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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe

ERC Work Programme 2026 adopted (8 July 2025)

Source: Website ERC <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/erc-work-programme-2026-adopted>



Photo credit © Shutterstock

The 2026 Work Programme of the European Research Council has been adopted. The programme outlines funding opportunities, grant budgets, competition schedules, and eligibility rules for ERC funding in the coming year. The document was drafted and endorsed by the ERC Scientific Council and adopted by the European Commission. As previously announced <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/changes-2026-and-2027-work-programmes>, several updates will apply to ERC grant applications as of the 2026 Work Programme, with further adjustments planned for 2027.

Indicative summary of calls from the 2026 budget

	Starting Grant Call	Consolidator Grant Call	Advanced Grant Call	Synergy Grant Call
Identifier	ERC-2026-StG	ERC-2026-CoG	ERC-2026-AdG	ERC-2026-SyG
Opening Date	9 July 2025	25 September 2025	28 May 2026	10 July 2025
Deadline	14 October 2025	13 January 2026	27 August 2026	5 November 2025
Budget (EUR, m)	705	673	747	500
Estimated Number of Grants	450	328	294	49
Date to Inform Applicants – Step 1	28 April 2026	17 July 2026	29 January 2027	13 April 2026
Date to Inform Applicants – Step 2	25 August 2026	11 December 2026	11 June 2027	14 August 2026
Date to Inform Applicants – Step 3	-	-	-	27 October 2026
Grant Agreement Signature Date	22 December 2026	12 April 2027	16 November 2027	24 March 2027

From 2026, applicants will be asked to structure their proposals into two parts: a concise five-page Part I outlining the scientific idea and objectives, and a more detailed Part II focused on implementation and methodology. Feasibility will now only be assessed at Step 2 of evaluation.

As recently [stated](#), applicants based outside Europe can request up to €2 million in additional funding to support their relocation. This additional funding can now also cover personnel costs.

New grounds for extending eligibility for Starting and Consolidator Grants have been introduced, including cases of gender-based violence and a broader definition of parental leave. A resubmission restriction will apply to Synergy Grant applicants who received a 'B' score in Step 1 of the 2025 call.

Looking ahead, the ERC will widen the eligibility windows for Starting and Consolidator Grants from 2027 to better reflect varied academic careers. A new funding instrument under the **Choose Europe for Science** <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/choose-europe-science-erc-welcomes-new-budget-super-grants> initiative is also in development by the ERC Scientific Council, with details following in due course.

Key updates Europe's digital transformation & RVO events (8 July 2025)

Source: mailing team IRIS RVO

Several key deadlines are approaching for EU funding opportunities in digital innovation.

The **Horizon Europe Cluster 4 Digital Industry and Space calls** close on **1 October 2025**, and the first set of Digital Europe Programme calls close on **1 September 2025**. In addition, the **EIC Accelerator Open 2025** provides funding for breakthrough deep-tech innovations, with a submission cut-off on **1 October 2025**. To support your application, we offer tailored services including feedback on your project idea and consortium, full proposal review, and legal and financial guidance. Make sure to contact us in time to benefit from our support and strengthen your proposal before the deadline.

You can contact us at horizon.cluster4@rvo.nl, digital.europe@rvo.nl or accelerator@rvo.nl for support tailored to your proposal.

The Horizon Europe Cluster 4 Digital – Face2Face Brokerage 2025 is a free online matchmaking platform open from **15 May to 2 October 2025**, with registration available until 31 August 2025. It offers one to one meetings for participants to explore project ideas related to the Cluster 4 Digital, Industry and Space calls. In addition to networking, participants can request a project idea check with National Contact Points to align proposals with Horizon Europe priorities. This is a great opportunity to connect with potential partners across Europe, get early feedback, and strengthen your proposal ahead of the next call. Register by 31 August, create your profile, share your expertise or idea, and start booking meetings via the platform: **b2match Cluster 4 Digital Brokerage** <https://www.b2match.com/e/cl4-digital-2025>.

The Digital Europe Programme Matchmaking Platform is a free online tool to help you connect with potential partners for upcoming Digital Europe calls. It complements the Horizon Europe brokerage and offers one to one meetings to explore ideas and build strong consortia. Create a profile, highlight your expertise or project idea, and book meetings directly through the platform. Join now to boost your chances of success in the Digital Europe Programme: **b2match Digital Europe matchmaking** <https://www.b2match.com/e/digital-europe/components/54153>

The European Commission has launched three surveys to inform future EU investments in digital research, innovation and deployment beyond 2027. These surveys support the preparation of the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and aim to identify key technological, market and ecosystem needs. **All surveys are open until 18 July 2025, and your input is highly valued:**

Strategic Digital Technologies: Share your views on which emerging technologies the EU should prioritise for research and innovation. Take the survey [here](#).

Deployment Needs for Digital Infrastructures: Help define where EU support is most needed to roll out digital capabilities across Europe. Participate [here](#).

Ecosystem and Policy Needs: Contribute to shaping a supportive environment for digital innovation and investment. Share your feedback [here](#).

Your contribution will help guide EU digital priorities for the next decade. Make sure your voice is heard. You can find the **surveys here** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/consultations/surveys-launched-inform-future-eu-investments-research-innovation-deployment-digital-technologies>.

The European Commission's 2025 State of the Digital Decade report, published on 16 June 2025, highlights both progress and gaps in Europe's digital transformation. While 5G coverage and digital public services have improved, major challenges remain in areas such as digital skills, advanced connectivity, cybersecurity, and technological independence. The report calls for urgent action to boost investment, improve coordination across Member States, and accelerate the deployment of key technologies like AI, semiconductors and secure cloud infrastructure. Read the full

report and country **data here** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/2025-state-digital-decade-report-urges-renewed-action-digital-transformation-security-and>.

European Funding News: FP10

EIC Board Calls for Quadrupling Budget to Accelerate Deep Tech in Europe (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

The European Innovation Council (EIC) is calling for a quadrupling of the EIC budget under the next European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP10). The EIC advocates this in a position paper. Science Business has also written on the matter. Among other things, the EIC proposes using a new challenge model based on the American ARPA approach. "The EIC's experience shows that it has had a significant impact, but more is needed to enable Europe to match its ambitions with the necessary actions," says EIC President Michiel Scheffer. "The recommendations of the EIC Board show what works well, where improvements are needed, and how much resources are needed to enable more of Europe's promising innovators to become global champions."

EIC News:

Science Business Article:

Commission floats Widening reforms in leaked FP10 proposal (9 July 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/commission-floats-widening-reforms-leaked-fp10-proposal>

Draft plan foresees a new category for research and innovation runners-up and funding restrictions for states that fail to boost R&D spending



Photo credits: Alexandr L. / BigStock

The EU's next Framework Programme for research and innovation, FP10, will continue to support Widening measures aimed at reducing R&D performance gap between member states, according to a draft text by the European Commission dated July 4.

The post-2027 Widening programme will be part of a broader new pillar in Horizon Europe, which will focus on developing a "unified European Research Area," developing and operating research and innovation infrastructures, and boosting research and innovation capacities "in all regions of Europe," the draft document reads.

According to the draft proposal, the Widening programme should focus on delivering "concrete measures" for building the R&D capacity of countries that have been lagging behind in terms of participation in Horizon Europe. The Commission hopes the Widening programmes, in the new configuration, would lead to "a more cohesive and integrated European [research and innovation] system and contributing to the target to invest at least 3% of GDP in research and development," the draft proposal says.

However, the Widening programme could change significantly, as the Commission is planning to create two-tiers of eligible countries. So far, 15 EU member states have been part of the so-called Widening group countries.

Now, the Commission wants to split the group in two by adding a new category for countries that have been able to show progress in the EU innovation scoreboard, an annual analysis of R&D performance across all member states.

The new category would be called "transition countries" and will include member states with an innovation scoreboard index above 75% that have been able to increase their participation in Horizon Europe. The Commission is planning to

measure participation growth against “a positive relative financial return per gross national income” in the research and innovation programme.

In this scheme, the **Widening countries** would be **Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovakia**, while the **transition countries** would be **Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Malta, Portugal and Slovenia**.

Tadas Tumenas, head of the Lithuanian liaison office for research and innovation in Brussels told Science |Business that the Commission should provide more clarity on the criteria used to split the 15 Widening countries into two categories. *“Instead of bridging gaps, this structure risks creating a three-speed Europe: those lagging behind, those in transition and those already ahead,”* Tumenas said.

In addition, from 2030 onwards access to some Widening funding schemes, particularly those aimed at capacity building, will be restricted to the Widening countries that have increased their public R&D expenditure in the previous year. National investments in research will be assessed through the European Semester process, which is the Commission’s main tool for financial supervision in the member states.

“Support may be reserved for widening countries that demonstrate a tangible commitment to public R&D by increasing their real expenditure,” said Tumenas. *“This would reflect a form of conditionality, whereby countries are expected to ‘do their part’ by investing national resources in order to benefit from additional EU support.”*

Earlier this year, a group of 15 EU research ministers wrote a joint letter to the European commissioner responsible for research, Ekaterina Zaharieva, urging her to ensure the 2028-34 Framework Programme maintains the Widening funding schemes. The ministers see the future of the Widening programme in FP10 “not merely as a vital tool in addressing existing disparities, but as a testament to the collective strength of the EU’s research landscape.”

