

# How Horizon 2020 Supports Aims of Small Businesses

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# Horizon 2020

## Key objectives

Support EU's position as a world leader in science (77%– ERC)



Help secure industrial leadership in innovation (incl. €13.7 billion for KET, and **greater access to capital and support for SMEs**)

Towards addressing major concerns shared by all Europe, across:

HEALTH  
FOOD  
ENERGY  
TRANSPORT  
CLIMATE  
SOCIETY

## Horizon 2020 – Priorities

- Generating **excellent science**
- Fostering **industrial leadership**
- Supporting activities: research → market
- Responding to challenges of the **Europe 2020**



Use and dissemination of  
knowledge up to its  
commercial exploitation!

## Horizon 2020 – Priorities

SUPPORT —→ All Stages in  
**Innovation Chain**



# Innovation Impact on SMEs

## 1. Simplification

- in design, rules, financial management & implementation
- attract strong participation of industry
- simpler funding rules
  - ⇒ lower administrative costs for participation
  - ⇒ unit (average) personnel costs

## 2. Synergies

- develop close synergies with other Union programmes (e.g. SMEs)

## Innovation Impact on SMEs

### 3. Participation of SMEs

- Quantitative and qualitative assessments → part of evaluation and monitoring

### 4. Specific actions

- Dedicated SME instrument for all types of SMEs
- Instrument implemented consistently and tailored to SMEs

### 5. Integrated approach

**15% of the total budget** (for SMEs)

**"Leadership in enabling & industrial technologies"**

**"Societal challenges"**

## Industrial Leadership

**Horizon 2020** → help innovative EU SMEs to grow into world leading companies

### *Industrial technologies leadership*

**Support** ICT, NANO, materials, BIO, manufacturing, processing, space

**Convergence** between technologies

### *Innovation in SMEs*

**Stimulate** all forms of innovation in SMEs

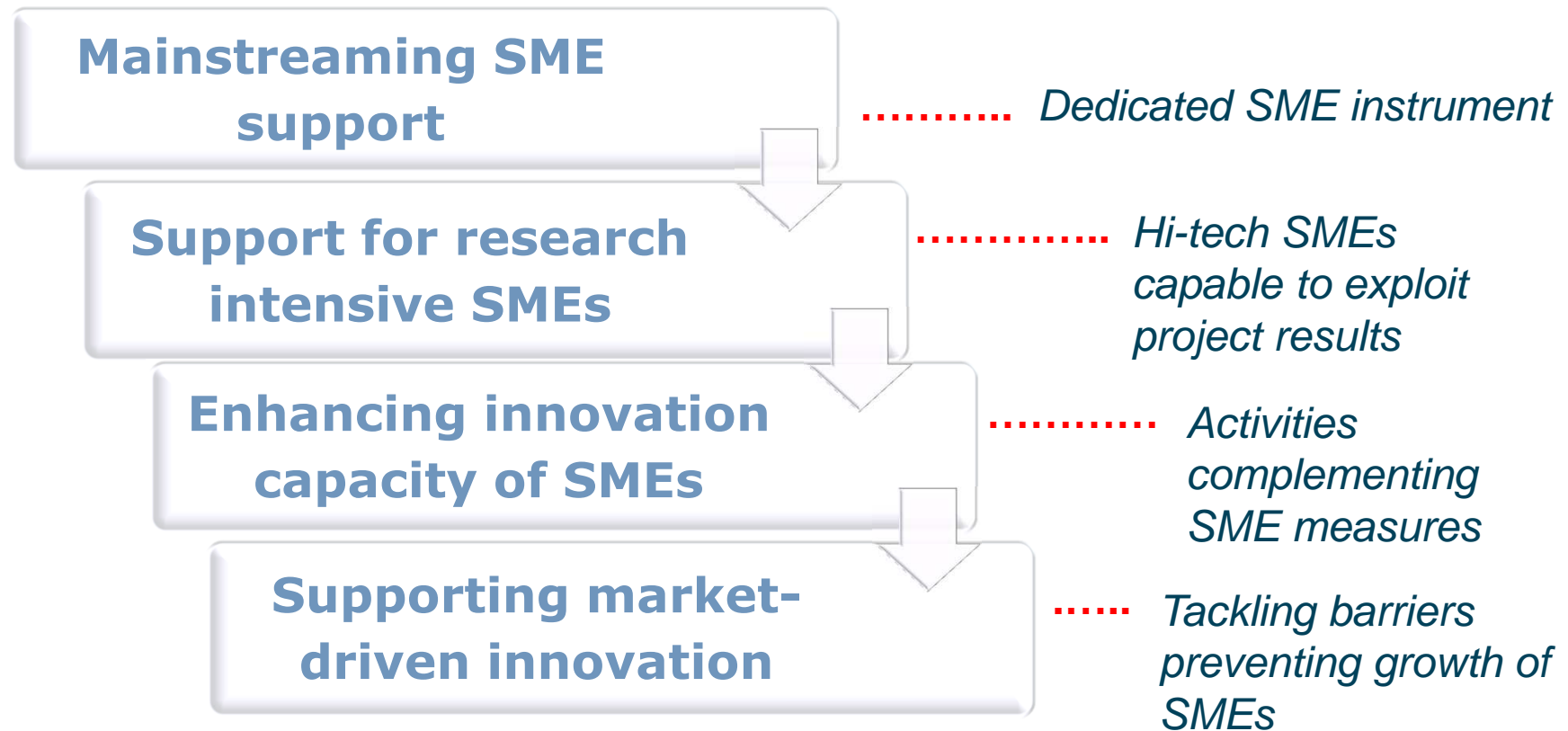
**Target** SMEs with potential to grow & internationalise across Single Market

