



WGO Research and Innovation Funding News, N° 418 _ 11 April 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

REA is organising an Information event for the Doctoral Networks 2025 Call at 24 June 2025 (7 April 2025)

Source: Website EC <https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/events/1GTgA1XFfCWqxBNAbrUIzU/overview>

The European Research Executive Agency is organising a virtual information event on the MSCA Doctoral Networks 2025 Call on the **24th June 2025**.

This event is for all potential applicants and stakeholders and aims to highlight **the key aspects of the 2025 Call** for Proposals.

For more details on the programme, please consult the **MSCA 2025 Call Info event page** <https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/events/1GTgA1XFfCWqxBNAbrUIzU/overview> . This virtual event will be streamed live on this platform. To attend, simply **sign up or log in**.

Save-the-date RVO webinar Doctoral Networks – 26 June

RVO Team IRIS will also organise a webinar on MSCA DN with a focus on tips to write a DN proposal on 26 June from 14:00 to 16:00. **More information and the link to register will follow.**

RVO Webinars on MSCA PF 2025 – 26 May and 30 June (7 April 2025)

Source: Website RVO <https://english.rvo.nl/events/webinar-msca-may-june-2025>

The Dutch National Contact Points will organize two webinars on the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship 2025 *call (deadline 10 September 2025)*. The webinars are intended for both prospective fellows and supervisors that are planning to apply for the 2024 call.

- Monday **May 26th** 2024, 14.00-15.30. This first webinar will focus on the general rules, procedures and eligibility criteria of MSCA PF 2025
- Monday **June 30th** 2025, 14.00-16.00. This second webinar will focus on how to write a MSCA PF proposal.

Register here <https://english.rvo.nl/events/webinar-msca-may-june-2025> for one or both webinars. The webinars will be in English and will not be recorded.

European Parliament calls for increased funding for Horizon Europe in 2026 (3 April 2025)

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/parlement-pleit-voor-verhoging-financiering-horizon-europe>

The budget for Horizon Europe should be increased to finance at least 50% of excellent proposals. This is evident from the Parliament's priorities for the 2026 annual EU budget. MEPs call for strategic investments in innovation to boost competitiveness.



Innovation on the rise

Parliament is calling <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20250331IPR27554/eu-budget-priorities-for-2026-resilience-and-preparedness> for an increase in the funding of Horizon Europe in 2026. This is the only way to finance at least 50% of the excellent proposals. This is also how the 3% of GDP investment standard for research & development must be achieved. Most Member States, including the Netherlands, are still not achieving this target. This is evident from the priorities of the European Parliament for the 2026 EU budget. During the plenary debate, Parliament voted by a large majority in favour of adopting the report. According to Parliament, investment in knowledge is essential to stimulate the EU's economic growth and strengthen its competitiveness on the world stage.

Erasmus+ and a crisis-resilient EU

Furthermore, Erasmus+ must be made fully accessible to all EU students. There should also be additional support for cultural and creative sectors, including digital literacy. At the same time, Parliament advocates intensifying investments in EU4Health and the Horizon Europe Health Cluster to strengthen health systems for future crises. Finally, Parliament calls for attention to cybersecurity, defence and dual-use transport infrastructure to strengthen EU security and defence.

FP10 meets Competitiveness Fund: 'We can have both,' says commissioner (3 April 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/planning-fp10/fp10-meets-competitiveness-fund-we-can-have-both-says-commissioner>

As uncertainty mounts over the structure of the next EU research programme, Zaharieva says the final plan will come out in June



Ekaterina Zaharieva, the commissioner for Start-ups, Research and Innovation. Photo credits: Mathieu Cugnot / European Union

The EU can have the European Competitiveness Fund and a standalone Framework Programme for research and innovation. "We can have both," Ekaterina Zaharieva, EU commissioner for start-ups, research and innovation, said in a press briefing today.

The EU executive is very close to making a decision on the structure of the Competitiveness Fund, a new overarching financial tool designed to focus the EU budget on boosting innovation, strategic autonomy and economic growth. The new fund would encompass a range of EU programmes, including FP10, a plan that has been met with harsh criticism from member states, the European Parliament and the research community, who fear the new structure would undermine the integrity and effectiveness of existing research and innovation funding schemes.

Zaharieva wanted to reassure the research community that FP10 will continue as a standalone programme, noting that the Commission has received positive feedback on Horizon Europe so far, both from industry and academia. That positive feedback will matter in upcoming negotiations.

However, Zaharieva said the debate on the structure of the Competitiveness Fund is still ongoing among officials in the directorates-general, the Commission's main policymaking structures. "There are expert groups, working processes in the Commission itself, in the directorates-general, [and] at the political level," she said. The plan is for the next multiannual EU budget and plans for FP10 to be published in July.

After that date, Zaharieva said, the European Parliament, member states and the research community will have the opportunity to negotiate the structure of FP10 and its standing in the Competitiveness Fund. “The member states’ opinion matters,” she said. “In the end, it is a process that will be approved in the Council, in the Parliament, with the stakeholders.”

Related articles

- Fight intensifies over an ‘independent’ FP10: <https://sciencebusiness.net/planning-fp10/fight-intensifies-over-independent-fp10>
- ERC and EIC unite to call for increased, ringfenced budgets in FP10: <https://sciencebusiness.net/european-research-council/erc-and-eic-unite-call-increased-ringfenced-budgets-fp10>
- Parliament set for showdown with Commission over standalone FP10: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/parliament-set-showdown-commission-over-standalone-fp10>

Last month, **EU research ministers signed a joint declaration** <https://sciencebusiness.net/planning-fp10/fp10-meets-competitiveness-fund-we-can-have-both-says-commissioner> calling for a standalone FP10 outside the Competitiveness Fund. The Parliament has also adopted a **report calling for a standalone FP10** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/parliament-set-showdown-commission-over-standalone-fp10>. Both documents lay the ground for a conflict with the Commission, if the Competitiveness Fund swallows up FP10.

The **EU’s competitiveness strategy** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/leaked-eu-competitiveness-plan-prompts-concerns-over-erc> has also prompted fears that Brussels intends to undermine the independence of the European Research Council (ERC) by pushing for more alignment with the European Innovation Council (EIC) and the EU’s broader political goals in the development of advanced technologies. But Zaharieva said that “preserving the autonomy” of the EIC and ERC is “really important.”

Zaharieva made the comments in response to questions from Science|Business at a press briefing on Thursday, on the margins of the EIC Summit, a yearly gathering organised by the Commission to promote EU funding programmes for start-ups and to bring together innovative companies and investors.

Former EU research commissioner Carlos Moedas, who is now mayor of Lisbon, was also at the EIC Summit to promote the idea of “unicorn factories” in cities across the EU, which would serve as a pipeline of innovative start-ups for the EIC. In a press briefing after the conference, Moedas refused to comment on the Commission’s internal talks on FP10 and the Competitiveness Fund.

Parliament’s Widening task force joins calls for a standalone Framework Programme (3 April 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/parliaments-widening-task-force-joins-calls-standalone-framework>

Widening actions could be undermined if FP10 merges with a broader Competitiveness Fund, participants say



The Widening Task Force during its second meeting on March 25 at the European Parliament building, in Brussels. Photo credits: [Karolina Dutkiewicz – García](#) / LinkedIn

The Widening countries still need targeted research and innovation support, according to a task force set up in the European Parliament to examine the question. And this, in turn, requires a standalone, ring-fenced successor to Horizon Europe.

The MEPs and experts involved in the informal Widening task force are the latest to voice their opposition to suggestions that FP10, the next Framework Programme, might be absorbed by a new European Competitiveness Fund.

“*The Framework Programme can be seen as the [EU’s] strategy for research and innovation,*” said Eszter Lakos, the European People’s Party MEP who leads the Widening group. “*Widening is a political priority and an integral part of this strategy; it cannot be set aside for the sake of flexibility every single year, as would happen in the Competitiveness Fund.*”

According to Commission sources, the EU executive is very close to making a decision on the structure of the Competitiveness Fund, a new overarching financial tool designed to focus the EU budget on boosting innovation, strategic autonomy and economic growth.

But the European research community is growing increasingly concerned about proposals to integrate FP10 into this fund, fearing it could undermine the integrity and effectiveness of existing research and innovation funding schemes, including the Widening programme.

The concept of Widening was introduced in Horizon 2020 to address disparities in research and innovation performance across Europe.

Participants in the task force also pushed back against a suggestion, voiced in a recent **Finnish position paper** <https://era.gv.at/news-items/finland-presents-position-paper-on-fp10/>, that cohesion policy rather than the Framework Programmes should be the primary tool for addressing development disparities between EU member states.

Read full article here: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/parliaments-widening-task-force-joins-calls-standalone-framework>

EIC Impact Report 2025: EIC on track as leading deep-tech investor, mobilising €2.6 billion of additional investment (3 April 2025)

Source: Website EIC https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/eic-impact-report-2025-eic-track-leading-deep-tech-investor-mobilising-eu26-billion-additional-2025-04-03_en

Celebrating its fourth anniversary at the annual EIC Summit on 2 and 3 April 2025, the European Innovation Council presented the **EIC Impact Report 2025** https://eic.ec.europa.eu/document/download/7b947b36-66cb-4471-a2d0-158d5ae6770f_en?filename=EIC-Impact-Report-2025.pdf .