Commission draft proposal for FP10 leaked (8 July 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/planning-fp10/commission-draft-proposal-fp10-leaked>

EU’s next research Framework Programme will have four pillars and parts of it are to be aligned more closely with the European Competitiveness Fund



Christophe Licoppe / European Union

Collaborative research in Horizon Europe is set to be rebranded after 2028 and will be managed through a “steering mechanism” and a “competitiveness coordination tool” which will be detailed in the regulation of the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), a leaked FP10 proposal <https://sciencebusiness.net/sites/default/files/inline-files/HE-FP10%20-%20draft%20regulation.pdf> has revealed.

According to the draft text by the European Commission dated July 4, the next Framework Programme for research and innovation will adopt a new four-pillar structure but some of its components – collaborative research in particular – will be strategically aligned with the ECF.

The four pillars are excellent science, competitiveness and society, innovation, and European research area, with the second pillar set to be tightly connected to the ECF. The draft proposal says the competitiveness pillar “shall include the collaborative research and innovation activities in a specific dedicated part of the work programmes” which will be developed “under the steering mechanism and the Competitiveness Coordination Tool” which are set up in the new ECF regulation.

The Brussels rumour mill has been churning <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/brussels-rumour-mill-churns-out-new-scenario-fp10> out scenarios for how FP10 and the ECF will work together for months, but the draft proposal does not clarify sufficiently how the shared jurisdiction over the new competitiveness pillar will be managed.

German centre-right MEP Christian Ehler, who is slated to become the European Parliament's rapporteur on the FP10 legislation, told Science|Business that, through the ECF, the Commission is attempting "a power grab instead of the reform we need according to the Draghi and Heitor [policy reports]."

Commission President Ursula von der Leyen had previously said that FP10 would remain independent but would still be 'tightly connected' to the ECF, which would "offer support for the investment journey of a project, from an idea to the market, from research to start-up, scale-up and global manufacturing."

However, there are some positive developments, said Ehler. "The Commission seems serious about leaving more space for researchers to come up with bottom-up ideas under more openly formulated calls."

The draft proposal does not include details on the budget, but research stakeholders have been advocating for as much as €200 billion.

"If this is the final text, we will have to see this in the context of the whole MFF package, but it seems to me that there will be a lot on the shoulders of the co-legislators to make these texts work for [research] stakeholders," Ehler said.

The Commission is expected to unveil its final proposal for the next long-term EU budget, including the ECF and Horizon Europe, on July 16.

What's in the draft proposal?

Pillar 1, an expanded ERC

According to the draft, Horizon Europe's Pillar 1 will continue to fund basic science under two funding schemes: the European Research Council (ERC) and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA).

But starting in 2028, the two funds will have a stronger focus on attracting and keeping talent in Europe. "Research excellence and mobility is at the core of Europe's ambition to be the best place in the world to do research: 'Choose Europe'," the draft says.

The draft promises the ERC will expand to increase its support for fundamental research, but provides no further details. It could introduce new or bolstered support schemes, and a bigger budget than its current €16 billion for seven years.

There is no mention of the research training programme, MSCA, getting a budget boost. It will continue to fund doctoral networks, post-doctoral fellowships and R&I staff exchanges, as per the draft. The draft also mentions "support mechanisms to foster sustainable careers", likely a nod to the Choose Europe scheme which the Commission will pilot this year.

Research infrastructures will no longer be funded under Pillar 1, instead moving to the newly created Pillar 4.

Pillar 2 and the competitiveness fund

Despite some rumours to the contrary, FP10 will have a Pillar 2 to support collaborative research and innovation, but it will hold a different name ("Competitiveness and Society") and will be closely tied to the ECF.

A first, "competitiveness" component would fund research and innovation to support the ECF's four proposed policy areas: clean transition and industrial decarbonisation; health, bioeconomy and biotechnology; digital; and resilience, defence and space. It is unclear whether this means Pillar 2 will also fund defence and dual-use projects.

A second, "society" component would support "bottom-up research" on societal challenges such as migration, democracy and disinformation. This component would also incorporate research and innovation support for the EU missions and the New European Bauhaus Facility.

Within Pillar 2, the Commission plans to establish a "limited number" of partnerships, which will be "radically simplified." The draft says the Competitiveness Fund should contribute to the partnerships "when necessary" to complete its objectives. The leaked proposal does not specify whether the three different types of partnerships will all continue, but the largest partnerships, known as joint undertakings, are mentioned.

In addition to the continuation of the missions, the introduction to the draft regulation says Horizon Europe "could finance research and innovation related aspects of 'moonshots' projects with a strong scientific component." Potential examples of moonshots include investing in CERN's Future Circular Collider project, developing clean aviation and quantum computing.

EIC dominates Pillar 3

Pillar 3, "Innovation" instead of "Innovative Europe," will continue to support innovation. Its funding will be mainly funnelled through the European Innovation Council (EIC), which is in for a revamp modelled after ARPA, the US advanced research agencies.

The EIC will keep the same funding schemes as before: Pathfinder, Transition, Accelerator and scale-up funding. It will also fund incentives for innovation procurers and business acceleration services.

Imitating elements of ARPA, the EIC will support high risk projects in stages, with the option to discontinue them, "based on their potential to deliver on disruptive solutions as assessed by expert programme managers."

To support defence and dual use start-ups and scale-ups, the EIC will try to copy the approach of the US defence research agency DARPA.

Some innovation support will be available outside of the EIC through innovation ecosystem activities, but the draft does not specify what these are.

The draft does not specifically mention the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), but it suggests Horizon will continue to foster the EIT's mission of integrating the so-called knowledge triangle of higher education, research and innovation, and business.

Welcoming Pillar 4

The newly created Pillar 4 will support the development of a unified European Research Area (ERA) through three funding schemes: ERA policy, research and technology infrastructures, and Widening participation and spreading excellence.

The Widening scheme will continue to help emerging EU member states improve their R&D systems. The programme could now separate beneficiary countries into two categories: Widening and Transition countries. The latter are former Widening countries whose R&D performance has already improved.

Both groups will receive support for networking, knowledge valorisation and countering brain drain. Widening countries will also get extra support for capacity building.

Separately, another novelty, Horizon will fund both research and technology infrastructures. EU will also contribute up to 20% towards the building costs of critical world-class facilities.

Winners and losers: what's at stake for research in the next EU budget proposal? (8 July 2025)

Source: Website science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/r-d-funding/planning-fp10/winners-and-losers-whats-stake-research-next-eu-budget-proposal>

Increased funding for some Horizon Europe research schemes and a potential end to others. Here's what the rumours say



Photo credits: [jamdesign](#) / BigStock

The much-anticipated proposal for the next long-term EU budget promises a complete revamp of EU research funding. Some in the research community fear the changes; others are ready to embrace them. Here's what's at stake when the European Commission presents its proposal on July 16.

FP10 independence, or how ringfenced is ringfenced?

The main novelty in the next EU research programme, FP10, will be its link with the new European Competitiveness Fund (ECF). The mega-fund is set to combine various EU programmes that aim to boost Europe's economy, likely including FP10, or at least parts of it. This prospect has many in the research world worried about the independence of EU research funding.

In May, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen **confirmed** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/self-standing-fp10-will-be-tightly-connected-european-competitiveness-fund-von-der-leyen> a "self-standing" FP10 will be "tightly connected" to the ECF. Many were relieved that FP10 will not be absorbed by the ECF, but for some, warning bells started ringing even louder: how closely linked will these programmes be?

The independence of the EU's Framework Programme from the Commission's policy whims has been a hot issue for years. Bureaucrats want EU research to help deliver on EU priorities. It makes sense on paper, but this policy-driven approach is often at odds with the way knowledge is produced. Researchers need freedom to explore, they say, not commands to chase specific policies.

The other issue is money. Treating a research fund like a policy tool makes it part of the broader EU agenda. When a crisis or a new priority comes up, the money needed to tackle it may be diverted from research. Whether FP10 will retain its independence and in what form is not yet clear. Most likely, at least a chunk of FP10 will be part of the ECF, with some rumours suggesting as much as 75% may be absorbed. The rest may be tied to other EU funds. Or perhaps a small FP10 could be on the sidelines of the ECF – it's anyone's guess.

Pillar 2 future

One of the biggest worries is the future of Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe, which funds collaborative research. In this hybrid ECF fund, Pillar 2 may become even more of a policy tool, separate from the rest of the research programme. Separating Pillar 2 from basic research is bad news for universities and research institutes. Many already find it difficult to coordinate or even take part in the huge policy-driven projects Horizon funds. Its incorporation in a mega-fund that will likely prioritise deployment and commercialisation of new tech may further exacerbate this trend. Plus, many research stakeholders complain that Pillar 2 already fails to support fundamental research and small projects. This again may be further undermined by a shift to competitiveness policy.

Dual use and simplification

Alongside competitiveness, the EU is looking to boost investment in defence, and research funds such as Pillar 2 will likely provide some of this funding in the form of dual use calls for proposals.

Last year, the Commission consulted the EU research community on how best to incorporate dual -use funding into FP10. It has not communicated any decision since, but last month **von der Leyen reaffirmed** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/dual-use/von-der-leyen-reaffirms-dual-use-rd-plans-ahead-eu-budget-proposal> that EU needs to "build more bridges" between the civilian and military domains.

In the background, dual use calls have been slowly [making their way into](#) research programmes such as the European Innovation Council and the Research Fund for Coal and Steel. Earlier this month, a **Commission advisory group recommended** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/dual-use/fp10-should-focus-dual-use-design-commission-advisory-group-says> FP10 should be "dual use by design." Dual use will be part of the ECF and even FP10 – the question is how?

