



WGO Research and Innovation Funding News, N° 416 _ 14 March 2025

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

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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe and FP10

Parliament set for showdown with Commission over standalone FP10 (13 March 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/parliament-set-showdown-commission-over-standalone-fp10>

A vote for an independent Framework Programme 10 aligns the Parliament with the EU Council in the battle over post-2027 research funding



Photo credits: European Union

The European Parliament has adopted a report calling for a standalone research Framework Programme in the next long-term EU budget. This lays the ground for a conflict with the European Commission, which is expected to place the programme within a broader EU Competitiveness Fund.

The **non-binding report** https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-10-2025-0028_EN.pdf calls for a simplified, mission-driven independent research Framework Programme, FP10, with a significantly larger budget and reduced administrative burdens for participants compared to the current programme, Horizon Europe.

“We will have a vivid discussion with the Commission,” predicted German MEP Christian Ehler of the European People’s Party, who authored the report for the Industry, Research and Energy Committee.

The report was approved during the Parliament’s Strasbourg plenary on March 11, passing with 523 votes in favour, 46 against and 49 abstentions.

The battle lines are now drawn for a struggle over how the EU will fund research and innovation after 2027.

On one side is the Commission, and its president Ursula von der Leyen, which **did not include a standalone FP10** in its recent competitiveness strategy. This has heightened concerns that the research and innovation programme will be squeezed into a broader Competitiveness Fund without a ring-fenced budget.

On the other side are the Parliament, research commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva (who **has stressed** the importance of Framework Programmes) and the EU Council, which on Tuesday **endorsed a "self-standing" FP10**. The wider research community **also supports the creation of an independent FP10**.

Adding to tensions, a leaked note purportedly from a Commission official has been circulating in Brussels, suggesting that the odds are “80:20 against” an independent FP10, with von der Leyen ultimately holding the final decision.

However, Science|Business has not been able to confirm the source of the note.

‘A risky game’

Responding to questions from Science|Business, Ehler dismissed the idea that the Commission has sole authority over the Framework Programme’s fate, arguing that such an approach would be “neither politically wise nor well advised.”

He also accused the Commission's Directorate-General for Budget of conducting a "secret operation" to integrate FP10 into the Competitiveness Fund without consulting Parliament or the Council.

"If they want to run in a conflict with both legislative bodies, I think they would endanger the whole Multiannual Financial Framework," Ehler told Science|Business after Tuesday's plenary vote. "It's a risky game they're playing." Commission officials have yet to provide a clear response to direct questions about FP10's inclusion in the Competitiveness Fund, but there are signs such work is in hand. For example, András Inotai, a head of unit in the Commission's research directorate, said this week that having a broad Competitiveness Fund would not necessarily jeopardise a standalone Framework Programme, which is secured by "certain treaty requirements."

"There's no inherent contradiction between having a strong Framework Programme with dedicated, bottom-up funding for fundamental research, and a Competitiveness Fund that would accompany companies from the early stage of their growth all the way to market deployment and growth stages in the EU market," he told an event hosted by the European Consortium of Innovative Universities.

The Commission is expected to present its Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) proposal in July. Since the proposal for a research Framework Programme typically follows the MFF and is shaped by its decisions, the time for lobbying is limited. According to the leaked Commission note, the "opportunity window for direct political influence" over a standalone FP10 will close in "mid-March, end of March at the latest."

EU ministers call for independent FP10 in Warsaw Declaration (13 March 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/eu-ministers-call-independent-fp10-warsaw-declaration>

Research ministers endorse a "self-standing" Framework Programme, but are silent on measures to close Europe's research and innovation gap



European Union

EU research ministers have sent a strong signal that they want the next Framework Programme, FP10, to be a standalone research and innovation programme and not part of a broader European Competitiveness Fund.

Meeting in Warsaw on March 11, they instructed the European Commission to draft its proposal for FP10 "building on the legacy of self-standing Framework Programmes." They also noted that the EU treaties specify that the Framework Programme should establish the scientific and technological objectives to be achieved and the amount of the EU's financial participation.

According to Marcin Kulasek, Poland's science minister, **the Warsaw Declaration** https://polish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/media/r5fa13v5/warsaw-declaration_final.pdf that emerged from the informal Council meeting is a "loud message from science ministers in the EU for a stable, intelligently-shaped Framework Programme for European scientists and innovators."

"Without a strong Framework Programme, it's going to be hard to raise the competitiveness of Europe, to build technological independence, and to support security," he said, adding that science and innovation will be crucial to tackling future crises.

While research commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva has spoken about the importance of the Framework Programmes, official Commission plans make no mention of preparing FP10, and the research community is [growing increasingly worried](#) there will not be a standalone programme beyond 2027.

"It was clear from today's discussion [. . .] that member states consider that a strong and well-funded [Framework] Programme is essential for Europe's competitiveness," Zaharieva said following the meeting. Meanwhile, as research ministers were meeting in Warsaw, MEPs in Strasbourg were **adopting their recommendations** https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-10-2025-0028_EN.pdf for Horizon Europe's successor, which they also say should be a "standalone" programme.

MEP Christian Ehler, rapporteur of the Parliament's report, said he was "speechless" that the Commission's directorate-general for budget appeared to be running a "secret operation" to integrate FP10 in the Competitiveness Fund without consulting Parliament or the Council.

Responding to questions from Science|Business, Ehler insisted that the Commission does not have the power to decide the fate of FP10 on its own. Seeking to go against its co-legislators could "endanger the whole operation" of a future long-term EU budget, he said.

Meanwhile, the Irish government added its voice to the debate, calling for a "ring-fenced" EU research budget in its **preliminary position on FP10** <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/bf26f-irelands-preliminary-position-next-eu-research-and-innovation-framework-programme/> .

Read full article here: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/eu-ministers-call-independent-fp10-warsaw-declaration>

Leaked Horizon plans set priorities for biodiversity, food and environment calls in 2025-2027 WP Cluster 6 (10 March 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/biodiversity/leaked-horizon-plans-set-priorities-biodiversity-food-and-environment-calls>

Draft 2026-27 work programme maintains focus on topics ranging from biodiversity to resilient farming



Photo credits: Guillaume de Germain / Unsplash

Research priorities for food, agriculture and environment research under Horizon Europe in 2026-27 are set out in an initial draft of the Cluster 6 work programme, due to be discussed at a programme committee meeting on March 12.

The **leaked plans**, seen by Science|Business, contribute to **commitments that at least 25% of Horizon Europe resources between 2025 and 2027 will go to climate action and 10% to biodiversity research.**

On biodiversity, the Commission is asking researchers to work on the decline of insect species, improving the effectiveness of protected areas, scaling up nature-based solutions and strengthening organic plant breeding, among other topics.

As in the draft work programme for 2025, calls for proposals will also target food systems that reinforce the long-term competitiveness and sustainability of Europe's farming, fisheries and food sectors, from enhancing knowledge on key migratory fish species and tackling pesticide resistance, to studying healthy diets for cardiovascular disease prevention. Meanwhile, anticipating the EU Circular Economy Act due in 2026, projects will also be funded on electronics, construction products, staging music and sports events, textiles waste and other materials.

Across the cluster, projects are expected to comply with the "do no significant harm" principle and, where relevant, use advanced digital technologies such as artificial intelligence.

Elsewhere in the plan, funding calls relate to preserving a clean environment and reducing pollution, safeguarding land and water health, developing resilient and green rural, coastal and urban communities, and backing the European Green Deal through innovative governance and digital solutions, particularly in the agricultural sector.

Finally, the Commission highlights the importance of integrating the social sciences and humanities in research projects, since these play "a critical role in finding pathways and solutions for the green transition."

Note PJ: You can find this first DRAFT at our WGO group page

8th Republic of Korea-EU Joint Scientific & Technological Cooperation Committee meeting (8 March 2025)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/8th-republic-korea-eu-joint-scientific-technological-cooperation-committee-meeting-2025-03-10_en



Ms. Signe Ratso and Mr. Sunghoon Hwang at the 8th EU-Korea Joint Committee on S&T Cooperation.

