

# WGO Research and Innovation Funding News, N° 434\_12 November 2025

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

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### **Latest Funding News**

### **European Funding News: Horizon Europe**

# EIT Water Launched: New Innovation Community to Tackle Europe's Water Challenges (11 November 2025)

Source: Website EIT EIT Water Launched: New Innovation Community to Tackle Europe's Water Challenges | EIT



The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) has selected the consortium that will lead EIT Water, the new Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) dedicated to addressing critical challenges across the water, marine and maritime sectors and ecosystems. EIT Water will accelerate solutions that respond to growing environmental, economic and social pressures on Europe's water systems.

#### A New EIT Community for Water Innovation

EIT Water becomes the EIT's tenth KIC. It will adopt an integrated approach across freshwater, marine and maritime environments, supporting entrepreneurial education and skills development, innovation projects, and business creation. By connecting innovators, researchers, and learners with Europe's largest innovation network, EIT Water will strengthen the talent pipeline and drive technology adoption across Europe.

Supporting EU Priorities and Regional Impact

This new KIC will contribute directly to EU priorities for a greener, more digital and more resilient Europe. Supported by the EIT's established innovation model and on-the-ground presence in every EU Member State, EIT Water will help ensure new technologies and approaches are developed and deployed where they are most needed.

#### Focus Areas

EIT Water will prioritise three key challenges:

- 1. water scarcity, drought and floods;
- 2. marine and freshwater ecosystem degradation;
- 3. the development of a circular and sustainable blue economy.

#### Meet the Winning Team Behind EIT Water

The winning team, **Allwaters**, consists of 50 partners from 24 countries, including leading industry partners, universities, research organisations, ports, non-governmental organisations, small and medium-sized enterprises, amongst others.

Note PJ: Allwater is coordinated by Aarhus, WU is partner and also INRAE is partner. Deltares is another Dutch partner.

We are truly honoured to lead EIT Water and to help shape Europe's response to one of its most pressing challenges. Water is life – and safeguarding it requires innovation, collaboration, and commitment. Together with the EIT and our partners across Europe, we look forward to developing solutions that make our water systems more resilient, circular, and sustainable for generations to come.

Michelle Williams, Coordinator, Aarhus University (Allwaters consortium)

Water connects all parts of our society and economy – from food and energy to industry and biodiversity. With EIT Water, Europe is strengthening its ability to manage and protect this shared resource more sustainably and innovatively. This new community will play an important role in the implementation of the Water Resilience Strategy and the building of a water-smart economy in Europe. A water-smart economy that works for people, nature, and our competitiveness. Jessika Roswall, European Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy

A healthy ocean and resilient freshwater systems are two sides of the same coin. EIT Water will help us bridge the gap between blue and green innovation by empowering local communities, businesses, and researchers. Supporting the delivery of the European Ocean Pact, it will contribute to restoring ecosystems, protecting marine life and securing a sustainable future for Europe's water and maritime sectors.

Costas Kadis, European Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans

#### **Next Steps**

To facilitate EIT Water's establishment, the EIT will provide the KIC with a startup grant of up to €5 million during the launch phase in 2026, before it is expected to become fully operational in 2027. EIT Water will be an open partnership, allowing all stakeholders in the water sector to take part and benefit from its activities over its 15-year EIT-supported duration. The partnership is expected to leverage additional public and private investment, aiming to build long-term financial sustainability and lasting impact across Europe's water systems.

Download the factsheet on the winning team!: Water Factsheet\_winning consortia.pdf Read the press release: Title of the document

# Applications for ERC Synergy Grants 2026: Facts and figures (11 November 2025)

Source: Website ERC Applications for ERC Synergy Grants 2026: Facts and figures|ERC



The ERC Synergy Grants 2026 call closed for applications on 5 November 2025.

#### These are the preliminary data on the submitted proposals:

The ERC received **957 proposals**, the highest number since the launch of the call in 2012. This represents a **34% increase** compared to last year's call, which already saw a 30% rise over the previous one.

• The proposals involve **3,312 principal investigators**, of whom **1,094 (33%) are women**, marking a steady increase in female participation over recent years (30% in 2025 and 27% in 2023).

In its Work Programme 2026 wp\_horizon-erc-2026\_en.pdf, the ERC earmarked €500 million for around 50 grants. The evaluation of the proposals is now under way, and the projects selected for funding are expected to be announced in the autumn of 2026.

# ERC Synergy Grants call 2025 to fund 66 teams tackling major scientific challenges (6 November 2025)

Source: Website ERC News ERC Synergy Grants to fund 66 teams tackling major scientific challenges|ERC

How do you solve science's toughest puzzles? By joining forces. Sixty-six research teams, bringing together 239 scientists, will receive a total of €684 million in European Research Council Synergy Grants to tackle some of the most challenging scientific questions across a broad range of fields.



The ERC Synergy Grants foster collaboration between outstanding researchers, enabling them to combine their expertise, knowledge and resources to push the boundaries of scientific discovery. This funding is part of the EU's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme.

The projects selected for funding cover diverse topics across many disciplines. For example, four researchers will investigate how variations in the genetic code of microscopic organisms could inspire new treatments for inherited diseases, while another group will probe the first microseconds of the Universe. Other teams will model how insights from the physical and social sciences can be combined to better understand crowd dynamics, and examine how East African mountain communities adapt to environmental and societal change.

Read more about the selected projects: Read more about the selected projects

#### Facts & figures

In total, 712 proposals were submitted to this call. Only about one in ten proposals were selected for funding, with the successful projects receiving on average €10.3 million each. The selected projects will be carried out at universities and research centres in 26 countries across Europe and beyond. Twenty-eight projects will involve grantees based in Germany, 24 in the United Kingdom, and 21 in both France and the United States.

Six projects will include principal investigators in countries that have so far hosted relatively few ERC grants - the Czech Republic (3), Portugal (2), Cyprus (1), Estonia (1) and Hungary (1). More than 40% of the funded projects will involve one principal investigator based outside the EU and associated countries. Women represent around 25% of the researchers involved in the selected projects.

See full list of winning research projects: See the full list of winning research projects

Read full article here: ERC Synergy Grants to fund 66 teams tackling major scientific challenges|ERC

# The 1<sup>st</sup> co-funded Call of the AgData partnership is now open! (5 November 2025)

Source: Call page Agdata Agriculture of Data: Call 1

The 1st co-funded Call of the AgData partnership is open for the submission of proposals addressing "EU-wide data-driven solutions to real problems".

A **Call Announcement** and **supporting documents** with further information of the call can be found under "**Call Documents**" in the download area on the left-hand side of this page Agriculture of Data: Call 1.

The deadline for short proposals is January 21, 12:00h CET (noon). The deadline for full proposal submission is July 21, 12:00h CEST (noon).

Note: There will be a webinar for applicants on 26th of November 2025, 9:30 CET. Please register using this link.

In order to access the submission tool, the coordinator must first register the project proposal (COORDINATOR LOGIN, left-hand side of the screen). Registration is not open yet, but registration will open within a few days after call launch. After registration of the coordinator, the coordinator can invite/add partners through the coordinator account. For short proposal submission, please carefully read the "Call Announcement" and familiarise yourself with the supporting call documents. These documents can be found in the download area (left navigation bar under Call Documents). Only online applications via this submission tool will be accepted.

Please note that only the coordinator can carry out and complete short proposal submission on behalf of each applying research consortium.

For all partners of an applying consortium, it is strongly recommended to contact their respective National Contact Persons for national/regional funding regulations. The contact details can be found in the document Funder regulations (see Call Documents).

# Commission adopts 2026 European Innovation Council work programme, putting forward €1.4 billion to boost Europe's deep tech innovation (6 November 2025)

Source: Website EC €1.4 billion: Commission adopts 2026 European Innovation Council work programme

Today, the European Commission has adopted the European Innovation Council (EIC) work programme, allocating €1.4 billion to support Europe's most promising deep tech entrepreneurs and researchers. The new programme focuses on what European innovators need most: simplified access to substantial funding, investment and easier access to customers and partners across Europe and beyond.

Building on this support, the Commission is also preparing to launch the Scaleup Europe Fund, a market-based, privately managed and co-financed initiative under the EIC Fund. Created in partnership with private investors, the Fund will bridge the investment gap faced by Europe's deep-tech scale-ups and provide the late-stage growth capital needed to help them expand internationally while remaining anchored in Europe. Together, the 2026 EIC work programme and the new Fund form a stronger European framework for turning world-class research into globally competitive companies. The new programme introduces key improvements, including a simpler, faster application process for the EIC Accelerator and the launch of pilot Advanced Innovation Challenges, inspired by the US Advanced Research Programme Agency (ARPA) approach.

The **EIC Board** played an important advisory role in shaping the 2026 work programme, providing strategic guidance and proposing improvements to make EIC support faster, more targeted, and better aligned with innovators' needs.

#### The main highlights include:

- Piloting EIC Advanced Innovation Challenges bridging to the next Horizon Europe Programme
  The 2026 EIC work programme will test a new bold, challenge-driven funding approach inspired by the US ARPA
  model. These Advanced Innovation Challenges will back high-risk, high-reward projects in fields where Europe
  leads in research but often lags to turn ideas into real-world products and businesses.
  Building on the experience of EIC programme managers, these Challenges will introduce a staged funding
  approach with a first stage to support a range of projects offering different solutions to the challenge, followed by a
  second stage with more substantive funding to support the most promising solutions to prototype and user test. EIC
  programme managers will oversee the process and bring in potential users, including public and private buyers.
- Faster, simpler and more robust application process for the EIC Accelerator
  The EIC Accelerator, the EU's flagship programme combining investment grant support and business acceleration services for Europe's highest-potential start-ups and small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs). Since 2021 over 15,000 companies have applied. From 2026, the application process will be simpler, with full proposals forms cut from 50 to 20 pages; faster, with evaluations every two months instead of every six months) and more robust, with deeper technology assessment anticipating the due diligence needed for investments.

Read full article here: €1.4 billion: Commission adopts 2026 European Innovation Council work programme

### Strong participation in 2025 EIC Pathfinder Challenges call (5 November 2025)

Source: website EIC Strong participation in 2025 EIC Pathfinder Challenges call - European Innovation Council



European Union 2025

The European Innovation Council (EIC) received 667 project proposals for its 29 October 2025 EIC Pathfinder Challenges deadline. These proposals involved a total of 3825 participants.

he proposals are distributed over the four EIC Pathfinder Challenges as follows:

- Biotech for Climate Resilient Crops and Plant-Based Biomanufacturing 108
  - Generative-Al based Agents to Revolutionise Medical Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer 219
  - Towards autonomous robot collectives delivering collaborative tasks in dynamic unstructured construction environments – 93
  - Waste-to-value devices: Circular production of renewable fuels, chemicals and materials 247

Applicants are coming from 71 countries. The total indicative budget for this call is €120 million which is expected to be allocated in approximately equal shares across the Challenges. The evaluation process has begun, and the results will be available in March 2026.