Finally, Pillar 2's future also raises questions about the simplification of EU research programmes and the application process. These big collaborative research calls are a huge administrative burden, and their simplification has been a top priority for years.

EU Research Commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva [vowed to simplify](#) FP10 when she took the job last year. But with so little known about the next EU research programme, not much guesswork can be done on what the details will look like.

Biggest winners

There is good news. Two Horizon Europe schemes are likely in line for a big budget increase. In June, Zaharieva said the Commission hopes to double or even triple the budget of the European Innovation Council (EIC) in the next EU budget to finance more start-ups and innovation projects.

The EIC launched in 2021 to help boost Europe's sluggish start-up funding scene and has since grown very popular with both founders and policymakers. Today, it can only fund around 4% of the proposals it receives.

Alongside a boosted budget, the EIC may also be in line for a broader revamp. For example, its board has [suggested](#) the scheme should have more funding options, including more early-stage investment and follow-on and growth financing for deep-tech start-ups and SMEs.

The other likely winner is Horizon's fundamental research programme, the European Research Council (ERC). Often called the Framework Programme's biggest success, like the EIC it suffers from low success rates. To remedy this, EU research stakeholders have repeatedly called for a bigger budget for the ERC. This is likely, considering the ERC's popularity.

The other hope for the ERC is more independence. Last month, the fund's scientific council [asked](#) the Commission to make the ERC a permanent, standalone EU body. The Commission has not responded to the request but, so far, it has not said no.

Potential losers

In the past few years, many EU member states and research stakeholders have expressed doubt that Horizon Europe Missions and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) are worth the money.

The Missions only got off the ground in 2021, with the aim of using research funding to create critical mass to tackle five major societal challenges, including climate adaptation and cancer.

They set grand, time-sensitive goals, such as cleaning up Europe's oceans and waters by 2030. But with a few billion euros invested, most of the work so far has gone on setting up networks for delivering the Missions. This may pay off in the future, but EU governments [may be unwilling](#) to keep footing the bill if they do not see the potential.

The other bill some member states have said they are hesitant to keep paying is for the EIT, the EU's innovator training and funding scheme. In 2024, both Denmark and Latvia [called](#) on the EU to discontinue the EIT.

The EIT's nine (soon to be ten) sector-specific innovation communities cost taxpayers a little less than half a billion euros a year to run. They coordinate training and help start-ups raise funding, with varying success. In 2024, calls started [mounting](#) to discontinue this "overly complex, costly and non-transparent" EU agency.

The Commission has not indicated any future plans for the EIT. Some have suggested it could merge with the EIC, as both schemes target European innovators.

Change in the air for partnerships

For the rest of Horizon, change is in the air, but what that change may be is all guess work and rumours.

The Commission has promised a revamp for Horizon Europe partnerships, including thinning their count. Horizon Europe has 50-odd partnerships, down from more than 120 in the previous Framework Programme.

Currently, there are three types of partnership: institutionalised, co-programmed and co-funded. Rumours suggest the Commission wants to get rid of one or more types of partnerships altogether.

The partnership community is not happy about the prospect of a revamp, as it may mean the end for some. Instead, it has previously [proposed](#) improved governance, a clearer focus on commercialisation and a better administrative framework.

MSCA experiments

A makeover is also rumoured for the EU's researcher training and mobility scheme, the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA).

In June, the Commission floated the idea of introducing top-down, policy-driven calls to the MSCA, which has historically always allowed researchers to set their own research topics. The research community [said a clear "no"](#) to the proposal to introduce changes in 2026. For now, the Commission has let the idea go, but it could still make a comeback in FP10. Another rumour has it that the Commission is considering moving the MSCA from FP10 to the Erasmus+ education and mobility programme. This is a [no-go for the MSCA alumni](#) association and most stakeholders. But that may not stop bureaucrats from officially putting this on the table in the EU budget proposal.

This is part of a broader question of whether any parts of the current research Framework Programme could end up in Erasmus+, or vice-versa. Some rumours suggest European Universities alliances, for example, may be moved from Erasmus+ to the Competitiveness Fund. Universities say this would [undermine](#) long-term support.

Uncertainty for Widening

Horizon Europe funds a variety of Widening schemes to help countries that struggle to get their fair share of EU research funds to take part in the Framework Programme.

But not all member states are happy to put money towards boosting other countries' success, especially since [there is too little data](#) to say much about the schemes' effectiveness. Finland and Denmark have previously called on the EU to stop funding the programme, and even some Widening beneficiaries have doubts about its usefulness.

In the European Parliament, however, a new taskforce is championing the programme and calling for Widening principles [to be embedded](#) across all areas and funding instruments of FP10.

The Commission has not confirmed whether Widening will survive the competitiveness revamp and in what form, but the programme has yet to make an appearance in the various leaked EU budget tables that have been flooding Brussels.

Concepts Regulation and Specific Programme FP10 (8 July 2025)

Source: *Neth-ER Flash / newsletter*

In this Neth-ER flash you will find the leaked draft versions of the Regulation for the next Framework Programme (FP10) and the Council Conclusions for the Specific Programme implementing FP10. No budget is mentioned in the leaked documents. The official publication is scheduled for 16 July.

The next Framework Programme will retain the name 'Horizon Europe' and will run for seven years as expected. According to the Regulation, FP10 will be strongly linked to the European Competitiveness Fund. For example, the Competitiveness Fund will contribute to the Partnerships within FP10. The Competitiveness Fund will contain a single rulebook that will also apply to Horizon Europe.

The Framework Programme will consist of four pillars:

- I. Excellent Science
- II. Competitiveness & Society
- III. Innovation
- IV. European Research Area

Pillar I 'Excellent Science' consists of the European Research Council, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions and Science for EU policies (non-nuclear directorate actions by the Joint Research Centre).

Pillar II will consist of two parts: 'Competitiveness' and 'Society'. 'Competitiveness' will support policy priorities of the Competitiveness Fund, in particular 'Support for Clean Transition and Industrial Decarbonisation', 'Support for Health and bioeconomy', 'Support for digital leadership policy' and 'Support for Resilience, Defence Industry and Space policy'.

- 'Society' will include research and innovation activities on global societal challenges, the New European Bahaus Facility and the Missen.

Pillar III consists of the European Innovation Council (EIC) and Innovation Ecosystems (including integration of the knowledge triangle – higher education, R&D and business).

Within the EIC, more 'ARPA' (Advanced Research Projects Agency) and 'DARPA' (Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency) elements are being built in. This was already known from, among others, ReArm Europe and the Startup & Scaleup Strategy.

Pillar IV will be about strengthening and reforming the European R&D system, research and technology infrastructures and widening. Within widening, countries are now divided into 'widening countries' and 'transition countries'.

These documents may still change before they are officially published.

Other International funding

Pre-announcement: new Biodiversa+ call opens on 9 September (10 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-new-biodiversa-call-opens-on-9-september>



The European research programme on biodiversity is expected to launch its new call, BiodivConnect, on 9 September. NWO is participating in this call in the division of restoration of the functioning, integrity and connectivity of ecosystems.

This call looking for projects that drive innovative research to be integrated into nature restoration practices, supporting interconnected and well-functioning ecosystems and habitats. Particular attention will be given to long-term sustainability and the future-proofing of restoration efforts, at local, regional, cross-border, and global scales. The call covers restoration efforts across all types of ecosystems and habitats, in all regions of the world, including the Caribbean Sea. The aim is to support high-quality research and innovation projects that adopt holistic, systemic, and integrated approaches to biodiversity and ecosystem restoration.

More information

To participate, consortia must consist of partners from at least three of the participating countries. The Biodiversa+ website lists the participating countries and allows you to search for partners. Biodiversa+ is organising an informative webinar on 11 September from 13:00 to 15:00. **Register via the Biodiversa+ website** <https://www.biodiversa.eu/research-funding/upcoming-calls/%5d>

About European Partnerships

The European co-funded partnerships are part of Horizon Europe, the European programme for research and innovation (2021-2027). The partnerships focus on complex societal challenges and aim at real impact. The calls resulting from the European partnerships lead to thematic research.

Update on the fund for leading international scientists: advance announcement of the Tulip Fund (10 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/update-on-the-fund-for-leading-international-scientists-advance-announcement-of-the-tulip-fund>



NWO has made 25 million euros available to facilitate the transition of top international researchers to the Netherlands. Later this summer, the call for proposals for the Tulip Fund, as the new fund will be called, will open. The fund will enable renowned international scientists from outside the EU to continue their research at a

Dutch research institution. Knowledge institutions can nominate top researchers or talents who wish to continue their work here in the Netherlands due to the growing threats to academic freedom to be considered for funding.

Science exists by virtue of international cooperation and academic freedom and independence

Freedom of science is under pressure in many parts of the world, and researchers are increasingly unable to operate independently. 'We are strongly committed to academic freedom, in the Netherlands and elsewhere in the world – as far as our influence reaches. Science exists by virtue of international cooperation and academic freedom and independence,' explains Marcel Levi, chair of the NWO Board, explaining the plans.

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) had asked **NWO to set up a**

programme <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-works-on-facilitating-the-transfer-of-top-international-researchers-to-the-netherlands> for top international scientists who prefer to work in the Netherlands and has made 25 million euros available for this purpose. NWO has doubled that amount, bringing the total available to 50 million euros. Minister Bruins of OCW informed the House of Representatives today about the progress of the fund.

