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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe.

117 new EU-funded projects are ready to spark innovation and research for a greener future (6 July 2026)

Source: Website EC REA https://rea.ec.europa.eu/news/117-new-eu-funded-projects-are-ready-spark-innovation-and-research-greener-future-2026-07-06_en

With €742 million in EU funding, the new projects will support the sustainable transformation of Europe's economy and society through research and innovation.

A total of 117 new projects will receive funding under Horizon Europe, the EU's framework programme for research and innovation, through its **Cluster 6: "Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment"**. **Note PJ: WUR is involved in 41 out of these 117 funded projects. In total 50 projects with WUR participation in cluster 6 will be funded!**

Together, they will help deliver on the objectives of the **European Green Deal** by tackling environmental degradation, helping to reverse biodiversity loss, and improving the way natural resources are managed, while safeguarding food and water security

The projects have now signed their Grant Agreements with the European Commission. Some have already started their work, while others are expected to begin in the coming months.

Horizon Europe Cluster 6 "Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment" - 2025 calls

	Number of funded projects	EU grant amount (in €)
Biodiversity and ecosystem services	19	128,878,533.93
Fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food systems, from primary production to consumption	24	139,173,889.13
Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	27	197,975,181.38
Clean environment and zero pollution	10	55,770,641.41
Land, ocean and water for climate action	9	53,287,877.90
Resilient, inclusive, healthy, and green rural, coastal and urban communities	6	37,501,890.05
Innovative governance, environmental observations, and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal	22	129,944,584.91
Total	117	742,532,598.71

For more information and the full list of the funded projects : https://rea.ec.europa.eu/news/117-new-eu-funded-projects-are-ready-spark-innovation-and-research-greener-future-2026-07-06_en and [https://cordis.europa.eu/search?q=contenttype%3D%27project%27%20AND%20startDate%3D2026-05-01-2026-12-31%20AND%20\(%27HORIZON-CL6-2025%27\)&p=1&num=10&srt=Relevance:decreasing](https://cordis.europa.eu/search?q=contenttype%3D%27project%27%20AND%20startDate%3D2026-05-01-2026-12-31%20AND%20(%27HORIZON-CL6-2025%27)&p=1&num=10&srt=Relevance:decreasing)

ERC awards Proof of Concept Grants to 182 researchers (30 June 2026)

Source: Website ERC <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/proof-of-concept-grants-2026>

The European Research Council (ERC) has today announced the names of its grantees to be awarded the Proof of Concept Grants. Funding for this first round of 2026, worth €27.3 million, will go to 182 researchers. Each grant is worth €150,000 and helps current and recent ERC grantees to explore the commercial or societal potential of their research findings. This grant scheme is part of the EU's research and innovation programme, Horizon Europe.



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

'Many of today's innovations begin with a researcher asking a fundamental question. These 182 projects show that curiosity-driven science and real-world impact go hand in hand. With Proof of Concept funding, ERC researchers can test how their discoveries could become new treatments, technologies, services or solutions that benefit people across Europe.'

President of the European Research Council, Prof. Maria Leptin, said:

'It turns out to have been a very good move of the ERC Scientific Council to introduce the top up funding 'Proof of Concept'. By now, nearly 2500 such grants have helped our grantees explore the innovation potential of discoveries from their ERC-funded research. I am pleased to see a new round concluded - congratulations to all!'

Projects selected for funding

The new awarded projects will delve into a diverse range of topics, with 54% in physical sciences and engineering, 37% in life sciences and 8% in social sciences and humanities. For example, researchers will develop 3D-printed bioinspired electronics made from soft materials, create a tool to help doctors protect speech areas of the brain during epilepsy surgery, and advance a ready-made vaccine for breast cancer that could work for many patients, avoiding the need for personalised treatments. These and many other projects will explore how frontier research can be translated into practical applications.

Facts and figures

The competition attracted 554 proposals, representing a 15% increase compared to last year's first round. One in three proposals was selected for funding in this round. The new grantees will be based at universities and research centres in 21 EU Member States and associated countries, notably Germany (31 grants), the Netherlands (27 grants), Italy and France (both 18 grants) and Spain (13 grants).

Next Proof of Concept Grant call

The ERC 2026 work programme includes two rounds of the call for Proof of Concept Grants with a total budget of €60 million. Interested in applying for an ERC Proof of Concept? **The next funding round is now open for applications, with the deadline of 17 September 2026.**

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

More info

List of selected researchers: <https://erc.europa.eu/system/files/2026-06/erc-2026-poc-results.pdf>

Proof of Concept Grants: <https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant/proof-concept>

Milestone for the Netherlands: €5 billion in European research and innovation grants secured (26 June 2026)

Source: information Team IRIS RVO

Dutch organizations participating in Horizon Europe can be proud: since the start of the program in 2021, they have collectively raised €5 billion in European grant funding for research and innovation projects. The Netherlands is performing exceptionally well, ranking 4th in Europe.

