



WGO Research and Innovation Funding News, N° 414_7 February 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.

Table of Contents

Articles in Dutch are marked by the symbol ⚡

Latest Funding News	3
European Funding News: Horizon Europe and FP10	3
New Draft version Workprogramme 2025 Cluster 6 (6 February 2025)	3
FP10 will happen, says leading MEP (6 February 2025)	4
EU CAP Network brokerage event 'Partnering for innovation with impact in agriculture and rural areas' - request for expression of interest (6 February 2025)	4
New report reveals how ERC grantees commercialise their patented inventions (3 February 2025)	5
Swiss association to Horizon Europe (3 february 2025)	6
Update MSCA calls 2025 (3 February 2025)	6
ERC grant competitions 2023: Final lists of researchers awarded funding (31 January 2025)	6

Cities Mission draft work programme sets topics for 2026-27 (30 January 2025)	7
Choose Europe research careers pilot set to begin in 2025 (30 January 2025)	8
Other International funding	10
JRC: Collaborative Doctoral Partnership programme: CDP 2025 open (3 February 2025)	10
National funding	11
Grants for 28 projects within Open Competition ENW-XS (7 February 2025)	11
Call open: Impact Explorer 2025 (4 February 2025)	11
Use of space infrastructure for earth observation and planetary research (GO) (4 February 2025)	12
Call open: Hydrogen and green electrons for special and fine chemicals (4 February 2025)	12
The government is investing again in the region: €244.3 million for 16 Regional Deals (3 February 2025)	13
Six research projects start in January within Open Technology Programme (2024 round) (28 January 2025)	14
Faculty of Impact opens its doors for the fourth time (29 January 2025)	14
Regional funding	16
Internal Wageningen University and Research calls	16
Latest developments within R&I Policies	17
European Policy	17
CEPS outlines possible roadmap to ambitious FP10 (6 February 2025)	17
Europeans strongly support science and technology according to new Eurobarometer survey (3 February 2025)	17
UK launches fresh push to drum up Horizon Europe interest (30 January 2025)	18
Science Business: What does Trump's return mean for the EU's STI policy? (30 January 2025)	19
Commission launches new Biotech and Biomanufacturing Hub to support innovative companies (30 January 2025)	19
European report suggests more research and policy on STEM education (30 January 2025)	20
European Commissioner calls on widening countries to increase R&D expenditure (30 January 2025)	20
Strategic Compass: Knowledge field is positive about R&I ambitions, but fears a lack of attention for excellent research (29 January 2025)	20
An EU Compass to regain competitiveness and secure sustainable prosperity (29 January 2025)	21
Statement Reaction to the Competitiveness Compass by the GUILD (29 January 2025)	22
European Universities initiative: report highlights success, outcomes and transformational potential (27 January 2025)	23
RM Comp, the New Key Tool to Strengthen Research Management in Europe (27 January 2025)	24
Global policy	25
Robbert Dijkgraaf becomes president of the International Science Council (6 February 2025)	25
OECD: How behavioral science can be used in green transition (6 February 2025)	25
Major unrest in science due to Trump's orders (6 February 2025)	25
RaboResearch: international research shows historical returns on defense R&D (30 January 2025)	26
Nature: The seven technologies to watch in 2025 (30 January 2025)	26
US: Science fears consequences due to frozen budgets (30 January 2025)	26
ITIF: US should focus on strengthening competitiveness (30 January 2025)	26
National policy	27
Think tank: Postponement makes implementing social ambitions more expensive and complex (6 February 2025)	27
Bruins expects a maximum of ten thousand screenings for sensitive research areas every year (6 February 2025)	27
Call deadlines	28
HORIZON Europe calls	28
Other related EC calls (European Partnerships, ERA-Net COFUNDS etc.)	33
Other international calls	34
National calls	35
Regional calls	39
About the Wageningen Grant Office	40
Contacts	40
Disclaimer	41
WUR is serious about data	41

Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe and FP10

New Draft version Workprogramme 2025 Cluster 6 (6 February 2025)

Source: *Science|Business and WGO*

Two broad priorities for food, agriculture and environment research are set out in a draft 2025 work programme for Cluster 6 in Horizon Europe. The draft foresees €423.5 million being directed to calls for proposals in **building sustainable and resilient farming systems**, safeguarding ocean health and developing green communities. Meanwhile, €410 million will go into calls for proposals in protecting and **restoring biodiversity, boosting circularity and reducing pollution.**

These two areas account for the bulk of the 2025 budget, which is set at €1.1 billion. “The underlying paradigm of Cluster 6 is the need for a **transformative change of the EU economy** and society to reduce environmental degradation, halt and reverse the decline of biodiversity and better manage natural resources,” the document says. At the same time, there is a need to meet the EU’s climate objectives and ensure food and water security. Key funding calls therefore focus on understanding the drivers of biodiversity loss and the role of ecosystems. The Commission also intends to fund research addressing environmental and health concerns over food systems, from farm to fork.

“This cluster deals with agriculture, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries, food and bio-based systems, which all directly depend on ecosystem services,” the draft goes on. “These sectors have profound environmental impacts and are also particularly affected by global environmental changes, while providing opportunities for economic and social sustainability in the context of Europe’s strategic autonomy.”

Elsewhere in the plan, researchers are asked to mobilise biotechnologies and digital tools to support circular business models and to find new ways to assess pollution from crops, aquatic litter and the food and drink industry. Proposals will also be invited that look at the impacts of global warming, from ocean acidification to shifting climatic zones. Improving access to green housing in rural, coastal and urban communities is also flagged as a priority. Finally, €119.9 million will be dedicated to projects on innovative digital and data-based solutions and agile governance models that aim to support the objectives of the European Green Deal and related policies.

Funding for this Cluster has steadily increased over the past five years, as the Commission seeks to speed up the continent’s transition to a low-carbon and, eventually, climate-neutral economy. It is also intended to contribute to achieving the 2025 target of spending 10% of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-27 on biodiversity.

Note PJ: There are some changes compared to last Draft WP:

- Some topics titles are slightly changed
- Some changes in budgets
- Different from earlier versions there are now several **two-stage topic**: Foreseen Deadline(s) around : 04 Sep 2025 (First Stage), 18 Feb 2026 (Second Stage) vary per destination
- Because of the fact that several topics changes from one-step to two-step application the numbering of topics has been changed

You can find the new version of WP 2025 of Cluster 6 at the WGO Group page:

https://intranet.wur.nl/Project/GrantOffice/Pages/l_JubwgF5kWqvKHE_9Fp5g#WamJKcUS6UeHJpnw3-OXpw

FP10 will happen, says leading MEP (6 February 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/planning-fp10/fp10-will-happen-says-leading-mep>

There will be a successor to Horizon Europe, Science|Business conference hears, but expect a battle over budgets and instruments



From left to right: Annelien Bredenoord, President of the Executive Board at Erasmus University Rotterdam; Pavel Doleček, Deputy Minister for Science, Research, and Innovation for the Government of the Czech Republic; Nanna-Louise Linde, Vice President of European Government Affairs at Microsoft; MEP Christian Ehler; and Maryline Fiaschi, CEO of Science|Business. Photo credits: Jeroen Vanhecke

A leading member of the European Parliament has reassured the research and innovation community that there will be an FP10, despite concerns that the next EU research Framework Programme could be swallowed up in a political drive to boost economic competitiveness.

“There will be a Framework Programme 10,” said Christian Ehler, a prominent member of the Parliament’s research and industry committee, at the annual Science|Business conference on Thursday.

He was responding to speculation that, instead of a standalone programme to succeed Horizon Europe in 2028, research and innovation would be placed within an overarching competitiveness fund. The absence of FP10 from the Commission’s recently published **Competitiveness Compass strategy** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/eu-will-focus-funds-strategic-technologies-boost-competitiveness> has only fed such fears.

According to Ehler, the problem is not so much the budget as the financial instruments used, for example to deliver the work of the European Innovation Council (EIC). But research and innovation will have its own budget line, he said. This does not mean the next round of negotiations will be plain sailing. Victor Negrescu, Parliament’s negotiator for the 2025 EU budget, said in a video message that discussions with the Council and Commission on his watch had been “intense and difficult.”

MEPs finally [convinced member states](#) not to proceed with €400 million in cuts to Horizon Europe, but the negotiations showed that “beyond the nice rhetoric [. . .] we have difficulties in matching our declarations with numbers,” he said. Negrescu said he shared the academic community’s concern that the Commission’s competitiveness plan does not sufficiently reflect the importance of research and innovation.

“We need specific structures, we need predictability for research, we need also to make sure that we are defending the research programme,” he said. “We need, once more, to underline the need to have clarity, and not give opinions about research and innovation without consulting the ecosystem.”

The Romanian MEP also called for measures to ensure equal funding for researchers in eastern and western Europe.

Read full article here: <https://sciencebusiness.net/planning-fp10/fp10-will-happen-says-leading-mep>

EU CAP Network brokerage event ‘Partnering for innovation with impact in agriculture and rural areas’ - request for expression of interest (6 February 2025)

Source: EU CAP network <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/new-report-reveals-how-erc-grantees-commercialise-their-patented-inventions>

The EU CAP Network is organising the brokerage event ‘Partnering for innovation with impact in agriculture and rural areas’ with a focus on innovation, knowledge exchange and EIP-AGRI. We are looking for participants who would like to share their knowledge and experience on the topic, and who would like to apply for the Horizon Europe Cluster 6 calls from the 2025 Work Programme.

This event will take place in Prague, Czech Republic from Tuesday 29 to Wednesday 30 April 2025.