The report demonstrates the significant progress the EIC has made to become the investor of choice for European deep tech entrepreneurs. Here are some highlights from this year’s edition.

EIC Fund's impressive investment record

- The EIC Fund has emerged as a leading early-stage technology investor in Europe. It has completed over 150 investment rounds in start-ups and SMEs, under Horizon Europe, including 60 rounds in 2024 alone.
- The Fund has also attracted more than €2.6 billion in co-investment in direct equity rounds, primarily from private investors, equating to over €3 of additional investment for every euro of EIC Fund’s direct investment since it was established in 2020.

Accelerating start-up growth

- The EIC has been instrumental in accelerating the growth trajectory of start-ups. Over 70 EIC-backed companies have attained 'centaur' status, with valuations exceeding €100 million, and six of these companies are valued at over €500 million.

- On average, EIC-backed companies experience a 50% increase in both employment and turnover within two years of receiving an EIC award.
- Through EIC Business Acceleration Services, 230 business deals have been facilitated with corporates, investors, procurers, and other partners.

Creating a pipeline of new technologies

- The EIC has played a pivotal role in generating new technologies from Europe's research base. EIC Pathfinder and Transition projects have spawned over 1300 innovations and have led to the creation of more than 100 spinout companies.
- This includes close to 100 projects that are commercialising results from the European Research Council, showcasing the EIC's role in translating research into market-ready innovations.

Background information

Focusing on the Horizon Europe portfolio, the report covers approximately 706 start-ups, 402 advanced research projects, and 183 projects aimed at commercialising research results funded between 2021-2024. It also addresses the long-term impacts of projects and companies supported during the EIC pilot phase and its predecessor.

EIC Impact Report 2025: https://eic.ec.europa.eu/document/download/7b947b36-66cb-4471-a2d0-158d5ae6770f_en?filename=EIC-Impact-Report-2025.pdf

European Commission to support 49 researchers through MSCA4Ukraine (31 March 2025)

PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers who fled the war in Ukraine will carry out their projects in 15 countries, whilst maintaining close links with their research communities in Ukraine.



The European Commission has announced that the MSCA4Ukraine fellowship scheme, part of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), will support additional **49 displaced researchers** from Ukraine.

2 doctoral candidates and **47 postdoctoral researchers** will continue their research in academia, businesses, research centres and public institutions based in the EU and countries associated to Horizon Europe.

Funded researchers will be based in **15 different countries**.

The scheme allows organisations to host these researchers for a period between six months and two years, with most fellows awarded two-year fellowships.

When conditions permit, the scheme will also enable selected researchers to re-establish themselves in Ukraine to help rebuild and safeguard the country's research and innovation capacity.

Available support will allow them to maintain links with their research and innovation communities, carry out research placements and develop new projects.

For more information: <https://marie-skłodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/news/european-commission-to-support-49-researchers-through-msca4ukraine>

Other International funding

Update LIFE: the EU programme for environment, nature, climate and energy transition (11 April 2025)

Source: Website EC https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en

New call for LIFE projects 2025: 24 April-23 September

The European Commission (EC) will publish the new calls for the LIFE programme on 24 April 2025. The deadline for submission is 23 September 2025 for most components. You can submit various types of projects via the portal of CINEA (the agency of the EC): regular LIFE projects (Standard Action Projects, SAP) for pilots and demonstration projects on nature and biodiversity, circular economy and quality of life, climate mitigation and adaptation with a subsidy percentage of 60%. Or projects that facilitate the transition to renewable energy (CET, Clean Energy Transition), for which the subsidy percentage is 95%. Please note that this cannot be used to finance energy generation installations. The subsidy is intended to remove barriers that hinder the transition. For all LIFE components, see the **RVO website** <https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/life> or that of CINEA https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en. RVO can advise you whether your project is suitable for LIFE and what the best call is for you. You can reach us via life@rvo.nl.

NOTE PJ: be aware of fact that tariffs for LIFE: 7% overhead

LIFE Webinar by RVO on Tuesday 6 May 2025, 10.30-12.00

Would you like to know what the EU subsidy programme LIFE has to offer you this year in the field of nature, circular economy, environment, climate and/or renewable energy transition? Then register for the webinar organised by the LIFE advisors of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO). In 1.5 hours you will be updated on the latest changes, tips for a better application and you will gain insight into whether LIFE fits your plans for a sustainable future. Project leaders of the approved LIFE projects Peat Protect IAAS (invasive aquatic exotics) and RE&UCE (recovery of calcium carbonate from paper sludge) will share their secret for a good application with you. Zoë Wildiers (CINEA) will come from Brussels to explain the Clean Energy Transition component in Dutch.

You can register via this link: <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/4e390c3a-51eb-4f14-8fc3-dbb8f67d1de8@1321633e-f6b9-44e2-a44f-59b9d264ecb7>

CINEA infodays on LIFE 2025

If you have more time, you can also follow the online presentations of the CINEA LIFE Infodays on 13, 14 and 15 May, each time from 9:00 to 14:00/17:00/15:00. The presentations will also be recorded, so you can watch them later. More information and registration on the **CINEA webpage**: https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/eulife25-info-days-2025-05-13_en.

Commission to invest €1.3 billion in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and digital skills through Digital Europe Programme (28 March 2025)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_907

The Commission will allocate €1.3 billion for the deployment of critical technologies that are strategically important for the future of Europe and the continent's tech sovereignty through the Digital Europe Programme <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme> (DIGITAL) work programme for 2025 to 2027 adopted today.

The work programme focuses on the deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its uptake by businesses and public administration, cloud and data, cyber resilience and digital skills.

More specifically, key priorities under the DIGITAL work programme include:

- Improving the availability and accessibility of **generative AI applications**, including in the health and care sectors. Available funding will go towards testing immersive environments, known as 'virtual worlds',

implementing the AI Act and deploying energy efficient common data spaces. These measures are key to the implementation of the **AI Factories initiative** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/ai-factories> to develop generative AI models for businesses and the public sector.

- Supporting the **European Digital Innovation Hubs** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/edihs> (EDIHs). This is a network of hubs that provides companies and the public sector with access to technical expertise and testing of technologies, as well as with advice, training and skills to adopt the latest technologies. It will promote the widespread take-up of AI in private and public organisations across Europe.
- Building-up the award-winning Destination Earth <https://destination-earth.eu/> initiative that is working to build a digital model of Earth to support climate adaptation and disaster risk management. Funding will build a more powerful model that more researchers can access.
- **Boosting cyber resilience.** Cybersecurity solutions such as the EU Cybersecurity Reserve will improve the resilience and security of critical infrastructures including **hospitals** https://commission.europa.eu/cybersecurity-healthcare_en and **submarine cables** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/recommendation-security-and-resilience-submarine-cable-infrastructures>.
- Developing **EU education and training institutions' capacity** in digital skills so they may nurture and attract talent while boosting advanced skills in the European workforce.
- Facilitating the new **EU Digital Identity Wallet** <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-building-blocks/sites/display/EUDIGITALIDENTITYWALLET/EU+Digital+Identity+Wallet+Home> architecture and the European Trust Infrastructure, as well as promoting its adoption in Member States.
- Stimulating the transformation of the public sector by developing efficient, high-quality, interoperable **digital public services**.

Innovation will also be accelerated by the **new Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP)** https://strategic-technologies.europa.eu/index_en which awards the STEP Seal quality label to promising projects to improve their opportunity to access public and private funding.

Read full article here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_907

Green Deal Funding Alert - March 2025 (28 March 2025)

Source: Website <https://cor.europa.eu/en/news/green-deal-funding-alert-march-2025>



This is the latest edition of the Green Deal Funding Alert, a monthly newsletter that keeps you informed about funding opportunities and initiatives that support sustainable development and the transition to climate neutrality. This edition presents a call for a funding project on the circular economy, nature and biodiversity, climate and energy, as well as information webinars on the Horizon programme and urban ecosystem restoration.

1. LIFE Calls for proposals 2025: https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life-calls-proposals-2025_en

Are you looking for EU funding for projects on the circular economy and quality of life, nature and biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation or the clean energy transition?

Get ready for **24 April 2025**, the publication date of the LIFE calls for proposal 2025 on the Funding & Opportunities Portal https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life-calls-proposals-2025_en.

Looking for guidance? CINEA will **hold virtual information sessions** <https://vo-europe.swoogo.com/eu-life-info-days-2025/Home> from **13 to 15 May 2025** to guide potential applicants through the LIFE Calls for proposals 2025.

Visit the webpage for more information!: <https://vo-europe.swoogo.com/eu-life-info-days-2025/Home>

2. Registration Open for the 2025 Horizon Europe Cluster 5 Info Day: https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/horizon-europe-cluster-5-info-day-registration-open-2025-03-06_en

Get to know more about Horizon Europe Cluster 5 at **GREENET's** <https://horizoneuropencpportal.eu/cluster-5> Info Day on 6 May 2025. A **EUR 1.2 billion budget** is dedicated to **Climate, Energy and Mobility** in the Cluster 5 work programme, providing an excellent opportunity for prospective applicants to explore the latest research and innovation topics.

Get your city's sustainability initiatives off to a great start. **Register now!** <https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/events/3Z4CdMQb8ew5smYk55mTsA/overview>

3. Urban Nature restoration Webinar Series: Practical Strategies: <https://www.urbanagenda.urban-initiative.eu/news/unlocking-urban-nature-restoration-join-greening-cities-webinar-series-nature-restoration>

Do you have a **nature restoration plan** or project in place? Are you looking forward to **greening your city**? Would you like to **share insights**? Do you want to **be inspired** by other municipalities?