#### **Background information**

With its Pathfinder programme, EIC supports the exploration of bold ideas for radically new technologies. It welcomes the high-risk/high gain and interdisciplinary cutting-edge science collaborations that underpin technological breakthroughs.

EIC Pathfinder Challenges provides funding for projects with thematic priorities. Grants of about €4 million support early-stage developments towards future technologies up to proof of concept or validation in the lab (e.g., TRL 3 or 4). Pathfinder Challenges projects benefit from interactions with EIC Programme Managers and may receive additional funding for testing the innovation potential of their research outputs or for working across projects for portfolio actions.

# Horizon Europe info days - Cluster 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment (5 November 2025)

Source: Website EC Events | The research and innovation community platform

Learn more about funding opportunities in the Cluster 6 areas

- 22 January 2026 23 January 2026
- 09:00 (GMT+01:00)

#### About the event

Are you interested in research & innovation funding opportunities in the areas of food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment?

Join the Horizon Europe Cluster 6 info days on 22 and 23 January 2026 to learn more about the topics of the forthcoming Work Programme 2026! The event will be hybrid hosted in Brussels at the Charlemagne conference facility and streamed online via the European Commission's web platform.



#### The event covers:

- Insights into the policy context
- A 'key-to-success' session focused on guidance and tips for quality proposals
- Pitches for each of the topics from the Work Programme 2026

#### **Practical information:**

- Day 1 (22 January, 09:00-17:00, lunch included) Sessions: Plenary, Key to success, Destinations 2 and 3
- Day 2 (23 January, 09:00-13:00, followed by lunch) Sessions: Destinations 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7

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#### A detailed agenda will follow.

For registration: Registration

Please contact us for any issue with accessing the registration website.

#### Brokerage event

Ahead of the official Info Days, the **CARE4BIO** project, gathering Cluster 6 National Contact Points (NCPs), will host a brokerage event for potential applicants on 21 January 2026 at the Borschette Centre in Brussels. The event offers networking and matchmaking opportunities to find partners who share the same topics of interest.

Register for the Brokerage event

#### Horizon Europe info days - EU Missions (5 November 2025)

Source: Website EC Events | The research and innovation community platform

The event aims to inform potential applicants about the new 2026 topics included in the EU Missions Work Programme 2026/2027.

Online- Only 20 January 2026 - 21 January 2026



#### About the event

Are you interested in funding opportunities for projects helping to reach the **EU Missions goals** in the areas of health, climate and the environment? Would you like to contribute to bring concrete solutions to some of the greatest challenges facing our society?

Join us online and learn more about the new 2026 topics in the Missions' part of the main Work Programme 2026/2027 under Horizon Europe for each Mission:

- Adaptation to Climate Change Mission
- Cancer Mission
- 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart cities by 2030 Mission
- Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030 Mission
- A Soil Deal for Europe Mission

The EU Missions part of the main Work Programme 2026/27 under Horizon Europe contains new mission specific calls and topics to support the full implementation of missions according to their implementation plans.

#### Engage in the event with Slido

You will have the opportunity to engage and ask questions with Slido, before the event and during the sessions.

#### Save the date: NCP4Missions' Brokerage event 2026

The Brokerage Event 2026 focusing on EU Missions in Horizon Europe will take place on **28-29 January 2026**. It is organised by **NCP4Missions**, the international network of National Contact Points for the five EU Missions. The event will kick off on 28 January at 10:00 a.m. CET with an online plenary session offering practical advice on how to effectively tackle the Horizon Europe 2026 calls for proposals. Following the plenary, you will have the opportunity to schedule online bilateral meetings to present their expertise and/or project ideas and discuss potential collaborations.

# Horizon Europe info day – Cluster 5 Climate, Energy and Mobility (5 November 2025)

Source: Website EC Events | The research and innovation community platform

Focusing on the twin green and digital transitions to achieve climate neutrality in Europe by 2050

Only-online: 15 January 2026

#### About the event

Are you interested in funding opportunities for research and innovation in the areas of climate, energy and mobility? Join the **Horizon Europe Cluster 5 info day** on **15 January 2026** to explore the 2026 topics of the forthcoming **work programme 2026-2027**. This online event will be streamed via the European Commission's web platform.

Register for event here: Register for the event

#### What to expect

- Insights into the policy context
- Guidance for preparing a high-quality proposal
- Tips for enhancing the role of Social Sciences and Humanities in relevant topics
- Interactive parallel sessions by thematic area to address specific questions on the topics

The official publication of the Cluster 5 work programme 2026-2027 is expected in the first half of December (estimated budget of €1.2 billion for the 2026 calls). A pre-publication version is **already available**.

The parallel topic sessions aim to encourage active participation, with shorter presentations and more time dedicated to addressing participants' questions. Interaction will be supported through a live Slido Q&A during the event, and questions may be submitted beforehand once the link is available.

#### Brokerage event

Ahead of the Info Day, the **GREENET project** – the network of Cluster 5 National Contact Points (NCPs) – will host an **online networking and brokerage event for potential applicants**, **on 14 January 2026**. Participants seeking partners can present their organisations and project ideas during:

- Pitching sessions
- Dedicated bilateral meetings arranged by topic

Registration for the brokerage event is open until 17 December 2025.

More information and registration for the brokerage event

For any questions about the brokerage event, please contact the organisers.

### **European Funding News: FP10**

# UNL calls for an ambitious European research and innovation programme (10 November 2025)

Source: Website UNL UNL calls for an ambitious European research and innovation programme | Universiteiten van Nederland



Universities of the Netherlands (UNL) responds to the European Commission's proposals for Horizon Europe (FP10) and the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) with a call for ambitious programmes that give researchers the space and funding needed for cutting-edge research.

#### Why these programmes matter

Horizon Europe funds innovative research within the EU, strengthening the position of both the Netherlands and Europe in the global knowledge landscape. Dutch researchers perform strongly: the Netherlands receives more funding from the programme than it contributes to the EU, while every euro invested yields up to €11 in economic growth(external link). Examples of Dutch participation in successful Horizon projects can be found on this page.

The European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) aims to structurally reinforce Europe's competitiveness – essential to maintaining Europe's position as a global player and reducing dependence on other economic blocs.

#### UNL's stance

#### Horizon Europe 2028-2034 (FP10)

UNL welcomes the Commission's proposal for a nearly doubled budget for the successor to Horizon Europe (2021-2028) but notes that, adjusted for inflation, the proposed funding is insufficient to meet the stated ambitions. UNL therefore calls for a budget of at least €200 billion, as recommended by Mario Draghi.

Furthermore, UNL stresses that the programme should remain autonomous: independent from short-term political priorities, with funding safeguarded from being redirected to non-research policy objectives. The focus on excellent and impactful research, including in the social sciences and humanities, must be preserved.

The strength of European research lies in its researchers. Their knowledge and creativity drive the innovation that advances society. Horizon must therefore continue to allow space for their input in shaping research programmes, within a primarily civilian framework that includes clear safeguards for potential dual-use research.

In the *Position Paper Horizon Europe and Beyond*, updated in 2024, UNL and the Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres set out in more detail what the Dutch knowledge sector expects from a new European research funding framework.

#### European Competitiveness Fund (ECF)

UNL strongly supports the goal of strengthening Europe's competitiveness and emphasises that the social sciences and curiosity-driven research are essential: technological progress only succeeds when the social and organisational context evolves alongside it, and when we deepen our understanding of fundamental scientific questions.

The design of the ECF should also be transparent, with knowledge organizations having a clear role – alongside the European Commission and Member States – in shaping its further development.

#### What this means for the Netherlands

With the right investments from Horizon and the ECF, the Netherlands can maintain its strong position in Europe, and Europe can sustain its global standing. Dutch universities perform exceptionally well in European programmes and benefit from a robust European research and innovation ecosystem. It is therefore crucial that this ecosystem is supported by the right financing and governance conditions.

Our full response is available here and on the European Commission's website (external link).

## Pre-Announcement: Funding opportunity - 2026 European Universities call for proposals (6 November 2025)

Source: Website EC Funding & Tenders Portal EU Funding & Tenders Portal



The European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) will soon publish the 2026 European Universities call for proposals

The publication (opening date) of the call is foreseen around Mid-November 2025.

# The European Innovation Council Board welcomes EIC expansion under FP10 proposal (31 Oktober 2025)

Source: Website EC The European Innovation Council Board welcomes EIC expansion under FP10 proposal - European Innovation Council

The European Innovation Council (EIC) Board has welcomed the European Commission's ambitious proposal to expand the EIC under the forthcoming 10th EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP10). This proposal is set to significantly reinforce the support provided to innovators across Europe, with a strategic increase in budget and enhanced operational autonomy.

The Commission's proposal, which includes a standalone innovation pillar centred around the EIC, reflects many of the EIC Board's key recommendations. Notably, it includes a substantial budget increase of approximately 3.5 times, critical to the EIC's mission of supporting high quality demand across its various instruments.

However, the EIC Board has identified areas needing further clarification, including:

- Characteristics of the ARPA-like approach to be implemented through the EIC Challenges
- Role and operation of the Transition instrument.
- Increased synergies with the European Research Council and Pillar 2.
- Role in defense and dual use technologies.

In addition, the EIC Board also calls for revenues from exits to reflow to the EIC Fund for essential follow-on funding.

Read the full statement here: download

### Other International funding

#### Launching the European partnership One Health AMR (11 November 2025)

Source: Website ZonMw Launching the European partnership One Health AMR | ZonMw



After years of preparation, the European One Health AMR partnership was officially launched in June 2025. The programme joins forces with 53 organisations from 30 countries to intensify the battle against antimicrobial resistance (AMR) for the next 10 years.

#### Strengthening research and innovation

This European Partnership One Health Antimicrobial Resistance (EUP OHAMR) Home - EUP OHAMR is part of the Horizon Europe programme. The goal of this partnership is to strengthen research into and innovation in tackling antimicrobial resistance (AMR) with the One Health approach integrating human beings, animals, food security and the environment. AMR is a global threat that requires urgent action: from understanding biological resistance mechanisms to developing new treatment options, faster diagnostics and more effective prevention measures.

#### Key points EUP OHAMR

- A 10-year programme (2025–2035) focusing on research, innovation and policy alignment.
- A budget of € 250 million available, including € 75 million of EU co-financing.
- An ambitious framework of programmes consisting of funding for Research & innovation projects, capacity building, knowledge sharing, using data and making impact.
- The Swedish Research Council coordinates this partnership.
- The goal is to develop treatment options that save lives and to reduce AMR globally.
- Contributing to the global Sustainable Development Goals and the European One Health Action Agenda against AMR.
- Building on the success of JPIAMR, which has invested more than € 180 million in AMR research since 2011.

