

WGO Research and Innovation Funding News, Nº 397_14 June 2024

Wageningen Grant Office (WGO) Newsletter for Wageningen University & Research on the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, other international Grants, national and regional Grants, and on relevant EU, Global and national R&D and innovation developments.

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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe and FP10

Horizon Europe Workprgrammes 2025 (13 June 2024)

Source: WGO

At the moment the EC is working on the drafting of the Horizon Europe Workprogrammes 2025. At the moment DRAFTs of several Clusters and other parts of Horizon Europe are circulating. We put several relevant DRAFT versions on our WGO Portal. However, please be aware of the fact that these can be changed by the EC till official publication of the final work programmes. We have DRAFT Workprogrammes 2025 from cluster 1, 4, 5 and 6 and the ERC on our portal https://intranet.wur.nl/Project/GrantOffice/Pages/I_JubwgF5kWqvKHE_9Fp5g .

Draft Act Annex_ERC_2025 wp April 2024.pdf CL5_WP 2025_PC version_2024-04-29.docx

Industry Space part - First draft wp 2025_v02May241600.docx digital parts- First Draft WP 2025 Cluster 4-digitalv30.05.24.docx

CL6 - second draft WP 25.docx

HORIZON-CL1-2025_05_31_2024.docx

For Cluster 6 the official publication is foreseen Q1 2025 with deadlines in September 2025. This 'delay' is due to the European elections.

FP10 needs more innovation competitions and fewer grants (13 June 2024)

Source: Website Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/fp10-needs-more-innovation-competitions-and-fewer-grants

In a call for radical change, Thomas Jarzombek, R&D spokesman for the CDU, says the EU should fund challenges where teams compete head to head



Thomas Jarzombek, German parliamentary spokesman for the opposition Christian Democratic Union (CDU) on education, research and technology assessment.

The successor to Horizon Europe should feature more competitions between teams of innovators, with only those that hit early milestones winning full funding, an influential German politician has argued.

With lobbying underway in Brussels over the size and shape of the tenth framework programme, FP10, Thomas Jarzombek, parliamentary spokesman for the opposition Christian Democratic Union (CDU) on education, research and technology assessment, wants a "different risk culture" where the EU is not afraid to yank funding from projects that are not working out.

Jarzombek's CDU, along with its Bavarian sister party, won last weekend's European elections and is comfortably leading polls ahead of next year's federal election, so is likely to be a key voice in shaping FP10, which starts in 2028. Currently, competition for money in Horizon Europe is fierce at the application writing stage, but once awarded, there is generally little danger of consortia losing it, so long as they report on their progress.

But Jarzombek instead wants competitions where a number of teams that are each trying to achieve a single research or technology goal are whittled down milestone by milestone until only one or a handful are left and then receive full funding to complete the project. Competitions and procurement contracts should, in some areas, replace grants, he says. "If you have 10 teams going 10 different ways, the opportunity to achieve is much better than to take all the budget [and give it to] only one," he told Science|Business.

This competitive approach is how Germany's recently established innovation agency Sprin-D works, and Jarzombek wants FP10 to copy this approach.

"If you're in competition and have these milestones, and you see work by your competitors, you always have to fear that your company will be closed," he said. This spurs people to go the "extra mile" and make decisions in days, not the years that it sometimes takes in public projects, he said.

The archetypal example of this kind of competition comes from the US, where in 2004 the US Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (Darpa) offered \$1 million to any team that could develop a self-driving car that could cross 300 miles of Mojave Desert. This grand challenge is seen as one of the formative events in the self-driving car industry.

Read full article here: https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/fp10-needs-more-innovation-competitions-and-fewer-grants

Information & Matchmaking Event Horizon CL4 Digital & Digital Europe (12 June 2024)

Source: RVO https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/8de2e670-0fd4-4760-acec-b7b2dfa98799@1321633e-f6b9-44e2-a44f-59b9d264ecb7

The Digital National Contact Points (NCPS) from Austria, the Nordics and the Benelux are hosting an online information and matchmaking event on currently open call topics under Horizon Europe Cluster 4 Destination 4 & 6 that have a common deadline on 18 September 2024. In addition, on one funding call topic under the Digital Europe Programme that is currently open with a deadline of 24 September 2024.

Therefore, we invite you to join us on **Monday**, **June 24th at 15:00-17:00 CEST**, as we will host the event targeting consortia and organizations looking to participate in the currently open calls. In the event, you will have the opportunity to look at the currently open funding calls and pitch in Breakout Sessions your consortium or organization to potential partners!

The calls topics covered in this event include the following:

- Advancing Large Al Models: Integration of New Data Modalities and Expansion of Capabilities (Al, Data and Robotics Partnership) (RIA): https://ec.europa.eu/info/fundingtenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl4-2024-digital-emerging-01-03
- Explainable and Robust AI (AI, Data and Robotics Partnership) (RIA): https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl4-2024-human-03-02
- Digital Humanism Putting people at the centre of the digital transformation: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl4-2024-human-03-03
- Facilitate the engagement in global ICT standardisation development (CSA):
 https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl4-2024-human-03-04
- **Developing and deploying a network of quantum gravimeters in Europe**: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl4-2024-digital-emerging-02-01
- European Digital Identity and Trust Ecosystem (Standards and Sample Implementation):
 https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/digital-2024-bestuse-tech-06-trust

Go to the following link for more information and to register: Information & Matchmaking Event - Horizon CL4 Digital & Digital Europe https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/8de2e670-0fd4-4760-acec-b7b2dfa98799@1321633e-f6b9-44e2-a44f-59b9d264ecb7

Please note that the registration deadline is on Thursday, June 20th at 18:00hrs CEST.

EU election unlikely to rock the research boat (10 Jun 2024)

Source: website Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/news/european-research-area/eu-election-unlikely-rock-research-boat

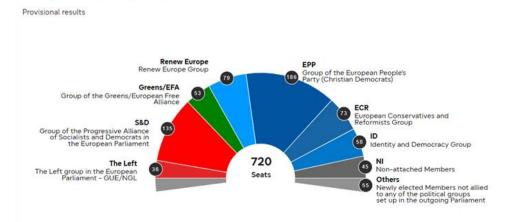
With the biggest groups in Parliament set to remain the same, research and innovation priorities won't drastically shift, experts say



Roberta Metsola, current president of the European Parliament, was re-elected as an MEP with a reported 87,000 first preference votes. Photo: Philippe Buissin / European Union

The results of the EU elections will not cause an "earthquake" for research and innovation policies, as the largest political group, the European People's Party (EPP), is on course https://results.elections.europa.eu/en/germany/ to maintain its dominance.

European Parliament 2024 - 2029



With votes still being counted, the centre-right EPP, left-wing Socialists and Democrats and centrists Renew Europe are set to remain the Parliament's biggest groups. Current European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen has said she will try for another grand coalition with these three groups, meaning that despite gains by far-right parties around Europe, the centre of gravity in the Parliament will remain largely unchanged.

"The results by themselves are not an earthquake in terms of R&I policies; we have seen very broad consensus about these in the past, and this will probably not change," said Thomas Jørgensen, director for policy coordination and foresight at the European University Association.

The EPP, Jørgensen said, has in the past dominated the R&I agenda in the EU, particularly through vocal individuals such as German MEP Christian Ehler, who is set to be re-elected. Jørgensen hopes that other parties in the new Parliament will put R&I higher up their priority list as it becomes increasingly important for Europe's competitiveness and autonomy.

"There is definitely room for more R&I champions in the hemicycle. More parliamentarians advocating for investment in R&I, across the political groups, would be a game-changer," he said.

Robert-Jan Smits, president of the executive board of the Eindhoven University of Technology and former director general of research and innovation at the European Commission, also believes that the new Parliament will continue on the same track for R&I.

"Traditionally in the Parliament, the EPP, S&D and Renew Europe have been the biggest supporters of the EU research policy and programmes. I am convinced that their support will continue after the elections," he said.

Kurt Deketelaere, president of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), is optimistic about the direction of R&I policies following the results. **LERU is calling** for https://www.leru.org/files/LERU-key-messages-EU-education-innovation-research-policy.pdf increased investment in R&I, better protection for academic freedom, better coordination of R&I funding across different EU- and national-level programmes, improving the attractiveness of research careers, among other points.

"Realisation of this within an EPP/S&D/Renew context is of course most opportune since all three have a positive attitude vis-à-vis R&I and education," Deketelaere said. "We hope for the continued leadership of Christian Ehler on R&I in the Parliament, he is our best guarantee for safeguarding the EU R&I agenda."

Read full proposal: https://sciencebusiness.net/news/european-research-area/eu-election-unlikely-rock-research-boat

Other International funding

Subsidy scheme Eurostars: new call and webinars (11 June 2024)

Source: Website Eurostars and RVO

The **Eurostars** https://english.rvo.nl/subsidies-financing/eurostars program, offering funding for international R&D collaboration and co-funded through Horizon Europe, opens a new call from 12 July – 12 September 2024. In preparation of this call, the Eureka Secretariat organizes a webinar

https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1151108849458831965 on the application procedure on 10 July 10:30-12:00.

RVO hosts a webinar https://english.rvo.nl/events/how-write-succesful-eurostars-proposal-2-july on preparing excellent proposals specifically for Dutch applicants on 2 July, from 9:30 until 10:30. Both webinars will be recorded so you can also watch them at your convenience.

Pre-announcement: research needed on Water-Food-Nexus in rain-fed agrifood systems in Sub Saharan Africa (6 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-research-needed-on-water-food-nexus-in-rain-fed-agri-food-systems-in-sub-saharan-africa



Over the past decades, much work has been done on improving the moisture holding capacity of the soil in agricultural landscapes. Yet, here has been little scaling of soil moisture retention practices beyond specific projects. This NL-CGIAR Water-Food-Nexus (WFN) call aims to enable scaling-up of soil moisture retention practices among smallholder farmers in rainfed agri-food systems.

Aim of the call

Scaling of soil moisture retention practices has not taken place because (on the short term) it has often not been profitable, desirable or simply not possible from a farmer's perspective to invest in the moisture holding capacity of the soil. With the predicted increased severity of dry spells caused by climate change, however, the role of soil moisture as buffer against production losses becomes more important. Therefore, when dry spells increase in frequency and severity, the relative profitability and/or desirability of investing in soil moisture retention might increase. For this call, rainfed agri-food systems include: cropping systems, mixed farming systems (e.g. with food-fodder-livestock) and pastoralist systems.

The specific objectives of this call for proposals are:

- Gain insights in the socio-economic barriers and opportunities in the enabling environment for scaling of water retention practices with a changing climate;
- Gain insights in and provide options for governance functions and governance attributes that support scalingup of moisture retention practices;
- To strengthen cooperation among CGIAR researchers, Dutch researchers and local partners.