This event will be dedicated to matchmaking and networking amongst R&I project representatives, farmers, advisors, researchers, and other relevant stakeholders to support the preparation of proposals for the upcoming calls included in the **Horizon Europe Cluster 6 Work Programme for 2025** in the following thematic areas:

- **digital and data technologies**
- **sustainable, healthy and resilient crop and livestock production**
- **new business models and value chains**
- **circular water management and soil health**

In addition to Horizon Europe, other funding opportunities will be explored to enhance further innovation and collaboration across the sector, disseminate and upscale innovative solutions, and maximise the impact of R&I results on the ground. These include relevant European and national, private and public funding mechanisms.

If you are interested in participating and actively sharing your experience and innovative ideas, **please fill in the application form** <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/Application-form-brokerage-2025> **before 17 February 2025, 23:59 CET.**

We are looking for representatives of R&I projects (EIP-AGRI Operational Groups and Horizon-funded Multi-Actor Projects), farmers and organisations, innovation brokers, advisors, businesses and networks, National Contact Points, Managing Authorities, National CAP Networks, EU R&I partnerships, innovation support services, journalists, scientists and researchers including universities and spin-offs, venture capital, and any others interested in the brokerage event topics

Please be aware that only one participant per project/organisation will be accepted. However, the participation of farmers and advisors is strongly encouraged, and a second application per organisation/project may be accepted if one of the two applicants is a farmer or an advisor

For more information: https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-brokerage-event-partnering-innovation-impact-agriculture-and-rural-areas_en

New report reveals how ERC grantees commercialise their patented inventions (3 February 2025)

Source: Website ERC <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/new-report-reveals-how-erc-grantees-commercialise-their-patented-inventions>

A new analysis finds that ERC grantees have commercially utilised their patented inventions in some 44% of surveyed cases. The most common form of patent exploitation is licensing to independent parties, followed by the creation of start-ups.



The analysis based on the survey on the use of patents by ERC grantees, launched in November 2023, examined the technology transfer activities of ERC-funded researchers, including the licensing and other uses of patents resulting from their projects. Of the more than 12 000 researchers holding ERC grants at the time, the analysis focused on those who had declared patent applications stemming from their ERC-funded research. The survey was sent to 655 Principal Investigators (PIs), who collectively reported around 1 500 patent applications in their projects.

This survey is part of a broader effort to assess the impact of publicly funded frontier research on technological progress. It complements analyses such as:

- The study of patent citations referencing ERC-funded scientific papers, published in 2023 read more here: https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-01/Assessing_the_Influence_ERC-funded_Research_Patented_Inventions.pdf
- The examination of companies created or co-founded by ERC grantees, or those resulting from ERC-funded research. See “More information” for examples.

These findings highlight that ERC funding not only supports excellent scientific research but also fosters innovation that contributes to technological advancements. Translating such research into economic and societal benefits remains a key challenge—one that is crucial for the EU's future competitiveness.

Read full article here: <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/new-report-reveals-how-erc-grantees-commercialise-their-patented-inventions>

Swiss association to Horizon Europe (3 february 2025)

Source: https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbfi/en/home/research-and-innovation/international-cooperation-r-and-i/eu-framework-programmes-for-research/horizon-europe.html/?_fumanNewsletterId=4298015:df644c77ba9108068cbfe7aad35c89b2

The European Commission has fully activated the transitional arrangement as of 1 January 2025, which enables researchers and innovators in Switzerland to participate in almost all calls for proposals of Horizon Europe and the Euratom programme as beneficiaries, from the 2025 programme year onwards.

- For the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship 2025 call: Swiss entities can host European Fellowships as beneficiaries and act as the return host in a Global Fellowship. It is no longer possible to choose a Swiss entity as the outgoing host in a Global Fellowship.
- Swiss entities can participate in MSCA Doctoral Networks, Staff Exchanges and COFUND call 2025 as beneficiaries. The budget of the Swiss partner must be included in the total grant amount that the consortium is requesting from the EU. Therefore, the fellows hosted by the Swiss entities do count towards the maximum in person months
- If the association of Switzerland to Horizon Europe is not yet signed at the date of the Grant Agreement signature, the role of the Swiss entities will be changed to associated partner and funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) .

Please find out more about the latest **status of the Swiss association**

https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbfi/en/home/research-and-innovation/international-cooperation-r-and-i/eu-framework-programmes-for-research/horizon-europe.html/?_fumanNewsletterId=4298015:df644c77ba9108068cbfe7aad35c89b2 or **detailed information for each MSCA action** [https://www.euresearch.ch/en/horizon-europe/excellent-science/marie-skodowska-curie-actions-\(msca\)-55.html](https://www.euresearch.ch/en/horizon-europe/excellent-science/marie-skodowska-curie-actions-(msca)-55.html).

Update MSCA calls 2025 (3 February 2025)

Source: Website EC and RVO

Opening MSCA PF 2025 postponed

The opening of the MSCA PF 2025 call has been postponed by one month till the 9th of May 2025. The deadline will not change and remains 10 September 2025. The EC aims to publish the required documents, including the template, before the opening of the call.

Indicative calendar for upcoming calls (2025)

Action	Opening date	Call deadline
COFUND	23 January 2025	24 June 2025
Postdoctoral Fellowships	9 May 2025	10 September 2025
Doctoral Networks	28 May 2025	25 November 2025
Staff Exchanges	27 March 2025	8 October 2025
MSCA & Citizens	17 June 2025	22 October 2025

ERC grant competitions 2023: Final lists of researchers awarded funding (31 January 2025)

Source: Website ERC <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/erc-grant-competitions-2023-final-lists-researchers>



The initial results of the competitions for Starting Grants, Consolidator Grants and Advanced Grants under the ERC's 2023 Work Programme were published in 2023 and early 2024. In the meantime, funding has become available for researchers on the reserve lists. Below are the final lists of researchers whose proposals were initially placed on reserve lists and later offered ERC funding.

These lists include all researchers who were offered grants, including those in the UK, many of whom had to decline the funding due to ineligibility of UK host institutions under the ERC's 2023 calls for proposals. For up to date information on ERC grantees and their projects visit the dashboard.

Starting Grants 2023

- **All domains:** <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-01/erc-2023-stg-results-reserve-list-all-domains.pdf>

Consolidator Grants 2023

- **All domains:** <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-01/erc-2023-cog-results-reserve-list-all-domains.pdf>

Advanced Grants 2023

- **All domains:** <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-01/erc-2023-adg-results-reserve-list-all-domains.pdf>

Two WUR PI's funded:

- **Ettema Thijs** Wageningen University Wageningen University NL DARK-ROOTS Light on our dark past: Elucidating the deep archaeal roots of eukaryotic cellular complexity LS8
- **Mommer Liesje** Wageningen University Wageningen University NL DIGDEEP Digging Deep: An Underground Plant Trait Perspective on DiversityDisease Relationships LS8

Updated statistics of ERC grant competitions

T

he statistics include only the projects where grant agreements were concluded.

- **Starting Grants 2023:** <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-01/erc-2023-stg-results-reserve-list-statistics.pdf>
- **Consolidator Grants 2023:** <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-01/erc-2023-cog-results-reserve-list-statistics.pdf>
- **Advanced Grants 2023:** <https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-01/erc-2023-adg-results-reserve-list-statistics.pdf>

Cities Mission draft work programme sets topics for 2026-27 (30 January 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/missions/cities-mission-draft-work-programme-sets-topics-2026-27>

Priorities include the circular economy, hydrogen energy, nature restoration and public transport



Photo credits: European Union

Topics that will receive priority in the final years of Horizon Europe's Cities Mission are set out in a draft work programme seen by Science|Business. The ten headings range from specific systems, such as low-voltage direct current microgrids, to broad areas of interest, such as urban wastewater and hydrogen energy systems.

Horizon Europe's Mission for climate-neutral and smart cities was launched in 2021. It selected 100 cities to act as innovation hubs, with the intention that they pave the way for other urban centres to follow in their footsteps by 2050. The draft work programme also flags up areas where the Cities Mission is expected to intersect with other programmes, such as the Adaptation Mission and the New European Bauhaus.

In hydrogen energy, for example, the Cities Mission will issue a joint call for proposals with the Clean Hydrogen joint undertaking. Projects are expected to twin Hydrogen Valleys with cities that are interested in decarbonising their local and peri-urban industries using hydrogen.

The ten topic areas are:

1. Introducing circular economy models in the construction sector
2. Innovative low-voltage direct current microgrids in buildings
3. Transition to low-temperature heating, in individual and district heating systems
4. Hydrogen valleys
5. Urban wastewater
6. Nature restoration in urban areas
7. Inclusive, climate resilient multimodal passenger hubs
8. Energy efficient urban and suburban public transport
9. Circular economy: reducing waste from e-commerce and urban logistics
10. Innovative procurement for reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Choose Europe research careers pilot set to begin in 2025 (30 January 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/careers/choose-europe-research-careers-pilot-set-begin-2025>

Initiative aims to address precarity in research careers and attract excellent young researchers to Europe



Photo credits: Mauro Bottaro / European Union

An initiative intended to tackle the brain drain and precarity in research careers in Europe is to be tested during 2025, according to a draft work programme for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) in Horizon Europe.

The initiative, called Choose Europe, was suggested last year in **Manuel Heitor's report** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/time-major-shakeup-how-eu-funds-research-expert-group-says> to the Commission on FP10, the next Framework Programme for research and innovation. The aim is to fund young researchers in, or following, their first postdoctoral positions. Hosting institutions must also commit to offer candidates the chance of permanent employment at the end of the funding period.

The draft work programme, sent to Science|Business with tracked edits, reveals that the Commission has adopted Heitor's recommendation, and will launch a Choose Europe pilot in 2025 with a budget of €22.5 million.

According to the draft call, applicants submitting proposals for talent recruitment programmes must include "concrete long-term career prospects with a preference going to open-ended or non-temporary contracts."

Choose Europe is not Heitor's first attempt at moving the dial on the perennial problem of research careers. In 2022, he was part of the Initiative for Science in Europe, whose manifesto **for early career researchers** <https://initiative-se.eu/2022/09/16/manifesto/> suggested a similar initiative.

