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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe

Egypt joins Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (20 February 2026)

Source: [Website EC Egypt joins Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

Organisations based in Egypt can now participate as beneficiaries under the same terms as those based in the European Union and other countries associated to Horizon Europe.



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Egypt has become an associated country to Horizon Europe, including the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA). Organisations based in Egypt can apply to all MSCA 2026 calls for proposals as well as all future calls under Horizon Europe 2021-2027. This includes [all schemes](#) under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.

Researchers from Egypt continue to be able to participate in the programme, which is open to top researchers from all over the world.

About Egypt and MSCA

Before the association, Egypt has participated in MSCA calls under Horizon Europe as a non-associated country. Between 2021 and 2025, 14 Egyptian organisations have participated in 20 MSCA projects, taking part mainly in MSCA Staff Exchanges and Doctoral Networks. They have hosted 14 international MSCA researchers. Nearly 100 Egyptian researchers have been supported in MSCA projects under Horizon Europe so far.

Read full article here: [Egypt joins Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

Exclusive: Commission mulls over Horizon Europe budget reshuffle for Biodiversity funding gap (19 February 2026)

Source: [Website Science|Business Exclusive: Commission mulls over Horizon Europe budget reshuffle | Science|Business](#)

Associated country pay-ins may be directed to plug a biodiversity funding gap and finance innovation scale up



Photo credits: [Werner Leroy](#) / [Unsplash](#)

The European Commission is mulling over a plan to reshuffle Horizon Europe funding for 2026-27 to finance policy priorities and plug a biodiversity funding gap, according to leaked draft documents and internal memos.

The plan, which Commission officials have been discussing internally since autumn 2025, foresees launching a big new “horizontal” call for biodiversity-related projects aimed at helping the EU meet its target of dedicating 10% of its overall 2026-27 budget to biodiversity. The call is set to have a dedicated work programme, the leaked draft of which you can find [here](#).

According to internal memos on the plans seen by Science|Business, **the biodiversity mega-call** will be financed using the money paid into the EU budget by countries associated to the Horizon Europe programme, particularly Switzerland. The memos also suggest that the €1 billion EU contribution for financing the new €5 billion Scaleup Europe Fund, embedded in the European Innovation Council, will be funded by associated country contributions to Horizon Europe.

When asked directly by Science|Business, the Commission did not comment on the specific plans, citing its policy of not commenting on rumours and leaked documents. However, a spokeswoman confirmed that the Commission was planning an amendment to the Horizon Europe work programme 2026-27 “to be adopted in the last quarter of 2026, using the available budget 2026-27 that has not been programmed yet.”

Responding to the publication of the article, the Commission spokeswoman added: “we don’t comment on ongoing internal reflections.”

Where is the money coming from?

According to Commission sources, some officials have reportedly pushed back against the plans, because the money set to be used to fund new priorities would otherwise have been used to top up parts of Horizon Europe that are in dire need of more financing.

The memos suggest that some of the money dedicated to the two new initiatives would otherwise have been used to raise the budgets of EU programmes popular with Swiss researchers, in particular the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), Horizon’s researcher mobility and training programme.

Funding for the MSCA has been a prickly issue for years. The programme is very popular with early-career researchers, but its base seven-year budget of €6.6 billion is only able to fund a fraction of its high-quality proposals. To stand a chance of winning funding, most proposals for MSCA postdoctoral grants must score at least 90 out of 100 in the evaluation.

This year, as the success rate for postdoctoral fellowship grants [dipped](#) below 10% for the first time, researchers that scored as high as 96 out of 100 [reported](#) failing to meet the funding threshold.

To fill this funding gap, the MSCA alumni association has called for the MSCA budget to be quadrupled, to €25 billion, in the next Horizon Europe programme, due to start in 2028.

If the money is diverted, the move would [confirm](#) the fears many in the research community have expressed over research money being used to fund policy priorities to the detriment of science.

As the biggest EU fund directly managed by the Commission, the Horizon Europe programme is especially vulnerable to budget reshuffles as new priorities emerge. In 2022, for example, its budget was used to support priorities under the EU Chips Act.

While the EU has to find the money for emerging priorities somewhere, many have argued that Horizon Europe should not be the place. Its budget for research is already stretched, with some call success rates dipping as low as 1%; the MSCA oversubscription issue is just the tip of the iceberg.

This also affects associated countries, which pay money into Horizon Europe to cover the money received by their researchers. If popular programmes from which their researchers want to benefit stay underfunded despite their contributions, competition increases and all scientists lose out.

And the issue is unlikely to go away any time soon. In the next EU budget, due to start in 2028, Horizon Europe will be “tightly connected” to the new European Competitiveness Fund, the Commission’s new mega-fund for delivering its global competitiveness policy. Many research stakeholders have [expressed concerns](#) that the link between the two means research programming will be largely dictated by industrial policy.

Read full article here: [Exclusive: Commission mulls over Horizon Europe budget reshuffle | Science|Business](#)

Commission launches “BE READY” European Partnership to strengthen pandemic preparedness research ecosystem (17 February 2026)

Source: Website EC Commission launches “BE READY” European Partnership to strengthen pandemic preparedness research ecosystem - Research and innovation

Today, the European Commission launched **BE READY**, a new **European Partnership for pandemic preparedness**. Through BE READY, the European Union will strengthen its capacity to **anticipate, prevent and respond rapidly to epidemics and pandemics**. BE READY focuses on advancing research on emerging and re-emerging pathogens and accelerating the development of **diagnostics, treatments and vaccines**.

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

“Europe’s pandemic preparedness must be built on sound scientific foundations. That is why we are making €120 million from the Horizon Europe budget available for the BE READY partnership. Through BE READY, we are putting our citizens’ health first while reinforcing Europe’s innovation leadership.”

Hadja Lahbib, European Commissioner for Equality, Preparedness and Crisis Management, said:

“BE READY is Europe’s next bold step forward, turning research into real resilience. It puts research at the heart of preparedness, so people can get medicines, vaccines and vital tools faster when a crisis hits. We are bringing science, research and innovation together, working across borders and institutions to build a stronger Europe, ready to anticipate health threats and respond quickly when lives are at stake.”

Key pillars of the BE READY Partnership

The BE READY Partnership’s work is built on the following key pillars:

- **aligning national research priorities** among participating countries and improving coordination in pandemic preparedness research through an agreed strategic and research innovation agenda
- **supporting multi-national research through joint transnational calls**, enabling coordinated funding among national and European funders to advance research on emerging & re-emerging pathogens, and accelerating innovation in diagnostics, treatments & vaccines development
- **integrating all key components of the research ecosystem**, so that they are operational both in periods between epidemics and during crises

Background

The **BE READY Partnership** is coordinated by the French **ANRS-MIE** and brings together 81 organisations from 27 countries. It was prepared through 2 consecutive coordination and support actions (CSA) between 2022-2025, for a total budget of €3M.

The BE READY Partnership marks years-long European investment in pandemic preparedness and response research through the European research and innovation framework programme. Since 2020, over €1.8 Bn has been invested in pandemic preparedness research funded through the European research and innovation framework programme.

More information

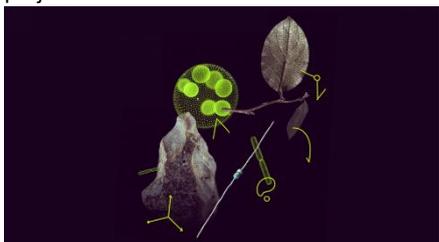
European Partnerships in health: [Health - Research and innovation - European Commission](#)

Health research and innovation: [Health research and innovation](#)

MSCA Seal of Excellence awarded to 9,847 outstanding postdoctoral researchers (17 February 2026)

Source: Website MSCA [MSCA Seal of Excellence awarded to 9,847 outstanding postdoctoral researchers | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

This recognition will allow MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships applicants to seek alternative funding for their excellent projects.



The European Commission awarded Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Seal of Excellence certificates to 9,847 applicants under the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025 call.

These applicants submitted excellent proposals but did not receive funding due to an insufficient budget. The proposals that received the certificate had host organisations in **38 countries**.

High quality applications

Postdoctoral Fellowships are highly competitive. The fifth call of the scheme under Horizon Europe received a total of **17,066 proposals**. This is the highest number of proposals ever for any funding action in the 40 years of EU research and innovation framework programme. 16,836 were eligible and evaluated, out of which **1610 projects were selected**. The MSCA Seal of Excellence is a quality label awarded to applicants under MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships and MSCA COFUND actions who scored 85% or higher in the assessment.

The Seal of Excellence is a guarantee of the outstanding value of the research project, recognized by a comprehensive and thorough assessment process. Beneficiaries can use this award to apply for alternative funding for their research. Thanks to the MSCA Seal of Excellence, other funding bodies can use the Horizon Europe evaluation process if they wish. A proposal which has earned the MSCA Seal of Excellence may be supported by [national and regional support programmes](#).

Next steps

Applicants with an evaluation score equal or above 85% automatically receive their Seal of Excellence certificate, to help them in securing alternative funding from national or regional authorities.

Awardees have received a notification in the [Funding and Tenders Opportunities Portal](#), where they can download their Seal of Excellence certificate from the “Process documents” section.

Please contact your supervisor or the host organization to which you submitted your application if you are not able to access the Portal.

The European Commission advises recipients to consult the [list of available support](#) at national/regional level for MSCA Seal of Excellence holders. [MSCA National Contact Points](#) in your host country can also help finding alternative funding sources.