Consortia can choose whether to focus on either the first or the second objective, always in combination with the third objective, or to focus on all three objectives at the same time.

Research projects are to be executed in Sub-Sahara Africa. Projects that focus on one country need to take place in one of the Dutch MoFA focus countries/regions. Multi-country projects need to include at least one of the Dutch MoFA focus countries/regions are: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia, Great Lakes Region (eastern DRC, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda), Kenya, Mali, Niger, Mozambique, Sudan, Uganda, South Sudan.

Online information meeting 8 July 2024

8 July 2024, from 13:00-15:00 CEST, NWO organises an online information meeting to provide more information on the call, to answer questions and to provide an option for attendees to meet each other. Please register below for the information meeting. The call is expected to be published on the NWO website end of June 2024. To participate, please use the registration form which you can **find here:** https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-research-needed-on-water-food-nexus-in-rain-fed-agri-food-systems-in-sub-saharan-africa

For more information: https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/netherlands-cgiar-research-programme

National funding

NWO debate series: 'It is a myth to think that science is value-free' (12 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO news https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-debate-series-it-is-a-myth-to-think-that-science-is-value-free



Is it desirable for scientists to speak out in public debate? What is scientific freedom? And who decides whether or not you can collaborate with Shell as a researcher? These questions are more relevant than ever and are at the heart of the NWO debate 'Science with(out) an opinion' on activism in science. While the debate on 10 June 2024 is going on at Nikhef on the Science Park, a few kilometres away students are once again demonstrating at the VU against the war in Gaza.

You can watch the debate at this site https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-debate-series-it-is-a-myth-to-think-that-science-is-value-free

'During the debate, let's not let emotions get the better of us,' says moderator Esther van Rijkswijk beforehand. 'The goal is not to agree, we mainly want to better understand the different points of view. And that is only possible if we proceed in a calm, scientific manner.'

Defending the scientific point of view

Keeping emotions in check proves quite successful during this debate. That was different during the climate protest on the A12 last year. Panel member **Klaas Landsman**, professor of mathematical physics at Radboud University, was there. In toga. 'From my scientific expertise, I have been convinced by the IPCC reports and so I felt I could also stand in toga to show that the protest is in line with the scientific position.' To the speech he had prepared, he also added emotional improvisation in the heat of the moment. 'I became a different person standing there with that applause and those water cannons. In retrospect, it would have been purer for that part if I had taken that toga off, but on the other hand, it probably had more impact now.'

Read full article here: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-debate-series-it-is-a-myth-to-think-that-science-is-value-free

New HTSM call opened (11 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-htsm-call-opened



The Netherlands faces major societal and economic challenges. The high-tech sector plays a crucial role in the transitions needed to overcome these challenges. The new HTSM call 2024, a collaboration with top sector Holland High Tech, aims to stimulate fundamental and application-oriented research in the field of High Tech Systems and Materials in the Netherlands.

View the call for proposals: https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/high-tech-systems-and-materials-htsm-2024

Stimulating high-tech research

The HTSM programme is in line with the 15 technological roadmaps of Holland High Tech as well as the National Technology Strategy (NTS). This strategy identifies key technologies needed in upcoming transitions, such as the energy transition, the circular transition and the development of digitalisation. This HTSM call stimulates research in the field of High Tech Systems and Materials in the Netherlands, in order to strengthen and expand the knowledge position of high-tech in the Netherlands.

The formation of consortia of companies and researchers is significant in this context. Public-private partnerships provide application-oriented innovation that can set transitions in motion.

Focus on two key technologies

This year's call revolves around two key technologies from the National Technology Strategy. Applications must make an explicit contribution to one of the following themes:

- Energy Materials: the focus is on the (further) development of techniques for small-scale heat storage, including in thermochemical materials, phase transfer materials and via redox heat storage.
- Imaging Technologies: the focus is on the beginning of the imaging chain: from sensor/detector to image, or in other words: from image acquisition to image reconstruction. The call aims to (further) develop technologies with applications within this chain.

Budget and deadline

A total maximum of 7.5 million is available for this call. 2.5 million euros of this budget are provided by NWO and 5 million euros from top sector Holland High Tech. A total of eight applications is expected to be awarded. Furthermore, there is a co-funding requirement: co-funders must contribute at least 20% of the total application amount. The deadline for submitting applications is **Thursday 10 October 2024, before 14:00:00 CEST.**

For full article: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-htsm-call-opened

Five projects break the ice on Antarctic research (11 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO news https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/five-projects-break-the-ice-on-antarctic-research



The Antarctic climate and ecosystem are changing rapidly, raising many questions. For this reason, the Dutch Polar Programme has granted a total of 4.6 million euros to five projects conducting Antarctic research. Following the decision of NWO's Governing Board, the Dutch-British projects will study ice shelf melting, the role of plankton for climate gases, the history of the global climate, and animal species that do not belong there.

The aim of the call 'Antarctic research in collaboration with the British Antarctic Survey is to fund excellent scientific research that connects to the themes of climate change and ecosystem dynamics. Two of the projects focus on changes in biology, ecology, causes of stress and permanently frozen ground during their research. Ice and climate is what the other projects will deal with.

The original budget of this call was €4.0 million, which allowed four proposals to be funded. Due to the high quality of the proposals submitted, the Board decided to increase the budget so that one additional proposal could be awarded.

Dutch polar researchers and the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) have a decades-long collaboration focused on the Rothera, the BAS's main research station. Four of the five projects will make use of this while conducting their research.

For more information about funded projects: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/five-projects-break-the-ice-on-antarctic-research

NFU 'Let science work' campaign to stop research cuts (6 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nfu-let-science-work-campaign-to-stop-research-cuts



The outline agreement of PVV, VVD, NSC and BBB announces substantial cuts. These cuts raise concerns in the scientific field about the position of the Netherlands as a knowledge and innovation country. This is why the Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centers (NFU) is launching the "Let science work" campaign this week. NWO supports this campaign.

The coalition parties indicate in the outline agreement that they want to make substantial cuts in science and innovation. The Knowledge Coalition, the alliance of researchers and entrepreneurs of which NWO is also part, is concerned about the consequences of this for the knowledge position of the Netherlands, according to an earlier reaction. The agreement states that the Growth Fund will be phased out (round 4 and 5 will be cancelled), the Research and Science Fund will be reduced by 1.1 billion euros and a cut of 215 million euros per year will be made to the sector plans (higher education). These investments are urgently needed for the public knowledge base and innovation capacity of the Netherlands.

'Let science work' campaign

Because of these concerns, the Dutch Federation of University Medical Centers is launching the 'Let science work' campaign. In the campaign, the NFU calls on scientists to join forces by showing the future cabinet that their research is indispensable for moving the Netherlands forward. Therefore, they share what their research contributes concretely to our society and call for an end to the cuts in science. NWO supports this campaign and calls on scientists who share concerns about the plans in the outline agreement to join the campaign.

More information about the campaign on the website of the NFU: https://www.nfu.nl/en/node/686 (in Dutch)

Eligibility criteria amended for SSH Open Competition M 2024 (6 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/eligibility-criteria-amended-for-ssh-open-competition-m-2024



Based on the evaluation of the first SSH Open Competition M round in 2022, a number of changes to the eligibility criteria have been made for new 2024 M round. In the new round, one co-applicant per application is allowed without the eligibility restriction on the number of years after PhD defence. This creates more possibility of involving junior researchers in projects within this funding instrument. Furthermore, following

feedback from research, applicants to the new M round is allowed to have a project leader role in another ongoing NWO project (with the exception of projects within the SSH Open Competition).

Budget

The budget remains unchanged from 2022 at 23.5 million euros, with which about 60 applications can be granted.

Timeline

The call is expected to open at the end of June. The deadline for submission is 31 October 2024.

NWO wants more awareness of possible undesirable consequences of scientific research (5 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-wants-more-awareness-of-possible-undesirable-consequences-of-scientific-research



Researchers must reflect on the possible consequences of their research, both desired and undesired, when submitting their research proposal in the near future. NWO is also going to look more critically at its own collaborations with third parties. To this end, a framework has been drawn up to test research collaborations. NWO is taking these steps so that the best research is carried out with the greatest contribution to science and society.

That also means that we think even more carefully about the possible undesirable consequences of scientific research Jan de Boer, member Executive Board NWO

The public debate surrounding the collaboration of science with companies has caused NWO to re-examine the current policy and take these steps. 'NWO aims to fund research with the greatest possible desirable scientific and societal impact on people, planet and society - for now and the future. Given the social discussions about science collaborating with other parties or unwanted influence of others on science, we think it is important to dwell on what we aim to achieve through collaboration. So that also means that we think even more carefully about the possible undesirable consequences of scientific research and limit them as much as possible. We would like to create more awareness of this in our own organization and among all researchers," explains Jan de Boer, Jan de Boer, chair of NWO's domain Science and portfolio holder for this topic of the Executive Board.

Read full article here: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-wants-more-awareness-of-possible-undesirable-consequences-of-scientific-research

Preannouncement for NGF-call GroenvermogenNL: Human Capital with a Learning Community approach (4 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO news https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/preannouncement-for-ngf-call-groenvermogennl-human-capital-with-a-learning-community-approach



The National Growth Fund call 'Towards the future. Learning communities as drivers of the green hydrogen economy' is expected to be launched in July 2024. The NGF programme GroenvermogenNL aims to accelerate

the transition to green hydrogen by stimulating investment, promoting innovation and exploiting scale-up opportunities. This requires many well-trained professionals and practitioners with the right knowledge and skills. That is why GroenvermogenNL, in collaboration with a large number of stakeholders, created the Human Capital Agenda (HCA) in 2021. A budget of €26,800,000 is available for this call.

Aim of the call

To bring new knowledge on the labour market, GroenvermogenNL links knowledge development with regional learning communities where innovation, learning and work converge. Research results are implemented and further developed in these learning communities. In this manner, GroenvermogenNL realises skills valorisation: translating new knowledge from research and innovations into value through the development of skills for professionals and students. This call encourages research into regional solutions for creating and shaping an ecosystem of work, learning and innovation through practical research. Collectively, these regional ecosystems form a national ecosystem of work, learning and innovation to accelerate the hydrogen transition. This call for proposals aims to contribute to knowledge development for the benefit of this ecosystem as a whole.

The call is expected to open in July 2024. €26,800,000 is available for research from the National Growth Fund programme GroenvermogenNL. Seven applications, each from one region in the Netherlands, can be funded under this call.

Call-procedure

The procedure for this call for proposals consists of three phases:

- 1. Register for workshops (until 15 October 2024);
- 2. Participate in the workshops (week of 4-15 November 2024);
- 3. Submit a full application (11 March 2025).

