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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe

Republic of Korea joins Horizon Europe programme to bring together leading European and Korean minds (17 July 2025)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1853

Today, the Republic of Korea has officially become the first Asian country **to associate with Horizon Europe** https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en, the EU's multibillion research and innovation programme. Korean researchers and organisations can now participate in several areas of the programme on equal terms with those for EU Member States.

They will be able to join and lead international research consortia, access funding and collaborate with leading research institutions across Europe and beyond to tackle global challenges. The Republic of Korea will also contribute financially to the programme's budget.

This association agreement strengthens the EU's geopolitical alliance with like-minded countries. The association will lead to greater opportunities for deepening joint research across continents in many fields, such as digital transition, health, and technological innovation aiming at carbon neutrality.

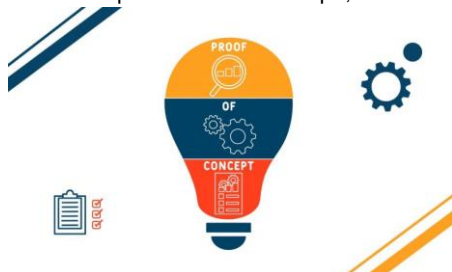
Since 1 January 2025, under the transitional arrangement, Korean entities have been able to apply and be evaluated as prospective beneficiaries in Horizon Europe proposals for all calls implementing Pillar II already in the budget 2025.

Read full article here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1853

Over €20 million to turn frontier science into practical solutions (14 July 2025)

Source: Website <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/proof-of-concept-grants-2025>

The European Research Council (ERC) has today announced the first group of researchers to be awarded ERC Proof of Concept Grants in 2025. In this initial round of the 2025 competition, 150 projects will receive €22.5 million in funding. Each grant is worth €150,000 and is designed to help ERC grantees to bridge the gap between the results of their pioneering research and the early phases of its commercialisation or societal application. The grant scheme is part of Horizon Europe, the EU's research and innovation programme.



The new grantees' work will cover a wide range of subjects. Examples include: using AI to better predict conflict escalation and risk; reducing the environmental footprint of paracetamol production; developing a tool to detect distortions in electricity markets caused by dominant energy firms; and creating a portable device to capture and detect PFAS ("forever" chemicals) in water — among many others.

See full list of winners: <https://erc.europa.eu/system/files/2025-07/erc-2025-poc-1-results-list.pdf>

Facts and figures

The new grantees will be based at universities and research centres in 21 EU Member States and associated countries, notably Germany (27 grants), Spain (20 grants), UK (17 grants), France and the Netherlands (both 12 grants). Among the winners are 29 researchers with German nationality, 20 Spanish, 17 Italian, - as well as researchers of 29 other nationalities.

This competition attracted 480 proposals, and in this round over 31 percent of proposals were selected for funding.

Next Proof of Concept Grant call

The ERC 2025 work programme includes two calls for proposals for Proof of Concept Grants with a total budget of €45 million.

The scheme is open only to researchers who currently hold, or have previously been awarded, ERC frontier research grants. These top-up grants help to explore the commercial or societal potential of the findings researchers made through their ERC projects. The objective is to enable ERC-funded ideas to progress on the path from ground-breaking research towards innovation.

Interested in applying for an ERC Proof of Concept? The next funding round is now open for applications, with the **deadline set for 18 September 2025.**

Over €1 billion raised in European funding for fundamental research (14 July 2025)

Source: Website RVO Nieuws <https://www.rvo.nl/nieuws/meer-dan-1-miljard-europees-geld-voor-fundamenteel-onderzoek-opgehaald>

In four years, Dutch scientists have raised over €1 billion in European funding for fundamental research through the European Research Council (ERC). The money will be used for ambitious projects that can lead to major scientific breakthroughs. This is how we stimulate the innovations of tomorrow.

High annual amounts

The total amount of €1 billion is divided into:

2021: €241 million

2022: €204 million

2023: €289 million

2024: €270 million

This money will fund projects in all research fields, such as physics, chemistry, biology, medical research, history, and sociology.

Grants for scientists at different stages

The grants are awarded to scientists at different stages of their careers. Grants are available for researchers setting up their own research team for the first time, as well as for researchers further along in their careers. There are also special grants for top scientists.

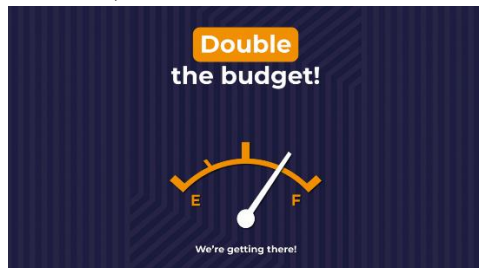
Furthermore, 87 proof-of-concept grants have been awarded, intended for scientists who potentially want to translate their research results into a commercial product.

European Funding News: FP10

Neth-ER welcomes MFF proposal by European Commission, and emphasizes need for budget doubling for Horizon and Erasmus+ (17 July 2025)

Source: Website Neth-ER <https://neth-er.eu/onderwijs/neth-er-welcomes-mff-proposal-by-european-commission-and-emphasizes-need-for-budget-doubling-for-horizon-and-erasmus->

Neth-ER supports the European Commission's recognition of the importance of investing in knowledge. Budget-wise, the proposal marks a step in the right direction and the Dutch knowledge sector is ready to create a positive impact with the proposed budget increase. As representatives of the Dutch knowledge sector, we emphasize that a well-funded and independent funding base for knowledge is essential for maintaining Europe's competitiveness, resilience, and strategic autonomy and for finding solutions to the challenges Europe currently faces. Although this proposal is a positive development, Neth-ER stresses that a doubling of the budgets is necessary to achieve all the ambitions outlined in the Draghi, Letta, and Heitor reports. Therefore, additional investments will be crucial.



Commission proposes more investments in knowledge and innovation

The current plans designed by the European Commission in the MFF proposal acknowledges that Europe's competitiveness, resilience, and global role are rooted in knowledge, education, research, and innovation. The Commission has made the right decision by proposing an increase in the relevant budgets. This investment is urgently needed, as key programmes such as Horizon Europe and Erasmus+ require significantly more funding to fully realize Europe's ambitions.

A new Horizon: research, innovation and science at the heart of our economy?

We welcome the budget growth for Horizon as a much-needed step forward for the European knowledge agenda. At the press conference on July 16th, the increase was described as a doubling of the Horizon budget; however, when adjusted for inflation and other factors, this does not fully reflect reality. Neth-ER especially welcomes the potential to reinforce all pillars of Horizon Europe, from bottom-up frontier science to applied research. Neth-ER understands and welcomes the ECF, **but is concerned about the interaction between ECF and especially pillar 2 of Horizon and the implications it may have on the governance structure.** Read our **full statement on the Horizon proposal** here <https://neth-er.eu/onderzoek/neth-er-welcomes-horizon-europe-budget-increase-a-horizon-within-sight-almost-within-reach>.