#### What the partnership does

The partnership has been divided into **6 implementation programmes** Implementation programmes - EUP OHAMR each lead by a partner organisation. This is how the partnership organises transnational calls for proposals for research and innovation. To strengthen their impact, the partnership organises training courses for more expertise and better cohesion in research methods.

#### The role of ZonMw

The impact is further strengthened by re-using and maximising the effect of existing data and sources for AMR research – and by making new data reusable. This work, which is included in implementation programme 5, will be carried out by ZonMw, in close collaboration with IACS (Spain), SNSF (Switzerland), KIT (The Netherlands), HLSC (Bulgaria) and SRC (Sweden). What's more, ZonMw hosts the secretariat for implementation programme 1 which is the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) of this European partnership. Finally, ZonMw will also take part in transnational calls for proposals.

Read full article here: Launching the European partnership One Health AMR | ZonMw

# EU supports the clean transition with over €358 million of investment in 132 new projects across Europe (7 November 2025)

Source: Website EC Presscorner EU supports the clean transition with over €358 million of investment

The Commission has granted today more than €358 million to 132 new projects across Europe under the LIFE

Programme for environment and climate action. The allocated amount represents more than half of the €536 million total investment needs for these projects – the remainder coming from national, regional and local governments, public-private partnerships, businesses, and civil society organisations.

LIFE projects play a significant role in the EU's transition to a clean, circular and resilient economy, helping safeguard and restore the EU's biodiversity, supporting industrial competitiveness and contributing to the EU's long-term goal of becoming climate-neutral by 2050. This investment will have a lasting impact on our environment, economy, industry and the well-being of all Europeans. The projects will cover all areas of the LIFE programme, mobilising:

- €225 million (of which the EU will provide €147 million) for nature and biodiversity, with 34 projects to restore natural habitats, coastal ecosystems, and freshwater; and improve the conservation status of birds, insects, amphibians, and mammals. This investment will deliver benefits that sustain our economy and wellbeing.
- €133 million (of which the EU will provide €76 million) to contribute to circular economy and improving quality of life, with 31 projects supporting the transition towards a clean, circular, energy-efficient, and climate-resilient economy.
- €96 million (of which the EU will provide €58 million) to 19 projects to strengthen climate resilience and mitigation efforts.
- €82 million (of which the EU will provide €77 million) to 48 projects aimed at accelerating the clean energy transition.

#### Examples of projects supporting sustainability, competitiveness and quality of life

34 projects will support nature and biodiversity in a wide range of areas. With a budget of €23.3 million, the Heath LIFE project in Sweden will restore nearly 2,000 hectares of heathland and create habitats benefitting notably pollinating insects, butterflies and lizards. Other projects will restore and protect natural habitats across Europe, such the LIFE for RIVERS in Poland focusing on rivers and wetlands (with a budget of €14.8 million) or the LIFE RePeat in Germany on peat bogs (with a budget of €16.6 million). They will also contribute to reversing the decline of endangered species, such as the Belgian LIFE ToadAlly project that aims to improve the conservation status of amphibians (with a budget of €7.3

#### million).

Among the 31 projects selected to promote a more **circular economy and quality of life**, the Latvian project LIFE RiverFlow, with a budget of €8.4 million, will connect and ameliorate more than 550 km of water bodies. In Sweden, the €3.6 million LIFE Woodmer project will produce biopolymers from waste wood to reduce hazardous chemicals and plastics in packaging and textiles. The €1.9 million project InBioSoil in Spain uses fungi to clean up soil contaminated with persistent organic pollutants.

As part of the 19 projects on **climate resilience and mitigation** announced today, the €4.3 million LIFE COOL ZONE project in Hungary, the €5.1 million impaQt project in Austria and the I-LIBIM from Spain and Portugal will provide innovative solutions to the increasing challenge of heatwaves. With the €4.3 million CROPS LIFE project in France, rural communities will benefit from new farming techniques to promote sustainable agriculture and adapt to climate change. By restoring peatlands, the German LIFE SUPER EU project will capture carbon and contribute to the EU's climate and biodiversity goals, with a budget of €10.9 million.

To ensure a clean energy transition, the 48 new projects announced today range from citizen-led local energy cooperatives to retrofitting old buildings and installing affordable heat pumps. They include the €1.2 million LIFE SUNACADEMY project, a new renewable energy training academy in France, with a focus on residential and large solar installations. The €1.8 million NESOIplus project will provide for clean energy solutions and capacity building targeted to remote island communities in the Azores, Canaries and Martinique. And with a budget of €1.6 million, the BAIL-RENOV project will give an increased focus on landlord's needs all along the energy renovation process in rental properties in France.

#### Background

Over its 33 years of existence, the LIFE Programme\_has co-financed more than 6,500 environmental and climate action projects across the EU and associated countries. The 132 projects announced today were selected from more than 895 applications submitted under the LIFE 2024 call for proposals.

The present LIFE programme started in 2021 and runs until 2027, with a budget of €5.43 billion. The grants financed under the LIFE Programme are managed by CINEA, the European Climate Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency.

#### For more information

**Project summaries** 

LIFE Programme for environment and climate action

#### COST Open Call attracts record submissions (31 October 2025)

Source: Website COST COST Open Call attracts record submissions - COST

#### Open Call oc-2025-1 initial analysis

Last week we closed our Open Call (oc-2025-1) for new COST Action proposals. Interim analysis shows:

- Highest number of proposals ever submitted to a COST Open Call: a 29% increase when compare to oc-2024-
- Over 50,000 main and secondary proposers involved.
- All COST Member Countries submitted to this collection as a main proposer. Italy, the United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, and the Netherlands have the highest number of main proposers.
- Continual, strong gender balance.
- Very interdisciplinary with 55% of proposals having two or more main fields of science.



Read full article here: COST Open Call attracts record submissions - COST

### **National funding**

# Seven applications awarded by NWO for Computing Time on the National Computer Facilities (11 November 2025)

Source: Website NWO News Seven applications awarded by NWO for Computing Time on the National Computer Facilities | NWO



The advanced national computer facilities are used for technical-scientific research in which major computational problems need to be solved and where the computational facilities of the individual institutions are inadequate. In the Netherlands, several systems are available for national use and are hosted by SURF.

Via the Call for proposals Computing Time on National Computer Facilities, researchers can request computing time on the national computer facilities. Applications can be submitted on a continuous basis. Computing time, storage, and support can be requested on the following computer systems: Snellius supercomputer, Data Processing (Grid, Spider), Cloud Research Consultancy, HPC Cloud (via SURF Research Cloud) and the pre-exascale supercomputer LUMI. Researchers can request large amounts of computing time for a project duration of two years via NWO. Access to the pre-exascale supercomputer LUMI is for the duration of one year.

Small amounts of computing time can be requested, for purposes such as a pilot and/or to learn how the systems work before starting a (joint group) application for a larger amount of computing time. These small amounts of computing time for a project duration of one year can be requested directly from SURF.

The NWO Committee for the Scientific Use of Supercomputers (WGS) meets six times a year in order to assess the applications that are complete at that moment. In 2025, meetings will be held in February, April, June, September, October and December. The next meeting will take place in December 2025. The WGS advises the Board of the NWO Domain Science on allocating or rejecting computing time applications.

#### NWO invests in research infrastructure

This programme is part of NWO's efforts on research infrastructure. Together with its partners, NWO works on broad accessibility, renewal and continuity of research infrastructure. This includes highly specialised equipment such as large telescopes or high field magnets, but also 'virtual' facilities such as data and sample collections or biobanks, as well as scientific computer networks and supercomputers. Such facilities are essential for breakthroughs in all fields of science.

Read full article with more info about awarded projects here: Seven applications awarded by NWO for Computing Time on the National Computer Facilities | NWO

### Two projects awarded for Impact Explorer 2025 call (11 November 2025)

Source: Website NWO News Two projects awarded for Impact Explorer 2025 call | NWO



When conducting scientific research, you sometimes encounter unexpected results that were not taken into account beforehand. It is precisely these unexpected discoveries that can yield valuable new insights. The Impact Explorer call offers researchers the opportunity to explore the potential impact of these discoveries. Two projects will now receive a small top-up of 30,000 euros per project to further investigate unexpected discoveries.

The grant is intended for activities to validate the potential societal impact of discoveries from more curiosity-driven research. Such as from the Talent Programme and the Open Competitions of both NWO and ZonMw. And to explore a route towards societal impact. A minimum of 20,000 and a maximum of 30,000 euros is available per proposal. Proposals can still be submitted.

Read full article with more information about granted projects here: Two projects awarded for Impact Explorer 2025 call | NWO

#### **NWO Open Technology Programme 2026 (11 November 2025)**

Source: Website NWO Open Technology Programme 2026 | NWO

The Open Technology Programme provides funding for free and unrestricted applied and technical-scientific research without disciplinary boundaries. The programme offers companies and other organizations an accessible way to participate in scientific research that is intended to have societal and/or scientific impact.

The forms for the Open Technology Programme 2026 will be available from the beginning of December.

#### **Puropose**

The Open Technology Programme (OTP) encourages free and independent research aimed at the development and advancement of technology that has an impact on people and society. The OTP has no disciplinary boundaries and offers opportunities for interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary collaboration. An important principle is collaboration with relevant knowledge users from the public and/or private sector. This collaboration increases the likelihood that research results will actually be applied and generate social and/or scientific impact. The OTP is specifically intended for research activities and is not intended for proposals that are predominantly focused on other activities, such as investments, contract research or clinical trials.

#### When to apply

 Applications can be submitted on a continuous basis between 12 January 2026 until 11 December 2026, as long as the grant ceiling or the maximum number of applications submitted has not yet been reached.

#### Changes

Compared to the OTP 2025 Call for Proposals, a number of (administrative) changes have been made. These are listed below

- The aim of the programme has been refined (see Section 2.1), including the sub-aspect 'fit within the OTP', which is part of the assessment criteria (see Section 4.3);
- If a co-applicant from a foreign research organisation is involved in the application, the organisation must be
  assessed by NWO prior to submission based on a number of conditions (see Section 7.1.1). This assessment is
  required because, in such cases, funding is being requested for project-specific costs at a foreign research
  organisation under the budget modules for scientific personnel abroad, material and/or knowledge utilisation;
- It is possible to include a compensation for individuals who participate in the user committee meeting in an unpaid
  role, either in a personal capacity or as a representative of a foundation or association, as an expert by experience
  (see Section 7.1.2).

For a full explanation see the Call for proposals: Call for Proposals - Open Technology Programme 2026

# NWO contributes to a smart defense strategy through knowledge and innovation (6 November 2025)

Source: Website NWO NWO contributes to a smart defense strategy through knowledge and innovation | NWO



Geopolitical shifts caused by emerging autocracies, war on European soil, rapid technological developments, and ever-increasing hybrid threats that undermine our society; it is becoming more necessary than ever for the Netherlands to reduce our strategic dependencies — from greater digital autonomy to a more resilient society.