During the workshops, participants from each region will work towards one regional consortium and one application for each of the seven regions. Registration for the workshops is an open procedure. An information session on this call for proposals will be organised in September 2024.

For more information: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/preannouncement-for-ngf-call-groenvermogennl-human-capital-with-a-learning-community-approach

Funding for six projects within Open Technology Programme (4 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-for-six-projects-within-open-technology-programme



Six application-oriented research projects can start with funding through the Open Technology Programme from the NWO Domain Applied and Engineering Sciences. NWO is contributing over 5 million euros to these application-oriented technical-scientific projects. Industry and other organisations add over 1 million euros.

The awarded projects within the Open Technology Programme will conduct research on topics including:

- second-phase particles that play a key role in strengthening steel. These particles tend to be less controlled in steel made in part from recycled (scrap) materials, thus making strengthening green steel more difficult.
 Research on these particles will improve the core properties of steel and the production process of green steel. (project: PLEDGE)
- an innovative and economically viable way to valorise methane. This technology combines microwave
 generators and mid-infrared frequency combs spectroscopy, converting methane into ethylene. Thus, this
 process provides an alternative to burning methane that produces less CO2 emissions. (project: Accessing
 ultrafast timescales to achieve a climate neutral chemical industry)
- innovative technology to develop molecules that can influence protein-protein interactions in the cell. Since
 malfunctioning of these protein-protein interactions leads to diseases, these molecules can form a basis for
 future drugs. (project ASPPIRe)

For more information about the six projects awarded: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-for-six-projects-within-open-technology-programme .

Five applications for Scientific Meetings and Consultations awarded by NWO (5 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/five-applications-for-scientific-meetings-and-consultations-awarded-by-nwo



The aim of this programme is to facilitate academic networks and collaboration in the (inter)national context within the natural and physical sciences, including collaborations with other scientific domains, by means of scientific meetings and consultations. The programme supports the exchange of research and ideas as well as the formation of research communities.

Via this low-threshold instrument, researchers can request support for the organisation of scientific meetings as well as consultations for the formation of new (cross-domain) teams and consortia.

The NWO Domain Science Board decides multiple times per year on the submitted applications. Applications can be submitted continuously.

Visit the programme page: https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/scientific-meetings-and-consultations for more information.

For the awarded applications: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/five-applications-for-scientific-meetings-and-consultations-awarded-by-nwo

New round of Faculty of Impact opened (4 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-round-of-faculty-of-impact-opened



How do you ensure that scientific solutions to societal issues reach the market? Faculty of Impact offers researchers from the alpha, beta, and gamma sciences an intensive, two-year programme where they learn how to make an impact with their research and start their own business. A new call round of Faculty of Impact is now open until 1 October 2024.

Call for proposals: https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/faculty-of-impact-24/25-agriculture-water-and-food-and-circular-economy

Making an impact with research

At the Faculty of Impact, talented researchers receive guidance to develop their ideas for the market. Researchers from all scientific fields (alpha, beta & gamma) can participate in the Faculty of Impact. The programme aims to further develop and scale up creative and breakthrough ideas. This call is intended for PhD students who have almost completed their PhD research, but also for postdocs, university (head) lecturers or other scientific staff.

Themes of call round 2024

As of 2024, the Faculty of Impact round focuses on the 5 themes of mission-driven innovation policy, with a special focus on two themes each year. In 2024, the two highlighted themes are the following:

- Agriculture, water and food: The Netherlands need a vital rural area and resilient nature in a climate-resistant
 environment. Water and soil are a driving force, the agricultural and food system is sustainable and healthy
 and the delta is safe;
- Circular economy: the Netherlands is fully circular in 2050.

There is also room for proposals around the three other themes from the mission-driven innovation policy, namely:

- Energy transition: Netherlands climate neutral by 2050;
- Health and care: People in the Netherlands live five years longer in good health and there are 30% fewer health differences between socio-economic groups in 2040;
- Security: The Netherlands is safe and resilient against external threats and undermining crime, both in the
 physical environment and the digital domain.

Budget and deadline

The Call for proposals is now open. Fourteen fellows are expected to participate in this round of Faculty of Impact and a maximum application grant of €185,000 applies to each of them.

The deadline for submitting applications is 1 October 2024, by 14:00:00 CEST

TEKNOWLOGY 2024: Program Announced (3 June 2024)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/teknowlogy-2024-program-announced



The countdown has begun. In a few weeks, on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, the next edition of TEKNOWLOGY will take place in Utrecht. TEKNOWLOGY is NWO's annual innovation festival where knowledge and innovation lead to societal impact. At TEKNOWLOGY, visitors experience the technological innovations of the future.

"Transition: Shaping Tomorrow, Today" is this year's theme. The world is constantly changing. Transitions are needed to replace systems and technologies that no longer meet current needs. At TEKNOWLOGY, we explore these transitions from various perspectives and investigate different solutions and possibilities. What do we need to succeed in this journey? At TEKNOWLOGY, researchers, policymakers, and industry professionals work together interdisciplinarily towards a just and sustainable future.

The program offers many opportunities to gain new knowledge, share experiences, and connect with researchers, policymakers, and the business community. Discover whether technology is a friend or enemy of loneliness, or why interdisciplinary collaboration is crucial and how it can lead to impact. The innovation festival also offers opportunities to develop skills. Are you a researcher ready to transition into entrepreneurship but don't know where to start? During the session "How to become an innovative entrepreneur," you will learn about the transition from the academic world to an innovative startup.

At TEKNOWLOGY, we look to the future together. During the session "Future Visions: Human Interaction in Future Healthcare," you will learn more about healthcare innovation and how different scientific disciplines play an important role in it. At the innovation market, you will face the innovations of the future. More than 30 institutes will be present at the innovation market this year; **check out all the demonstrations here** https://www.teknowlogy.nl/innovation-market-teknowlogy-2024.

Registration is still possible, and we hope to welcome you to TEKNOWLOGY 2024!

Find the full programme https://www.teknowlogy.nl/programme-1 and the participating speakers https://www.teknowlogy.nl/speakers on the Teknowlogy website.

Register for TEKNOWLOGY: https://www.aanmelder.nl/tek24/registration

Regional funding

More than €1.5 billion available for farmers and nature in provinces (7 June 2024)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid Actual News https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2024/06/07/ruim-%E2%82%AC-15-miljard-beschikbaar-voor-boeren-en-natuur-in-provincies

The government wants to make €1.54 billion available **for so-called frontrunner measures in the region.** This concerns measures for, for example, making livestock farms more sustainable or nature restoration that can be implemented quickly. The provinces submitted plans for this last year. These plans have subsequently been tested several times and have been proven to contribute to future-proof agriculture and the goals for nature, water and climate. Now that the assessment has been completed, the provinces – together with all those involved – can continue with the implementation.

Measures for agriculture and nature

The government believes it is important to enable frontrunner measures so that the provinces can realize concrete proposals from the areas and continue to make progress. The plans are very diverse. About half of these provincial measures are aimed at future-proof agriculture. Consider, for example, measures aimed at innovations, extensification, and advice and support for entrepreneurs. In addition, measures have also been approved that focus on nature, water and climate, such as creating new forests and nature restoration, adjusting the water level in peat meadow areas and stream restoration.

In order to ensure responsible expenditure of resources, Wageningen Economic Research (WECR) was asked last year to provide advice on the submitted frontrunner measures. Only measures that, according to WEcR, have a plausible target range and sufficient risk control are financed. This means that the measures make a clear contribution to achieving the water, nature and climate goals and future-proof agriculture. WEcR has provided points for improvement for the measures, and the government and the Ecological Authority have also provided advice. The provinces adjusted their plans accordingly and resubmitted their improved measures at the beginning of April. Since improving the plans was conditional on the financing, a final test has taken place in recent weeks. Now that this last step is complete, financing is possible. The provinces will receive the money as quickly as possible, so that they can continue with implementation.

Read full article here: https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2024/06/07/ruim-%E2%82%AC-15-miljard-beschikbaar-voor-boeren-en-natuur-in-provincies (in Dutch)

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

Industry urges progress on EU biotech initiative (13 June 2924)

Source: Website Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/news/biotech/industry-urges-progress-eu-biotech-initiative

'Ambition and urgency' is needed in implementing the biotechnology and biomanufacturing initiative, says industry group EuropaBio



Europe's largest biotech industry association is calling the EU to make good on promises to address regulatory barriers, boost investment and support knowledge transfer, to make Europe a more attractive destination for biotech companies.

In a position paper https://www.europabio.org/biotechnology-is-a-critical-technology-roadmap-to-a-globally-competitive-and-resilient-eu/ EuropaBio calls for "ambition and urgency" in the implementation of the EU's biotechnology and biomanufacturing initiative, and for "dedicated structures" to be set up in the Commission, the Parliament and the Council to drive the initiative.

When she presented the plan in March, executive vice president of the European Commission Margrethe Vestager spoke of an ambition to "make Europe a global biotech leader. But publication of the plan came too late for any specific measures or budget proposals to be put forward before the EU elections.

The Commission has identified biotech as **one of four critical technologies**https://sciencebusiness.net/news/ai/commission-review-four-critical-technologies-amid-rising-competition-china , alongside advanced semiconductors, artificial intelligence, and quantum.

Amongst the four critical technologies, biotechnology is [the one that is] best positioned for Europe to establish a leadership position," said Clare Skentelbery, EuropaBio director general, launching the paper. Europe could lead the global race to deploy biotech at scale, but this will require significant legislative effort and budget inputs over the coming five years the paper says.

The biotech initiative aims to fix the regulatory complexity, lack access to finance and difficulties of translating research to the market, that compromise Europe's competitiveness. It includes a pledge to review the EU's Bioeconomy strategy by the end of 2025.

The Commission wants to help companies scale up and attract private investment by including specific challenges in biotech and biomanufacturing in the European Innovation Council (EIC) accelerator work programme for 2025. It is also planning to study ways to support the consolidation of investment funds, stock exchanges and post-trading infrastructure.

At the launch, EuropaBio welcomed the plans, but is now calling for the EU to go further and adapt its sustainable finance taxonomy framework, to distinguish between biotech and conventional processes, and incentivise investment in the sector.

German research organisations criticise 'discriminatory' Israel boycotts (13 June 2024)

Source: Website Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/news/universities/german-research-organisations-criticise-discriminatory-israel-boycotts

Divisions in Europe sharpen over whether to cut research ties with Israel over its war in Gaza, as more universities sever links



The Alliance of German Science Organisations has criticised research boycotts of Israel, saying they are "discriminatory", "misguided" and "counterproductive".