Erasmus+: mobility, skills and inclusion as pillars of growth

Neth-ER welcomes the increase of the Erasmus+ budget, but fears funding for learning mobility may fall short. Neth-ER therefore urges the Commission to double the next budget to expand learning mobility and inclusion for all. Neth-ER welcomes the stronger focus on skills and lifelong learning policies and the Union of Skills, as long as it does not come at the expense of the other goals of the Erasmus+ program. The uncertain position of the European University Alliances and Centres of Vocational Excellence remains a concern to the Dutch knowledge sector and requires further clarification. Finally, simplification efforts must be effectively implemented to reduce administrative burdens. **Read our full statement on the Erasmus+ proposal** here: <https://neth-er.eu/onderwijs/neth-er-welcomes-erasmus-budget-increase-but-alerts-major-funding-gaps-to-meet-ambitions>.

Double Knowledge

In the coming years, negotiations on the EU's Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) will take place, a process that will require strong political backing. To support this, Neth-ER is launching a knowledge campaign aimed at doubling European investments in knowledge within the new MFF. Programmes such as Horizon Europe and Erasmus+ are crucial for Dutch education and research institutions. Together with its members, Neth-ER is therefore committed to securing a larger share of the European budget for these programmes.

Praise for Commission's research programme proposal, but concerns linger over its vagueness (17 July 2025)

The research community likes the €175 billion budget, but is sceptical of plans to simplify the programme



Piotr Serafin, Commissioner for budget, anti-fraud and public administration, presenting the MFF beyond 2027 at the European Parliament on July 17. Photo credits: Laurie DIEFFEMBACQ / European Union

There was praise for research Commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva and much relief after the European Commission [presented its proposal](#) for a €175 billion successor to Horizon Europe on July 16. But concerns remain about the programme's links to the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) and plans to simplify funding.

"You spoke, we listened," Zaharieva said about the proposed plan for the post-2027 research Framework Programme. "Horizon Europe will place research and innovation at the heart of the EU economy and investment strategy." After presenting its proposal for the next long-term EU budget, the Commission also published **a draft Horizon Europe regulation** <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2025%3A543%3AFIN&qid=1752739335598>, the legislation that will establish the next Framework Programme for research and innovation.

The Commission's proposal was welcomed by European People's Party MEP Christian Ehler, who was co-rapporteur for the current Framework Programme. As one of the Parliament's leading science negotiators, he praised Commission President Ursula von der Leyen for keeping her promise to double the budget of Horizon Europe and to maintain its independence.

However, while the structure and content of the programme look very familiar, **"the changed approach with much less legal text and the 'tight' connection to the European Competitiveness Fund raise some issues that will need to be clarified during the legislative procedure,"** Ehler said in a statement.

The Horizon Europe proposal says the programme will be "tightly connected" to the ECF, and that collaborative research and innovation activities will be set out in dedicated parts of the ECF work programmes. Programming via the ECF "will likely lead to [a] detailed policy steer on calls for collaborative projects, which is the opposite of what the Draghi report, the Heitor report, and the Parliament called for," Ehler said.

Ehler pointed out that the lack of detail in the legislation, which could be seen as a simplification, may in fact lead to legal uncertainty. Meanwhile, he fears the single rulebook with the ECF and the widespread use of lumpsum funding will undermine simplification. He also said that the European Parliament would continue to advocate for researchers and other experts having a strong role in steering programme decisions within the Framework Programme.

Christophe Grudler, MEP for the centrist Renew Europe group, said the doubling of Horizon's budget is "excellent news for keeping Europe at the cutting edge of scientific excellence," **but warned the links with the ECF need clarifying "to avoid any implicit reorientation."**

Grudler, who recently joined colleagues in [calling for a standalone EU space programme](#) with a budget of at least €60 billion, added that the absence of a dedicated budget line for space policy was "a very worrying signal." The budget proposal includes plans to multiply investments in defence and space by five, to €131 billion, but so far there has been no mention of a dedicated space budget. "It's a serious oversight for such a strategic sector."

Manuel Heitor, former Portuguese science minister and chair of the expert group that advised the Commission on the structure of FP10, agreed with Grudler about the vagueness surrounding both the space and defence components, but called the proposed budget increase in these areas “extremely positive.”

Like Ehler, he also criticised details in the proposal which suggest, for example, potential changes to the governance of the European Research Council. These could “negatively affect” the performance of Horizon Europe, he said.

Horizon Europe 2028 - 2034: twice bigger, simpler, faster and more impactful (16 July 2025)

Source: Website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/horizon-europe-2028-2034-twice-bigger-simpler-faster-and-more-impactful-2025-07-16_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

As part of the next long-term EU budget 2028-2034, the Commission is proposing to double the budget of the research and innovation framework programme to €175 billion. The new Horizon Europe will boost Europe’s competitiveness and fund solutions to real-world challenges, from AI that supports doctors, to satellites that protect farmers, to cleaner, smarter ways to move, live, and work.

The programme will build on the achievements and successes of the current research and innovation programme that runs from 2021 to 2027.

Programme structure

The new programme will be based on four pillars, and it will support cutting-edge research, and innovation, attract and nurture research talent, foster international collaboration, and connect science with society.

- **Pillar I ‘Excellent Science’** aims to strengthen the EU’s scientific base, attract top talent and promote excellent research in Europe. It covers the European Research Council (ERC), Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions and science for EU policies through the Joint Research Centre. The ERC will be expanded to increase its ability to support frontier research, with a focus on funding excellent researchers and their teams following a ‘Choose Europe’ approach.
- **Pillar II ‘Competitiveness and Society’** aims to support **collaborative research and innovation** in areas of **high societal impact**. It targets EU competitiveness in areas like the clean transition, digital leadership, defence, industry and space, in close cooperation with the European Competitiveness Fund. It will also address **global societal challenges and features EU missions**, as well as the New European Bauhaus Facility.
- **Pillar III ‘Innovation’** aims to support innovation in Europe, with a focus on promoting the development of new products, services and business models. The European Innovation Council (EIC) will be expanded to fund high-risk disruptive projects in stages and will introduce a focus for defence and dual-use startups.
- **Pillar IV ‘European Research Area’** aims to support the development of a unified European Research Area (ERA), with a focus on promoting excellence and impact, including a reformed widening component. As a novelty, it also supports the development and operation of research and technology infrastructures.

Programme implementation will be streamlined. This includes offering simplified support, reducing the number of topics, and shortening the time from call closure to grant signature.

Moonshot projects

Additionally, Horizon Europe, tightly connected to the European Competitiveness Fund, will have the capacity to develop ‘moonshot projects’. These projects would move **from research to demonstration and real-world deployment**. They would be supported **by pooled funding from EU (Horizon Europe and the European Competitiveness Fund), national, public, and private sources**.

Designed to position Europe as a global leader in strategic fields, these moonshot projects would drive progress in areas such as:

- the future circular collider
- clean aviation
- quantum computing
- next-generation AI
- data sovereignty
- automated transport and mobility

- regenerative therapies
- fusion energy
- space economy
- zero water pollution and
- ocean observation

Next steps

Interinstitutional negotiations between the European Parliament, Council and Commission will now take place.

Factsheet: Horizon Europe 2028 – 2034: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/a0ecf3f6-a964-4e00-9cb3-4be28833b386_en?filename=MFF_HORIZON%20EUROPE_v9.pdf

For more information and background: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/horizon-europe-2028-2034-twice-bigger-simpler-faster-and-more-impactful-2025-07-16_en&pk_campaign=rtd_news

Commission puts forward €175B budget for FP10 (16 July 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/commission-puts-forward-eu175b-budget-fp10>

Horizon Europe is set to continue after 2027 with an enhanced budget and a new four-pillar structure



European Commission president presented a proposal that foresees €175 billion for research and innovation in the 2028-34 EU budget. Photo: Eleonora Francica, Science|Business

The European Commission has presented plans to almost double Horizon Europe’s budget to €175 billion under the next long-term budget for 2028-34. The tenth Framework Programme for research and innovation will remain “standalone” within a wider €409 billion European Competitiveness Fund (ECF).