Leading position of Dutch science

'We have many excellent scientists in our country and therefore know that a single top scientist with their own line of research can help an entire field take a giant step forward. Fifty additional top scientists can help your entire country take a step forward. Science provides solutions to major social problems in areas such as healthcare, energy transition, agriculture, water management and public housing. It also contributes to our independence from other countries, now and in the future. That is why I believe it is important to be able to do this, even in times when we are making across-the-board cuts in research and science. This is an opportunity we must not miss,' according to Minister Bruins.

Marcel Levi: 'One of the most important pillars for keeping the Netherlands economically and socially future-proof is knowledge, scientific research and innovation. Research is people work, and the Netherlands is fortunate to have a continuous stream of highly talented and highly educated young people with creative ideas and great research ambitions. However, there has been a brain drain from Europe to other countries for years, while talent that wants to work here is desperately needed. This is certainly true in view of the future predictions for the labour market and productivity. So high-level researchers who want to come here are more than welcome. This will enable us to maintain and strengthen the leading position of Dutch science.'

Dutch research organisations that can nominate candidates

Nominations for top researchers/talents to come to the Netherlands may be made by the boards of the research organisations listed below. Each of the research organisations in the Netherlands listed below may nominate a maximum of two candidates for each position via their board:

- Universities, fourteen in total: RUG, UT, RUN, UM, TUE, UVT, WUR, UU, EUR, TUD, UL, UvA, VU, OU
- UMCs, seven in total: Amsterdam, Utrecht, Leiden, Rotterdam, Nijmegen, Maastricht, Groningen
- NWO-I, on behalf of NWO institutes (jointly)
- KNAW, on behalf of KNAW institutes (jointly)

Each of the research organisations listed below may submit nominations for a maximum of one position through their board:

- the Netherlands Cancer Institute (NKI)
- Naturalis Biodiversity Center

The Association of Universities of Applied Sciences (VH) may nominate on behalf of member colleges (jointly) for up to four positions in total.

Water4All 2025 Joint Transnational Call Pre-Announcement (8 July 2025)

- Type of action : **Calls**
- Duration : SEPT. 2025 – END 2030
- Pillar(s) : **Pillar B - Research and Innovation Development**
- Budget : Approximately 23.8 M€

Funding Agencies from 31 countries all over Europe and abroad are pleased to pre-announce a joint transnational call (JTC) for research and innovation projects on “Water and Health”.

The context for the general call topics is described in Theme IV (IV.I; IV.III) of the **Water4All Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda** https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/sites/www.water4all-partnership.eu/files/2023-02/Water4All_SRIA-2022-2025_A4_2311_bd.pdf, “Water and Health”.

The joint transnational call will be launched in the framework of the future European partnership and will support research and innovation projects aimed at addressing key challenges related to the link between water and human health, including water quality, contaminants, and water treatment technologies.

The Water4All JTC 2025 also considers the One Health ([link here https://www.who.int/health-topics/one-health#tab=tab_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/one-health#tab=tab_1)) approach, recognizing the interconnections between human, environmental, and animal health. It also prioritizes the development of accurate, efficient, and cost-effective water quality monitoring methods to improve risk assessment and management. Likewise, the advance in the implementation of sustainable water treatment technologies is recognized as crucial for ensuring safe drinking water and effective sanitation.

In line with the strategic objectives of Water4All, the results of the projects will contribute to the implementation of evidence-based, global, EU and national water management policies and strategies, within the frameworks of the European Green Deal, the zero-pollution action plan, the Water Framework Directive, Just Transition Mechanism, Water Resilience Strategy, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Proposals should consider on-going research activities funded by other instruments, programmes or projects and incorporate appropriate cross-cutting issues, such as socio-economic and/or capacity development.

International Info Day Webinar

The international info day webinar will be organised on **Sept. 25th, 2025 at 13:30 - 15:30 CEST**

Registration Link:

<https://anr.webex.com/webappng/sites/anr/meeting/register/da1ab4c8183d41b88d400a22ab2ae561?ticket=4832534b0000000726c19852>

Partner Search Tool

If you are looking for a partner or a project to join a partner search tool is available.

Link coming soon

Tentative timeline

- **Call opening:** 12 September 2025
- **Submission deadline of preproposals:** 13 November 2025, 15:00 CET
- **Selection of preproposals:** End of February 2026
- **Submission deadline of full proposals:** 13 April 2026, 15:00 CEST
- **Selection of funded proposals:** September 2026
- **Projects start:** End 2026/beginning 2027
- **Kick-off meeting of the funded projects:** Spring 2027



For more information: <https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-2025-joint-transnational-call-pre-announcement>

National funding

49 Take-off projects awarded in spring round 2025 (10 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/49-take-off-projects-awarded-in-spring-round-2025>



38 feasibility studies and 11 vroegefasetrajecten have been awarded in the 2025 spring round of Take-off. The Take-off program gives researchers in phase 1 the opportunity to test the feasibility of commercializing their idea based on innovative research results. In phase 2, knowledge-based, innovative start-ups in the early stages of their development receive a loan to get their business off the ground.

Feasibility studies (phase 1)

Feasibility studies enable researchers to investigate whether their innovative ideas are commercially viable. If so, they can use the feasibility report as a basis for starting a business.

One of the projects that will conduct a with feasibility study is ROOM. This is a mobile app tailored to students that focuses on personal growth, mental health, and resilience. Students in higher education are increasingly suffering from mental health problems, which affect their academic performance and well-being. The ROOM app uses advanced technology, based on scientific insights, to fill gaps in existing well-being tools. The app offers evidence-based interventions that can be applied in everyday life. This project will investigate the commercial feasibility of scaling up. The project 'Haplotagging - Rapid, efficient genome sequencing for food security and population health' can also get started. This team is the inventor of haplotagging, a simple, inexpensive, and scalable molecular labeling method. This method can be used for the development of new, robust, and high-yielding crops and protein sources. This is necessary as factors such as a growing world population, climate change and emerging pathogens pose major challenges to the seed breeding industry.

Loans for vroegefasetrajecten (phase 2)

In the Take-off phase 2 instrument, start-ups receive a loan to bring their business, based on research results from Dutch research organizations, to market. This loan gives them the opportunity to develop a proof of concept. The aim is that, at the end of this phase, entrepreneurs will be able to convince other private and public parties to invest.

MosaMatrix is one of the projects that will be starting an vroegefasetraject. This project focuses on 3D printing of human cells for tissue regeneration. Specifically, the company offers a new generation of bio-inks that can be used in all commercially available bioprinters that print human cells. With this project, MosaMatrix will expand its team and further validate the technology in practice.

HaptonTech is also getting started. This company has developed a haptic polymer coating technology that allows users to switch between textures on a screen on demand. This allows users to choose how something feels when they draw or touch it, and even to feel images on their device. This means that it is no longer necessary to physically go to a store to feel the fabric of clothing; with this technology, you can do it online. This will change the way we work digitally, follow distance learning, and shop online, for example.

Two WUR projects are awarded:

1. Exploring business models for the Market Surveillance Analytics (MSA) Lab developed by CERN, WUR and CORMEC - **prof. dr. ir. J.M.E. Pennings, Wageningen University & Research (22350)**
 2. Valorising a plant protection method - **dr. T.E. Kodger, Wageningen University & Research (22471)**
- For overview of all awarded projects:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/take-off/grants-take-off/2025>

From forensic to thermal techniques: six research projects awarded funding within the Open Technology Programme (8 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-forensic-to-thermal-techniques-six-research-projects-awarded-funding-within-the-open-technology-programme>



Six application-oriented projects can start with funding from the Open Technology Programme from the NOW domain Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES). NWO is supporting these application-oriented projects with more than 5.1 million euros. Industry partners and other organisations are contributing another amount of over 733,000 euros.

The granted projects include topics such as:

- Advanced forensic techniques can be used to tackle poaching and illegal trade in wild animals. Body temperature dynamics and chemical analysis can be used to reconstruct a timeline of events, verify alibis, and establish targeted (perpetrator) search strategies (project: Exploring the Past to Protect the Future: Advancing Time since Poaching Estimation in Non-Human Forensics).
- Biomechanical research can be used to determine whether injuries to infants and young children are the result of violent shaking. By linking simulation software to a smart doll, reconstruction and simulation can be used to determine the cause of injuries (project: 'OpenTwin' – An open-source platform for forensic reconstruction & assessment of infant-injury scenarios);
- Power converters are used to convert energy from renewable sources into electricity for the grid. These converters will provide important support during power outages to ensure the reliability of the grid. Advanced real-time temperature detection and intelligent thermal control can be used to increase the resilience of these converters against grid failures (project: Resilient Grid-connected Power Converter: Cyber-physical Power Device Health Management).

You can find more information about granted projects here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-forensic-to-thermal-techniques-six-research-projects-awarded-funding-within-the-open-technology-programme>

NWO's Onderzoek magazine: 'The AI revolution: benefit or burden?' (7 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwos-onderzoek-magazine-the-ai-revolution-benefit-or-burden>



Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly being used in science, and this trend is only set to grow. In this edition of Research, we explore how scientists use AI, who sets the rules for its use, and how scientists deal with their dependence on the powerful US companies that provide the AI tools we use.

American tech companies such as Google and Microsoft are at the heart of our education and research, putting scientific values such as reliability, transparency, and security under pressure. Meanwhile, our dependence on these companies is only increasing. "ChatGPT and Copilot are built into products we use every day. You have less and less choice *not* to use them," says José van Dijck, professor of Media and Digital Society. How are scientists dealing with this dependence? How can they break free from American tech companies? To reduce dependence on big tech, work is underway in various places in the Netherlands to develop alternative, sustainable AI alternatives for greater digital sovereignty. From GPT-NL to neuromorphic chips.

