

WGO Research and Innovation Funding News, Nº 413_27 January 2025

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

MSCA opens €101.8m call to co-fund doctoral and postdoctoral programmes (23 January 2025)

Source: Website EC MSCA https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/msca-opens-eu1018m-call-to-co-fund-doctoral-and-postdoctoral-programmes

COFUND gives organisations a unique opportunity to attract talent through their own doctoral and postdoctoral fellowship programmes.



The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND) 2024 call is open as of today. The deadline for submission of proposals is **24 June 2025**.

Under this call, the European Commission will award €101.8 million to support institutional, regional, national and international training and career development programmes for researchers.

COFUND https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/actions/cofund? allows organisations to create new or strengthen existing doctoral and postdoctoral programmes, with the goal of recruiting researchers and attracting international talent, by co-funding a significant part of their cost.

Organisations benefitting from such funding need to top it up with their own sources. Synergies with Cohesion policy funds and the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) are strongly encouraged.

Forms of COFUND projects

Doctoral Programmes

- offering doctoral candidates research training activities to develop and broaden their skills and competences
- leading to the award of a doctoral degree

Postdoctoral Programmes

 funding individual advanced research training and career development fellowships for postdoctoral researchers

Proposed programmes can cover any research disciplines ("bottom-up"), but can also focus on specific disciplines, notably when they are based on national or regional Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3 strategies).

Who can apply?

A single organisation in an EU Member State or a Horizon Europe associated

country https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation horizon-euratom en.pdf is eliqible to apply.

As of January 2025, Switzerland benefits from transitional measures pending association. Full association is required by the time of grant agreement signature for beneficiaries.

Additional project partners such as

- government entities
- regional authorities
- funding agencies
- universities
- research organisations
- enterprises

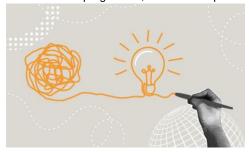
can be included in the project to recruit researchers (implementing partners), as well as host secondments and provide training (associated partners).

At the time of recruitment, implementing partners must be established in an EU MS, the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States, HE Associated Country, or low- and middle-income third countries included in the list of countries eligible for funding provided in the Horizon Europe Programme Guide https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/programme-guide_horizon_en.pdf. Associated Partners can come from any other country.

134 researchers supported to turn their science into practice (23 January 2025)

Source: Website ERC https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/Proof-of-Concept-Grants-2024

In the final round of the 2024 European Research Council (ERC) Proof of Concept grant competition, 134 projects will receive support, bringing the total number of grants awarded under the 2024 work programme to 245 worth €36.75 million. Each grant is worth €150,000 and helps ERC grantees to bridge the gap between the results of their pioneering research and the early phases of its commercialisation. The grant scheme is part of the EU's research and innovation programme, Horizon Europe.



The ERC's 2024 work programme https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-05/WorkProgramme-updated.pdf included two rounds of the Proof of Concept (PoC) call. In total, over the two rounds, 698 proposals were evaluated, and 245 projects were selected for funding.

The winners of the first round of the 2024 PoC competition https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/2000th-erc-proof-concept-grant-awarded, announced in July 2024, included the 2000th project to receive such a grant. Other projects will for example combat food fraud, repurpose existing medicines to fight cancer, and better visualise blood microcirculation, to improve the treatment of many life-threatening conditions. Read more https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/proof-concept-2024-highlighted-projects

List of 134 winners in this second 2024 PoC round: https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-01/erc-2024-poc-2-dl2-results_list.pdf

The 134 new grantees of this second round work in 20 different countries across Europe . The highest number of grants will be hosted in Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands (15 each), followed by Spain and the UK (14 each), Israel (12), Belgium (11), France (10), Denmark (6), Austria (5), Sweden (4), Ireland (3), Finland and Norway (2), Croatia, Czechia, Cyprus, Poland, Portugal, Turkey (1 each).

Daan Swarts from Wageningen Universty is one the 15 Dutch grantees which received PoC Grant.

Eligibility ERC PoC

To be eligible for the Proof of Concept grant scheme, researchers need to already have been awarded an ERC frontier research grant. The PoC funding is used to develop findings they have made during former or current research projects. The main goal is to explore the commercial and social innovation potential of ERC-funded research. As with other ERC grants, the funding supports research projects in all scientific disciplines, from physical science and engineering to life sciences, and social sciences to humanities.

Partnerships should be refined in FP10, not reformed, say advisers (23 January 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/partnerships/partnerships-should-be-refined-fp10-not-reformed-say-advisers

The Partnership Knowledge Hub advises against radical changes to the collaborative research initiative



Europe's research and innovation partnerships can be improved, but are not in need of a drastic overhaul, according to an advisory group charged with examining the initiative. This contrasts with the mood in the European Commission, which favours reform and a significant reduction in the number of partnerships.

According to the Partnership Knowledge Hub (PKH), which contains representatives from the Commission, member states and associated countries, with partnership representatives as observers, there is "no evidence of a need to fully revise the partnership instruments." Instead, improvements are needed to make them more impactful and easier to navigate. "We cannot continue everything as we do today, however we should not throw the baby out with the bathwater," said PKH co-chair Alexander Grablowitz.

A PKH opinion https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/01739064-cf0d-11ef-be2a-

01aa75ed71a1/language-en on FP10 published this month recommends that the next EU Framework Programme should continue the movement towards fewer and more policy-driven partnerships, which began under Horizon Europe. At the same time, it points to strong interest in the instrument, with member state and associated country contributions reaching €15 billion in the current programme, compared to €5.5 billion for partnerships under Horizon 2020. However, it says there is a need to reduce the administrative burden of participation, to develop a clearer rationale for tackling challenges through partnerships and not other instruments, and to stimulate more joint activities between partnerships.

Cut back

The number of partnerships was slashed from 120 to 50 in the current programme, but as new priorities have emerged it has proven difficult to phase out existing partnerships, sometimes resulting in overlaps. The Commission now wants to further reduce their number in a bid to simplify the research and innovation funding landscape.

Speaking at an event organised by the Danish permanent representation last week, Marc Lemaître, head of the EU's research directorate, said Europe needed to "muster the courage" to make choices about which partnerships and instruments provide European added value.

"Having clearer priorities in the future should mean having somewhat fewer and more broadly defined partnerships than we have today," Lemaître said.

This is part of a wider push to simplify research funding in Europe. "We need more speed and simplicity for the programme; we are very serious about this," Lemaître added.

The PKH opinion recommends giving member states and associated countries a greater say in selecting and implementing partnerships alongside the Commission, to better align EU and national strategies. **Member states have themselves called for a greater role in shaping FP10** https://sciencebusiness.net/fp10/member-states-call-greater-role-shaping-fp10.

Although the Council has to sign off on the partnerships, "the reality is, once the Commission tables a proposal, it's very difficult to make substantive changes," Grablowitz told Science|Business. Since the Commission only provides half of the funding, with the rest from industry and member states, the latter should have more input in advance of the proposal, he said.

Read full issue here: https://sciencebusiness.net/partnerships/partnerships-should-be-refined-fp10-not-reformed-say-advisers

European Innovation Council Transition – accelerating 40 groundbreaking technologies from lab to market readiness (22 January 2025)

Source: Website EIC https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/european-innovation-council-transition-accelerating-40-groundbreaking-technologies-lab-market-2025-01-22_en



The European Innovation Council (EIC) has selected 40 projects following the 2024 EIC Transition call, the most popular so far in terms of numbers of submissions. Significant proportion of those projects originates from the European Innovation Council Proof of Concept projects (19). It is also the first time when actions stemming from Horizon Europe pillar 2 and Horizon 2020 societal challenges and Leadership in Industrial Technologies could apple for the scheme. Each of these successful proposals, selected among 390 eligible submissions, will receive a grant of up to €2.5 million upon signing a grant agreement, as funding is dependent upon this signature. The selected participants come from 21 EU Member States and Horizon Europe associated countries. This funding stream, which has no predefined thematic restrictions, welcomes proposals from all fields of science, technology, and application.

Of of the funded projects is led by WU: VIVID Clinical Validation of In Vivo Imaging for Detecting Immune Dynamics led by prof.dr. Mangala Srinivas

For an overview of the funded projects: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/circabcewpp/d/d/workspace/SpacesStore/5659bde5-09ef-432a-9422-d260a1afde52/file.bin

New Draft version of MSCA Workprogramme 2025 (21 January 2025)

Source: EC and RVO

On Monday the 20th of January the Program Committee MSCA was informed about changes to the Work Programme MSCA 2025.

You can find a new version of the draft Work Programme 2025 for Horizon Europe MSCA with Track Changes at out WGO portal. We would like to stress that this document should be treated with confidentiality*.

This new version contains two new initiatives funded through an additional budget made available for MSCA in 2025 and a number of notable changes, including:

- A new MSCA4Ukraine call for proposals (CSA) with a budget of 10M€, in view of continued support to displaced researchers following the Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine;
- A new COFUND call with a budget of 22.5M€ to pilot implementing the Choose Europe recommendation of the
 High Level Group on the interim evaluation of Horizon Europe (Align, act, accelerate Publications Office of
 the EU https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/2f9fc221-86bb-11ef-a67d01aa75ed71a1/language-en), with the objective to providing opportunities to retain and attract most promising
 young researchers in Europe, tackling notably the issue of research careers' precarity;
- Increased budget of the different Actions, taking into account the additional UK contribution to the programme, using the same distribution key as in 2024 (based on the UK performance in MSCA in H2020);

Changes in the MSCA and Citizens call 2025.

Applications for ERC Consolidator Grants 2025: Facts and figures (16 January 2025)

Source: Website ERC https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/applications-erc-consolidator-grants-2025-facts-and-figures



The ERC Consolidator Grants 2025 call closed for applications on 14 January 2025.

These are the preliminary data on the submitted proposals:

- The ERC received 3 121 applications, marking a 35% increase compared to the previous call and a 46% increase compared to the 2023 call.
- The highest number of applications came from the Physical Sciences and Engineering domain with 1 268 submissions (41%) followed by Social Sciences and Humanities with 1 033 submissions (33%), and Life Sciences with 820 submissions (26%).
- Women submitted 38% of proposals, slightly lower share compared to the 38.9% in the 2024 Consolidator Grant call, but higher than the 35.7% in 2023.

