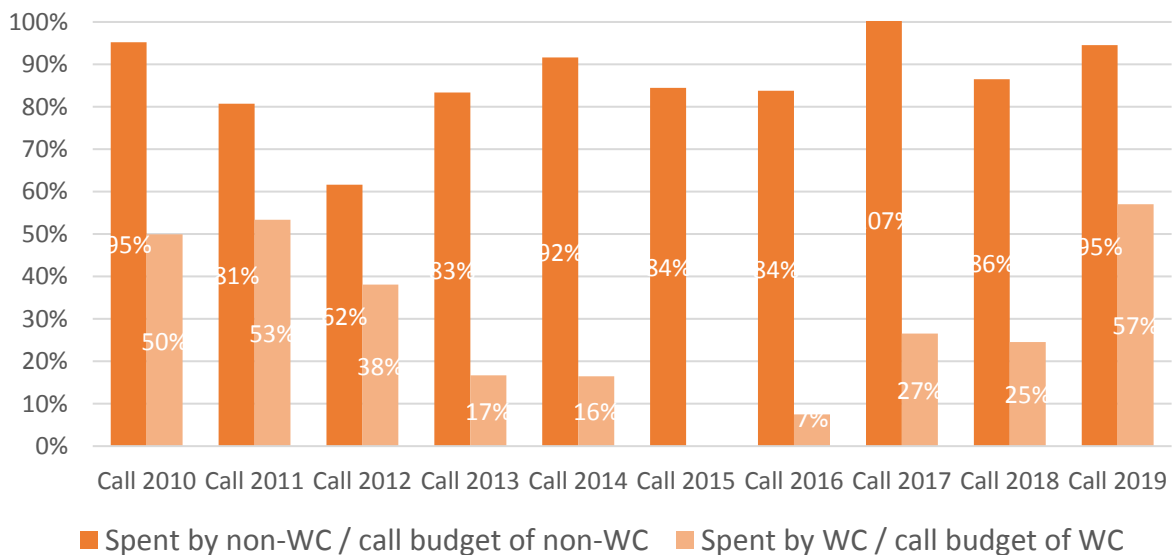
During the same period, from 2010 to 2019, the call budget available for researchers in the Widening Countries has been multiplied by 6.

Country Call Budgets

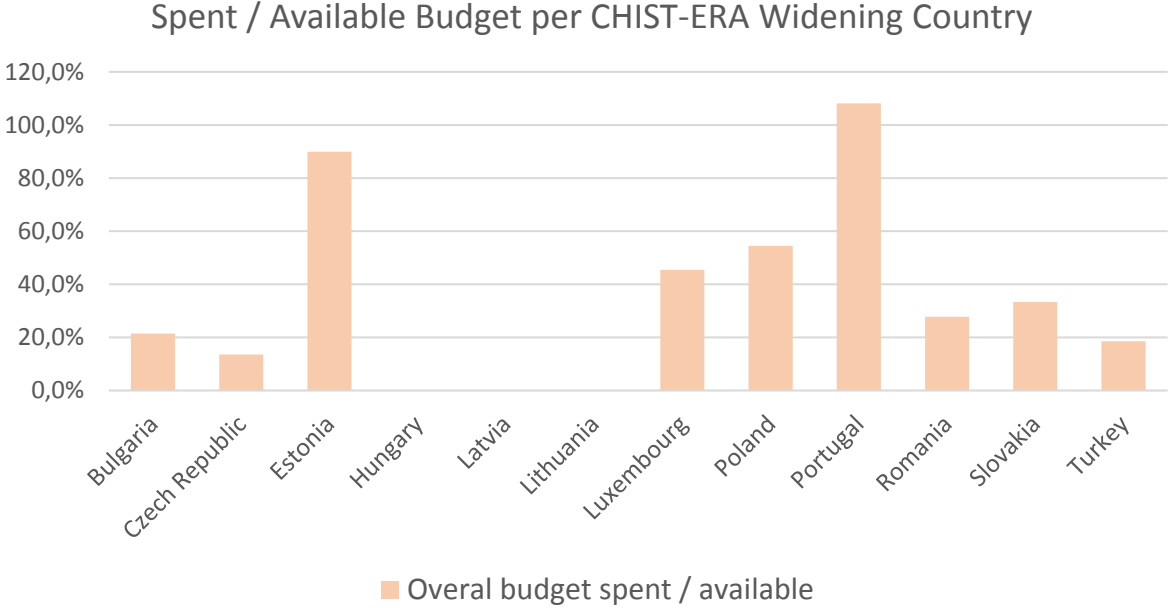


In general, compared to the available budget, the budget spent is in proportion smaller for the Widening Countries than for the non-Widening Countries.