The eighth meeting of the European Union (EU) - the Republic of Korea (Korea) Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation took place in Seoul on 7 March 2025, under the co-chairmanship of Deputy Director-General of the Directorate General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission (EC), Ms Signe Ratso, and Director-General for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT), Republic of Korea, Mr. Sunghoon Hwang. Attendees included high-level Korean officials from MSIT, Korean research centres, Science Counsellors from Member States and EU officials.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on their evolving strategies for science, technology, and innovation. The EU Co-chair referred to recent reports, crucial for the development of the EU Research and innovation (R&I) policy, including the EU Political Guidelines, the initiatives under the Global Approach to R&I, such as the multilateral dialogue on values and principles, research security, science diplomacy, and the ongoing discussions related to the next Framework Programme on R&I.

This meeting was held at a pivotal moment, **as the Signing of the EU-Republic of Korea Association Agreement to Horizon Europe Pillar II is imminent**. The two sides explored how to best to support this association in the areas of common interest such as Artificial Intelligence, Quantum, Health and biotechnology, Carbon neutrality to ensure its success. They also discussed strategies to maximise participation in other parts of the programme.

EU Booster online information session 1 April 11.00-12.00 (7 March 2025)



Source: Website EC <https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/other/event250401.htm>

I would like to inform you about an upcoming online event that might be interesting for the valorisation of Horizon's results at WUR!

In this info session, colleagues from the European Commission will introduce the **Booster** tool, a free-of-charge service to support EU-funded projects in their journey from **results to impact**, strengthening the **dissemination and exploitation** strategy of the European Commission and supporting its R&I activities.

This session is aimed at **beneficiaries** to give them an overview Booster's free-of-charge, expert-led and personalised services, followed by a Q&A. The session will give a global overview of what the set of services includes, more information about the expert guidance that can be expected and how services are delivered.

When and how?

-  **April 1st from 11:00 till 12:00**
-  **Online** via Youtube and livestreamed through the link below

 **Register and find out more here:** <https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/other/event250401.htm>

MEPs call for standalone FP10 with increased budget (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

A majority of the European Parliament's Industry, Research and Energy Committee (ITRE) believes that the successor to Horizon Europe should become a standalone programme with a significantly higher budget. This is stated in a report on the implementation of Horizon Europe, which the committee adopted last week. MEP Christian Ehler warns that including FP10 in a general competitiveness fund would mean that research and innovation funding would focus on short-term policy ambitions.

European Parliament press release: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20250217IPR26977/meps-blueprint-to-boost-europe-s-research-and-innovation>

Article Science Business: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/planning-fp10/meps-throw-weight-behind-standalone-fp10-bigger-budget>

ERC President calls for doubling of budget and independence (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

European Research Council (ERC) President Maria Leptin calls on the European Parliament to protect the ERC's independence and double its budget in the next Multiannual Financial Framework. Leptin made this argument in a discussion with members of the European Parliament from the Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) Committee. Science Business has written about this. In earlier draft proposals of the recently presented Strategic Compass, it was suggested that the ERC should operate 'along the same strategic interests' as the European Innovation Council (EIC). However, Leptin believes that 'standardised bureaucratic processes designed for other programmes' should not be imposed on the ERC, which selects projects exclusively on the basis of excellent research. EU research ministers will meet in Warsaw on 10 and 11 March. **Science Business writes on the basis of a draft declaration that the Polish EU Presidency proposes to support the independence of the ERC and to recognise the value of a stand-alone European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.**

Article Science Business (Leptin): <https://sciencebusiness.net/european-research-council/leptin-calls-doubling-erc-budget>

Article Science Business (European Council): <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/european-research-council/research-ministers-urged-defend-erc-independence-and-fp10>

Zaharieva invites India to join Horizon Europe (28 February 2025)

Source: Website ScienceBusiness <https://sciencebusiness.net/horizon-europe/zaharieva-invites-india-join-horizon-europe>

While India's decision is pending both sides agreed to launch joint R&D calls for projects worth €60 million



Photo credits: European Commission

The European Commission is looking to expand the list of countries associated to its €93.5 billion research and innovation programme by inviting India to consider joining Horizon Europe.

"India has talent and a long tradition, so I invited science minister Jitendra Singh to consider associating India to Horizon Europe," EU research commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva has announced during a trip to New Delhi this week. Zaharieva has not presented a timeline for the negotiations, but India would join a select club of countries that are part of Horizon Europe, including the UK and Israel. Last year, the EU concluded talks with Switzerland. Further afield, New Zealand, Canada and South Korea have negotiated association to Pillar II of the EU Research Framework Programme. Singapore and Japan are also in talks to join.

Zaharieva was part of a broader EU delegation headed by Commission president Ursula von der Leyen. The EU officials spent two days in India with the goal to advance talks on a free-trade agreement, including on closer cooperation in research and innovation, which could be finalised by the end of this year.

The visit is the first of its kind in the history of India-EU bilateral ties and comes after the new US administration led by Donald Trump has decided to start a trade war with Europe, Canada, Mexico and other allies.

During the visit, Zaharieva discussed strengthening cooperation in research and innovation with the south Asian country and attended the second meeting of the EU-India Trade and Technology Council.

According to the commissioner, India and the EU could work together on a flurry of projects related to climate neutrality, disaster prevention, oceans, quantum, biotech, semiconductors, security, defence, AI, and space.

While the decision on joining Horizon Europe is pending, the EU and India agreed on "joint research cooperation through exceptional coordinated calls on recycling of batteries for electric vehicles (EVs), marine plastic litter, and waste-to-hydrogen," a Commission statement read.

The total funding for the joint calls is estimated at €60 million. The Commission said that it would be "matching Indian contributions" from the Horizon Europe budget.

In the future, the EU and India could also cooperate on wastewater treatment technologies. “We’re committed to supporting advanced technologies to tackle plastic waste (India generates 10 million tons annually) and recycling EV batteries (200 million by 2030),” Zaharieva said on social media.

“We’ll also encourage greater involvement from young researchers through MSCA [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions], where India is the top non-EU beneficiary with more than 3,000 grants,” she added.

Read more here: <https://sciencebusiness.net/horizon-europe/zaharieva-invites-india-join-horizon-europe>

Other International funding

EFSA call EUBA-EFSA-2025-PREV-02: Risk assessment of pesticides (10 March 2025)

Source: Website EFSA <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/calls/art36grants>

We would like to inform you and your organisations about the EFSA's open call for proposals (grant): 'Support to EFSA for the risk assessment of pesticides'.

The call documents are available on the EU **Funding and Tenders portal** ref. **EUBA-EFSA-2025-PREV-02** <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/euba-efsa-2025-prev-02> and announced at EFSA grant page <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/calls/art36grants>.

The main objective of the call is to conclude Framework Partnership Agreements (FPAs) with multiple organisations belonging to the Article 36 list that will support EFSA for tasks on pesticides falling within the mission of the EFSA Pesticide Peer Review, Environment, Plants & Ecotoxicology and Front-Desk & Workforce Planning (FDP) units. The tasks are related to risk assessments of active substances used in plant protection products, and to risk assessments of pesticide residues in food and feed.

Interested applicants (or consortium of applicants) need to precisely indicate the combination of the area/task, which they are applying for, as described in more details in the of the Call for proposal document (Section 1.3).

FPAs duration is 4 years and will be implemented through Specific Agreements for performing the respective assignments. The total maximum budget EFSA has available is 2,500,000 €.

Deadline for submission of proposals: 22 May 2025 - 17.00 CET.

Please note and take the opportunity to attend **EFSA's info-session for potential applicants on 4 April (15.00 – 16.00 CEST)**. The link to the announcement can be found here <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/info-session-call-proposals-support-efsa-risk-assessment-pesticides>.

Please disseminate this information among interested colleagues within your organisation and other **Art.36 Competent Organisations** https://efsa.my.site.com/competentorganisations/s/competentorganisation/CompetentOrganisation__c/00B1v000009LqflEAS if you wish to apply as a consortium. You may like to refer to **your EFSA national Focal Point** <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/partnersnetworks/eumembers#focal-points-eu-food-safety-connecting-hubs> for support in this effort.