The Ministry of Defense has therefore made 35 million euros available for research programs that will be rolled out through NWO. 'Because the strong research and innovation capabilities of the Netherlands can greatly enhance our security and thus actively and effectively contribute to greater strategic autonomy and better protection,' says Jan de Boer, portfolio holder for defense on the NWO Executive Board.

Through this collaboration, the Ministry of Defense and NWO are acting on the advice of the Advisory Council for science, technology, and innovation (AWTI), which was published in October 2024. In an advisory report entitled *Knowledge Offensive for Defense - Research and Innovation for a Safe Netherlands*, the advisory council stated, among other things: 'In order to increase our national security, educational and knowledge institutions and the Ministry of Defense must collaborate more closely and more frequently.'

#### Defense strategy with a focus on knowledge and innovation

The Dutch cabinet wants to put this advice into practice and is working on its implementation. The new *Defense Strategy for Industry and Innovation* therefore explicitly states that 'A strong defense is only possible when it is supported by a strong industry and a high degree of innovation.' This is because strengthening, safeguarding, and maintaining our security and autonomy is increasingly becoming a global battle for knowledge, new technology, and innovation. Moreover, innovation within Defense also leads to new applications that contribute to society and greater economic growth. At the same time, it generates knowledge and jobs that can be widely applied in the civilian sector. So it cuts both ways according to the Dutch cabinet: this *Defense Strategy for Industry and Innovation* is good for our security and our economy.

Due to the deteriorating global situation and rising political tensions around the world, the government has also increased next year's defense budget by €3.4 billion. And because this should not only contribute to a stronger, but above all smarter defense strategy, the ministry is investing heavily in research, knowledge, and innovation that can promote our security and safety, with a focus on smart materials, space technology, sensors, intelligent systems, and quantum technology. The cabinet announced these five focus areas last April.

#### Various NWO calls

NWO is distributing 35 million euros for research from the ministry's budget. The Ministry of Defense has indicated that it wants to spread this across various research programs focusing on areas such as quantum technology, smart materials, and resilience. In recent months, NWO has been working on the development of the first three programs. Furthermore, the ongoing research program 'High-performance materials for Defense and security' within the broader Knowledge and Innovation Covenant (KIC) has been increased by 5 million euros. The research theme of quantum technology is currently in the exploratory phase, as is the research program on resilience. The first call for scientists in quantum technology is expected to go online in early 2026.

# First round of SSH Open Competition 2026 open for applications (4 November 2025)

Source: Website NWO News First round of SSH Open Competition 2026 open for applications | NWO



The first round of the SSH Open Competitions XS 2026 is now open. SSH researchers who obtained their PhD at least five years ago and have a promising idea are eligible to apply. The deadline for submitting an application for the first round is 20 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET.

#### About the call

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

The characteristics of SSH Open Competition XS research are:

- the proposed research is innovative;
- it does not have to be determined in advance whether the intended project objective will be achieved;
- each project contributes to existing and new scientific insights.

XS applications are assessed by the applicants themselves on the basis of the research idea. Applicants therefore submit their research idea anonymously in the application form.

Applications within this call may not exceed a total of €50,000. The maximum duration of an XS project is two years.

#### Changes compared to the previous Call for Proposals

There are a number of major changes in this Call for Proposals compared to the previous Call. We summarise the changes below. More information can be found in the Call for Proposals.

- The submission requirement regarding the PhD date has been changed from 5 to 10 years to 5 years and above.
- The maximum duration of an XS project has been changed from one year to a maximum of two years if the research lends itself to this. The minimum duration of six months remains unchanged.
- Applications will be divided into three panels, consisting of different disciplines. The division of disciplines
  across the panels has been adjusted. A list of disciplines per panel can be found in the Call for proposals.
- The substantive assessment consists of two aspects. The explanation of the assessment of the feasibility of the research plan has been adjusted.
- A personal contribution from the applicant's own institution remains possible, but if applicable, a personal
  contribution statement must be submitted with the application.

#### Information meeting

On 18 November at 14:00, NWO is organising an online information meeting about the Open Competition XS 2026. During this meeting, the changes mentioned above will be discussed. There will also be plenty of opportunity to ask questions. Both potential applicants and grant advisers are welcome to attend. You can register here:

For more information: SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 1 | NWO

# National Roadmap: NWO invests 197 million euro in eleven Large-Scale Research Infrastructures (3 November 2025)

Source: Website NWO News National Roadmap: NWO invests 197 million euro in eleven Large-Scale Research Infrastructures | NWO



Eleven consortia from various scientific disciplines are set to launch projects of great value to science. But also to the economic and social prosperity of the Netherlands. For example, a consortium led by TU Delft will start work on a detailed virtual model of the Dutch energy system. In another project, a consortium of UMC Utrecht is developing an MRI scanner that can scan people in motion.

The funds made available to NWO by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) for the National Roadmap LSRI will enable the construction or renovation of essential research infrastructures. Investing in research infrastructure is important for our country's scientific position.

Minister of Education, Culture and Science Gouke Moes: 'The Netherlands is one of the world leaders in scientific research, which benefits us all greatly. State-of-the-art research requires advanced research instruments, such as medical scanners or energy system simulators. This research infrastructure is very expensive. By supporting the development and purchase of instruments, the government is laying a solid foundation for new research that will strengthen our economy and help solve major social issues. Furthermore, we can immediately ensure that these research instruments are widely accessible, so that we can make the best possible use of them.

A Large-Scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) is a research facility that is widely accessible to researchers and involves a minimum investment of 10 million euros over five years. The research infrastructures can be equipment, but also sets of instruments, archives, collections or digital networks. LSRI is essential for researchers to conduct innovative scientific research

'Groundbreaking scientific research is increasingly dependent on large and extremely valuable equipment and other facilities. It is good to see that we in the Netherlands are able to invest in this through intensive collaboration between researchers from different knowledge institutions. This enables us to contribute even more to innovation and solutions for major societal issues, such as energy consumption, better understanding and treatment of disease, designing smarter materials and handling large data files. Large-scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) is of enormous importance to the scientific position of the Netherlands,' explaines NWO president Marcel Levi.

#### National Roadmap LSRI

Every five years, NWO and the Dutch research community jointly set their priorities for investments in LSRI for the coming years in the National Roadmap LSRI. The current roadmap from 2021 divides the LSRI into nine groups that together represent the entire width of the scientific field. Only consortia affiliated with the nine groups in the Roadmap were allowed to submit a proposal for the 2024 funding round.

Nine proposals received funding from the call budget. The NWO Executive Board made a strategic decision to make an additional 37 million euro in funding available. This will enable a total of eleven projects to be funded. Together, the projects have raised a further 104 million euro in co-funding. The total investment in this round is therefore an impressive 301 million euro.

#### WUR consortium partner in two granted projects:

- AMICE: The Dutch Infrastructure of Advanced Multimodal Imaging Centers; Main applicant: dr. M. Bernsen, Erasmus Medical Centre; Consortium partners: Eindhoven University of Technology, LUMC, Maastricht University, Radboudumc, UMC Amsterdam, UMC Groningen, UMC Utrecht, Wageningen University & Research centre.
- 2. BioMotive: Imaging the biomechanics of the internal human body in motion: Main applicant: prof. dr. ir. C.A.T. van den Berg, UMC Utrecht; Consortiumpartners: Amsterdam UMC, Central Military Hospital, Erasmus MC, Klimmendaal, Kortradio, Leiden UMC, Maastricht University, Radboudumc, Technical University Eindhoven, University of Twente, UMC Groningen, VU Amsterdam, Wageningen University & Research.

The awarded projects in alphabetical order can be found here: National Roadmap: NWO invests 197 million euro in eleven Large-Scale Research Infrastructures | NWO

#### NWO invests in research infrastructure

This call is part of NWO's efforts on research infrastructure. Together with its partners, NWO works on broad accessibility, renewal and continuity of research infrastructure. This includes highly specialised equipment such as large telescopes or high field magnets, but also digital infrastructures, such as scientific computer networks and supercomputers, and data and sample collections or biobanks. Such facilities are essential for breakthroughs in all fields of science.

Thanks to its independent position and its overview of the science system, NWO can take the lead in developing a joint long-term strategy for research infrastructure. In addition, NWO takes a coordinating and important (co-)funding role in the implementation of this strategy. The goal is a balanced and future-proof ecosystem of high-quality research infrastructure for all science domains.

### Bring science back to the forefront after these elections (31 October 2025)

Source: Website KNAW Breng de wetenschap weer aan kop na deze verkiezingen - KNAW

The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) wholeheartedly congratulates the winners of these elections – the parties and the newly elected members of parliament! We trust that a new cabinet will invest sufficiently in our country's innovative strength, so that the Netherlands can once again compete at the highest international level.

The Netherlands currently invests 2.2% of GDP in research and development. This is significantly less than, for example, Germany and Belgium, which do meet the European 3% target. We need this minimum investment to better compete with Asia and the United States, where substantial investments are being made in research.

Our country relies on knowledge. This knowledge is essential for our security and independence, to stimulate prosperity and well-being, and to solve societal problems. This requires knowledge from the full spectrum of sciences: from Chinese language and culture to nanotechnology, from medicine to oceanography. The Netherlands has the potential to regain its leading position. This requires political ambition:

Closing investment gaps and returning to the European forefront. Achieving the EU target of investing 3% of GDP in research and development.

Furthermore, explicitly invest again in independent research at knowledge institutions across the full spectrum of science. This type of research is essential for our future (broad) prosperity and innovation capacity. Stimulate technology development in collaboration with the private sector and make it easier to move from discoveries to applications. Invest in collaboration and coordination within the European Union in the field of knowledge and innovation. Nurture the next generation of scientists in the Netherlands and attract international talent.

### **Regional funding**

#### Rural regions are gaining innovative power (6 November 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

According to a new policy report from the Joint Research Centre (JRC), rural regions are developing into growth engines for innovation, including in sectors like robotics and semiconductors. More than 11 percent of all European robotics startups are now located there. While most startups are located in cities, regions like Val-d'Oise (France), Alb-Donau-Kreis (Germany), and Jämtland (Sweden) demonstrate that rural areas, with the right conditions, can develop strong innovative businesses. The JRC advocates for regionally focused policies and investments in skills, digital infrastructure, and financing to further leverage this potential.

Press release JRC: Europe's rural regions that bridge the innovation gap - The Joint Research Centre: EU Science Hub

**Internal Wageningen University and Research calls** 

### Latest developments within R&I Policies

### **European Policy**

# MEPs, Council agree on amending EU programmes to boost investment in defence (6 November 2026)

Source: Website EC Consilium EU investments in defence: Council and Parliament agree to support faster, more flexible and coordinated investments in European defence - Consilium

The European Parliament and EU member states have reached a provisional agreement on allowing Horizon Europe and four other EU programmes to fund dual use projects. These include the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform, the Digital Europe programme and the Connecting Europe Facility.