61 start-ups and SMEs secure EIC support in latest round of the EIC Accelerator (17 February 2026)

Source: [Website EIC 61 start-ups and SMEs secure EIC support in latest round of the EIC Accelerator - European Innovation Council](#)



The European Innovation Council (EIC) has selected **61 innovative start-ups and SMEs** to receive funding following its latest evaluation round. Out of 121 proposals that reached the interview stage, these companies were chosen for their transformative technologies and strong commercial promise, securing a mix of grant and equity support.

The total proposed funding amounts to €467* million, with 85% of beneficiaries receiving blended finance—a combination of grants and equity investment—while others secured either grant-only or equity-only support. The selected companies represent 17 EU and associated countries, with the highest number coming from Germany, Spain, France, and Sweden. 28% of the companies them are led by women in key leadership roles such as CEO, CTO, or CSO.

The grant agreements for most selected companies are expected to be finalised within the next three months. Equity investments will follow based on each company’s individual development and funding strategy. Managed by the [EIC](#)

Fund – the EU’s flagship deep-tech investment vehicle – the equity component often draws substantial additional capital from private investors, frequently leveraging the EIC’s contribution by a factor of three or more.

A further 60 applications that were assessed positively by the EIC jury, but for which there was insufficient funding available, will be awarded a [Seal of Excellence](#). In addition, all 23 companies that reached interview stage under the five EIC Accelerator challenges, regardless of whether they were eventually chosen for funding support, will receive a [STEP Seal](#) - a quality label that is granted to projects that contribute to at least one of the objectives of the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP). These recognitions will facilitate them access to complementary or alternative EU funding.

For more information: [61 start-ups and SMEs secure EIC support in latest round of the EIC Accelerator - European Innovation Council](#)

Horizon Europe 2026 health calls published (12 February 2026)

Source: [Website EC 2026 Horizon Europe 'Health' calls for proposals - European Health and Digital Executive Agency \(HaDEA\)](#)

The European Commission has published its 2026 calls for proposals in health under Cluster 1 of Horizon Europe, with approximately €610 million in funding up for grabs.

The 18 topics range from understanding the impacts of climate change on health to scaling up innovation in cardiovascular health.

Some examples of interesting calls

The destination “**Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society**” includes two topics:

- [HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-STAYHLTH-02](#): Behavioural interventions as primary prevention for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) among young people
- [HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-STAYHLTH-03](#): Building public trust and outreach in the life sciences

Deadline: 16 April 2026, 17:00 (CET).

The destination “**Living and working in a health-promoting environment**” includes three topics:

- [HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-ENVHLTH-01](#): Towards a better understanding and anticipation of the impacts of climate change on health
- [HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-ENVHLTH-04](#): Towards climate resilient, prepared and carbon neutral populations and healthcare systems
- [HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-ENVHLTH-05](#): Support for a multilateral initiative on climate change and health research

Deadline: 16 April 2026, 17:00 (CET).

For all open topics: [2026 Horizon Europe 'Health' calls for proposals - European Health and Digital Executive Agency \(HaDEA\)](#)

The deadline for the calls is April 16. Applicants will be informed if their proposals have been shortlisted by the end of July.

An online information day around the 2026 calls took place on February 10 and is available to rewatch here: [Events | The research and innovation community platform](#).

Full details of the calls are available: [2026 Horizon Europe 'Health' calls for proposals - European Health and Digital Executive Agency \(HaDEA\)](#)

European Funding News: FP10

Public ITRE hearing explores direction for Horizon Europe 2028–2034 (19 February 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > Openbare ITRE-hoorzitting verkent richting voor Horizon Europe 2028–2034](#)

The European Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) will hold a public hearing on the future of Horizon Europe on February 26. Experts will discuss how the next framework program can strengthen European competitiveness and address societal challenges.



FP10 to take center stage at hearing with experts and MEPs

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) is organizing a hearing ITRE Public Hearing on “Horizon Europe 2028-2034: Expert views and consideration” | [Hoorzittingen](#) | [Evenementen](#) | [ITRE](#) | [Commissies](#) | [Europees Parlement](#) with experts and MEPs on 26 February on the preparations for FP10. The hearing will support MEPs in their work on the **FP10 proposal** [Horizon Europe 2028-2034: 10th EU research and innovation framework programme](#) | [Think Tank](#) | [European Parliament](#) and is open to all European Parliament access pass holders. Experts will demonstrate how EU funds for knowledge and technology development can contribute to strengthening European competitiveness.

Speakers [Draft Programme PH HEU - ITRE.pdf](#), including Maria Leptin and Manuel Heitor, will explain how EU funds can be strategically deployed to address societal challenges.

Context

The European Commission presented its proposal for FP10 on July 16. Under the leadership of rapporteur Christian Ehler, the ITRE Committee will work on its contribution to the legislative dossier for FP10 until April 2026. The committee will vote on the proposal in September 2026. The European Parliament will then debate the dossier in plenary in October. The institutions aim to conclude negotiations by the end of 2026, so that preparations for the implementation of the new Framework Programme can begin in 2027. Various stakeholders have submitted their views, advocating, among other things, for a doubling of the budget.

EU budget flexibility gives Brussels too much power, says ex-commissioner (12 February 2026)

Source: Website [Science|Business](#) [EU budget flexibility gives Brussels too much power, says ex-commissioner](#) | [Science|Business](#)

Geopolitical imperatives should not give the Commission the right to move funding at its discretion, Lewandowski says



Goda Naujokaitytė, EU funding editor at Science|Business (left), and Janusz Lewandowski, vice-chair of the European Parliament's budget committee (right). Photo credits: Jeroen Vanhecke

The EU's next long-term budget has been designed to allow the bloc to respond to rising geopolitical tensions. But this should not give the European Commission free rein to move funds around, according to Janusz Lewandowski, a former budget commissioner who is now vice-chair of the European Parliament's influential budget committee.

"The executive role of the Commission is really growing under the pretext of flexibility," Lewandowski said at the Science|Business annual conference on February 5. "Nobody is disputing [the need for] more flexibility, especially in external relations [. . .] but it cannot be equated with the discretion of the Commission to switch funds from one dossier to the other."

Lewandowski, who was responsible for the budget in the Barroso Commission of 2009-14, also expressed concerns about the "new military dimension" of the €2-trillion Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) proposed for 2028-34. This involves increasing defence spending to €131 billion, backed by the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF).

"When we [Poland] were entering the EU, we were entering a purely pacifistic project [. . .] but now we have to react to these unfriendly geopolitics," he said. "What is not making me happy is that with war, we have a gradual, irreversible militarisation of our budget."

Lewandowski welcomed plans to nearly double the budget for research and innovation in the next iteration of Horizon Europe, to €175 billion, but he wants to see disparities in funding addressed. Around half of current Horizon Europe funding is concentrated within a handful of EU member states.

"We finally have more money for research and development," he said. "When you hear from Lithuania, from Poland [. . .] what is at stake is also some more geographical balance."

The proposed budget increase should also not be taken for granted. Negotiations on the 2021-27 MFF saw significant last-minute cuts to the Horizon Europe budget, to which its successor may not be immune. "We don't know what the end point of the negotiations might be. This is a very heated period now," Lewandowski said. "Sometimes, the logic of negotiations is to defend national portfolios, and then eventually allow for cuts, what we call direct management by the Commission."

Horizon Europe: next steps

The next milestone in the Parliament's consideration of the Horizon Europe proposal will be in mid-March, when its research and industry committee will share draft reports on both Horizon Europe and the ECF. Amendments on Horizon Europe must be submitted by April 9. Committee members will exchange views on the ECF report on April 15 and amend it by April 21. Other committees are to provide their input by April 24.

On September 10, the research committee will vote on the Horizon Europe and ECF reports, before both are put to a plenary vote on October 5. However, this planning may be subject to change, the committee secretariat told Science|Business.

Science Europe recommends amendments to Horizon Europe proposal (12 February 2026)

Source: Website Science Europe [202602-se-amendments-fp10-legislative-documents.pdf](#)

Science Europe, an association of public organisations that fund or perform research, has proposed a series of amendments to the European Commission's proposal for the Horizon Europe programme for 2028-34.

Science Europe wants to increase the proposed Horizon Europe budget from €175 billion to €200 billion and **"avoid links to the [European Competitiveness Fund] that may risk Horizon Europe's overall autonomy."**

It also wants to ensure the involvement of the research and innovation community in the programme's governance and enable fast-track association for previously associated countries such as the UK and Switzerland.

Other recommendations underline the importance of bottom-up research and aim to preserve the independence of the European Research Council and the researcher-driven nature of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.

Read the full list of proposed amendments here: [202602-se-amendments-fp10-legislative-documents.pdf](#)

Other International funding

Eurostars call for projects – Deadline March 2026 (16 February 2026)

Source: Website EurekaNetwork [Eurostars call for projects – Deadline March 2026 - Eureka Network](#)

Eurostars is part of the European Partnership on Innovative SMEs. **The partnership is co-funded by the European Union through Horizon Europe.**

Start Date: 16 January 2026, 12:00 AM CET

End Date: 19 March 2026, 2:00 PM CET

Apply here: [Apply for funding - Eureka Network](#)

What Eurostars is

Eurostars is a funding instrument that supports innovative SMEs and project partners (large companies, universities, research organisations and other types of organisations) by funding international collaborative R&D and innovation projects. By participating, organisations can access public funding for international collaborative R&D projects in all fields.