Focus on success rate for the Netherlands

Investing in research and innovation pays off. In the long term, it enhances our well-being, but it already offers benefits: adjusted for population size, €299.50 in subsidies is awarded per Dutch inhabitant. This means that Dutch participants submit good project proposals more often than average: our success rate is 21.9%, compared to the European average of 16.5%.

Collaboration is often the key to a successful application in this regard. Dutch parties are involved in no less than 22% of all projects within Horizon Europe.

Both Dutch knowledge institutions and companies are performing well

The largest share, €2.4 billion (45% of the Dutch total), of the subsidies went to educational institutions such as universities and universities of applied sciences. Dutch research organizations have received €857 million (16%) in grants to date. Dutch companies are also performing well: they have received €1.3 billion (25%) to date, of which €1.1 billion is for SMEs. To date, more than 1,250 Dutch companies have successfully participated in Horizon Europe.

Wide range of themes among Dutch participants

Horizon Europe funds projects in every conceivable scientific field, with a focus on making an impact. Think of themes such as sustainability, climate change, health, digitalization, and cybersecurity.

For Cluster 6 the results of the 2025 calls have all been released.

In total The Netherlands has received a bit over €79.4 million in funding. The Netherlands is doing very well in Cluster 6 with a 6th ranking across European member states and Associated countries. However, The Netherlands is a bit behind average in funding allocated towards Private for Profit organisations. We encourage more companies to join Horizon Europe in the remaining 1.5 year of the final work programme. The overall distribution of this allocated sum based on organisation type can be seen below:

Type of organisation	Sum of requested EU contribution (€)
Higher or Secondary Education	22.7 M
Other	4.0 M
Private for Profit	7.4 M
Public Body	12.0 M
Research Organisation	33.3 M
Grand Total (2025 calls)	79.4 M

Note PJ: WUR was very successful in the 2025 call of Cluster 6: WUR in 48 Cluster 6 projects which had a GO to Grant Agreement Preparation met EC-contribution 30 MEuro (8 successful coordination's)

The state of Europe's food systems transitions (26 June 2026)

Source: Website European Partnership FutureFoods [The state of Europe's food systems transitions — FutureFoodS](#)
Food systems transition in Europe is a multi-dimensional and contested process that cannot be adequately monitored through outcome indicators alone.

A recent report reviews ongoing monitoring practices. The main gap identified in the report is the need to **monitor processes of change in food systems**, beyond trend analysis of outcomes.



The report then presents the directions for establishing a **Food Systems Observatory for Europe** that develops a research infrastructure among 30 partners within ecosystems for tracking food system transitions from local to European levels.

In future editions the report will be introduced in more detail.

You can access the report here:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/66bcb49cbff345337f6a3ded/t/6a3d189a2d061f038a63c4ee/1782388891067/PREPRINT_FutureFoodS_D5-2_EU_foodsystem_transition_no1+%281%29.pdf

For a brief introduction see the post on LinkedIn by Thom Achterbosch (WUR):

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/thomachterbosch_debrief-on-the-observatory-for-partners-of-ugcPost-7473064735819665408-THuu/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAJWUoABLjP81GrRg8innx9iyEReHo1kHkE

Strengthening Collaboration Across FutureFoodS-Funded Projects (26 June 2026)

Source: Newsletter European Partnership FutureFoods

The 23 projects funded under **FutureFoodS' first Joint Transnational Co-funded Call** came together for a joint kick-off meeting in Bari, creating a dynamic environment for exchange. All project summaries can be consulted on the website <https://www.futurefoodspartnership.eu/call-1-projects>. Through project pitches, thematic brainstorming sessions and interactive discussions, participants identified opportunities to connect their research, develop **synergies** across projects, and engage with the wider FutureFoodS partnership.

While the first-call projects are now running, selected proposals of the second call are in the phase of full proposal writing, and the scope of the third call is under development.