### *Access to risk finance*

**Overcome** deficits **Debt & Equity** finance for innovative companies & projects

**Develop** EU level of venture capital

# Research & Innovation in Small Businesses





## Access to Risk Finance

### Activities

- **Improve access** to debt financing— loans, guarantees, counter-guarantees & other forms
- **Target SMEs**, mid-caps, large firms, universities and research institutes, R&I infrastructures, PPP...



**Demand-driven** – on a first come, first-served basis

**Targeted** – policies & key sectors for tackling societal challenges

↓  
*Competitiveness*

↓  
*Sustainability*

↓  
*Low carbon economy*

## Access to Risk Finance



### *Focus on & Use*

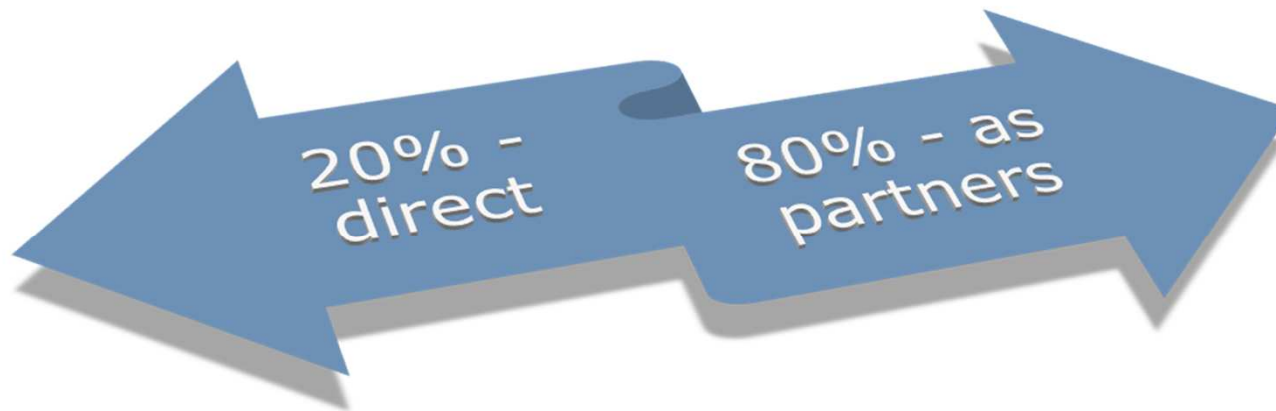
- **Early-stage venture capital** funds providing venture capital and quasi-equity to individual portfolio enterprises
- **Portfolio approach**- venture capital funds select firms to be invested in

**Start-up window** – seed and early stages investments in knowledge-transfer organisations, seed capital funds, cross-border seed funds, business angel vehicles, IP assets,...