To have a successful Eurostars application you must:

- Define your project idea.
- Collaborate internationally, sharing expertise.
- Develop products, processes or services that can be easily commercialised.

You can submit your R&D and innovation project application between 16 January 2026 and 19 March 2026 at 14:00 CET using our project platform ([myeurekaproject.org](#)). Your project consortium must have an innovative SME in the leading role, but it can also include other types of organisations like large companies, universities, research organisations and more.

The National Funding Bodies from Austria, Belgium (Brussels, Flanders, Wallonia), Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, and the United Kingdom have allocated funding for organisations collaborating on international R&D projects.

Dutch funding agency

Dutch funding agency, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO), funds R&D costs for SMEs, large companies, research organisations, and universities participating in our Eurostars programme.

The amount of funding available depends on the type of organisation applying.

Type of organisation	Amount of funding available
SME	Up to 50% of R&D project activities in grants
Large company	Up to 40% of R&D related costs in grants
Research organisation or university	Up to 50% of R&D related costs in grants

RVO only funds research and development project activities. The maximum funding amount for the Dutch project partner(s) is 500,000 euro per project.

Research organisations and universities

RVO can fund research and development costs for universities and research organisations participating in our Eurostars programme, but only if the consortium also includes a company from the Netherlands. If there is no Netherlands company involved, universities and research organisations will not be eligible for public funding and can only participate

in a Eurostars project on the basis of self-funding. As a Dutch university or research organisation, you could receive a grant of up to 50% for R&D related costs.

National criteria

RVO has **additional national criteria** for projects to be eligible to receive funding.

Dutch applications can only be submitted by a company that contributes to the R&D of the international project.

Universities and research organisations can participate as a project partner, but cannot submit an application themselves.

More information is available on [the website of RVO](#).

Additional steps for applications from the Netherlands

Dutch participants must also submit a **funding application** to the RVO within two weeks of the ranking list being published (the exact deadline will be published in the National Gazette). You must include a project costs breakdown, a project summary, the Eurostars ranking list and a signed consortium agreement.

A funding decision is made within six to seven months (on average) after the Eurostars deadline.

National funding

Call for PPP-I projects 2026: Sustainable chemistry and circularity (20 February 2026)

Source: Website Chemistry [Oproep voor projecten PPS-I 2026: Duurzame chemie en circulariteit - ChemistryNL](#)

ChemistryNL is making nearly €7.7 million available in the PPP-I 2026 call for public-private partnership projects in the field of sustainable chemistry and circularity. Researchers and companies can submit applications from February 17, 2026, to April 14, 2026, for innovation projects in four themes:

1. Safe alternatives to substances of very high concern (SVHCs)
2. AI readiness for the Dutch chemical processing industry
3. Sustainable chemistry: health, food security, and packaging
4. Transformation to sustainable production

Practical information

- Available budget: €7,697,825 (approximately €1.9 million per theme)
- Maximum grant per project: €500,000, of which a maximum of €150,000 is for SMEs
- Submission period: **February 17, 2026, 12:00 PM to April 14, 2026, 2:00 PM**
- Project duration: no later than December 31, 2031

Requirements

Applications must be submitted by public-private consortia. The main applicant must be a researcher employed at a Dutch knowledge institution for at least the duration of the project. In addition, at least one Dutch private party must participate (financially).

Subsidy percentages depend on the type of research and organization:

- Fundamental research: 80% for knowledge institutions, 50% for SMEs
- Industrial research: 50% for knowledge institutions and SMEs
- Experimental development: 25% for knowledge institutions and SMEs
- Large companies are not eligible for subsidy, but must provide co-financing (at least 20-75% of the research organization's costs in cash, depending on the type of research).

Documents

Call text PPS-i 2026 (English version): [Call-text-PPS-I-2026-_ChemistryNL_English.pdf](#)

Project plan format: [Appendix-C-PPS-I-2026-project-plan-format.docx](#)

Budget form: [Annex-D-Budget-Form-PPS-I-2026.xlsx](#)

For SMEs:

SME declaration: [Mkb-verklaring | RVO.nl](#) (in Dutch)

Decision tree OIM and non-OIM declaration: [Onderneming in moeilijkheden | RVO.nl](#) (in Dutch)

Submission

Projects can be submitted until 2:00 PM on April 14th. [Click here](#) for a screenshot of the data to be submitted.

For more information: [Call-text-PPS-I-2026-_ChemistryNL_English.pdf](#) and [Oproep voor projecten PPS-I 2026: Duurzame chemie en circulariteit - ChemistryNL](#) (in Dutch)

NWO signs manifesto for sustainable knowledge sector (18 February 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [NWO signs manifesto for sustainable knowledge sector | NWO](#)



NWO has signed the manifesto Think green, act green by The Young Academy and The Green Young Academy. With this step, NWO is making a clear statement in favour of a greener, future-proof knowledge sector. The manifesto calls on knowledge institutions to take joint responsibility for sustainable choices in education, research, business operations and governance.

As a national research funder, NWO sees it as its task to make not only the research it funds and supports more sustainable, but also its own organisation and institutes. “Further sustainability in science requires joint action. With this manifesto, we commit ourselves to concrete and measurable steps that we will take in collaboration with the entire knowledge sector,” says portfolio holder Jan de Boer from the NOW Executive Board: “By bundling our knowledge, more transparent reporting and focusing on sustainable choices, we as a sector are jointly building a future-proof knowledge landscape.”

Active role in sector-wide collaboration

By signing the manifesto, NWO emphasises its participation in sector-wide progress in the field of sustainability and its desire to strengthen existing initiatives. For example, NWO funds initiatives to stimulate national collaboration and recently launched the [Sustainable Science Fund](#) as an initial pilot.

The manifesto focuses on four pillars:

- **Education:** embedding sustainability in the curriculum
- **Research:** stimulating socially relevant science
- **Operations:** towards climate-neutral knowledge institutions
- **Governance:** embedding sustainability in decision-making

Read full article here: [NWO signs manifesto for sustainable knowledge sector | NWO](#)

PhD scholarship programme ‘Mosaic 2.0’ expands target group with ‘Mosaic 3.0’ (16 February 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [PhD scholarship programme ‘Mosaic 2.0’ expands target group with ‘Mosaic 3.0’ | NWO](#)



Certain groups lag behind in science in terms of numbers, such as first- and second-generation researchers with a non-Western migration background. The Mosaic 2.0 programme exists to promote their access to science. Another NWO programme, Hestia, focuses specifically on academics who have fled their home countries. As the latter programme is coming to an end and has recently opened its final round, NWO is expanding the Mosaic programme to include a part of the expiring Hestia programme target group: refugee junior researchers living in the Netherlands.

NWO considers a healthy research culture to be a prerequisite for world-class science. After all, this ensures that talent is given room to grow and that collaboration is encouraged. It is important that different people come together so that topics can be examined from a variety of perspectives. This leads to new ideas and a deeper understanding of the subject matter. Nevertheless, inequality still exists within science and, for example, researchers with a non-western migrant background as a whole continue to lag behind. The [Mosaic 2.0 PhD scholarship programme](#) focuses on this

target group by funding PhD positions. As with all NWO funding instruments, the quality of the research proposals is always decisive in the awarding of scholarships.

In addition to Mosaic, NWO also launched the [Hestia – Impulse for Refugees in Science programme](#) in 2018. This NWO programme offers academics who have had to flee their home countries the opportunity to participate in ongoing research projects. This allows them to build and expand their network, share their knowledge and expertise, and get to know the Dutch scientific system better. In case they return to their home country, they will be able to continue their academic career without interruption, while at the same time enriching Dutch science and society with their expertise.

Creating space within Mosaic for the ending Hestia programme target group

NWO has previously decided that Mosaic will continue to exist in [a modified form](#). However, Hestia will cease to exist after 2026 and recently opened its [final round](#), which closes on 3 March 2026. NWO has therefore decided, based in part on consultations in the field, to include part of the Hestia target group in the Mosaic instrument: namely, junior researchers at master's level who have not yet obtained a PhD. The target group will also be expanded to include researchers from Ukraine who fall under the Temporary Protection Directive. A separate subsidy ceiling, assessment panel and eligibility conditions will ensure that, as far as possible, the two target groups – researchers with a migration background and refugee researchers – do not have to compete with each other in the new programme structure. With this change, NWO will continue its efforts to provide access to a scientific career for this group of researchers who are still lagging behind in science as a whole.

Development of Mosaic 3.0

NWO is currently working out the details of Mosaic 3.0, with feedback from external parties, such as The Young Academy, PhD Network Netherlands, UAF Foundation for Refugee Students, and the National Consultation of University Diversity Officers, and a survey has been conducted among Mosaic applicants. Their knowledge and insights are of great importance in this process. This helps NWO to present a renewed programme that is well aligned with the demands of the scientific field and this group of researchers. NWO was given the following points for attention: more awareness among the entire spectrum of target groups, increasing chances of success, and better alignment of calls with diverse graduation moments. Adjustments will therefore be made to the latter two.

- A new, stricter requirement – to increase the success rate of applicants – concerns the educational background of the Mosaic target group and their connection with the Netherlands: the bachelor's degree must in any case have been obtained in the Netherlands.
- A possible later deadline for providing proof of a master's degree, should reduce the gap between graduation date and the awarding of a grant.

The first Mosaic 3.0 call is expected to open in the second quarter of this year.