Requests for €220B FP10 budget 'not realistic,' Zaharieva says (16 January 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/news/eu-budget/requests-eu220b-fp10-budget-not-realistic-zaharieva-says

In a wide-ranging interview, the new research commissioner sets out her agenda for the EU Framework Programmes



Photo credits: Fred Marvaux / European Union

FP10, the EU's flagship research and innovation funding programme due to start in 2028, is unlikely to have a budget of €220 billion, Ekaterina Zaharieva, the new Commissioner for start-ups, research and innovation, told Science|Business in an exclusive interview.

The proposed budget figure was put forward last year in a report by a panel of experts led by Portugal's former science minister Manuel Heitor, as well as research lobby groups and MEPs who believe a significant increase is necessary to deliver on the EU's ambition to remain competitive in a world where the US and China are leading in cutting-edge technologies like computer chips and artificial intelligence (AI).

"Of course, I'm going to work on increasing the budget for the next [Framework] Programme, no doubt about that, but to promise that it will be double is not realistic," Zaharieva said. "We really have budget constraints."

An increase to €220 billion means more than doubling the current budget for Horizon Europe, which is just shy of €95 billion, but Zaharieva says that she is "not able to commit on that" and would prefer to simplify the Framework Programme ahead of the start of FP10 in 2028.

"I really don't want to start [...] from the budget," the research commissioner said. "First, reforms, simplification, a more focused programme, preserving and strengthening the autonomy of what we have achieved – the European Research Council and the European Innovation Council."

Several actions are already being planned for 2026 and 2027, the final two years of Horizon Europe. The work programmes setting out the funding opportunities for the last leg of Horizon Europe should already include less prescriptive calls and a two-stage application process that would give more flexibility to researchers. A further expansion of lump-sum calls is also being planned.

Echoing the findings of the expert group led by Heitor, Zaharieva pointed out that success rates between 8% and 14% mean that applicants are losing time and money on lengthy and complex application procedures. She also wants to simplify the text of the work programmes themselves which, she said, are too long and prescriptive. "We don't have time to lose. I don't want to wait three years for the next Framework Programme to reform."

For Zaharieva, streamlining Horizon Europe will be beneficial for all member states, including those in central and eastern Europe that suffer from a performance gap with western counterparts. The EU has been trying to close this gap for years.

The member states that joined the bloc after 2004 are still struggling to attract foreign researchers to work on Horizon projects, she said. In some of those countries, the researchers in question can receive up to 40% less money than in richer EU member states. Zaharieva hinted that the issue of salaries will return to the Commission's political agenda during negotiations for FP10.

The research commissioner said that a concrete proposal for FP10 would be ready after the Commission presents its draft multiannual budget for 2028-2035, which is due 1 July.

Competitiveness and geopolitics

The EU is trying to put research and innovation at the core of efforts to revive its economic competitiveness. In addition to the Heitor report, policy papers published in 2024 by former Italian prime ministers Mario Draghi and Enrico Letta have reached a gloomy conclusion: there is a growing gap in gross domestic product between the EU and US, driven by lagging productivity growth in Europe. This is largely explained by weakness in the EU's tech sector.

In the coming decades, growth will no longer come from rising populations, but will have to be driven by increased productivity. And so, in order for its economy to survive, the EU needs to significantly boost both public and private investment in research and innovation to create and scale up new technologies and services.

Not long after the Letta and Draghi reports were published, the expert group led by Heitor also concluded that Horizon Europe was too difficult for many applicants to navigate, its public-private partnerships were inefficient and changes were needed to the European Innovation Council (EIC), its main funder for innovative companies.

Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe is the EU's main tool for stimulating private investment in the Framework Programme and includes dozens of public-private partnerships funding collaborative research. But critics say that its structure is too rigid, lacks focus on future technologies and places a heavy administrative burden on partners, driving industry away.

To fix this, the Heitor report recommended that the EU set up two new councils, one on industrial competitiveness and another on societal challenges, which would attract the private sector into the programme. Heitor said that these two new councils would also help the Commission reform large public-private partnerships and thematic missions that are currently run by Commission services with the support of member states.

Zaharieva said that she had analysed all these proposals and her team, together with the Commission's directorate-general for research and innovation, is now working on a draft structure for FP10. She admits that Pillar 2 needs to be reformed as it is "too complicated" and a simpler structure would be more appealing to companies, but she does not "want to create more research bodies."

As for the **creation of an Arpa-type agency** https://sciencebusiness.net/news/european-innovation-council/draghi-report-could-eu-set-its-own-darpa-agency from the EIC, which the Draghi report said could provide programme managers with more flexibility and experts with more leeway and money to pursue radical innovations, she expressed her support. Such flexibility would allow Europe to keep its advantageous position in the creation of start-ups; that is, if the expected benefits follow.

Call for EIT Water: Transforming Europe's Water, Marine, and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems (16 January 2025)

Source: Website EIT https://eit.europa.eu/news-events/news/call-eit-water-transforming-europes-water-marine-and-maritime-sectors-and

Today, the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) opens its call to build a new sustainable innovation partnership to strengthen Europe's water, marine and maritime sectors and ecosystems. The Call for Proposals invites consortia of organisations and industry leaders bringing together water-related education, research and business to put forward their vision and strategy for EIT Water. The EIT is an integral part of Horizon Europe, the EU's research and innovation framework programme.

While Europe is home to abundant water resources, challenges remain in significant fragmentation across ecosystem management, and overuse of natural resources. **Latest statistics** https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/water/water-scarcity-and-droughts_en paint an alarming picture with approximately 38 percent of the European population affected by water scarcity, impacting 29 percent of the territory. The economic cost is substantial, ranging from EUR 2 billion to EUR 9 billion, burdening European citizens.

The EIT will develop an integrated approach across freshwater, marine and maritime sectors and ecosystems. EIT Water will support entrepreneurial education and skills development, innovation projects as well as the business creation and commercialisation of new technologies, products and services. Core to the EIT Model, the new KIC will serve as a pan-European partnership and strengthen capacities addressing Europe's regional innovation divide. EIT Water will become the EIT's tenth Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) https://eit.europa.eu/global-challenges/about-our-communities, partnerships that have demonstrated remarkable impact driving the creation of new technologies, tackling global challenges and reinforcing Europe's competitiveness and sustainable development.

By establishing EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs), partnerships focused on thematic areas, the EIT has been able to support over 10 000 companies, launch over 2 450 new products to market and train over 800 000 learners in new skills. Thanks to early business creation support, EIT- supported companies and start-ups are currently valued at over EUR 71 billion. Most recently the EIT was recognised https://eit.europa.eu/news-events/news/eit-recognized-europes-top-investor-sifteds-2024-ranking as being the top performing investor in the Financial Times backed Sifted ranking behind Europe's fastest-growing startups.

EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities receive EIT funding for a maximum of fifteen years. EIT Water can expect a starting budget of up to EUR 5 million in 2026 to set up its innovation ecosystem. Any future funding is assessed against the impact of the new KIC's activities and decided upon by the EIT Governing Board. Through successful innovations and contributions from third parties, the partnership is expected to become financially sustainable over time beyond the period supported by EIT funding, leveraging close cooperation between education, research and business. EIT Water will help position Europe as a global leader strengthening the European Union's competitiveness, employment, and economic growth. EIT Water will join the EIT's nine existing KICs, which address equally important global challenges: climate, digital, energy, health, raw materials, food, manufacturing, urban mobility, and culture & creativity.

The deadline for submitting applications for the call for proposal for EIT Water is 17 June 2025.

Call Text: https://eit.europa.eu/library/eit-call-proposals-2025-new-kic-water-marine-and-maritime-sectors-and-ecosystems-eit-water

Apply here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-

Call Notice in all EU Languages: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C_202500202

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Other International funding

What to expect from LIFE in 2025 (13 January 2025)

Source: Website Life https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/what-expect-life-2025-2025-01-13_en

A look ahead at some of the highlights for the LIFE programme over the next 12 months.



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The European Union's flagship initiative for funding projects to improve the environmental and climate, the LIFE programme, turns 33 this year. That is a third of a century of supporting innovative and ground-breaking work to make Europe a cleaner, greener and more sustainable place.

Here are a few notable events in the LIFE calendar for the year:

LIFE Calls for proposals 2025

The next round LIFE Calls for proposals will go out on the Funding & tender opportunities portal https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/life2027 in April 2025. CINEA will hold virtual information sessions to guide potential applications through the process. You can see previous recordings https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Z5nfh5X800&list=PLKuLiQigqrCn0RkFpoVHmFnVdot7nTpQV on the LIFE YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/c/LIFEprogrammeEU. The results of the LIFE Call for proposals 2023 STRAT projects will be announced in February and those of the 2024 calls https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/life-calls-proposals-2024_en will be announced later this year.

LIFE Awards 2025

The most successful LIFE projects will be recognised at the 19th edition of the LIFE Awards. Prizes will be awarded in three categories: nature, circular economy and quality of life, climate action and LIFE citizens' prize. Last year **saw awards** https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/life-awards-2024-2024-05-30_en go to projects that restored river floodplains, used food waste to create an animal feed made from insects and attempted to tackle the urban heat island effect with trees. The award ceremony takes place **during EU Green Week** https://greenweek.event.europa.eu/previous-editions_en, Europe's largest environmental event.

The EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy

This major European initiative brings together thousands of local governments from across Europe to help support actions on climate and energy. By joining the initiative, local authorities voluntarily commit to implementing EU climate and energy objectives. Many LIFE projects work as partners with cities participating in the Covenant of Mayors initiative. In 2025, the EU Covenant of Mayors' Award https://eu-mayors.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-10/EU%20Covenant%20of%20Mayors%20Awards%202025.pdf is tied to the Cities Heat Detox campaign and will give cities the chance to highlight projects aiming at decarbonising the heating and cooling sector. The winners will be announced in March 2025.

European Sustainable Energy Week

One of the most important events for European renewables and energy efficiency, the **European Sustainable Energy Week** https://sustainable-energy-week.ec.europa.eu/index_en, will take place on 10-12 June. Consisting of a high-level Policy Conference, the EUSEW Awards, the European Youth Energy Day and the Energy Fair, it is an opportunity to

discuss the latest policies, innovations and ideas to transform the future of energy in Europe. Applications are already open for those planning to hold a policy session, host a stand at the Energy Fair, or compete in the EUSEW Awards. You can **get more information here** https://sustainable-energy-week.ec.europa.eu/eusew-2025-info-session_en.