"By opening key EU-programmes to defence-related investments, we are enhancing our efforts in strengthening Europe's Defence Industrial and Technological Base," said Marie Bjerre, minister for European Affairs of Denmark. "It is a necessary step towards a stronger, more resilient, and more capable Europe that is able to defend itself by 2030."

More details here: EU investments in defence: Council and Parliament agree to support faster, more flexible and coordinated investments in European defence - Consilium

# European Commission aims to legally enshrine knowledge security (6 November 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

The European Commission is taking new measures to strengthen knowledge security in the European Union. The concept will be incorporated into the upcoming European Research Area (ERA) Act. It was also announced that the Commission is establishing a European Centre of Expertise for Knowledge Security and developing a platform for risk analysis in international cooperation. Furthermore, it is introducing a common methodology to test the resilience of research institutions.

**Press release European Commission**: Commission announces new measures to strengthen research security - Research and innovation

#### News from Brussels (6 November 2025)

Source: EC and EUA

European Commission sets out work programme for 2026

In its **work programme for 2026** Commission unveils 2026 work programme, the Commission sets out upcoming EU policy initiatives for the year ahead with an approximate timetable.

This includes several upcoming proposals in education, research and innovation:

- the European Innovation Act The EU's Innovation Act can address hurdles to innovation and boost Europe's competitiveness (first quarter);
- the European Research Area Act EUA's recommendations to increase the European Research Area's impact and achieve the fifth freedom (third quarter);
- a 2030 Roadmap on the future of digital education and skills and a Skills portability initiative (third quarter).

Beyond this, several acts are coming up in key fields for competitiveness (e.g. Advanced Materials Act, Cloud and Al Development Act, Chips Act, European Biotech Act II, Quantum Act) as well as initiatives for sustainability (e.g. a new climate package, Energy Union package, Circular Economy Act).

#### Why this is important:

For 2026, the focus on competitiveness and sustainable prosperity is very clear. Now, regulation is back on the table in the form of a series of acts.

Whether this will be about regulating, reforming or deregulating remains to be seen and also depends on each policy area. With ongoing negotiations on the next generation of EU programmes, the ERA Act and the Innovation Act, it will surely be a busy year for those representing universities in Brussels.

#### Member states recognise importance of R&I for start-ups and scale-ups

On 30 September, **research ministers adopted conclusions** Council backs research and innovation for startups and scaleups - Consilium on the importance of research and innovation for the EU's start-up and scale-up strategy.

The conclusions underline the need for collaboration between universities, research performing organisations and companies to boost the EU's competitiveness, highlighting that:

- Universities are essential in retaining and attracting talent and valorising knowledge through the creation of academic spin-offs and startups – and these efforts should be supported and strengthened.
- The EU's current state aid rules are an obstacle. (The conclusions call on the European Commission to propose solutions and provide guidance within the current state aid framework.)
- Predictable and coherent R&I funding programmes and well-resourced knowledge and technology transfer
  offices are essential.
- Valorisation activities should be better recognised in academic careers. (The conclusions ask the Commission to take this into account in the upcoming blueprint for an academic career development framework.)

#### Why this is important:

The EU's start-up and scale-up strategy, published earlier this year, lays the groundwork for the upcoming European Innovation Act.

In this context, it is a positive sign that ministers highlight the important role of universities in R&I. Indeed, it is crucial that universities' needs are taken into account in broader innovation policies, as **EUA has recently outlined** The EU's Innovation Act can address hurdles to innovation and boost Europe's competitiveness.

#### What does the EU's 'AI first' mindset mean for universities?

"We will drive this 'Al first' mindset across all our key sectors", said Ursula von der Leyen as she launched a new set of Al strategies for Europe, including an **Al in Science Strategy** Commission launches two strategies to speed up Al uptake in European industry and science.

This strategy lays out a broad catalogue of initiatives. Some of these, like the planned **investments in computing infrastructure** EU launches InvestAl initiative to mobilise €200 billion of investment in artificial intelligence | Shaping Europe's digital future, are not specifically for research purposes, but researchers have access. Likewise, initiatives like **Choose Europe** Choose Europe: advance your research career in the EU, aimed at bringing research talent to the EU, are not aimed specifically at AI, but they could help to bring talent in this field to the continent.

Concrete steps from the Commission include a pilot for RAISE (the Resource for AI Science in Europe), which is intended to tie together strands of the strategy and coordinate between stakeholders. Moreover, the European Commission, member states and stakeholders will have a forum for discussion through the European Research Area, where EUA will also be represented.

#### Why this is important:

The use of AI in all research disciplines has grown considerably over the past decade, and AI can open whole new areas of research that were previously not possible. In order for Europe to remain a research power, investment and coordination is needed, so that the frameworks being set up now will deliver long-term results.

# European Commission and private investors collaborate on multi-billion dollar fund for deep tech scaleups (6 November 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

The European Commission is collaborating with private investors on the Scaleup Europe Fund: a new fund to increase investment in European technology companies. The fund will focus on companies in strategic deep tech sectors. According to European Commissioner Zaharieva, the fund should help strengthen Europe's technological leadership and prevent fast-growing companies from seeking financing outside Europe. Founding investors include APG, on behalf of the ABP pension fund, Novo Holdings, and Santander. The fund will operate as a market-based, privately managed, and privately co-financed growth fund investing in large, European-led investment rounds. The European Commission and the investors will soon select a management company so that it can begin making its first investments in the spring of 2026.

**Press release European Commission**: Commission partners with private investors to set up multi-billion Scaleup Europe Fund

### Commission sets out plan for EU Innovation Act (6 November 2025)

Source: Website Science|Business Commission sets out plan for EU Innovation Act | Science|Business

Legislation to be presented in 2026 is likely to cover regulatory sandboxes, access to research infrastructures and support for technology transfer



Photo credits: ShamimHR / BigStock

The results of a public consultation on the forthcoming EU Innovation Act have been released by the European Commission, along with an outline of the expected scope of the legislation.

The act, which is due to be presented in the first quarter of 2026, is intended to address the barriers that prevent innovative ideas reaching the market, across all technology areas.

"We want to help the entire innovation ecosystem across the EU, whatever the sector," said Branislav Turcina, policy officer at the Commission, during a webinar hosted by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology on November 4.

He went on to present the results of the public consultation, which closed last month, and the likely scope of the legislation, which reflects the topics put to stakeholders.

#### Regulatory framework

The first area under discussion relates to the EU regulatory framework. The Commission is considering introducing EU-level definitions of innovative companies, start-ups and scale-ups. A large majority of stakeholders believe this would allow future support measures to be better targeted. "That's very much in line with our thinking," Turcina said. The legislation could also define regulatory sandboxes, which allow for the testing of innovative technologies in a real-world environment with regulatory oversight.

Sandboxes provide early dialogue with regulators and can help to speed up time to market, but innovators face barriers including unequal access, inconsistent understandings of regulatory sandboxes across member states and a lack of cross-border recognition of results.

In addition to an EU-wide definition, the Commission is considering introducing a "set of basic rules governing establishment, operation and also the follow-up to the outcomes of the regulatory sandboxes across the EU, which would then allow also for more cross-border cooperation," Turcina said.

The research community is keen to see greater use of national and cross-border sandboxes. In its contribution to a Commission call for evidence, the Danish government suggested the text should set out some general guiding principles for the deployment of sandboxes that allow for "flexible implementation adapted to a national context."

Volvo Group, which is among the European companies investing the most in R&D, also supports regulatory sandboxes as a way to explore new technologies and allow start-ups and scale-ups to use industry data to validate their innovations. "Easier set-up of shared sandboxes would enable corporations and start-ups to collaborate on technology faster," it said in its contribution.

Read full article here: Commission sets out plan for EU Innovation Act | Science|Business

#### Commission launches 'Resource for AI Science in Europe' (3 November 2026)

Source: Website EC Press corner Commission launches 'Resource for Al Science in Europe'

Today, at the European Al in Science Summit in Copenhagen, organised by the European Commission and the Danish Presidency of the Council of the EU, Executive Vice-President Henna Virkkunen and Commissioner

Ekaterina Zaharieva launched the pilot of RAISE – the Resource for Artificial Intelligence Science in Europe. This new virtual institute is a flagship initiative under the Apply Al Strategy and the European Strategy for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Science. It will bring together essential resources for developing Al and applying it to drive transformative scientific breakthroughs: from improving cancer treatments to solving environmental issues, improving predictions of the impact of earthquakes, and more. The RAISE pilot will be funded with €107 million under Horizon Europe.

Drawing on the EU's proven capacity to tackle complex challenges through collective action, RAISE will support the EU's goals to put science and technology at the heart of its economy, maintaining its leadership in fundamental research, to let innovation serve humanity, and to welcome global talent to Choose Europe. As such, it will contribute to bolstering Europe's competitiveness, driving it towards a new age of invention and ingenuity, and will reinforce its technological sovereignty.

#### RAISE by and for scientists

RAISE will be a **virtual European institute**, pooling and coordinating core AI resources, including **computational power**, **data**, **talent and research funding** across the EU Member States and the private sector, to drive both the development of frontier AI and AI-enabled scientific progress.

Key elements of RAISE are:

- Computational power: Access to AI computational power is important for researchers and startups in Europe.
  RAISE will secure dedicated access time to AI Gigafactories, through the financial contribution of €600
  million from the Horizon Europe programme. RAISE will collaborate with the European High Performance
  Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC JU) to guarantee availability and ensure priority for EU-funded
  research projects.
- Data: RAISE will support scientists to identify strategic data gaps and to gather, curate and integrate the
  datasets needed for AI in science.
- Excellence and skills: RAISE will attract global scientific talent and highly skilled professionals to Choose Europe. This includes €75 million under the RAISE pilot for Networks of Excellence and Doctoral Networks to train, retain and attract the best AI and scientific talent.
- Research funding: the Commission aims to double Horizon Europe's annual investments in Al to over €3
   billion, including doubling funding for Al in science.

The European AI in Science Summit was also the occasion to present the first step of the RAISE pilot: the Coordination and Support Action for 'Facilitated cooperation for AI in science,' funded with €3 million by Horizon Europe. This Action will connect and interlink the AI in science community across Europe, to support the development of RAISE with and for researchers and innovators.

The Summit also marked the launch of a new Action under the European Research Area (ERA) on 'Facilitating and accelerating the use of AI in science and research in the ERA.' This ERA Action will support the setup of RAISE by providing a platform for coordination with Member States.

#### Next Steps

To accommodate the fast-paced changes in innovations and the shifting needs of the AI science ecosystem, RAISE will be built in phases, and will grow as its partners, resources, contributions and needs are evolving. Following the pilot phase launched today, the Commission will work together with the EU Member States, research stakeholders, including higher education institutions, and with the private sector, in view of further developing RAISE under the next long-term EU budget for 2028-2034, and ensuring its long-term sustainability, both in terms of governance and pooled resources.