The Greening Cities Partnership <https://www.urbanagenda.urban-initiative.eu/partnerships/greening-cities> is hosting a **webinar series** https://www.urbanagenda.urban-initiative.eu/news/unlocking-urban-nature-restoration-join-greening-cities-webinar-series-nature-restoration?utm_source=linkedin&utm_medium=social&utm_content=ap_5za4ltqjbn in support of the EU Nature Restoration Regulation! The series is designed for urban **planners, policymakers** and **environmental professionals**, offering expert insight and **practical strategies** for restoring urban ecosystems. Follow the session on Collaboration on National Restoration Plans on **9 April 2025**. And stay tuned! Other sessions will follow:

- **22 April** – How to develop a Municipal Roadmap for Urban Ecosystem Restoration
- **7 May** – Building Regulations for Urban Ecosystem Restoration
- **14 May** – Policies for Urban Ecosystem Restoration on Municipal-Owned Land

National funding

Pre-announcement: Consumer behaviour for a circular system transition (KIC) (10 April 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-consumer-behaviour-for-a-circular-system-transition-kic>



The upcoming KIC-Call 'Consumer behaviour for a circular system transition' is expected to open in early June. The Call focuses on finding effective ways to help people consume more sustainably. This is done with a broad view of the whole system so that it contributes to the transition to a circular economy.

The transition to a circular economy requires fundamentally different consumption patterns. Although there is already considerable support for a more sustainable society, targeted interventions are needed to stimulate actual behavioural change (at the systemic level). The aim of this Call for proposals is to gain insight into effective interventions, measures and strategies that promote circular consumer behaviour, based on state-of-the-art research on systemic transitions, behavioural change and the circular economy. This Call for proposals focuses on research that analyses, designs and applies interventions. The interaction between behavioural, systemic and cultural factors is central to this.

Collaborative workshops

For this Call for proposals, NWO is organising two collaborative workshops on 11 and 30 June 2025 at Cultuur- en Congrescentrum Antropia (next to Driebergen-Zeist station). The workshops will bring together interested parties around the theme of the Call. Besides researchers at universities and colleges, representatives of social parties (public and private) are also expressly invited to these collaborative workshops.

The expertise of the participants and their contributions to the desired impact on the Call theme form the basis for the conversation. The workshops provide an opportunity to combine ideas and form broad innovative consortia that generate scientific and societal impact by connecting research and practice.

For more information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/knowledge-and-innovation-covenant/kic-2024-2027/mission-2024-2027/consumer-behaviour-for-a-circular-system-transition>

Good to know about workshops

Location: Culture and Congress Centre Antropia

Date: 11-6-2025 and 30-6-2025 (approx. 10am to 4pm)

Registration deadline: 2 June 2025 (due to catering)

Call 'Open Competition Domain Science-XL 2025-2026' opened for applications (9 April 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-competition-domain-science-xl-2025-2026-opened-for-applications>



With Science XL funding, research ideas can grow into a challenging and innovative world-class line of research, in which research groups combine their expertise and strengths and work together in a consortium. The Science XL funding is intended for curiosity-driven fundamental scientific research that has an impact.

The domain Science wants to create space for wonder, discovery, unexpected connections and inspiration. Within the Science Open Competition, NWO funds free and unrestricted research within the research areas of Science. The subject is of your own choice, without thematic constraints.

Budget

An Science-XL grant has a minimum value of €1,000,000 and a maximum value of €3,000,000. At the moment, 49.3 million euros is available for this call. The grant must be used for at least four scientific positions in combination with the other available budget modules. The maximum duration of the proposed project is six years.

In this round, the Science domain wants to make room for new talent that has not yet received much other funding. The award rate for Science-XL is approximately 10%. Please be aware that NWO only funds world-class research.

Planning

The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is **16 September 2025, 14:00:00 CEST**.

The deadline for submitting proposals is **9 June 2026, 14:00:00 CEST**.

Conditions

Applications for Open Competition ENW-XL must meet certain conditions. These conditions can be found in the Call for proposals on the funding page. Please read the Call for proposals carefully in preparation of your application and contact NWO if you have any questions.

More information

For more information and submission conditions, visit the call page: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026>

KIC Reducing health inequalities - technology for people in a lower social economic position call in preparation (4 April 2025)

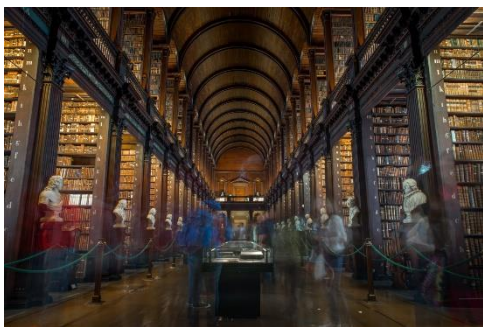
Source: Website NWO <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-reducing-health-inequalities-technology-for-people-in-a-lower-social-economic-position>

Society is marked by large health inequalities among different groups of people, where lower socioeconomic position (SEP) limits the likelihood of good health. Health technology can help reduce these health inequalities. However, current technology products and services do not adequately address the needs, desires and behaviors of people with lower SEP. Moreover, they are often not integrated into everyday life or into the existing healthcare infrastructure. The (further) development of technology takes a long time and financing for companies is difficult. This Call for proposals therefore focuses on gaining insight into the associated technological as well as systemic preconditions to (further) develop health technology for groups in a lower SEP. The focus on this target group brings about a new priority for all stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem. It is therefore crucial that all parties work together to develop and scale up health technology in a sustainable way with a clear future perspective.

Foreseen closing date full application: 2 December 2025 14:00 hrs.

Call open: Research on knowledge security in a geopolitical context (NWA) (4 April 2025)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-on-knowledge-security-in-a-geopolitical-context-nwa>



The NWA Call 'Knowledge security: scientific research in a geopolitical context' is open for applications. An open and internationally oriented knowledge system is beneficial for higher education, science and society, but it also makes the knowledge field vulnerable. Unwanted knowledge transfer, covert influence and unethical use of scientific knowledge threaten security and core academic values. This programme encourages research into knowledge security and the balance between security, academic freedom and openness in the knowledge sector.

Purpose of the Call

The NWA Call 'Knowledge security: scientific research in geopolitical context' promotes research into developments around knowledge security and inherent dilemmas in the knowledge field, in the context of shifting geopolitical relations. The programme aims to contribute to a better understanding of knowledge security and deliver insights on the international context and threats, the organisation and vulnerability of the knowledge field and the balance between opportunities and risks within knowledge security policy.

These insights, together with concrete action perspectives, should help relevant stakeholders within the knowledge sector and government to develop balanced policies and deal with dilemmas between knowledge security and other public values. The aim of this NWA programme is to increase the resilience of the Dutch knowledge sector in favour of national security, in such a way that core academic values are protected and promoted and society can continue to reap the benefits of international cooperation in science.

View the Call for proposals: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/knowledge-security-scientific-research-in-a-geopolitical-context>

Pre-announcement: Venture Challenge Fall 2025 – Increased budget and room for 6 additional teams (3 April 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-venture-challenge-fall-2025-increased-budget-and-room-for-6-additional-teams>



NWO is expected to launch the fall round of the Venture Challenge program in May 2025. For this fall round, the Ministry of Economic Affairs (EZ) has increased the budget. This increase is intended to allow 6 additional teams to participate that have a specific focus on innovations in the field of MedTech. Thus, a total of 12 teams can participate this round, increasing opportunities for more startup entrepreneurs.

Purpose of this call

With its mission-driven innovation policy, the Dutch Cabinet wants to use the innovation power of the top sectors to tackle major societal challenges. In doing so, the Dutch Cabinet also wants to strengthen the competitiveness of the Netherlands. One way to do this is to use scientific research to tackle societal issues. However, many scientific inventions do not make it to the market. This is due to the fact that researchers often lack the knowledge and experience to make their product marketable or to set up a commercial organization.

The Venture Challenge program offers a solution here. In the program, researchers work together with professionals, such as business coaches and experts, to develop a well thought-out business case within 8 to 10 weeks. This way, the researchers are prepared for a successful start-up of their company.

For whom

The Venture Challenge is aimed at teams of three or four people who have founded or are planning a new start-up in the field of Life Sciences & Health and MedTech. The product, process or service must fall under medical devices or other innovations within these broad fields.

For more information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-venture-challenge-fall-2025-increased-budget-and-room-for-6-additional-teams>

Six new researches start in March 2025 within Open Technology Programme (2024 round) (3 April 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/six-new-researches-start-in-march-2025-within-open-technology-programme-2024-round>



Six application-oriented projects can start with funding from the Open Technology Programme from NWO's Applied and Engineering Sciences domain (AES). NWO is supporting these application-oriented projects with more than 4.9 million euros. The industry and other organisations are adding another amount of over 720,000 euros.