Read full article here: https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/what-expect-life-2025-2025-01-13_en

National funding

First round of SSH Open Competition XS 2025 now open for applications (21 January 2025)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/first-round-of-ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-now-open-for-applications



SSH researchers who received their PhD five to 10 years ago and have a promising idea can apply for the SSH Open Competition XS 2025. The application deadline is March 6, 2025, by 14:00:00 CEST. An extension policy applies to this Call for proposals.

About the Call

This Call focuses on curiosity-driven, innovative research and rapid analysis of promising ideas. In addition, the proposed research must fall within SSH disciplines.

The characteristics of SSH Open Competition XS research are:

- the proposed research is innovative;
- it need not be established in advance whether the intended project objective will be achieved;
- each project contributes to existing and new scientific insights.

XS applications are evaluated among the applicants on the basis of the research idea. Therefore, applicants draft the research idea anonymously in the application form.

Applications within this call total a maximum of €50,000. The maximum duration of an XS project is twelve months.

For 2025, 3 deadlines for submitting applications are specified:

Round 1: 6 March 2025, before 14:00:00 CET Round 2: 8 May 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST

Round 3: 18 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST

More information

- Go to the Callpage: https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-round-1
- Go to the programmepage: https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh

Doctoral Grant for Teachers shows broad scientific spectrum: from ecological ethics to the treatment of periodontitis (21 January 2025)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/doctoral-grant-for-teachers-shows-broad-scientific-spectrum-from-ecological-ethics-to-the-treatment-of-periodontitis



Twenty-three teachers received the doctoral grant for educators. A total of over 4.9 million euros has been awarded. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science makes 9 million euros available annually for the doctoral programmes until 2026. The grant gives teachers the chance to develop further and strengthen the connection between universities and schools.

The science-wide character of the programme is evident from the awarded grants. For instance, Niels Hexspoor (Esprit Schools) is developing an ecological ethics to teach pupils how to deal with the conflicts of values created by the climate crisis in the future. Another great example is the research of Anouk Loeffen (HAN University of Applied Sciences). She wants to investigate which products and procedures are an effective addition to conventional treatment of periodontitis. The applicants of the awarded projects will conduct research over the next five years, eventually leading to a PhD.

One of Awarded projects is done at WUR

More than a gut feeling – Investigating diabetes onset in the gut and the preventive role of vegetables. R.E. (Rianne) Jansen, HAS Green Academy – Wageningen University & Research

For more information about funded projects: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/doctoral-grant-for-teachers-shows-broad-scientific-spectrum-from-ecological-ethics-to-the-treatment-of-periodontitis

Rubicon funds brain research and international ambitions of 16 researchers (16 January 2025)

Source: Website NWO news https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/rubicon-funds-brain-research-and-international-ambitions-of-16-researchers



In this Rubicon round, NWO enables 16 recently promoted and talented scientists to gain research experience abroad. The total budget for this round has been increased to 3.1 million euros.

The honoured projects cover a wide variety of topics. While Dr Guerrin will research how combined alcohol and cocaine use affect the brain, Dr Li will investigate how early modern families used to display and use paintings. It is worth noting that three of the sixteen projects focus on brain research. One researcher will explore the unification of brain and cognitive development using network models while another will study brain development during early adolescence.

One PI from WUR is funded:

Elucidating the role of genomic variation in microbial specialization

Dr. C.C. Sales e Santos Loureiro -> Wageningen University & Research -> Australia -> Queensland University of Technology -> 30 months.

Rubicon laureates and public summaries of round 2024-2:

https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/rubicon/awarded-grants/awarded-rubicon-grants-2024

Call open: Open Competition Domain Science - XS 2025 (13 January 2025)

Source: Website NWO news https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-open-competition-domain-science-xs-2025



Researchers with a promising idea or an innovative and high-risk initiative can submit new applications in 2025 within the new call of the Open Competition Science – XS, round 2025.

The proposed research must fall within the NWO Domain Science disciplines, it is ground-breaking and it is not clear in advance whether the intended objective will be achieved. What matters is that every result advances science, both positively and negatively. The NWO Open Competition – XS subsidies are a maximum of \in 50,000 per application, with a budget of \in 2,400,000 per package.

After the NWO Open Competition Domain Science – XS project, the researcher can use the results obtained to further shape the research line. This can be done, for example, by submitting an application within the other funding forms of the **Open Competition Domain Science** https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-enw (Open Competition-M and Open Competition-XL) or outside.

Three deadlines for submitting proposals for ENW-XS projects are specified for 2025.

For the most up-to-date ENW-XS webpage please see www.nwo.nl/enw-xs-en

Package	Submission deadlines	Decision anticipated by
25-1	18 February 2025, at 14:00:00 CET	17 April 2025
25-2	6 May 2025, at 14:00:00 CEST	10 July 2025
25-3	16 September 2025, at 14:00:00 CEST	20 November 2025

New call

The new Call for NWO Open Competition Domain Science – XS, round 2025 has been updated compared to round 2024. Instead of four packages, there are three packages in 2025. The deadline of the first package is 18 February, 2025, the deadline of the second package is 6 May, 2025 and the deadline of the third package is 16 September, 2025. The budget has increased from €1,400,000 to €2,400,000 for each package. Please check the **funding page** https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xs-package-25-1 and the new call carefully, use the new templates before submitting and contact us if you have any questions.

Regional funding

13 Support Facility Launched! (15 January 2025)

Source: Website Neth-ER https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/i3-support-facility-gelanceerd-

In collaboration with DG Regio, EISMEA is launching the new I3 Support Facility. The aim of this facility is to improve interregional innovation ecosystems with a focus on less developed EU regions. Part of the facility includes the Capacity Building Hub that ensures faster implementation of the I3 instruments and a policy lab to support policy makers, authorities and intermediaries.



Better integrate less developed regions into the EU

EISMEA has launched the **new I3 Support Facility** https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/whats-new/newsroom/01-10-2025-empowering-innovation-the-i3-support-facility-has-been-officially-launched_en in collaboration with DG REGIO. With this facility, EISMEA hopes to better integrate less developed EU regions into the value chain. This should improve interregional innovation ecosystems in the EU. Part of this facility is the Capacity Building Hub that ensures faster implementation of the I3 instruments by promoting collaboration, knowledge sharing and stakeholder capacity building. The facility also provides technical, regulatory and investment advice. In addition, the facility has developed a policy lab to support policy makers, authorities and intermediaries with the challenges faced by underdeveloped and the most remote regions.

Read full article here: https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/i3-support-facility-gelanceerd- (in Dutch)

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

'Europe must prioritize research and innovation to be competitive' (23 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 January 2025

The EU must take urgent action to address the large economic growth gap with the US and China. Member States should therefore adopt strategies that prioritize disruptive R&D and create conditions in which innovators can flourish. Economist and Nobel Prize winner Jean Tirole and President of the European Research Council (ERC) Maria Leptin write this in an opinion piece. A major reason for the innovation gap is said to be Europe's focus on mid-tech sectors, as opposed to high-tech in the US. "The EU is stuck in a middle technology trap, not only in terms of innovation investment, but also in terms of innovation output, with fewer patents in key areas such as ICT, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and electronics," it said. . "To overcome this, government intervention is needed to promote disruptive research and stimulate advanced industries."

Article ERC: https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/europe-must-prioritize-research-and-innovation-be-competitive

Poland presents research and innovation priorities for Council presidency (22 January 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/poland-presents-research-and-innovation-priorities-council

Al in science, the interim evaluation of Horizon Europe, and arming the EU drive the agenda



Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk presenting the presidency's programme to the European Parliament in Strasbourg on January 22, 2025. Photo credits: Mathieu Cugnot / European Union

Poland plans to use its six-month presidency of the European Council to advance the uptake of artificial intelligence in science, and to lay the groundwork for FP10, the next Framework Programme for research and innovation. Europe's two million researchers should be seen as "our advantage over our competitors," said Magdalena Kula, research attaché at the Polish permanent representation to the EU, as she presented the presidency's research and innovation priorities at an event in Brussels on January 22.

Poland has chosen the slogan "Security, Europe!" for its presidency, which kicked off at the turn of the year https://sciencebusiness.net/cohesion-policy/poland-seek-research-inclusiveness-against-security-backdrop-its-

upcoming-eu. Defence is a major priority, given the country's geographical proximity to Russia, but the focus is also on other types of security, including economic, food, health and cybersecurity.

Research and innovation will be a common thread running through these diverse topics, and the presidency wants to ensure that researchers are "seen and heard" in policy creation, Kula said.

When it comes to AI, there is an opportunity for Europe to "empower and upskill our researchers to use AI tools and technologies, in order to increase the productivity of research and innovation efforts," she said.

Poland will propose Council conclusions to this effect in the coming months. These will stress that access to AI tools for research "should be as democratic as possible" and not deepen disparities across the scientific community, Kula said.

FP10 in the background

While FP10 is not mentioned in the official programme https://polish-

presidency.consilium.europa.eu/media/zkcno325/programme-of-the-polish-presidency-of-the-council-of-the-european-union.pdf of the presidency, it will feature prominently in its activities.

Poland will host the first high-level political debate on FP10, during the informal competitiveness Council meeting in Warsaw on March 10-11, when research ministers will discuss the expectations of the research and innovation community, and their countries' priorities. The presidency will then propose a Warsaw declaration in the hope of agreeing on a common position.

At the formal competitiveness Council meeting on May 23 ministers will discuss the outcome of the interim evaluation of Horizon Europe, which is due to be published in April. They will share their key takeaways from the report, not only for FP10, but also for the final years of the current programme.

"If you want to build a proper discussion on the future of the Framework Programme, we need those numbers. We need to know what Horizon Europe has delivered, what worked, what didn't work, and to build our discussion on the facts and data." Kula said.