In a statement https://www.allianz-der-wissenschaftsorganisationen.de/en/topics-statements/gegen-einen-boykott-der-israelischen-wissenschaft/ on 11 June, the body representing university rectors, funding agencies, and research networks like the Max Planck Society, said it, "strongly rejects calls for a boycott of Israeli researchers and Israeli scientific institutions."

The statement is the latest salvo in an escalating rift in European research over whether to cut academic projects and student exchanges with Israel over the country's war in Gaza. Israel is a long-standing associated country to Horizon Europe, receiving hundreds of millions of euros from the EU so far during the research programme.

So far, German academia has lined up behind Israel, while in Spain and Belgium universities have gone furthest in severing ties.

Last month, Spanish universities said that they would review whether or not to suspend ties with Israeli universities that have not committed to, "peace and compliance with international humanitarian law."

The University of Granada has said it would suspend student and researcher exchanges with Israel and cease cooperating with Israeli partners on five Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects.

The University of Valencia announced it would not sign any collaboration agreements with Israeli institutions until there is an end to "crimes against humanity" and human rights violations by Israel. In a decision of its governing council https://www.uv.es/rectorat/noticies/PRONUNCIAMENT%20CONSELL%20DE%20GOVERN%2028%20DE%20 MAIG%20DE%202024%20PALESTINA.pdf at the end of May, Valencia also said it would demand the European Commission stop funding Israeli research.

Meanwhile in Belgium, the Flemish Interuniversity Council https://sciencebusiness.net/sites/default/files/inline-files/027_2024%2005%2030%20European_Commission_Israel.pdf last week asked the European Commission for guidance on how to continue working with Israeli partners in Horizon Europe, given that partners are required to uphold "basic EU values".

Ghent University has decided https://www.ugent.be/en/news-events/cooperation-with-israeli-partners-update-31-may-2024 to "discontinue all ongoing institutional collaborations with Israeli universities and research institutions," while the University of Antwerp put institutional agreements with Israeli institutions on hold https://medialibrary.uantwerpen.be/files/12115/8f8c1a7b-674d-4617-ac03-c603a1b4e375.pdf and is set to screen EUfunded projects with Israeli partners to see if they could contribute to human rights violations.

In Italy, the University of Palermo's academic senate https://www.unipa.it/Situazione-israelo-palestinese-il-Senato-Accademico-approva-il-documento-di-indirizzo/ has said it would suspend Erasmus+ student exchanges with Israel due

to a "lack of essential security guarantees", and was working on broader new procedures to govern research agreements with Israeli institutions.

Universities in Ireland, Slovenia, the Netherlands and Norway have all announced measures https://sciencebusiness.net/news/universities/academic-boycotts-over-gaza-war-jeopardise-israels-place-horizoneurope to limit ties with Israel, although not all amount to full academic boycotts.

Israel has been associated to EU research programmes since 1996 and there are fears that the boycotts could unravel Horizon Europe and future EU research funding programmes. As yet, it is unclear exactly what impact the boycotts will have on individual Horizon Europe projects, with consortia currently working out the exact implications.

Last week, the German MEP Christian Ehler savaged European universities that are boycotting Israel, alleging the "reaction of the academic sector is a fundamental attack on the place of the Jewish people within the European community."

In a letter https://sciencebusiness.net/sites/default/files/inline-

files/240604_Letter%20COM%20Ivanova%20on%20Israel.pdf to research commissioner Iliana Ivanova, Ehler called on the European Commission to, "guarantee the place of Israel and Israeli researchers in the European community."

Meanwhile, **Germany's science minister** Bettina Stark-Watzinger is facing calls to resign after reports https://daserste.ndr.de/panorama/Als-Reaktion-auf-Kritik-Bildungsministerium-wollte-Foerdermittel-streichen-watzinger102.html her ministry explored stripping funding from academics who had signed an open letter https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSfVy2D5Xy_DMiaMx2TsE7YediR6qifxoLDP1zljKzEl9t1LWw/viewform criticising the police clearance of a pro-Palestinian protest camp at the Free University in Berlin.

Although the ministry appears to have decided the idea was not feasible, that it was even considered has triggered intense criticism of the minister from coalition government partners, the opposition, and academic representatives, as an attack on constitutionally-guaranteed academic freedom

The 2024 EU Prize for Citizens Science goes to three projects addressing marine pollution, agricultural biodiversity, and mental health (12 June 2024)

Source: Website EC Research & Innovation https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/2024-eu-prize-citizens-science-goes-three-projects-addressing-marine-pollution-agricultural-2024-06-12_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

Today, the winners of the EU 2024 Prize for Citizen Science were announced. Citizen science - the general public engagement in scientific research activities – contributes to a vibrant civil society and is getting increasingly popular with Europeans.

Out of the 288 applications, three citizen science initiatives received the main prizes and 27 were recognised with honorary mentions.

The winners are:

- The 'Grand Prize', worth €60,000, goes to the EU- funded INCREASE project

 https://www.pulsesincrease.eu/ for its outstanding achievements in advancing knowledge on seed preservation
 through the empowerment of civil society and citizens, in particular from rural areas.
- The Digital Communities prize, worth €20,000, is given to the Horizon 2020 project CoAct for Mental Health https://coactproject.eu/ for its use of digital technologies to develop a personalised approach and improve the quality of life for people facing mental health problems.
- The Diversity & Collaboration prize, worth €20,000, is to SeaPaCS_Participatory Citizen Science against Marine Pollution https://crowdusg.net/seapacs/ for producing transformative knowledge that filled the existing cognitive and emotional gap between society and the sea.

For full article: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/2024-eu-prize-citizens-science-goes-three-projects-addressing-marine-pollution-agricultural-2024-06-12_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

Launch of the new ERA Talent Platform - 20 Years Supporting Researchers in Motion through EURAXESS (10 June 2024)

Source: Website Research & Innovation EC News https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/launch-new-era-talent-platform-20-years-supporting-researchers-motion-through-euraxess-2024-06-10_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

Today, marks the launch of the ERA Talent Platform, a novel solution for researchers and research performing organisations. This comprehensive online gateway offers seamless access to a range of services, including EURAXESS service centres and portals, the HR Excellence in Research initiative, the RESAVER pension scheme, the Innovation Talent Platform and the Research and Innovation Careers Observatory.

By uniting these services under one umbrella, the ERA Talent Platform addresses the research community's demand for a centralised hub that provides all relevant information and enhances the interoperability among such initiatives. The Platform is launched in the framework of the EURAXESS Biennial Conference 2024, taking place in the 2024 European City of Science – Katowice, bringing together the European and worldwide network of EURAXESS and various stakeholders.

Revamped EURAXESS portal and 20 Years Anniversary

During the event, the Commission has also announced the revamping of the European EURAXESS portal, allowing now researchers and research-performing organisations to easier navigate and access information, apply for positions, and take advantage of services offered by the EURAXESS network.

In addition to improving user interaction, the revamped EURAXESS portal allows for better integration with other data systems such as EUROPASS, enhancing data exchange and interoperability. It also improves performance and strengthens security measures to safeguard user data. These updates are integral in supporting the European research community by simplifying access to useful resources and fostering cross-border collaborations.

For more information: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/launch-new-era-talent-platform-20-years-supporting-researchers-motion-through-euraxess-2024-06-10_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

EU Conference shapes new strategy for Research Infrastructures (7 June 2024)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/eu-conference-shapes-new-strategy-research-infrastructures-2024-06-07_en

Representatives from research infrastructures and policymakers convened on 4 and 5 June in Brussels for the "Research Infrastructures in a Changing Global, Environmental and Socio-economical Context" conference. Organised by the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union with support from the European Commission, the event focused on how research infrastructures should respond to a shifting global context, characterized by a volatile and unstable geopolitical situation and rapidly evolving political priorities.

The discussions will feed the development of a new strategy on research infrastructures by addressing key aspects such as investments, access, cooperation with industry, and international cooperation, with due attention to research security. This approach aligns with Enrico Letta's recommendations on the future of the single market. In his recent report https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/ny3j24sm/much-more-than-a-market-report-by-enrico-letta.pdf, Letta defines the empowerment of research infrastructures as a key pillar of the fifth freedom: the freedom of investigating, exploring and creating.

Research infrastructures are crucial for the European Research Area (ERA) as they support EU's priorities such as the green and digital transition, health and European competitiveness. They are vital for maintaining strategic autonomy and research security, both of which are increasingly at stake.

Final approval for Net-Zero Industry Act (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

The European Commission is pleased with the end result of the Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA). Last week the European Council finally approved the law. The NZIA must stimulate European production of green technologies. "With the Net-Zero Industry Act, the EU now has a regulatory environment that allows us to rapidly scale up the production of clean

technologies," said European Commission President Von der Leyen. The law states that production capacity for net-zero technologies must cover at least 40 percent of the EU's annual needs by 2030. By 2040, the EU should reach a 15 percent share of global production. In addition, the NZIA sets a target of 50 million tonnes of annual injection capacity into geological CO2 storage sites in the EU by 2030.

Press release European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_24_2309 Press release European Council: https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/05/27/industrialpolicy-council-gives-final-approval-to-the-net-zero-industry-act/

Why Europe must invest in research and innovation (6 June 2024)

Source: Website Neth-ER https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/waarom-europa-moet-investeren-in-onderzoek-en-innovatie European investments in research and innovation promote economic growth, create jobs and promote technological progress. Investments by the EU make research possible that would otherwise not take place. This is evident from the two reports published by the Commission on the importance of investing in research

and innovation. Erik Canton and Jan-Tjibbe Steeman from DG RTD presented the reports during the Neth-ER

webinar on May 30.



R&I for a competitive, green and fair Europe

Research and innovation (R&I) matter. Solving social, economic and climate challenges starts with R&I, according to the report Why investing in research and innovation matters for a competitive, green and fair Europe - A rationale for public and private action https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/knowledge-publications-tools-anddata/publications/all-publications/why-investing-research-and-innovation-matters-competitive-green-and-fair-europe_en. According to the report, building a competitive, green and fair Europe is necessary at a time of unprecedented transformations and challenges. The Commission refers to black swans and gray rhinos, scientific terms for unpredictable and predictable crises. Investments promote Europe's competitive position, improve living standards and support productivity growth, essential in view of an aging and population decline. Empirical research shows that every euro invested in Horizon Europe has the potential to generate up to eleven euros in returns over a 25-year period.