Granted projects include topics such as:

- Photonic processors use light for efficient optical computation in smart edge devices like autonomous vehicles and LIDAR systems. Project SPHOTED develops dynamic, energy-efficient modular processors to meet this need (Project: Energy-efficient, Modular Photonic Processors for Smart Edge Devices (SPHOTED))
- Batteries connected to the grid balance renewable energy supply and demand. Project BATT-AI develops strategies and models, enabling battery energy storage system (BESS) owners to provide multiple services and be rewarded, speeding up the energy transition (Project: BATT-AI: Large-scale batteries for maximized profit and congestion management using AI).
- Crop plants like tomatoes are improved through breeding for disease resistance and climate resilience. An AI-based system will be developed to optimize breeding strategies to speed up the combination of beneficial traits (Project: GenomeDesigner: plant breeding by design).

Wageningen is co-applicant in one project:

GenomeDesigner: plant breeding by design - dr. C.J. Underwood, Radboud Universiteit (21839)

Co-applicant(s): Wageningen University & Research - dr. ir. S.A. Peters & prof. dr. D. de Ridder

For more information about the granted projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/six-new-researches-start-in-march-2025-within-open-technology-programme-2024-round>

Second call aimed at developing high-tech equipment open for applications (3 April 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/second-call-aimed-at-developing-high-tech-equipment-open-for-applications>



It is essential that the Netherlands remains an international leader in the field of high-tech equipment. To stimulate the development of the new generation of high-tech equipment, NWO and NXTGEN Hightech are launching the call 'Strengthening the knowledge position of the Dutch high-tech equipment sector'. Research proposals can be submitted from now until 11 September 2025. This is the second call within the NXTGEN Hightech National Growth Fund programme.

About the call for proposals

The Netherlands is one of the world leaders in high-tech equipment. This equipment is important for the production of semiconductors and medical instruments, for example, and has a substantial impact on the Dutch economy. With this call, NWO and NXTGEN Hightech are funding consortia that are collaborating on research into the next generation of high-tech equipment. The call offers not only established parties, but also new companies and knowledge institutions the opportunity to contribute to groundbreaking research.

Read the full call text: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-stengthening-the-knowledge-base-for-the-high-tech-equipment-sector>

Application domains and key technologies

Specifically, the programme aims to develop, utilise and apply new knowledge within six promising application domains. These application domains are:

1. Laser satellite communication
2. Energy conversion and storage
3. Biomedical production technology
4. Semicon equipment for heterogeneous integration
5. Flexible microfactories for composites
6. Hands-free agrifood

Seven key technologies have been prioritised within this call. The technologies have a broad scope and form the scientific basis for addressing the crucial knowledge questions from the aforementioned application domains.

- Cyber physical systems / Robotics
- (Opto)mechatronics
- Semiconductor devices / Lithographic systems
- Thin film / Plasma technology
- Bionanotechnology
- Smart industry
- Systems engineering

For more information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/second-call-aimed-at-developing-high-tech-equipment-open-for-applications>

Pre-announcement: NWA call on future-proofing large rivers in the Netherlands opens this summer (2 April 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-nwa-call-on-future-proofing-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands-opens-this-summer>



Climate change is leading to a rise in sea levels and an increase in extreme weather conditions. This results in greater fluctuations in river water levels. Knowledge development about the Dutch river system is necessary to future-proof this system and to better substantiate policy choices. The NWA call 'Future-proof large rivers in the Netherlands' aims to contribute to this by funding such research. The call is expected to open for applications in June.

About the call

The Dutch Research Council (NWO) and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management are joining forces to encourage research into the future-proofing of the major Dutch rivers. The NWA programme 'Future-proof large rivers in the Netherlands' invites researchers and (public and private) social partners to form a consortium to conduct research that can substantiate policy choices regarding the river system. The research must examine the effects of policy choices on the (spatial) design of the Netherlands in the future and the preservation of the necessary river functions. In addition, the programme must provide insight into how river functions relate to each other within these policy choices. In this way, the programme will provide answers to the question of how the Netherlands can best prepare for the future challenges facing the river system.

The programme explicitly leaves room for new insights and innovative research. This requires an interdisciplinary approach focused on the entire river system. Consider, for example, scientific, technical, planning, ecological, socio-economic, policy or legal knowledge. Given the transboundary nature of rivers, a river basin approach is also relevant to the research. The research must have a clear connection to policy and offer concrete tools for policy and/or implementation. In addition, knowledge of and connection to ongoing programmes such as "Ruimte voor de Rivier" (formerly "Integrated River Management") is necessary.

The Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management is the initiator of this call, supported by Rijkswaterstaat. Further details about the call will be published when it opens.

Budget and timeline

Approximately €2.8 million is available for this call and only one project can be awarded funding. The call is expected to open in June 2025.

Collaborative workshops

NWO is organising two workshops to support interested parties in forming consortia. During these workshops participants can exchange ideas and form the basis for a consortium together. It is therefore not necessary to have a formed a consortium prior to the workshops. However, the eventual main applicant must attend both workshops. The workshops are open to everyone, and civil society organisations are expressly invited to participate. The Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management and Rijkswaterstaat will be present to provide clarification and answer questions.

- **Collaborative workshop 1:** Wednesday 10 September
- **Collaborative workshop 2:** Thursday 25 September

Register for the workshops: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/meetings/collaborative-workshops-future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands-nwa>

Call for PPP projects for top sectors Agri & Food, Horticulture & Starting Materials and Water & Maritime opened (1 April 2025)

Source: Website Topsector AgriFood <https://topsectoragrifood.nl/nieuws/oproep-voor-pps-projecten-geopend-5/>



On 1 April, the top sectors Agri & Food, Horticulture & Starting Materials and Water & Maritime opened their joint call for PPP projects that give substance to the Knowledge and Innovation Agenda Agriculture, Water, Food 2024-2027 <https://www.kia-landbouwwatervoedsel.nl/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/KIA-Landbouw-Water-Voedsel-2024-2027-incl-bijlagen.pdf>. The available budget is approximately € 10.2 million in 2026. The projects will be carried out as a public-private partnership (PPP).

The call is intended for research projects in which companies, industry organisations, NGOs and public organisations collaborate with research organisations. The three top sectors work together in this call to come to a substance of the joint knowledge and innovation agenda Agriculture, Water, Food. There is also a call for cross-over collaboration with Top Sectors Life Sciences & Health and ICT. In addition, **this year there is the possibility to shape bilateral collaboration with Denmark.**

Budget

A total of approximately €10.2 million (excl. VAT) in subsidies is available for research in 2026. Half of this is a contribution from LVVN and I&W in the form of capacity at Wageningen Research and other TO2 institutes. The remainder is PPP subsidies made available by the TKIs that can also be used by other knowledge providers.

Procedure

From mid-June to 1 September 2025, it is possible to submit PPP proposals via the submission link on **the website** <https://www.kia-landbouwwatervoedsel.nl/beeld-hoofdpaginas/subsidies/pps/>. Parties wishing to submit a PPP proposal can request a meeting with a delegation on behalf of the responsible TKIs and ministries to obtain an indication of the suitability of the proposal for this call. Applicants wishing a consultation meeting can register for this via the registration link <https://www.kia-landbouwwatervoedsel.nl/beeld-hoofdpaginas/subsidies/pps/> (**note PJ**: seems not to work) until 16 May. Applicants will receive confirmation after 1 November whether their project has been approved. The new projects will start in 2026.

For more information: <https://www.kia-landbouwwatervoedsel.nl/beeld-hoofdpaginas/subsidies/pps/>

Second round of SSH Open Competition XS 2025 now open for applications (27 March 2025)

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



SSH researchers who received their PhD five to 10 years ago and have a promising idea can apply for the SSH Open Competition XS 2025. The application deadline is May 8, 2025, by 14:00:00 CEST. An extension policy applies to this Call for proposals.

About the Call

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

The characteristics of SSH Open Competition XS research are:

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

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

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

More information

- **Call page:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-round-2>
- **Programme page:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh>

Regional funding

Openings EFRO ‘Kansen voor West Programme’ May 2025 (2 April 2025)

Source: Website Kansen voor West <https://nieuwsbrief.kansenvoorwest.nl/nieuwsbrief/?id=18&idc=3500#name3500>

In May 2025, **two new openings** are planned for the Province of Utrecht from the Kansen voor West programme:

- **Voucher opening Innovation SME Educational Technology** (Ed Tech) (1.1.PU.7) with a total budget of €250,000. These vouchers stimulate innovative solutions within the educational sector.
- **Voucher opening Innovation SME Energy Transition** (1.1.PU.8) with €250,000 available for SME companies working on innovative energy transition projects.

In addition to the new openings, there are changes to existing openings:

- **Voucher opening SME innovation vouchers circular economy** is going well and is being increased from €250,000 to €500,000.

In addition, the following adjustments will be implemented **within Innovation** (action lines 1 & 3):

- **Rotterdam** will receive an increase of €1 million, **Amsterdam** will receive an increase of over €500,000, The **province of Flevoland** will lower its subsidy ceiling for these action lines by €400,000, At the same time, **Flevoland** will increase the ceiling for action line 2 (increasing investment capacity) by €400,000.

For climate-related openings:

- Rotterdam will increase its ceiling for the **circular economy** by almost €300,000, Flevoland will increase its broad climate opening by over €1 million, **Amsterdam** will increase its **circular opening** by over €800,000. finally, **Amsterdam** will increase the subsidy ceiling for **sustainable urban development** by €1,000,000.