New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' (13 February 2026)

Source: [Website NWO News](#) [New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' | NWO](#)



Our society runs on complex digital ecosystems in which citizens, governments and businesses continuously exchange information, processes and services. This interconnectedness offers major advantages, but also makes us vulnerable. It is therefore essential that digital ecosystems, particularly in critical sectors, are resilient to current and new cyber risks. To make these ecosystems stronger and more secure, NWO and several ministries are making €8.7 million available for research. Knowledge institutes and societal partners can now submit joint research proposals.

About the call

The call focuses on developing socio-technical innovations and guidelines for action that increase the security and resilience of digital ecosystems. A security by design and security by default approach is strongly encouraged. Ecosystems in which the right technological and social choices are made from the outset enable participants to make use of the ecosystem's possibilities in a natural way and with minimal security risks.

The call has a two-phase structure:

- Phase 1: In the first phase, various research projects focusing on specific digital ecosystems within sectors will be funded.
- Phase 2: In the second phase, the previously awarded projects will work together in a single overarching project to develop cross-sectoral guidelines for organisations and government. The results can be used to scale up interventions and form new digital ecosystems that are secure and resilient by design.

Deadlines:

- The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of organisations based in the Netherlands for phase 1 (see section 3.1.1) is **18 August 2026** before 14:00:00 CEST.
- The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of foreign organisations for phase 1 (see section 7.1.1) is **18 August 2026**, before 14:00:00 CEST.

Read call for proposals here: [Resilient Digital Ecosystems | NWO](#)

Two projects started in Impact Explorer 2025 (13 February 2026)

Source: Website NWO news [Two projects started in Impact Explorer 2025 | 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 are now receiving a small top-up to further investigate unexpected discoveries. 60,000 euros has been granted.

This top-up will also be useful in Ingrid Boas's project: "My Vidi project analyses climate mobility in border areas. To this end, we are conducting research with nomadic pastoralists and fishermen in West Africa, and with delta and island inhabitants in Bengal and Tuvalu. We are looking at what climate change means for their (im)mobility and how this relates to border politics. But climate change is not just happening far away. It also affects us close to home, and here in the Netherlands we bear responsibility for climate impacts elsewhere. In the Vidi project, we realised that it is difficult to convey this message effectively and that it works better when people see these themes reflected in their own environment. That is precisely the insight that this Impact Explorer will further develop, in collaboration with the Climate Museum and VR artist Abner Preis Studios."

About this call

The grant is intended for activities to validate the potential societal impact of discoveries from more curiosity-driven research. Such as from the Talent Line and the Open Competitions of both NWO and ZonMw. And to explore a route to societal impact. A minimum of 20,000 and a maximum of 30,000 euro is available per proposal. The call is currently closed for new applications.

One of the funded projects is led by WUR

Climate conversations with a Butterfly: **Prof. Dr. I. Boas, Wageningen University & Research.**

For more information about funded projects: [Two projects started in Impact Explorer 2025 | NWO](#)

Lowlands Science Call 2026 open (12 February 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Lowlands Science Call 2026 open | NWO](#)



Conducting research for three days with a vibrant festival crowd: for many researchers, this sounds like an exceptional opportunity. Thanks to the collaboration between Lowlands, scientists, artists and social partners, this will once again become a reality during Lowlands Science 2026. Researchers with innovative and socially relevant ideas have the opportunity to conduct their studies at one of the largest and most influential festivals in the Netherlands.

Lowlands Science is the science programme of Lowlands, one of the largest and best-known festivals in the Netherlands. **Lowlands, the Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA), BKB | Het Campagnebureau, New Scientist** and the **University of the Netherlands** invite researchers from all knowledge institutions, colleges, universities, hospitals and other social partners to conduct research on 21, 22 and 23 August 2026.

Science at the heart of the festival

During Lowlands, visitors can voluntarily participate in real experiments at the Lowlands Science area. This allows them to provide valuable data to researchers and discover, in a surprising, accessible way, how science works and why it is so important to our society.

Download Lowlands Science Call 2026: https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/1126_lowlands_science_open_call.pdf

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

New Study Confirms EIT's Impact in Strengthening Europe's Competitiveness (19 February 2026)

Source: Website [EIT New Study Confirms EIT's Impact in Strengthening Europe's Competitiveness | EIT](#)

A new study shows that the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), through its support of innovation ecosystems, delivers strong and measurable impact for Europe's competitiveness in areas such as sustainable energy and digitalisation. The findings come at a time when Europe is seeking tangible returns on its investments.



The study finds that the EIT – an EU body that created ten thematic Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) – has generated substantial economic and societal benefits for Europe through its unique innovation model. It shows strong contributions by the EIT to innovation-based growth in areas that are EU policy priorities. The study focusses in particular on financial leverage, i.e., how EU funds allocated by the EIT to its Innovation Communities lead not only to direct economic and societal impact, but also create significant leverage as they mobilise significant amounts of further private and public funds.

Results for Europe: jobs, skills and social benefits

The EIT is Europe's largest innovation ecosystem, connecting education, research and business to turn public investment into lasting economic and social impact. Through the support of its innovation communities, EIT-backed companies grow faster and survive longer than the European average.

The study demonstrates that after receiving EIT support:

- Ventures have attracted €15.7 billion in external investment, significantly multiplying EIT funding.
- Companies have more than doubled their revenues on average.
- Over 90% remain active, far above typical European startup survival rates.
- Nearly half qualify as high-growth companies, compared with fewer than one in five across the EU.
- In 2023 alone, EIT-supported companies supported over 92 000 jobs across Europe.

Beyond economic performance, the study also highlights further results of the EIT in education and skills, as well as examples of societal impact:

- The EIT reduces the European skills and innovation gaps by combining technology and entrepreneurship training. Graduates of EIT programmes report strong outcomes, with two in three indicating significant skills gains, and one in four going on to found or join a startup company.

- The EIT ensures presence on the ground through hubs also in EU Member States with lower innovation capacity as well as EU Candidate Countries through the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme. This system of innovation hubs within the EIT Community provides access to all its programmes across Europe and increases participation, according to the study.
- The study also shows how the EIT strongly contributes to Europe's green and digital transition. This includes supporting more than 100 regions across Europe to adapt to changes in climate conditions, reaching up to 53 million people. The EIT also contributes to €9.1 billion in energy cost savings. In addition, EIT-sponsored activities have helped provide improved energy access to over 503 000 households.

Read full article here: [New Study Confirms EIT's Impact in Strengthening Europe's Competitiveness | EIT](#)

Read full report here: [EIT Impact Study.pdf](#)

European Ombudsman launches investigation into AI safeguards at EU institutions (17 February 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > Europees Ombudsman start onderzoek naar AI-waarborgen bij EU-instellingen](#)

The European Ombudsman has launched a formal investigation into the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the assessment of EU funding proposals. The investigation focuses on the safeguards applied when AI is used. The investigation stems from a complaint from a Polish company concerning the practices of the European Innovation Council and SME Executive Agency (EISMEA) in the use of AI. The documents will be discussed before March 20, 2026.



Investigation into AI use and transparency at EISMEA and the Commission

The European Ombudsman has opened **a formal investigation** [Ombudswoman opens inquiry concerning AI use in evaluation of EU funding proposals | News | European Ombudsman](#) into the use of AI in the evaluation process of EU funding proposals. The investigation focuses on the safeguards and rules for AI use in EU evaluations, and on the transparency of EISMEA and the Commission regarding their use of AI. The investigation stems from a complaint filed by a Polish company regarding the use of AI in evaluating its proposal to EISMEA. The Ombudsman asks EISMEA, and if necessary the Commission, to provide documentation, including their risk assessment of AI use, the relevant internal rules, and information on their own AI use. **The meeting** [How the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency \(EISMEA\) and the European Commission ensure that the use of artificial intelligence \(AI\) by external experts is compatible with their tasks as evaluators of applications for Horizon funds | Case opened | European Ombudsman](#) to discuss these documents will take place before 20 March 2026.

European Research Area Act public consultation closes with strong stakeholder engagement (13 February 2026)

Source: Website EC [European Research Area Act public consultation closes with strong stakeholder engagement - Research and innovation](#)

The European Commission closed the public consultation on the European Research Area (ERA) Act on **23 January 2026**.

The consultation drew **strong interest from across Europe and beyond**. In total, **735 contributions** and **117 position papers were** submitted, with responses coming from all **27 EU Member States, 8 Associated Countries to Horizon Europe** and **15 non-EU countries**. Participation was particularly high among **academic and research institutions (45%)**, followed by **EU citizens (24%)**.

The ERA Act

The **European Research Area (ERA) Act** is a response to longstanding challenges in the EU's research and innovation (R&I) ecosystem, including fragmented regulatory frameworks, uneven R&D investment, and barriers to knowledge

sharing. It builds on the successes of the revamped ERA since 2021, in particular the progress made through the [ERA Policy Agendas](#).

Key aspects of the proposed ERA Act include:

- national commitments to **increase investment in research and development**, with the aim of reaching 3% of GDP
- better **coordination of research and innovation policies and investments** between the EU and Member States
- **improved conditions** for researchers, including **better career paths**, mobility across countries and sectors, and support for open science
- strong **protection of core values** such as scientific freedom, research ethics and integrity, gender equality, and equal opportunities

The ERA Act Consultation

A first look at the contributions shows strong support for the ERA Act and sends a clear message from stakeholders:

- the EU should **do more to help national research systems** work better together and reduce barriers between countries
- public **investment in research and innovation should be clearer**, more predictable and supported by concrete national commitments
- researchers need **stronger and more consistent protection** of their freedom to conduct scientific work across the EU
- **moving and working across borders** should be easier for researchers, including through simpler recognition of academic qualifications obtained in another EU country

Next steps

The Commission will now proceed with a thorough analysis of the contributions received, which will inform the next steps in the preparation of the ERA Act, ahead of the presentation of the Commission proposal expected for Q3 2026.