Poland will prepare Council conclusions on the interim evaluation alongside Denmark, which will hold the presidency during the second half of the year. The Commission proposal for FP10 should also arrive during the Danish presidency. One of the big question marks hanging over FP10 is the budget, with MEPs, advisors, and lobby groups all calling for the Horizon Europe budget to be more than doubled to €220 billion. However, Research Commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva has told Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/news/eu-budget/requests-eu220b-fp10-budget-not-realistic-zaharieva-says that it would not be realistic to promise such a significant increase.

Kula said that European research ministers would all like to see an ambitious budget, but the main discussions will take place between finance ministers.

European Union and United States sign a Joint Statement reaffirming the commitment to Transatlantic Research and Innovation Cooperation (17 January 2025)

Source: Website EC News https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/european-union-and-united-states-sign-joint-statement-reaffirming-commitment-transatlantic-research-2025-01-17 en

Today, the European Union (EU) and the United States (U.S.) have signed a joint statement on research and innovation cooperation, marking a significant milestone in their bilateral relationship.

The signature of this statement, under the EU-U.S. Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation, reaffirms the engagement of both sides to deepen their partnership on research and innovation to address pressing global challenges, from climate change to health crises. It also aims to foster scientific excellence and shared values such as openness, academic freedom, research ethics, and evidence-based policymaking.

The joint statement was signed by Marc Lemaitre, Director General for Research and Innovation at the European Commission, and Jennifer R. Littlejohn, Acting Assistant Secretary for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs at the US Department of State.

The statement is based on the conclusions of the Joint Consultative Group meeting of March 2024 and cooperation takes place under the EU-U.S. Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/europe-world/international-cooperation/bilateral-cooperation-science-and-technology-agreements-non-eu-countries/united-states_en

For more information: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/european-union-and-united-states-sign-joint-statement-reaffirming-commitment-transatlantic-research-2025-01-17_en

EU framework for health technology assessment in force (16 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 January 2025.

This week the European Regulation on Health Technology Assessment came into effect. The new regulations create a European framework for the assessment of health technologies. The new rules now only apply to cancer medicines or advanced therapy medicines. The framework will be gradually expanded in the coming years. "With these new rules, we are strengthening EU-wide cooperation in health and strengthening the competitiveness of the EU health ecosystem," said Commissioner Ribera. "This will save Member States and health technology developers valuable time, effort and resources and help patients across the EU get timely access to the most effective and efficient therapies and medicines."

Press release European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_226

"Stronger European innovative power requires collective action and strategic coordination" (16 January 2025)

Source: Website Neth-ER https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/-sterkere-europese-innovatiekracht-vereist-collectieve-actie-en-strategische-co-rdinatie-

If Member States coordinate their investments more, they could increase by up to 238%. The budget for Horizon Europe could thus be quadrupled. This is evident from a study by the European Parliament Research Service (EPRS) on Europe's innovative power. Collective actions are needed if Europe wants to strengthen its innovation and competitiveness. The figures from the report confirm the findings of Draghi and Letta.



Letta and Draghi were right

Ambitious and strategic actions https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/nl/document/EPRS_STU(2025)762853 are needed at European level to remain a relevant and influential continent. This is what the European Parliament Research Service (EPRS) writes in a study

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2025/762853/EPRS_STU(2025)762853_EN.pdf on an EU strategic innovation agenda. Without collective action, the EU cannot take steps to strengthen its innovative power. A coherent economic, financial and fiscal policy framework is essential to remain globally competitive. The study confirms the findings of Enrico Letta and Mario Draghi that this requires clear political priorities, sufficient budget and lower waste of public spending.

Three scenarios for European coordination

If Member States were to act individually, the gross domestic product (GDP) of the EU as a whole would increase by an additional 1.4%. In this case, public investments in research, development and innovation amount to €94 billion per year for the EU and its Member States combined. With more coordination this would amount to 2.2% and with very strong coordination this would amount to 4% extra GDP. In these two scenarios, the public investment would be 152 billion and 224 billion respectively. In these cases, this would also mean an additional annual budget of 5 billion and 42 billion for Horizon Europe.

European diplomas have added value, but are hindered by national regulations (16 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 January 2025

The introduction of a European degree can strengthen European higher education, research and

competitiveness. At the same time, there are still a number of significant obstacles to the introduction of such a degree. This is evident from a study by the European Commission into ten pilot projects under Erasmus+. These obstacles are mainly because education is largely a national competence, leading to major differences in regulations on, for example, curricula, teaching languages and the recognition of blended and online learning. Science Business and Neth-ER have written about the research.

Publication European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=SWD(2024)291&lang=en

Article Science Business: National differences hinder development of European degrees | Science|Business Article Neth-ER: https://www.neth-er.eu/onderwijs/pilots-wijzen-uit-sein-op-groen-voor-europese-graad (in Dutch)

Report: EU needs better technological intelligence (16 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 January 2025

The European Union lacks collective knowledge about where it lags behind in research and technology and about the possible impact of new technological breakthroughs. This is stated by a panel of advisors in a report to the European Commission. Science Business has written about this. The panel warns, among other things, that without better information the EU risks becoming dependent on other countries for crucial technologies.

News item European Commission: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovationnews/embedding-anticipatory-governance-europes-transitions-2024-12-10_en

Article Science Business: https://sciencebusiness.net/news/eu-needs-radically-better-technology-intelligence-its-advisers-warn

Response from European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen to LERU and YERUN's open letter (16 January 2025)

Source: Website LERU https://www.leru.org/news/response-from-european-commission-president-ursula-von-der-leyen-to-leru-and-yeruns-open-letter

President Ursula Von der Leyen has asked me to reply to your joint letter dated 29 October 2024. On behalf of the President of European Commission, I would like to thank you for your timely considerations in regard of the next multiannual financial Framework (MFF) and the successor of Horizon Europe.

The Political Guidelines of President von Leyen, as well as the Letta, Draghi and Heitor reports put a strong emphasis on research and innovation as top cross-cutting priorities to build a more competitive Europe.

President von der Leyen's Political Guidelines announced a new European Competitiveness Fund as part of a modern and reinforced policy-based budget in the next multiannual financial framework. The overall aim is to propose a 'simpler' and 'more impactful' and 'more focused' next EU long-term budget.

The idea of the European Competitiveness Fund is to provide the investment capacity to support strategic sectors critical to the EU's competitiveness. It will be targeted towards the needs of our economy and companies, aligning efforts at all levels, starting with our small and medium enterprises, thereby contributing to addressing issues identified in the Draghi Report. To unleash the full potential of R&I and bring out Europe's full strengths as an innovation powerhouse, we need to invest more resources, more strategically and in a more coordinated way.

Our commitment to Research and Innovation (R&I) remains unwavering. As emphasised in the Political Guidelines and reiterated by Commissioner Zaharieva during her hearing, R&I will be a top priority in the upcoming multiannual financial framework and Framework Programme, driving innovation and boosting our competitiveness.

This is clearly demonstrated in the Political Guidelines, which announce that we will put research and innovation, science and technology, at the centre of our economy. We will increase spending for research via an expansion of both the European Research Council and the European Innovation Council. These efforts will focus more on strategic priorities, on groundbreaking fundamental research and disruptive innovation, and on scientific excellence.

While it is too early to be concrete on how the Competitiveness Fund will be formed, we count on your input for designing a strong framework for R&I. Both Commissioner Serafin and Commissioner Zaharieva have committed to exchanging broadly with all stakeholders ahead of the Commission's proposal on the next multiannual financial framework, and the future Framework Programme for research and innovation

Macron proposes ambitious European innovation strategy for strategic sectors (16 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 January 2025

French President Macron believes that the EU should pursue ambitious innovation and industrial policies for a number of sectors, including AI, cleantech and defense. The president argued this during a meeting of French ambassadors. Science Business wrote about the speech. Macron argues that the EU has previously set up successful strategies in the fields of semiconductors, batteries and hydrogen. Implementing such strategies for the new priorities would require significant investments, possibly even 'doubling the budget'. Macron also advocates completing the internal market. "If we want our start-ups, our giants, our artificial intelligence champions to be part of the international competition, their domestic market cannot be the French market, but the European market."

Article Science Business: https://sciencebusiness.net/news/eu-budget/macron-calls-ambitious-eu-innovation-strategy-ai-cleantech-defence

President von der Leyen establishes fourteen Project Groups to deliver on political priorities (13 January 2025)

Source: Press Release EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_221

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has established fourteen Project Groups in the Commission to ensure, without prejudice, to the decision-making process the coordination on topical issues, on key crosscutting initiatives and horizontal policies. The aim of the Project Groups is to ensure preparation and political steer in the delivery of initiatives from conception to implementation. Each Project Groups has its own mandate, composition, duration, and working methods. And each Group will be chaired by a Member of the College, designated by the President. The respective group chairs will be responsible for ensuring the successful delivery of its mandate.

The Project Group on:

- Clean Industrial Deal is jointly chaired by the Executive Vice-President for Clean, Just and Competitive Transition,
 Teresa Ribera, the Executive Vice-President for Prosperity and Industrial Strategy, Stéphane Séjourné, and the
 Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth, Wopke Hoekstra.
- Artificial Intelligence is chaired by the Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy, Henna Virkkunen.
- External Action is chaired by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy /Vice-President, Kaja Kallas.
- Skills, Jobs and Social Rights is chaired by the Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality
 Jobs and Preparedness, Roxana Mînzatu.
- Economic Security is chaired by the Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security, Maroš Šefčovič.
- **Defence Union** is chaired by the Commissioner for Defence and Space, Andrius Kubilius.
- European Savings and Investments Union is chaired by the Commissioner for Financial Services and the Savings and Investments Union, Maria Luís Albuquerque.
- Preparedness Union is chaired by the Commissioner for Equality; Preparedness and Crisis Management, Hadja Lahbib.
- European Internal Security is chaired by the Commissioner for Internal Affairs and Migration, Magnus Brunner.
- Water Resilience is chaired by the Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy, Jessika Roswall.
- Affordable Housing is chaired by the Commissioner for Energy and Housing, Dan Jørgensen.
- Startups and Scaleups is chaired by the Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation, Ekaterina Zaharieva.
- **European Democracy** Shield is chaired by the Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection, Michael McGrath.
- Vision for Agriculture and Food is chaired by the Commissioner for Agriculture and Food, Christophe Hansen.