“[Horizon Europe] is already a big programme, it is one of the most renowned programmes we have worldwide, the most renowned scientific research programme. We will double it,” Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said as she presented the budget plans on July 16.

The proposed budget is part of a €2 trillion Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) due to start in 2028. The overall figures, as well as the Horizon Europe allocation, are not final as they will have to go through years of haggling between the European Parliament and member states, with an agreement envisioned by the end of 2027.

The structure is identical to a draft plan that was [leaked](#) last week, which saw Horizon Europe remain a standalone programme structured in four pillars: excellent science, competitiveness and society, innovation, and European Research Area.

A breakdown of the budget across the four pillars has not yet been revealed, but the Commission is expected to release further details on July 17. Top Commission officials were unable to give further details today, with EU executive Vice-President Stéphane Séjourné fumbling when asked about the size of the Horizon Europe budget and the size of future contributions of associated countries.

EU research Commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva will be in Copenhagen on Thursday to present the Horizon Europe budget and structure to research ministers gathered for a meeting organised by the Danish presidency of the Council of the EU.

The proposal arrived after a long discussion which lasted until the very last minute, budget commissioner Piotr Serafin said before presenting the MFF proposal to the European Parliament's budgets committee on July 16. The day before, president von der Leyen along with Serafin presented the plan to each commissioner in trilateral meetings. The proposal marks a partial victory for research stakeholders and MEPs, who had been worried about plans to dismember the programme and subsume it entirely under the ECF. They have also been calling for a budget of at least €200 billion.

However, chances are that even the proposed €175 billion will be pared back during negotiations. Last time around, the Commission's 2018 proposal for €120 billion was cut down significantly during negotiations. The current iteration of Horizon Europe started in 2021 with a budget of €95.5 billion which was further pared back to €93.5 billion. Of that total amount, €5 billion were a top-up from the EU's pandemic recovery fund. According to Commission math, starting from the current €88.5 billion base figure, the budget for the next iteration of Horizon Europe would be nearly double to €175 billion.

The 'end' of a long fight

German MEP Christian Ehler, who was co-rapporteur for the current Horizon Europe programme, praised Zaharieva, "*who managed to defend both the budget and the integrity*" of the Framework Programme."

In a statement, Ehler also welcomed the "revolutionary" ECF proposal, but warned that his European People's Party (EPP) "will not stand for seamless budget flexibility, top-down industrial planning, or a false promise of simplification." Under the ECF, the Commission plans to multiply by five its investments in defence and space, bringing the total to €131 billion. Digital investments would also increase five-fold, while cleantech, the bioeconomy and decarbonisation would see their budget multiplied by six. So far, it is unclear what will be included in these investments. The ECF will include a target of 43% of climate and environment investments, compared to 35% across the EU budget as a whole.

Tough MFF negotiations ahead

As things stand after a tense day in Brussels, the Parliament and the Commission are set to lock horns during upcoming negotiations.

Serafin was grilled by MEPs in the budget committee during a session scheduled ahead of a press conference chaired by von der Leyen. MEPs said the plans were drawn up without sufficient consultation and the Commission failed to keep up its promise to share the proposal with the Parliament before the press. "There is a lot of good will in this house but you're really emptying the bucket," committee chair Johan Van Overtveldt told Serafin.

MFF Horizon Europe proposal in short (16 July 2025)

Source: Website EC https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/a0ecf3f6-a964-4e00-9cb3-4be28833b386_en

The European Commission has presented plans to almost double Horizon Europe's budget to €175 billion under the next long-term budget for 2028-34. The tenth Framework Programme for research and innovation will remain "standalone" within a wider €409 billion European Competitiveness Fund (ECF).

Horizon Europe (2028-2034) will build on the achievements of its predecessors, scaling what works, simplifying what is possible, and focusing investment where Europe needs it most. It will be tightly connected to the European Competitiveness Fund.

Why is this a priority?

Horizon Europe (2028-2034) will boost Europe's productivity and competitiveness, while also improving the wellbeing of millions of people across the continent.

What is the Commission proposing?

The new programme will be based on four pillars.

Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 3	Pillar 4
EXCELLENT SCIENCE	COMPETITIVENESS AND SOCIETY	INNOVATION	EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA
EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL	COMPETITIVENESS: 1. Clean Transition and Industrial Decarbonisation 2. Health, Biotech, Agriculture and Bioeconomy 3. Digital leadership 4. Resilience and Security, Defence Industry and	EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL	ERA POLICIES

	Space		
MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS	SOCIETY: 1. Global societal challenges 2. EU Missions 3. New European Bauhaus Facility	INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS AND THE KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE	RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURES
Science for Union policies: non-nuclear direct actions of the Joint Research Centre (JRC).			WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

How will the budget make a difference in this area?

► Simpler, faster access

- Less red tape with shorter work programmes, open topic calls by default, and unified funding rates • Speedier grants, reducing time between application and funding
- Simplified costs with lump-sum funding options for easier budgeting

► Strengthened European Research Council

- Funds frontier research by excellent researchers
- Promotes Choose Europe

► Expanded European Innovation Council to boost innovation

- Supports deep tech startups in sectors like quantum, biotech, clean tech
- Offers agile funding for innovative projects
- Supports high-tech dual use and defence startups and scaleups

► Collaborative research

- Addresses societal challenges like disinformation and climate change and boosts EU competitiveness, aligned with the objectives of the European Competitiveness Fund

► Streamlined partnerships with Member States and the private sector

- Simplifies their organisation and operations
- Envisions more focused partnerships aligned with strategic industrial sectors for our competitiveness, security and resilience
- Leverages private investments
- Pulls R&I investments between the EU and Member States

► More support for research and technology infrastructures

- Funds cutting-edge research and technology infrastructures
- Supports facilities, resources and services

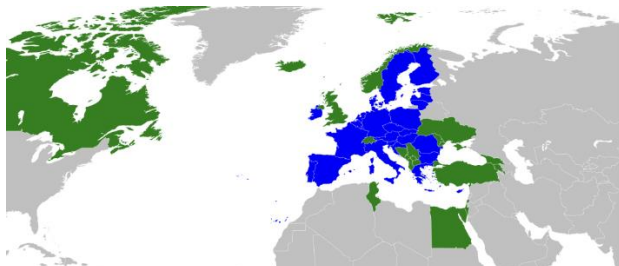
► Spreading excellence

- New tailored approach, focusing on actions to increase R&I performance, enhance research capacity and ecosystems and combat brain drain.

UK at 60-70% of past performance in Horizon collaborations, says Russell Group (16 July 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/uk-60-70-past-performance-horizon-collaborations-says-russell-group>

British, Swiss and Canadian universities urge Brussels to give their countries a clear, speedy path to FP10 association



Map of Horizon Europe associated countries (in green).