Redesigned JRC website (13 February 2026)

Source: *JRC Newsletter*



The JRC's website has a new look, shaped by user feedback. Updates include a cleaner homepage and a more streamlined layout. Content, news, and events have been reorganised to help users access what they need more quickly.

For more information: [Science for policy - Joint Research Centre - European Commission](#)

EU aims for more flexible Blue Card for STEM and ICT talent (13 February 2026)

Source: [Website Neth-ER](#) [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > EU zet in op soepelere Blue Card voor STEM- en ICT-talent](#)

The EU Blue Card scheme offers talented expats from outside the EU in the STEM and ICT sectors a work and residence permit. Since the Draghi Report, there has been increased attention to Europe's competitiveness in the international market, with innovation at the heart of this. The European Commission has therefore issued new recommendations to streamline the Blue Card scheme and expedite procedures. With this, the EU aims to make it more attractive to international talent and retain them in the long term.



Easier and faster access to the EU

The Commission has proposed broadening, simplifying, and significantly accelerating the Blue Card scheme. **The Commission's recommendation** [4574f8cd-f30c-4206-ab5b-1b07d26cedea_en](#) also places significant emphasis on broadening, simplifying, and accelerating the Blue Card scheme. This includes lowering salary requirements for new migrant workers in the STEM (Science, Technology, and Engineering) sectors. While qualifications in the relevant sector are currently required, the Commission proposes recognizing relevant work experience as well. The recommendation also states that the processing time for these residence permit applications should be reduced from 90 days to 30 days. With these measures, the Commission hopes to make the Blue Card scheme easier and more attractive.

Talent retention within the new scheme

With this recommendation, the Commission aims to strengthen the EU's international competitiveness. According to the Commission, retaining international talent who come to work in Europe with a Blue Card is essential for this. To facilitate this, the Commission has formulated a series of recommendations focused on talent retention. Firstly, residence permit holders should be allowed to launch a startup alongside their work. Furthermore, the Commission recommends granting similar residence rights to immediate family members of Blue Card holders, making it easier and more attractive for talented expats to stay in the EU.

For more information: [Commission adopts a first-ever EU Visa Strategy](#) (press release) [4574f8cd-f30c-4206-ab5b-1b07d26cedea_en](#) (proposal EC) and [Residence permits – statistics on authorisations to reside and work - Statistics Explained - Eurostat](#) (report Eurostat)

Europe is making progress with startup policies (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

European countries have implemented an average of 70 percent of the startup-friendly policies outlined in the Startup Nations Standards, compared to 61 percent in 2024. This is according to the Europe Startup Nations Alliance in its annual report. Progress has been made, particularly in the areas of access to finance, talent management, and digitalization, with implementation rates around 75 to 77 percent. According to the report, all countries surveyed have public financing instruments for startups, and a growing number of countries are enabling businesses to be established quickly and largely digitally.

Press release Europe Startup Nations Alliance: [Startup Nations Standards Report 2025 reveals a 70% implementation rate of startup-friendly policies across Europe | ESNA](#)

The Guild: Geopolitics demands a recalibration of European research policy (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

Europe must invest more and faster in research, innovation, and higher education to remain geopolitically and economically viable. This is the argument of Jan Palmowski, Secretary General of the university alliance The Guild, in an opinion piece. He points to the course the United States has taken under President Trump, in which research and technology are explicitly deployed as geopolitical instruments. Palmowski argues that Europe must respond with higher and more coherent investments in R&D and higher education, and stronger coherence between European programs.

Opinion piece The Guild: <https://www.the-guild.eu/news-and-blog/blog/after-davos-european-research-must-adapt.htm>

Global policy

Nature: Quantum computer breakthrough possible within ten years (12 February 2026)

Source: *AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026*

Quantum computers could potentially play a decisive role within ten years. This is the conclusion of Nature, based on recent breakthroughs. These advanced computers could be deployed much faster than expected to predict chemical reactions and crack encryption. "Teams in academic labs, as well as startups and tech companies, have dramatically reduced the magnitude of errors made by the notoriously unpredictable quantum devices," the article states. "At the same time, theorists are increasingly understanding how to use quantum devices more efficiently." The article explains the background in more detail.

Nature article: [Quantum computers will finally be useful: what's behind the revolution](#)

OECD Explores Four Possible Development Paths for AI by 2030 (12 February 2026)

Source: *AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026*

In a new report, the OECD explores various scenarios for AI development by 2030. These range from stagnant progress to accelerated development where AI systems match or surpass human capabilities. The organization emphasizes that none of the scenarios can be ruled out based on current evidence. According to the OECD, there is considerable uncertainty among experts, calling for policies that enable governments to both seize opportunities and manage risks.

OECD Report: [Exploring possible AI trajectories through 2030 | OECD](#)

AI Safety Report: More Needed to Manage AI Risks (12 February 2026)

Source: *AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026*

Despite its shortcomings, work should be done on a more robust model to manage the risks of advanced AI. This is according to the comprehensive AI Safety Report 2026. The report concludes that AI's capabilities have further increased since 2025, but that risk management remains challenging. After all, technology is changing rapidly, and developers are not transparent about their models due to market interests. "AI systems can be made more robust by stacking multiple security layers, an approach known as defense in depth," it states. It also states that societal resilience can play a role in managing AI risks. "Measures to strengthen societal resilience [...] include strengthening critical infrastructure, developing tools to detect AI-generated content, and building institutional capacity to respond to emerging threats," the researchers state.

International AI Safety Report 2026: [International AI Safety Report 2026 | International AI Safety Report](#)

UKRI aims to increase opportunities for spin-offs (12 February 2026)

Source: *AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026*

Following a study on the relationship between universities and investors, the British research funder UKRI wants to develop visions for seven key areas. The recommendations primarily concern access to funding at various stages of research, development, and commercialization. For example, the study will explore how to increase funding for proof of concepts and how to mobilize pension capital from public and institutional investors. It will also explore ways to better support entrepreneurship at universities, organize deep tech training, and consider regional circumstances.

UKRI News: [Report sets out how UKRI can set more spin-outs up for success – UKRI](#)

Research: [Deepening university-investor links: a review by Tony Hickson – UKRI](#)

Research funding reforms cause unrest in the UK (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

Major reforms at British research funder UKRI are causing uncertainty among researchers, reports Nature.

According to UKRI Director Chapman, the reforms are intended to prioritize research more towards economic growth, but in practice, grant applications to several research councils have been temporarily halted and ongoing investments are being reconsidered. Researchers fear this will jeopardize the UK's position in large-scale international projects. Critics warn that the refocus on economic priorities could lead to job losses and put pressure on participation in international fundamental research.

Nature article: [Is UK science in jeopardy? Huge funding reforms spark chaos and anxiety](#)

ITIF: China rapidly overtakes the United States in private R&D in advanced sectors (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

The American think tank ITIF has calculated that Chinese companies are rapidly catching up to the United States in the volume of private R&D investment. In 2024, American companies invested \$675 billion and Chinese companies \$165 billion, but adjusted for economic size, China is already ahead of the US in four of the nine sectors examined. According to ITIF, lower research costs in China play a significant role. This allows Chinese companies to employ more researchers with the same budget. The think tank advocates for stronger incentives for private investment, including through tax incentives and more public-private research programs.

ITIF Report: [Tracking R&D Leadership: US Advantage Narrowing as China Gains Ground | ITIF](#)

National policy

State of Dutch Tech 2026: "We must dare to scale to a global scale" (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

The Dutch technology sector grew last year to €2.64 billion in investments and 11,301 active tech companies. At the same time, this strong foundation is not sufficiently translated into growth to international scale. This is the conclusion of the annual State of Dutch Tech report from Techleap, TNO, and Invest-NL. "Over the past six years, we have shown progress in this report, but we also see that structural bottlenecks remain," says Constantijn van Oranje, special envoy at Techleap. The parties are calling on the entire ecosystem to work together on concrete solutions. "The development of AI and the geopolitical situation are changing everything. We can no longer continue as before."