European Funding News: FP10

Joint Declaration for a Bold FP10: Investing in Research, Development and Innovation to Boost European Productivity and Competitiveness (7 July 2026)

Source: Website EARTO [SHOs-Joint-Statement-on-FP10-Final.pdf](#)

Europe stands at a decisive juncture. The [Draghi report on European Competitiveness](#) has laid bare a stark reality: Europe's productivity growth has stalled, its innovation gap with the United States and China is widening, and the continent risks a slow but irreversible decline in its economic standing. At the same time, the [Competitiveness Compass](#) and the EU's political guidelines place research, development and innovation (RD&I) at the heart of Europe's strategy to reverse this trend. **We, the undersigned — 86 European associations representing key RD&I stakeholders — fully endorse this diagnosis and urgently call on EU Institutions to act with commensurate ambition in designing and funding the next Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP10).**



The Draghi report calls for an additional €800 billion per year in investment to close Europe's competitiveness gap, with RD&I as the primary driver of sustainable productivity gains. Innovation-led productivity growth is not merely an economic imperative — it is the only credible path to financing Europe's green and digital transitions, its open strategic autonomy, and its social model. FP10 is the EU's principal instrument for catalysing this transformation. Its track record of leveraging private investment, maturing technologies, and building the cross-border collaborative ecosystems that no single Member State can replicate alone makes it uniquely placed to deliver at the scale and speed Europe requires.

Yet current EU RD&I spending remains wholly insufficient relative to this challenge. Europe invests significantly less in R&D as a share of GDP than its main global competitors, and the leverage effects of the Framework Programme — demonstrated conclusively by the Horizon 2020 ex-post evaluation — mean that every euro of EU public investment generates multiples in private and national co-investment. Cutting or stagnating FP10's budget would be a false economy: it would undermine precisely the public-private partnerships, the technology maturation pipelines, and the talent networks that are indispensable to restoring European productivity growth.

We therefore call on EU Institutions to:

- **Allocate a substantially increased budget to FP10**, commensurate with the ambition set out in the Draghi report and the Competitiveness Compass, over the 2028–2034 MFF period;

- **Reinforce collaborative, industry-driven RD&I** through a strengthened Pillar II, ensuring that public-private partnerships continue to reduce investment risk, accelerate technology maturation and translate research excellence into market-ready innovations that boost productivity;
- **Ensure FP10, together with ECF, supports the full RD&I continuum** — from fundamental research to deployment and scale-up — aligned with EU strategic priorities and clearly defined industrial needs, including the green and digital transitions and European security and resilience. Preserving a strong ECF and FP10, both in terms of budget and in terms of governance and synergies between the two programmes, is essential to support the entire innovation cycle, strengthen Europe's industrial base, and deliver on the Union's competitiveness objectives.

The window of opportunity is narrow. Decisions taken in the coming months on the next MFF will determine whether Europe has the RD&I firepower to compete globally and sustain its prosperity. We, the undersigned associations, stand ready to work with EU Institutions to design an FP10 that is bold, well-resourced, and fit to deliver the innovation-driven productivity growth Europe urgently needs.

Download the full Joint Statement here: [SHOs-Joint-Statement-on-FP10-Final.pdf](#)

Position paper | Balancing openness and security: Dual use in a civilian FP10 (30 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Unsung heroines and child interpreters: 51 projects launched in the SSH Open Competition L | NWO](#)

The Guild shares its position on the introduction of dual use in FP10, outlining the safeguards needed to preserve Horizon Europe's civilian character, research excellence and openness while responding to Europe's evolving security challenges.

The European Commission's proposal to open FP10 to dual-use research marks a significant departure from the exclusively civilian mandate of previous framework programmes for research and innovation. While The Guild acknowledges the rationale in light of the current geopolitical context and the dual-use nature of emerging technologies, it stresses that the introduction of dual-use research must remain a carefully governed exception within a civilian Framework Programme.

The Guild calls on the EU institutions to ensure that the inclusion of dual-use research does not alter Horizon Europe's fundamental principles. To this end, The Guild outlines the following recommendations:

1. **Dual-use research must not redefine Horizon Europe as a defence programme**
A clear distinction between dual-use and defence research must be maintained, with the latter remaining outside FP10. A spending ceiling for dual-use calls must also be considered.
2. **Maintain research excellence as FP10's guiding principle**
Research excellence must remain the primary criterion for project evaluation and selection. Political or strategic considerations should not outweigh research excellence in funding decisions.
3. **Safeguard curiosity-driven and fundamental research**
Lower Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs 1–3) must remain subject to minimal restrictions to safeguarding academic freedom, knowledge sharing and open science. If Horizon Europe will fund research across TRL 1-8, then dual-use calls should primarily target TRL 6 and above, where potential applications can be more clearly identified and assessed.
4. **Strengthen guidance and support on research security**
Clear definitions, practical guidance and common European support are needed to help universities manage dual-use research. This should include European guidance and common tools on research security, in line with the Council Recommendation on Enhancing Research Security, enabling institutions to assess and manage risks consistently across Europe.
5. **Preserve openness with trusted international partners**
The participation of entities established in like-minded associated countries, or countries that have concluded a security and defence partnership with the EU, should not be restricted. (Prospective) associated countries also require predictable and transparent rules governing access to dual-use calls.
6. **Ensure responsible international collaboration through targeted restrictions**
Restrictions must be based on academic, ethical and legal considerations, including risks linked to armed conflicts, military operations or serious violations of international law and human rights. Clear European procedures should also enable universities to suspend or terminate collaborations without disproportionate financial, legal or administrative consequences.
7. **Adopt a broader understanding of security**

Societal resilience and democratic stability are essential dimensions of European security. FP10 should therefore strengthen support for Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities research, recognising its contribution to understanding hybrid threats and enhancing Europe's resilience.