How do humans stay in control?

With an increase in papers generated (in part) by AI and closed-loop experiments carried out by AI, researchers are increasingly being sidelined. How can humans remain in control of science?

"We want to empower humans," says Professor of Interactive Intelligence Catholijn Jonker, who advocates hybrid intelligence in which humans and machines work together. Scientific reasoning remains a human endeavor.

Large-scale research

When used responsibly, AI can not only accelerate science, but also deepen it. The use of AI enables research that could never have been carried out on this scale before. Examples include research into microorganisms on potatoes, handwritten historical documents, and traffic safety for cyclists in the Netherlands.

Read the magazine

The latest edition of NWO magazine is out this week and can be read online <https://www.nwo.nl/de-ai-revolutie-zegen-of-zorg> (in Dutch). In this edition of 'Research', we explore how scientists are using AI, how they are dealing with their dependence on American tech companies, and what Dutch alternatives are available.

KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia – XL (7 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl>

Cybersecurity, climate, circular economy, housing shortage, ageing population or health: our society faces enormous challenges that require knowledge and groundbreaking innovations. This demands collaboration between researchers, businesses and public social partners to develop innovative solutions and implement them successfully. This programme stimulates this collaboration and funds new and existing public-private consortia.

Purpose

The aim of this programme is to stimulate demand-driven public-private partnerships that contribute to impact for the economy, people and the planet. The focus is on the societal challenges described in the mission-driven innovation policy of the Dutch government.

This funding scheme focuses on the consortium's knowledge and/or development question. There are no discipline-related frameworks or predetermined themes: the research need only align with one or more KIAs. This gives consortia the freedom to design interdisciplinary research that addresses their own specific challenges.

Applications must be submitted through the Isaac application and reporting system. If you do not have an Isaac account yet, then please create one at least one workday in advance. More information about writing a proposal and which forms you need to use can be found in Isaac. Please download and use the forms in Isaac. Below you will find examples of the required forms.

TO2 institutes are not eligible to participate as applicants in this call.

When to apply

- The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is **Tuesday 10 March 2026, before 14:00:00 CET**
- The deadline for submitting full proposals is **Thursday 12 November 2026, before 14:00:00 CET**.

The deadline for submitting a request for review of (foreign) organisations is 4 working weeks prior to the stated submission deadlines.

- **For pre-proposals, the deadline for submitting a request for review of (foreign) organisations is Tuesday, 10 February 2026 at 14:00:00 CET.**

- **For proposals, the deadline for submitting a request** for review of (foreign) organisations is Thursday, 15 October 2026 at 14:00:00 CET.

For more information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl> and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/KIC%20V4C-XL_CfP_EN.pdf

Nearly €800 million from National Growth Fund to 6 innovative projects (4 July 2025)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid Actueel Nieuws <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/07/04/bijna-800-miljoen-euro-van-nationaal-groeifonds-naar-zes-innovatieve-projecten>

6 projects will receive a definitive €780.9 million from the National Growth Fund (NGF). This was decided by the Council of Ministers on the proposal of Minister Karremans of Economic Affairs and Minister Heinen of Finance. The contribution will go to a project that accelerates and improves the development of new cancer therapies, for example. The government is also investing money in the development of photonic chips, which can be used for faster diagnoses of diseases, safe self-driving vehicles and **more efficient food production, for example**.

With these investments, the government is taking an important step in supporting innovative projects that contribute to the economic growth and social progress of the Netherlands.

The projects that are now receiving a definitive contribution from the National Growth Fund come from the 2nd and 3rd rounds of the fund. At the request of the government, the projects have refined their plans and submitted additional information in order to qualify for a definitive award. The Advisory Committee National Growth Fund has assessed the submitted proposals and issued a positive recommendation for 6 of these projects. The government has adopted this recommendation and has decided, among other things, to award the following:

Oncode Accelerator

Our country is one of the leaders in cancer research. However, developing new cancer therapies takes a lot of time (an average of 10 years) and is expensive and risky. Nevertheless, there are opportunities to accelerate and improve this development process. This is what the Oncode Accelerator program focuses on. With the support of the National Growth Fund, dozens of organizations, universities and companies in the Netherlands are joining forces. They have now been definitively awarded €123 million for this purpose.

PhotonDelta

PhotonDelta focuses on the development of photonic chips, which are used for faster diagnoses of diseases, safe self-driving vehicles and more efficient food production. Thanks to photonics, devices are developed smaller, faster and more energy-efficient. The PhotonDelta program aims to give the Netherlands a leading role in the global photonics market. Hundreds of startups, researchers and manufacturers are now working together in this program to achieve this goal. They will receive a definitive €100.8 million from the Growth Fund.

Biotech Booster

Biotech Booster helps to bring biotechnological knowledge to the market in the Netherlands faster. It brings together knowledge institutions and companies to bring new knowledge 'from lab to living room'. The project will receive a definitive €196.4 million for this.

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

International coalition launched to support Ukraine's research and innovation ecosystem (11 July 2025)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/international-coalition-launched-support-ukraines-research-and-innovation-ecosystem-2025-07-11_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

An **International Coalition for Science, Research, and Innovation in Ukraine** was officially launched in Rome today during the **2025 Ukraine Recovery Conference** <https://www.urc-international.com/>. The joint initiative by the Italian Ministry of University and Research, the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science, UNESCO and the European Commission, marks a significant step in placing science, research and innovation at the heart of Ukraine's sustainable, inclusive and long-term recovery.

The launch was announced by the Italian Minister of University and Research, Anna Maria Bernini; the Ukrainian First Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine, Yevhen Kudriavets; the European Commissioner for Startups, Research, and Innovation, Ekaterina Zaharieva; and UNESCO's Assistant Director-General, Lidia Arthur Brito.

On this occasion, the **Rome Declaration of Intent for Science, Research and Innovation in Ukraine** was presented and signed by the founding members of the Coalition, officially marking its establishment.

Next steps

The Coalition aims to respond to both the urgent needs and long-term priorities of Ukraine's research and innovation system. It will promote concrete actions to support Ukrainian scientists, drive reconstruction and modernisation, and reinforce the role of research and innovation in the country's recovery. To achieve these goals, the Coalition will coordinate international efforts, set out a shared agenda for cooperation, and facilitate structured, ongoing dialogue between the Ukrainian government and its global partners.

Membership in the Coalition is open to governments, international organisations, research entities, academic institutions, foundations, development banks and private sector actors actively supporting Ukraine's research sector. Interested entities are invited to join by agreeing to adhere to the **Rome Declaration** https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/international-coalition-launched-support-ukraines-research-and-innovation-ecosystem-2025-07-11_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news and submitting a formal request to the Secretariat at EC-R-I-COALITION-UA-SECRETARIAT@ec.europa.eu.

Several countries and organisations - including Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and UNDP - have already joined the Coalition, alongside the founding members, signalling strong international commitment to this collaborative recovery effort.

Read full article here: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/international-coalition-launched-support-ukraines-research-and-innovation-ecosystem-2025-07-11_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

EU research: SMEs are growing, but scaling remains challenging (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

The new Flash Eurobarometer on startups, scale-ups, and entrepreneurship shows that many European SMEs have strong ambitions but face structural obstacles to scaling up. Complex regulations, late payments, and limited access to financing are the most frequently cited obstacles. Nevertheless, growth prospects are generally positive: since 2021, almost half have seen increases in turnover and employment. 67% expect further growth, and 46% plan to expand their workforce. Startups are particularly optimistic, with almost one in five expecting growth of more than 20% per year. For many growth-oriented companies, staff shortages, high energy prices, and competitive pressure are major obstacles.

News item European Commission: https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/news/europes-small-and-medium-sized-enterprises-remain-ambitious-continue-face-persistent-hurdles-scaling-2025-07-02_en

CESAER Report Shows How Universities Can Promote Inclusive Entrepreneurship (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

The university association CESAER has published a report showcasing best practices for promoting inclusive and gender-diverse entrepreneurship. Eight universities demonstrate in the report how they are promoting gender equality and inclusion in their innovation policies. "In our recent European Innovation Council (EIC) statement, we reaffirmed that closing the gender gap in innovation is not only a matter of fairness but also an economic imperative," said EIC Vice-President Anita Krohn. "The CESAER report brings this ambition to life at the institutional level and demonstrates how European universities are taking responsibility for inclusion by embedding structural change in entrepreneurial ecosystems."

CESAER News: <https://www.cesaer.org/news/universities-advancing-inclusive-innovation-cesaer-shares-practices-to-support-diverse-entrepreneurship-1996/>

CESAER Report: <https://www.cesaer.org/content/5-operations/2025/20250704-report-supporting-diverse-and-inclusive-entrepreneurship.pdf>

How does the EU create an innovation-friendly investment climate? (10 July 2025)

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/hoe-krijgt-de-eu-een-innovatie-vriendelijk-investeringsklimaat->

How should the EU ensure an innovation-friendly investment climate? The answer lies in the upcoming European Innovation Act. To prepare for this, the Commission is launching a call for evidence and a public consultation. The Commission is also launching a public consultation for the 28th regime. You can respond to both until 30 September.



Ready, set, go, innovate!