Investments are lagging behind

Despite this return, European investments are lagging behind. The 3% GDP targets for R&I investments are currently not being met: the EU currently invests only 2.2% of GDP. The EU also lags behind competitors elsewhere in the world in terms of investments, such as China and the US. The gap between private and public investments in Europe is particularly large and must be closed. Addressing this investment gap requires significant contributions from both the public and private sectors, and a well-coordinated policy framework to promote innovation and ensure fair distribution of benefits.

added value of European R&I investments

European financing makes projects possible that would otherwise not go ahead. This not only concerns available resources, but also the type of projects, as shown in the second report The added value of European investments in research and innovation https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/knowledge-publications-tools-anddata/publications/all-publications/added-value-european-investments-research-and-innovation_en. Currently, Horizon Europe can only finance one in three qualitative proposals. To finance all quality proposals, the budget would therefore have to triple from eighty to 240 billion euros. On the other hand, the impact is great: Horizon 2020 was very successful, the evaluation showed. Within Horizon 2020, participants from 177 countries participated in 35,000 funded projects with more than forty thousand organizations. The estimated contribution of Horizon 2020 to European GDP is eight hundred billion euros.

Read full article here: https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/waarom-europa-moet-investeren-in-onderzoek-en-innovatie (in Dutch)

European Court of Auditors: EU must increase the pace of AI investments (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

The EU has so far barely succeeded in developing a European Al ecosystem and has not yet been able to accelerate its investments in Al to catch up with world leaders in this field. This is the conclusion of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) in a report on Al. Since 2018, the European Commission has taken several actions to stimulate the Al ecosystem, for example through regulations, infrastructure, research and investments. However, according to the Court of Auditors, these measures are not sufficiently aligned with those of Member States. Investments are also not systematically monitored. "Large and targeted investments will make a difference in the pace of economic growth in the EU in the coming years," says ECA member Mihails Kozlovs. "In the Al race, there is a risk that the winner will take all. If the EU wants to realize its ambition, the European Commission and the Member States must join forces more. They must step up the pace and unleash the EU's potential to succeed in this great technological revolution." Euractiv and Science Business have written about the report.

Press release European Court of Auditors: https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/news/news-sr-2024-08

Article Euractiv: https://www.euractiv.com/section/artificial-intelligence/news/european-court-of-auditors-commission-failed-to-effectively-coordinate-boost-in-ai-investment/

Article Science Business: https://sciencebusiness.net/news/ai/eu-missed-artificial-intelligence-targets-due-horizon-europe-delay-auditors-find

Election call from European start-up umbrella organizations: "a unique opportunity for an open and technological Europe" (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

A number of startup umbrella organizations, including the Dutch Startup Association, have published a joint statement in the run-up to the European elections. "Europe must transform itself from a regulatory power into a courageous innovation superpower, which relies on an open society for people all over the world," the umbrella organizations say. The startups argue that the EU should support startups not only with regulations, but also with 'concrete private and public investments' and 'proactive strategies for technology development and transfer that go beyond national interests'. Euractiv has written about the statement.

Statement Open and Tech Europe: https://www.openandtech.eu/

Article Euractiv: https://www.euractiv.com/section/competition/news/european-startups-call-for-a-more-integrated-single-market-in-declaration/

Think tank: How should the EU deal with dependencies on Chinese green technology? (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

Member States must ask themselves whether they trust Chinese companies to form the backbone of the EU's green transition. This is stated by the think tank European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) in an analysis. The think tank has identified the so-called 'China factor' in three green industries. Scenarios have been developed in which European leaders decide to 'do everything', 'do something' or 'do nothing' against (potential) dominant Chinese companies in these sectors. "Because economic growth, climate goals and national security cannot all be fully achieved together in these sectors, European policymakers must weigh these up against each other and decide which gets priority, when and how."

Publication ECFR: https://ecfr.eu/publication/trust-and-trade-offs-how-to-manage-europes-green-technology-dependence-on-china/

European STI councils issue joint STE(A)M statement (4 June 2024)

Source: Website AWTI actual News https://www.awti.nl/actueel/nieuws/2024/06/04/europese-wti-raden-brengengezamenlijke-steam-verklaring-uit

The European Advisory Councils on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI Policy Councils) have issued a joint statement on attracting talent from outside Europe and presented it to the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and others relevant authorities.

With this statement, the European Advisory Councils for Science and Innovation Policy want to emphasize the importance of complementary strategies to jointly attract STE(A)M talent from outside Europe to Europe as a whole. The Flemish advisory council VARIO, together with the Advisory Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, took the initiative for this statement.

Europe is already facing a shortage of workers trained in STE(A)M (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics). To achieve all European goals, for example in the field of sustainability and transition, many more talents with these skills are needed, according to the STI Policy Councils.

For statement: https://www.awti.nl/documenten/publicaties/2024/06/04/joint-statement-european-sti-policy-councils-steam-talent

A call to strengthen research and innovation in Europe (4 June 2024)

Source: Website LERU News https://www.leru.org/news/a-call-to-strengthen-research-and-innovation-in-europe In an open letter, LERU and other European research and innovation stakeholders ask for an increased R&I funding in Europe.

In a world of major environmental, societal, and geopolitical crises, it is imperative that Europe invests in its future. Investing in our knowledge capital is the foundation for Europe's competitiveness, wellbeing, and peace. We need urgent solutions to address the complex challenges facing our societies: Climate change, AI, cybersecurity, environmental and energy crises, threats to democracy and security, pandemics, among others. Developing and enhancing excellent research and innovation with a long-term, multidisciplinary, and cross-sectoral perspective is key to our future.

In recent years, North America and Asia have massively ramped up their investments, leaving Europe behind. To remain competitive and advance the economic, ecological, and societal transitions, European countries and the EU must boost their research and innovation funding.

With the #ResearchMatters campaign, leading research, and innovation (R&I) organisations urge Finance Ministers of European countries, and the European Council, Commission and Parliament, to act boldly and:

- Push funding for research and innovation in Europe through the achievement of over 3% of the GDP within the European Union and all European countries.
- Double the budget for the EU's next research & innovation programme (FP10) to reach 200 billion EUR.
- Protect the latter by ring-fencing the budget.

Together, these measures are critical to provide Europe with strategies to cope with current and future geopolitical and societal challenges. By increasing investments in knowledge creation, research, and research-driven innovation, we are investing in the very future of Europe and its people. In this campaign, we urge the European institutions and all European countries, national and regional policymakers, the whole research and innovation community, society, and the media, to join our quest.

The time to act is now! Let's get our act together and build a bright future for Europe.

READ ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN AND STORIES ON THE BENEFITS OF R&I ON: RESEARCH-MATTERS.EU. https://research-matters.eu/

Global policy

Merics: EU must combat knowledge dependence on US regarding science and technology (13 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

Europe must strengthen its own intelligence position in the field of science and technology to resist American pressure to introduce export restrictions against China. This is what think tank Merics writes in response to the Netherlands' decision to restrict the export of advanced chip machines to China. According to Merics, the EU can have a stronger voice if it is able to strengthen knowledge about science and technology in relation to technological and geopolitical changes. "As long as Europe depends on the US for information about China's growing capabilities in key technologies, from semiconductors to artificial intelligence (AI) and quantum, it will remain reactive," Merics said. Cooperation could become more equal if the EU could also set its own conditions based on the knowledge it has acquired. The think tank proposes, among other things, setting up a European institute for the assessment of technology. This could monitor developments, including any risks. Consideration may also be given to strengthening the Joint Research Center of the European Commission.

Article Merics: https://merics.org/en/comment/stand-us-pressure-europe-needs-better-intelligence-chinas-innovation-system

OECD: Policy considerations for the return of industrial policy (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

There are well-founded economic, social and environmental justifications for some industrial policies. At the same time, there are legitimate concerns that the benefits of such policies are limited and the costs are high. The OECD states this in a paper on the advantages and disadvantages of industrial policy. "So while governments may want to experiment with future prosperity-oriented industrial policies, they should exercise moderation in scope, caution in design and implementation, and be aware of potential negative international implications," it said.

OECD publication: https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/the-return-of-industrial-policies_051ce36d-en

US: Biden wants to protect science against possible political interference by Trump (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

President Biden is working on measures to protect the National Institutes of Health (NIH) from political interference if Trump wins the November election, Politico writes. The Biden administration fears that Trump may want to impose an ideological agenda. An official within the NIH has been designated to identify political interference in the agency's work. Furthermore, there will soon be a plan for the establishment of a scientific integrity council to review these cases. The NIH is the largest funder of health research, investing more than \$40 billion annually.

Article Politico: https://www.politico.com/news/2024/05/27/biden-plan-protect-science-trump-00160001

Enterprise Research Centre (ERC) sets out routes for innovation support for productivity growth (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

According to the Enterprise Research Center (ERC), recent studies provide compelling evidence on how public support for research and development has a positive impact on innovation, productivity and growth. In an analysis, ERC explains how different processes contribute to this. For example, it is pointed out that public support ensures that companies are more likely to dare to take innovation risks. Economist Mariana Mazzucato is also quoted, who previously pointed out that public support can help tackle social or economic challenges if the market does not succeed on its own. In addition, public support can have a facilitating role, for example by increasing access to existing knowledge. The effect of 'spillovers', i.e. where innovation produces new innovation or productivity growth, is also discussed. The piece refers to the Belgian INNOVIRIS program, which focuses on organizational innovation.

Publication ERC: https://www.enterpriseresearch.ac.uk/publications/rd-and-innovation-pathways-to-business-productivity-and-growth-what-does-the-evidence-suggest/

How a new British government can shift towards mission-driven innovation policy (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

"2024 presents a rare opportunity for the UK: a potential change in British governance could bring about a radical change in the way government is structured and delivered, and better outcomes for all." This is what economist Mariana Mazzucato states in a blueprint for the British government, in the run-up to the upcoming elections in the country. In the blueprint, Mazzucato outlines how a new government can refocus towards a mission-driven approach within the first hundred days.

Publication Future Governance Forum: https://www.futuregovernanceforum.co.uk/resource/mission-critical-01/

US: DHS presents strategic roadmap for innovation, research and development (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has identified eight strategic research areas in which it will invest additionally in the coming years. This can be read in the ministry's first strategic plan in the field of innovation, research and development (IRD). "This visionary roadmap, based on scientific efforts, will enable DHS and its components to reduce homeland security risks through optimized investments in innovation, research and development," wrote Dimitri Kusnezov, Deputy Secretary of Science and Technology of the DHS. "The technologies resulting from our IRD investments play a critical role in equipping the Department's frontline operators with the necessary tools to outmaneuver our adversaries and improve our readiness and response capabilities." The plan focuses, among other things, on climate change, Al and autonomous systems, biotech and cybersecurity. NextGov has written about the plan. Publication US Department of Homeland Security: https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/publication/dhs-ird-strategic-plan-fy24-30

Article NextGov: https://www.nextgov.com/emerging-tech/2024/05/dhs-sets-its-research-sights-8-emerging-technologies/396929/

National policy

Officials critical of education and research plans outline agreement (13 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 June 2024

In official analyzes of the coalition agreement, the ministries have made various critical comments on the plans in the field of higher education and science. The cuts to the Research and Science Fund could, among other things, lead to less private investment in relevant technologies (such as quantum, artificial intelligence or semiconductors) and less available but needed talent. It is also warned that missing out on investments in research, further strengthening of the research infrastructure and in strengthening the quality of higher education and science has negative consequences for earning capacity and for the business and business climate. Questions are also being raised about various cuts in the field of higher education, including the late student fine and measures to reduce the number of international students. HOP has written about the analyses.