The most recent version of the idea has been warmly received by academic groups, with the CESAER university **association calling last year for its implementation** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/universities/universities-push-research-careers-pilot-horizon-europe>.

Other MSCA programmes

The leaked draft work programme sees the MSCA budget for 2025 set at €1,255 million, slightly higher than in 2024. This avoids a cut to €935.28 million projected for 2025 in previous planning documents.

MSCA Doctoral Networks are expected to receive an allocation of €598 million, a slight decrease from the €609 million set aside last year. A call for proposals is set to open on May 28 and close on November 25.

Postdoctoral Fellowships Actions, which support PhD holders conducting research abroad, will also see a funding reduction. Its budget is expected to decrease from €417 million in 2024 to €404 million in 2025, with two calls for proposals opening on April 9.

MSCA Staff Exchanges will have a budget of nearly €98 million this year. And MSCA Cofund, which co-finances doctoral and postdoctoral fellowship programmes, is expected to receive €128 million, including the €22.5 million allocated to the Choose Europe pilot.

Finally, an extra call in 2025 will allocate €10 million in fellowships for displaced researchers from Ukraine.

Other International funding

JRC: Collaborative Doctoral Partnership programme: CDP 2025 open (3 February 2025)

Source: Website JRC https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/working-us/collaborative-doctoral-partnership-programme_en

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) launches a new call https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/working-us/collaborative-doctoral-partnership-programme/universities/call-expressions-interest_en for higher education institutions (HEI) and universities to participate in the Collaborative Doctoral Partnership Programme (CDP).

The CDP is an initiative of the JRC to establish strategic collaborations with HEIs and universities. The programme facilitates dual PhD projects, where HEIs/universities partner up with the JRC to jointly design, host, and supervise doctoral research across the JRC portfolios. The PhD project serves as a platform to explore fresh ideas and possible future collaborations with the JRC.

About the call:

- The Call is directed at HEIs/universities that wish to jointly organise PhD projects with the JRC and in this way strengthen their ties with the JRC. The call is formulated around 25 Collaboration Topics.
- Successful applicants will have the opportunity to establish a scientific collaboration with the JRC, resulting in a joint PhD project. Whilst staying at JRC premises, the JRC will cover the costs of the doctoral candidates.
- The application deadline is 18 March, 23.59 (CET).

Starting in 2025, the CDP will issue an annual call for expressions of interest from HEIs/universities to participate in the programme.

You can find more information **about the CDP here** https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/working-us/collaborative-doctoral-partnership-programme_en and the 2025 **Call for Expressions of Interest here** https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/working-us/collaborative-doctoral-partnership-programme/universities/call-expressions-interest_en. Please reach out to JRC-CDP@ec.europa.eu for more information.

National funding

Grants for 28 projects within Open Competition ENW-XS (7 February 2025)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/grants-for-28-projects-within-open-competition-enw-xs>



The NWO Domain Board Science has awarded 28 projects in the Open Competition Domain Science – XS round 24-4. The next ENW-XS deadline is 18 February 2025.

The themes vary from using advanced imaging to create a detailed human perivascular space atlas, to investigate the effect of hydrogen-bond disruption on water splitting efficiency. One project designs plastics that are easier to recycle while showing high-performance in demanding application, while another focuses on non-invasively characterizing the 3D mechanical properties of biomaterials in real-time.

One project led by WUR is awarded:

Un-RiPP: A high-throughput approach for discovering ribosomal-origin antimicrobials. *dr. S. Reddy (Wageningen University and Research)*

For overview of awarded projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/grants-for-28-projects-within-open-competition-enw-xs>

Call open: Impact Explorer 2025 (4 February 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025>



NWO makes 1 million euro available for top-ups to explore the potential societal impact of fundamental research. Following the success of the previous round, NWO wants to give more researchers the opportunity to submit a proposal. This will allow researchers with an already existing grant to get a top up.

Curiosity driven research can deliver unexpected results that can have an impact on society. But because the results were not in the project description, it is difficult to pursue them further. To investigate the potential impact anyway, NWO developed the Impact Explorer call. Due to the popularity of the pilot programme in 2024, the pilot will be extended in 2025.

For whom

Applications can only be submitted by researchers with an ongoing project from a talent programme (Veni, Vidi or Vici) of NWO or ZonMw and/or researchers with an ongoing project from the Open Competition programmes of NWO or ZonMw. The Open Competition programmes include the Open Competition SSH-XS, -M and -L, the Open Competition AES-XS, -M and -XL, the AES Open Technology Programme, the ZonMw Open Competition and the Open Competition Science Small and Large. The proposal within the Call Impact Explorer stems from this ongoing research project. For inspiration on the types of projects that can be funded with Impact Explorer, check the previous news item on the programme page.

Budget

Each proposal can ask for a minimum of 20,000 and a maximum of 30,000 euro. The grant ceiling of this call is 1 million euro.

Deadlines

Proposals can be submitted continuously, or until the grant ceiling is reached. At different times, proposals will be retrieved for evaluation:

- 11 March 2025 by 14:00:00 CET
- 22 April 2025 before 14:00:00 CEST
- 24 June 2025 before 14:00:00 CEST
- 14 August 2025 before 14:00:00 CEST
- 7 October 2025 before 14:00:00 CEST
- 12 November 2025 before 14:00:00 CEST
- 20 December 2025 before 14:00:00 CET
- 3 February 2026 by 14:00:00 CET (also the latest closure of the grant round)

For more information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer>

Use of space infrastructure for earth observation and planetary research (GO) (4 February 2025)

Source: Website NWO <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/use-of-space-infrastructure-for-earth-observation-and-planetary-research-go>

Through the programme Use of space infrastructure for Earth observation and planetary research (GO), NWO and the Netherlands Space Office (NSO) aim to support researchers making use of (international) space infrastructure. Researchers can apply for funding for a PhD student or postdoc who is going to work on an Earth observation or planetary research project for which space infrastructure (or the data thereof) is essential.

This funding instrument is intended to support high-quality scientific research that makes substantial use of infrastructure in space. The infrastructure can be both (current or past) existing and planned infrastructure. Within this objective, the GO programme is open for scientific research in the area of Earth observation and planets (and other objects) within our solar system.

For this call, your proposal must fit within the objective of the GO programme. You should therefore consider in good time whether your proposal fits within this objective. If you have any doubts about this, please contact one of the contact persons for the programme well before the deadline. They can advise you regarding the connection of your proposal with this call.

The deadline for submitting applications is 6 May 2023 at 14:00 hours CEST

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/use-of-space-infrastructure-for-earth-observation-and-planetary-research-go>

Call for proposals: https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/CfP_GO2025-1_v7_clean%20%281%29.pdf

Call open: Hydrogen and green electrons for special and fine chemicals (4 February 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-hydrogen-and-green-electrons-for-special-and-fine-chemicals>



NWO and National Growth Fund foundation GroenvermogenNL are making 19.3 million euro available for increasing the sustainability of the synthesis of special and fine chemicals. This can make an important contribution to making the Dutch chemical industry more sustainable.

Special and fine chemicals are an important part of the chemical, materials, agro and pharmaceutical industries. Current production processes of special and fine chemicals are based on fossil resources. In addition, they consume a lot of energy and generate a lot of waste. Making these processes more sustainable is therefore important on several accounts. By using hydrogen and green electrons, synthesis routes can be made shorter and cleaner. For example, via electrochemical reactions or photo/redox catalysis where thermodynamically 'upward' reactions become possible.

About this call

This call was developed together with Stichting GroenvermogenNL, and follows from R&D line 6. Successful implementation of this call requires cooperation between different chemical disciplines and between researchers and companies. During two workshops, a consortium will be formed to jointly submit one proposal. Registration for these workshops is done through the electronic submission system ISAAC.

Only one application form for the workshops may be submitted per organisation. Universities, Universities of applied sciences (UAS) and TO2 institutions can send two delegates to the workshop, other organisations such as companies only one. So discuss clearly with your colleagues who will go to the workshop.

Budget

The grant ceiling for this call for proposals is over 19.3 million euros. NWO funds a maximum of 80% of the total project size. Private co-funders must therefore be involved in the consortium. Private co-funders should ideally also attend the consortium formation workshops. A maximum of 1 proposal will be awarded. See the call for proposals for all conditions.

Timeline

13 February 2025 - Information meeting on this call by GroenvermogenNL foundation Sign up via the GroenvermogenNL website <https://groenvermogennl.org/en/event/information-meeting-groenvermogennl-rd-theme-6/>. **This meeting is not mandatory.**

13 March 2025 - Deadline to apply for preparatory workshops. **Participation in the two workshops is mandatory** for the main applicant and the technical manager of the consortium.

7-9 April 2025 - First preparatory workshop.

12-14 May 2025 - Second preparatory workshop.

10 July 2025 - Deadline to submit full proposal.

The government is investing again in the region: €244.3 million for 16 Regional Deals (3 February 2025)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/02/03/rijk-investeert-opnieuw-in-de-regio-%E2%82%AC2443-miljoen-voor-16-regio-deals>

Mona Keijzer (Public Housing and Spatial Planning) pledges 244.3 million to 16 regions for the sixth round of Regional Deals. In total, more than 80 Regional Deals will invest €1.85 billion in strengthening regions throughout the Netherlands.

The 16 selected proposals for Regional Deals come from all over the country and are a mix between rural areas, urban environments, the Caribbean Netherlands and regions on the edges of the country. These Regional Deals invest in social security, quality of life and community spirit to improve the lives, living and working of residents and entrepreneurs.