The UK is only winning 60-70% of the collaborative research grants it previously brought in before its long absence from the EU's research Framework Programmes, according to the country's Russell Group of research universities. After years of Brexit-related political wrangling, the UK finally associated to Horizon Europe at the beginning of 2024, but the damaging uncertainty caused by its absence means its researchers are still not back to where they were under Horizon 2020, the predecessor programme.

"Members [. . .] say there is work to do to get participation in Pillar 2 back to where we would like it to be," said the Russell Group in a **statement released on July 15** https://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2025-07/Horizon_participation_FINAL.pdf, referring to the part of Horizon Europe that funds continent-spanning research consortia.

The Russell Group said it would take "some time" for UK participation to recover to its former position. London and Brussels only struck [an association deal](#) in September 2023. This made UK researchers suddenly eligible for calls with deadlines in early 2024, "giving researchers little (sometimes no) time to build collaborations," the Russell Group said. The UK should expect "further progress" in 2025 and 2026, it said. In Pillar 1 of the programme, which includes European Research Council (ERC) grants that don't require researchers to join Europe-wide consortia, the Russell Group is much happier with the UK's recovery.

UK researchers won 56 ERC advanced grants in 2024, 60% more than any other country, the body said. The country applied for more postdoctoral fellowships under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions than any other in 2024, it added. "Researchers and innovators in the UK are performing strongly in Pillar 1 of Horizon Europe," it said.

Next Framework Programme uncertainty

However, the Russell Group also warns that uncertainty over whether the UK will join the next Framework Programme, set to start in 2028 and known informally as FP10, is still hampering UK researchers from joining EU teams. "Research collaborations extend over many years," it said. "Members report that uncertainty over whether the UK will take part in EU research programmes from 2028 can create caution in the rest of Europe about investing in complex partnerships."

Along with the umbrella group swissuniversities, and the U15 group of large Canadian research universities, the Russell Group has called in **a separate letter** <https://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2025-07/Joint%20letter%20regarding%20Framework%20Programme%2010.pdf> for Brussels to make the path to association for countries such as the UK, Canada and Switzerland speedy and clear.

"A process to make clear the terms of joining FP10 ahead of time would enable countries such as the UK, Canada and Switzerland to make an informed, early decision about associating," the joint letter says. "This would help ensure our universities are ready to contribute to the new R&D work programmes from day one."

Spain and Germany lead defence of an independent Pillar 2 in reformed Horizon Europe (14 July 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/planning-fp10/spain-and-germany-lead-defence-independent-pillar-2-reformed-horizon-europe>

Nine research ministers tell research commissioner they want to see "self-standing" future EU research programme



Diana Morant (left), Minister of Science, Innovation and Universities in Spain, and Dorothee Bär, Federal Minister for Research, Technology and Space in Germany. Photo credits: [La Moncloa - Gobierno de España](#) / Flickr and [International Transport Forum](#) / Flickr

Nine EU research ministers have **sent a letter** <https://sciencebusiness.net/sites/default/files/inline-files/letter%20ES-DE.pdf> to Ekaterina Zaharieva, the European commissioner responsible for research, backing an independent collaborative research pillar in the next Horizon Europe programme.

Highlighting the value of European collaborative research, the ministers argue that “collaborative research and the principles of competition and excellence must therefore remain the core of an EU funded programme for research and innovation.”

The nine research ministers sent the letter to Zaharieva on July 4. The effort was led by the Spanish and German ministers, the two most active countries in Horizon Europe’s Pillar 2, which supports collaborative research. Pillar 2’s independence is now at risk due to the European Commission’s push to merge its competitiveness-driven programmes into a single mega-fund.

Last week, leaked draft proposals for the next Horizon Europe and the European Competitiveness Fund [revealed](#) a plan to remodel Pillar 2 around the fund’s four priorities: clean transition and industrial decarbonisation; health, bioeconomy and biotechnology; digital; and resilience, defence and space.

Under the new structure, collaborative research programming would be guided by the ECF’s steering mechanism and the Competitiveness Coordination Tool. While it is unclear what exactly these mechanisms are, insiders say the new governance framework would give the Commission more say over priorities, leaving member states in an advisory role.

Other International funding

Heading for the High North: new research on the changing Arctic (16 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/heading-for-the-high-north-new-research-on-the-changing-arctic>



Six projects receive funding for Arctic research from the Netherlands Polar Program. The studies tie into two themes of the Netherlands Polar Program: climate change and ecosystem dynamics.

The purpose of the call called 'Arctic Research in Cooperation with the Alfred Wegener Institute' is to fund excellent scientific research in the Arctic, in cooperation with the German Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI). In addition to stimulating national and international cooperation within polar research, the call also promotes young talent. Three consortia and three projects of promising young researchers can be funded. In total, there were 21 applications.

Research on changes in the Arctic is urgent. After all, the polar regions are our air conditioning, but glaciers and sea ice are rapidly receding. The funded projects investigate, among other things, the melting of glaciers and sea ice and the thawing of permafrost soil, but also the influence of climatological changes on life in the Arctic.

Cooperation with AWI

International cooperation is crucial for polar research. This call contributes to strengthening the successful scientific collaboration with our strategic German partner AWI, a leading institute active in both the Arctic and Antarctic. The organization has unique logistics including icebreaker Polarstern, research stations and special aircraft for polar research.

The initiative to strengthen cooperation within polar research was already developed during the royal visit of King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima to AWI in 2019, where they also received a delegation of Dutch researchers. Under their watch, a new Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation with AWI was signed by NWO.

The Dutch Polar Program is funded by five ministries (OCW, BZ, LNV, KGG and IenW) as an instrument within the Dutch Polar Strategy and is implemented by NWO. Thanks in part to this polar research, the Netherlands is at the table when decisions are made regarding the protection and future of the polar regions.

WUR is main applicant in one of the 6 awarded projects:

Main applicant: dr Rúna Í. Magnusson (Wageningen University And Research), € 400.000

AWI-partners: prof dr Julia Boike & dr Inge Grünberg

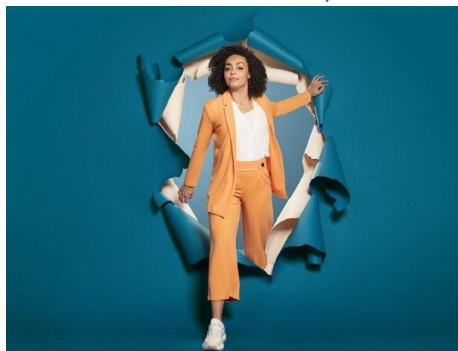
Other international partners: dr Simone Lang (UNIS)

For more information about the 6 funded projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/heading-for-the-high-north-new-research-on-the-changing-arctic>

National funding

200 researchers receive Veni grants (17 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/200-researchers-receive-veni-grants>



Identifying when children are most at risk of being taken into care within youth protection programmes. Improving the quality of surgery with video analysis. The interaction between wind and vegetation for optimising the resilience of coastal dunes. Developing reliable algorithms for statistical learning with interactive decision science. These are four of the two hundred research projects by researchers who have been awarded a Veni grant. Each researcher will receive a maximum of 320,000 euros. The grant is an incentive for adventurous, talented and groundbreaking researchers to further develop their own research ideas over the next three years.

The Veni is a personal scientific grant aimed at researchers who have recently obtained their PhD. The grant instrument allows recipients to conduct research of their own choosing. The projects that receive funding therefore cover a wide range of topics.