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

Commission seeks feedback on the future Strategy for Artificial Intelligence in Science (10 April 2025)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/commission-seeks-feedback-future-strategy-artificial-intelligence-science-2025-04-10_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

Today, the European Commission has launched two consultations on the **future European Strategy for Artificial Intelligence in Science: a Call for Evidence** https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14547-A-European-Strategy-for-AI-in-science-paving-the-way-for-a-European-AI-research-council_en, and a **targeted questionnaire** https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/AI_in_science_strategy for researchers and the broader research and innovation community.

The strategy will aim at **accelerating the responsible use** of Artificial Intelligence (AI), making it easier for scientists across the EU to adopt the technology and to carry out more impactful and productive research in key areas like climate change, health, clean technologies and more. It will pave the way towards a European AI Research Council, in the form of a Resource for AI Science in Europe (RAISE), that would pool resources for scientists developing and applying AI in the EU and drive the advancement of AI in and through science in Europe.

Ekaterina **Zaharieva**, Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation, said:

"Scientists and researchers are increasingly using Artificial Intelligence to gain insights and make ground-breaking discoveries. Europe needs to lead this transformation, so I invite the community to take part in the consultations and help design a strategy that supports European science as the bedrock of our competitiveness."

The use of AI is advancing scientific fields like **astronomy** <https://cordis.europa.eu/article/id/446033-machine-learning-illuminates-the-celestial-stage-spotting-new-objects-amid-the-cosmic-crowd>, **medical diagnostics** <https://cordis.europa.eu/article/id/446042-ai-in-precision-medicine-better-risk-identification-prevention-and-treatment-of-carotid>, **drug discovery** <https://cordis.europa.eu/article/id/446035-unlocking-the-future-of-personalised-cancer-treatment-with-the-help-of-ai>, **materials science** <https://cordis.europa.eu/article/id/446043-pioneering-design-platform-reveals-novel-topological-structures> and climate modelling. The strategy will build on these successes by improving access to dedicated AI tools, computing infrastructure, attracting talent and investments to fully leverage the potential of AI to drive innovation and boost EU competitiveness.

It will contribute to closing the innovation gap and reignite the EU's innovation engine, in line with the **Competitiveness Compass** https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/competitiveness-compass_en, and will support the **Commission's goal** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/europe-fit-digital-age/europes-digital-decade-digital-targets-2030_en#:~:text=Europe%20aims%20to%20empower%20businesses%20and%20people%20in,and%20objectives%20of%202030%2C%20guides%20Europe%20to%20become%20a%20digital%20transformation%3A to empower businesses and people in a human-centred, sustainable and more prosperous digital future.

An update of the **European Research Area Forum Living Guidelines on the responsible use of Generative AI in research** https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/2b6cf7e5-36ac-41cb-aab5-0d32050143dc_en?filename=ec_rtd_ai-guidelines.pdf has also been published today. This ensures that the EU research and innovation community has up-to-date guidance to embrace responsibly this fast-changing technology.

For more information: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/commission-seeks-feedback-future-strategy-artificial-intelligence-science-2025-04-10_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

EU and Egypt successfully conclude negotiations on Horizon Europe (10 April 2025)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/eu-and-egypt-successfully-conclude-negotiations-horizon-europe-2025-04-10_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

The Commission and the Arab Republic of Egypt have successfully concluded negotiations on Egypt's association to Horizon Europe, the EU's flagship research and innovation funding programme. The Agreement is expected to be signed by November 2025, with its entry into force subject to final validations by both parties.

Ekaterina **Zaharieva**, European Commissioner for Startups, Research, and Innovation said:

"Egypt's association to Horizon Europe will drive progress in key sectors like energy, food security, and digital transition, creating new opportunities for innovation."

Transitional arrangements will apply from today. This will allow Egyptian entities to apply for and be treated as "eligible entities" established in an associated country in Horizon Europe for calls implementing budget from 2025 and onwards. Association to Horizon Europe is the deepest form of collaboration offered by the EU in research and innovation. Once signed, the agreement will enable Egyptian researchers and organisations to participate on equivalent terms as entities established in EU Member States.

Egypt will be the second African country fully associated to Horizon Europe after Tunisia.

For more background and information: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/eu-and-egypt-successfully-conclude-negotiations-horizon-europe-2025-04-10_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

Experts: EU has opportunities to attract US cleantech companies (10 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 April 2025

US financing of clean technologies is becoming increasingly uncertain with the new US administration. This offers opportunities to attract innovative projects to the EU, several experts argue in an article in Science Business. For example, many of former President Biden's funding commitments are being reversed. The EU could develop a 'copy/paste' scenario to mirror the US evaluation process and provide financing quickly, says Jigar Shah, who led the US Department of Energy's Loans Programs Office under Biden. In addition, the EU should work on stable regulations. "One of the most important criteria for this type of company is regulatory stability," says Phuc-Vinh Nguyen, head of the Jacques Delors Institute's Energy Centre. He points out that European regulations also offer many uncertainties at the moment, due to 'the European Commission's ongoing simplification efforts'.

Article Science Business: <https://sciencebusiness.net/green-technology/hostile-us-environment-cleantech-opportunity-europe-experts-say>

Science Business: Commission considers new widening actions (10 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 April 2025

The European Commission is working on new 'widening' actions for countries that are lagging behind in research and innovation. This is according to Science Business, based on insight into a draft version of the Horizon Europe work programme for 2026-2027. This includes a Teaming Synergies call, which will link institutions in countries with better and worse R&D performance with multi-year funding. There are also plans for a pilot for a support facility to provide training and advice to institutions in widening countries.

Article Science Business: <https://sciencebusiness.net/research-and-innovation-gap/new-widening-tools-target-research-collaboration-and-management>

Will you be the new member of the European Innovation Council Board? (7 April 2025)

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/wordt-u-het-nieuwe-lid-van-het-european-innovation-council-board->

The Commission is seeking new members for the Board of the European Innovation Council (EIC). This body is tasked with advising the Commission on the strategy and implementation of the EIC's activities. Applications are open until 19 May.



Your experience and vision, Europe awaits!

The European Innovation Council (EIC) is **looking for new members for its Board**

<https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/expert-groups-register/screen/expert-groups/consult?lang=en&groupID=3823>. The Board advises the Commission on the strategy and implementation of the EIC's activities. It consists of up to twenty experts from different areas of the European innovation landscape. The Commission is looking for experts in deep tech, researchers in emerging technologies, investors, and other innovation professionals. The Board members are elected for a term of two years, renewable up to twice. Applications are open until 19 May.

Context

The EIC helps bring breakthrough innovations to the market faster. It falls under the third pillar of Horizon Europe. The EIC provides funding to researchers and companies, among other things.

EU and Switzerland initial agreement on participation in Union programmes (3 April 2025)

Source: Website EC https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/switzerland/eu-and-switzerland-initial-agreement-participation-union-programmes_en?s=180



© EU 2025

The Commission and Switzerland have set in motion the agreement on the participation of the Swiss Confederation in Union programmes, marking a significant step in strengthening EU-Swiss cooperation.

Following the conclusion of negotiations on 20 December 2024, this agreement paves the way for Switzerland's association to Horizon Europe, Euratom Research and Training, ITER/F4E (Fusion for Energy), Digital Europe, Erasmus+, and EU4Health. This will open new opportunities for Swiss researchers and entities to receive funding and cooperate with European partners. It will also enable European research and innovation communities to benefit from a wider pool of talents and scientific excellence.

Since 1 January 2025, transitional arrangements allow Swiss entities to apply for calls under Horizon Europe, Euratom Research and Training, and Digital Europe. Once fully associated, Swiss participants will be able to receive direct EU funding and lead consortia on the same footing as entities from EU Member States. Switzerland's participation in Fusion for Energy (F4E)/ITER is foreseen to start from 2026, and participation in Erasmus+ planned from 2027. Switzerland's Association to EU4Health will become applicable after the Health Agreement is signed.

This agreement is part of a broader package that aims to modernise, deepen and expand the relationship between the EU and Switzerland. After tomorrow's initialling, the agreement is expected to be signed between the parties once their internal procedures are completed. The next steps include signing of other EU-Switzerland agreements and ratifying all the agreements in the package by both parties, in accordance with their respective procedures. The successful ratification will enable a long-term cooperation in research and all other areas covered by the package, while modernising the foundations of the EU-Switzerland relationship.

The EU remains fully committed to the successful completion of this process, and to further strengthening its partnership with Switzerland.

EUA calls for European Competitiveness Partnership (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

Research and innovation are key to the success of the European Commission's recently launched Competitiveness Compass. That is why a Competitiveness Partnership is needed, bringing together the stakeholders and sectors that make up Europe's knowledge base with policymakers to create the framework conditions for putting research, innovation, education and skills at the heart of the European economy. This is what the European University Association (EUA) argues in a paper. "Europe needs to invest and create better framework conditions that allow actors in these areas to adapt, develop and grow. This requires a continuous dialogue, and universities are ready to fully participate in this," it says.

EUA Publication: https://www.eua.eu/images/publications/Publication_PDFs/Competitiveness_position.pdf

Insight paper The Guild: Universities in the face of the climate and nature crises (1 April 2025)

Source: Website The Guild https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/insight-papers/the-guild_universities-in-the-face-of-the-climate-and-nature-crises_march2025.pdf

In its insight paper "**Universities in the face of the climate and nature crises: Redoubling our commitment to a sustainable future**" https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/insight-papers/the-guild_universities-in-the-face-of-the-climate-and-nature-crises_march2025.pdf, The Guild calls on European and national policymakers to collaborate with higher education institutions to ensure evidence-informed knowledge for a safe, affordable, just and sustainable transition.