Read full publication here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_221

Benefit of an EU strategic innovation agenda - Cost of non Europe (13 January 2025)

Source: Website European Parliament https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_STU(2025)762853

For the European Union to compete globally while continuing to ensure progress in environmental, social and fundamental rights, more strategic and collective action is imperative. In a world where some leading global

businesses have a market capitalisation of more than €3 trillion, an integrated economic, financial and fiscal policy framework is needed to encourage innovation and growth, including for successful SMEs. As the recent Letta and Draghi reports highlight, this requires clear political priorities, enough budgetary means, lower public spending waste rates at Member State level and crucially a transnational pro-innovation perspective. As a result, EU businesses could harness the full potential of the single market and economic and monetary union and challenge competitors in fast-growing and future-oriented economic activities such as digital and clean energy production. This agenda, although largely elusive at this point, could bring substantial economic benefit. This study finds that, compared to a situation where Member States act alone, a coordinated approach at EU level could bring an additional 0.9 % of GDP in 2035. A more ambitious integrated approach could be even more positive, with a benefit estimated at 2.6 % of additional GDP in 2035.

For more information: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_STU(2025)762853

Global policy

WEF warns of declining global cooperation on technology and innovation (23 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 January 2025

Global cooperation in innovation and technology has continued to increase in recent years. At the same time, the global fragmentation of frontier technologies threatens to slow global productivity growth. This is stated in the Global Cooperation Barometer 2025 by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and consultancy firm McKinsey. The report points, among other things, to increased measures in the field of critical raw materials and advanced technologies. Science Business has written about the report.

Publication WEF: https://www.weforum.org/publications/the-global-cooperation-barometer-2025/ **Article Science Business**: https://sciencebusiness.net/news/synergies/experts-warn-fragmentation-global-collaboration-innovation

How Trump could impact EU-US science and technology relations (23 January 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business https://sciencebusiness.net/news/international-news/how-trump-could-impact-eu-us-science-and-technology-relations

Some in Europe are mulling a scientific pivot to India and even China. Others argue the EU has no choice but to follow Washington



US President Donald Trump. Photo credits: Andrew Prophet / Flickr

Donald Trump's return to the White House has prompted some European research leaders to ask if they should seek out new scientific partners globally, including a rapprochement with China.

The EU has spent several years trying to "de-risk" its research relationship with China, worried that it could be aiding Beijing with sensitive or even military technology.

But Trump's rhetoric towards Europe has some wondering whether the continent should better hedge its bets. The new US president has threatened to take over Greenland, which belongs to Denmark, and has not ruled out using force. Tariffs could also be on the cards.

"What I now see and hear from the incoming US administration is not promising for this special relationship [between Europe and the US], which has existed for so many years," said Robert-Jan Smits, president of the executive board of Eindhoven University of Technology. "It might force Europe to look for other partners to cooperate with," he warned. The EU is already contemplating a broader pivot following Trump's entry into office. Earlier this week, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen responded to Trump's inauguration by saying that the EU needed to "engage beyond blocs and taboos."

The first trip of her second term will be to India, von der Leyen told delegates

https://www.weforum.org/stories/2025/01/davos-2025-special-address-by-ursela-von-der-leyen-president-of-the-european-commission/ at the World Economic Forum in Davos. Meanwhile, she spoke relatively warmly about China, saying she wanted to "engage and deepen our relationship" and "expand our trade and investment ties." "India is an obvious partner," said Smits. Eindhoven, which is a key player in the global semiconductor industry, has stepped up its recruitment, both of staff and students, from the country.

Trump's rhetoric – threatening to take over Greenland through economic or military means, for example – also risks pushing Europe into reviewing its science cooperation policy with China, Smits said, although he stressed this should be "managed with great care, given the issue of knowledge security."

"It's a pity that the US is now also forcing us to look for other partners, for cooperation," he said.

Read full article here: https://sciencebusiness.net/news/international-news/how-trump-could-impact-eu-us-science-and-technology-relations

Nature looks ahead to the consequences of Trump 2.0 for science (23 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 January 2025

Scientific areas that are of strategic importance in particular will have a positive outlook on President Trump's second term. These are likely to be exciting and difficult years for many other scientific areas. This can be read in an analysis by Nature about what the second round of Trump means for science. The science platform expects that Trump will mainly focus on innovation in space, AI, quantum, advanced communications and biotechnology. He wants to compete with China on these themes. Things look bleak for science that focuses on sustainability and climate. There are also doubts about the consequences for health science. Trump wants to take strong steps in this regard, but it is unclear in which direction.

Analysis Nature: https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00052-z

Nature writes open letter to Trump (23 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 January 2025

In an open letter to President Trump, Nature calls on him to help science flourish for America's health, safety and prosperity. The letter addresses what researchers need to help his government achieve these goals. He is specifically asked to continue to collaborate internationally and to take scientific evidence into account when implementing policy. "We encourage you to talk to consumer organizations, patient groups, researchers focused on ethics, science and public policy, and the research arms of regulatory agencies themselves," Nature said. "The great innovations happen when researchers are able to work with – and learn from – researchers in different countries. This ensures an efficient exchange of knowledge, giving breakthroughs the best chance of success."

Article Nature: https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00050-1

Nature: Scientists US and China must now demonstrate cooperation themselves (23 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 January 2025

With the new Trump administration at the helm, there is a task for American and Chinese scientists to actively work together to find major common challenges that are further removed from the geopolitical battle. Nature writes this in an article. The new generation of politically-conscious scientists should play a driving role in reshaping the ecosystem of scientific cooperation between China and the US. "The goal should be to demarcate safe zones in which cooperation is not only tolerated, but also encouraged and supported by both countries," Nature said. "There are many areas where both countries would benefit from collaboration, and scientists can show how to make that happen. Until the scientific community sets a vision for how it wants collaborations to work, politicians will fill in the gaps. In recent years show that that approach is bad for science and bad for the world."

Article Nature: https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00033-2

Nature: Data research reveals gender gaps in female-heavy fields (16 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 January 2025

On average, female scientists stop academic publications earlier than their male colleagues, even in scientific fields where the male/female ratio is approximately equal. This is evident from a study in Nature into the publications of more than 86,000 scientists in 38 countries in a number of biological science disciplines that are known for the relatively high number of women. "It's very easy to assume that science will organically change toward equality — and what this study shows is that that's not happening," information scientist Cassidy Sugimoto told Nature.

Article Nature: https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00021-6

OECD: Countries must think more carefully about the effectiveness of climate measures (16 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 January 2025

Countries should look beyond labeling money in the budget for climate action. The OECD writes this in a report. For example, safeguards should be built in to ensure compliance with international agreements, including through national plans and strategies. "This requires developing tools to assess the impact of budget proposals on greenhouse gas emissions, with a focus on the main sectors responsible for greenhouse gas emissions," it said. Investments must also be made in research to understand the macroeconomic impact of climate policy and to assess the impact of policy choices on greenhouse gas emissions. In essence, it must be ensured that the resources allocated to climate action are used effectively.

OECD publication: https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/beyond-green-tagging_b154d49b-en.html

National policy

The Cabinet wants knowledge security screening for all researchers and (master) students in sensitive scientific areas (23 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 January 2025

The government wants to expand the target group in the Knowledge Safety Screening bill to all researchers and (master) students who can gain access to sensitive knowledge or technology at a Dutch knowledge institution, regardless of nationality or right of residence. The Council of Ministers decided this following advice from the Human Rights Institute and the State Attorney. Minister Bruins explains this choice in a letter to Parliament. The original plan was to impose the screening obligation only on 'third country nationals' from outside the EU. However, this proposal would be legally vulnerable. Bruins still aims to publish the bill for public consultation in the first half of 2025. On January 30, the House of Representatives will debate with Minister Bruins about knowledge security. The AWTI has provided input for this debate via a position paper.

Letter to Parliament from Minister Bruins:

https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2025/01/17/afbakening-doelgroep-wetsvoorstel-screening-kennisveiligheid (in Dutch)

Position paper AWTI: https://www.awti.nl/documenten/publicaties/2025/01/22/position-paper-kennisveiligheid-vraagtom-een-lerende-aanpak (in Dutch)

Innovations offer opportunities for less nitrogen and greenhouse gases from agriculture, but they cost a lot of money (23 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 23 January 2025

Innovations in livestock farming offer great opportunities in the fight against nitrogen and greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture. This is evident from research by Wageningen University & Research (WUR) and Schuttelaar & Partners, commissioned by the Interprovincial Consultation (IPO). In theory, it would be possible to reduce emissions of ammonia and greenhouse gases by 61 to 72% in the long term (compared to 2019). In the short term, this involves reductions of 41 to 50% for ammonia and 27 to 48% for greenhouse gases, respectively. The researchers assume that all companies will implement the innovations correctly in their business operations. Because full implementation is very difficult to achieve in practice, the researchers believe that changes in the agricultural structure (i.e. extensification) are also necessary to achieve the intended reductions. The NOS has written about the report. However, a lot of money is needed to implement all the innovations examined. For example, the researchers estimate that innovations in the field of stables, feed and manure would cost almost 500 million euros per year. Professor and co-author Wim de Vries warns that the current budgets are not sufficient for this.

Publication IPO: https://www.ipo.nl/nieuws/innovatie-biedt-kansen-voor-minder-stikstof-en-broeikasgassen-uit-de-landbouw/ (in Dutch)

Article NOS: https://nos.nl/artikel/2552607-innovaties-kunnen-nederland-met-flink-meer-geld-uit-stikstofcrisis-helpen

NWO sets policy on the use of generative AI (20 January 2025)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-sets-policy-on-the-use-of-generative-ai



The Dutch Research Council (NWO) has set guidelines regarding the use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) for applicants, reviewers and NWO employees. Applicants are allowed to use GAI, but its use is prohibited for reviewers and NWO employees involved in the application review process.

In January 2024, **NWO shared preliminary guidelines** https://www.nwo.nl/nieuws/nwo-komt-met-voorlopige-richtlijnen-gebruik-ai for the use of GAI. The NWO Board of Directors has now adopted policies that every applicant, reviewer and NWO employee must follow.