News item TNO: [State of Dutch Tech 2026 | TNO](#)

State of Dutch Tech 2026: [State of Dutch Tech Report 2026 - Techleap](#)

National Agency for Disruptive Innovation Can Fill Structural Gap in the Dutch Innovation System (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

A National Agency for Disruptive Innovation could be of significant added value to the Netherlands. This is the conclusion of an official study on the establishment of a National Agency for Disruptive Innovation (NADI), submitted to Parliament by outgoing Minister Karremans. "With NADI, the Netherlands can create an independent organization aimed at solving complex societal problems related to safety, energy, health, and digitalization, among other things, by forcing breakthrough innovations. International examples of success show that this is accompanied by significant economic spillovers," it states. The organization could offer an answer to various challenges in the Dutch innovation landscape. The study outlines five critical core values that NADI should adhere to, including excellent people, autonomy and independence, and a high risk tolerance. The AWTI recommended in 2016 and again recently in 2025 that such an agency be established, following the example of other countries, to promote breakthrough innovations. Letter to Parliament from Minister Karremans: [file https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/2818182e-fb1c-4769-9ef2-8c14f2c92950/file](https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/2818182e-fb1c-4769-9ef2-8c14f2c92950/file) (in Dutch)

NADI draft proposal: [Definitief ontwerpvoorstel NADI | JAN 2026 \(in Dutch\)](#)

AWTI advice: Take action and move forward: [Oppakken en doorpakken - Durven kiezen voor energie-innovatie | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie \(in Dutch\)](#)

AWTI advice: Sustainable breakthroughs: [Duurzame doorbraken - Naar systeeminnovatie in de energietransitie | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie \(in Dutch\)](#)

R&D Share Increases in Foreign Investments (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

Last year, the Invest in Holland network supported 180 investment projects from foreign companies. Fifty-three of these projects had R&D as their primary activity, making it the largest category for the first time. This is evident from the annual results of the Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency (NFIA) and the Invest in Holland network. "The growth in the share of investments in research and development and other knowledge-intensive activities shows that the focus on attracting projects with innovative activities is paying off," said Minister Karremans.

News item: Central Government: [Aandeel R&D binnen buitenlandse investeringen neemt toe in 2025 | Nieuwsbericht | Rijksoverheid.nl](#)

VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland: Enable the Growth of Digital Tech Companies (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

Investments in our digital infrastructure, specific business policies for the tech sector, and simplified digital regulations are necessary to facilitate the growth of digital tech companies in the Netherlands. This is the argument of the business associations VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland in their new digitalization strategy. The business associations state that the Netherlands has a strong digital sector with innovative tech companies, but warn that continued growth is becoming increasingly difficult. The organizations also advocate for more room to experiment with new technologies through regulatory sandboxes and to develop a National AI Initiative.

News item VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland: ['Maak groei digitale techbedrijven mogelijk' \(in Dutch\)](#)

Student numbers continue to decline, knowledge institutions concerned about shrinkage (12 February 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 12 February 2026

The intake of both Dutch and international bachelor's students has decreased this year compared to last year.

This is evident from the final enrollment figures for the 2025/2026 academic year. Student numbers are expected to continue to decline in the coming years. According to Universities of the Netherlands, this decline highlights the need for a talent strategy, as outlined in the coalition agreement. "The decline is no longer a future scenario, but a reality. Without an inviting talent strategy, we will undermine our science, social innovation, and our economy," said UNL President Caspar van den Berg.

News item UNL: [Minder internationale en Nederlandse studenten naar de universiteit | Universiteiten van Nederland](#)

News item VH: [Vereniging Hogescholen | Opnieuw kiezen fors meer hbo-studenten voor de lerarenopleiding basisonderwijs](#)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the foreseen HORIZON Europe deadline 23 February 2026

Call identifier	Deadline
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC	
ERC-2026-AdG	Foreseen opening: 28 May 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 27 August 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Advanced Grant</i>)
ERC-2026-PoC	17 March 2026 and 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Proof of Concept Grant</i>)
Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions	
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01	Opening 28 May 2026 and deadline 24 November 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01 Call - MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01 • TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates • TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-DN-01	Foreseen opening 26 May 2027 and foreseen deadline 23 November 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-DN-01 Call - MSCA Doctoral Networks 2027</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01 • TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates • TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01	Opening 9 April 2026 and deadline 9 November 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01 Call - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Fellowships • Global Fellowships
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01	Foreseen opening 7 April 2027 and foreseen deadline 8 September 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01 Call - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2027</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Fellowships • Global Fellowships
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01	16 April 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01: MSCA Staff Exchanges</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-SE-01	15 April 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-SE-01: MSCA Staff Exchanges</i>)
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-COFUND-01	8 April 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-COFUND-01: MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programme</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMA-Cofund-Doctoral • TMA-Cofund-Postdoctoral
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-01 MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programme	Foreseen opening 8 December 2026 and foreseen deadline 6 April 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-01: MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programme</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMA-Cofund-Doctoral • TMA-Cofund-Postdoctoral
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-02 MSCA Choose Europe for Science 2027	Foreseen opening 8 December 2026 and foreseen deadline 6 April 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-02-01: MSCA Choose Europe for Science 2027</i>)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TMA-Cofund-Postdoctoral
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-CITIZENS-01	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 and foreseen deadline 08 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-CITIZENS-01 Call - MSCA and Citizens 2027</i>)
Research Infrastructures	
<u>Destination</u> INFRADEV - Consolidation and evolution of the European Research Infrastructure landscape (2026-27)	
HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01-DEV	Opening 10 March 2026 and deadline 16 June 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01-DEV: call INFRADEV</i>)
HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-DEV	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 and foreseen deadline 15 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-DEV: call INFRADEV</i>)
<u>Destination</u> INFRAEOSC - Enabling an operational, open and FAIR EOSC ecosystem (2026-27)	
HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01-EOSC	Opening 10 March 2026 and deadline 16 June 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01-EOSC: call INFRAEOSC</i>)
HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-EOSC	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 and foreseen deadline 15 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01-EOSC: call INFRAEOSC</i>)
<u>Destination</u> INFRASERV - Research infrastructures services to support a healthier future, a global climate and energy vision, a circular and resilient economy, and to advance frontier knowledge (2026-27)	
HORIZON-INFRA-2026-SERV-01	Opening 10 March 2026 and deadline 16 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2026-SERV-01: call INFRASERV</i>)
HORIZON-INFRA-2027-SERV-01	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 and foreseen deadline 15 June 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-INFRA-2027-SERV-01: call INFRASERV</i>)
Cluster 1 HEALTH	
<u>Destination</u> - 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
<u>Destination</u> - 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
<u>Destination</u>– 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
<u>Destination</u> - 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
<u>Cluster 2 Culture Creativity and Inclusive Society</u>	
<u>Custer 3 Civil Security for Society</u>	
<u>Cluster 4 Digital - Industry - Space</u>	
<u>Destination: Leadership in materials and production for Europe</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD single stage	21 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD two-stage	17 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage), 13 October 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD single stage	Foreseen opening 22 September 2026 and foreseen deadline 2 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD two-stage	Foreseen opening 22 September 2026 and foreseen deadline 2 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage), 2 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time <i>(HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-two-stage)</i>
<u>Destination: Open Strategic Autonomy in Developing, Deploying and Using Global Space-Based Infrastructure, Services, Applications and Data</u>	

HORIZON-CL4-2026-SPACE-03 single-stage	10 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-SPACE-03</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2027-03 single stage	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 Foreseen deadline 2 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-03</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DATA single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-DATA-04</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-DATA-04</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DIGITAL- EMERGING single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DIGITAL- EMERGING</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL- EMERGING single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2026-05-DIGITAL- EMERGING single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-05-DIGITAL- EMERGING</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Digital and industrial technologies driving human- centric innovation	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-HUMAN single stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-HUMA- EMERGING</i>)
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN</i>)
<u>CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility</u>	
<u>Destination</u> - Climate sciences and responses for the transformation towards climate neutrality	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2026-08-Two- Stage-D1-06:	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) and 8 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1	Foreseen opening: 17 November 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 4 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination</u> - Cross-sectoral solutions for the climate transition	

HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2	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)
<u>Destination:</u> Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3	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	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	14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination:</u> Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6	16 September 2025 17.00 Brussels time (CLOSED) 20 January 2026 17.00 Brussels time
<u>CLUSTER 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment</u>	
<u>Destination 1:</u> 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

<u>Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption</u>	
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)
<u>Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors</u>	
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)
<u>Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution</u>	
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
<u>Destination 5 - Land, ocean and water for climate action</u>	
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	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	
<u>Mission calls 2026-2026</u>	
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-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
<u>WIDERA 2026 - 2027</u>	
<u>Destination:</u> Widening participation and spreading excellence	

HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01-WIDENING-01: Teaming Synergies	Foreseen opening Opening: 23 April 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01 Call - Teaming Synergies)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02-WIDENING-01: Twinning	Foreseen opening Opening: 8 January 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 9 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02 Call - Twinning)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03: Hop-on Facility	Foreseen opening Opening: 13 January 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03 Call - Hop on Facility)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05-WIDENING-01: ERA Fellowships	Foreseen opening Opening: 9 April 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 9 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05 Call - ERA Fellowships)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-01: ERA Chairs	Foreseen opening Opening: 6 April 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-01: ERA Chairs)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02: ERA Research Managers	Foreseen opening Opening: 7 April 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02: ERA Research Managers)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03-WIDENING-01: ERA TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European	Foreseen opening Opening: 7 April 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 8 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03-WIDENING-01: ERA TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04-WIDENING-01: Excellence Hubs	Foreseen opening Opening: 2 September 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 4 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04-WIDENING-01: Excellence Hubs)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01: Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights	Foreseen opening Opening: 8 December 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 11 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01: Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights)
Destination: Reforming and enhancing the European research and innovation system	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06-ERA (Enhancing the European R&I system)	12 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05 Call - ERA Fellowships)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01: EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening	Foreseen opening Opening: 5 May 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 18 November 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01: EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening)

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 23 February 2026 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	
European Partnerships European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare https://www.eupahw.eu/	2 nd co-funded call for proposals of the European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare (EUPAHW) "Shaping the Future of Animal Health and Welfare" NEW: The 2 nd call for research projects is open since 26 th January, 2026. Pre-Proposals must be submitted electronically via this EUPAHW submission tool.