**Growth window** – growth-stage investments under the COSME (in funds-of-funds across borders, venture capital funds)

## Support for SMEs

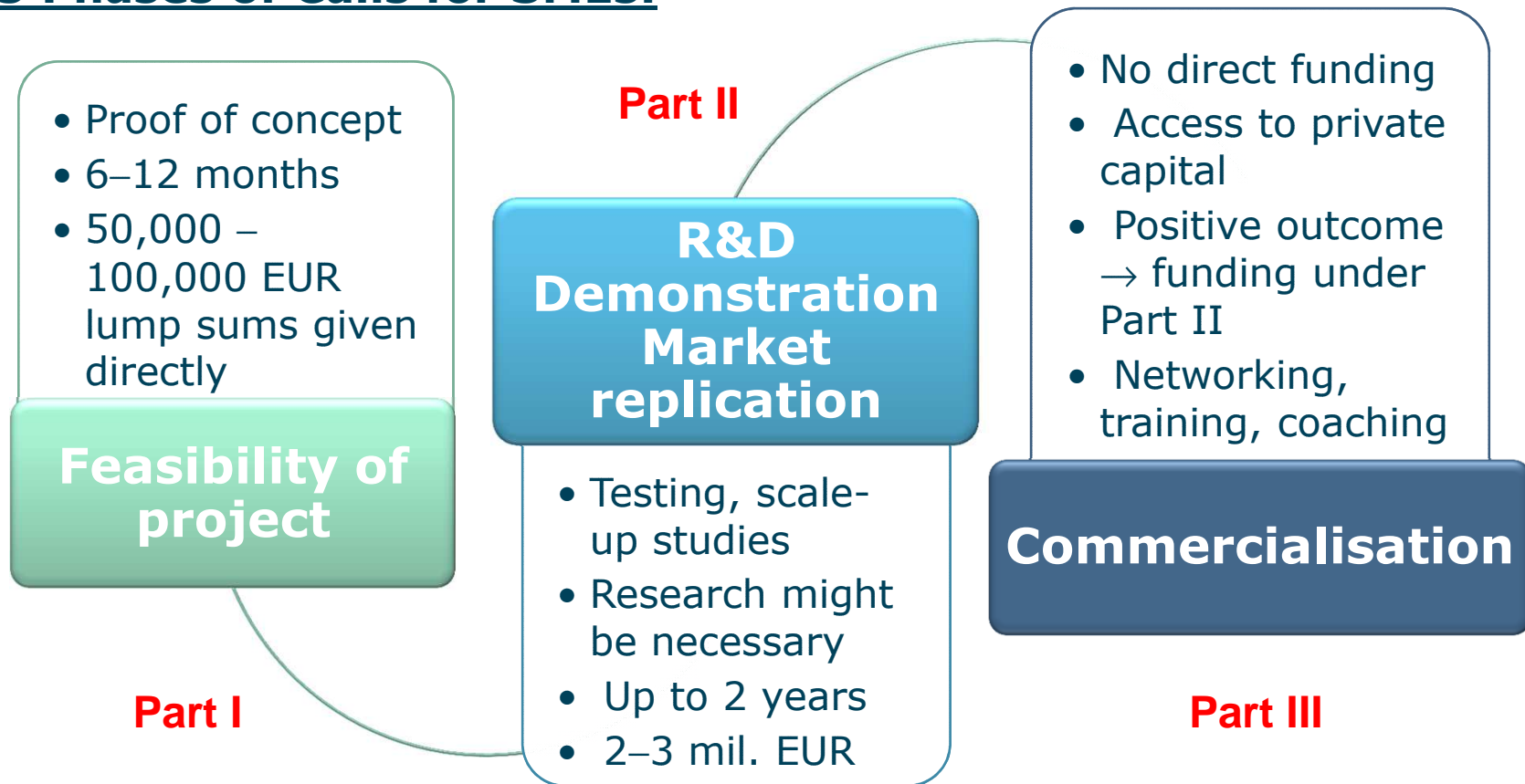
### Participation:



- **Stimulate SMEs to lead** R&D collaborative project where product launched in market within short time
- **Assistance in connecting** to research and innovation partners across EU
- **Allow to spin in technology** and build on existing intermediaries
- **Link with EEN:** information services → mentoring, coaching, partner searchers

# Targeted SME Instrument

## 3 Phases of Calls for SMEs:



# Business Innovation Friendly Environment



**Cross-border collaborations:**  
innovation strategy of SMEs

**Regional and national programmes:**  
essential in promoting SMEs

**Projects:** in line with companies'  
innovation strategies

**Demand driven,** bottom up logic, no  
predetermined priorities

**Focus on policies and key sectors:**  
crucial for tackling societal challenges

**KETs & FETs:** basis for industrial  
competitiveness

# Thank you for your attention!

Find out more:

[www.ec.europa.eu/enterprise](http://www.ec.europa.eu/enterprise)

[www.ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020](http://www.ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020)