Official analyzes outline agreement:

https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/brieven_regering/detail?id=2024Z09986&did=2024D23586 (in Dutch) Article HOP/U-Today: https://www.utoday.nl/news/74303/bezuinigingen-op-studenten-zo-snel-niet-haalbaar-waarschuwen-ambtenaren (in Dutch)

Analysis: R&D investments do not always drive productivity growth (13 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 June 2024

Over the past twenty years, productivity growth has fallen, while innovative investments have increased sharply. In an analysis in ESB, economist Maarten de Ridder investigates how it is possible that high R&D investments have not led to higher productivity growth. De Ridder makes a number of recommendations about how innovation policy can boost the social return on R&D investments. "To improve the social quality of innovations, effective government policy should not only focus on quantity," says de Ridder. "In practice, this means that government support should not be used for process innovation, and that the government should increase its support for could increase fundamental research, for example by making more funding available through the National Growth Fund and the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO)." De Ridder further argues that government policy should have a clear role in combating the concentration of R&D in large companies. Promoting growth should also not be the only goal of innovation policy. For example, supporting the transition to climate-neutral production processes is 'at least as important'

Publication ESB: https://esb.nu/rd-investeringen-jagen-groei-productiviteit-niet-altijd-aan/ (in Dutch)

TNO calls on the new cabinet to work on a long-term vision for innovation (13 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 June 2024

Dutch innovation policy needs to be overhauled. This is what CEO of TNO Tjark Tjin-A-Tsoi says in an article by TNO about the collaborations with Japan and South Korea. According to Tjin-A-Tsoi, the Netherlands can learn a lot from these countries. "In Japan and South Korea, it is the industries that drive innovation, with the government facilitating by focused cooperation with the industry to, for example, create the right infrastructure and conditions," says Tsin-A-Tsoi. He calls on the new cabinet to work from a long-term vision on innovation. "Do we in the Netherlands want to fully participate in the development of semicon, quantum, integrated photonics, Al, and biotech? Let us invest in this in a very targeted and substantial way. Not one year, not two years, but ten, twenty years. In infrastructure, in training people, in projects, financing start-ups and scale-ups. We can do much more in the Netherlands to make that innovation chain truly successful. So as a chain."

Article TNO: https://www.tno.nl/nl/newsroom/insights/2024/06/samenwerking-zuid-korea-japan-smart/ (in Dutch)

PVV and VVD critical of activism in higher education and science (13 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 June 2024

During the legislative consultation on the annual report and final law of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the PVV defended the cuts to higher education. HOP and ScienceGuide have written about this debate. According to PVV MP Blaauw, 'the activist woke culture has been dominant in lecture halls and educational institutions for too long' and 'political activism too often took precedence over scientific integrity' (Note PJ: what a bloody nonsense statement of PVV seeing how strong our research and education system is). The cuts will amount to around 970 million euros. "Only in this way will it offer educational institutions an opportunity to reconsider their priorities. Do our educational institutions want political activism on the menu or sound education and research," says Blaauw. VVD MP Martens expressed her concerns about the ethics committees reviewing the frameworks for collaborations with institutions from other countries. "I find it strange that the focus appears to be on one situation in the world, namely Gaza and Israel," said Martens. The VVD submitted a motion calling on Dijkgraaf to draw up guiding frameworks for the composition and content of these committees before the summer recess. Minister Dijkgraaf has advised against this motion. "I think it is obvious that the institutions also include the principles I have given in the composition and content of their ethics committees. But in my opinion, how they do that remains the responsibility of the institutions," said the minister.

Legislative consultation (including report):

https://www.tweedekamer.nl/debat_en_vergadering/commissievergaderingen/details?id=2024A01895 (in Dutch) Article HOP/U-Today: https://www.utoday.nl/news/74315/pvv-viert-bezuinigingen-als-overwinning-op-activisme-in-hoger-onderwijs (in Dutch)

Article ScienceGuide: https://www.scienceguide.nl/2024/06/pvv-voorspelt-einde-aan-activisme-en-woke-in-hoger-onderwijs/ (in Dutch)

Rathenau Institute: Spring memorandum and formation reverse investments in R&I (13 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 June 2024

In 2024, the central government's budgeted expenditure on research and innovation will reach a peak of 9.6 billion euros for research and 2.4 billion euros for innovation. However, from 2025 onwards, expenditure will decline sharply, even if the measures announced in the Spring Memorandum and the proposed cuts in the main lines agreement are not yet taken into account. This can be read in the publication Total Investments in Science and Innovation (TWIN) 2022-2028 of the Rathenau Institute. Coordinator of the publication Alexandra Vennekens states that the 3% target remains out of reach for the time being due to the proposed cutbacks and the lack of additional financing from the business community and other financiers.

Publication Rathenau Institute: https://www.rathenau.nl/nl/werking-van-het-wetenschapssysteem/voorjaarsnota-enformatie-draaien-investeringen-onderzoek-en-innovatie-terug (in Dutch)

NWO member EOSC Association to promote open science (11 June 2024)

Source: Website NOW news https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-member-eosc-association-to-promote-open-science



NWO has become a member of the EOSC Association. The EOSC Association is an international partnership and works to promote Open Science. NWO has championed open science for many years. Its mission to put open science into practice aligns perfectly with the mission of the EOSC-Association.

Concrete goal

NWO, along with nine other organisations, was unanimously admitted to the EOSC-A family at the last membership meeting. **The EOSC Association** https://eosc.eu/ (EOSC stands for the European Open Science Cloud) was founded in 2020 at the initiative of the European Commission. It began with four founding members and has since grown to more than 250 members and observers. The partnership works to promote open science in the service of creating new knowledge, inspiring education, stimulating innovation and promoting accessibility and transparency. The concrete goal is to develop a "Web of FAIR Data and Services" for science in Europe.

NWO will work together with other stakeholders in the Netherlands, including **14 other members and observers** https://eosc.eu/members/?_country=587, as well as the representatives of the Ministries OCW and EZK, to develop a shared vision for the future of the EOSC and how the Netherlands can most effectively engage in this European endeavor.

Read full article here: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-member-eosc-association-to-promote-open-science

Additional public resources needed to achieve R&D goals (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

Additional public funding is needed for R&D, even if companies partly finance research that they would otherwise have done. This is what economist Marcel de Heide states in an analysis in ESB. He warns that expenditure on research in the Netherlands lags behind that of neighboring countries and is lower than the Lisbon standard of 3 percent. According to De Heide, public financing of private R&D will never be completely efficient, because there are always so-called crowding out effects. However, these inefficiencies must be seen as a 'necessary innovation premium'. De Heide states that public financing of private R&D is effective and leads to additional private investments in research. "What matters is that public resources effectively stimulate private R&D."

ESB analysis: https://esb.nu/behalen-rd-doelen-vereist-extra-publieke-middelen/ (in Dutch)

CBS: Most EU funds for the Netherlands go to research and innovation (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

In 2022, the Netherlands will receive more than 1.1 billion euros in EU funds for research and innovation. This is the conclusion of CBS in an analysis. This is 38 percent of the 2.9 billion euros that the Netherlands received in total subsidies from the European Commission. O&I is by far the largest recipient. The second item is agriculture and maritime policy, with 847 million euros (29 percent).

Publication CBS: https://www.cbs.nl/en-gb/news/2024/22/most-eu-funding-received-by-the-netherlands-is-for-research-and-innovation

Dijkgraaf: Institutions must decide for themselves about academic collaborations with Israel (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

Minister Dijkgraaf does not consider it desirable to exclude or suspend in advance all (institutional or personal) collaborations with a particular country. The minister writes this in an extensive letter to Parliament about the Gaza protests and the situation at colleges and universities. "The demand made by the demonstrators in the various protests is that the institution concerned immediately sever all (scientific) ties with Israeli institutions, such as academic cooperation in scientific research and education," Dijkgraaf writes. "This requirement ignores the way in which institutions make decisions about international cooperation on the basis of careful, substantive and democratic processes, free from intimidation, pressure or threats of violence. It is a core academic value that scientists are allowed to freely determine with whom and on what questions they conduct research."

Letter to Parliament from Minister Dijkgraaf:

https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2024/05/31/stand-van-zaken-omtrent-de-veiligheid-op-universiteiten-en-hogescholen-n-a-v-de-protesten-over-de-situatie-in-gaza (in Dutch)

Chamber wants to ban Chinese PhD students from sensitive fields (6 June 2024)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 June 2024

The House of Representatives calls on the government to consult with knowledge institutions so that no new PhD students with a China Scholarship Council (CSC) grant are admitted to sensitive research areas. Last week, the House adopted a VVD/NSC motion calling for this. HOP has written about the motion. The House has also adopted motions calling for the attention of the universities and the KNAW to be included in the elaboration of the knowledge security screening bill and to develop, together with knowledge institutions, a national set of uniform criteria on the basis of which they can make estimates of the risks when entering into international collaborations.