16 Regional Deals

Selected proposal for Regional Deal Government Contribution

1. North Drenthe € 15 million
2. Northeast Fryslân € 18 million
3. Eemsdelta €8.5 million
4. Foodvalley region €25 million
5. FruitDelta Rivierenland region €22.5 million
6. Parkstad Limburg €15 million
7. Northeast Brabant €25 million
8. South Limburg €10 million
9. Waterland region €13 million
10. Vital Neighborhoods 2.0: Utrecht-Amersfoort €20 million
11. Region Barendrecht, Ridderkerk and Rotterdam €8.3 million

12. Zeeuws-Vlaanderen/Zeeland € 13 million
13. Green Heart region €18 million
14. Floriculture region €10 million
15. Former Growth Centers of South Holland (Capelle a/d IJssel, Nissewaard and Zoetermeer) € 10 million
16. Bonaire €13 million

Now that it is known which regions have been selected, the government and the region will make further agreements and together they will develop the proposals into Regional Deals. This is done in consultation with all parties involved: governments, entrepreneurs, social organizations and knowledge institutions.

For more information: <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/02/03/rijk-investeert-opnieuw-in-de-regio-%E2%82%AC2443-miljoen-voor-16-regio-deals> (in Dutch)

Six research projects start in January within Open Technology Programme (2024 round) (28 January 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/six-research-start-in-january-within-open-technology-programme-2024-round>



Six application-oriented projects can start with funding from the Open Technology Programme from NWO's Applied and Engineering Sciences domain (AES). NWO is supporting these application-oriented projects with more than 5.4 million euros. The industry and other organisations are adding another amount of over 920,000 euros.

For more information about the granted projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/six-research-start-in-january-within-open-technology-programme-2024-round>

Open Technology Programme

The Open Technology Programme <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-technology-programme> provides funding for application-oriented technical-scientific research that is free and unrestricted and is not hindered by disciplinary boundaries. The programme offers companies and other organisations an accessible way to participate in scientific research that is intended to lead to societal and/or scientific impact.

Faculty of Impact opens its doors for the fourth time (29 January 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/faculty-of-impact-opens-its-doors-for-the-fourth-time>



With this instrument, researchers receive two years of time and guidance to take the first steps towards entrepreneurship. This allows them to generate impact with their research findings. Examples of these innovations include a tool to stimulate behavioural change, a technological innovation or a new business model. Researchers from all scientific disciplines (alpha, beta & gamma) can submit a proposal.

About the programme

Researchers who become a fellow at the Faculty of Impact get the opportunity to combine entrepreneurship with scientific research. They receive a personal grant with which they can further develop their project while they stay

affiliated with their research institute. They also participate in a coaching programme with the other fellows. This allows them to successfully translate their idea into a scalable commercial or social startup.

The call is aimed at PhD students who have almost completed their PhD research, as well as postdocs, Engineering Doctorate (EngD) and Professional Doctorate (PD) students, university (head) lecturers, professors and other researchers connected to universities of applied sciences or other scientific staff with independent research experience.

Read the full call for proposals: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/safety-and-energy-transition>

Themes for this round

Since 2024, the Faculty of Impact has focused on two different themes from the mission-driven innovation policy each round. Most positions are available for researchers with proposals within these focus themes. This round, the themes are:

- **Security:** The Netherlands is safe and resilient against external threats and undermining crime, both in the physical environment and the digital domain
- **Energy transition:** the Netherlands is climate neutral in 2050

In addition, interested researchers can also submit a proposal on **one of the other themes:**

- **Agriculture, water and food:** A vital rural area and resilient nature in a climate-proof Netherlands. Water and soil serve as guiding principles, the agricultural and food systems are sustainable and healthy and the delta is safe
- **Circular economy:** the Netherlands is fully circular in 2050
- **Health and care:** People in the Netherlands live five years longer in good health and there are 30% fewer health differences between socio-economic groups in 2040

Budget and lead time

The deadline for submitting proposals is **Tuesday 3 June 2025 2025, 14:00:00 CEST**. Thirteen fellows are expected to be able to participate. Five on the security theme, five on the energy transition theme and three on the other themes. Each fellow can apply for a maximum of € 200.000, with the total budget of the call being € 2,600,000.

During the application period, NWO and the Faculty of Impact will host several online webinars to provide more information about the programme and answer questions. Information on when these webinars will take place will be **available on the NWO site** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/faculty-of-impact> and the **Faculty of Impact site** <https://facultyofimpact.nl/>. **A FAQ** <https://facultyofimpact.nl/faq/> on the application process and the programme can also be found there

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

CEPS outlines possible roadmap to ambitious FP10 (6 February 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 February 2025

The next European Framework Program for Research and Innovation (FP10) offers the EU a crucial opportunity to restore its leading role in achieving scientific breakthroughs and breakthrough innovations. This is according to researchers from think tank CEPS and Imperial College London. In a publication, the researchers outline a vision and possible pathways for FP10. This vision builds on the recommendations of the reports by Enrico Letta, Mario Draghi, and the Heitor Group, all of which call for a thorough reform of European R&I policy and a doubling of the budget. The researchers argue, among other things, for greater connection with other European and national policies, as well as for a 'more agile and future-proof' program, given the expected impact of AI on research and innovation.

Publication CEPS: <https://cdn.ceps.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/6g05pHvX-Towards-an-ambitious-FP10-with-cover.pdf>

News item Imperial College London: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/news/260594/experts-vision-future-european-scientific-collaboration/>

Europeans strongly support science and technology according to new Eurobarometer survey (3 February 2025)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_396

The latest Eurobarometer survey on 'European citizens' knowledge and attitudes towards science and technology' released today shows more than 8 in 10 citizens (83%) think that the overall influence of science and technology is positive. Two-thirds of respondents (67%) equally agree that science and technology make our lives easier, healthier and more comfortable.

Respondents are most likely to think that renewable energies (87%), information and communication technology (79%) and vaccines and combatting infectious diseases (77%) will have a positive effect on our way of life in the next 20 years. The survey shows that a majority of Europeans want to learn more about scientific developments (58%). Nonetheless, lack of time (40%), lack of interest (37%) and lack of knowledge in the field of science and technology (36%) remain significant hurdles in relation to public engagement with science and technology.

The survey also examined wider issues concerning trust and equity in science. Results show that 77% of respondents agree that science and technology should consider the needs of all groups of people when developing new solutions and products, while another 72% think that the government should take responsibility to ensure that new technologies benefit everyone. In parallel, a majority of citizens express some concern about the potential of scientific applications to threaten human rights (58% agree with the statement) and almost two thirds (64%) also believe that science and technology could help improve the environment and tackle climate change, but that they mostly help companies make money.

When it comes to sharing scientific results and engaging with the public, eight in ten (80%) agree with the statement that results of publicly funded research should be made available online free of charge, while more than six in ten (63%) agree that "involving non-scientists in research and technological development ensures that science and technology respond to the needs, values and expectations of society".

This year's survey included a focus on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for scientific research, revealing mixed views among citizens in this regard. Just over a third of respondents (38%) say they trust scientific research and discoveries

created with the help of AI, while a quarter (25%) distrust this type of research. However, half of EU citizens (50%) agree that AI used in science advances scientific discoveries that will lead to solutions to major challenges such as climate change and serious diseases.

To build on the interest of citizens and enhance public awareness of the EU's support for science and research and innovation, an EU communication campaign is set to launch in the first half of 2025. The campaign will showcase EU-supported research and innovation projects and their role in improving people's lives.

Read full article here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_3

For more information: https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/3227_96

UK launches fresh push to drum up Horizon Europe interest (30 January 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/horizon-europe/uk-launches-fresh-push-drum-horizon-europe-interest>

Statistics show the UK is losing out compared to grants received under Horizon 2020



On the left, Peter Kyle, UK Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology and on the right, Ekaterina Zaharieva, the new commissioner for Start-ups, Research and Innovation. Photo credits: European Union / Zaharieva's X account

The UK has launched a new advertising campaign and a series of roadshows to convince its researchers to join Horizon Europe projects. The goal is to repair links with the continent damaged in the post-Brexit years when the UK was outside the research programme.

Peter Kyle, the country's science and technology secretary, was in Brussels on January 29 to meet three new European commissioners, including Ekaterina Zaharieva, who is responsible for start-ups, research and innovation.

"We stand our best chance of tackling the great challenges of our era, from climate change to public health, to growing economies that work for everyone, by bringing the brightest minds from across the UK and the European Union together," Kyle **said in a statement** <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-redoubles-horizon-push-as-kyle-forges-deeper-ri-links-with-eu> yesterday.

The European Commission prevented the UK from associating to Horizon Europe during higher-level disputes over post-Brexit relations, until a diplomatic breakthrough in 2023 allowed UK researchers to once again apply on an equal footing in 2024.

When the country was not associated, its researchers could still join consortia, but they could not lead them, and had to bring their own domestic funding. Meanwhile, UK-based researchers were entirely excluded from the European Research Council (ERC).

Statistics show that the UK has plenty of work to do before it once again wins as much money from Horizon Europe as it did during the predecessor programme, Horizon 2020.

In 2024, despite renewed association, the country only won around €300 million in funding. In contrast, during Horizon 2020, the UK regularly took home €1 billion or more a year.

The UK's poor performance in 2024 is not entirely surprising. Researchers only found out they would be reassociating in September 2023, by which time the deadlines for many grants that started in 2024 would have already passed. So, it will take another year to get a meaningful picture of UK participation.

In this week's announcement, the UK government stresses it is optimistic. "Recent, initial signs suggest UK association to Horizon is trending in the right direction," it said.

It pointed to the most recent round of **ERC Synergy Grants** <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/erc-2024-synergy-grants-results>, in which the UK won 18 projects, second only to Germany, which secured 34.

"But the government is determined to go even further to help our innovators seize this opportunity," the government said.

Aside from a display advertising campaign, Innovate UK is planning to organise delegations to Italy, Germany and Spain for a series of brokering events.

The British Academy is also offering **pump priming** grants of up to £10,000 to encourage UK researchers to apply to Horizon Europe calls.

