

EN
E-011613/2015
Answer given by Mr Moedas
on behalf of the Commission
(14.10.2015)

Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020), takes a challenge-based approach to research and innovation, it is not a discipline-driven programme. This is why neither biomedical engineering, nor any other discipline per se, is given a specific place in the programme.

Biomedical engineering is nevertheless crucial in addressing many of the challenges found in the programme. For example, in the 2014-2015 work programme, the health, demographic change and well-being challenge has supported work on tools and technologies for advanced therapies, in vivo medical imaging technology, advancing active and healthy ageing with information and communication technology - service robotics within assisted living environments, and information and communication technology solutions for independent living with cognitive impairment. In addition, the programme on nanotechnologies advanced materials, biotechnology and advanced manufacturing and processing has supported topics on scale-up of nanopharmaceuticals production, biomaterials for the treatment of diabetes, and nanomedicine therapy for cancer.

In addition to these specific topics, biomedical engineering is also supported by Horizon 2020 through European Research Council¹ grants to individual researchers working on subjects of their own choosing.

The next Horizon 2020 Work Programme will be published in autumn 2015; there will certainly be additional opportunities for biomedical engineering. Details will be found at the Participant Portal².

¹ <http://erc.europa.eu/>

² <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html>