For more background information: Commission launches 'Resource for AI Science in Europe' and IP\_25\_2578\_DA.pdf

### **Global policy**

# Nature Explains the Impact of Basic Research on Groundbreaking Innovations (6 November 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

Last week, Nature published a background article on seven groundbreaking innovations resulting from basic scientific research, such as Ozempic, CRISPR gene therapy, MRI scans, and flat-screen TVs. In the article, Nature opposes US President Trump's decision to cut significant research funding.

Article by Nature: 7 basic science discoveries that changed the world

# Experts Call for International Ban on Artificial Superintelligence (6 November 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

Thousands of scientists, including KU Leuven professor Lode Lauwaert, are calling for a global ban on the development of artificial superintelligence (ASI). In opinion pieces in De Standaard and de Volkskrant, Lauwaert warns that such systems, which are said to be much smarter than humans in all cognitive domains, pose serious risks to security and autonomy. According to Lauwaert, superintelligence could potentially copy and spread itself in the future, making human intervention impossible. He points to the so-called alignment problem: he argues it is virtually impossible to fully align Al with human norms and values. The call, now signed by more than 30,000 experts, calls for a binding international treaty and an independent supervisory body. Technical limitations, such as software and hardware limitations, should also prevent Al from developing in undesirable ways.

LinkedIn post: (12) Post | LinkedIn (in Dutch)

Opinion piece De Standaard (paywall): Verbied artificiële superintelligentie, nu ze nog niet bestaat. Anders zijn we een vogel voor de kat | De Standaard (in Dutch)

Opinion piece De Volkskrant (paywall): Opinie: Al die liegt, chanteert en zichzelf reproduceert? Stop de ontwikkeling van superintelligentie | de Volkskrant (in Dutch)

# China's new five-year plan focuses on industrial growth and self-reliance (6 November 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

In its new five-year plan (2026–2030), China is committed to strengthening the manufacturing industry and technological independence. The plan makes industrial development the top priority and links it to strategic investments in R&D, writes think tank MERICS. With the plan, China aims to reduce its dependence on foreign technology by increasing support for semiconductors, AI, and basic research. Digital, smart, and green technologies will also be used to increase productivity and modernize industry, according to an analysis by Nature. The emphasis on industry and R&D aligns with China's ambition to become a global leader in key technologies. Last year, the country was the largest investor in R&D.

Merics article: MERICS China Essentials special issue: China's next Five-Year Plan | Merics

Nature article: China seeks self-reliance in science in next five-year plan

### UK announces £55 billion R&D boost (6 November 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

The UK government is investing an additional £55 billion in research and development (R&D) between 2026 and 2030 to accelerate scientific breakthroughs and strengthen the economy. The investment will focus on sectors such as healthcare, clean energy, artificial intelligence, and quantum technology. "It's essential to support our best and brightest researchers and innovators. They make the impossible possible, from health to clean energy and beyond. Their ideas will create tomorrow's industries, drive growth, and transform public services now and in the future," said Science and Technology Minister Liz Kendall. The announcement cites research into the value of public R&D, published the

same day. It shows that every £1 invested generates £8 in economic growth in the long term. Possibly even more, as societal value is sometimes difficult to measure. Every £1 also generates £2 in private R&D investment.

Persbericht UK: Persbericht VK

Onderzoek: Onderzoek

### **National policy**

# Mirjam van Praag on innovation gap: "directly impacts our strategic autonomy" (6 November 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

"Make sure companies find it interesting to participate, then you strengthen each other." This is the view of AWTI chair Mirjam van Praag in an opinion piece in the VNO-NCW members' magazine Forum about the innovation gap the Netherlands is threatening to fall into. The public contribution of 0.8 percent of GDP is threatened to drop to 0.6 percent by 2030. This is much less than what neighboring countries like Germany and Sweden are investing. Van Praag speaks with Annemiek Verkamman of Hollandbio and Jan Jacob van Dijk of the Council for the Environment and Infrastructure about possible solutions. For example: targeted and consistent investment in thematic ecosystems important to the Netherlands. Not innovating is not an option, according to Van Praag. "Those who depend on others for technology and knowledge lose control over their future." The AWTI will soon issue an advisory report on stable funding for research, development, and innovation.

VNO-NCW Forum: Nederland dreigt innovatievoorsprong te verliezen (in Dutch)

**AWTI Advisory Report**: Stabiele financiering van onderzoek, ontwikkeling en innovatie (OO&I) | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie (**in Dutch**)

#### Kennisveld urges new cabinet to invest in innovation (6 November 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

Last week, many organizations responded to the election results. The Kenniscoalitie – the partnership of organizations for entrepreneurs and researchers – is urging the new cabinet to take action to improve the Netherlands' innovation capacity. "Without further efforts, spending on knowledge and innovation will continue to decline, causing our country to fall behind neighboring countries. Moreover, investments in knowledge and innovation will pay off handsomely and deliver value for the Netherlands," says chairman Marcel Levi. The business associations VNO-NCW and MKB Nederland consider it especially important that a stable cabinet is formed as soon as possible, one that has solutions for the deteriorating investment climate.

Response from Kenniscoalitie/UNL: Uitslag Tweede Kamerverkiezingen: Kenniscoalitie ziet kansen voor toekomst kenniseconomie | Universiteiten van Nederland (in Dutch)

Response from VNO-NCW/MKB Nederland: Ondernemersorganisaties: Snel een stabiel kabinet (in Dutch)
Response from the Association of Universities of Applied Sciences: Vereniging Hogescholen | Hogescholen staan klaar om te leveren (in Dutch)

Response from the KNAW: Breng de wetenschap weer aan kop na deze verkiezingen - KNAW (in Dutch)

# Former ASML CEO Wennink advocates for intervention in future earning capacity (6 November 2025)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 6 November 2025

The new cabinet must invest heavily and make difficult decisions to maintain the Netherlands' earning capacity. Former ASML CEO Peter Wennink argues this in a letter to all party leaders, leading up to the formation of a new government. Wennink has been asked by the current cabinet to write an advisory report on the Netherlands' future earning capacity. He told the FD and De Telegraaf that he doesn't want to wait for the presentation of this report because he is deeply concerned. "It's one minute to midnight in the Dutch economy. The costs of stagnation for our society are many times higher than the investments now required. If we do nothing, our healthcare, safety, and social security will become unaffordable. A lack of innovation is harming our future," the letter reads. Wennink's report will be presented on Friday, December 12th.

Brief Peter Wennink: Brief Peter Wennink (in Dutch)
Interview in FD: Interview FD (paywall) (in Dutch)

Interview in Telegraaf: Interview Telegraaf (paywall) (in Dutch)

### **Call deadlines**

### **HORIZON Europe calls**

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 12 November 2025

Call identifier	Deadline
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC EXCellent Science	
HORIZON-ERC-2026-CoG https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/ERC-2026-COG	13 January 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (ERC Consolidator Grant)
ERC-2026-AdG	NEW: Foreseen opening: 28 May 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 27 August 2026 17.00 Brussels time (ERC Advanced Grant)
ERC-2026-PoC	NEW: Foreseen opening: 13 November 2025 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 March 2026 and 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (ERC Proof of Concept Grant)
ERC-2026-PERA	15 January 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (ERC Public Engagement with Research Award (prize contest)
Marie Sklodwska Curie Actions	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-DN-01 - Doctoral networks - Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates - TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates	25 November 2025 (MSCA Doctoral Networks 2025, Industrial doctorates, Joint Doctorates)
Research Infrastructures	
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 (CLOSED) (First Stage), 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01- STAYHLTH single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01- STAYHLTH	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time

Destination - Living and working in a health-promoting environment	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03- ENVHLTH-two-stage	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage), 16 April 2026 (Second Stage)
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01- ENVHLTH single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01- ENVHLTH single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time
Destination - Destination - Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden	
HORIZON-HLTH-2025-03- DISEASE-02-two-stage	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) (First Stage), 16 April 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01- DISEASE single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01- DISEASE single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02- DISEASE two-stage	Foreseen opening 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage), 22 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
Destination - Ensuring equal access to innovative, sustainable, and high-quality healthcare	
Destination - Developing and using new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-TOOL single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL single stage	Foreseen opening: 3 June 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 22 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-TOOL- 01-two-stage	Foreseen opening 13 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage), 22 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
Cluster 2 Culture Creativity and Inclusive Society	
Cluster 4 Digital - Industry - Space	
Destination 1: CLIMATE NEUTRAL, CIRCULAR AND DIGITISED PRODUCTION	

Destination - Cross-sectoral solutions for the climate transition	Foreseen opening: 17 November 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 4 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-08-Two- Stage-D1-06:	Foreseen opening: 18 December 2025 and foreseen Deadline(s): 15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) and 8 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1	Foreseen opening: 18 December 2025 and foreseen Deadline(s): 15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
Destination - Climate sciences and responses for the transformation towards climate neutrality	
CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility	
DESTINATION 6 – A HUMAN- CENTRED AND ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL AND INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES	
- OPEN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY IN DEVELOPING, DEPLOYING AND USING GLOBAL SPACE- BASED INFRASTRUCTURES, SERVICES, APPLICATIONS AND DATA	
DESTINATION 5 – DESTINATION	
DESTINATION 4 – DIGITAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR COMPETITIVENESS AND FIT FOR THE GREEN DEAL	
DESTINATION 3 - WORLD LEADING DATA AND COMPUTING TECHNOLOGIES	
Destination 2: INCREASED AUTONOMY IN KEY STRATEGIC VALUE CHAINS FOR RESILIENT INDUSTRY	

HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2	Foreseen opening: 18 December 2025 and foreseen Deadline(s): 31 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D2	Foreseen opening: 5 May 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 15 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D2	Foreseen opening: 3 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 31 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2027-04-Two- Stage-D2	Foreseen opening: 15 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) and 7 October 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3	Foreseen opening: 18 December 2025 and foreseen Deadline(s): 31 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) and 20 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3	Foreseen opening: 4 August 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 1 December 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-04-Two- Stage-D3-02	Foreseen opening: 18 December 2025 and foreseen Deadline(s): 31 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) Deadline(s) 20 January 2026 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-01	Foreseen opening: 18 December 2025 Deadline(s) 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6	<b>16 September 2025</b> 17.00 Brussels time <b>(CLOSED) 20 January 2026</b> 17.00 Brussels time
CLUSTER 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment	
Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV- two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV single stage	Foreseen opening: 17 April 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 22 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time

environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02- FARM2FORK-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02- FARM2FORK single stage	Foreseen opening: 14 January 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02- FARM2FORK two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 15 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02- FARM2FORK single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02- FARM2FORK two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO- two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO single stage	Foreseen opening: 17 April 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-CIRCBIO two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CIRCBIO two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01 ZEROPOLLUTION-two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01- ZEROPOLLUTION single stage	Foreseen opening: 17 April 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02- ZEROPOLLUTION two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01- ZEROPOLLUTION single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 22 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 5 - Land, ocean and water for climate action	
HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE- two-stage	4 September 2025 (First Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) and 18 February 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CLIMATE single stage	Foreseen opening: 14 January 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CLIMATE single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CLIMATE- 01-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02- COMMUNITIES single stage	Foreseen opening: 14 January 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02- COMMUNITIES single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03- GOVERNANCE single stage	Foreseen opening: 14 January 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-04- GOVERNANCE-01: Additional activities for the European Partnership of Agriculture of Data	Foreseen opening: 25 August and foreseen Deadline(s): 26 November 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03- GOVERNANCE two-stage	Foreseen opening: 12 February 2026; Deadline(s): 15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 30 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-03- GOVERNANCE single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 11 May 2027 17.00 Brussels time
Circular Biobased Europe	
CBE Circular Biobased Europe partnership https://www.cbe.europa.eu/	
Pillar III Innovative Europe	
Mission calls 2026-2026	
CLIMATE MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time

HORIZON-MISS-2027-01-CLIMA single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
CANCER MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER single stage	Foreseen opening: 10 December 2025 and foreseen Deadline(s): 15 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-02-CANCER single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2026-03-OCEAN single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-03-OCEAN single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
CITIES MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-04-CIT single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 8 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 7 October 2027 17.00 Brussels time
SOIL MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL- two-stage	Foreseen opening: 9 December 2025; Deadline(s): 14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 15 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL- two-stage:	Foreseen opening: 10 November 2025; Deadline(s): 15 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
JOINT MISSION CALLS	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-06-CLIMA- SOIL joint call SOIL and CLIMATE missions	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-06-SOIL- CANCER Joint call SOIL and CANCER mission	Foreseen opening: 9 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-07-CLIMA- CIT-NEB Joint Call between the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and the Adaptation to Climate Change Mission	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
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 12 November 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	A two-step application procedure will apply, with a mandatory submission
Biodiversa+	of pre-proposals at the first step and submission of full proposals at the
https://www.biodiversa.eu/	second step, via the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS).  • Deadline for pre-proposals submission (mandatory): Friday 7
	November 2025, 12:00 CET
	Results of the evaluation of the first step: mid-February 2026
	<ul> <li>Deadline for full-proposals submission: Tuesday 14 of April 2026,</li> <li>12:00 CEST</li> </ul>
	Recommendations for funding: late September 2026
	Start of the projects: between 1st of December 2026 and 1st of April 2027
	Call launch Pre-proposal Pre-proposal Pre-proposal Results step 1 Full proposal Funding recommendations 1 Dec. 2026- 1200 CEST  Project start 1 Dec. 2026- 1 Apr. 2026 1 Apr. 2026
	Call launch 9 Sept. 2025 7 Nov. 2025 1200 CET Results step 1 Mid Feb. 2026 14 Apr. 2026 1200 CEST Full proposal Funding recommendations 1 Dec. 2026 1 Apr. 2026 1 Apr. 2027
	https://www.biodiversa.eu/2025/09/09/2025-2026-joint-call/
European Partnership Water4All	Water4All 2025 Joint Transnational Call https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/28-million-available-for-research-into-the-interaction-between-water-and-
https://www.water4all-	health and https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-
partnership.eu/	2025-joint-transnational-call
parent of the control	Tentative timeline
	Call opening: 12 September 2025
	Submission deadline of preproposals: 13 November 2025, 15:00 CET
	Selection of preproposals: End of February 2026
	Submission deadline of full proposals: 13 April 2026, 15:00 CEST Selection of funded proposals: September 2026
	Projects start: End 2026/beginning 2027
	Kick-off meeting of the funded projects: Spring 2027
European Partnership	NEW: FutureFoodS hereby pre-announces the 2nd co-funded call for
FutureFoods	transnational research projects
https://www.futurefoodspartner	https://www.futurefoodspartnership.eu/news/pre-announcement and
ship.eu/	https://futurefoods.ptj.de. The call will follow a two-step procedure with the following important
	steps: [Call launch: Second half of November 2025
	Deadline for pre-proposal submission: ~ end of January 2026
	Deadline for full-proposal submission: ~ beginning of July 2026 (only by
	invitation)
European Partnership	NEW: Pre-Announcement 3 <sup>rd</sup> call AGROECOLOGY partnership
Agroecology	https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/news/3rdco-fundedcall and https://static1.squarespace.com/static/65c21789238d5029339b09bf/t/68f9f

https://www.agroecologypartne	8263fc5381299cc4d07/1761212454409/2025-10-23+Pre-
rship.eu/	announcement_vf.pdf
	Tentative timeline
	Launch: December 2025
	Pre proposal submission: February 2026
	Full proposal submission: July 2026
European partnership	NEW: Announcement: 1st Co-funded Call for Transnational Research
Agriculture of Data	Projects "EU-wide data-driven solutions to real problems"
	https://agdata.ptj.de/call1
	<u>Procedure</u>
	Short proposal & full proposal step
	Call launch planned in November 2025
	Project start from January 2027, depending on grant negotiations with
	relevant funders; funding for 24 up to 36 months
European partnership	Third Joint Transnational Call for R&I Funding
Sustainable Blue Economy	Call launch (provisional): 15 September 2025, 15:00 CEST
https://bluepartnership.eu/	Deadline submission Pre-proposals 17 November 2025
	Deadline submission Full proposals 17 June 2026
	Sutaineble illue Economy Portourabla
	COMING SOON
	<sub>gal</sub> Voreling.
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Joint Transnational Call
	LAUNCIE TO September 2020, 15:00 CEST*     DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF PRE-PROPOSALS: (7 Movember 2025)
	. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS: 17. India 2026
	4 Operational transfer
	https://www.bluepartnership.eu/funding-opportunity/sustainable-blue-
	economy-partnerships-third-joint-transnational-call and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/international-
	programmes/european-partnerships/sustainable-blue-economy-
	partnership-sbep
European Partnership Driving	Pre-announcement: European funding opportunity for sustainable urban
Urban Transitions to a	transitions https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-european-
sustainable future (DUT)	funding-opportunity-for-sustainable-urban-transitions-0
https://dutpartnership.eu/	Foreseen timeline and information day
p.ap.a. anoromprour	The foreseen timeline for this call is as follows:
	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
	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 https://dutpartnership.eu/dut-call-2025-info-day/. NWO and
	SIA representatives will be available for your questions during a break-out
	session for The Netherlands.
<u>                                     </u>	
Joint Technology	
Initiatives	
Joint Programming	
Initiatives	
	I .

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.jpiclimate.eu/home
<ul> <li>Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/</li> <li>More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of</li> </ul>
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 **12 November 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
13-11-2025	Deadline submission pre-proposals Water4All 2025 Joint Transnational Call. Submission deadline
	of pre-proposals: 13 November 2025, 15:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/28-million-available-for
	research-into-the-interaction-between-water-and-health and https://www.water4all-
	partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-2025-joint-transnational-call
17-11-2025	Deadline submission pre-proposals Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership third Joint
	Transnational Call, "Digitalisation and Innovation for Resilient Marine Ecosystems,
	Businesses, and Communities to Strengthen the EU Blue Economy's Competitiveness. Pre-
	proposal submission deadline: 17 November 2025, 15:00 CET (Brussels Time).
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/international-programmes/european-
	partnerships/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep and https://bluepartnership.eu/ and
	https://bluepartnership.eu/news/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-launches-its-3rd-joint-
	transnational-call
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
01-12-2025	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026;
until 24	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026;  NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to
until 24 February	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the
until 24	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE
until 24 February	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026
until 24 February	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and
until 24 February	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-
until 24 February	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and
until 24 February 2026	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2025-26_EN%20%282%29.pdf
until 24 February 2026	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2025-26_EN%20%282%29.pdf  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026
until 24 February 2026 07-12-2025 until 31-07-	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2025-26_EN%20%282%29.pdf  Foreseen deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026 NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to
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until 24 February 2026 07-12-2025 until 31-07-	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2025-26_EN%20%282%29.pdf  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026 NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal at any moment from 7 August 2025 up to and including 31 July 2026, 14:00:00 CEST, with the exception of ENW-M-1-
until 24 February 2026 07-12-2025 until 31-07-	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2025-26_EN%20%282%29.pdf  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026 NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal at any moment from 7 August 2025 up to and including 31 July 2026, 14:00:00 CEST, with the exception of ENW-M-1-Weave proposals with FWO as partner agency, which may be submitted from 1 December 2025 to 24
until 24 February 2026 07-12-2025 until 31-07-	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/caribbean-research-phd-scholarships-2025  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal for ENW -M-1 WEAVE proposal with FWO as partner agency at any moment from 1 December 2025 to 24 February 2026 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/weave-with-nwo-as-partner-agency-2025/2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call%20for%20proposals%20OC%20ENW-M%20ronde%2025-26_EN%20%282%29.pdf  Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026 NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). You can submit your proposal at any moment from 7 August 2025 up to and including 31 July 2026, 14:00:00 CEST, with the exception of ENW-M-1-

12-01-2026	Foreseen deadline for <u>full applications</u> for call Biodiversity and agriculture in balance; this Call for proposals is a collaboration between NWO and the Brazilian science council CNPq.
	Deadline 12 January 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/biodiversity-and-agriculture-
	in-balance
20-01-2026	Deadline for <u>applications</u> NL-CGIAR Senior Expert Programme (SEP) II – round 2. The deadline
20 01 2020	for submitting full proposals is 20 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-for-senior-experts-transformation-of-global-food-land-and-
	water-systems and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/call_for_proposals_sepii
	_round_2.pdf
14-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals Biodiversity+ 2025-2026 Joint Call
	Restoration of ecosystem functioning, integrity, and connectivity. Submission deadline of full
	proposals: 13 April 2026, 15:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/international-
	programmes/european-partnerships/rescuing-biodiversity-to-safeguard-life-on-earth and
	https://www.biodiversa.eu/2025/09/09/2025-2026-joint-call/
17-06-2025	Deadline submission Full proposals Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership third Joint
	Transnational Call, "Digitalisation and Innovation for Resilient Marine Ecosystems,
	Businesses, and Communities to Strengthen the EU Blue Economy's Competitiveness. Full
	proposal submission deadline (Provisional): 17/06/2026, 15:00 CEST (Brussels Time).
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/international-programmes/european-
	partnerships/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep and https://bluepartnership.eu/ and
	https://bluepartnership.eu/news/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-launches-its-3rd-joint-
	transnational-call

### National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **12 November 2025**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