Requests for clarification to be sent via the EU Portal (the link above) and all clarifications will be visible on the same platform.

In case of doubts, please contact EFSAprocurement@efsa.europa.eu .

National funding

Funding for sixty innovative projects linked to NWA routes (11 March 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-for-sixty-innovative-projects-linked-to-nwa-routes>



Sixty consortia will get to work on innovative inter- and transdisciplinary research projects that aim to increase the scientific and social impact of NWA routes. Civil society organisations (both public and private parties) and research organisations will work closely together on these projects. They will focus on an innovative idea or on utilising existing knowledge.

The sixty projects have been nominated to NWO from the [25 Dutch Research Agenda \(NWA\) routes](#). This means that each of the sixty projects is embedded in the broader NWA route. NWA routes stimulate the fusion of science and society. They ensure greater involvement of the entire knowledge chain, bring relevant consortium partners together and ensure knowledge utilisation. The total funding in this round is over 6.4 million euros.

Assessment

In this round, all NWA routes could nominate a minimum of two and a maximum of three projects to NWO for assessment by the assessment committee. The management of the NWA routes set up a process for this in which proposals for projects were widely solicited within the network of the NWA route. Based on the proposals received, the management of each of the NWA routes has made a selection of the proposals that may be nominated to NWO. These innovative projects will contribute to issues relevant to the route.

This call is the successor to the 'NWA Small Projects in Routes' call, which opened in 2020 and 2021.

Dutch Research Agenda

Citizens are at the heart of creating and renewing the Dutch Research Agenda. The link between society and science is a key element of the NWA programme. Governments, researchers, civil society organisations and citizens work together to develop and use knowledge to achieve scientific and societal impact. And through science communication, knowledge is shared in society to increase engagement and trust in science.

This is implemented through the 25 routes, among other things. These organisations receive financial support for the organisation of their networks. They play an important role in the organisation of the scientific field. A connecting role of the routes in the NWA programme ensures more involvement of the entire knowledge chain, the bringing together of relevant consortium partners and the monitoring of core objectives of a route and the NWA.

For more information about the 60 funded projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-for-sixty-innovative-projects-linked-to-nwa-routes>

Call for Sessions for the 6th WINNER Conference now open! (11 March 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-for-sessions-for-the-6th-winner-conference-now-open>



This year marks the 6th edition of the WINNER - the Week of Indonesia – Netherlands Education and Research . It will be organised as a hybrid conference in which attendees are able to participate in sessions on-site in Indonesia and online. The main theme for WINNER 2025 is "Building a Sustainable Future through Education and Research".

In the call for sessions WINNER invites Indonesian and Dutch researchers, educators, and practitioners to submit proposals for sessions that explore the role of education and research in building a shared sustainable future. Sessions should highlight innovative approaches, collaborative efforts, and best practices that contribute to sustainable development in and through education and research. WINNER aims to highlight the importance of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary collaboration, and share insights to address global challenges and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). WINNER is a unique opportunity to deepen and expand your collaboration in the Indonesian-Dutch knowledge field and to share your knowledge, experience, and vision on the bilateral collaboration. Session panellists in WINNER will have the opportunity to organise their panel physically on-site in Indonesia (with some panellists possibly present online) with a live audience or fully online. They will be facilitated on the Ring Central platform.

The deadline for submitting a session proposal is April 17, 2025.

Don't miss your chance to contribute to this vibrant platform for Dutch-Indonesian collaboration in education and research.

Submit your session proposal now! <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/science-diplomacy-fund-sdf/winner-week-of-indonesia-netherlands-education-and-research/call-for-sessions-winner-2025>

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-for-sessions-for-the-6th-winner-conference-now-open>

'Mosaic 2.0' promotional grant programme continues in modified form (7 March 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/mosaic-20-promotional-grant-programme-continues-in-modified-form>



First and second generation Dutch researchers with a non-Western migration background will soon be able to apply for the renewed 'Mozaiek 2.0' PhD scholarship programme. They are still underrepresented in science. According to internal research, continuing this NWO programme in a new form is the best way to stimulate the influx of this group into science.

The NWO sees a healthy research culture as a prerequisite for world-class science. After all, a healthy research culture ensures that talent is given space and collaboration is stimulated. However, there is still inequality in science at the moment and Dutch researchers with a migration background are under-represented in science as a whole.

First and second generation Dutch researchers

The 'Mozaiek 2.0' PhD scholarship programme is aimed at first and second generation Dutch researchers with a non-Western migration background. The goal is to stimulate the influx of this group into science by funding PhD positions. As with all NWO funding instruments, the quality of the research proposals is always the deciding factor in the awarding of grants. This doctoral grant programme has been well received, as the evaluations show. There is also broad support for this funding instrument both within and outside the target group.

Last year, the NWO indicated it would open the final round for Mosaic 2.0 and give this target group a structural place in the regular funding instruments. This was also in line with its own ambition to reduce the number of small funding instruments. After careful consideration, this appears not to be possible for this target group. This group of researchers needs extra encouragement, especially in this phase of their career. However, NWO has no instrument for personal PhD scholarships. Therefore, it has been decided to allow this programme to continue, but in an adapted form.

For more information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/mosaic-20-promotional-grant-programme-continues-in-modified-form>

Call open: Digital Technology and Work (10 March 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-digital-technology-and-work>



The NWA Call 'Digital technology and work: understanding the impact and human-centred deployment of applications' is open for applications. The programme aims to develop knowledge and action perspectives to prevent the negative impact of digital technologies on work and make the most of their opportunities.

At present, there is a lack of sufficient knowledge, practical tools, and action perspectives to steer the impact of technology on job quality and to map and influence the broader labour-related consequences of rapidly developing technologies.

Aim of the Programme

This Call for Proposals aims to generate new knowledge about the impact of digital technology on work and workers, as well as the interactions that emerge between humans, technology, and organisations when technology is implemented in the workplace. With this knowledge, opportunities can be seized, and adverse effects can be prevented or mitigated. The programme focuses on developing knowledge and action perspectives for policymakers and organisations that wish to deploy digital technologies in a healthy, safe, human-centred, and inclusive manner.

For organisations, the programme provides insights into the process of implementing digital technologies and their impact, as well as opportunities for continuous development to better align work (processes) with technological advancements. For policymakers, the programme generates knowledge to support the development of policies that discourage undesirable uses of technology and promote desirable and effective applications.

- The deadline for **registering for the collaborative workshops** is **15 April 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST**.
- The deadline for **submitting proposals** is **16 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST**.

View the Call for Proposals: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-digital-technology-and-work>

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-digital-technology-and-work>

Call open: research to gain knowledge about the ecological effects of offshore wind farms (6 March 2025)

Source: Website NWO <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-to-gain-knowledge-about-the-ecological-effects-of-offshore-wind-farms>



The number of offshore wind farms will increase in the coming decades, but it is important that we are aware of the ecological effects these wind farms can have. For example, do wind farms attract or repel birds and bats? And what are the collision risks? What are the effects of offshore wind farms? The NWA program 'Knowledge development on the ecological effects of offshore wind farms' focuses on the relationship between offshore

wind farms and above-water and underwater processes. Would you like to contribute to this? Submit your Expression of Interest now for the Sandpit, which will take place from September 8 to 12, 2025.

Purpose of the Call

The purpose of this Call is to contribute to the development of knowledge about the effects of wind farms on ecological systems in the North Sea. This applies to both underwater and above-water effects. The program aims to bring an innovative and more in-depth understanding of essential and guiding processes. In doing so, the program adds new perspectives and investigates assumptions made to date.

- The **deadline for submitting an Expression of Interest** for participation in the Sandpit is Tuesday 6 May 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST.
- The Sandpit will take place from Monday 8 September 2025 up until and including Friday 12 September 2025.
- The deadline for submitting the proposal is Thursday 11 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CET.