Use of GAI for applicants allowed

Generative AI can be used for things such as creating and/or translating texts, creating presentations, generating images, writing computer code, and analysing data. It therefore has a great number of uses for researchers writing applications. However, the use of GAI also carries the risk of bias, plagiarism and incomplete, fabricated and/or erroneous output, among others. NWO has now decided to allow the use of GAI for applicants, provided it is done responsibly. This means that researchers applying must follow the guidelines in the policy framework. NWO expects applicants to familiarize themselves with these guidelines. From now on, new Calls for proposals will refer to the guidelines.

Use of GAI excluded in review process

When reviewing an application, the use of GAI is completely prohibited. Both reviewers (including referees, committee and jury members) and NWO employees must comply with confidentiality obligations for all documents surrounding an application in the grant process. NWO cannot guarantee this confidentiality when reviewers and NWO employees involved in the review process use GAI. In addition, NWO has a duty of concealment. This means that NWO must be able to verify that a reviewer's advice is based on a careful assessment. The use of GAI complicates compliance with this duty of verification, because it is often impossible to ascertain in what way GAI was used.

Use of GII for NWO staff in other work.

NWO staff may - for work outside the review process - use GAI, but only GAI applications that have been approved and declared secure and made available according to the (IT) procurement process. Currently, NWO staff may use the DeepL translation application.

Core values

The NWO policy on generative AI is an elaboration of our core value "trustworthy". This core value stands for integrity, transparency and careful handling by NWO. In doing so, NWO observes applicable laws and regulations, including the Dutch Code of Conduct on Scientific Integrity https://www.nwo.nl/nederlandse-gedragscode-wetenschappelijke-integriteit. Both standards have been starting points for the new NWO policy on generative AI.

The summarised GAI policy with guidelines for applicants, reviewers and NWO staff, as well as the full policy document, can be found below.

NWO policy on the use of generative artificial intelligence GAI): https://www.nwo.nl/en/nwo-policy-on-the-use-of-generative-artificial-intelligence-gai

Knowledge for the Netherlands is falling behind due to budget cuts in higher education and research (20 January 2025)

Source: Website NWO News https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/knowledge-for-the-netherlands-is-falling-behind-due-to-budget-cuts-in-higher-education-and-research



This week, the Senate is considering the OCW budget with its proposed cuts to higher education and research. Ahead of the debate, NWO once again expresses its concerns about the consequences of the cuts in education and research for the Netherlands' position as a knowledge country. Innovations in health, safety, climate, living environment and digitalisation will fail to materialise and talent will be lost.

Formally, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science's 2025 budget has yet to be approved. It is awaiting approval from the Senate, after the vote on it was postponed to this year when it appeared that there was no majority in the Lower House for the proposed cuts in higher education and education. Just before the turn of the year, the coalition parties still

reached an agreement on the matter with four opposition parties. The planned cuts were reduced by 748 million euros, but 90% of the planned cuts https://www.nwo.nl/nieuws/grote-zorgen-wetenschapsorganisaties-over-ocw-begroting in scientific research remain intact. Disappointing and worrying, according to NWO.

'The budget cuts to higher education and research have major consequences for the entire sector. Universities and university medical centres will suffer in particular, but the cuts will also jeopardise the Netherlands' position as a knowledge country' NWO board chairman Marcel Levi warns. 'Knowledge and talent will be lost because of this and that is really worrying for the Dutch economy, our strategic autonomy and our broad prosperity. This will affect our country, because the bright minds of tomorrow will no longer be educated here or leave science. Specifically, this will eventually lead to less knowledge across the board, take for instance in the field of health or agriculture.

Read full article here: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/knowledge-for-the-netherlands-is-falling-behind-due-to-budget-cuts-in-higher-education-and-research

Prince Constantijn advocates integrated industrial policy and more attention for startups (16 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 January 2025

Dutch companies often fail to make the transition from startup to scale-up. The Netherlands must therefore work on an integrated industrial policy, in which technology and entrepreneurship are an inherent part. This is what Prince Constantijn of Orange, special envoy of Techleap, argues in WNL On Zondag. "We have made a few mistakes in Europe. We are too cautious, we are not enterprising enough and we invest too little in developments," says Constantijn. He argues that having the capacity to quickly convert technology into business is important to remain competitive as a country. "The business climate is very important, as is entrepreneurship. But you have more than SMEs and big business. If you want disruptive technology and you want to keep the economy dynamic, you will have to do more about fast-growing companies. There is still some work to be done there."

Article WNL: https://wnl.tv/2025/01/12/nederlandse-startups-sterven-vaak-een-stille-dood-we-zijn-niet-ondernemend-genoeg (in Dutch)

Dutch AI Coalition and AiNed join forces in new organization (16 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 16 January 2025

The Dutch Al Coalition (NLAIC) and AiNed have joined forces under the name Al Coalition 4 NL (AlC4NL). iBestuur has written about the merger. "A separate Al coalition and a separate Al program led to confusion, fragmentation and inefficiency," says CEO Willem Jonker. By bringing together the existing ecosystem and the various program teams under one board, the organizations hope to increase their impact. In its strategic agenda for 2025-2027, the new organization writes that it wants to take the lead in positioning the Netherlands as a leading player in the responsible development and application of Al.

AIC4NL: https://www.aic4nl.nl/ (in Dutch)

Strategic agenda 2025-2027: https://www.aic4nl.nl/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/AIC4NL-Agenda-2025-2027_def.pdf (in Dutch)

Article iGovernment: https://ibestuur.nl/artikel/nederlandse-ai-coalitie-en-ained-willen-impact-vergroten-in-een-ai-coalitie-4-nl/ (in Dutch)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 27 January 2025

Call identifier	Deadline
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC	
ERC-2025-AdG	Foreseen opening 22 May 2025 and Foreseen deadline 28 August 2025 (ERC-2025-AdV-Grants)
Marie Sklodwska Curie Actions	
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-SE01-01 MSCA Staff Exchanges 2024 Staff Exchanges	5 February 2025 at 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-MSCA-2024-SE01-01 Staff Exchanges)
HOROZON-MSCA-2024- MSCA4Ukrain	The next MSCA4Ukraine call is expected to open in November 2024
Research Infrastructures	
Cluster 1 HEALTH	
Destination 1 – Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society	
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	
Destination 2: INCREASED	
AUTONOMY IN KEY STRATEGIC	
VALUE CHAINS FOR RESILIENT	
INDUSTRY	
DESTINATION 3 - WORLD	
LEADING DATA AND	
COMPUTING TECHNOLOGIES	
DESTINATION 4 – DIGITAL AND	
EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR COMPETITIVENESS AND	
FIT FOR THE GREEN DEAL	
THE ORLENDEAL	
DESTINATION 5 – DESTINATION	
- OPEN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY	
IN DEVELOPING, DEPLOYING	
AND USING GLOBAL SPACE-	
BASED	
INFRASTRUCTURES, SERVICES,	
APPLICATIONS AND DATA	
DESTINATION 6 – A HUMAN-	
CENTRED AND ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL AND	
INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES	
CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate -	
Energy - Mobility	
Destination - Climate sciences	
and responses	

Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	
Destination: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use	
Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
Cluster 6	
Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV	Foreseen opening: 06 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 17 September 2025
Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02- FARM2FORK	Foreseen Opening: 06 May 2025 foreseen deadline(s): 4 September 2025
Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-	Foreseen opening: 06 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 17 September 2025
Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01 ZEROPOLLUTION	Foreseen opening: 06 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 17 September 2025
Destination 5 – Land, oceans and water for climate action	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE	Foreseen Opening: 06 May 2025 foreseen deadline(s): 4 September 2025
Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02 COMMUNITIES	Foreseen Opening: 06 May 2025 foreseen deadline(s): 4 September 2025

Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-03- GOVERNANCE	Foreseen Opening: 6 May 2025 foreseen deadline(s): 24 September 2025
Circular Biobased Europe	
CBE Circular Biobased Europe partnership https://www.cbe.europa.eu/ Pillar III Innovative Europe	The call for proposals will open on 4 April 2025, and the call deadline is foreseen for 17 September 2025. https://www.cbe.europa.eu/system/files/2024-12/cbeju_awp2025.pdf
EIC Pathfinder-2025-open	Foreseen deadline 21 May 2025
EIC-Pathfinder-Challenges	Foreseen Deadline 29 October 2025
EIC Transition-2025	Foreseen deadline 17 September 2025
EIC-Accelerator-2025	Foreseen deadlines 12 March 2025, 1 October 2025
EIC Accelerator Challenges 2025	Foreseen Deadline 1 October 2025 https://eic.ec.europa.eu/document/download/5e1eb75f-e437-477f-9ee9-ef54ff6387fd_en?filename=EIC%20Work%20Programme%202025.pdf
Mission calls 2024	
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)
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 27 January 2025 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 Partnerships European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare https://www.eupahw.eu/	1 st 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 <u>July 8th</u> , 2024, 15:00 h (CEST). (CLOSED)