The 200 grants from the 2024 Veni round are divided between 66 in Science (ENW), 78 in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), 25 in Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES), and 31 grants at ZonMw.

The following 8 WUR projects are granted

1. Safeguarding Biodiversity through Law: Regulating Agricultural Pollution in the Netherlands: **Dr. E.C. Alblas, (m), Wageningen University & Research**
2. Connecting the clouds: **Dr. ir. M. Janssens (m), Wageningen University:**
3. What unlocks a new chapter in the life of a plant?: **Dr. L. Jo (m), Wageningen University**
4. Whispers of the willows: **Dr. R.Í. Magnússon (v), Wageningen University**
5. Growing Cities, Growing Needs: Local Revenue Mobilization for Rapid Urbanization: **Dr. N.F. Meriggi, (m), Wageningen University & Research**
6. Take a ride with me? Catching the impact of virus hitchhiking in soil: **Dr. L. van Sluijs (V), Wageningen University & Research**
7. The price of paradise: unveiling the impacts of European second home ownership in southern Africa's protected areas: **Dr. L. Thakholi, (f), Wageningen University**
8. Understanding the causes of widening socio-economic health inequities in the Netherlands: A mixed methods approach **Dr. K.M. Thompson, (f), Wageningen University & Research**

For overview of received grants 2024 round Veni: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme/projects-veni/veni-2024>

Facts & figures

The Veni grants are awarded annually by NWO. A total of 1,365 pre-proposals were submitted (667 by women, 662 by men and 36 applicants whose gender was unknown). Of these, 469 proposals were submitted (229 by women, 236 by men and 4 applicants whose gender was unknown). Of the 200 grants awarded, 89 went to male candidates and 109 to female candidates, representing award percentages of 13 and 16 per cent respectively. The gender of the researcher is unknown for two of the projects awarded. Additional funds are available to stimulate female researchers in the domains

Science, Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), and Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES). In these domains, this has led to the award of a total of eight additional Veni grants to female researchers.

Talent programme

The aim of the NWO Talent Programme is to create creative space for adventurous, talented, pioneering researchers, in which they can conduct research of their own choosing, develop a line of research and further develop their talent.

The Veni target group consists of researchers in the transition phase to independence, for whom the Veni can contribute to the development of the researcher in this field. Researchers eligible for a Veni grant have academic qualities that clearly exceed what is usual. The Veni grant is intended to fund scientifically innovative research and thereby enable these researchers to develop as independent researchers.

Six projects set to break down barriers to an inclusive living environment (16 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/six-projects-set-to-break-down-barriers-to-an-inclusive-living-environment>



People with disabilities have the right to an accessible living environment. As a society, we can ensure that living with a disability is possible. NWO has awarded funding to six research projects within the KIC call 'Breaking down barriers to an inclusive living environment'. These projects focus on developing innovative solutions, digital, physical or social, that enable people with disabilities to participate in society in a way that suits them.

The aim of the call

The aim of this call is to promote an inclusive society in which people with disabilities or chronic conditions can participate fully and actively. The emphasis is on creating an inclusive living environment. The call focuses on various areas of daily life, such as education, work, housing, mobility and leisure, and invites the establishment of innovative experimental environments, such as field labs and living labs. In these environments, citizens, businesses, researchers and public authorities work closely together to develop and refine concrete solutions. By positioning the research close to practice and carrying it out in co-creation with the parties involved, the results are directly applicable and sustainably embedded in the living environment.

WUR is involved in one project:

ELLI: Empathic Living Labs for Inclusive neighbourhoods for older adults *Project lead: Dr. ir. M. Mohammadi – Eindhoven University of Technology.* **Consortium:** HAN University of Applied Sciences (NL), WUR, HU, UU/I4PH, LUMC/NELL, Royal Haskoning DHV, Treant, WoonInc, Municipality of Waalre, Zorg in Oktober, Maarsing en van Steijn Psynovatie, Peter Camp Matrix Management Consult, NEN, DEEL, NELL, I4PH, BNA, Ongehinderd

The awarded projects

View the complete overview of the awarded projects here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/six-projects-set-to-break-down-barriers-to-an-inclusive-living-environment>

Funding available for large public-private consortia focused on societal challenges (15 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-available-for-large-public-private-consortia-focused-on-societal-challenges>



Within the call “KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia – XL”, new and existing consortia can submit research proposals to conduct research into innovations with societal impact through collaboration with public and private partners. The programme offers applicants considerable scope to shape the content of their proposals and to coordinate their research questions with their partners.

KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia – XL ties in with the mission-driven innovation policy of the Dutch government. It is therefore essential that each research proposal aligns with one of the six Knowledge and Innovation Agendas (KIAs) drawn up on the basis of this policy. Consortium partners play an essential role in the research: both in formulating the research question (co-design), the collaboration process during the research (co-creation) and the ultimate application of the knowledge gained (co-production). Such collaboration between researchers, companies and social partners enables innovative solutions to be developed and implemented. In this way, innovations can truly meet the needs of the economy, people and the planet.

Deadlines and funding

In order to submit a proposal, you must first submit a pre-proposal. The deadline for this is Tuesday 10 March 2026, 14:00:00 CET. The deadline for the full proposal is Thursday 21 January 2027, 14:00:00 CET. A minimum of €1,400,000 and a maximum of €7,000,000 can be requested in NWO funding per proposal. This means that NWO will fund a minimum of 50% and a maximum of 70% of the total project budget; the remainder of the project budget must be provided through mandatory co-funding. Of this minimum 30% co-funding, at least half must consist of private co-funding. The consortium is free to arrange and substantiate the remaining co-funding as it sees fit.

Information meeting

On 19 September 2025, NWO will organise an online information meeting about this call. Participants will receive more information about the call and the submission process. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. Participation is not mandatory. You can register until Friday 19 September using the registration form. Those who register early will receive the link in the week of the meeting.

Read full call for proposals here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl>

You can register for information meeting here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/meetings/information-meeting-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl-kic>

From the Surinamese economy to AI in criminal law: great variety in 78 new research projects (15 July 2025)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/from-the-surinamese-economy-to-ai-in-criminal-law-great-variety-in-78-new-research-projects>



The allocations for round 2 of the SSH Open Competition XS 2025 have been announced. No fewer than 78 researchers will be starting work on promising ideas. This means there will be plenty of room for experimentation and innovation. XS projects last for a maximum of one year and can therefore quickly

contribute to scientific insights. This round once again features many research projects on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Virtual Reality (VR). But climate, politics and migration are also prominent topics.

The projects cover the entire breadth of the SSH research field. For example, research will be conducted into the use of AI in criminal law. Another project focuses on the effects of performing arts on the social development of young children. Research will also be conducted into the Surinamese economy in the 20th century. Furthermore, the macroeconomic impact of rare but serious events will be examined.

Two WUR projects awarded

Tracing regional inequality in the northern part of the Low Countries, 1270 - 1800: Exploring the history of wages and prices: *dr. A.M. de Pleijt (F), Wageningen University & Research*

Food workers of the world unite! A qualitative investigation of labour relations in alternative food system transitions: *dr. M.R. Vicol (M), Wageningen University & Research*

For all 78 awarded projects click here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh/granted-projects>

Third round of SSH Open Competition XS 2025

The third round of SSH Open Competition XS 2025 will open on 4 August. The deadline for submitting an application is 18 September at 14:00 CEST.