View the Call for proposals: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-knowledge-development-ecological-effects-of-wind-farms-on-sea>

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-to-gain-knowledge-about-the-ecological-effects-of-offshore-wind-farms>

A taste of entrepreneurship: 11 new fellows start Faculty of Impact (4 March 2025)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/a-taste-of-entrepreneurship-11-new-fellows-start-faculty-of-impact>



From fermented food that can affect people's mental health to an innovative poultry feeding system, the topics the 11 new fellows at the Faculty of Impact will be working on are once again hugely diverse. Through a personal grant, they will be given two years to turn their ideas into a scalable commercial or social startup.

They will also receive support as they take their first steps towards entrepreneurship through the Faculty of Impact coaching programme. In this way, the programme helps academics on their way to generate social and/or economic impact based on their research. The 2024 round focused on the themes of Agriculture, Water and Food and Circular Economy. Consequently, most fellows will work on these themes.

Two fellows from WUR are awarded:

Dr A.C. Nieuwenweg, Wageningen University and Research - Super-Mendelian microfactories

S. Rian, Wageningen University & Research. Hydra Peck : transforming the poultry sector, one peck at a time

You can read more about the fellows and their proposals here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/a-taste-of-entrepreneurship-11-new-fellows-start-faculty-of-impact>

NWA call for Research on Routes by Consortia 2025 now open (3 March 2025)

Source: website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwa-call-for-research-on-routes-by-consortia-2025-now-open>



The call for Research on Routes by Consortia (ORC) is now open. This annual funding instrument of the Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA) finances research projects by knowledge-chain-wide, inter- and transdisciplinary consortia in which, in addition to social partners, citizens may also be represented.

The NWA ORC programme calls for research proposals on themes that elaborate on one or more of the cluster questions from the NWA. In total, there are 12 themes for which proposals can be submitted by 2025. For each theme, NWO organises collaborative workshops consisting of two meetings. During the workshops, you will be put in touch with other interested parties and supported in combining ideas and exploring opportunities for collaboration. To participate, you must register in advance.

View the call for proposals: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/dutch-research-agenda-research-along-routes-by-consortia-2025-nwa-orc-2025>

Participate in the NWA ORC 2025

- Explore **the themes of 2025** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/dutch-research-agenda-nwa/research-along-routes-by-consortia-nwa-orc/nwa-orc-2025/themes> and join one of the themes;
- Get informed during the webinar on 31 March (10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.) **via this link** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83266481798#success> ;
- Sign up for the **collaborative workshops** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/meetings/collaborative-workshops-nwa-orc-2025>, preferably one week prior to the relevant workshop;
- Take part in the collaborative workshops between 14 April and 14 May;
- Consult all conditions in the Call for proposals.

Good to know: the main applicant must participate in both collaborative workshops on the relevant theme, or delegate a substitute.

Changes compared to round 2024

- The Impact Plan approach is mandatory for 10 of the 12 themes for this call. The Impact Outlook approach is mandatory for two themes. Both approaches are explained in the **Call for proposals** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/dutch-research-agenda-research-along-routes-by-consortia-2025-nwa-orc-2025>.
- Registration for the collaborative workshops is done using the form on the NWO website. This form asks for the participant's expertise and their contribution to the impact of the theme. These registrations form the basis of the workshops and are shared with the participants in advance.
- NWA ORC projects with a duration of more than 4 years will be evaluated no later than 3 months before the end of the first 4 years through a joint workshop with cooperation partners and stakeholders.
- To give consortia more time after the collaborative workshops, the period between the workshops and the submission deadline has been extended to 8 months. This supports the formation of broad, innovative consortia.

43 scientists receive Vici grants (28 February 2025)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/43-scientists-receive-vici-grants>



How does AI reach its decisions? How can T-cell therapy treat cancer? What are effective prevention strategies for anxiety and depression in young people? How do we develop batteries for laptops that can be charged in under a minute? These are four of the forty-three research projects of scientists who have been awarded a Vici grant. Each researcher receives a maximum of one and a half million. The grant is an incentive for adventurous, talented and groundbreaking researchers.

The Vici grant will enable researchers to develop an innovative line of research and expand a research group over the next five years. Vici is one of the largest personal scientific grants in the Netherlands and is aimed at advanced researchers. The funding instrument allows recipients to conduct research of their choice, thus giving innovative scientific research a boost.

From stem cell research to climate research

The scientists are conducting research into a wide range of subjects. What are the different perceptions of climate change among people? Group interviews and quantitative methods should provide more insight into this. These insights can then help to develop more legitimate, inclusive and effective campaigns and policy measures.

Another study is looking at different movement patterns of sperm cells and how they interact with an egg cell. A better understanding of these processes can lead to improved reproductive technologies and contribute to the development of male contraceptives.

How can stem cells save kidney development in premature babies? Every year in the Netherlands, more than 11,000 children are born prematurely. The kidneys are not yet fully developed, but they suddenly have to start working and kidney damage can occur. To prevent this, researchers are investigating whether stem cells can save kidney development and whether medication can prevent kidney damage from occurring.

Two WUR researchers are awarded with VICI Grant

1. The promise and perils of digital technology for human–animal relationships: **Dr. B. Bovenkerk (f) Wageningen University and Research**
2. Battle at the Wall: The mechanical weapons of plant killers: **Prof. dr. ir. J.H.B. Sprakel (m), Wageningen University & Research centre**

View all Vici laureates and their research here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme/projects-vici/vici-2024>

Read full article here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/43-scientists-receive-vici-grants>

Four new thematic calls in preparation for public-private partnerships (24 February 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/four-new-thematic-calls-in-preparation-for-public-private-partnerships>



NWO is developing four new calls for proposals within the Mission main line of the NWO-KIC programme. These calls will fund impact-driven research by consortia of knowledge institutions, companies and social organisations focused on various social challenges.

Topics such as collaborative business models, (opto)mechatronics and critical raw materials in the energy transition are being developed into a Call for Proposals.

In order to inform potential applicants and other interested parties of upcoming calls in a timely manner, NWO is publishing the themes that will be programmed. These calls are expected to open in the autumn of 2025. 7 million euros in funding will be available per call. In addition, a percentage in kind or cash co-funding will be requested. Further information for each call will be available in the calls for proposals.

Read more about the main line of NWO-KIC Mission 2024-2027: <https://www.nwo.nl/onderzoeksprogrammas/kennis-en-innovatieconvenant-kic/kic-2024-2027/missie-2024-2027>

Four themes of the calls in preparation

- **Collaborative business models for chain cooperation in a circular economy**
- **Artificial Intelligence in agriculture, horticulture, water and food**
- **System design of mechatronics and optomechatronics**
- **Less critical raw materials in the energy transition**

For more detailed information about the new themes: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/four-new-thematic-calls-in-preparation-for-public-private-partnerships>

Read more about the KIAs: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/perspectief/procedure-for-perspectief-programmes/knowledge-and-innovation-agendas-kias>

Regional funding

Local and regional leaders demand fair distribution of funding for research and innovation to better support underperforming regions (7 March 2025)

Source: Website European Committee of the Regions <https://cor.europa.eu/en/news/local-and-regional-leaders-demand-fair-distribution-funding-research-and-innovation-better-support>

Regions and cities called for increased funding for research and innovation (R&I) and a unified research market during the meeting of the commission for Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture (SEDEC) on 6 March. They urged the EU and member states to meet the target of 3 % of GDP on R&I, ensuring a fair distribution of resources, especially to the poorest regions. The agenda also included debates on intergenerational fairness, women's rights, youth dialogue, and the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

Building the European Research Area

The success of the European Research Area (ERA) depends on a more inclusive model that strengthens less developed regions, reduces inequalities, and maximises the impact of innovation, SEDEC members highlighted in a **draft opinion** <https://cor.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions/cdr-0365-2025> adopted on 6 March. Local and regional leaders pointed out the creation of innovation hubs a solution to connect high and low-performing regions, fostering collaborative ecosystems and boosting local competitiveness. They called for stronger integration between cohesion policy and Horizon Europe to provide better support for underperforming regions. Members emphasised that local and regional authorities play a vital role in aligning local innovation with EU priorities to foster cohesion and inclusivity in ERA goals.