ht 01 El European Partnership Bi	eadline for full-proposal submission 4th February 2025, 14:00 CET ttps://www.eupahw.eu/pdf/open-calls/call-01/call- 1_EUPAHW%20Call%20Announcement_13.5.pdf UPAHW submission webpage: https://eupahw.ptj.de/ UPAHW webpage: www.EUPAHW.eu
01 El European Partnership Bi	1_EUPAHW%20Call%20Announcement_13.5.pdf UPAHW submission webpage: https://eupahw.ptj.de/
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	will follow a two-stage application process:
ittps://www.biodiversa.eu/	
	 Pre-proposals: the deadline for submitting pre-proposals will be in 8 November 2024. (CLOSED)
	Full Proposals: shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit
	full proposals by 11 April 2025.
	ttps://www.biodiversa.eu/2024/06/11/2024-2025-joint-call/
	pcoming Water4All call Water for Circular Economy The call is planned
	be officially launched 12 September 2024,
	two-step procedure will be used with a closing date for:
partnership.eu/	pre-proposals on 13 November 2024 (CLOSED) and
	the deadline for full-proposals on 29 April 2025.
l l	ttps://www.water4all-partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-2024-joint-
l l	ansnational-call-pre-announcement and https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-
	nnouncement-transnational-call-regarding-water-for-circular-economy
	hird DUT call Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future. The call
	pened 2 September 2024
sustainable future (DUT)	The deadline for pre-proposals is 14 November 2024 (13:00 CET)
https://dutpartnership.eu/	(CLOSED).
	 The deadline for full proposals is 24 April 2025 (13:00 CET).
I	ttps://www.nwo.nl/en/news/driving-urban-transitions-call-2024-open-for-
· ·	pplications and https://dutpartnership.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/DUT-
	024-Call-Text-Version-1.1.pdf
	he first call of FutureFoods Partnership
FutureFoods	The deadline for pre-submissions is January 15, 2025 (13:00 CET)
https://www.futurefoodspartner	(CLOSED)
ship.eu/	 he deadline for full proposals is July 9, 2025 (13:00 CEST
	ttps://www.futurefoodspartnership.eu/
•	econd co-funded call AgroEcology Partnership
	ttps://agroecology.ptj.de/call2?genericModule=callDocuments&action=d
	wnload&id=955 is open
rship.eu/	Deadline for pre proposal submission is 17 February 2025,
	14:00h CET.
	 Deadline for full proposal submission is 09 July 2025, 14:00h
	CEST.
	webinar for applicants will be hosted on 13 December 2024 from 09:00
l l	o 12:00 CET https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XM62HFF. The webinar will
	e recorded and FAQs provided.
	ttps://agroecology.ptj.de/call2 and
	ttps://agroecology.ptj.de/call2?genericModule=callDocuments&action=d
	wnload&id=955
Joint Technology	
Initiatives	
Joint Programming	
nitiatives	
•	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
	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 **27 January 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
11-02-2025	Deadline submission Concept notes (mandatory) for the Long-term Europe – Africa WEF Nexus
	(LEAWEF) Multilateral Research Programme. The deadline for the submission of Concept notes
	(mandatory), which are to be submitted to NWO, is 11 February 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CET
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/long-term-europe-africa-wef-nexus-leawef-multilateral-research-
	programme and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/LEAWEF%20call_for_proposals%20%281%29_0.pdf
25-02-2025	Deadline for submission Full-proposals NWA Science Communication 2025. Closing date full
	application 25 February 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-nwa-science-
	communication-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-science-communication-2025
04-03-2025	Deadline for submitting full-proposals the call 'Extreme Heat and Water Events: The Adverse
	Health Effects of Climate Change in Cities 2024' invites consortia with researchers from
	research institutions in both the Netherlands and Brazil to participate The deadline for
	submitting full proposals is 4 March 2025, before 14:00:00 CET, at NWO and 4 March 2025 at
	23:59:00 GMT-3, at FAPESP. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/extreme-heat-and-water-events-the-
	adverse-health-effects-of-climate-change-in-cities-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/call_for_proposals_extreme_heat_and_water_events_2024_v10_160924v1.pdf
11-03-2025	Deadline submission <u>full proposals</u> Call strengthening urban resilience through collaboration
	between the Netherlands and China (NSFC). Tuesday, 11 March 2025, before 14:00:00 CET at
	NOW; Wednesday, 12 March 2025, at 16:00:00 CST at NSFC. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-
	strengthening-urban-resilience-through-collaboration-between-the-netherlands-and-china-nsfc and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/cities-amidst-climate-change-enhancing-physical-and-social-resilience-in-
	urban-areas
11-04-2025	Deadline for submission Full-proposals Biodiversity and Transformative Change
	(BiodivTransform): under European partnership 'Rescuing Biodiversity to Safeguard Life on
	Earth' (Biodiversa+). Deadline for submitting a full proposal is April 11th, 2025 at 15:00 CEST.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/biodiversity-and-transformative-change-biodivtransform and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/biodivtransform_call_documents_staatscourant.pdf and
	https://www.biodiversa.eu/2024/06/11/2024-2025-joint-call/
24-04-2025	Deadline for submission Full-proposals for European partnership Driving Urban Transitions Call
	2024 . The submission deadline for full proposals is 24 April 2025, at 13:00.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/driving-urban-transitions-call-2024 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/DUT%202024%20Call%20Text%20Version%201.1.1_0.pdf and https://dutpartnership.eu/dut-call-
	2024/
29-04-2025	Deadline for submission Full-proposals for Partnership Water4All call- Water For Circular
	Economy. Deadline for submitting a full proposal is 29 April 2025, 15:00 CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/partnership-water4all-water-for-circular-economy and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/1_water4all_jtc2024_call_for_proposals.pdf and
	https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-2024-joint-transnational-call-pre-
	announcement

13-05-2025	Deadline submission <u>pre-proposals</u> for the call The Water-Food nexus in rainfed agri-food systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: socio-economics and governance. The deadline for submitting full proposals is 13 May 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-on-scaling-up-soil-moisture-retention-in-rainfed-agriculture-sub-saharan-africa and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/the-water-food-nexus-in-rainfed-agri-food-systems-in-sub-saharan-africa-socio-economics-and-governance and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20-%20WFN%20call%20-%20def_2.pdf
05-06-2025	Deadline for submission full-proposals for call KIC Greenhouses in transition: opportunities in water, energy and agriculture (Joint call of the Dutch Research council (NWO) and the US Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR)). Deadline for submission of full proposals in phase 2 is Thursday 5 June 2025, before 14:00:00 hours CEST (5 June 2025 before 08:00:00 EDT) in ISAAC. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/kic-call-greenhouses-in-transition-in-cooperation-with-ffar-now-open-for-proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-greenhouses-in-transition-opportunities-in-water-energy-and-agriculture and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20KIC%20Greenhouses%20in%20transition-met%20beeld%20%281%29_0.pdf
09-06-2025	Foreseen Deadline for submission full-proposals Merian Fund Cooperation South Africa-The Netherlands SGCI-NWO multilateral research programme. Closing date full application 9 June 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/merian-fund-cooperation-south-africa-the-netherlands-sgci-nwo-multilateral-research-programme
14-07-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals (mandatory) for the Long-term Europe – Africa WEF Nexus (LEAWEF) Multilateral Research Programme. The deadline for the submission of Full proposals (mandatory) is 14 July 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/long-term-europe-africa-wef-nexus-leawef-multilateral-research-programme and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/LEAWEF%20call_for_proposals%20%281%29_0.pdf
02-09-2025	Deadline for knowledge management proposal in Phase II ADM-LAB: Livings Labs for Adaptive Delta Management in Bangladesh. Deadline for submission of a knowledge management proposal in Phase II is Tuesday 2 September 2025, 14:00:00 CEST in ISAAC. eahttps://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/adm-lab-livings-labs-for-adaptive-delta-management-in-bangladesh and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/ADM-LAB%20Livings%20Labs%20for%20Adaptive%20Delta%20Management%20in%20Bangladesh%20%20call%20for%20proposals%20UK.pdf

National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **27 January 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

30-01-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals KIC - Missie 24/27 - Value(s) in transition(s) 2024.
	Submit your proposal by Thursday 30 January 2025 at the latest, before 14:00:00 CET .
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/kic-call-open-values-in-transitions and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/knowledge-and-innovation-covenant/kic-2024-
	2027/mission-2024-2027/values-in-transitions and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-values-in-
	transitions and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/KIC_Values%20in%20Transition%28s%29_Call%20for%20Proposals.pdf
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
30-01-2025	Deadline for submission full proposals Off Road 2025. You can submit your grant application
	via the My ZonMw digital portal until 30 January 2025, 14:00 CEST.
	https://www.zonmw.nl/nl/nieuws/subsidieronde-road-geopend-0 and
	https://www.zonmw.nl/nl/subsidie/off-road-2025 and
	https://www.zonmw.nl/sites/zonmw/files/2024-12/Subsidieoproep-Off-Road-2025_0.pdf
04-02-2025	Deadline for submission full proposals Venture Challenge Spring 2025. Closing date full
	application 4 February 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/spring-round-of-venture-
	challenge-2025-now-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/venture-challenge-
	spring-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Brochure%20Venture%20Challenge%20Spring%202025%20EN%201.0_0.pdf
04-02-2025	Deadline for submission of <u>pre-proposals</u> Take off phase 1 - Feasibility studies WO fall 2025
	A pre-proposal must be submitted via our ISAAC system before Tuesday 4 February 2025
	14:00:00 CET. Please use the correct form (spring 2025, see tab 2 "Prepare"). Without a pre-

	proposal, a full proposal cannot be submitted. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/enthusiastic-reactions-from-broader-ecosystem-to-opening-of-take-off-spring-round-2025-with-increased-budgets and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/take-off-phase-1-feasibility-studies-wo-fall-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20fase%201%20WO%20voorjaarsronde%202025_versie2.pdf
06-02-2025	Deadline for submission <u>pre-proposals</u> KIC Nature-inclusive decision making in business.
00 02 2020	The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is February 6, 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business-kic and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%202024_def_EN.pdf
13-02-2025	Deadline for submission for research ideas for NWA Key Enabling Methodologies (KEMs) -
	The utilisation of Key Enabling Methodologies in complex societal transition issues. The deadline for the submission of research ideas is 13 February 2025, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-knowledge-development-and-application-of-kems-for-effective-policy and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-key-enabling-methodologies-kems-the-utilisation-of-key-enabling-methodologies-in-complex-societal-transition-issues and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWA%20Key%20Enabling%20Methodologies%20%28ENG
40.00.0005	%29_2.pdf
18-02-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Open Competition Domain Science - XS 2025. Deadline for submission of proposals round 2025-1 18 February 2025, at 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-open-competition-domain-science-xs-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xs-package-25-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20ENW-XS%202025_ENG.pdf
20-02-205	Deadline for submission for research ideas for NWA Key Enabling Methodologies (KEMs) -
	The utilisation of Key Enabling Methodologies in complex societal transition issues. The deadline to register for the collaborative workshops is 20 February 2025, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-knowledge-development-and-application-of-kems-for-effective-policy and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-key-enabling-methodologies-kems-the-utilisation-of-key-enabling-methodologies-in-complex-societal-transition-issues and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWA%20Key%20Enabling%20Methodologies%20%28ENG%29_2.pdf
20-02-2024	Deadline for submission full proposals for Big Chemistry call New National Growth Fund
	call. Deadline application: Thursday 20 February 2025 14:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-national-growth-fund-call-opened-big-chemistry and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/big-chemistry-2024 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWO%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20Big%20Chemistry_ENG.pdf
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
04-03-2025	Deadline for submission of Full proposals Take off phase 1 - Feasibility studies WO fall 2025 A full proposal must be submitted via our ISAAC system before Tuesday 4 March 2025 14:00:00 CET. Please use the correct form (spring 2025, see tab 2 "Prepare"). In the ISAAC system, a pre-proposal can be converted into a full proposal. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/enthusiastic-reactions-from-broader-ecosystem-to-opening-of-take-off-spring-round-2025-with-increased-budgets and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/take-off-phase-1-feasibility-studies-wo-fall-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20fase%201%20WO%20voorjaarsronde%202025_versie2.pdf
06-03-2025	Deadline submission <u>full applications</u> for SSH Open Competition XS round 1. Round 1: 6 March 2025, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/first-round-of-ssh-open- competition-xs-2025-now-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open- competition-xs-2025-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media- files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202025%20-%20EN.pdf
06-03-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals for call Interdisciplinary Earth and Environmental Science with use of Atmospheric Instrumentation in Space Thematical call Use of space infrastructure for Earth observation and planetary research (GO). The deadline for submitting full proposals is Thursday 6 March 2025, before 14:00:00 CET.