For more information go to funding site: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2025-round-3>

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

New Food 2030 independent expert report: “Shaping the future of food research and innovation” (17 July 2025)

Source: DG-RTD <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/05bc5510-5174-11f0-a9d0-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

In October 2015, at the Milan World Expo on *Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life*, the European Commission called for a more ambitious role for R&I and announced an intention to launch a ‘Food Research Area’. The following year, the first Food 2030 conference was organised.

Ten years into the deployment of this initiative, European Commission has appointed independent experts to evaluate the impact of Food 2030, assess its structure and underlying rationale, and provide detailed recommendations on the design and format for a future initiative that builds upon and improves the current model.

This work provides the European Commission **with critical expert** insights to support the evaluation of Food 2030 and guide the conception of its next phase. Following the Food 2030 Pathways for action structure, ten experts have identified potential gaps and synergies to be addressed by EU research and innovation policy on food systems, while considering how the initiative could be reinforced and align with the new political priorities of the European Commission. Food 2030 is evaluated as an effective instrument for not only driving R&I in support of the EU’s food system priorities, but also advancing the broader priorities of a green transition, competitiveness, security and resilience, and simplification. Looking ahead, a reinforced and adaptive R&I framework will remain crucial. With strategic refinements, Food 2030 should continue to act as a flagship programme, connecting research, innovation, investment, and policy for a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient European food future.

Note PJ: Jessica Duncan and George Beers from WUR were invited as experts: with Jessica Duncan as horizon expert study horizontal rapporteur

Download the report here: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/05bc5510-5174-11f0-a9d0-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

The 2028-2034 EU budget for a stronger Europe (16 July 2025)

Source: Website EC https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en

On 16 July 2025, the Commission presented its proposal for an ambitious and dynamic Multiannual Financial Framework (“MFF”) to date amounting to almost almost EUR 2 trillion (or 1.26% of the EU’s gross national income on average between 2028 and 2034). This framework will equip Europe with a long-term investment budget matching its ambitions to be an independent, prosperous, secure and thriving society and economy over the coming decade.

Key features of the new MFF:

- **More flexibility** across the budget, so Europe has the **capacity to act – and react – fast** when circumstances change unexpectedly or when new policy priorities need to be addressed;
- **Simpler, more streamlined and harmonised** EU financial programmes, so that citizens and companies can easily **find and access funding** opportunities;

- A budget tailored to local needs, with **National and Regional Partnership Plans** for investments and reforms, for **targeted impact where it matters most** and ensuring a faster and more flexible support for more
- A powerful **competitiveness boost**, for Europe to secure supply chains, scale-up innovation and lead the global race for clean and smart technology;
- A **balanced package of new own resources** that ensures adequate revenues for our priorities while minimising pressure on national public finances.

The main features include:

- **Investing in people, Member States and regions:** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#investing-in-people-member-states-and-regions
- **Foster education and democratic values:** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#foster-education-and-democratic-values
- **Driving prosperity via competitiveness, research and innovation:** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#driving-prosperity-via-competitiveness-research-and-innovation
- **Protecting people and building preparedness and resilience to face new challenges:** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#protecting-people-and-building-preparedness-and-resilience-to-face-new-challenges
- **Protecting Europe:** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#protecting-europe
- **Building partnerships for a stronger Europe in the world:** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#building-partnerships-for-a-stronger-europe-in-the-world
- **New own resources to match our common ambition:** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#new-own-resources-to-match-our-common-ambition
- **Next steps:** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#next-steps

The Commission's proposal is designed to ensure that EU funding is steered by the EU's political priorities, delivering results that national budgets cannot achieve alone.

Driving prosperity via competitiveness, research and innovation

A **new European Competitiveness Fund** will invest in strategic technologies, to benefit the entire Single Market, as recommended in the Letta and Draghi Reports. The Fund, operating under one rulebook, and offering a single gateway to funding applicants, will simplify and accelerate EU funding and catalyse private and public investment. It will focus its support on four areas:

- **clean transition and decarbonization;**
- **digital transition;**
- **health, biotech, agriculture and bioeconomy;**
- **defence, and space.**

The Fund will maximise the impact of every euro spent by drawing in private money.

In close connection with the European Competitiveness Fund, the renowned **EU research framework, with its flagship Horizon Europe worth EUR 175 billion**, will continue to fund world-class innovation.

Horizon Europe and the Competitiveness Fund will offer support for the entire investment journey of a project (from conception phase to scale-up) and reduce both the cost for potential beneficiaries and the time for disbursement.

Protecting people and building preparedness and resilience to face new challenges

The long-term budget will equip Europe with faster, more efficient and flexible tools to withstand shocks and respond to new challenges. It will continue to build Europe's resilience by **financing the Preparedness Union and prepare for all stages of crisis management**: from prevention to response and recovery. The Commission is proposing a new dedicated crisis mechanism with a firepower of up to almost EUR 400 billion of loans to Member States, to be triggered when severe crises hit the Union. Furthermore, **national and regional partnerships** will support investments and reforms in all areas of preparedness and crisis management. **An agriculture reserve** will support farmers and stabilise markets if needed.

The **European Competitiveness Fund** will also enhance the EU's preparedness and strategic autonomy in key sectors and technologies, by developing industrial capacities and funding cutting-edge technologies. Lastly, the Union Civil

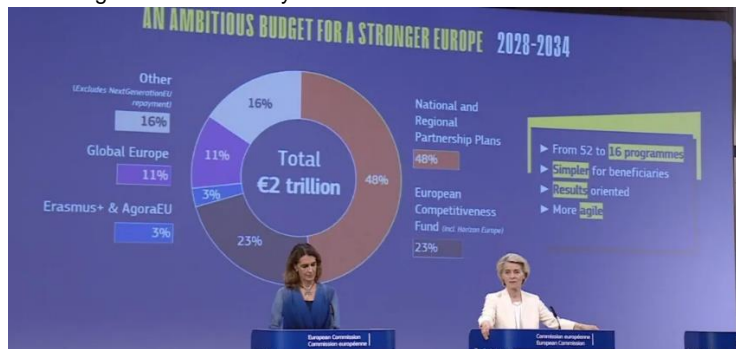
Protection Mechanism and Union support for health emergency preparedness and response will be further strengthened integrating health preparedness activities.

FP10 and MFF plans EC (16 July 2025)

Source: Blog EurActiv <https://www.euractiv.com/section/economy-jobs/news/live-countdown-to-the-next-eu-seven-year-budget/>

Sources tout near €2 trillion EU budget, way up on earlier draft

Fresh draft budget figures circulating this afternoon could see the EU's next long-term budget surge to €1.985 trillion, according to a table seen by Euractiv.



That figure, if confirmed, would see the EU budget surge to 1.26% of GNI, with €168 billion diverted to pay off Covid recovery fund debt. At this stage, it's clear there's fierce debate within the European Commission over the final figures and the new numbers circulating could yet just be a scenario under consideration.

Of the total listed, €1 trillion would go to farmers, border management, and supporting poorer regions, €590 billion to boosting Europe's industrial competitiveness (Ursula von der Leyen's industrial policy fund would be supported to the tune of €450 billion).