They stressed the need for more transparent and regionalised monitoring of ERA initiatives to ensure equitable benefits. Rapporteur [Melanie Kühnemann-Grunow](#) (DE/PES) said: "The European Research Area must be inclusive, ambitious, and well-funded. To bridge research gaps, empower local and regional authorities, and achieve the 3% GDP target for research & innovation, we need targeted investments, better synergies, and stronger European cooperation. Europe's future in innovation depends on it."

Read full article here: <https://cor.europa.eu/en/news/local-and-regional-leaders-demand-fair-distribution-funding-research-and-innovation-better-support>

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

Trump's measures put pressure on European-American health research (13 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 March 2025

The US National Institutes of Health (NIH) is being hit by budget cuts and a clampdown on projects in the field of diversity, equality and inclusion. The freeze on funding could affect not only American scientists, but also European countries. Science Business has written about this. For example, 121 projects with researchers based in Europe will receive more than \$62 million in funding from the NIH in 2024. A spokesperson for the European Commission says that the EU is closely monitoring the developments surrounding the NIH reorganization. Several European researchers say that the uncertainty that has arisen makes it less attractive to apply for American funding.

Article Science Business: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/international-news/nih-turmoil-risks-reciprocal-eu-us-access-health-research-funding>

Fight intensifies over an 'independent' FP10 (6 March 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/planning-fp10/fight-intensifies-over-independent-fp10>

Member states, MEPs and lobbies increase opposition against restructuring EU's research programme



European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. Photo credits: Laurie Dieffembacq / European Union

The European research community is growing increasingly worried about plans to incorporate the successor to Horizon Europe, FP10, into a new Competitiveness Fund to be launched under the multiannual budget due to start in 2028. The issue is currently being negotiated inside the Commission, but diplomats and research stakeholders warn that the window for convincing the top brass to drop the idea is closing fast.

According to EU officials familiar with the internal negotiations, the decision will ultimately be taken by Commission president Ursula von der Leyen, who sees the research programme as contributing to her agenda on economic competitiveness, and only increased pressure from member states could sway her.

EU research ministers are expected to address the issue when they meet next week in Warsaw. The latest draft of their Warsaw Declaration, seen by Science|Business, says the Commission should “draft its initial proposal for the future Framework Programme building on the indisputable legacy of self-standing Framework Programmes, in close cooperation with the member states.”

The new leadership in Germany – the member state with the largest contribution to the EU budget – has also signalled its preference for a standalone programme. Thomas Jarzombek, parliamentary spokesman on R&D for the Christian Democratic Union, the party which is leading talks for a new governing coalition, has sent a letter to EU research commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva calling on the Commission to reconsider plans to dismember FP10.

"We view the current idea behind the European Commission's announcement of establishing a Competitiveness Fund without an independent Framework Programme for research and innovation with great concern, as it risks failing to meet the crucial demands outlined in the groundbreaking expert reports by Enrico Letta, Mario Draghi, and Manuel Heitor on research and innovation to close the innovation gap," Jarzombek said in the letter. While a standalone Framework Programme would appear to be written into Article 182 of the EU treaties, there are suspicions that the Commission may be looking into a legal workaround that allows it to fold FP10 into the new Competitiveness Fund.

Back in February, Marc Lemaître, director general for research and innovation at the Commission, [said](#) "the Commission will not ignore the treaty."

However, according to an EU diplomat, the standalone nature of FP10 is very much under threat and the Warsaw Declaration is perhaps the last and best chance to safeguard it.

MEPs have also thrown [their weight](#) behind a "standalone FP10" with a bigger budget. More recently, in amendments submitted to a draft report on the EU's next multiannual budget, German MEP Christian Ehler said the Parliament should "absolutely oppose any proposal for the Competitiveness Fund to partly or completely take over the role" of FP10. Science|Business has reached out to the Commission for clarifications on the ongoing negotiations, but a spokesperson declined to "comment on rumours" and said they would be happy to provide more details on FP10 and the EU's next multiannual budget "once they are officially presented." The Commission is expected to present a proposal for FP10 by July, but the research community fears this will be too late.

Growing resistance

Concern about the fate of FP10 has been growing for months. Last year, [a leaked chart](#) prepared by the Commission's budget directorate revealed a scenario in which about a dozen research and innovation programmes – some of which are now part of Horizon Europe – would be gathered into the Competitiveness Fund, in an attempt to concentrate and streamline EU efforts to resuscitate innovation, productivity and economic growth.

The absence of FP10 from [the Commission's Competitiveness Compass strategy](#) has only fuelled fears that there would be no standalone Framework Programme after Horizon Europe.

Coimbra Group: Spending on education, research and innovation must increase (6 march 2025)

Source: *AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025*

The EU should invest significantly more in education, research and innovation to strengthen competitiveness for economic growth and well-being. This is according to a report by the Coimbra Group (a consortium of European universities). "Not only to increase competitiveness in areas such as climate change, digital transformation, health or defence, but also to tackle societal and global challenges", it says. "For this we need more investment, and this must start at the grassroots level, as R&D spending in the EU currently remains below the 3% of GDP target. Coimbra Group (CG) calls for a substantial increase in funding in these areas to boost strategic priorities, support high-quality projects and close the innovation and skills gap with other global regions."

Coimbra Group report: <https://www.coimbra-group.eu/cg-statement-on-mff-2028-2034/>

A Union of Skills to equip people for a competitive Europe (5 March 2025)

Source: *Website EC Presscorner* https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_657

The Union of Skills will support the development of our Union's human capital to strengthen EU competitiveness. A key initiative of the first 100 days of this Commission, the Union of Skills will:

- **Deliver higher levels of basic skills**, for example through the Basic Skills Support Scheme pilot;
- **Provide lifelong opportunities for adults to regularly upskill and reskill**, for example through a Skills Guarantee pilot;
- **Facilitate recruitment by businesses across the EU**, for example through a Skills Portability Initiative;
- **Attract and retain the skills and talents** needed in the European economy, for example through the 'Choose Europe' action to attract top talent globally;
- **Have a strong governance foundation**, building on the new European Skills High-Level Board that will be informed by a European Skills Intelligence Observatory.

From children at school to those reaching retirement, this initiative will **empower people across Europe** with the skills they need to thrive. It will also encourage the **portability of skills** across the continent through the free movement of knowledge and innovation.

The Union of Skills Communication is accompanied by an **Action Plan on Basic Skills** and a **STEM Education Strategic Plan** to improve skills in science, technology, engineering, and maths, promote STEM careers, attract more girls and women, and boost preparedness in the face of digital and clean-tech transitions.

Read full article here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_657

Note PJ: Diverse knowledge alliances reacted on this Union Skills publication:

News item EIT: <https://eit.europa.eu/news-events/news/union-skills-eit-plays-key-role-driving-innovation-and-skills-development>

News item The Guild: <https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/statements/union-of-skills-new-ambition-old-barriers.html>

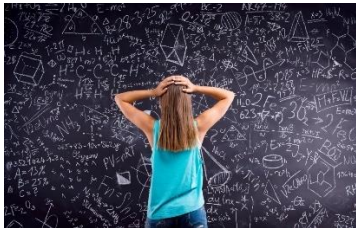
News item CESAER: <https://www.cesaer.org/news/union-of-skills-needs-education-and-research-at-its-heart-1900/>

News item UNL: <https://www.universiteitenvannederland.nl/actueel/nieuws/europese-commissie-presenteert-union-of-skills> (in Dutch)

'Trump's science policy also has disastrous consequences for Europe' (3 March 2025)

Source: website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/wetenschapsbeleid-trump-heeft-ook-desastreuze-gevolgen-voor-europa->

Global academic freedom is under pressure due to the policies of the new US administration. This is stated by the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA) in a statement. Billions of cutbacks have devastating consequences for global research programs. ALLEA invites like-minded people to sign the statement.