Motions submitted during a two-minute debate on Knowledge Safety:

https://www.tweedekamer.nl/debat_en_vergadering/plenaire_vergaderingen/details/activiteit?id=2024A01879 (in Dutch)

Article HOP/U-Today: https://www.utoday.nl/news/74262/tweede-kamer-wil-geen-promovendi-met-chinese-beurs-ingevoelige-vakgebieden (in Dutch)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 14 June 2024

Call identifier	Deadline
Billon I. Freedhaut Caionas	
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC	
ERC-2024-ADG ERC-2024-ADG	29 August 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (ERC-2024-ADG Advanced Grants)
Marie Sklodwska Curie Actions	
HORIZON-MSCA2024-DN-01-01	27 November 2024 (HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral
MSCA Doctoral Networks 2024	Networks)
TMA Doctoral Networks	
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates	27 November 2024 (HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates	27 November 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01-01 TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01 Postdoctoral Fellowships - European	11 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01 Postdoctoral Fellowships – European)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01 Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global	11 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01 Postdoctoral Fellowships – Global)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-SE01-01	Foreseen opening September 2024 and foreseen deadline 5 February
MSCA Staff Exchanges 2024 Staff	2025
Exchanges	(HORIZON-MSCA-2024-SE01-01 Staff Exchanges)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-COFUND- 01-01 https://marie-sklodowska- curie- actions.ec.europa.eu/actions/cofund	26 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MSCA-2024-COFUND-01-01) TMA Cofund postdoctoral and TMA Cofund doctoral
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-INCO-01-	4 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MSCA-2024-INCO-01-
01 MSCA International Cooperation	01 International cooperation)
2024 International cooperation	' '
Research Infrastructures	
Cluster 1 HEALTH	
Destination 1 – Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-	25 September 2024 (HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-09-01 European
09-01 European Partnership: One	Partnership: One Health Anti-Microbial Resistance)
Health Anti-Microbial R European	

Partnership: One Health Anti- Microbial Resistance	
Destination 2. Living and working in a health-promoting environment	
Destination 3. Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden	
Cluster 2 Culture Creativity and Inclusive Society	
Cluster 4 Digital - Industry - Space	
Destination 1: CLIMATE NEUTRAL, CIRCULAR AND DIGITISED PRODUCTION	
HORIZON-CL4-2024-TWIN- TRANSITION-01-TWO-STAGE	7 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage) and 24 September 2024 (Second Stage) at 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 2: INCREASED AUTONOMY IN KEY STRATEGIC VALUE CHAINS FOR RESILIENT INDUSTRY	
HORIZON-CL4-2024-RESILIENCE- 01-TWO-STAGE	7 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage) and 24 September 2024 (Second Stage) at 17.00 Brussels time
DESTINATION 3 - WORLD LEADING DATA AND COMPUTING TECHNOLOGIES	
DESTINATION 4 – DIGITAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR COMPETITIVENESS AND FIT FOR THE GREEN DEAL	
DESTINATION 5 - DESTINATION - OPEN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY IN DEVELOPING, DEPLOYING AND USING GLOBAL SPACE- BASED	

Cluster 6	
Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
and inclusive energy use HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02	5 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-03 Development of next generation synthetic renew and several other topics Destination: Efficient, sustainable	Planned opening date 17 September 2024 Deadline date 21 January 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-03 en several other topics)
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02	5 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D2-02	5 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time
Destination - Climate sciences and responses	
CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility	
DESTINATION 6 – A HUMAN- CENTRED AND ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL AND INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES	
INFRASTRUCTURES, SERVICES, APPLICATIONS AND DATA	

HORIZON-CL6-2024- BIODIV-02 2 stage	22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2024- FARM2FORK-02 2 stage	22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	
HORIZON-CL6-2024- CIRCBIO-02 2 stage	Foreseen deadline stage 1 22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution	
HORIZON-CL6-2024- ZEROPOLLUTION-02 2 stage	22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 5 – Land, oceans and water for climate action	
Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	
HORIZON-CL6-2024- COMMUNITIES-02 2 stage	22 February 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 1) CLOSED 17 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (STAGE 2)
Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal	
Pillar III Innovative Europe	
Mission calls 2024	
HORIZON-MISS-2024-CLIMA-01 Adaptation to Climate Change Mission	18 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MISS-2024-CLIMA-01)
HORIZON-MISS-2024-CANCER-01 Mission: Cancer	18 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MISS-2024-CANCER-01)
HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01 Mission: Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030	18 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01)
HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-01 Mission: 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030	16 January 2025 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-01)

HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-02	5 September 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-02)
Mission: 100 Climate-Neutral and	
Smart Cities by 2030	
HORIZON-MISS-2024-SOIL-01	8 October 2024 at 17.00 Brussels time
Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe	
WIDERA 2024	

Other related EC calls (European Partnerships, ERA-Net COFUNDS etc.)

Overview of deadlines of most important public-public and public-private EC calls related to Horizon Europe based on information per 14 June 2024 for more details; go to EC Funding and Tenders opportunity Portal https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home

Call identifier	Deadline
European Partnerships / ERANET-COFUND	
European Partnership Agroecology	1ST CO-FUNDED CALL OF THE AGROECOLOGY PARTNERSHIP "FOSTERING AGROECOLOGY AT FARM AND LANDSCAPE LEVELS" THE CALL IS OPEN THE RECORDINGS AND SLIDES OF THE WEBINAR CAN BE FOUND HERE: HTTPS://FZ-JUELICH.SCIEBO.DE/S/ITWWA2NDTC1KHGS For all call information: https://agroecology.ptj.de/call1 The deadline for pre-proposals is 26 April 2024 6, 14:00h CEST (CLOSED). The deadline for full proposal submission is 19 September 2024, 14:00h CEST.
European Partnerships European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare https://www.eupahw.eu/	1st co-funded call for proposals of the European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare (EUPAHW) "Supporting the Future of Animal Health and Welfare" Pre-proposal: This first step is now open and will be closed on July 8th, 2024, 15:00 h (CEST). Deadline for full-proposal submission 4th February 2025, 14:00 CET
	https://www.eupahw.eu/pdf/open-calls/call-01/call- 01_EUPAHW%20Call%20Announcement_13.5.pdf EUPAHW submission webpage: https://eupahw.ptj.de/ EUPAHW webpage: www.EUPAHW.eu
European Partnership Sustainable Blue Economy https://www.bluepartnership.eu/	Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) – Second Joint Transnational Co-Funded Call. Closing date for pre-registration 10 April 2024 15:00 hrs. (CLOSED) Closing date full application 6 November 2024 15:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20text%20- %20Sustainable%20Blue%20Economy%20Partnership_Def%20%282-2- 24%29.pdf and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep-second-joint-transnational-co-funded-call
Joint Technology Initiatives	

Joint Programming Initiatives	
JPI OCEANS https://jpi- oceans.eu/en/about	new JPI Oceans Joint Call on the ecological aspects of deep-sea mining Deadline for submitting pre-proposals - 01.03.2024 (CLOSED) Deadline for submitting full proposals - 30.09.2024
	View the call for proposals on the website of JPI Oceans: https://jpi- oceans.eu/en/announcement-new-jpi-oceans-joint-call-ecological-aspects- deep-sea-mining
	A healthy diet for a healthy life (HDHL):
	http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/
	Agriculture, food security and climate change (FACCE):
	http://www.faccejpi.com/
	Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Throat to Human Health (IRI AMR), bitto://www.injana.gov/
	Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR): http://www.jpiamr.eu/ Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU): http://www.jpi-
	climate.eu/home
	Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/
	More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of
	Demographic Change (JPI MYBL): http://www.jp-demographic.eu/
	Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND):
	http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/
	Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions
	(Urban Europe): http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/
	Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI):
	http://www.waterjpi.eu/
	Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage):
	http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/

Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **14 June 2024**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
19-09-2024	Deadline submission Full proposals 1 ST CO-FUNDED CALL OF THE AGROECOLOGY
	PARTNERSHIP "FOSTERING AGROECOLOGY AT FARM AND LANDSCAPE LEVELS"
	The deadline for full proposal submission is 2024 September 19, 14:00h CEST.
	https://agroecology.ptj.de/call1 and HTTPS://FZ-JUELICH.SCIEBO.DE/S/ITWWA2NDTC1KHGS
17-09-2024	Deadline submission proposals for several LIFE calls 'Nature and biodiversity', 'Circular
and 19-09-	economy and quality of life', 'Climate change mitigation and adaptation and 'Clean energy
2024	transition' Deadline dates: 19 September 2024 and 17 September 2024
	https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/life-calls-proposals-2024_en and
	https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/life-calls-proposals-2024-bring-your-green-dream-life-
	share-eu571-million-funding-2024-04-18_en
06-11-2024	Deadline for submission full applications Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) -
	Second Joint Transnational Co-Funded Call. Closing date full application 6 November 2024 15:00
	hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep-second-joint-
	transnational-co-funded-call and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20text%20-
	%20Sustainable%20Blue%20Economy%20Partnership_Def%20%282-2-24%29.pdf and
	https://www.bluepartnership.eu/
Open until	Deadline for collection proposal for Open COST Call 2024. The next collection date will be 23
23-11-2024	October 2024 at 12.00 (noon) CEST. The following collection date is expected in Autumn 2025.
	https://www.cost.eu/funding/open-call-a-simple-one-step-application-process/ and
	https://www.cost.eu/funding/documents-guidelines/

National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **14 June 2024**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

18-06-2024	Deadline for <u>submitting an application</u> The NWA call 'Behavioural insights for climate
	policy' The deadline for submitting an application is 18-06-2024, before 14:00:00
	CEST.https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-28-million-euros-available-for-new-nwa-call-
	behavioural-insights-for-climate-policy and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/dutch-
	research-agenda-nwa/thematic-programming/behavioural-insights-for-climate-policy
02-07-2024	NEW: Deadline for submission full proposals Venture Challenge Fall 2024. Closing date full
	application 2 July 2024 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-application-round-venture-
	challenge-opened and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/venture-challenge-fall-2024 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Brochure%20Venture%20Challenge%20Fall%202024%20EN.pdf
Continuously	Deadline submission of proposals for NWO Open Competition Domain Science - M
applications	Applications for the current round (2023/2024) can therefore be submitted until 31 July 2024 at
until 31-07-	the latest, as long as the maximum number of 420 applications has not yet been reached. The
2024	new round, year 2024/2025, will be opened in August 2024, in which applications can again be
	submitted continuously. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-m-
	2023/2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2023-24_EN_def.pdf
27-08-2024	Deadline submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2024 - round 2 The deadline
	for the first round is 19 March 2024. The deadline for the second round is 27 August 2024
	and the deadline for the third round is 15 October 2024. Applications for the first round are now
	open. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-a-call-for-promising-ideas and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-round-1 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202024%20-%20EN.pdf
03-09-2024	Deadline submission proposals Rubicon 2024-2 ENW, SGW, TTW, ZonMw. The deadlines in
	2024 are: March 26, September 3 and December 3. Once the call is open, a link appears at the
	bottom of this page. In 2024, the budget for each round is approximately 2.47 million euros??.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/rubicon
05-09-2024	Deadline Final Applications BioBased Circular projects. The final application must be
	submitted no later than Thursday September 5, 2024. 5:00 PM.
	https://www.biobasedcircular.com/nieuws/eerste-oproep-voor-projecten-opent-op-19-maart/ and
	https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/missiegedreven-onderzoek-ontwikkeling-en-
	innovatie/biobased-circular and https://topsectoragrifood.nl/nieuws/eerste-oproep-voor-
	projecten-biobased-circular-geopend/
10-09-2024	Deadline for submission Full-proposals VICI round 2024. Deadline developed applications
	September 10, 2024, 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/vici-round-2024-open-for-pre-
	proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme
18-09-2025	Deadline for submitting an application for PHASE 3 NWA-call for research on vulnerability
	and resilience in an online society. Phase 3: deadline for submitting an application is on
	September 18 2025, 14:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/publication-call-research-
	vulnerability-and-resilience-online-society and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/dutch-research-agenda-nwa/thematic-
04.00.0004	programming/synergy-theme-vulnerability-and-resilience-online-society
24-09-2024	Deadline for submission pre-proposals NWA call 'NWA Social dynamics in the energy
	transition. From practice to theory' The deadline for the submission of pre-proposals is
	Tuesday 24 September 2024 at 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-285-
	million-euros-available-for-the-nwa-call-nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-
	practice-to-theory and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-
	from-practice-to-theory and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/defcfp-
24 00 2024	sociale_dynamieken_in_de_energietransitienwa_sjabloonnl.pdf
24-09-2024	Deadline for submission of full applications for NWO call for Large-scale Scientific
	Infrastructure. Submission applications: September 24, 2024.
	https://www.nwo.nl/onderzoeksprogrammas/nationale-roadmap-grootschalige-
	wetenschappelijke-infrastructuur and file:///C:/Users/jonge026/Downloads/NWO-
	GWINC%202024%20537%20call%20for%20proposals%202024.pdf Please contact Shared
	Research Facilities (SRF, mascha.rasenberg@wur.nl) if you are coordinating a proposal or are part of a consortium submitting a proposal. SRF coordinates the internal
	submission procedure including the needed approval of our Executive Board.
	Submission procedure including the needed approval of our Executive Board.