Science Business: What does Trump's return mean for the EU's STI policy? (30 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 January 2025

Opinions are divided on how the European Union should respond to Trump's presidency. Science Business has written about the potential implications for EU science and technology policy. In recent years, the EU has mainly focused on 'de-risking' research relations with China, out of fear of helping the country. At the same time, there are concerns about Trump's rhetoric, such as threats about tariffs and claiming Greenland. "It could force Europe to look for other partners to work with," says Robert-Jan Smits, rector of TU/e.

Article Science Business: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/international-news/how-trump-could-impact-eu-us-science-and-technology-relations>

Commission launches new Biotech and Biomanufacturing Hub to support innovative companies (30 January 2025)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_365

The Commission has today launched a new Biotech and Biomanufacturing Hub https://europa.eu/youreurope/business/running-business/developing-business/biotech/index_en.htm to support companies – particularly start-ups and SMEs - in bringing innovative products to the EU market and increase their competitiveness. The Hub will also help companies identify the support available to them at EU level and how to access this support to help them to expand and grow.

The Biotech and Biomanufacturing Hub explains in an easy, accessible way and in all EU languages:

- The sources of EU funding available to biotech and biomanufacturing companies;
- The research infrastructures that can support biotech or biomanufacturing Research & Development;
- The resources available to help biotech or biomanufacturing businesses to scale up, including networks, pilot and testing facilities and market insights;
- The intellectual property protection that innovative companies are entitled to;
- The processes for authorising new biotech products, such as human and veterinary medicines or feed and food ingredients, and the support offered to applicants throughout these processes;
- The rules and requirements that companies must comply with when developing and marketing biotech products in the EU.

The Hub, hosted on the Commission's *Your Europe* portal, will serve as an operational tool for easy and accessible information on the relevant EU legislation, financing opportunities and business support networks, such as the Enterprise Europe Network and European Cluster Collaboration Platform.

The continuous development of the Hub will be supported through a dedicated taskforce of small and medium-sized enterprises advisors under the Enterprise Europe Network.

Biotechnology is one of the fastest growing innovative industries in the EU, which has the **potential to revolutionise health, agriculture, food and feed and industry** in Europe over the coming years. A thriving biotechnology and biomanufacturing sector will be key to building a more competitive, innovative and resilient EU, that succeeds in its green and digital transitions.

Read full article here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_365

European report suggests more research and policy on STEM education (30 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 January 2025

Policy measures are needed to stimulate and improve science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education in Europe. In addition, more research is needed into how STEM education is delivered. This is the conclusion of a study by the Joint Research Center (JRC) of the European Commission. The report finds, among other things, that many European students are not achieving minimum proficiency levels in key STEM areas, which has further deteriorated due to the pandemic. The report also points to a shortage of qualified teachers and a growing talent gap. The report has been published in the run-up to the 'STEM Education Strategic Plan', which the European Commission will present later this year. This was announced in Commission President Von der Leyen's political guidelines for the Commission.

News item European Commission: <https://education.ec.europa.eu/news/stem-education-report-highlights-need-for-more-policy-efforts-and-research>

Publication European Commission: <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC138618>

European Commissioner calls on widening countries to increase R&D expenditure (30 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 January 2025

European Commissioner Zaharieva will reassess the widening program. The European Commissioner said this in an interview with Science Business. The widening program is part of Horizon Europe and aims to reduce the differences between the research and innovation performance of member states. "Part of the widening program is working," Zaharieva said. "Now we are making assessments of the different initiatives there, what is working well and what is not." The European Commissioner emphasizes that the program cannot bridge the entire innovation gap between Eastern and Western Europe. For example, R&D expenditure in many widening countries is below the EU average. "Member States will need to do more in terms of reforms and national budget allocations for research and innovation. Some Member States really need significant reforms to improve their innovation capacity."

Article Science Business: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/commission-review-different-parts-widening-programme-zaharieva>

Strategic Compass: Knowledge field is positive about R&I ambitions, but fears a lack of attention for excellent research (29 January 2025)

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_385 and reactions different stakeholders including Science Business

Last week, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen presented the 'Strategic Compass'. Science Business has bundled the responses of a number of actors from the knowledge field. University umbrella organization The Guild is pleased with the strong focus on research and innovation, but expresses concern that excellent research is missing from the plans. The umbrella organization points out that the importance of scientific excellence is recommended in the reports of Mario Draghi and Manuel Heitor. They call on the Commission to include Europe's scientific leadership as an ambition in the Compass. "Research and innovation should not be viewed as mere tools to deliver industrial policy," The Guild said. The Young European Research Universities Network (YERUN) expresses similar criticism. German MEP Christian Ehler, who is working on a parliamentary report on the implementation of Horizon Europe, also agrees. He is happy with the ambitions for more investments in R&I, but fears an excessive focus on financing strategic priorities, at the expense of bottom-up ideas.

Press release European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_385

Publication European Commission: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/10017eb1-4722-4333-add2-e0ed18105a34_en

Article Science Business: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/eu-will-focus-funds-strategic-technologies-boost-competitiveness>

Article Politico: <https://www.politico.eu/article/wheres-the-eu-competitiveness-compass-pointing/>

Article ECFR: <https://ecfr.eu/article/the-eus-competitive-compass-needs-funding-and-ambitious-legislation-to-work/>

Article The Guild: <https://www.the-guild.eu/news/2025/europe%E2%80%99s-competitiveness-must-build-on-r-i-exce.html>

Article YERUN: <https://yerun.eu/2025/01/yeruns-response-to-the-competitiveness-compass/>

An EU Compass to regain competitiveness and secure sustainable prosperity (29 January 2025)

Source: Website EC Press Release https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_339

Today, the Commission presents the Competitiveness Compass, the first major initiative of this mandate providing a strategic and clear framework to steer the Commission's work.

The Compass sets a path for Europe to become the place where future technologies, services, and clean products are invented, manufactured, and put on the market, while being the first continent to become climate neutral. Over the last two decades, Europe has not kept pace with other major economies due to a persistent gap in productivity growth. The EU has what is needed to reverse this trend with its talented and educated workforce, capital, savings, Single Market, unique social infrastructure, provided it acts urgently to tackle longstanding barriers and structural weaknesses that hold it back.

President of the European Commission, Ursula **von der Leyen**, said: *“Europe has everything it needs to succeed in the race to the top. But, at the same time, we must fix our weaknesses to regain competitiveness. The Competitiveness Compass transforms the excellent recommendations of the Draghi report into a roadmap. So now we have a plan. We have the political will. What matters is speed and unity. The world is not waiting for us. All Member States agree on this. So, let's turn this consensus into action.”*

Three core areas for action: innovation, decarbonisation and security

The Draghi Report identified three transformational imperatives to boost competitiveness, and the Compass sets out an approach and a selection of flagship measures to translate each of these imperatives into reality:

- **Closing the innovation gap:** The EU must reignite its innovation engine. We want to create a habitat for young innovative start-ups, promote industrial leadership in high growth sectors based on deep technologies and promote the diffusion of technologies across established companies and SMEs. In this respect, the Commission will propose ‘**AI Gigafactories**’ and ‘**Apply AI**’ initiatives to drive development and industrial adoption of AI in key sectors. It will table action plans for **advanced materials, quantum, biotech, robotics and space technologies**. A **dedicated EU Start-up and Scale-up Strategy** will address the obstacles that are preventing new companies from emerging and scaling up. A proposal for a **28th legal regime** will simplify applicable rules, including relevant aspects of corporate law, insolvency, labour and tax law, and reduce the costs of failure. This will make it possible for innovative companies to benefit from one single set of rules wherever they invest and operate in the Single Market.
- **A joint roadmap for decarbonisation and competitiveness:** The Compass identifies high and volatile energy prices as a key challenge and sets out areas for intervention to facilitate access to clean, affordable energy. The upcoming **Clean Industrial Deal** will set out a competitiveness-driven approach to decarbonisation, aimed at securing the EU as an attractive location for manufacturing, including for energy intensive industries, and promoting clean tech and new circular business models. An **Affordable Energy Action Plan** will help bring down energy prices and costs, while an **Industrial Decarbonisation Accelerator Act** will extend accelerated permitting to sectors in transition. In addition, the Compass foresees tailor-made action plans for energy intensive sectors, such as **steel, metals, and chemicals**, sectors which are the backbone of the European manufacturing system, but are the most vulnerable in this phase of the transition.
- **Reducing excessive dependencies and increasing security.** The EU's ability to diversify and reduce dependencies will hinge on effective partnerships. The EU already has the largest and fastest growing network of trade agreements in the world covering 76 countries that account for almost half of the EU's trade. To keep diversifying and strengthening our supply chains, the Compass refers to a new range of **Clean Trade and Investment Partnerships** to help secure supply of raw materials, clean energy, sustainable transport fuels, and clean tech from across the world. Within the internal market, the review of the **Public Procurement rules** will allow for the introduction of a European preference in public procurement for critical sectors and technologies.

Five horizontal enablers for competitiveness

The three pillars are complemented by five horizontal enablers, which are essential to underpin competitiveness across all sectors

- **Simplification** by drastically reducing the regulatory and administrative burden on firms
- **Lowering barriers to the Single Market** through its Horizon Single Market Strategy
- **Financing competitiveness** by establishing a European Savings and Investment Union
- **Promoting skills and quality jobs** through a Union of Skills
- **Better coordination of policies at EU and national level** by introducing a Competitiveness Coordination Tool

Read full article and more about the five enablers here:
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_339

For More Information

A Competitiveness Compass for the EU: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/10017eb1-4722-4333-add2-e0ed18105a34_en

A factsheet https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs_25_338 on the Competitiveness Compass
EU competitiveness - European Commission: https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness_en

Statement | Reaction to the Competitiveness Compass by the GUILD (29 January 2025)

Source: Website The Guild

The Competitiveness Compass will point in the wrong direction if it fails to build on R&I excellence and recognise a broader understanding of the skills needed to underpin Europe's competitiveness.