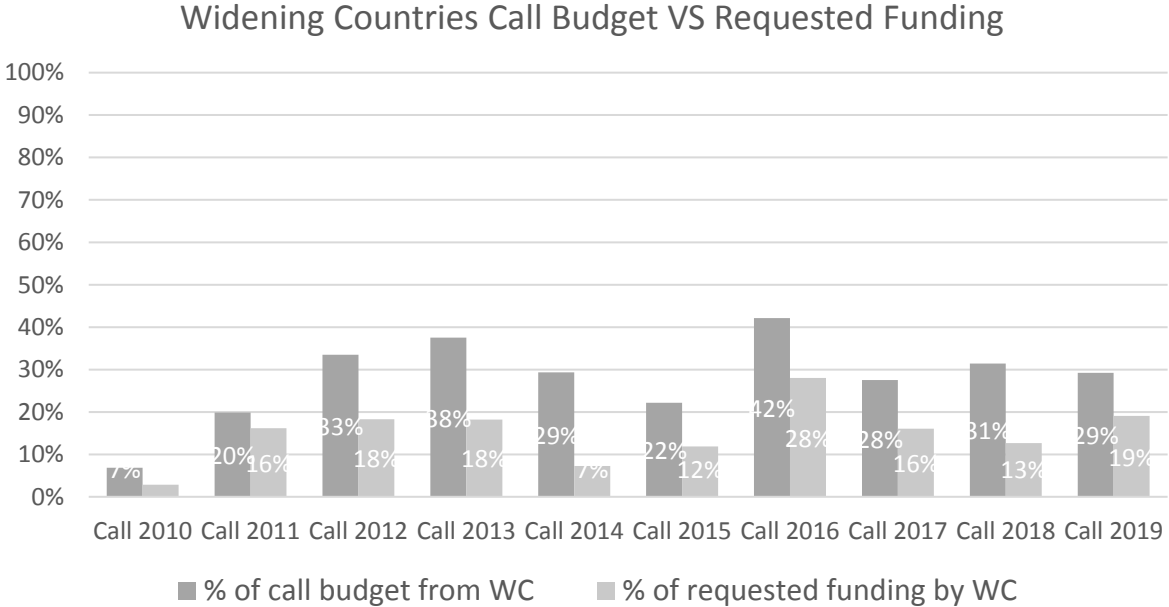
Country Spent / Available Budget Ratio



Across the Widening Countries in CHIST-ERA, some research funders may have limited capacity to increase the participation of researchers in their country.



In general, the funding pressure (the amount requested by the applicants compared to the available budget) is lower for the Widening Countries.