	<p>Submission deadline for pre-proposals: March 30th, 2026, 12:00 h (CEST) Deadline for full-proposals 16th September 2026, 12:00 CEST EUPAHW: Call 2 PP</p>
<p>European Partnership Biodiversa+ https://www.biodiversa.eu/</p>	<p>A two-step application procedure will apply, with a mandatory submission of pre-proposals at the first step and submission of full proposals at the second step, via the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for pre-proposals submission (mandatory): Friday 7 November 2025, 12:00 CET (CLOSED) • Results of the evaluation of the first step: mid-February 2026 • Deadline for full-proposals submission: Tuesday 14 of April 2026, 12:00 CEST • Recommendations for funding: late September 2026 • Start of the projects: between 1st of December 2026 and 1st of April 2027 <p>https://www.biodiversa.eu/2025/09/09/2025-2026-joint-call/</p>
<p>European Partnership Water4All https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/</p>	<p>Water4All 2025 Joint Transnational Call 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</p> <p>Tentative timeline Call opening: 12 September 2025 Submission deadline of preproposals: <u>13 November 2025, 15:00 CET (CLOSED)</u> Selection of preproposals: End of February 2026 Submission deadline of full proposals: <u>13 April 2026, 15:00 CEST</u> Selection of funded proposals: September 2026 Projects start: End 2026/beginning 2027 Kick-off meeting of the funded projects: Spring 2027</p>
<p>European Partnership FutureFoods https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/</p>	<p>FutureFoodS hereby pre-announces the 2nd co-funded call for transnational research projects Second Joint Transnational Co-funded Call — FutureFoodS and FutureFoodS: Call2</p> <p>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: ~ <u>11 February 2026 (CLOSED)</u> Deadline for full-proposal submission: ~<u>27 July 2026 (only by invitation)</u></p>
<p>European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartnership.eu/</p>	<p>Announcement 3rd call AGROECOLOGY partnership 3rd co-funded call — Agroecology Partnership and Agroecology: Call3</p> <p>Tentative timeline Deadline for <u>pre-proposal submission</u> is 18 February 2026, 14:00 CET. (CLOSED) Deadline for <u>full proposal submission</u> is 08 July 2026, 14:00 CEST.</p>
<p>European partnership Agriculture of Data</p>	<p>The 1st co-funded Call of the AgData partnership is now open! 1st Co-funded Call for Transnational Research Projects “EU-wide data-driven solutions to real problems”</p> <p>Agriculture of Data: Call 1 Procedure Short proposal & full proposal step The deadline for short proposals is January 21, 12:00h CET (noon). (CLOSED) The deadline for full proposal submission is July 21, 12:00h CEST (noon).</p>

<p>European partnership Sustainable Blue Economy https://bluepartnership.eu/</p>	<p>Third Joint Transnational Call for R&I Funding Call launch (provisional): 15 September 2025, 15:00 CEST Deadline submission Pre-proposals 17 November 2025 (CLOSED) Deadline submission Full proposals 17 June 2026</p> <p>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</p>
<p>European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) https://dutpartnership.eu/</p>	<p>Pre-announcement: European funding opportunity for sustainable urban transitions https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-european-funding-opportunity-for-sustainable-urban-transitions-0 <u>Foreseen timeline and information day</u> The timeline for this call is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 November 2025: stage 1 closing (Pre-Proposal submission deadline) (CLOSED) • 20 February 2026: stage 2 opening • 23 April 2026: stage 2 closing (Full Proposal submission deadline) • Summer of 2026: decision-making
<p>European Partnership ERA4HEALTH ERA4Health The Partnership</p>	<p>A new call within the European Partnership ERA4Health to which NWO contributes is now open for pre-proposals. PREVENT-OO: Understanding and Preventing Overweight and Obesity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The deadline for submitting a pre-proposal is 21 January 2026, 12:00 CET (CLOSED) • The deadline for submitting a full application is 11 June 2026, 12:00 CEST <p>For more information website ERA4HEALTH: Prevent-OO: Understanding and Preventing Overweight and Obesity - Mechanisms of their onset and progression, neglected determinants and novel strategies for critical transitional periods in life</p> <p>For information on NWO pages: Call open for European research on the underlying causes of obesity NWO and Prevent-OO: Understanding and Preventing Overweight and Obesity - Mechanisms of their onset and progression, neglected determinants and novel strategies for critical transitional periods in life</p>
<p>Joint Technology Initiatives</p>	
<p>Joint Programming Initiatives</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A healthy diet for a healthy life (HDHL): http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/ • Agriculture, food security and climate change (FACCE): http://www.faccejpi.com/ • Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR): http://www.jpiamr.eu/ • Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU): http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home • Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/ • More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (JPI MYBL): http://www.jp-demographic.eu/ • Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND): http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/ • Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions (Urban Europe): http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI): http://www.waterjpi.eu/ • Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage): http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/
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Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **23 February 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	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 until 24 February 2026	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
07-12-2025 until 31-07-2026	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 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
03-03-2026	Deadline for submission Notice of Intent to apply (NOI) in the portal of the NFRF Call '2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges' Deadline for submission of the required Notice of Intent to apply (NOI) in the portal of the NFRF. Please check the website of the NFRF for exact details. Call open: International Call for groundbreaking innovations to address global challenges NWO and 2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges NWO and Call-for-proposals-NFRF-221225_1.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/
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission required Letter of Intent to apply (LOI) in the portal of the NFRF Call '2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges' Deadline for submission of the required Letter of Intent to apply (LOI) in the portal of the NFRF. Please check the website of the NFRF for exact details. Call open: International Call for groundbreaking innovations to address global challenges NWO and 2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges NWO and Call-for-proposals-NFRF-221225_1.pdf
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

From 20-01-2026 until 23-06-2026	Deadline for submission proposals for The second 'NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine 2025 . Applications can be submitted continuously until the deadline of Tuesday 23 June 2026 at 14:00:00 CE(S)T, or until the budget has been exhausted. Open: Hop-On Call for Ukrainian researchers NWO and NWO-NRFU Partnership Initiative NWO and NWO-NRFU Partnership Initiative NWO
23-06-2026	Deadline for submission of the mandatory Letter of intent for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil . Deadline for submission of the mandatory Letter of intent is 23 June 2026 14:00:00 CET (via e-mail) and 23 June 2026 23:59:59 BRT (SAGe) . Call open: Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future (KIC) NWO and KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO and Call for Proposals - Integrated biorefineries for a circular future
03-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full Proposals in the portal of the NFRF Call '2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges' Deadline for submission of the full proposals in the portal of the NFRF. Please check the website of the NFRF for exact details. Call open: International Call for groundbreaking innovations to address global challenges NWO and 2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges NWO and Call-for-proposals-NFRF-221225_1.pdf
20-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil . Deadline for submission of Proposals is 20 October 2026 14:00:00 CEST (ISAAC) and 20 October 2026 23:59:59 BRT (SAGe) . Call open: Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future (KIC) NWO and KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO and Call for Proposals - Integrated biorefineries for a circular future

National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **23 February 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