Innovative companies must be able to flourish more effectively in the European market, but how should they approach this? This is the Commission's question in its public consultation https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14593-European-Innovation-Act_en and call for evidence for the upcoming European Innovation Act. Through the consultation, the Commission also aims to determine how to define "innovative companies" at the European level. This will also include startups emerging from knowledge institutions. Furthermore, the Commission aims to better understand and remove the barriers faced by innovative companies. Simultaneously, the Commission is launching a public consultation and call for evidence for the 28th regime https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14674-28th-regime-a-single-harmonized-set-of-rules-for-innovative-companies-throughout-the-EU_en. This should enable companies to establish a European legal entity with a European rulebook. **Both consultations are open until 30 September.**

Background

In her policy priorities for her second term as Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen has indicated she will introduce a European Innovation Act. This will aim to close Europe's innovation gap with the US and China. It will be accompanied by a proposal for a 28th regime. The proposals are expected to be published in Q1 2026.

Commission seeks feedback on the future European Innovation Act (8 July 2025)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/commission-seeks-feedback-future-european-innovation-act-2025-07-09_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

The Commission has launched a [call for evidence](#) and a [public consultation](#), inviting all interested stakeholders to contribute to the future **European Innovation Act**. A key deliverable of the [EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy](#), the European Innovation Act will facilitate bringing innovative ideas to market across all sectors. It will aim to address challenges in commercialising research results, strengthen collaboration between the industry and the academia, and improve access of innovative companies to markets, finance, talent and infrastructures. It will also create a more innovation-friendly regulatory, policy and investment environment across the EU, to give European innovators the tools they need to grow and scale within the EU and compete globally.

Designing the European Innovation Act together

The call for evidence together with the public consultation are open for contributions **until 30 September 2025** on the Commission's '**Have your Say**' portal.

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

"We must create the best possible framework conditions for innovators, and give them the opportunities they need to Choose Europe for developing their products and solutions, thriving in the Single Market and turning into global players. We want to hear from innovators, businesses, investors, policymakers, researchers, universities, and all interested parties to build an ambitious and effective innovation framework that will deliver real results."

Furthermore, a **call for evidence** https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14674-28th-regime-a-single-harmonized-set-of-rules-for-innovative-companies-throughout-the-EU_en and a **public consultation** https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14674-28th-regime-a-single-harmonized-set-of-rules-for-innovative-companies-throughout-the-EU_en on the 28th Regime have been launched, focusing on the EU corporate legal framework and looking into other challenges faced by companies in areas such as access to finance, tax and labour law and insolvency. The Commission will propose a 28th legal regime in 2026, to make it possible for innovative companies to benefit from a single, harmonised set of EU-wide rules wherever they invest and operate in the Single Market, instead of facing 27 distinct legal regimes.

Background

Europe produces high-quality research and innovation, but only a fraction transforms into successful market products. Key challenges include insufficient exploitation of intellectual property rights, gaps in standardisation and barriers that prevent universities and research organisations from adopting a more commercialisation-focused mindset. The use of intellectual property rights as collateral for financing also remains underutilised.

More agile innovation pathways are needed to pool EU, national and private investment, particularly for capital-intensive strategic technologies. Better coordination of national and EU innovation policies could maximise impact. Cutting excessive red tape and reducing fragmentation across the EU Single Market that hinders innovation deployment, are also essential.

At the same time, market access poses significant challenges for innovative companies seeking to grow in the EU market. Public and private procurement processes need to become more innovation friendly, while companies require better access to state-of-the-art testing facilities and regulatory sandboxes. Innovative companies also struggle to attract and retain talent, including through employee ownership schemes.

The European Innovation Act, one of the key legislative instruments for this mandate, will address the above challenges. It will cut red tape and create a simpler, more innovation-friendly regulatory environment and will improve access to finance, as well as to European research and technology infrastructures, intellectual assets generated by publicly funded research and innovation in view of increasing patenting, and regulatory sandboxes. This Act will give European innovators the tools they need to grow, scale, and compete globally.

More information

Submit your feedback: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14593-European-Innovation-Act_en

Commission strengthens Europe's chemical industry (8 July 2025)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1755

Today, the European Commission presented an Action Plan for the Chemicals Industry to strengthen the competitiveness and modernisation of the EU chemical sector. The Action Plan addresses key challenges, namely high energy costs, unfair global competition, and weak demand, while promoting investment in innovation and sustainability. The Action Plan is accompanied by a simplification omnibus on chemicals – the sixth that the Commission has presented in this mandate so far – to further streamline and simplify key EU chemicals legislation, alongside a proposal to strengthen the governance and financial sustainability of the **European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)** <https://echa.europa.eu/>.

The **Action Plan** proposes the following measures:

- **Resilience and level playing field:** The Commission will establish together with Member States and stakeholders a Critical Chemical Alliance to address the risks of capacity closures in the sector. The Alliance will identify critical production sites needing policy support and tackle trade issues like supply chain dependencies and distortions. The Commission will also swiftly apply trade defence measures to ensure fair competition, while expanding chemical import monitoring through the existing Import Surveillance Task Force. The Alliance will align investment priorities, coordinate EU and national projects, including **Important Projects of Common European Interest** https://competition-policy.ec.europa.eu/state-aid/ipcei_en (IPCEIs) and support EU critical production sites to boost innovation and regional growth.
- **Affordable energy and decarbonisation:** The Commission will implement at full speed the **Affordable Energy Action Plan** https://energy.ec.europa.eu/strategy/affordable-energy_en to help reduce high energy and feedstock costs. It has introduced clear rules for low-carbon hydrogen and will update state aid to lower electricity costs for more chemical producers by the end of the year. The plan also encourages using clean carbon sources like carbon capture, biomass, and waste, alongside support for renewables. **A public consultation** https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13467-Single-use-plastic-beverage-bottles-EU-rules-for-calculating-verifying-and-reporting-on-recycled-plastic-content_en on improving chemical recycling has also been launched today.
- **Lead markets and innovation:** The Action Plan highlights fiscal incentives and tax measures to boost demand for clean chemicals. The upcoming **Industry Decarbonisation Accelerator Act** will set EU content and sustainability rules to support market growth and clean technology investment. The upcoming **Bioeconomy Strategy** and **Circular Economy Act** will boost the EU's resource efficiency, chemicals recycling, and strengthen the market for bio-based and recycled alternatives to fossil-based inputs. The Commission will also launch **EU Innovation and Substitution Hubs** and mobilise EU funding under Horizon Europe (2025–2027) to accelerate the development of safer, more sustainable chemical substitutes.
- **Taking action on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS):** The Action Plan reaffirms the Commission's commitment to minimise PFAS emissions through a robust, science-based restriction, while ensuring continued use in critical applications under strict conditions where no alternatives are available which will be proposed swiftly after ECHA's opinion. The Commission will also invest in innovation, promote remediation based on the polluter pays principle, and prioritise the development of safer alternatives.

For more information: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1755

More bio-based innovation can help reduce environmental impacts, boost Europe's bioeconomy and sustainability (5 July 2025)

Source: Website European Environmental Agency <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/newsroom/news/more-bio-based-innovation-can-help-reduce-environmental-impacts-boost-europes-bioeconomy-and-sustainability>

Europe's environmental footprint beyond its borders remains high as it continues to rely on goods from key sectors including forestry, grain and energy according to a European Environment Agency (EEA) assessment published today. The study highlights the environmental impacts linked to these imports and underscores the need to accelerate bio-based innovations as part of a bioeconomy to develop more home-grown sourcing strategies that can boost Europe's path to sustainability.

According to the EEA briefing '**Opportunities for innovation in the bioeconomy**'

<https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/analysis/publications/bioeconomy-unlocking-opportunities-for-innovation-in-the-bioeconomy>, the EEA's 32 member countries generate only about half the biocapacity needed to sustain current consumption. More circular use of domestic biomass and other resources can help reduce reliance on imports which would help cut related environmental impacts occurring both within and beyond Europe's borders.

The EEA briefing shows how examples of **bio-based innovations** can support the expected update of the EU's bioeconomy strategy. It also links work on bioeconomy to broader EU climate and biodiversity goals in line with the European Green Deal, helping inform national and regional strategies.

Bio-based innovations

Boosting the use of biological resources can help to replace fossil fuel-based materials with more sustainable alternatives. This can contribute to a circular bioeconomy and also address climate change. The EEA briefing shortlists several bio-based innovations many of which stem from waste or by-products, and which offer greater sustainable and circular solutions across industries. They include agricultural biomass, where the most used source comes from waste like husk, stover and stubble and processed food waste. This biomass plays a key role in providing alternative, sustainable material.

Environmental pressures

The EEA briefing also looks at the key sectors that contribute the most to environmental pressures and which are responsible for the largest environmental footprints.

Nearly 30% of environmental and climate pressures in the EEA's 32 countries (including all EU Member States) is driven by just five key sectors including construction, accommodation and food services, food products, transport and trade. Construction stands out as a major contributor, with particularly high impact on both carbon and forest footprints. This reflects the broad resource demands and embedded emissions in construction supply chains the EEA briefing says, particularly when assessed through a footprint-based lens that includes upstream impacts beyond EU borders.

Other key findings

- Sustainability safeguards are essential. Responsible sourcing, biodiversity protection, deforestation prevention, and circularity are vital to ensuring bio-based systems reduce environmental harm.
- Trade-offs must be carefully assessed and managed. Bio-based solutions may involve land use, biodiversity, or social equity trade-offs that require consideration and governance.
- Sound decisions need strong evidence. Impact analyses, and stakeholder input are essential for aligning bio-based innovation with economic, environmental, and social goals.

Global policy

India announces multi-billion dollar investment in strategic research and innovation (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

The Indian government has approved a new funding program to stimulate research and innovation in strategic and emerging sectors. The Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme is worth over €11 billion. Companies can receive long-term loans at low or no interest through the program. The scheme is part of the country's long-term vision for technological self-reliance by 2047.