What's more, foreign policy would be afforded €215 billion according to the draft.

Defence budget under €200 billion

New figures seen by Euractiv suggest that the defence component of the proposed European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) could fall below €198.1 billion, despite growing calls for stronger military investment.

According to the latest internal breakdown, the ECF totals €450.5 billion, with €252.4 billion earmarked for Horizon Europe, Digital Leadership, Biotech, Agriculture, and Bioeconomy.

This leaves around €198 billion to be split between the final two budget lines still under negotiation: defence and the clean transition. The exact allocation between the two is yet to be finalised, with internal Commission discussions ongoing.

€175 billion earmarked for Horizon

The EU's flagship research and innovation programme Horizon could receive €175 billion in the next seven-year budget, according to circulating budget figures seen by Euractiv this afternoon. These may still change, though.

Nearly €55 billion earmarked for 'digital leadership'

Under the Competitiveness Fund, €54.8 billion could be allocated to "digital leadership", according to preliminary figures seen by Euractiv this afternoon. However, at this stage, the numbers may just be one scenario of many under consideration.

Commission could earmark €453bn for cohesion, fisheries, and rural areas

A draft table seen by Euractiv outlines a €453 billion envelope combining funding for cohesion policy, fisheries support, and social and rural development funds. The rural component, currently part of the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), is expected to be restructured in the upcoming EU budget proposal.

CAP could fall below €300 billion in next budget

Funds earmarked for the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in the upcoming seven-year EU budget are currently below €300 billion, according to a draft table seen by Euractiv.

The figures remain subject to significant change and could just be one scenario under consideration. If confirmed, it would mark a significant cut from the €386 billion allocated for 2021–2027, dealing a strong blow to the 62-year-old flagship policy.

It remains unclear whether the proposed envelope would cover only direct payments to farmers (Pillar I) or also include rural development support (Pillar II).

Commission toys with massive €522 billion competitiveness budget (16 July 2025)

Source: Website Euractiv <https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/news/commission-toys-with-massive-e522-billion-competitiveness-budget/>

Document seen by Euractiv suggests a larger overall budget between 2028 and 2034, worth €1.717 trillion.



Photo by Michael Kappeler/picture alliance via Getty Images

The European Commission is considering a huge new fund to boost Europe's economy worth up to €522 billion between 2028 and 2034, according to a document seen by Euractiv.

On Wednesday the Commission is expected to present its proposal for the next seven-year budget cycle.

The €522 billion would be split between a research programme, currently at €96 billion, and various smaller programmes not likely surpassing €50 billion. That leaves room for a possible **European Competitiveness Fund** of over €300 billion, unheard of in the EU.

The document – which may change in last-minute negotiations overnight – suggests that the total size of the budget will be €1.717 trillion, or 1.23% of gross national income, the total income earned by a country's population and businesses. That is €369 billion more than a comparable number for the previous budget, but around €200 billion would likely go to paying back the EU's pandemic recovery fund loans.

The Commission typically proposes a higher figure, which is then whittled down by spendthrift EU countries in years of painstaking negotiations. During the last cycle of negotiations that began in 2018, the Commission proposed 1.11% GNI and the final agreement landed at 1.05% of GNI in comparable terms.

According to the leaked document, the budget proposal would pull all the EU's expenditure into just four pots. Most of the traditional spending would be subsumed into **a fund** called "Europe's social model and quality of life," worth €947 billion over seven years.

The **Global Europe** fund, which controversially may also include development aid, would be worth €190 billion, and a budget for administration would be €107 billion.

Global policy

Emerging economies expected to drive growth in animal-source food consumption and production over the coming decade (15 July 2025)

Source: Website OECD <https://www.oecd.org/en/about/news/press-releases/2025/07/emerging-economies-expected-to-drive-growth-in-animal-source-food-consumption-and-production-over-the-coming-decade-according-to-oecd-fao-agricultural-outlook-2025-2034.html>

Emerging economies expected to drive growth in animal-source food consumption and production over the coming decade, according to OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2025-2034.

Rome/Paris – Production and calorie intake of animal-source products are expected to increase as incomes rise in middle-income countries, but further increases in food production through improvements in agricultural productivity will be necessary to reduce under-nourishment and agricultural greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at a global level, according to a new report released today by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2025-2034 https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/oecd-fao-agricultural-outlook-2025-2034_601276cd-en.html serves as a key global reference on medium-term prospects for agricultural and fish markets at national, regional and global levels. The 21st edition of the joint analysis projects that global per capita calorie intake of livestock and fish products will increase by 6 percent over the next decade, driven largely by a rapid rise in lower-middle-income countries, where growth is anticipated to reach 24 percent, nearly four times faster than the global average.

While this rise in intake of nutrient-rich food in lower-middle-income countries will bring average per capita intake to 364 kcal daily, persistent inequalities within and across countries will remain challenging. In low-income countries, average daily per capita intake of animal-source foods is projected at 143 kcal, well below the 300 kcal benchmark used by FAO to analyse the cost and affordability of a healthy diet.

Key messages

- Rising incomes, especially in middle-income economies, are expected to increase the daily per capita caloric intake of meat, dairy, fish, and other animal products by 6% over the next decade. However, in low-income countries, daily intake of these nutrient-rich foods will remain low at just 143 kcal by 2034, well below the 300 kcal included in the Healthy Diet Basket used by FAO.
- Global agricultural and fish production is expected to increase by 14% over the next decade, mainly enabled by productivity improvements, particularly in middle-income countries. However, this increased production, along with ongoing structural changes in the sector, is associated with expanded animal herds and cropland areas. Despite reductions in emissions intensity from productivity growth, this results in a 6% increase in direct agricultural greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- However, scenario analysis suggests options to eliminate undernourishment and to reduce direct agricultural GHG emissions by 7% below current levels by 2034. Achieving these dual outcomes would require a 15% agricultural productivity increase complemented by widespread adoption of emission-reduction technologies, while attaining a production level sufficient to eradicate undernourishment globally.
- As demand for food and feed grows, with production often located far from consumption areas, the *Outlook* projects that 22% of all calories will cross international borders over the next ten years. To ensure the efficient movement of agricultural and fish products, multilateral cooperation and a rules-based agricultural trade system are crucial. These frameworks will not only enhance food security but also improve sustainability and resilience in the face of potential supply disruptions.
- Real agricultural commodity prices are projected to decline in the medium term as the overall productivity of the agricultural sector increases, putting pressure on individual farmers, and especially smallholders, at the lower end of the productivity scale to continue to raise their own productivity. Sustained improvements in efficiency, adoption of innovative technologies, better access to inputs, knowledge, and markets, and effective business risk management practices are critical for maintaining farm incomes and livelihoods.

For more background information: <https://www.oecd.org/en/about/news/press-releases/2025/07/emerging-economies-expected-to-drive-growth-in-animal-source-food-consumption-and-production-over-the-coming-decade->

[according-to-oecd-fao-agricultural-outlook-2025-2034.html](#) and https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/oecd-fao-agricultural-outlook-2025-2034_601276cd-en.html

National policy

3 experimental sites launched – €15 million for farm innovation (17 July 2025)

Source: Website <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/07/17/drie-experimenteerlocaties-gelanceerd---15-miljoen-euro-voor-innovatie-op-het-erf>

Today, three experimental sites officially launch, where farmers, growers, and researchers will collaborate on the future of Dutch agriculture and horticulture. These sites will test which innovations actually work in practice – on farms, in greenhouses, or in the fields. Minister Wiersma of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature (LVVN) is supporting these initiatives with an investment of €15 million. The sites were established through the Experimental Sites subsidy scheme (SREL), for which plans could be submitted at the beginning of this year. The aim is to accelerate innovation and ensure that new solutions align with the daily practices of farmers and growers.