US government actions could have devastating consequences

The US government is threatening global academic freedom by cutting billions and introducing censorship measures. This is stated in a **statement** <https://allea.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/ALLEA-Statement-on-Threats-to-Academic-Freedom.pdf> by the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA). ALLEA is deeply concerned that the US government's actions could have devastating consequences for global research programs. Increasing censorship on topics such as gender and climate is also worrying. ALLEA invites like-minded people to sign the statement.

Younger generation of scientists under pressure

ALLEA states that the financial restrictions are threatening the careers of the younger generation of scientists and students. These restrictions will cause lasting damage to fundamental research that makes scientific breakthroughs possible. ALLEA also warns of a possible restriction of transatlantic data sharing by the US government. This will jeopardize research on both sides of the Atlantic and will negatively impact society as a whole.

Read full article here: <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/wetenschapsbeleid-trump-heeft-ook-desastreuze-gevolgen-voor-europa-> (in Dutch)

New European report calls for more ambitious European spin-off ecosystem (28 February 2025)

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/nieuw-europees-rapport-pleit-voor-ambitieuzer-europees-spin-off-ecosysteem>

A new Commission report highlights strategies for a more ambitious and coherent European spin-off ecosystem. The innovation potential of university spin-offs is not yet fully exploited. The report aims to change this with insights and recommendations, such as adjustments to academic investment models.



Underutilised European innovation potential

A new report <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/nl/library/spin-offs-driving-innovation-across-eu-27> from the European Commission highlights how Europe can better utilise the innovation potential of university spin-offs. The report argues that university spin-offs are the way to bridge the gap between academic research and industry. It also finds that Europe is well-positioned to become a global leader in spin-off innovation. However, many spin-offs fail to attract sufficient funding and scale up.

A path full of obstacles

The report identifies several structural challenges that hamper the growth of spin-offs. For example, complex regulations around intellectual property (IP) and high university equity stakes are said to deter private investors. A lack of targeted financial instruments for later-stage growth also contribute to these challenges.

Read full article here: <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/nieuw-europees-rapport-pleit-voor-ambitieuzer-europees-spin-off-ecosysteem> (in Dutch)

Commission adopts proposal for the next European Research Area Policy Agenda 2025-2027 (28 February 2025)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/commission-adopts-proposal-next-european-research-area-policy-agenda-2025-2027-2025-02-28_en

Today, the European Commission adopted its proposal for a Council Recommendation <https://european-research-area.ec.europa.eu/documents/proposal-council-recommendation-european-research-area-policy-agenda-2025-2027> on the European Research Area Policy Agenda 2025-2027.

The proposal stems from close coordination between the Commission, Member States, Horizon Europe Associated Countries and European stakeholders, who have collaboratively shaped the content of the next ERA Policy Agenda in the ERA Forum. Like for the first [ERA Policy Agenda 2022-2024](#), the outlined ERA activities serve as a three-year roadmap, coordinating efforts to achieve progress in a variety of topics, from promoting open science principles to reforming research assessment. Their aim is to translate the priority areas for joint action of the [Pact for research and innovation \(R&I\)](#) into tangible outcomes, contributing to the EU countries' long-term vision for cooperation in this area. 2025 is a milestone year for the ERA, as we are also celebrating **25 years of working together** to achieve a single market for research and innovation, continuing to work on structural, economic and policy change in the ERA.

Key elements of the ERA Policy Agenda 2025-2027

The next ERA Policy Agenda has three building blocks:

- The **policy narrative** sets the scene for the broader goals and ambitions and highlights the achievements and lessons learnt.
- The **body** outlines **ERA structural policies**, which are long-term policies embedded in national and European policy, such as open science, research infrastructures and research careers. It also lays out concise, policy-driven and goal-oriented **ERA actions**, which aim to provide added value for the EU, Member States and stakeholders on areas where joint action is needed. They address current challenges such as artificial intelligence in science, research security, and science for policy. Envisaged outcomes include a joint roadmap on AI in science, structural cooperation with policy-makers and experts around the theme of research security and an observatory of the European science-for-policy landscape.
- The **annex** includes a one-page workplan on each proposed structural policy and action. They are based on the longer co-created explanatory documents of the ERA Forum.

Next steps

The adoption of the second ERA Policy Agenda 2025-27 by the Council is expected in May, under the Polish Presidency.

For more information: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/commission-adopts-proposal-next-european-research-area-policy-agenda-2025-2027-2025-02-28_en

A Clean Industrial Deal for competitiveness and decarbonisation in the EU (26 February 2025)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_550

Today, the Commission presents the **Clean Industrial Deal** https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/9db1c5c8-9e82-467b-ab6a-905feeb4b6b0_en, a bold business plan to support the competitiveness and resilience of our industry. The Deal will accelerate decarbonisation, while securing the future of manufacturing in Europe.

Faced with high energy costs and fierce and often unfair global competition, our industries need urgent support. This Deal positions decarbonisation as a powerful driver of growth for European industries. This framework can drive competitiveness as it gives certainty and predictability to companies and investors that Europe remains committed to become a decarbonised economy by 2050.

The Commission is also taking **actions** to make our regulatory environment more efficient while reducing bureaucratic hurdles for businesses. Today's measures are the results of the active engagement with industry leaders, social partners and civil society in the context of the Antwerp Declaration for a European **Industrial Deal** and the European Commission's **Clean Transition Dialogues**.

A business plan to decarbonise, reindustrialise and innovate

The Deal focuses mainly on two closely linked sectors: energy-intensive industries and clean tech.

Read full press release here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_550

Commission brings relief to European consumers and businesses with Action Plan to save €260 billion annually by 2040 (26 February 2025)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_570

The EU is at a crucial turning point for its competitiveness, decarbonisation and security, with a clear need to act. Structurally high energy costs are hurting our citizens and businesses. The challenges are clear, and so is the role of the European Union to address them. Today, the Commission is putting forward **an Action Plan** https://energy.ec.europa.eu/publications/action-plan-affordable-energy-unlocking-true-value-our-energy-union-secure-affordable-efficient-and_en with short-term measures to **lower energy costs, complete the Energy Union, attract investments and be better prepared for potential energy crises**. As a key component of the **Clean Industrial Deal** https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_550 (see article before), this Plan will not only bring relief to households facing high energy bills, but also to industries that struggle with high production costs, with **estimated overall savings of €45 billion in 2025**, that will progressively increase until **€130 billion in annual savings by 2030 and €260 billion by 2040**.

The Action Plan will bring short-term relief to consumers and pave the way for the **completion of the Energy Union** by frontloading the benefits of more renewable energy, energy savings, deeper market integration and better interconnections. Crucially, it proposes actions to **tackle the structural challenges that are driving up energy costs in the EU**, notably Europe's reliance on imported fossil fuels and lack of full integration of the electricity system. The Plan builds on the recent reform of the Electricity Market Design, the **REPowerEU Plan** https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_3131, sector-specific blueprints for wind, solar and grids and revised energy and climate legislation under the Fit for 55 package.

By accelerating investments in clean energy and infrastructure, and by bringing transparency and fairness to gas markets, energy can be made more affordable. A further **reduction of permitting times for renewables and energy infrastructure** will also help lowering power production costs. Consumers already benefit from around €34 billion every year thanks to the EU's internal energy market. **Further integration** could raise such benefits up to **€40-43 billion per year** already by 2030.

Read full press release here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_570

Global policy

OECD: Urgent action needed for position of women in research (13 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 March 2025

In the context of International Women's Day, the OECD focused on the role of women in science, technology and innovation in a blog last week. According to the OECD, there are still barriers that prevent the full potential of women in the field from being fully utilised. The article points out that the share of female students has been fairly equalised, but that the share of men in research and innovation is still disproportionately higher. According to the OECD, working conditions (hypercompetitiveness, position insecurity, low remuneration) are a major factor why many women drop out. "Addressing these problems requires urgent policy action", according to the authors.