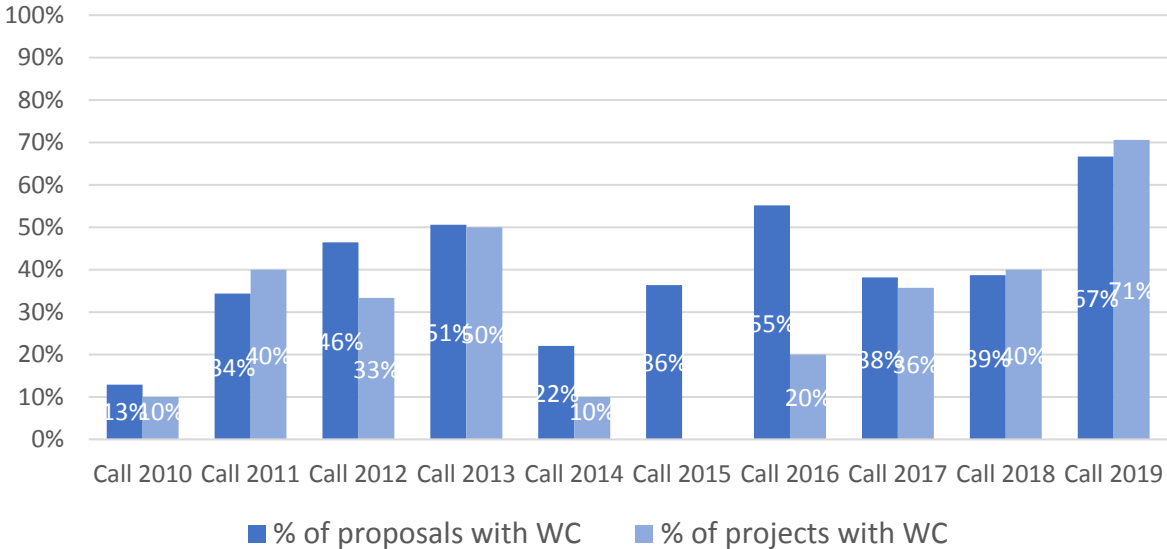


The rate of proposals submitted with Widening Countries is increasing over time. The proportion of selected projects with the Widening Countries is often equivalent to the same ratio at the application stage.

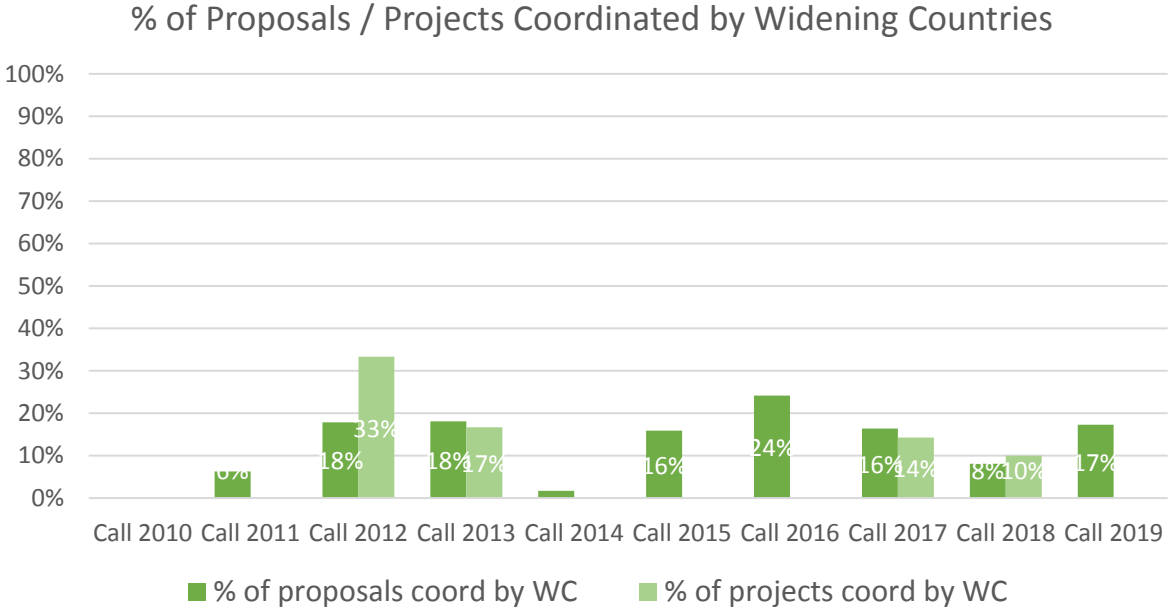
All the proposals submitted so far comprise partners in the non-Widening Countries.

Widening actions should both maximise the rate of proposals submitted with Widening Countries and ensure that the success rate of this group of proposals remains close to the call success rate.