01-10-2024	Deadline for submission full proposals Dutch Research Agenda - Research along Routes
	by Consortia 2024 (NWA-ORC 2024) Closing date full application
	1 October 2024 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwa-call-research-along-routes-by-
	consortia-2024-now-open and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/dutch-research-agenda-research-
	along-routes-by-consortia-2024-nwa-orc-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/call_for_proposals_orc_2024_eng.pdf
01-10-2024	Deadline submission <u>full proposals</u> KIC call 'Antimicrobials for the preclinical pipeline'. The
	deadline for submitting applications is 1 Oktober 2024, before 14:00:00
	CESThttps://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-for-research-on-antimicrobials and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-antimicrobials-for-the-preclinical-pipeline and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWO-
	VWS%20partnerschap%20calltekst_EN_final.pdf
01-10-2024	NEW: Deadline for submission <u>fully detailed</u> <u>applications f</u> or Faculty of Impact 24/25 –
	Agriculture, water and food and Circular Economy The deadline for submitting applications
	is 1 October 2024, by 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-round-of-faculty-of-
	impact-opened and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/faculty-of-impact-24/25-agriculture-water-and-
	food-and-circular-economy and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Fol-2024%20-
	%20ENG%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20-%20DEF-%20NWO-website.pdf
08-10-2024	Deadline for submission of NGF AiNed XS Europe grants. Deadline proposals 8 October 2024
	at 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-ained-xs-europe and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-ained-xs-europe-24-1 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NGF%20AiNed%20XS%20Europe%20EN%202023-
	2024v1.pdf
10-10-2024	NEW: Deadline for submission <u>full proposals</u> for new HTSM call 2024, a collaboration with
	top sector Holland High Tech. The deadline for submitting proposals is Thursday 10 October
	2024, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-htsm-call-opened and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/high-tech-systems-and-materials-htsm-2024
05-11-2024	Deadline for submission <u>full-applications</u> third call PhD scholarship programme Mosaic
	2.0. The deadline for submitting applications: 5 November, at 14:00:00 CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/now-open-call-third-grant-round-mosaic-20 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/mosaic-20-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals_Moza%C3%AFek%202.0%202024%20DEF_0.pdf
From 15-11-	Deadline for submitting applications for Thematic Digital Competence Centers
2023 until 15-	Integrated approach for digitalization in science Applications can be submitted from
11-2024	November 15, 2023 until November 15, 2024 at 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-
	open-thematic-digital-competence-centers and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/thematic-digital-
45.44.0004	competence-centers
15-11-2024	Deadline submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2024 - round 3 The deadline
	for the first round is 19 March 2024. The deadline for the second round is 27 August 2024 and
	the <u>deadline for the third round is 15 October 2024</u> . Applications for the first round are now
	open. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-a-call-for-promising-ideas and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2024-round-1 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
28-11-1024	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202024%20-%20EN.pdf
20-11-1024	Deadline for submission Full-proposals The call 'Smart Materials: From responsive to
	adaptive' within the Knowledge and Innovation Covenant (KIC) The deadline for submitting proposals is 28 November 2024, at 14:00:00 CET https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-for-new-
	adaptive-materials-opened and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/smart-materials-van-responsief-
	naar-adaptief and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/screened- English%20version%20of%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20Smart%20Materials%20FINAL_11-
30-11-2024	12-2023_DEF.pdf Foreseen deadline submission <u>Full-proposals</u> KIC - Missie 24/27 - Biodiversity informed
JU-11-2U24	decision making in Agri-Horti-Water-Food sectors 2024. Closing date full application 30
	November 2024 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-missie-24/27-biodiversity-informed-
03-12-2024	decision-making-in-agri-horti-water-food-sectors-2024 Deadline submission proposals Publicon 2024-3 FNW SGW TTW ZonMw The deadlines in
03-12-2024	Deadline submission proposals Rubicon 2024-3 ENW, SGW, TTW, ZonMw. The deadlines in
	2024 are: March 26, September 3 and December 3 . Once the call is open, a link appears at the
	bottom of this page. In 2024, the budget for each round is approximately 2.47 million euros??.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/rubicon

Applications	Deadline for submission proposals for NWO call for Open Technology Program 2024.
from 15-01-	Applications can be submitted from January 15, 2024 to December 13, 2024 via ISAAC, NWO's
2024 until 13-	digital application and reporting system. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-
12-2024	opening-open-technology-programme-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-technology-
	programme-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-technology-
	programme/2024-change-of-support-letter
13-12-2024	Foreseen deadline submission Full-proposals KIC - Nature-based solutions for sustainable
	climate control of buildings. Closing date full application 13 December 2024 14:00 hrs.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-nature-based-solutions-for-sustainable-climate-control-of-
	buildings
30-01-2025	Foreseen deadline submission Full proposals KIC - Missie 24/27 - Value(s) in transition(s)
	2024. Closing date full application 30 January 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-
	missie-24/27-values-in-transitions-2024
30-01-2025	Foreseen deadline submission Full-proposals KIC - Missie 24/27 - High performance
	materials for Defence and Security 2024. Closing date full application 30 January 2025 14:00
	hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-missie-24/27-high-performance-materials-for-defence-and-
	security-2024
27-02-2025	Foreseen deadline submission Full-proposals KIC - Missie 24/27 - Call Digital Identities - a
	foundation for trust in the digital world. Closing date full application 27 February 2025 14:00
	hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-missie-24/27-call-digital-identities-a-foundation-for-trust-in-
	the-digital-world
31-03-2025	Foreseen deadline submission Full proposals KIC - Future Plastics 2024. Closing date full
	application 31 March 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-future-plastics-2024
22-04-2025	Deadline for submission applications NWA call 'NWA Social dynamics in the energy
	transition. From practice to theory'. The deadline for the submission of applications is
	Tuesday 22 April 2025 at 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-285-million-
	euros-available-for-the-nwa-call-nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-practice-to-
	theory and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-social-dynamics-in-the-energy-transition-from-
	practice-to-theory and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/defcfp-
	sociale_dynamieken_in_de_energietransitienwa_sjabloonnl.pdf

Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled **on 14 June 2024**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call			
From 01-02-2024	Opening for submission of innovation projects ERDF East! The European subsidy progra			
to 31-01-2025	ERDF East 2021-2027. You can submit your application from February 1, 2024 to January 31,			
	2025 (as long as a budget is available). https://www.efro-oost.eu/innovatieprojecten			
From 01-03-2024	Opening for submission of <u>Testing and demonstration facilities</u> ERDF East! The European			
to 31-01-2025	subsidy program ERDF East 2021-2027. You can submit your application from March 1, 2024			
to January 31, 2025 (as long as a budget is available). https://www.efro-oost.eu/tedemonstratieprojecten-2024				
			From 15-05-2024	Opening for submissions proposals VInnovate-pilot EFRO East Netherlands. East
to 30-10-2024 Netherlands has made €500,000 available from the ERDF budget for VInnovate. The res				
	will be made available in a tender arrangement from May 15 (9 a.m.) to October 30, 2024.			
	https://www.efro-oost.eu/nieuws/innovatieve-grensoverschrijdende-samenwerking-van-start and			
	https://www.efro-oost.eu/aanvragen and https://www.efro-oost.eu/v-innovate-pilot-2024			
From 19-02 to 12-	Opening 1 for proposals OP-Zuid from February 19, 9:00 AM to April 12, 2024, 5:00 PM. A			
03-2024 budget of 25 million euros OPZuid 2021-2027 is available for both openings, equally div				
	a smarter Europe and a greener Europe. A total of 50 million euros will be available in 2024.			
	https://www.stimulus.nl/subsidiepot-voor-klimaat-niet-leeg/ and https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-			
	2021-2027/			
From 16-09-2024 Opening 2 for proposals OP-Zuid from September 16, 2024 9:00 AM to November 1				
to 01-11-2024	o 01-11-2024 5:00 PM. A budget of 25 million euros OPZuid 2021-2027 is available for both openings, equ			
	divided into a smarter Europe and a greener Europe. A total of 50 million euros will be availab			
	in 2024. https://www.stimulus.nl/subsidiepot-voor-klimaat-niet-leeg/ and			
	https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/			

2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Eastern Netherlands: For for overview calls go to EFRO Oost			
	https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen			
2023-2024	EFRO 2021 – 2027 Western Netherlands: For calls Kansen voor West III			
	https://kvw3.kansenvoorwest.nl/openstellingen/openstellingen-/			
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Northern Netherlands: For calls Northern Netherlands go to Website SNN			
	https://www.snn.nl/programmas/efro-2021-2027			
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Southern Netherlands: For calls Southern Netherlands go to website			
	Stimulus https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/openstellingen/			

About the Wageningen Grant Office

Wageningen Grant Office (WGO) is a team of WUR-wide experts specialized to support the participation of WUR in funding programmes at national, European and global level. WGO provides information and advice about relevant funding opportunities and about effective and efficient applications for funding. The WGO consists of a specialized expert team with advisors from the EU office, Corporate Strategy & Accounts Department and Liaison officers from different Science groups. The specialized team provides technical and personalized advice on specific funding programmes and themes and closely collaborates with the Liaison offices - the first line support services - within the Science Groups. WGO focusses it's support on Horizon Europe (Pillar 1: ERC, MSCA, Research Infrastructure; Pillar 2: Clusters, missions and partnerships; Pillar 3: EIC; WIDENING and on support on NWO vernieuwingsimpuls, NWO Open Competition Programme and NWO Open technology programme.

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