This week, the College of Commissioners discusses the adoption of a Competitiveness Compass in line with its overarching objective of boosting Europe's competitiveness. The initiative is a prime example of directionality, providing guidance to "ensure that all policies work in step for competitiveness". The Competitiveness Compass also defines a new competitiveness model where innovation is the core engine of Europe's productivity growth. We warmly welcome that the European Commission confirms its ambition to "put research and innovation at the heart of our economy" and makes this objective the cornerstone of its competitiveness policy.

However, the Competitiveness Compass as described in a draft version brought to the attention of **The Guild misses a critical component: support for research excellence.** The report of Mario Draghi on the future of Europe's competitiveness clearly states the importance of strengthening Europe's scientific leadership to help close the innovation gap. Similarly, the expert group chaired by Manuel Heitor made the alarming observation that "**Europe's global importance in research, innovation and technology development has declined**". Europe must remain a global scientific powerhouse to be able to discover, develop and disseminate innovative solutions that will underpin its long-term competitiveness and help address present and future societal challenges.

We urge the Competitiveness Compass to integrate the critical need to ensure Europe's scientific leadership.

Research and innovation should not be regarded only as mere instruments to achieve industrial policies. The Compass, in its current version, undermines Europe's capacity to breakthrough discovery if it proposes merely a focus of R&I investment on applied research and the scale-up phase. Indeed, pointing to the need for the European Research Council (ERC) to align with specific strategic interests would not only undermine the ERC's capacity to fund projects based on scientific merit: it would also undermine the independence of its Scientific Council.

The European Commission must reverse course on this apparent focus on high-TRL research which will only bring incremental advancements to knowledge. This is crucial not just because of our need to increase Europe's capacity to innovate in current strategic technologies. It is equally essential to also invest in areas that could drive future waves of innovation. Because these areas are on the frontier of knowledge, they are rarely on the radar of policymakers. Hence the importance of investing in curiosity-driven research to make our competitiveness policy future-proof and agile to nimbly react to new technological and societal challenges.

For these reasons, the Commission must underline that fundamental research and curiosity-driven research make a substantial and essential contribution to our long-term competitiveness. Instruments like the ERC and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions are currently the most agile in its arsenal of R&I instruments precisely because they are bottom-up and finance the most excellent and promising research proposals. They also finance the most groundbreaking ideas that will lead to game-changing innovations.

We welcome that the Competitiveness Compass recognises the central role of people and "skills for competitiveness and quality jobs". Europe's education systems have an important role to play in upskilling and reskilling needs, along with creating, attracting, retaining as well as exchanging talent from abroad. In doing so, research-intensive universities have a distinctive contribution to make by providing the latest research-based knowledge and empowering students to push for new knowledge themselves.

It might be obvious for the Competitiveness Compass to focus on a few academic disciplines deemed key for Europe's competitiveness and strategic autonomy, but we should remember that innovation does not follow academic boundaries. Instead, universities provide opportunities to develop transferable skills that can spur innovative approaches in all study

fields. Prioritising programmes that focus on immediate industry needs can incapacitate our ability to train for the skills needed in an uncertain future.

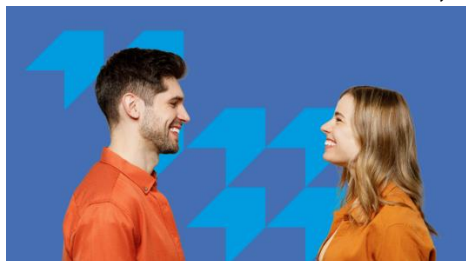
To make the Union of Skills a reality, it will be crucial to work with national ministries in creating an environment where universities can be more agile in responding to today's challenges – for example, through national regulation that supports the development and updates of courses and study programmes; by facilitating micro-credentials and joint study programmes; or by supporting pedagogical innovation that attracts new cohorts of students.

The Competitiveness Compass should point towards an ambitious framework programme with a higher and ringfenced budget and a renewed ambition to enable excellence in research and innovation for Europe's scientific leadership. It must also give a strong impetus to higher education policies that enable universities to provide students and other learners with the skills and competencies crucial for Europe's competitiveness and resilience. Otherwise, the European Competitiveness Compass will be a misleading tool that fails to gear the EU's policies towards a strong European economy, society and culture in a rapidly changing geopolitical climate.

European Universities initiative: report highlights success, outcomes and transformational potential (27 January 2025)

Source: Website EC <https://education.ec.europa.eu/news/european-universities-initiative-final-report-published>

65 European Universities alliances are part of this initiative funded by Erasmus+, gathering over 570 higher education institutions from 35 countries, including all EU countries.



© European Union, 2023

The report presents the strengths, achievements and progress of the alliances. It also identifies the remaining aspects to be addressed and provides policy orientations to sustain the success of the initiative in the long term.

It builds on data sources including

- the piloting exercise of a monitoring framework for the European Universities initiative, co-developed with the alliances, higher education stakeholders and EU countries
- studies from academics and position papers from EU higher education stakeholders
- national studies assessing the impact of the initiative at national/regional level

Benefits for participants and beyond

- Students now benefit from significantly multiplied and enriched educational offerings, with access to hundreds of joint study offers, joint programmes, flexible learning pathways, increased mobility and internationalisation opportunities across all the partner universities in an alliance.
- They gain future-proof skills and competencies, including entrepreneurial, transversal, digital, green, intercultural, language skills, active citizenship.
- Students are also in the driving seat for the development of the initiative, with almost all the alliances having students represented in their governance bodies.
- practices and expand their professional training and networks.
- European Universities alliances change the way universities cooperate in Europe, pushing boundaries and innovation, and offering a stable framework for unprecedented long-term strategic institutional-level cooperation.
- Partner higher education institutions and alliances see an increase in their competitiveness, attractiveness for global talent and increased visibility.

- The alliances accelerate national and European policy developments, inducing reforms and transformation and reducing barriers for transnational cooperation in higher education.
- These developments largely benefit the wider European higher education sector, for example on the Blueprint for a European Degree.
- The alliances reinforce commitment toward European values, including academic values and democracy, nurturing skills for active citizenship, including multilingualism, and connecting learning with the social and societal reality outside the classroom.
- They strengthen the cooperation between students, academia, business and society, strongly anchoring their activities in their local and regional ecosystems.

Read full article here:

Source: Website EC <https://education.ec.europa.eu/news/european-universities-initiative-final-report-published>

For full report: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/db43f6ca-da14-11ef-be2a-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

RM Comp, the New Key Tool to Strengthen Research Management in Europe (27 January 2025)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/rm-comp-new-key-tool-strengthen-research-management-europe-2025-01-27_en

Today, the European Commission launched RM Comp https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/jobs-research/rm-comp-european-competence-framework-research-managers_en, the European Competence Framework for Research Managers. This new initiative, developed under the EU-funded projects CARDEA and RM ROADMAP, is designed to support research managers in developing key skills, fostering career growth, and aligning practices with European standards.

A Framework for Growth and Excellence

RM Comp identifies the core skills and competencies needed for effective research management. It provides a structured approach to career development for individuals and organisations, offering a consistent standard for roles across the ERA.

For research managers, RM Comp enables self-assessment, highlights skill gaps, and guides professional development. Organisations can integrate the framework into hiring practices, training programs, and performance reviews, while funding agencies and policymakers can use it to promote capacity building and collaboration.

A Comprehensive and Flexible Structure

RM Comp consists of three key dimensions:

- **7 Competence Areas**, including Cognitive Abilities, Technical Proficiency, and Stakeholder Engagement.
- **50 Competencies**, each with defined learning outcomes.
- **800 Learning Outcomes** across four proficiency levels, from foundational to expert.

This flexible framework allows research managers to develop across all competence areas while focusing on specific strengths and career goals.

For more information: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/rm-comp-new-key-tool-strengthen-research-management-europe-2025-01-27_en

Global policy

Robbert Dijkgraaf becomes president of the International Science Council (6 February 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 February 2025

Former OCW minister and mathematical physicist Robbert Dijkgraaf has been elected president of the International Science Council (ISC). This was announced during the general meeting in Oman. The ISC consists of more than 250 international scientific associations, academies of sciences, research councils, international federations and young academies. The KNAW, of which Dijkgraaf was previously president, has written about the appointment. "It is a great honor to serve the International Science Council, the oldest and broadest organization representing global science, in the years ahead. Especially in these times of geopolitical tension and global challenges, it is important that the voice of science sounds clear and that researchers continue to engage in dialogue, both with each other and with society," says Dijkgraaf.

News item International Science Council: <https://council.science/news/robbert-dijkgraaf-president-elect-international-science-council/>

News item KNAW: <https://www.know.nl/nieuws/robbert-dijkgraaf-wordt-president-elect-van-de-international-science-council> (in Dutch)

OECD: How behavioral science can be used in green transition (6 February 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 February 2025

An OECD publication makes recommendations on how policymakers can ensure behavioral change as part of the green transition. The piece identifies six trends that illustrate how behavioral science can be used to work towards a sustainable world. "Understanding how people behave can increase the impact of policies, improve the uptake of green behavior, strengthen public support, and maximize the likelihood that policies will achieve desired behavioral outcomes," it said. One of the trends is that governments are increasingly using behavioral science by involving citizens in policy. Involving citizens who are disproportionately affected by climate change is particularly effective. "Design and test interventions with behavioral science and citizen feedback to ensure inclusive decision-making," the researchers said.