Share of Proposals/Projects with Widening Countries

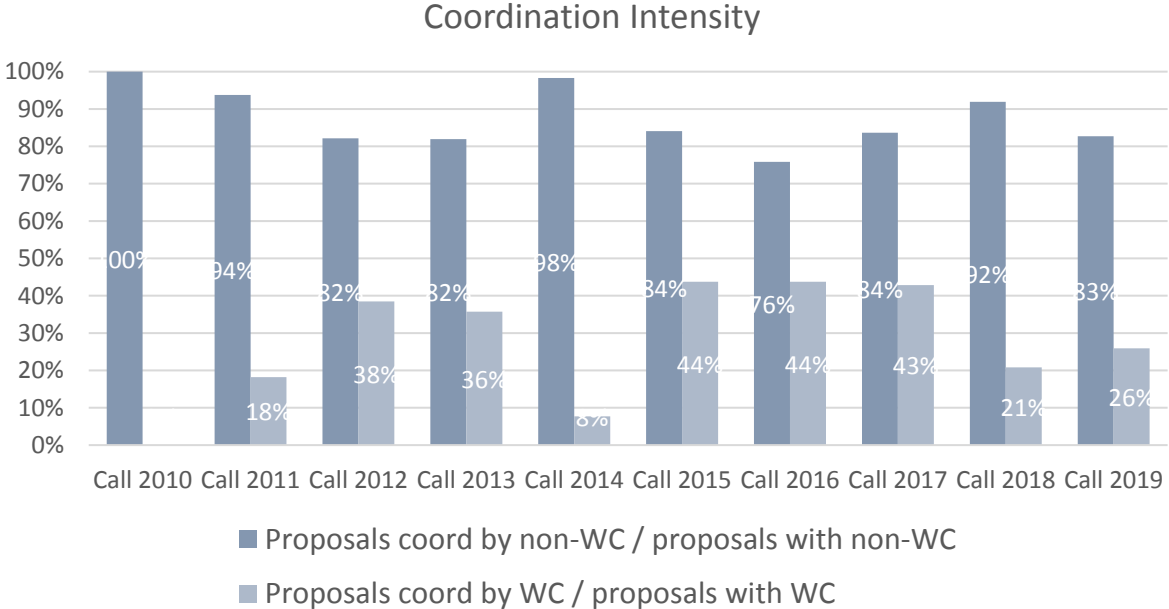


Coordinators located in the Widening Countries are less numerous than coordinators in the non-Widening Countries.

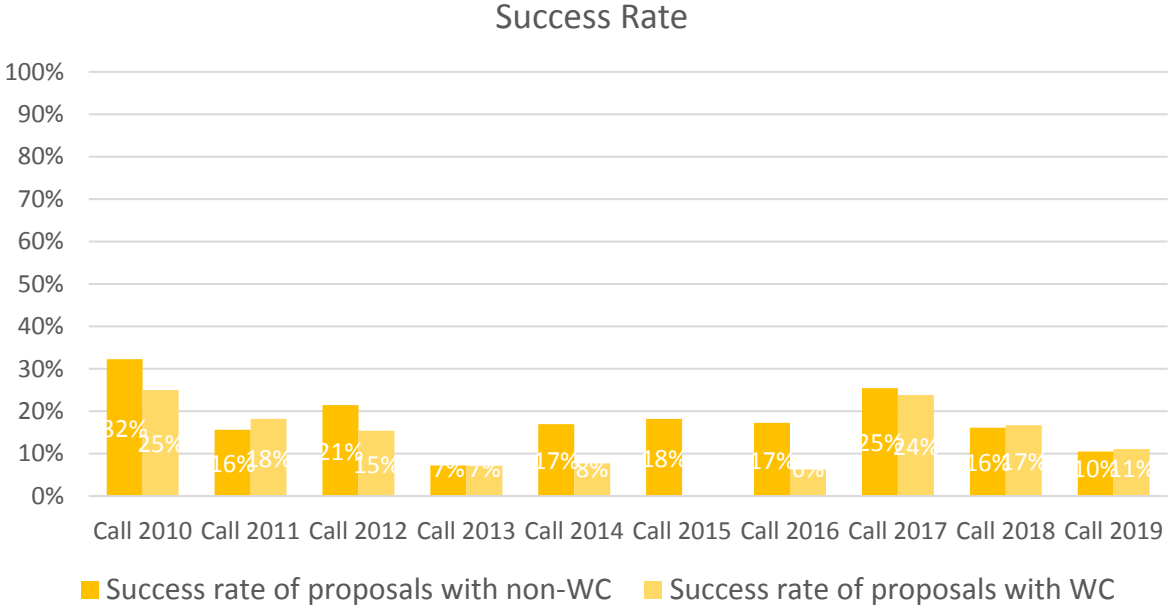


Proportionally to the numbers of applicants in the Widening Countries or outside, partners in the Widening Countries are less likely to coordinate the consortium.

Widening actions should encourage applicants in the Widening Countries to coordinate.



Over the last three calls, the call success rate is not impacted by the inclusion of partners in the Widening Countries.



Coordinators from the Widening Countries in the selected projects are almost absent.