Press release: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2141130>

US academies under pressure due to Trump's budget cuts 9/10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

The US National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) are being forced to reorganize, Nature reports. This is due to budget cuts from the White House. Since President Trump took office, tens of millions of dollars in government contracts have been cut. This is already leading to layoffs at the associated National Research Council (NRC), with more layoffs on the horizon. At the same time, internal criticism from members is growing that the academy is adapting too much to Trump's political agenda, partly due to internal guidelines that exclude research on DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion).

Nature article: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-01939-7>

Escalating US-China AI War Increases Uncertainty for Third-Party Countries (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

The US-China AI technological rivalry has entered a new phase, with mounting pressure on third-party countries and companies within those countries. This is according to a recent analysis by the think tank Merics. The US is warning companies worldwide of legal sanctions if they use Chinese chips without permission, as this would violate export controls. China is retaliating, threatening for the first time sanctions against companies that comply with US export regulations. According to Merics, these reciprocal sanctions create a difficult situation for third-party countries and international companies, threatening to find themselves caught between the two superpowers. The American think tank Brookings has also compiled the comments of various experts on the impact of AI on the relationship between the countries.

Merics Article: <https://merics.org/en/comment/theres-been-shift-us-china-tech-competition-and-its-not-good-news-rest-world>

Brookings Article: <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/how-will-ai-influence-us-china-relations-in-the-next-5-years/>

OECD examines impact of generative AI on productivity (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) can significantly increase productivity across various sectors, especially among less experienced or less educated users. This is according to OECD researchers in an analysis based on various studies. The technology can contribute to repetitive tasks such as writing, summarizing, or coding. It also lowers the barrier to participation in more complex work. At the same time, the researchers emphasize that the impact can vary significantly by sector, task, and individual role. Moreover, employees should be trained not only in using AI but also in critically evaluating it. According to the researchers, governments and organizations can play an important role in strengthening relevant skills.

OECD Blog: <https://www.oecd.org/en/blogs/2025/07/unlocking-productivity-with-generative-ai-evidence-from-experimental-studies.html>

OECD examines impact of digital transformation on net-zero transition (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

Developments in digital technologies such as AI are causing rapid changes in the economy. In a paper, the OECD outlines a conceptual framework to better understand how this digital transformation can influence the net-zero transition. Among other things, the paper examines the potential impact on energy efficiency, CO2 intensity, and energy consumption.

OECD Working Paper: https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/how-can-the-digital-transformation-affect-the-net-zero-transition_4ee71f6d-en.html

National policy

House of Representatives approves education cuts, Senate remains uncertain (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

The House of Representatives has approved the amended Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) budget, including the new cuts from the Spring Memorandum. Several amendments were submitted by the opposition to partially or fully reverse the cuts. However, none of these amendments received a majority. Although the amended budget was adopted by the House of Representatives, it seems likely that the cabinet will have to negotiate with the opposition. Besides the remaining coalition parties, only the PVV and JA21 voted in favor of the budget. These five parties do not have a majority in the Senate. GL-PvdA voted in favor of the amended budget in the House of Representatives but later admitted this was a mistake. The Senate announced this week that it first intends to schedule a round of written questions about the amended budget. After the summer recess, the Senate will continue discussing the budget.

Report on the House of Representatives debate:

https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/plenaire_verslagen/detail/2024-2025/102#314a80f6 (in Dutch)

Overview of votes: https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/plenaire_verslagen/detail/2024-2025/104#e37e7c52 (in Dutch)

Article HOP/U-Today: <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75797/eerste-kamer-stemt-nog-niet-over-nieuwe-onderwijsbezuinigingen> (in Dutch)

AWTI calls on politicians to structurally invest in research and innovation (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

The AWTI is calling on politicians to invest an additional 0.5 percent of national income annually in a targeted, long-term, large-scale, and strategic research and innovation facility. This is a legally mandated structural investment on top of existing investments. AWTI chair Mirjam van Praag sent a memo to all political party program committees this week with this call. Van Praag wrote an opinion piece on this topic in the FD last week <https://fd.nl/ opinie/1560337/met-structurele-investeringen-in-innovatie-en-onderzoek-wordt-nederland-weerbaar>.

AWTI Memo to Political Party Program Committees: <https://www.awti.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/07/09/awti-roept-politiek-op-structureel-te-investeren-in-onderzoek-en-innovatie> (in Dutch)

Bruins removes the Foreign Language Education Test (TAO) for existing programs in the Balanced Internationalization Act (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

Minister Bruins is removing the Foreign Language Education Test (TAO) for existing programs in the Balanced Internationalization Act (Wib) bill. This is in response to a widely supported CDA motion. The Minister expresses understanding for Parliament's request. Bruins also believes that the context surrounding internationalization is evolving. "Across the entire sector, a leveling off in the growth of international students is visible, and universities are again seeing a decline in pre-registrations. The target for international students is being reduced, and there are geopolitical developments that necessitate greater strategic autonomy for Europe, in which the targeted recruitment of international talent is and remains necessary," it states. Because a new advisory opinion from the Council of State is required, the bill is again delayed. Bruins emphasizes that the TAO for new foreign language programs will remain an integral part of the bill.

Letter to Parliament from Minister Bruins: <https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/d4f48e1a-2be2-4491-ba8a-3824ba814c74/file> (in Dutch)

Article HOP/U-Today: <https://www.utoday.nl/news/75784/wet-internationaliseren-loopt-opnieuw-vertraging-op> (in Dutch)

The Young Academy: Don't just hand over research data to big tech (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

Higher education institutions are becoming increasingly dependent on large commercial technology companies. This poses risks to autonomy, academic freedom, and privacy. In its manifesto "Under Control," The Young Academy calls on universities and universities of applied sciences to handle educational software and IT systems more consciously and ethically. The manifesto makes concrete recommendations, such as investing in internal expertise and transparency about software choices. It also advocates for greater collaboration between institutions to counteract large tech vendors.

Publication by The Young Academy: <https://www.dejongeakademie.nl/nieuws/3081758.aspx?t=Universiteiten-en-hbo%E2%80%99s-geef-je-data-niet-zomaar-aan-big-tech-bedrijven-> (in Dutch)

Dutch universities want more support for European alliances (10 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

Dutch universities are calling on Dutch policymakers and institutions to strengthen, align, and fund European university alliances. The umbrella organization Universities of the Netherlands (UNL) advocates for this in a published position paper. UNL argues that the alliances make higher education in Europe and the Netherlands stronger, more inclusive, and more international. Moreover, the alliances actively contribute to strengthening the competitiveness of the EU and the Netherlands. "European university alliances strengthen the connection between education, research, and society in urban ecosystems where innovation is most needed," says Annelien Bredenoord, president of Erasmus University Rotterdam and UNIC.

News item UNL: <https://www.universiteitenvannederland.nl/actueel/nieuws/europese-universiteiten-allianties-zijn-cruciaal-voor-de-toekomst-van-het> (in Dutch)

WRR: Strengthen government expertise for better policy 910 July 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 July 2025

A competent government is crucial for addressing societal challenges. Although civil service expertise has traditionally been well-developed, it now presents significant shortcomings and vulnerabilities, warns the Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR) in a report. The WRR warns, among other things, against the large-scale hiring of external staff, which creates dependencies and is not always well-organized. The limited political support of elected representatives is also striking.

WRR Publication: <https://www.wrr.nl/adviesprojecten/de-deskundige-overheid> (in Dutch)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 14 July 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	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	10 November 2025 17.00 Brussels time (<i>MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-SE-01	8 October 2025 17.00 Brussels time (<i>MSCA Staff Exchanges 2025</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)	18 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-EOSC (5 topics)	18 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-SERV (4 topics)	18 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-TECH (4 topics)	18 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
Cluster 1 HEALTH	
Destination - Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society	

HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03-STAYHLTH-two-stage	18 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) , 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (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	3 June 2025 17.00 Brussels time
Destination - Ensuring equal access to innovative, sustainable, and high-quality healthcare	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-CARE	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
Destination - Developing and using new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-TOOL	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
Destination - Maintaining an innovative, sustainable, and competitive EU health industry	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-IND	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
<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	24 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
Destination - Cross-sectoral solutions for the climate transition	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D2	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2	17 February 2026 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	

HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D3	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3	17 February 2026 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time Deadline(s) 20 January 2026 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
HORIZON-CL5-2025-01-D5	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	4 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time 20 January 2026 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV	17 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO	17 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time

Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01 ZEROPOLLUTION	17 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01 ZEROPOLLUTION-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02 COMMUNITIES	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE	24 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
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	21 May 2025 17.00 Brussels time
EIC-Pathfinder-Challenges	29 October 2025 17.00 Brussels time
EIC Transition-2025	17 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time
EIC-Accelerator-2025	1 October 2025 17.00 Brussels time
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	24 September 2025 (<i>HORIZON-MISS-2025-01-CLIMA Adaptation to Climate Change Mission</i>)

HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER Cancer: Supporting the implementation of the Cancer Mission	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	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	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	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 14 July 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/	NEW: Upcoming Biodiversa+ call 2025-2026 Joint Call Restoration of ecosystem functioning, integrity and connectivity (BiodivConnect) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The call is planned to officially launch on 9 September 2025. A two-step application procedure will be used, with the pre-proposal submission deadline in early November 2025. After a first evaluation of pre-proposals, the deadline for submitting full proposals will be in early April 2026. An information webinar for potential applicants will be held on 11 September 2025, from 13:00 to 15:00 CEST.
European Partnership Water4All https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/	
European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) https://dutpartnership.eu/	
European Partnership FutureFoods https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/	The first call of FutureFoods Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The deadline for pre-submissions is January 15, 2025 (13:00 CET) (CLOSED) he deadline for full proposals is July 9, 2025 (13:00 CEST https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/