OECD publication: https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/mind-shift-green-lift_162c5a27-en.html

Major unrest in science due to Trump's orders (6 February 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 February 2025

President Trump's presidential orders to freeze federal spending on science funding and wages created chaos and uncertainty in the scientific community last week. At the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), review meetings have been canceled and commitments already made were reassessed to meet Trump's demands. For example, the president has prohibited investing in diversity, climate, woke and the like. The presidential order that would have meant a total freeze was reversed by court order, but the uncertainty in the sector did not diminish. The NSF is also criticized for not adhering to the rules and for bending too easily to Trump. This way, Congress would be in charge of spending and not the president. "This is driving a situation where funding decisions are subject to scrutiny by political appointees in the White House, rather than by the agencies responsible for implementing them," Matthew Lawrence, an associate professor at Atlanta University, told Nature.

Article Nature: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00266-1>

Article Nature 2: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00365-z>

Article Science: <https://www.science.org/content/article/exclusive-nsf-starts-vetting-all-grants-comply-trump-s-orders>

RaboResearch: international research shows historical returns on defense R&D (30 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 January 2025

International economic and strategic research from RaboResearch, Rabobank's research agency, has shown that every dollar invested in innovation for the defense industry delivers between \$8.1 and \$9.4 in social returns in the long term. In the model used, this return on civilian R&D is between \$1.5 and \$1.7. According to the researchers, this large difference can be explained by the fact that defense-related innovation often concerns breakthrough technologies. Technologies such as GPS and the Internet are cited as examples. De Telegraaf has written about the research and Dassen (Volt) has asked parliamentary questions to the minister and state secretary of Defense. **Research RaboResearch:** <https://media.rabobank.com/m/2d57f40e531077e1/original/The-economic-returns-on-defense-RD.pdf>

Nature: The seven technologies to watch in 2025 (30 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 January 2025

Last week, Nature delved into a number of technologies for which major developments are expected in 2025. For example, it is stated that independently operating laboratories (controlled by robots in combination with AI) offer enormous opportunities to enormously accelerate certain types of research. There is also a lot of attention for AI in the other technologies mentioned, for example with regard to genetic research. By linking enormous amounts of data via generative AI platforms, major steps could be taken in research into diseases and the development of effective medicines.

Article Nature: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00075-6>

US: Science fears consequences due to frozen budgets (30 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 January 2025

The first decrees signed by President Trump immediately caused uncertainty, chaos and fear in the scientific world. For example, the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) immediately halted assessments of research projects, pending the consequences of the policy. Delay in allocation inevitably means delay in research funding, as can be read on NPR. According to Jane Liebschutz of the University of Pittsburgh, such interruptions can have major immediate consequences. "Even short delays can put the US at a scientific disadvantage," she told Science.org. Nature also pays attention to the great unrest in science. In addition to suspending assessments, training and travel have also been canceled, according to the platform. According to researchers, the current situation is unprecedented, as 80 percent of the NIH budget of 47 billion is currently frozen. CNN reports that Chuck Schumer, minority leader in the Senate, is urgently appealing to Trump to quickly repent. He points out that many millions of citizens are at risk of being in trouble.

Article NPR: <https://www.npr.org/sections/shots-health-news/2025/01/27/nx-s1-5276342/nsf-freezes-grant-review-trump-executive-orders-dei-science>

Article CNN: <https://edition.cnn.com/2025/01/27/politics/white-house-pauses-federal-grants-loan-disbursement/index.html>

Science.org article: <https://www.science.org/content/article/trump-hits-nih-devastating-freezes-meetings-travel-communications-and-hiring>

Article Nature: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00231-y>

ITIF: US should focus on strengthening competitiveness (30 January 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 30 January 2025

The Trump administration must come up with a strategy to strengthen international competitiveness. Think tank ITIF writes this in an opinion piece. According to ITIF, American presidents make the same mistake again and again by focusing on market forces in the national security strategy and thinking that communism is the great international danger. However, according to ITIF, China is the biggest national security problem. "China is the world's largest manufacturer and is poised to become the world's largest innovator. And yet our national security strategies are strangely silent about this threat and what to do about it," it said. "What is needed is a radical shift from the 'market-oriented' approach to a 'producing' approach by focusing on how to restore the dominance of American advanced industry."

Article ITIF: <https://itif.org/publications/2025/01/21/america-has-a-national-security-strategy-where-is-its-national-competitiveness-strategy/>

National policy

Think tank: Postponement makes implementing social ambitions more expensive and complex (6 February 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 February 2023

The Netherlands can succeed in making convincing plans in the coming decades to solve a combination of social challenges. This requires radical choices to be made, for example in the areas of education, economy and use of space. This is what think tank DenkWerk states in the report 'Choosing and Sharing'. The report follows the previous publication 'Netherlands in Motion': which outlines a policy agenda to maintain broad prosperity by adequately addressing our social challenges in the coming decades. This report left open the question of whether the Netherlands has the capabilities to tackle all challenges and ambitions simultaneously. "If we try to realize all our ambitions on top of everything we are already doing, it will not fit and will therefore not work. One of the main messages of this report is: it is possible, but only if we make choices where space is created," it can be read.

Publication DenkWerk: <https://denkwerk.online/rapporten/kiezen-%C3%A9n-delen-januari-2025/> (in Dutch)

Bruins expects a maximum of ten thousand screenings for sensitive research areas every year (6 February 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 February 2023

Minister Bruins expects that the expansion of the Knowledge Safety Screening bill will affect at most 'a few thousand' additional researchers and students per year. Bruins said this during a committee debate on knowledge security. The AWTI issued advice on knowledge security in 2022 and on that basis the council provided input for the debate in a position paper. The minister expects that this will involve a maximum of ten thousand screenings per year. Bruins emphasizes that he wants to make the delineation of 'sensitive technologies' as precise as possible. "It has to be cut with a surgical blade. We really need the expertise and knowledge of the institutions themselves for this. It must therefore be constantly up to date and chosen very precisely," said the minister. Some MPs are concerned about the regulatory burden on institutions, as the bill is not accompanied by extra money. HOP has written about the debate.

Committee debate on Knowledge Safety: <https://debatdirect.tweedekamer.nl/2025-01-30/onderwijs-cultuur-wetenschap/thorbeckezaal/kennisveiligheid-09-30/onderwerp> (in Dutch)

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

Article HOP/U-Today: <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75156/kennisveiligheid-hooguit-tienduizend-screenings-per-jaar-schat-bruins> (in Dutch)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 7 February 2025

Call identifier	Deadline
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC	
ERC-2025-AdG	28 August 2025 at 17.000 Brussels time (<i>ERC-2025-AdV-Grants</i>)
Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-DN-01 - Doctoral networks - Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates - TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates	Foreseen opening: 28 May 2025: Deadline(s): 25 November 2025 (<i>MSCA Doctoral Networks 2025, Industrial doctorates, Joint Doctorates</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF - TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European Fellowships - TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global Fellowships	Foreseen opening: 9 April 2025: Deadline(s): 10 November 2025 (<i>MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-SE-01	Foreseen opening: 27 March 2025: Deadline(s): 8 October 2025 (<i>MSCA Staff Exchanges 2025</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-COFUND-01-01 - TMA-Cofund-Doctoral - TMA-Cofund-Postdoctoral	24 June 2025 17.00 Brussels time (<i>MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes 2025-01</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2024-MSCA4Ukraine	The next MSCA4Ukraine call is expected to open in November 2024
Research Infrastructures	
Cluster 1 HEALTH	
Destination - Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-STAYHLTH-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s): 18 September 2025 (First Stage), 16 April 2026 (Second Stage)
Destination - Living and working in a health-promoting environment	

HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-ENVHLTH-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s): 18 September 2025 (First Stage), 16 April 2026 (Second Stage)
Destination– Destination - Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s) 18 September 2025
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-DISEASE-02-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s): 18 September 2025 (First Stage), 16 April 2026 (Second Stage)
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-02-DISEASE COFUNDED Partnerships	Foreseen opening: 13 May 2025 Deadline(s) 3 June 2025
Destination - Ensuring equal access to innovative, sustainable, and high-quality healthcare	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-CARE	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s) 18 September 2025
Destination - Developing and using new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-TOOL	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s) 18 September 2025
Destination - Maintaining an innovative, sustainable, and competitive EU health industry	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-IND	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s) 18 September 2025
<u>Cluster 2 Culture Creativity and Inclusive Society</u>	
<u>Cluster 4 Digital - Industry - Space</u>	
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	
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 for the transformation towards climate neutrality	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-03-D1	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 Deadline(s) 24 September 2025
Destination - Cross-sectoral solutions for the climate transition	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D2	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 Deadline(s) 16 September 2025
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2	Foreseen opening: 16 September 2025 Deadline(s) 17 February 2026
Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D3	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 Deadline(s) 16 September 2025
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3	Foreseen opening: 16 September 2025 Deadline(s) 17 February 2026

Destination: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4	Foreseen opening: 16 September 2025 Deadline(s) 20 January 2026
Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-01-D5	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 Deadline(s): 4 September 2025
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D5	Foreseen opening: 16 September 2025 Deadline(s) 20 January 2026
Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-01-D6	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 Deadline(s): 4 September 2025
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6	Foreseen opening: 16 September 2025 Deadline(s) 20 January 2026
Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 17 September 2025
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 06 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 04 September 2025 (First Stage) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)
Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK	Foreseen Opening: 6 May 2025 foreseen deadline(s): 16 September 2025
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 4 September 2025 (First Stage) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)
Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 17 September 2025
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 4 September 2025 (First Stage) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)
Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 17 September 2025