Universities bear a crucial responsibility to address the interconnected economic, social, health, technological, and environmental aspects of sustainability in a holistic manner. It is vital that national and European funding bodies acknowledge the intrinsic link between research and education, and the importance of integrating both European and global perspectives in research initiatives.

Amid growing scepticism regarding science and the societal role of universities, this paper emphasises the need for European policymakers to remain steadfast in their commitment to the Green Deal's objectives. At a time when Europe's competitiveness, security and readiness for future crises are of utmost importance, policymakers must recognise the importance of the Green Deal objectives these needs. The Guild insists that universities are pivotal to addressing the climate and nature crises, and aligning these with other societal needs.

As academic institutions, universities understand the significance of enhancing their contributions to address the climate and nature crises in a thorough manner. The Guild aims to spark broader discussions within Europe's higher education sector, including presenting exemplary efforts from member institutions. The Guild calls on universities to amplify their efforts in addressing the climate and nature crises, advocating for a fair and sustainable transition for Europe and its regions.

Secretary-General of The Guild, **Jan Palmowski**: "*At the time when the EU is challenged in its competitiveness, its societal cohesion, and its security, it is critical that we address the climate and nature crises through critical thinking.*"

Now is the time to double down on the green deal objectives, and to re-gain popular support by showing how we align these with other societal and economic goals.”

Strengthening interdisciplinarity in the European Innovation Council (31 March 2025)

Source: Website CEASAR <https://www.cesaer.org/news/strengthening-interdisciplinarity-in-the-european-innovation-council-1928/>

Leading science and technology universities united within CESAER highlight the importance of interdisciplinarity in the EIC to unlock Europe’s deeptech potential. Stronger collaboration across fields can help turn challenges into impactful innovations.

Back to overview: <https://www.cesaer.org/news/>

The leading universities of science and technology from all over Europe united within CESAER reaffirm their strong support for the European Innovation Council (EIC) and its unique, positive, and impactful role in shaping the European research and innovation landscape.

The position is available here for download and dissemination (PDF): <https://www.cesaer.org/content/5-operations/2025/20250331-position-strengthening-interdisciplinarity-in-eic.pdf>

With this position released today, we emphasise the strategic importance of interdisciplinarity within the EIC. Europe has the potential to create and scale more deeptech start-ups—but too many opportunities are missed because key expertise is not always engaged at the right time.

A more problem-driven approach must be adopted—one that bridges challenges to be solved with new knowledge and technology. Problem owners must be able to work alongside technology talents and experts, business strategists, and social scientists to combine challenges and technological solutions.

To achieve this, we recommend:

1. fostering interdisciplinarity in EIC funding schemes,
2. bringing additional interdisciplinary expertise into EIC Board, and increase its autonomy,
3. designing calls and funding to foster impactful innovation,
4. giving researchers and innovators central role in strategic planning,
5. enhancing support for interdisciplinary ventures, and
6. developing metrics and frameworks to support interdisciplinarity.

“The EIC exists to help Europe produce and scale more deep-tech start-ups—and that means staying focused on what drives success. Bringing in problem owners early—whether from industry, government, or civil society—helps ensure we’re solving the right problems with the right mix of expertise. Looking at the technical and all the different commercial aspects together naturally focusses on the need for a challenge-led interdisciplinary team to maximise the chance of success. By using interdisciplinarity strategically, Europe can sharpen its innovation capabilities and boost its global competitiveness.”

Featured: Nuffic builds bridges between the EU and Southeast Asia (28 March 2025)

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/uitgelicht-nuffic-bouwt-bruggen-tussen-de-eu-en-zuidoost-azi->

Nuffic strengthens the ties between the EU and Southeast Asia through education and research. This is also the aim of the “Sustainable Connectivity Package – Higher Education Programme” (SCOPE-HE), an EU project implemented by Nuffic in Southeast Asia. Neth-ER spoke with Nuffic Southeast Asia Director Peter van Tuijl about this project and the plans for the future: “SCOPE-HE serves the mutual interests of the knowledge sector in Europe and Southeast Asia”.



Beyond the horizon: supporting knowledge networks

SCOPE-HE strengthens the ties between **European and Southeast Asian knowledge institutions**. By increasing exchanges **between young researchers**, SCOPE-HE stimulates university cooperation between the two regions. In addition, SCOPE-HE focuses on sustaining collaborations between researchers and institutions at an institutional level. These collaborations are taking place in abundance, for example via Horizon Europe. SCOPE-HE is therefore adding a big scoop on top of that: *“Knowledge institutions from both regions are still not brought together enough. We are trying to create an element of greater connection,”* says Nuffic Southeast Asia director Peter van Tuijl, based in Jakarta. The project does this by focusing on three major themes: the **green transformation, digitalization** and the **maritime economy**. In the first round of the project, three consortia of six universities each were selected. Each consortium includes three European universities and three Southeast Asian universities. Nuffic also spends the EU funding on PhD research and the exchange of postdocs. This ultimately contributes to systematic collaboration between the knowledge networks from both regions.

Project: EU-ASEAN Sustainable Connectivity Package Higher Education Programme (SCOPE-HE)
Instrument: Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument
Budget: € 9.300.000
Periode: 2024-2028
Uitvoerder: Nuffic
Partner: DAAD - German Academic Exchange Service

ASEAN

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional partnership between Brunei, Cambodia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam and was founded in 1967. Both the EU and the Netherlands have a Permanent Representative to ASEAN. The EU and ASEAN have had a strategic partnership since 2020. This partnership focuses on topics such as climate change, economic integration and education. Within the current multi-annual budget, the EU is making 180 million euros available for this cooperation, which falls under the Global Gateway strategy. This strategy focuses on partnerships with regions outside Europe and aims to achieve sustainable and equal cooperation. SCOPE-HE also falls within this strategy. The EU ultimately wants to mobilize 300 billion euros for investments in the ASEAN region. This amount must mainly come from member states and private money.

Read full article here: [https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/uitgelicht-nuffic-bouwt-bruggen-tussen-de-eu-en-zuidoost-azi-\(in-Dutch\)](https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/uitgelicht-nuffic-bouwt-bruggen-tussen-de-eu-en-zuidoost-azi-(in-Dutch))

Global policy

UK: Recommendations for regional R&I policy (10 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 April 2025

Researchers from the Policy Evidence Unit for University Commercialisation and Innovation (UCI) at the University of Cambridge have issued a series of recommendations to UK policymakers to reduce the country's wide economic disparities through regional research and innovation policy. The report notes that the UK has one of the highest inter-regional productivity gaps in the industrialised world. For the UK to grow economically, it is essential that its disadvantaged regions make a development push. "To assist policymakers in this area, this report discusses the theories and practical approaches to regionally focused R&I policy, building on both established good practice and emerging thinking in policy design and implementation in the US and EU, and the mission-driven approach of the current UK government," it reads.

UCI publication: <https://www.repository.cam.ac.uk/items/f6fc3c90-458e-4bfd-935e-48f8f40c4590>

OECD: Targeted policy needed to harness the potential of green innovation (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

In order to fully harness the potential of green innovation, it is important for policymakers to deploy the entire innovation ecosystem with targeted support. This is stated by the OECD in a publication that examined the various characteristics of innovation in green hydrogen, green steel, batteries and electric vehicles. According to the OECD, development is often hampered by high costs and long development cycles. There are also ongoing problems with supply chains, smart personnel and consumer preferences. The next questions that need to be answered are therefore which policy efforts and resources are needed to increase the impact of breakthrough innovations and how the ambitious climate and environmental goals can be achieved.

OECD publication: https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/what-is-unique-about-green-innovation_97e8232d-en.html

R&D investment slows in OECD countries, but rises in China (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

Expenditure on R&D in OECD countries increased by 2.4% in 2023, down from 3.6% in 2022. This is according to the latest edition of the OECD Main Science and Technology Indicators (MSTI). The indicators compare the science and technology performance of OECD countries and a number of other economies using 148 indicators. China remains the leader with an 8.7% increase in R&D expenditure. In the US, this was an increase of 1.7% and in the EU it was 1.6%. The limited growth in the EU is mainly due to the bloc's largest economies. In Germany, expenditure increased by only 0.8%, while in France there was a decrease of 0.5%. The biggest European risers are Spain and Poland, both with more than 8%. The Netherlands is slightly above the EU average at 2.23%, but below the OECD average.

OECD Blog: <https://www.oecd.org/en/data/insights/statistical-releases/2025/03/rd-spending-growth-slows-in-oecd-surges-in-china-government-support-for-energy-and-defence-rd-rises-sharply.html>

OECD Publication: <https://www.oecd.org/en/data/datasets/main-science-and-technology-indicators.html>

How China's innovation strategy differs from the US (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

China's innovation strategy is often underestimated or overestimated by the US, and Beijing's definition of innovation differs from that of Silicon Valley. This is what Craig Allen writes in a publication by the Hinrich Foundation. The article explains the four characteristics of Chinese innovation defined by The McKinsey Global Institute, such as the enormous sales market, the efficiently organized innovation ecosystem, the enormous number of STEM workers and the extensive R&D expenditure. It also explains the so-called New Productive Forces strategy, with which China wants to grow into a global market leader in the field of innovation. An important part of this is the course in which foreign technology is used to build on itself, without becoming too dependent on foreign countries.