OECD Blog: <https://www.oecd.org/en/blogs/2025/03/unlocking-the-potential-of-women-in-science-and-research.html>

Innovation rethought to achieve inclusivity and sustainability (13 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 March 2025

The way innovation is shaped needs to be rethought to make it inclusive and sustainable. This is according to UNU-MERIT in a publication. According to the researchers, innovation is not inherently good or bad, but merely a means. The outcome depends on how it is governed, financed and managed. In doing so, we need to look beyond economic efficiency alone. Policies must also be created for inclusive access to innovation and technological progress must be linked to sustainability objectives. In order to get the maximum return from innovation, it is necessary to work towards interdisciplinary collaboration. Through this form of innovation, economists, sociologists, scientists, data analysts and policymakers work together. The publication outlines a research agenda to achieve a reorientation of innovation. "We have the power to shape the future, but the way we choose to innovate determines whether that future is fair, sustainable and just," it says.

UNU-MERIT publication: <https://unu.edu/merit/article/rethinking-innovation-sustainable-and-inclusive-future>

US risks brain drain by firing scientists (13 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 March 2025

US Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, a member of the House of Representatives science committee, warns that the firing of thousands of scientists will cause a brain drain. China and Russia are reportedly ready to receive them, Politico reports. There are already reports of inviting advertisements. The Trump administration is working hard to strip scientific institutions such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). "Economic adversaries are more than happy to hire our talent," says Nate Hultman, former adviser to Joe Biden's climate envoy. And John Holdren, former staffer to Barack Obama: "When we reduce our science and technology capabilities while China builds theirs, our ability to compete in the areas where we compete with them is limited." While Democrats are calling on their colleagues to take action, the Republican side remains silent, according to Politico.

Article Politico: <https://www.politico.eu/newsletter/china-watcher/beijing-beckons-fired-federal-scientists/>

Protests against US measures and cuts to science (13 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 March 2025

Last Friday, thousands of researchers in the US protested against the US government's cuts to research. Nature has written about this. The 'Stand Up for Science' campaign organised activities in various cities and states. A number of meetings were also organised in Europe.

Article Nature: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00704-0>

News item ALLEA: <https://allea.org/allea-stands-up-for-science-in-solidarity-with-the-u-s-research-community/>

OECD: Governments can do more to use innovation for citizen participation (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

The OECD has looked at the Dutch innovation ecosystem, among other things, to analyse how emerging technologies are being used for citizen participation. "In the Netherlands, close relationships between public, private, academic and civil society actors form the basis for an ecosystem of collaboration, in which the private sector often takes the lead in the development and implementation of participatory technologies, while municipalities act as important promoters and supporters", it says. The research shows that national governments could do more to stimulate technological development for the benefit of citizen participation. "National governments can provide clearer strategic direction, define shared standards and provide sustainable financial support for the ecosystem", it says. Local governments can also stimulate innovation, for example by bringing parties together in experimental labs and hubs. **OECD report:** https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/how-innovation-ecosystems-foster-citizen-participation-using-emerging-technologies-in-portugal-spain-and-the-netherlands_2cb37a30-en.html

Canada seizes opportunities in Horizon Europe (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

The hostile approach by US President Trump has ensured that Canada is gratefully seizing the opportunities to seek research cooperation with the EU through association agreements in Horizon Europe. ScienceBusiness writes about this. A collective of major Canadian universities has now visited Germany to strengthen cooperation and in the article Peter Stoicheff, chairman of this collective, indicates that they are looking with interest at subjects where the US is actually making retreats, such as climate research. Stoicheff is also open to receiving researchers who are no longer welcome in the US. Incidentally, he does expect that the US and Canada will continue to maintain research cooperation, even now that the Americans have imposed import tariffs. Maria Leptin of the European Research Council (ERC) told ScienceBusiness that the EU could also be a safe haven for American scientists.

Article ScienceBusiness (Canada): <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/international-news/canadians-visit-europe-drum-joint-horizon-europe-projects>

Article ScienceBusiness (ERC): <https://sciencebusiness.net/international-news/europe-could-be-haven-us-researchers-says-erc-president>

UK: 'AI demands radical overhaul of UK R&D' (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

The UK must seize the opportunity of AI to radically overhaul its R&D system, the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change writes in a report. "A new research strategy is needed, prioritising bold investment in data, tools and talent, as institutions adapt to the demands of the AI era," it reads. "AI is not just a new technology; it represents a paradigm shift in science, re-engineering the engines of research and kicking progress into overdrive." The nature of scientific discovery is also evolving to be more interdisciplinary, data-driven and requiring more computing power, the research institute says. "This report builds on the momentum generated by the AI Opportunities Action Plan and presents a comprehensive roadmap to make the UK a global leader in AI for science," it reads.

Tony Blair Institute for Global Change report: <https://institute.global/insights/tech-and-digitalisation/a-new-national-purpose-accelerating-uk-science-in-the-age-of-ai>

US: Science stands up to Trump (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

Following an earlier call from Nature, among others, the first initiatives are now emerging to stand up to Trump's science policy. For example, this week the Union of Concerned Scientists and dozens of scientific associations sent a joint letter to Congress calling for protection of publicly funded research. "This administration's actions have already caused significant harm to American science and are endangering the health and safety of our communities," it says. In addition, many petitions are being drawn up and 'Stand Up for Science' meetings will be held in 32 cities in the US on 7 March. Earlier, Nature also called on the international community in an editorial to take action against Trump, as American researchers may not dare to do so themselves in all cases. "We at Nature condemn this attack on science. And we encourage the global research community to voice their opposition wherever they can," it says.

Nature article: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00661-8>

Editorial Nature: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00562-w>

ITIF: US Needs National Competitiveness Council (and More R&D Incentives) (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

US think tank ITIF argues that the US should set up a National Competitiveness Council and significantly increase its R&D spending. They are making these proposals to prevent China from overtaking the US in the techno-economic race between the two countries. According to ITIF, China is well on its way to becoming the world leader in innovation. In addition to recommending the establishment of a National Competitiveness Council, the think tank makes two other recommendations in an opinion piece: strengthening tax incentives for R&D and reforming the tariff law to combat unfair Chinese trade practices such as property theft, closed markets or huge subsidies. A National Competitiveness Council (NCC) could provide insight into the US's advanced industrial capabilities and formulate and coordinate policies to ensure that the United States wins the techno-economic war with China.

ITIF Analysis: <https://itif.org/publications/2025/02/25/winning-innovation-race-three-key-policies-to-secure-tech-leadership-over-china/>

National policy

Higher education starts relay strike against budget cuts (13 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 March 2025

On Monday, universities started a relay strike against budget cuts in higher education and science. HOP has written about this. The action is organised by WOinActie, in collaboration with trade unions AOb, FNV and LSVb. This week, there were meetings in Leiden (Monday) and Utrecht (Tuesday). In the coming weeks, action will be taken in various cities.

News item WoinActie: <https://woinactie.blogspot.com/2025/03/estafettestaking-hoger-onderwijs.html> (in Dutch)

Article HOP/U-Today: <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75319/estafettestaking-van-start-niet-iedereen-krijgt-doorbetaald> (in Dutch)

News item Leiden University: <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/nieuws/2025/03/10-maart-liveblog-staking-universiteit-leiden> (in Dutch)

Bruins: UTwente layoffs not a direct result of cutbacks (13 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 13 March 2025

Minister Bruins cannot say that the cutbacks in higher education and science are the decisive factor for the layoffs at the University of Twente. This can be read in the answer to written questions from GL-PvdA. Bruins acknowledges that the cutbacks can lead to uncertainty. At the same time, he wants to point out that there are various factors that influence the financial position of institutions: in addition to government policy, declining student numbers, increased costs or institution-specific problems can also result in institutions having to make choices to keep their organization financially healthy. "I cannot give an opinion on what the decisive factors are for specific institutions. However, it is up to the individual institution how they give substance to this," says Bruins. He emphasizes that the cabinet stands by the choices made and considers the cutbacks in education and research realistic and feasible.