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01 ZEROPOLLUTION-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 4 September 2025 (First Stage) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE	Foreseen Opening: 06 May 2025 foreseen deadline(s): 16 September 2025
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE- two-stage	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline(s): 4 September 2025 (First Stage) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage)
Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02 COMMUNITIES	Foreseen Opening: 6 May 2025 foreseen deadline(s): 16 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/	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
Pillar III Innovative Europe	
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 (<i>HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-01</i>)
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 7 February 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 July 8th, 2024, 15:00 h (CEST) . (CLOSED) Deadline for full-proposal submission 4th February 2025, 14:00 CET https://www.eupahw.eu/pdf/open-calls/call-01/call-01_EUPAHW%20Call%20Announcement_13.5.pdf EUPAHW submission webpage: https://eupahw.ptj.de/ EUPAHW webpage: www.EUPAHW.eu
European Partnership Biodiversa+ https://www.biodiversa.eu/	Biodiversa+ call on Biodiversity and Transformative Change #BiodivTransformcall It will follow a two-stage application process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. https://www.biodiversa.eu/2024/06/11/2024-2025-joint-call/
European Partnership Water4All https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/	Upcoming Water4All call Water for Circular Economy The call is planned to be officially launched 12 September 2024, a two-step procedure will be used with a closing date for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pre-proposals on 13 November 2024 (CLOSED) and • the deadline for full-proposals on 29 April 2025. https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-2024-joint-transnational-call-pre-announcement and https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-transnational-call-regarding-water-for-circular-economy
European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) https://dutpartnership.eu/	Third DUT call Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future . The call opened 2 September 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The deadline for pre-proposals is 14 November 2024 (13:00 CET) (CLOSED). • The deadline for full proposals is 24 April 2025 (13:00 CET). https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/driving-urban-transitions-call-2024-open-for-applications and https://dutpartnership.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/DUT-2024-Call-Text-Version-1.1.pdf
European Partnership FutureFoods https://www.futurefoodspartnership.eu/	The first call of FutureFoods Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The deadline for pre-submissions is January 15, 2025 (13:00 CET) (CLOSED) • The deadline for full proposals is July 9, 2025 (13:00 CEST) https://www.futurefoodspartnership.eu/
European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/	Second co-funded call AgroEcology Partnership https://agroecology.ptj.de/call2?genericModule=callDocuments&action=download&id=955 is open <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for pre proposal submission is 17 February 2025, 14:00h CET. • Deadline for full proposal submission is 09 July 2025, 14:00h CEST.

Joint Technology Initiatives	
Joint Programming Initiatives	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 **7 February 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 full proposals 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 pre-proposals 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. https://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 7 February 2025. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

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%29_2.pdf
------------	--

18-02-2025	Deadline for submission proposals 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
20-02-2025	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 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 full applications 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
11-03-2025	NEW: Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025 . 11 March 2025 by 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
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%20Nature.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_future_-_small_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/def_-_cfp-sociale_dynamieken_in_de_energietransitie_-_nwa_sjabloon_-_nl.pdf
22-04-2025	Deadline for submission full applications 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
22-04-2025	NEW: Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025 . 22 April 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
01-05-2025	NEW: Deadline submission Full proposals for call Use of space infrastructure for earth observation and planetary research (GO) . Closing date full application 1 May 2025 14:00 hrs . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/use-of-space-infrastructure-for-earth-observation-and-planetary-research-go and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/CfP_GO2025-1_v7_clean%20%281%29.pdf
06-05-2025	Deadline for submission proposals for Open Competition Domain Science - XS 2025 . Deadline for submission of proposals round 2025-2 6 May 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-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 full applications for SSH Open Competition XS round 2 . Round 2: 8 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 sub-applications 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-%20Hartstichting%20DEF%20met%20beeld%20WIJZ_0.pdf
03-06-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission Full proposals for fourth call Faculty of Impact . The deadline for submitting proposals is Tuesday 3 June 2025 2025, 14:00:00 CEST . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/faculty-of-impact-opens-its-doors-for-the-fourth-time and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/safety-and-energy-transition and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/foi-2025_-_call_for_proposals_-_eng_-_publicatie.pdf
12-06-2025	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 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
24-06-2025	NEW: Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025 . 24 June 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
10-07-2025	NEW: Deadline submission Full Proposals Hydrogen and green electrons for special and fine chemicals . 13 March 2025 - Deadline to apply for preparatory workshops . Participation in the two workshops is mandatory for the main applicant and the technical manager of the consortium. 7-9 April 2025 - First preparatory workshop. 12-14 May 2025 - Second preparatory workshop. 10 July 2025 - Deadline to submit full proposal . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-hydrogen-and-green-electrons-for-special-and-fine-chemicals and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/national-growth-fund/groenvermogennl/hydrogen-and-green-electrons-for-specialities-and-fine-chemicals and https://groenvermogennl.org/en/event/information-meeting-groenvermogennl-rd-theme-6/
Until 31-07-2025	Deadline for submission proposals Open Competition Domain Science - M 2024/2025 . 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-M%20ronde%2024-25_EN_def%20%282%29.pdf
14-08-2025	NEW: Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025 . 14 August 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
16-09-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission proposals 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-package-25-1 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/hwo/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/hwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202025%20-%20EN.pdf
07-10-2025	NEW: Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 7 October 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
12-11-2025	NEW: Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 12 November 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
From 13-01-2025 until 12-12-2025	Deadline submission full proposals Open Technology Programme 2025. Applications can be submitted on a continuous basis between 13 January 2025 until 12 December 2025, as long 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/hwo/files/media-files/CfP_OTP_2025_EN.pdf
20-12-2025	NEW: Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 20 December 2025 by 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
03-02-2026	NEW: Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 3 February 2026 by 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer

Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on **7 February 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
From 01-03-2025 to 28-02-2026	NEW: Opening EFRO East Netherlands: Innovation projects priority 1 (a smarter East Netherlands): applications can be submitted from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. The subsidy ceiling is € 11.7 million, of which € 10 million for activities that benefit Gelderland and € 1.7 million for activities that benefit Overijssel;
From 01-03-2025 to 28-02-2026	NEW: Opening EFFE East Netherlands Test and demonstration projects priority 1 (a smarter East Netherlands): applications can be submitted from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. The subsidy ceiling is €6.7 million, of which €5 million for activities that benefit Gelderland and €1.7 million for activities that benefit Overijssel.
From 16-09-2024 to 01-11-2024	Opening 2 for proposals OP-Zuid from September 16, 2024 9:00 AM to November 1, 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 04-04-2025	Foreseen deadline Spring call OP-Zuid 2025: from 24 February 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to April 4, 2025 (until 5 p.m.);
15-09-2025 to 24-10-2025	Foreseen opening Autumn call OP-Zuid 2025: from 15 September, 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to 24 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.

Contacts

EU Funding Office:

Peter Jongbloed	Horizon Europe	0317 486876	Peter.Jongbloed@wur.nl
Christianne Marcelis	Horizon Europe	0317 480843	Christianne.Marcelis@wur.nl
Vanya Simeonova	Cluster 5, WIDENING	0317 485978	Vanya.simeonova@wur.nl
Reynout Hana	Contact point legal matters	0317 485857	Reynout.Hana@wur.nl
Rene van Ree	Cluster 5, CBE	0317 480710	Rene.vanree@wur.nl
Judith Battjes	European partnerships	070-3358188	Judith.battjes@wur.nl

NWO office Contacts:

Jos Teunissen	Contact point financial and procedural	0317 485313	Jos.teunissen@wur.nl
Henriëke de Ruiter	Contact point content and strategy	0317 484395	Henriëke.deruiter@wur.nl
Patty Brouwer	Contact point content	0317 481310	Patty.brouwer@wur.nl

Science Groups Liaison Officers:

ASG

Hans Spoolder	Wageningen Livestock Research	0317-480652	Hans.Spoolder@wur.nl
Nienke Runge	Wageningen Livestock Research	06- 34027938	contractoffice.WLR@wur.nl
Ilse Schippers	Wageningen Livestock Research	06-18869067	contractoffice.WLR@wur.nl

Annika Dijkstra-Garritsen	Department Animal Sciences	0317-482524	annika.dijkstra-garritsen@wur.nl
Guus Baarends	Department Animal Science		Guus.baarends@wur.nl
Erik Bouwmeister	Department Animal Sciences	0317-483027	erik.bouwmeister@wur.nl
Jorai van Driel	Department Animal Sciences	0317-483952	Jorai.vandriel@wur.nl
Patty Brouwer	Department Plant Sciences	0317-481310	Patty.brouwer@wur.nl
Liaison Office ESG	ESG	0317-477768	liaisonoffice.esg@wur.nl
Jos Teunissen	AFSG	0317-485313	jos.teunissen@wur.nl
Tom van Zandvoort	AFSG	0317-488381	Tom.vanZandvoort@wur.nl
Rene van Ree	WFBR	0317 480710	Rene.vanree@wur.nl
Monique den Nijs	WFSR	0317-480370	Monique.denijs@wur.nl
Miranda ten Holder	SSG departement	0317-481378	miranda.tenholder@wur.nl
Luc van Hoof	Wageningen Marine Research	0255-564646	Luc.vanhoof@wur.nl
Christianne Marcelis	PSG	0317-480843	Christianne.Marcelis@wur.nl
Wim van der Poel	Wageningen Bio Veterinary Research	0320-238383	Wim.vanderPoel@wur.nl
Judith Battjes	Wageningen Economic Research	070-3358188	Judith.battjes@wur.nl
Eefje Hilarides	SSG-WCDI	0317-483496	Eefje.hilarides@wur.nl
John Hollands	SSG-WCDI	0317-486859	John.hollands@wur.nl

Disclaimer

Effort has been made to present all information accurately. However, no liability is accepted for any inclusions or advice given or for omissions for the publication. Hyperlinks are provided as a convenience to the user. The EU office is not responsible for the contents of any information provided by outside sites through these links. As the information in Subsidy and Innovation News can only be a selection, the EU office is happy to receive further and updated information for distribution. Subsidy and Innovation News is an online newsletter published at least twenty times a year. The newsletter is published on the International Helpdesk web site <https://www.intranet.wur.nl/en/research-education/internationaal/fondsen/Pages/EU%20Office.aspx>. You can register for receiving notifications when a new issue is published by sending an email to peter.jongbloed@wur.nl with 'Registration for Subsidy and Innovation News' in the subject.

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.