Hinrich Foundation article: <https://www.hinrichfoundation.com/research/wp/trade-and-geopolitics/us-china-competition-for-technology-leadership>

Merics: How China strategically focuses on US and EU technology companies (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

A Merics analysis shows that China is trying to win over large European and American companies for several reasons. The reason is the China Development Forum that was recently organized and to which mainly European and American CEOs were invited. China hopes that companies will continue to invest in strategic technologies in the country, but above all they hope to stimulate the pro-China lobby in the countries. "The strong presence of American companies underlined the importance of the Chinese market for many, despite the increasingly aggressive stance towards China in Washington," according to Merics.

Analysis Merics: <https://merics.org/en/merics-briefs/panama-ports-china-development-forum-deep-sea-cable-cutter>

Nature survey among US scientists: three-quarters of respondents are considering leaving (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

A significant proportion of American scientists are considering leaving the country as a result of President Trump's policies, according to a Nature survey. Of the 1,200 respondents, three-quarters would consider doing so, mainly young researchers. Europe and Canada are most often mentioned as alternative locations. The article explains the various responses.

Nature article: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00938-y>

US: Trump wants to work towards a 'Golden Age of American Innovation' (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

US President Donald Trump wants the US to secure its position as an unrivaled global leader in the field of crucial and emerging technologies - such as artificial intelligence, quantum and nuclear technology - while maintaining its lead over potential opponents. The president writes this in his mission letter to Michael Kratsios, the recently appointed lead director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). Trump also asks how scientific progress and technological innovation can fuel economic growth and improve the lives of all Americans. Trump also calls for revitalizing American science and technology and pursuing truth, reducing administrative burdens, and enabling researchers to make groundbreaking discoveries.

White House News: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/articles/2025/03/icymi-president-trump-outlines-ostps-goals-and-priorities/>

Letter to Michael Kratsios: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/03/a-letter-to-michael-kratsios-director-of-the-white-house-office-of-science-and-technology-policy/>

New OECD paper: Harnessing Mission Governance to Achieve National Climate Targets (1 April 2025)

Source: Website OECD https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/harnessing-mission-governance-to-achieve-national-climate-targets_781146eb-en.html

To achieve ambitious climate targets under the Paris Agreement, countries need more than political will – they need effective governance. This report examines how a mission-oriented approach can transform climate action. Analysing 15 countries' climate council assessments, the report reveals that, while many nations are incorporating elements of mission governance, significant gaps remain. It highlights promising examples of whole-of-government approaches, while identifying key challenges, such as limited societal engagement, weak co-ordination, and a lack of focus on experimentation and ecosystem mobilisation. The report argues that national climate commitments effectively function as overarching missions, and thus, can greatly benefit from applying mission governance principles. It recommends integrating missions into climate mitigation efforts, applying these principles to policy design and implementation, and deploying targeted missions to address specific climate challenges. By embracing a holistic, mission-driven strategy, countries can enhance their climate action and achieve their ambitious targets.

Read full summary here: https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/harnessing-mission-governance-to-achieve-national-climate-targets_781146eb-en.html

Read full report here: https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/publications/reports/2025/04/harnessing-mission-governance-to-achieve-national-climate-targets_2f7c93c8/781146eb-en.pdf

National policy

Senate approves OCW budget (10 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 April 2025

The Senate has approved the budget of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) for 2025. Last week, the House held an extra debate on the budget, due to concerns about the legal aspects of the cuts in higher education and science. In addition to the coalition parties – which do not have a majority in the Senate – CDA, JA21, CU, SGP and 50PLUS voted in favour of the budget. HOP has written about the debate and the votes.

News item Senate: https://www.eerstekamer.nl/nieuws/20250408/eerste_kamer_stemt_in_met (in Dutch)

Summary of the debate: https://www.eerstekamer.nl/nieuws/20250401/debat_samengevat_vervolg_debat (in Dutch)

Article HOP/U-Today (debate): <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75407/ook-in-blessuretijd-kan-oppositie-bezuinigingen-niet-dwarsbomen> (in Dutch)

Article HOP/U-Today (votes): <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75435/eerste-kamer-aanvaardt-bezuinigingen-universiteiten-naar-de-rechter> (in Dutch)

Bruins publishes bill on knowledge security screening (10 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 April 2025

Minister Bruins has published the bill on knowledge security screening for internet consultation. The bill regulates mandatory screening for researchers and master students in sensitive knowledge and technology areas. Bruins expects that this will involve approximately 8,000 screenings per year. “Knowledge is power, and so we must protect our knowledge. By very specifically screening people who want access to knowledge that is very important to our country, we prevent that knowledge from leaking away,” according to the minister. The consultation closes on 30 June. Parallel to the internet consultation, a number of parties involved have been asked to issue tests or provide advice, including the implementation organisation Justis and the Dutch Data Protection Authority. In a letter to Parliament, Bruins writes that he wants to speed up the bill as much as possible. The aim is to submit the final bill to the Council of State for advice in the second half of this year. Universities of the Netherlands (UNL) responds critically to the proposal. UNL chairman Caspar van den Berg tells HOP that the bill ‘ensures an unfeasible amount of screenings and makes the Netherlands unattractive for international talent’.

Internet consultation on the Knowledge Security Screening Act:

<https://www.internetconsultatie.nl/screeningkennisveiligheid/b1> (in Dutch)

Press release from the central government: <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/04/07/screening-voor-wetenschappers-die-met-sensitieve-kennis-willen-werken> (in Dutch)

Letter to parliament from Minister Bruins: <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/5ecab33e-6221-4206-a854-3d5ffaf00809/file> (in Dutch)

NOS article: <https://nos.nl/artikel/2562752-overheid-gaat-jaarlijks-zo-n-8000-wetenschappers-screenen-om-spiionage-te-voorkomen> (in Dutch)

HOP/U-Today article: <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75432/screening-kennisveiligheid-gaat-universiteiten-miljoenen-kosten> (in Dutch)

Launch of National Expertise Centre on Transdisciplinarity (10 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 April 2025

On 3 April, NECTR - the National Expertise Centre on TRansdisciplinarity - was launched. NECTR is a new initiative that unites researchers, lecturers, policymakers and practitioners to promote transdisciplinary work in the Netherlands. Transdisciplinary work - in which researchers, policymakers, professionals and citizens work together on complex issues - is essential to tackle societal challenges. NECTR aims to strengthen this way of working by pooling knowledge, developing skills and facilitating sustainable partnerships. The initiators are the EWUU alliance (TU/e, WUR, UU, UMC Utrecht), TNO, DRIFT, Climate Research Initiative Netherlands (KIN), NWO, Rathenau Institute, Athena, Het Groene Brein, RVO, TUDelft and Convergence (TU Delft-Erasmus MC-EUR). During the launch, the whitepaper ‘Recognizing and Fostering Quality in Transdisciplinary Collaborations’ was also presented. This whitepaper addresses the question of how to recognize, acknowledge and promote the quality of transdisciplinary collaborations.

NECTR: <https://www.transdisciplinairwerken.nl/> (in Dutch)

Whitepaper: <https://www.transdisciplinairwerken.nl/whitepaper> (in Dutch)

Cabinet working on action plan to achieve 3% standard (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

In the third quarter, the cabinet wants to present an action plan that should clarify 'how a structural and credible interpretation can be given to the ambition of the 3% R&D target from the government program'. Minister Beljaarts writes this in a progress letter. The minister emphasizes that this standard is essential for the competitiveness of the Dutch economy and thus the prosperity in our country in the long term. "In a world in which technological development and innovation are increasingly determining factors for economic growth, stable and substantial investments in R&D are indispensable to keep the Netherlands and the EU internationally competitive and to find solutions to societal challenges. Recent publications, such as the Draghi report and the EU Competitiveness Compass, confirm the need for this", it can be read. In collaboration with the Rathenau Institute and TNO, the expected investment levels towards 2030 are analyzed to clarify which additional efforts are needed. The cabinet wants to work with the business community and other relevant stakeholders to build a coherent package of policy measures.

Letter to Parliament from Minister Beljaarts: <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/56e99f74-f355-4751-a047-9280a2d4566b/file> (in Dutch)

AWTI publishes 2024 annual report (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

The Advisory Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (AWTI) looks back on the year 2024 in its annual report. In 2024, AWTI advised on how the Dutch WTI system can be strengthened so that new knowledge and innovations contribute to the broad prosperity of the Netherlands, serve social interests and strengthen our geopolitical position. Read about the other activities in the annual report, such as the well-attended annual symposium.

AWTI annual report 2024: <https://www.awti.nl/documenten/jaarverslagen/2025/04/02/awti-jaarverslag-2024> (in Dutch)

International graduates more likely to stay in the Netherlands (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

More and more international students are still living in the Netherlands five years after graduating. This is evident from research by Nuffic into the 'stay rate' and labour market position of international graduates.

According to Nuffic, this is now 25.3 percent, compared to 24.1 percent in 2022. The percentage has also increased among recent graduates, which means that a further increase in the stay rate after five years is in line with expectations. The stay rate is higher among master students who also completed their bachelor's degree in the Netherlands.

Furthermore, the stay rate of graduates in shortage sectors is higher. Nuffic researcher Ece Arat calls the increasing stay rate good news for the economy. "Many sectors are experiencing acute shortages of highly educated personnel. International students have something to offer the Netherlands. They are generally ambitious, internationally oriented young people who have shown courage and perseverance. A higher stay rate therefore contributes positively to our economy," says Arat.