The experimental sites are unique collaborations between agricultural entrepreneurs, researchers, and supply chain partners. In each area, they are working on customized solutions tailored to local conditions – because what works in the wet peat meadows of the Green Heart region will have a completely different effect on Brabant's sandy soil.

From the peat meadows to the stream valleys: at each site, current themes are being addressed, such as nitrogen reduction, developing new business models, improving soil and water quality, strengthening animal health and welfare, and biodiversity. Experiments are being conducted with both technical and social innovations.

The first three experimental sites:

Fieldlab Groene Hart (South Holland, North Holland, Utrecht)

Focused on dairy farming in the western peat meadow area. Here, sustainable, circular solutions are being tested together with chain partners – from farmers to government agencies and financiers. Farmers are testing innovative measures to reduce nitrogen emissions through management adjustments and technology.

Experimental Area Eastern Netherlands (Twente and Achterhoek)

Here, work is underway to fundamentally change the agricultural production system. The focus is on circular agriculture, biodiversity, climate resilience, and new business models. Farmers are experimenting with water storage, business models in stream valleys, and closing nutrient cycles.

Farm of the Future Southeastern Sandy Area (De Peel)

In **collaboration with Wageningen University & Research**, four innovative farming systems are being tested that are suitable for the sandy soils of the southeastern Netherlands. Attention is being paid to sustainable land use, targeted KPIs, and the application of new technology such as drones and robots. Farmers coordinate their crops and work together intelligently to achieve common goals.

Read full article: <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/07/17/drie-experimenteerlocaties-gelanceerd---15-miljoen-euro-voor-innovatie-op-het-erf>

Lower score puts pressure on the Netherlands' position as EU Innovation Leader (15 July 2025)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid Nieuws <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/07/15/mindere-score-zet-nederlandse-positie-als-eu-innovatieleider-onder-druk>

The Netherlands remains at the top of the rankings in the latest edition of the authoritative European Innovation Scoreboard (EIS) 2025. Behind Sweden and Denmark, the Netherlands is now ranked as the so-called Innovation Leader. However, the Dutch score has declined for the second year in a row. The government wants to turn this tide with an ambitious action plan to invest 3% of the economy in research and development by 2030.

While other countries are investing effectively in technology and resilience, the Netherlands is lagging behind. A lack of innovation creates dependencies, hinders opportunities for our entrepreneurs, jeopardizes jobs, threatens economic security, and, in the long term, the affordability of public services such as healthcare and safety.

The Netherlands an EU innovation leader, but not a top innovation investor

The Netherlands' current strong position is primarily due to our science, education, digitalization, and public-private partnerships. But if we stop investing now, we will lose that position in the future. When it comes to investments in research and development (R&D), we rank only ninth, lagging far behind countries like Germany (3.1%), Austria (3.3%), Belgium (3.3%), and Sweden (3.6%). The Netherlands, along with countries like France (2.2%), Slovenia (2.1%), and the Czech Republic (1.8%), has not met the 3% target for years, despite earlier ambitions to close the gap.

Innovation leaders are those countries that score more than 25% above the EU average. The EIS assesses all EU member states on 32 indicators and compares these results with other countries within and outside Europe. This includes investments in research and development, public-private partnerships, innovation within SMEs, digitalization, patent applications, research quality, and employment levels within innovative companies.

Read the European Innovation Scoreboard 2025: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/3d4f12c2-033e-451b-9c4c-0d28c0339cfe_en?filename=ec%5Frdt%5Feis%2D2025%2Dmain%2Dreport%2Epdf

Cabinet takes 9 actions to address faltering innovation (15 July 2025)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2025/07/11/kabinet-onderneemt-9-acties-om-haperende-innovatie-aan-te-pakken>

While other countries are investing purposefully in technology and resilience, the Netherlands is lagging behind. A lack of innovation creates dependencies, hinders opportunities for our entrepreneurs, jeopardizes our jobs, threatens our economic security, and, in the long term, the affordability of public services such as healthcare and safety. Minister Karremans (Economic Affairs), in collaboration with the business community and knowledge institutions, therefore proposes 9 actions to structurally improve Dutch investments in research and development (R&D).

The Cabinet today approved the measures in the so-called **3% R&D Action Plan**. This means that the Netherlands will invest 3% of its economy (gross domestic product, GDP) in research and development (R&D) by 2030. Two-thirds of this funding, within this European target, will come from private investors and companies, while one-third will come from the public sector, including government, education, and knowledge institutions.

Currently, **the Netherlands invests 2.2% of its GDP in R&D**. This is considerably less than leading countries like the US, South Korea, and neighboring countries like Belgium and Germany. Without measures, the percentage in the Netherlands will drop to 2%. To reach 3%, **€14.9 billion in public investment is needed**.

The 9 actions

1. **Explore the establishment of a National Agency for Disruptive Innovation (NADI).** With a new public organization, the government will be the first client to purchase groundbreaking innovations. Breakthroughs abroad, such as the internet, GPS, and mRNA technology, have been scaled up this way.
2. **Establish an R&D launch platform** Attract knowledge-intensive companies to the Netherlands or allow them to expand here by removing barriers to access, for example, talent, space, or innovation regulations.
3. **Mobilize €3 billion in institutional capital for R&D-intensive scale-ups.** Startups are not growing into scale-ups due to a lack of funding. The government will further mobilize institutional investors, such as pension funds, for this purpose.
4. **Expanding experimental space for technological startups and scale-ups.** Focusing on affordable access to high-quality experimental space for various key technologies, such as the AI factory. This allows growth companies to develop and scale faster.
5. **Stimulating knowledge valorization.** A strong impetus to more frequently develop good scientific ideas into successful companies or applications. This will be achieved through entrepreneurship, spin-offs, and policies such as standard deal terms at knowledge institutions.
6. **Increasing the availability of technical talent and labor-saving technologies.** Focus on sectoral and regional programs such as the Microchip Talent Reinforcement Plan and Techkwadraat to structurally reduce the shortage of technical talent.
7. **Establishing an EU co-financing facility.** A structural facility through which the government co-finances innovation and technology nationally. Currently, without a budget for the Netherlands, we lack attractive EU funding.
8. **Further development of innovation instruments.** Optimizes existing schemes, such as the WBSO (Funding for Universities and Institutions) and the PPP allowance, so that companies are encouraged to invest in R&D more quickly, easily, and effectively.
9. **National Investment Institution.** A public investment institution focused on innovation, technology, and earning potential, providing financing for companies currently falling through the cracks.

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 18 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>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 **18 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	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	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	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 **18 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	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	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	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	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/news/funding-available-for-large-public-private-consortia-focused-on-societal-challenges and 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/news/funding-available-for-large-public-private-consortia-focused-on-societal-challenges and 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 **18 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.

Contacts

EU Funding Office:

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

NWO office Contacts:

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

Science Groups Liaison Officers:

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

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

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