Answer to written questions:

<https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/kamervragen/detail?id=2025Z02592&did=2025D09201> (in Dutch)

Article HOP/U-Today: <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75306/minister-ontwijkt-vooral-vragen-over-tnw-reorganisatie>

Rathenau Institute maps international investments in R&D (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

At the request of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the Rathenau Institute has mapped out how the Dutch science system functions in an international perspective. Investments in research and development in 25 countries were mapped out, corrected for differences in purchasing power. "All these countries started investing more money in research and development between 2010 and 2022. In the Netherlands, investments grew by an average of 5% each year. This puts the Netherlands in the middle. The strongest growers are Poland (13%), China (11%), and Israel (11%). They are closely followed by Belgium (10%) and the United Kingdom (10%)", it can be read. **The study shows that the Netherlands collaborates a lot with Germany**, both in terms of researchers and students and in terms of joint projects. In the field of scientific publications, the Netherlands also collaborates a lot with the US and the UK. In the field of open access, the Netherlands scores best of all the countries studied.

News item Rathenau: <https://www.rathenau.nl/nl/werking-van-het-wetenschapssysteem/duitsland-en-nederland-werken-wetenschappelijk-vaak-samen> (in Dutch)

Rathenau report: <https://www.rathenau.nl/nl/werking-van-het-wetenschapssysteem/nederlands-onderzoek-en-ontwikkeling-internationaal-perspectief> (in Dutch)

Bruins sees no need for legal anchoring of scientific integrity (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

Minister Bruins currently sees no need for legal anchoring of standards or duties of care with regard to scientific integrity. The minister writes this in his policy response to the evaluation of the Dutch Code of Conduct for Scientific Integrity (NGWI). "The evaluation contains many recommendations to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the NGWI in practice. I want to give the field the space to first get started with these recommendations and see what

their effect is," it says. The evaluation committee has set up a writing committee to revise the code of conduct. The new code is expected to be ready in early 2026. Bruins is positive that the drafters are getting started with the recommendations for revision. Based on his system responsibility, he provides a number of points for attention for the revision.

Letter to Parliament from Minister Bruins:

https://www.eerstekamer.nl/behandeling/20250221/brief_regering_beleidsreactie_op/document3/f=/vml6onrtqbzr.pdf (in Dutch)

Evaluation of the Dutch Code of Conduct for Scientific Integrity 2024:

https://www.eerstekamer.nl/overig/20250225/evaluatie_nederlandse_gedragscode/document (in Dutch)

Kennisveld in conversation with Senate about education cuts (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

Experts and stakeholders warn the Senate about the consequences of the cuts in higher education and science.

Before the recess, the Senate's committee for OCW organised an expert meeting about the legality and feasibility of the cuts. Chairman of the Association of Universities of Applied Sciences (VH) Maurice Limmen fears that HBO could lose ten percent of its students in five years. Chairman of the Universities of the Netherlands (UNL) and former senator Caspar van den Berg also calls on members of parliament to be cautious about cuts. Chairman of Better Education Netherlands (BON) Ad Verbrugge says he is not necessarily against cuts, but calls the current proposal 'visionless'. HOP has written about the meeting.

Senate report: https://www.eerstekamer.nl/nieuws/20250220/deskundigen_over_gevolgen (in Dutch)

Article HOP/U-Today: <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75235/deskundigen-als-je-bezuinigt-doe-het-dan-verstandiger> (in Dutch)

Council of State critical of Cabinet's Climate Plan (6 March 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 March 2025

The Cabinet's draft Climate Plan leaves much open and does not make clear, guiding choices. This is stated by the Council of State in its advice. The Climate Plan focuses on the period from 2025 to 2035 and describes the path to achieving climate neutrality in 2050. "The Advisory Division believes it is very important that these choices are made, and that this is done in a timely manner. It recommends basing these choices on a socio-economic structural analysis: how does the Netherlands want to shape its society and economy and what does that mean for the organization of the country? The strong coherence between the various sectors, such as electricity supply, industry and the built environment, must be taken into account", it can be read. The Council of State prefers to set out these choices in a concrete policy agenda, so that the policy becomes predictable for those involved.

Advice from the Council of State: <https://www.raadvanstate.nl/actueel/nieuws/maart/samenvatting-ontwerp-klimaatplan-2025/> (in Dutch)

News item Energieia: <https://energieia.nl/raad-van-state-mist-keuzes-in-het-nieuwe-klimaatplan/> (in Dutch)

Article BNR: <https://www.bnr.nl/nieuws/nieuws-politiek/10568432/raad-van-state-waarschuwt-kabinet-maak-echte-keuzes-voor-klimaat> (in Dutch)

Article NOS: <https://nos.nl/artikel/2558152-raad-van-state-adviseert-kom-wel-met-wettelijk-klimaatdoel-voor-2040> (in Dutch)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 14 March 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 14 March 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/	
European Partnership Biodiversa+ https://www.biodiversa.eu/	Biodiversa+ call on <u>Biodiversity and Transformative Change</u> #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 <u>Water for Circular Economy</u> 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.futurefoodspartner ship.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) • he deadline for full proposals is July 9, 2025 (13:00 CEST) https://www.futurefoodpartnership.eu/
European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartne rship.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. (CLOSED) • 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.facejpi.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/
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Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **14 March 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
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 . eahttps://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/adm-lab-livings-labs-for-adaptive-delta-management-in-bangladesh and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/ADM-LAB%20Livings%20Labs%20for%20Adaptive%20Delta%20Management%20in%20Bangladesh%20%20call%20for%20proposals%20UK.pdf
September 2025	NEW: Foreseen closing date 9th Call Eurostars . Follow information on https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/eurostars

National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **14 March 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

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.nwo.nl/en/calls/knowledge-for-education-of-the-future-small and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/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
15-04-2025	NEW: Deadline for registration collaborative workshops for the NWA Call 'Digital technology and work: understanding the impact and human-centred deployment of applications' The deadline for registering for the collaborative workshops is 15 April 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-digital-technology-and-work and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-digital-technology-and-work and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/EN%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20Dig%20Tech%20and%20Work%2020250228_final.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	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	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
06-05-2025	New: Deadline Submitting expressions of interest for participation in Sandpit for NWA call Knowledge development ecological effects of wind farms on sea. The deadline for submitting an Expression of Interest for participation in the Sandpit is Tuesday 6 May 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST; The Sandpit will take place from Monday 8 September 2025 up until and including Friday 12 September 2025. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-to-gain-knowledge-about-the-ecological-effects-of-offshore-wind-farms and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-knowledge-development-ecological-effects-of-wind-farms-on-sea and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20WPE%20final%2026-2-2025%20ENG%20def%20%282%29.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	Deadline for submission Full proposals for fourth call Faculty of Impact . The deadline for submitting proposals is Tuesday 3 June 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	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	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	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
11-09-2025	New: Deadline Submitting Full Proposals for NWA call Knowledge development ecological effects of wind farms on sea . The deadline for submitting the proposal is Thursday 11 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-to-gain-knowledge-about-the-ecological-effects-of-offshore-wind-farms and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-knowledge-development-ecological-effects-of-wind-farms-on-sea and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20WPE%20final%2026-2-2025%20ENG%20def%20%282%29.pdf
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
16-09-2025	NEW: Deadline for Submitting Proposals for the NWA Call 'Digital technology and work: understanding the impact and human-centred deployment of applications' . The deadline for submitting proposals is 16 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-digital-technology-and-work and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-digital-technology-and-work and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/EN%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20Dig%20Tech%20and%20Work%2020250228_final.pdf

17-09-2025	Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals KIC - Future Plastics 2024 . Closing date full application 17 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-future-plastics-2024
18-09-2025	Deadline for submission Full-proposals KIC Nature-inclusive decision making in business . The deadline for submitting full proposals is September 18, 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business-kic and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%202024_def_EN.pdf
18-09-2025	Deadline submission full applications for SSH Open Competition XS round 3. Round 3: 18 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/first-round-of-ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-now-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202025%20-%20EN.pdf
07-10-2025	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	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/nwo/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 14 March 2025. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
From 01-03-2025 to 28-02-2026	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	Opening EFO 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.

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