European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/	
European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) https://dutpartnership.eu/	<p>NEW: Pre-announcement: European funding opportunity for sustainable urban transitions https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-european-funding-opportunity-for-sustainable-urban-transitions-0</p> <p>Foreseen timeline and information day</p> <p>The foreseen timeline for this call is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 September 2025: stage 1 opening • 9 September 2025: transnational info webinar (online) • 17 November 2025: stage 1 closing (Pre-Proposal submission deadline) • 20 February 2026: stage 2 opening • 23 April 2026: stage 2 closing (Full Proposal submission deadline) • Summer of 2026: decision-making <p>On 9 September 2025 (10:00–13:00), DUT will host an online information meeting for those who are interested. More information and registration can be found here. NWO and SIA representatives will be available for your questions during a break-out session for The Netherlands.</p>
Joint Technology Initiatives	
Joint Programming Initiatives	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A healthy diet for a healthy life (HDHL): http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/ • Agriculture, food security and climate change (FACCE): http://www.faccejpi.com/ • Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR): http://www.jpiamr.eu/ • Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU): http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home • Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/ • More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (JPI MYBL): http://www.jp-demographic.eu/ • Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND): http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/ • Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions (Urban Europe): http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/ • Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI): http://www.waterjpi.eu/ • Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage): http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/

Other international calls

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

Deadline	Call
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14-07-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals (mandatory) for the Long-term Europe – Africa WEF Nexus (LEAWEF) Multilateral Research Programme. The deadline for the submission of Full proposals (mandatory) is 14 July 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/long-term-europe-africa-wef-nexus-leawef-multilateral-research-programme and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/LEAWEF%20call_for_proposals%20%281%29_0.pdf
02-09-2025	Deadline for knowledge management proposal in Phase II ADM-LAB: Livings Labs for Adaptive Delta Management in Bangladesh. Deadline for submission of a knowledge management proposal in Phase II is Tuesday 2 September 2025, 14:00:00 CEST in ISAAC. eahttps://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/adm-lab-livings-labs-for-adaptive-delta-management-in-bangladesh and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/ADM-LAB%20Livings%20Labs%20for%20Adaptive%20Delta%20Management%20in%20Bangladesh%20%20call%20for%20proposals%20UK.pdf
09-09-2025	Foreseen Deadline for Full Proposals INT - Global programs NWO-JST Japan call 2025. Closing date full application 9 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/int-global-programs-nwo-jst-japan-call-2025 .
16-09-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission Pre-proposals for PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers. The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is 16 September 2025, before 17:00:00 AST/11:00:00 CEST.. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers-now-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025
September 2025	Foreseen closing date 9th Call Eurostars. Follow information on https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/eurostars
30-10-2025	NEW: Foreseen deadline full proposals Biodiversity and agriculture in balance collaboration between NWO and the Brazilian science council CNPq. Closing date full application 30 October 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/biodiversity-and-agriculture-in-balance ?
24-02-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission Full-Proposals for PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers. The deadline for submitting full applications is 24 February 2026, before 17:00:00 AST/12:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers-now-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025

National calls

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

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
02-09-2025	Foreseen deadline Rubicon 2025 Round 2. Closing date full application 2 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/rubicon-2025-2
02-09-2025	NEW: Deadline submission for pre-proposals Veni round 2025. The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is 2 September 2025, by 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme
09-09-2025	Foreseen deadline for submitting full applications for second round of the 2025 Doctoral Grant for Teachers. The deadline for submitting an application is 9 September 2025, 14:00 (subject to change).
09-09-2025	Foreseen deadline for submission pre-proposals for Call Open Competition L. Closing date for pre-proposals 9 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-ssh-open-competition-l and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sgw-open-competitie-l-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh
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

	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
11-09-2025	Deadline submitting full proposals NGF: Strengthening the knowledge base for the high tech equipment sector: second call of the NXTGEN Hightech programme. The deadline for submitting proposals is 11 September 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ngf-strengthening-the-knowledge-base-for-the-high-tech-equipment-sector and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/2025-03-21%20NGF%20NXTGEN%202025%20ENV2.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	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
16-09-2025	Deadline submission Pre-proposals for PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers. The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is 16 September 2025, before 17:00:00 CEST/11:00:00 AST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/caribbean-research-a-multidisciplinary-approach
16-09-2025	NEW: Deadline submission of Research Ideas for NWA call Opportunities and value chains for side streams in the protein transition. The deadline for submitting research ideas is Tuesday 16 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST (The Matchmaking will take place on Thursday 2 October 2025, before 14:00:00 CET. The deadline for submitting a request for review of (foreign) organisations is 13 January 2026 before 14:00:00 CET. EN tekst). https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-residual-flows-in-the-protein-transition and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWA%20Eiwittransitie%20call%20EN%20DEF.pdf
17-09-2025	Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals KIC - Future Plastics 2024. Closing date full application 17 September 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-future-plastics-2024
18-09-2025	Deadline for submission Full-proposals KIC Nature-inclusive decision making in business. The deadline for submitting full proposals is September 18, 2025, at 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business-kic and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-nature-inclusive-decision-making-in-business and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%202024_def_EN.pdf
18-09-2025	Deadline submission full applications for SSH Open Competition XS round 3. Round 3: 18 September 2025, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/first-round-of-ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-now-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20XS%202025%20-%20EN.pdf
07-10-2025	Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025. 7 October 2025 by 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
11-11-2025	Deadline for submission Full applications NWA Call 'Building blocks for integral policy on Planetary Health'. Closing date full application 11 November 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-new-research-on-building-blocks-for-integral-policy-on-planetary-health and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/building-blocks-for-integrated-policy-on-planetary-health

12-11-2025	Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2025 . 12 November 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
13-11-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission of Full applications Call Cellular Agriculture - towards larger scale and lower cost . Deadline for submitting proposals: 13 November 2025, by 14:00:00 CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-cellular-agriculture-towards-larger-scale-and-lower-costs and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/cellular-agriculture-towards-larger-scale-and-lower-costs and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NGF%20CA%20Call%20for%20Proposals%20EN.pdf
02-12-2025	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
02-12-2025	Foreseen Deadline for Rubicon 2025 Round 3 . Closing date full application 2 December 2025 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/rubicon-2025-3
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
27-01-2026	NEW: Deadline submission for Full applications for Veni round 2025 . The deadline for submitting full applications is 27 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/veni-round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme
27-01-2026	NEW: Deadline submission of Full Proposals for NWA call Opportunities and value chains for side streams in the protein transition . The deadline for submitting full proposals is Tuesday 27 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-residual-flows-in-the-protein-transition and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-opportunities-and-value-chains-for-side-streams-in-the-protein-transition and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/NWA%20Eiwittransitie%20call%20EN%20DEF.pdf
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
03-02-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications for Call Open Competition L . Closing date full application 3 February 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-ssh-open-competition-l and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sgw-open-competitie-l-2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh
10-02-2026	Deadline for submission full proposals NWO-NWA Call Future proof large rivers in the Netherlands . Deadline proposals: 10 February 2026, 14:00:00 CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwa-call-future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands-open-for-applications and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/future-proof-large-rivers-in-the-netherlands and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20NWA%20Rivieren_ENG_def.pdf

12-02-2026	Foreseen Deadline for Full applications NWO KIC Call Biochemical diversity . Closing date full application 12 February 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-biochemical-diversity
24-02-2026	Deadline submission Full proposals for PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers. The deadline for submitting full proposals is 24 February 2026, before 17:00:00 CET/12:00:00 AST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/caribbean-research-a-multidisciplinary-approach
10-03-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of pre-proposals for KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia – XL The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is Tuesday 10 March 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/KIC%20V4C-XL_CfP_EN.pdf
14-04-2026	Foreseen deadline Full proposals NOW-KIC call Fewer critical raw materials in the energy transition . Closing date full application 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/fewer-critical-raw-materials-in-the-energy-transition and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/knowledge-and-innovation-covenant
09-06-2026	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
12-11-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of Full-proposals for KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia – XL The deadline for submitting full proposals is Thursday 12 November 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/KIC%20V4C-XL_CfP_EN.pdf
30-11-2026	Foreseen deadline for full proposals call NWA programme Knowledge about unprotected species for sustainable fisheries policy . Closing date full application 30 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/knowledge-about-unprotected-species-for-sustainable-fisheries-policy
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 **14 July 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 EFRO 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.
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Eastern Netherlands: For for overview calls go to EFRO Oost https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen
2023-2024	EFRO 2021 – 2027 Western Netherlands: For calls Kansen voor West III https://kvw3.kansenvoorwest.nl/openstellingen/openstellingen/
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Northern Netherlands: For calls Northern Netherlands go to Website SNN https://www.snn.nl/programmas/efro-2021-2027
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Southern Netherlands: For calls Southern Netherlands go to website Stimulus https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/openstellingen/

24-02-2025 to 04-04-2025	Foreseen deadline Spring call OP-Zuid 2025: from 24 February 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to April 4, 2025 (until 5 p.m.);
15-09-2025 to 24-10-2025	Foreseen opening Autumn call OP-Zuid 2025: from 15 September, 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to 24 October, 2025 (until 5 p.m.).

About the Wageningen Grant Office

Wageningen Grant Office

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

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

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

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

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WUR is serious about data

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