13-11-2025	Deadline for submission of <u>Full applications</u> 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
25-11-2025	Deadline for submission Pre-proposals for Perspectief round 2025-2026. The deadline for
	submitting pre-proposals is Tuesday 25 November 2025, before 14:00:00 CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-round-of-perspectief-now-open-for-joint-research-proposals-
	on-technological-innovation and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/perspectief-round-2025-2026 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Perspectief%202025-2026_EN.pdf
30-11-2025	Deadline for submission of <u>pre-application</u> Biotech Booster Program 2026. The deadline for
	the (mandatory) pre-application is 30th November. https://www.biotechbooster.nl/2026round/
	and https://www.biotechbooster.nl/2026round/#GI-infosessions and
	https://www.biotechbooster.nl/wp-content/uploads/Example-pre-application-form.pdf
02-12-2025	Deadline for Full applications call KIC Reducing health inequalities - technology for people
	in a lower social economic position. Closing date full application
	2 December 2025 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-reducing-health-inequalities-
	technology-for-people-in-a-lower-socioeconomic-position and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals_Reducing%20health%20inequalities_ENG_finaal_1.pdf
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
02-12-2025	NEW: Deadline for submission of <u>letter of intent</u> for Research Infrastructure (RI): national
	consortia 2025-2026. Closing date for letter of intent 2 December 2025 14:00 hrs. (this Call is
	coordinated for WUR by CVI Mascha Rasenberg). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/research-
	infrastructure-ri-national-consortia-2025-2026
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/research-infrastructure-ri-national-consortia
From 13-01-	Deadline submission <u>full_proposals</u> Open Technology Programme 2025. Applications can
2025 until 12-	be submitted on a continuous basis between 13 January 2025 until 12 December 2025, as long
12-2025	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 <u>proposals</u> <b>NWO Impact Explorer 2025</b> . 20 December 2025 by 14:00:00
20-12-2025	CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-impact-explorer-2025 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer
20-01-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 1.
20 01 2020	Closing date full application Round 1: 20 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2026-round-1 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/call_for_proposals_sgw_oc_xs_2026.pdf
20-01-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission <u>full proposals</u> Doctoral Grant for Teachers, 1st round 2026.
	The deadline for the submission of proposals is Tuesday 20 January 2026, 14:00 CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/want-to-pursue-a-phd-alongside-your-teaching-career-apply-for-the-
	doctoral-grant-for-teachers and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/doctoral-grant-for-teachers-1st-
	round-2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-Doctorate-
	grant-for-teachers-2026-I.pdf
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
27-01-2026	NEW: Deadline submission Full Proposals Sustainable Science Fund. Closing date full
	application until 27 January 2026 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/sustainable-science-
	fund
27-01-2026	NEW: Deadline submissions <u>Full proposals</u> for Transformative practices and processes for
	climate transitions. Proposals can be submitted until 27 January 2026 14:00:00 CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-transformative-practices-and-processes-for-climate-
	transitions and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/transformative-practices-and-processes-for-climate-
	transitions and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
00.04.0000	files/Call_Transformative_Practices_Processes_Climate_Transitions.pdf
29-01-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals for NWA programme Knowledge about unprotected
	species for sustainable fisheries policy. The deadline for submitting proposals is Thursday, 29 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET: <b>Note PJ:</b> The application procedure for this call consists
	of two phases: participating in collaborative workshops and submitting a proposal; NWO is
	or two priases, participating in conaborative workshops and submitting a proposal, NWO is organising two consecutive collaborative workshops on 8 and 29 October 2025.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-knowledge-about-unprotected-species-for-sustainable-
	fisheries-policy and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-knowledge-about-unprotected-species-for-
	sustainable-fisheries-policy
03-02-2026	Deadline submission <u>proposals</u> <b>NWO Impact Explorer 2025</b> . 3 February 2026 by 14:00:00
00-02-2020	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
00-02 <b>-</b> 2020	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

	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
03-02-2026	Deadline submission <u>full proposals</u> for SSH Open Competition L 2025. The full proposal
	deadline is 3 February 2026, at 14:00:00 CET: The dates of the collaborative workshops are
	23 September 2025 and 7 October 2025. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-l-
	2025 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
00.00.0000	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20SSH%20OC%20L%202025%20EN.pdf
03-02-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission pre-applications NWA Call 'Municipal policy for
	<b>biodiversity restoration'</b> . The deadline for submitting pre-applications is Tuesday, 3 February 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-municipal-policy-for-
	biodiversity-restoration and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-
	restoration
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
10-02-2025	Deadline submission of <u>Full applications</u> for KIC Medicines from medicines - knowledge
	development for circular redesign of the pharmaceutical supply chain. The foreseen
	deadline for submission of full applications is 10 February , 2026, by 14:00:00 CET.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-medicines-from-medicines-knowledge-development-for-circular-
	redesign-of-the-pharmaceutical-supplychain
12-02-2026	Deadline for Full applications NWO KIC Call Biochemical diversity. Closing date full
	application 12 February 2026 14:00 hrs. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-biochemical-diversity
	and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/KIC%20Biochem%20div_Call%20for%20proposals_EN.pdf
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 an
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/caribbean-research-a-multidisciplinary-approach
10-03-2026	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-x
	and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/KIC%20V4C-XL_CfP_EN.pdf
24-03-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of <u>full applications</u> for Research Infrastructure (RI):
	national consortia 2025-2026. The deadline for applications is 24 March 2026, before 14:00:00
	CET: this call is coordinated for WUR by CVI Mascha Rasenberg.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-30-million-available-for-research-infrastructure and
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/research-infrastructure-ri-national-consortia
24-03-2026	Foreseen deadline for <u>Full proposals</u> Rubican call 1 2026. Closing date full application 24
	March 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/rubicon-2026-1
31-03-2026	Deadline for submission of nominations for new NWO Tulip Fund for top international
	scientists. The deadline for submitting nominations is provisionally set at 31 March 2026,
	14:00:00 CEST. Submissions are accepted continuously. Note PJ: Nominations for WUR will
	be done by RvB, max 2 nominations per University, NOW institute, KNAW institute and
	Medical Academic Centre. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/tulip-fund-opens-for-top-international-
	scientists and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/tulip-fund and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Tulp%20Fonds_EN%20%282%29.pdf
07-04-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission <u>Full proposals</u> SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 2.
	Closing date full application Round 2: 7 April 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2026-round-1 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/call_for_proposals_sgw_oc_xs_2026.pdf
09-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals NWO Talent Programme Vidi 2025. The deadline for
	submitting full propoals is 9 april 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/vidi-
	round-2025-now-open-for-pre-proposals and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Vidi%202025_EN.pdf
14-04-2026	Foreseen deadline Full proposals NWO-KIC call Fewer critical raw materials in the energy
14 04 2020	

	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
14-04-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission of <u>full proposals</u> KIC Digital Twinning: multidisciplinary
	simulation for deep and actual insights. Closing date full application 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs.
	(s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-digital-twinning-multidisciplinary-simulation-for-deep-and-
	actual-insights
07-05-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission full applications thematic Call Use of space infrastructure
	for vegetation research (Part of GO programme). Foreseen closing date full application 7
40.05.0000	May 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). Use of space infrastructure for vegetation research   NWO
19-05-2026	Deadline for submission <u>Full applications</u> for Perspectief round 2025-2026. The deadline for submitting proposals is Tuesday 19 May 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST.
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/new-round-of-perspectief-now-open-for-joint-research-proposals-
	on-technological-innovation and. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/perspectief-round-2025-2026 and
	https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/Call%20for%20Proposals%20Perspectief%202025-2026_EN.pdf
02-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals for KIC Adaptability in transitions.
02-00-2020	Foreseen closing date full application 2 June 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-adaptability-in-transitions
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission Full-proposals for Open Competition Domain Science–XL round
03-00-2020	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
15-09-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3.
10 00 2020	Round 3: 15 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-
	competition-xs-2026-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-
	files/call_for_proposals_sgw_oc_xs_2026.pdf
16-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for Full proposals KIC - Early detection and impact forecasting of
.0 00 2020	(threatening) infectious diseases outbreaks. Closing date full application 16 June 2026 14:00
	hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-early-detection-and-impact-forecasting-of-
	threatening-infectious-diseases-outbreaks
22-09-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission <u>full applications</u> DeepNL Top-up Call "Opportunities for
	Integration and Impact". Closing date full application 22 September 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).
	DeepNL Top-up Call: Opportunities for Integration and Impact   NWO
29-09-2026	Foreseen Deadline for submission Full proposals KIC Al for agriculture, horticulture, water
	and food. Closing date full application 29 September 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).
	https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-ai-for-agriculture-horticulture-water-and-food
12-11-2026	Deadline for submission of Full-proposals for KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia
	<b>– XL</b> 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
30-11-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission <u>full applications</u> call Netherlands Polar programme The
	Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR). Closing date full application 30
	November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). The Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-
	POLAR)   NWO
From 12-01-	NEW: Deadline for submission proposals Open Technology Programme 2026. Applications
2026 to 11-12-	can be submitted on a continuous basis between 12 January 2026 until 11 December 2026, as
2036	long as the grant ceiling or the maximum number of applications submitted has not yet been
	reached. Open Technology Programme 2026   NWO and Call for Proposals - Open Technology
04.04.0007	Programme 2026
21-01-2027	Deadline submission proposals for KIC Societal Earning Capacity: Connection, Synthesis
	and Knowledge Utilisation This Call for proposals has a specific lead time during which
	applications can be submitted continuously. During the term, three deadlines/collection times
	have been determined when applications will be assessed. Applications can be submitted
	continuously until January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET. January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00
	PM CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation
	L KOOWIEGOE-DIUSZIJOO

28-02-2027	Foreseen deadline for <u>full applications</u> Large Scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) -				
	National Roadmap consortia 2026. Closing date full application 28 February 2027 14:00 hrs.				
	(s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/large-scale-research-infrastructure-lsri-national-roadmap-				
	consortia-2026				
02-03-2027	Deadline for submission full applications NWA Call 'Municipal policy for biodiversity				
	restoration'. The deadline for submitting applications is Tuesday, 2 March 2027, before				
	14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-restoration				
	and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-restoration				

## Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on **12 November 2025.** Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call			
From 01-03-2025	Opening EFRO East Netherlands: Innovation projects priority 1 (a smarter East			
to 28-02-2026	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	Opening EFFO East Netherlands Test and demonstration projects priority 1 (a smarter			
to 28-02-2026	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	<b>EFRO 2021-2027 Northern Netherlands:</b> 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-	Foreseen deadline Spring call OP-Zuid 2025: from 24 February 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to April 4,			
04-2025	2025 (until 5 p.m.);			
15-09-2025 to 24-	Foreseen opening Autumn call OP-Zuid 2025: from 15 September, 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to 24			
10-2025	October, 2025 (until 5 p.m.).			

### **About the Wageningen Grant Office**

#### **Wageningen Grant Office**

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

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

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

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

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