News item Nuffic: <https://www.nuffic.nl/nieuws/internationale-afgestudeerden-blijven-vaker-in-nederland-wonen-en-werken> (in Dutch)

Cabinet considers research and innovation a priority in the next European Multiannual Financial Framework (3 April 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 April 2025

The cabinet believes that research and innovation should be one of the priorities in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) of the EU. This is what ministers Veldkamp and Heinen write about the cabinet's commitment to the upcoming negotiations on the MFF from 2028. "The most important priorities for the MFF for the cabinet are strengthening European competitiveness with a strong internal market and a focus on research and innovation as a foundation, a solid migration and asylum policy, security and defence. The cabinet is committed to ensuring that resources are made available for these priorities under the new MFF that match the ambitious objectives", it says. The cabinet advocates strengthening and stimulating scientific excellence and cross-border public-public and public-private research and innovation programmes, including through a coherent Framework Programme for Innovation that contributes to both short-term and long-term competitiveness.

Letter to Parliament from ministers Veldkamp and Heinen: <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/032a4ba6-ccf0-48c0-ae9-4cce121e7131/file> (in Dutch)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 11 April 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	
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-DEV (5 topics)	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025, and Foreseen Deadline: 18 September 2025
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-EOSC (5 topics)	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025, and Foreseen Deadline: 18 September 2025
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-SERV (4 topics)	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025, and Foreseen Deadline: 18 September 2025
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-TECH (4 topics)	Foreseen opening: 6 May 2025, and Foreseen Deadline: 18 September 2025
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): 16 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) 16 September 2025
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-DISEASE-02-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s): 16 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) 16 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) 16 September 2025
Destination - Maintaining an innovative, sustainable, and competitive EU health industry	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-IND	Foreseen opening: 22 May 2025 Deadline(s) 16 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 2025	
HORIZON-MISS-2025-CLIMA Adaptation to Climate Change Mission	Foreseen opening 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline 24 September 2025 (HORIZON-MISS-2025-01-CLIMA Adaptation to Climate Change Mission)

HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER Cancer: Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission	Foreseen opening 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline 16 September 2025 (HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission)
HORIZON-MISS-2025-03-OCEAN Supporting the implementation of the Restore our Ocean and Waters Mission	Foreseen opening 7 May 2025 and foreseen deadline 24 September 2025 (HORIZON-MISS-2025-03-OCEAN Supporting the implementation of the Restore our Ocean and Waters Mission)
HORIZON-MISS-2025-04-CIT Supporting the implementation of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission	Foreseen opening 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline 4 September 2025 (HORIZON-MISS-2025-04-CITIES Supporting the implementation of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission)
HORIZON-MISS-2025-05 Call - Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission	Foreseen opening 6 May 2025 and foreseen deadline 30 September 2025 (HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL Call - Supporting the implementation of the Soil Deal for Europe Mission)
WIDERA 2025	

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 11 April 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 Biodiversity and Transformative Change #BiodivTransformcall It will follow a two-stage application process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-proposals: the deadline for submitting pre-proposals will be in 8 November 2024. (CLOSED) • Full Proposals: shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit full proposals by 11 April 2025 (CLOSED) 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.futurefoodspartnership.eu/	The first call of FutureFoods Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The deadline for pre-submissions is January 15, 2025 (13:00 CET) (CLOSED) The deadline for full proposals is July 9, 2025 (13:00 CEST) https://www.futurefoodspartnership.eu/
European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/	Second co-funded call AgroEcology Partnership https://agroecology.ptj.de/call2?genericModule=callDocuments&action=download&id=955 is open <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for pre proposal submission is 17 February 2025, 14:00h CET. (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/

Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **11 April 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 Full applications for the call The Water-Food nexus in rainfed agri-food systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: socio-economics and governance . The deadline for submitting full proposals is 13 May 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-research-on-scaling-up-soil-moisture-retention-in-rainfed-agriculture-sub-saharan-africa and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/the-water-food-nexus-in-rainfed-agri-food-systems-in-sub-saharan-africa-socio-economics-and-governance and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20-%20WFN%20call%20-%20def_2.pdf
05-06-2025	Deadline for submission full-proposals for call KIC Greenhouses in transition: opportunities in water, energy and agriculture (Joint call of the Dutch Research council (NWO) and the US Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR)) . Deadline for submission of full proposals in phase 2 is Thursday 5 June 2025, before 14:00:00 hours CEST (5 June 2025 before 08:00:00 EDT) in ISAAC. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/kic-call-greenhouses-in-transition-in-cooperation-with-ffar-now-open-for-proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-greenhouses-in-transition-opportunities-in-water-energy-and-agriculture and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20KIC%20Greenhouses%20in%20transition-met%20beeld%20%281%29_0.pdf
09-06-2025	Foreseen Deadline for submission full-proposals Merian Fund Cooperation South Africa-The Netherlands SGCI-NWO multilateral research programme . Closing date full application 9 June 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/merian-fund-cooperation-south-africa-the-netherlands-sgci-nwo-multilateral-research-programme
14-07-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals (mandatory) for the Long-term Europe – Africa WEF Nexus (LEAWEF) Multilateral Research Programme . The deadline for the submission of Full proposals (mandatory) is 14 July 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/long-term-europe-africa-wef-nexus-leawef-multilateral-research-programme and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/LEAWEF%20call_for_proposals%20%281%29_0.pdf
02-09-2025	Deadline for knowledge management proposal in Phase II ADM-LAB: Livings Labs for Adaptive Delta Management in Bangladesh . Deadline for submission of a knowledge management proposal in Phase II is Tuesday 2 September 2025, 14:00:00 CEST in ISAAC. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/adm-lab-livings-labs-for-adaptive-delta-management-in-bangladesh and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/ADM-LAB%20Livings%20Labs%20for%20Adaptive%20Delta%20Management%20in%20Bangladesh%20%20call%20for%20proposals%20UK.pdf
September 2025	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 **11 April 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

15-04-2025	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	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 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

24-06-2025	Deadline submission Statements of Content for call Future Plastics: Development of safe plastics for a sustainable future . Tuesday 24 June 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST Deadline statements of intent . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/future-plastics-development-of-safe-plastics-for-a-sustainable-future and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/20250305%20KIC%20KIC%20Future%20plastics_development%20of%20safe%20plastics%20for%20a%20sustainable%20future.pdf
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	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	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	Deadline submission Full Proposals for call Future Plastics: Development of safe plastics for a sustainable future . Tuesday 16 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST Deadline proposals . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/future-plastics-development-of-safe-plastics-for-a-sustainable-future and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/20250305%20KIC%20KIC%20Future%20plastics_development%20of%20safe%20plastics%20for%20a%20sustainable%20future.pdf
16-09-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission pre-proposals for Open Competition Domain Science–XL round 2025–2026 . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is Tuesday 16th September 2025, before 14:00:00 hours CEST . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026
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
02-12-2025	NEW : Foreseen deadline for Full application call KIC Reducing health inequalities - technology for people in a lower social economic position . Closing date full application 2 December 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-reducing-health-inequalities-technology-for-people-in-a-lower-social-economic-position
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	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
22-01-2026	Deadline submission proposals for KIC Societal Earning Capacity: Connection, Synthesis and Knowledge Utilisation This Call for proposals has a specific lead time during which applications can be submitted continuously. During the term, three deadlines/collection times have been determined when applications will be assessed. Applications can be submitted continuously until January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET. January 22, 2026, before 2:00:00 PM CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation
03-02-2026	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
03-02-2026	Deadline submission Full proposals Dutch Research Agenda - Research along Routes by Consortia 2025 (NWA-ORC 2025) . Closing date full application 3 February 2026 14:00 hrs . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/dutch-research-agenda-research-along-routes-by-consortia-2025-nwa-orc-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWAORC2025_Call%20for%20Proposals_EN.pdf
09-06-2026	NEW : Deadline for submission Full-proposals for Open Competition Domain Science–XL round 2025–2026 . The deadline for submitting full proposals is Tuesday 9th June 2026, before 14:00:00 hours CEST . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026
21-01-2027	Deadline submission proposals for KIC Societal Earning Capacity: Connection, Synthesis and Knowledge Utilisation This Call for proposals has a specific lead time during which applications can be submitted continuously. During the term, three deadlines/collection times have been determined when applications will be assessed. Applications can be submitted continuously until January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET. January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation

Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on **28 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 EFFE East Netherlands Test and demonstration projects priority 1 (a smarter East Netherlands): applications can be submitted from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. The subsidy ceiling is €6.7 million, of which €5 million for activities that benefit Gelderland and €1.7 million for activities that benefit Overijssel.

From 16-09-2024 to 01-11-2024	Opening 2 for proposals OP-Zuid from September 16, 2024 9:00 AM to November 1, 2024 5:00 PM. A budget of 25 million euros OPZuid 2021-2027 is available for both openings, equally divided into a smarter Europe and a greener Europe. A total of 50 million euros will be available in 2024. https://www.stimulus.nl/subsidiepot-voor-klimaat-niet-leeg/ and https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Eastern Netherlands: For for overview calls go to EFRO Oost https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen
2023-2024	EFRO 2021 – 2027 Western Netherlands: For calls Kansens 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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