24-02-2026	Deadline submission Full proposals for PhD Scholarships for Caribbean Researchers . The deadline for submitting full proposals is 24 February 2026, before 17:00:00 CET/12:00:00 AST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-phd-scholarships-for-caribbean-researchers and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/caribbean-research-a-multidisciplinary-approach
From 15-01-2026 until 01-03-2026	Deadline for pre-registration for PPS-call Innovatie-Impuls Agri&Food . Pre-registration is required and can be done until March 1st via this button vooraanmelding . PPS-call 'Innovatie-impuls Agri&Food' geopend - Topsector Agri & Food and PPS-Oproep innovatie-impuls agri&food - Topsector Agri & Food
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-xl and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/KIC%20V4C-XL_CfP_EN.pdf
10-03-2026	Deadline for submission research proposals for The Open Mind 2026 call . The deadline for submitting a research proposal is Tuesday, March 10, 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. Open Mind 2026 now open for groundbreaking, outside-the-box ideas NWO and Open Mind 2026 NWO
10-03-2026	Deadline for submission pre-proposals NWO-Talent Programme Vici 2026 . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is March 10, 2026, by 14:00:00 CET. Vici round 2026 now open for pre-proposals NWO and NWO Talent Programme NWO
From 06-02-2026 to 17-03-2026	Deadline for registration and participation in collaborative workshops NWA-ORC 2026 call . Registration for and participation in collaborative workshops (mandatory for main applicants) Between 6 February and 17 March 2026, NWO organizes collaborative workshops with the aim of bringing together interested parties (researchers and public and/or private social parties) around a specific theme, combining research ideas (joining forces) and forming broad innovative consortia. You can register for the workshops via this page: Collaborative workshops NWA ORC 2026 NWO . Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 NWO
19-03-2026	Deadline submissions proposals The Demonstrator 2026 call . 19 March 2026 at 14:00:00 hours CET. Demonstrator 2026 round open: marketing your own Demonstrator knowledge now also possible NWO and Demonstrator 2026 NWO
24-03-2026	Deadline for submission of full applications 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	Deadline for Full proposals Rubicon call 1 2026 . The deadline for this round is Tuesday 24 March 2026 at 14:00:00 hours CET (2 PM sharp). Rubicon 2026-1 NWO and Call for Proposals - Call for proposals SGW Rubicon 2025-2
24-03-2026	deadline for submission of letters of intent KIC call “Collaborative business models for a circular economy” . The deadline for submitting letters of intent is 24 March 2026, before 14:00:00. Call open: Collaborative business models NWO and KIC Collaborative business models for a circular economy NWO and Call for Proposals - Collaborative business models for a circular economy
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%20Tulip%20Fonds_EN%20%28%29.pdf
07-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 2 . Closing date full application Round 2: 7 April 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. Second round of SSH Open Competition XS 2026 open for applications NWO and SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 2 NWO and Call for Proposals - SGW Open Competitie XS
09-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals NWO Talent Programme Vidi 2025 . The deadline for submitting full proposals 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 transition . Closing date full application 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/fewer-critical-raw-materials-in-the-energy-transition and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/knowledge-and-innovation-covenant
14-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full applications KIC Digital Twinning – Actual and accurate models for insight, optimisation, and decision-making . Closing date full application 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs. NWO makes 7 million euros available for research into Digital Twins NWO and KIC Digital Twinning – Actual and accurate models for insight, optimisation, and decision-making NWO and Call for Proposals - Digital Twinning
14-04-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals Knowledge-in-Action - Economic transition: the costs and benefits of (in)action . Foreseen closing ate full application 14 April 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).
From 17-02-2026 until 14-04-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission Full proposals PPS-I 2026 Call TKI Green Chemistry and Circularity Applications can be submitted between February 17, 2026, 12:00 p.m. and April 14, 2026, 2:00 p.m. via the call page on the ChemistryNL website Call-text-PPS-I-2026-ChemistryNL_English.pdf and Oproep voor projecten PPS-I 2026: Duurzame chemie en circulariteit - ChemistryNL
15-04-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals for PPS-call Innovatie-Impuls Agri&Food . Proposals can be submitted until April 15, 2026. Pre-registration is mandatory and can be submitted until March 1, 2026. PPS-call ‘Innovatie-impuls Agri&Food’ geopend - Topsector Agri & Food and PPS-Oproep innovatie-impuls agri&food - Topsector Agri & Food
07-05-2026	Deadline for submission full applications thematic Call Use of space infrastructure for vegetation research (Part of GO programme) . The deadline for submitting proposals is 7 May 2026 at 14:00 CEST. Call “Use of space infrastructure for vegetation research” is open for submission NWO and Use of space infrastructure for Earth observation and planetary research NWO and Preparatory workshops: Use of space infrastructure for vegetation research NWO
19-05-2026	Deadline for submission Full applications 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
26-05-2026	Deadline for submission of Full applications KIC call “Collaborative business models for a circular economy” . The deadline for submitting applications is 26 May 2026, before 14:00:00. Call open: Collaborative business models NWO and KIC Collaborative business models for a circular economy NWO and Call for Proposals - Collaborative business models for a circular economy

26-05-2026	: deadline for submission Full applications for Faculty of Impact round 2026 . The deadline for submitting full proposals is Tuesday 26 May 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. Faculty of Impact round 2026 now open: focus on all five themes NWO and Faculty of Impact 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Faculty of Impact
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission Full-proposals for Open Competition Domain Science–XL round 2025–2026 . The deadline for submitting full proposals is Tuesday 9th June 2026, before 14:00:00 hours CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xl-round-2025-2026
09-06-2026	Deadline for submission of Full proposals for KIC call Adaptivity in transitions . The deadline for submitting the full application is 9 June 2026 at 14:00 CEST. Call open: Adaptivity in transitions NWO and KIC Adaptivity in transitions NWO and Call for Proposals - Adaptivity in transitions
16-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission of Full proposals KIC - Early detection and impact forecasting of (threatening) infectious diseases outbreaks . Closing date full application 16 June 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). KIC - Early detection and impact forecasting of (threatening) infectious diseases outbreaks NWO
16-06-2026	Deadline for submission of full applications Call 'The power of collaboration' for or SSH researchers to further deepen consortia (NWA) . The deadline for submitting applications is June 16, 2026 ; The deadline for submitting a request for review by organizations based in the Netherlands is May 19, 2026. The deadline for submitting a request for review by foreign organizations is May 19, 2026. . New Call: Unique opportunity for SSH researchers to further deepen consortia (NWA) NWO and The power of collaboration NWO
15-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3 . 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 (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
Until 23-06-2026	Deadline for submission full applications for the 'NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine' . Closing date full application 23 June 2026 14:00 hrs NWO and NRFU launch second funding round for Ukrainian researchers NWO and NWO Hop-On Call for Proposals for Researchers Based in Ukraine 2025 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-2025---DEF.pdf
23-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Letter of Intent KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future . Foreseen closing date for letter of intent 23 June 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO
02-07-2026	Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2026 fall round . Deadline for submission proposals fall deadline 2 July 2026 14:00:00 CET. Full 2026 round of Venture Challenge open now NWO and Venture Challenge Spring 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Venture Challenge
08-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals NWO-Talent Programme Vici 2026 . The deadline for submitting full applications is September 8, 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. Vici round 2026 now open for pre-proposals NWO and NWO Talent Programme NWO
18-08-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission for a request for assessment of organisations for phase 1 for the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of organisations based in the Netherlands for phase 1 (see section 3.1.1) is 18 August 2026 before 14:00:00 CEST / The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of foreign organisations for phase 1 (see section 7.1.1) is 18 August 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST.. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO
15-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3 . Closing date full application Round 3: 15 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST.. Second round of SSH Open Competition XS 2026 open for applications NWO and SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 2 NWO and Call for Proposals - SGW Open Competitie XS
15-09-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission Full applications for phase 1 of the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting applications in phase 1 is 15 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO

17-09-2026	Foreseen Deadline for Full applications TRI-POLAR call The deadline for submitting the application is Thursday, 17 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. Pre-announcement: TRI-POLAR call expected to open in March NWO
22-09-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications 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
22-09-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia -S 2026 . Foreseen closing date full application: 22 September 2026 14:00 hrs. KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia -S 2026 NWO and Demand Driven Research By Consortia - S NWO
29-09-2026	Foreseen Deadline for submission Full proposals KIC AI 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
06-10-2026	Deadline submission of Full proposals for the NWA-ORC 2026 round . The deadline for submission of proposals via ISAAC is 6 October 2026, at 14:00:00 CEST. NWA call for Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 now open NWO and Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - NWA ORC
20-10-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future . Foreseen closing date Closing date full application 20 October 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO
26-10-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals NWA ORC Round 2026 . The deadline for submission of proposals via ISAAC is 6 October 2026, at 14:00:00 CEST. Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 NWO and NWA ORC 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - NWA-ORC
12-11-2026	Deadline for submission of Full-proposals for KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia – XL The deadline for submitting full proposals is Thursday 12 November 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-available-for-large-public-private-consortia-focused-on-societal-challenges and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-demand-driven-research-by-consortia-xl and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/KIC%20V4C-XL_CfP_EN.pdf
30-11-2026	Foreseen deadline for full proposals call NWA programme Knowledge about unprotected species for sustainable fisheries policy . Closing date full application 30 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/knowledge-about-unprotected-species-for-sustainable-fisheries-policy
30-11-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission full applications 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 12-01-2026 to 11-12-2026	Deadline for submission proposals Open Technology Programme 2026 . 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. Open Technology Programme 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Open Technology 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
28-02-2027	Foreseen deadline for full applications 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
18-09-2029	NEW: Deadline for submission for a request for assessment of organisations for phase 2 for the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of organisations based in the Netherlands for phase 2 (see section 3.1.1) is 18 September 2029 before 14:00:00 CEST / The deadline for submitting a request for assessment

	of foreign organisations for phase 2 (see section 7.1.1) is 18 September 2029, before 14:00:00 CEST.. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO Note PJ: I wonder if 18-09-2029 is the right date
16-10-2029	NEW: Deadline for submission Full applications for phase 2 of the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting applications in phase 1 is 16 October 2029, before 14:00:00 CEST. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO Note PJ: I wonder if 16-10-2029 is the right date

Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on **23 February 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
From 01-03-2025 to 28-02-2026	Opening EFRO East Netherlands: Innovation projects priority 1 (a smarter East Netherlands): applications can be submitted from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. The subsidy ceiling is € 11.7 million, of which € 10 million for activities that benefit Gelderland and € 1.7 million for activities that benefit Overijssel;
From 01-03-2025 to 28-02-2026	Opening EFFE East Netherlands Test and demonstration projects priority 1 (a smarter East Netherlands): applications can be submitted from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. The subsidy ceiling is €6.7 million, of which €5 million for activities that benefit Gelderland and €1.7 million for activities that benefit Overijssel.
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Eastern Netherlands: For for overview calls go to EFRO Oost https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen
2023-2024	EFRO 2021 – 2027 Western Netherlands: For calls Kansen voor West III https://kvw3.kansenvoorwest.nl/openstellingen/openstellingen-/
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Northern Netherlands: For calls Northern Netherlands go to Website SNN https://www.snn.nl/programmas/efro-2021-2027
2023-2024	EFRO 2021-2027 Southern Netherlands: For calls Southern Netherlands go to website Stimulus https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/openstellingen/
24-02-2025 to 04-04-2025	Foreseen deadline Spring call OP-Zuid 2025: from 24 February 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to April 4, 2025 (until 5 p.m.);
15-09-2025 to 24-10-2025	Foreseen opening Autumn call OP-Zuid 2025: from 15 September, 2025 (from 9 a.m.) to 24 October, 2025 (until 5 p.m.).

About the Wageningen Grant Office

Wageningen Grant Office

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

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

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

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

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