	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/interdisciplinary-earth-and-environmental-science-with-use-of-
	atmospheric-instrumentation-in-space and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Vertaling%20thematische%20GO%20call_v3.pdf
11-03-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals NWO Open Mind 2025. The deadline for submitting
	proposals is March 11 2025, before 14:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-mind-2025
	and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Open%20Mind%202025%20Call%20for%20Proposalsv2%20%281%29.pdf
18-03-2025	Deadline submission for Full applications Demonstrator 2025. The deadline for submitting
	applications is Tuesday 18 March 2025 at 14:00:00 hours CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/2025-round-open-funding-for-developing-a-demonstrator and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/demonstrator-2025
25-03-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals Hydrogen and green electrons for carbon-based
	chemistry from work package four of NGF programme GroenvermogenNL. Deadline
	proposal: Tuesday 25 March 2025, 14:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-hydrogen-
	and-green-electrons-for-carbon-based-chemistry and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-hydrogen-
	green-electrons-for-carbon-based-chemistry and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/ENG%202024_10_02_CfP_Hydrogen%20and%20green%20electrons%20for%20carbon-
	based%20chemistry.pdf
20-03-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals for KIC call Sustainable buildings inspired by nature.
	Deadline proposals 20 March 2025 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/7-million-
	available-for-innovative-research-on-climate-proof-buildings and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-
	sustainable-buildings-inspired-by-nature and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20KIC%20Sustainable%20Buildings%20Inspired%20by%20Nat
	ure.pdf
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
08-04-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals for call Knowledge for education of the future – Small.
	The deadline for submitting proposals is 8 April 2025, at 14:00:00 CEST.
	https://www.nro.nl/en/calls/knowledge-for-education-of-the-future-small and
	https://www.nro.nl/sites/nro/files/media-files/call_for_proposals
	_knowledge_for_education_of_the_futuresmall_2024.pdf
08-04-2025	Deadline submission full proposal pre-proposals Vidi 2024 NWO Talent Programme,
	Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research. The deadline for submitting full proposals
	is 8 april 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/vidi-round-2024-open-for-
	pre-proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme-vidi-science-2024 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Vidi%202024%20EN%20%281%29.pdf
08-04-2025	Deadline submission Proposals for KIC call Digital Identities - A Foundation for Trust in the
	Digital World. The deadline for submitting proposals is Tuesday 8 April 2025, before 14:00:00
	CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/seven-million-euros-available-for-research-on-digital-
	identities-and-digital-trust and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/digital-identities-a-foundation-for-trust-
	in-the-digital-world and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Cfp%20KIC%20Mission%20Digital%20Identities%20-
	%20A%20Foundation%20for%20Trust%20in%20the%20Digital%20World%20%28EN%29%20
	%281%29.pdf
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
22-04-2025	Deadline for submission <u>full applications</u> Open Science Infrastructure. The deadline for
	submitting applications is 22 April 2025, before 14:00 CEST.
	https://www.openscience.nl/en/calls/open-science-infrastructure and
	https://www.openscience.nl/sites/open_science/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20proposals%20Open%20Science%20Infrastructure%20v2.pdf
06-05-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Open Competition Domain Science - XS 2025.
	Deadline for submission of proposals round 2025-2 6 May 2025, at 14:00:00 CEST.
	Boddinio for oddinioolon of proposale rodina 2020 2 o may 2020, at 1 1:00:00 0201.

	https://www.nus.nl/sn/nsus/call anan anan sampatition demain acience vs 2005 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-open-competition-domain-science-xs-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xs-package-25-1 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20ENW-
	XS%202025_ENG.pdf
08-05-2025	Deadline submission <u>full applications</u> for SSH Open Competition XS round 2. Round 2: 8
00 00 2020	May 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/first-round-of-ssh-open-
	competition-xs-2025-now-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-
	competition-xs-2025-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202025%20-%20EN.pdf
13-05-2025	Deadline for submission of Full-proposal Perspectief round 2024/2025. Submission of
	proposal: Tuesday May 13th, 2025 - 14:00:00. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-perspectief-
	round-opened-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/perspectief-round-2024/2025 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Perspectief%202024-2025_EN.pdf
27-05-2025	Deadline for submission of <u>sub-applications</u> for call research into innovative treatments for
	hereditary heart disease (KIC). The deadline for submitting the full application is 27 May 2025,
	by 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-over-76-million-euros-available-for-
	research-into-innovative-treatments-for-hereditary-heart-disease-kic and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWO-
Foreseen	%20Hartstichting%20DEF%20met%20beeld%20WIJZ_0.pdf Foreseen deadline <u>full_proposals</u> Faculty of Impact 2025 - Safety and Energy transition.
deadline 03-	Closing date full application 3 June 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-
06-2025	round-faculty-of-impact-opens-end-january and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/faculty-of-impact-
00-2023	2025-safety-and-energy-transition
12-06-2025	Deadline for submission for <u>research ideas</u> for NWA Key Enabling Methodologies (KEMs) -
12 00 2020	The utilisation of Key Enabling Methodologies in complex societal transition issues. The
	deadline for the submission of proposals is 12 June 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-knowledge-development-and-application-of-kems-for-
	effective-policy and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-key-enabling-methodologies-kems-the-
	utilisation-of-key-enabling-methodologies-in-complex-societal-transition-issues and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWA%20Key%20Enabling%20Methodologies%20%28ENG
	%29_2.pdf
Until 31-07-	Deadline for submission proposals Open Competition Domain Science - M 2024/2025.
2025	Applications for the current round (2024/2025) can therefore be submitted until 31 July 2025
	(continuous call). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-m-2024/2025
	and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-
40.00.005	M%20ronde%2024-25_EN_def%20%282%29.pdf
16-09-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Open Competition Domain Science - XS 2025.
	Deadline for submission of proposals round 2025-3 16 September 2025, at 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-open-competition-domain-science-xs-2025 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xs-2025 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20ENW-
	XS%202025_ENG.pdf
17-09-2025	Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals KIC - Future Plastics 2024. Closing date full
	application 17 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-future-
	plastics-2024
18-09-2025	Deadline for submission Full-proposals KIC Nature-inclusive decision making in business.
	The deadline for submitting full proposals is September 18, 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business-kic and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%202024_def_EN.pdf
18-09-2025	Deadline submission full applications for SSH Open Competition XS round 3. Round 3: 18
	September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/first-round-of-ssh-open-
	competition-xs-2025-now-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-
	competition-xs-2025-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202025%20-%20EN.pdf
From 13-01-	Deadline submission <u>full proposals</u> Open Technology Programme 2025. Applications can
2025 until 12-	be submitted on a continuous basis between 13 January 2025 until 12 December 2025, as long
12-2025	as the grant ceiling or the maximum number of applications submitted has not yet been
	reached https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-opening-open-technology-

programme-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-technology-programme-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/CfP_OTP_2025_EN.pdf

Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on **27 January 2025.** 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 program
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 Testing and demonstration facilities 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/test-en-
	demonstratieprojecten-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 resources
	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 16-09-2024	Opening 2 for proposals OP-Zuid from September 16, 2024 9:00 AM to November 1, 2024
to 01-11-2024	5:00 PM. A budget of 25 million euros OPZuid 2021-2027 is available for both openings, equally
	divided into 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/
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/
24-02-2025 to 04-	Foreseen deadline Spring call OP-Zuid 2025: from 24 February 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to April 4,
04-2025	2025 (until 5 p.m.);
15-09-2025 to 24-	Foreseen opening Autumn call OP-Zuid 2025: from 15 September, 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to 24
10-2025	October, 2025 (until 5 p.m.).

About the Wageningen Grant Office

Wageningen Grant Office

The Wageningen Grant Office (WGO) is a team of experts across Wageningen University & Research (WUR) dedicated to supporting WUR's participation in national, European, and global funding programs. WGO offers information, guidance, and training on available funding opportunities and on effective, efficient application processes. The team includes specialized advisors, i.e. Grant Support Officers, Policy Officers, Liaison officers from various science groups and Officers dealing with Co-creation Value & Impact.

This expert team—providing second-line support services—delivers technical and personalized advice on specific funding programs and themes. They work closely with the liaison offices, which provide first-line support within the science groups.

WGO primarily focuses its generic support on Horizon Europe (including ERC, MSCA, Research Infrastructures under **Pillar 1**; Clusters, Missions, and Partnerships under **Pillar 2**, and EIC and WIDENING under **Pillar 3**), and on NWO-programmes (such as the **Talent Programme** (Veni-Vidi-Vici), **Open Competition M1 and M2** (OC), **Open Technology Programme** (OTP), and **Research along Routes by Consortia** (NWA-ORC)). More specific support is given to large initiatives WUR coordinates.

Through the WGO web portal (https://intranet.wur.nl/Project/GrantOffice), users can access up-to-date information on the latest developments within specific funding programmes, along with links to relevant resources, documents, and contacts. There, also the link can be found to our funding identification tool Research Connect (https://search.myresearchconnect.com/Default/Index?ReturnUrl=%2fHome), that can be used by all WUR colleagues to assess national, European and global grant opportunities by themselves.

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WUR is serious about data

WUR deeply cares about the protection of your privacy and making our services transparent, personal and trustworthy. Our updated privacy policy gives a clear explanation of how we treat your data.