Jan Palmowski, Secretary-General of The Guild, said: *"For the competitive impact of Europe, and the programme's global reach, it is essential that Horizon Europe remains a civilian R&I programme in essence, with dual-use calls constituting a clearly defined and limited set of calls. This means that purely defence-oriented R&I has no place in Horizon Europe, including the EIC, and must be funded from the European Competitiveness Fund which has partly been set up for this purpose. Dual-use calls should be focused on higher TRL and must be designed carefully, and we call on the Commission to consult closely with the sector to ensure institutions and researchers receive proper guidance and support."*

Read position paper here: [the-guild_position-paper-on-dual-use_july2026.pdf](https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/statements/msca-statement---june-2026_final.pdf)

MSCA: Research Talent is Europe's Strategic Advantage (29 June 2026)

Source: Website The Guild <https://www.the-guild.eu/news-and-blog/news/2026/msca-research-talent-is-europe%E2%80%99s-strategic-advanta.html>

European research and higher education networks call on the EU to reinforce Europe's proven MSCA model and scale it to multiply its impact.



For thirty years, the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) has been one of the EU's most effective instruments for strengthening its talent base and advancing scientific excellence across all disciplines. As Europe navigates an increasingly complex global landscape, its long-term competitiveness, technological leadership and strategic autonomy depend on one essential asset: its capacity to generate knowledge and cultivate world-class research talent. As negotiations progress on the next Horizon Europe programme (FP10) and the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), European leaders face a pivotal moment. Reinforcing MSCA as a research programme for the most promising early-career researchers is essential to sustaining Europe's R&I ambitions.

Together with sixteen research and higher education networks, The Guild calls on EU decision-makers: Do not change Europe's proven MSCA model, instead, scale it and multiply its impact.

Read the joint statement: https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/statements/msca-statement---june-2026_final.pdf

MFF 2028-2034: Council agrees its position on Horizon Europe, the new and ambitious framework programme for research and innovation (26 June 2026)

Source: Website EC Consilium [MFF 2028-2034: Council agrees its position on Horizon Europe, the new and ambitious framework programme for research and innovation - Consilium](https://www.ec.europa.eu/consilium/en/mff-2028-2034-council-agrees-its-position-on-horizon-europe-the-new-and-ambitious-framework-programme-for-research-and-innovation)

In short

The EU Member States want more say over the strategic priorities of the successor to Horizon Europe. They also want to align decision-making regarding large-scale collaborations with the European Competitiveness Fund. This clashes with the position of MEP Ehler, rapporteur for both FP10 and the ECF, who specifically wants to prevent industrial policy from determining research priorities via the ECF. The Council's position forms the basis for the upcoming negotiations with the European Parliament and the European Commission.

The Council has reached an agreement on its partial negotiating position on the regulation and the specific programme of the Horizon Europe, the tenth EU framework programme for research and innovation. Horizon Europe is a key element of the next multiannual financial framework (MFF), the EU's seven-year spending plan. It is designed to drive scientific excellence, boost economic competitiveness, and tackle global societal challenges. Besides the proposed substantial budget increase by the Commission, the agreed Council position

for Horizon Europe foresees a tight link with the EU's competitiveness instrument in the next MFF, the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), to facilitate a seamless investment support journey.

The Council position is 'partial' because it excludes financial and horizontal issues, which are currently being discussed as part of the overall negotiations on the next MFF covering the period 2028 to 2034, as well as the elements linked to upcoming legislative initiatives regarding European Institute of innovation and technology (EIT) that would conclude the Horizon Europe (2028-2034) package. The provisional agreement refers to the two legislative proposals of the Horizon Europe package: the Regulation establishing the framework programme, as well as its rules for participation and dissemination, and the Council decision establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe.

Research and innovation are among Europe's greatest strategic assets. By investing in scientific excellence and turning breakthrough research into innovative products, technologies and industries, we strengthen Europe's competitiveness, resilience and strategic autonomy. The Cyprus presidency delivered on Horizon Europe with this ambition, reinforcing its role as key instrument for securing Europe's place at the forefront of global innovation and translating knowledge into tangible benefits for our economy, society and security.

Main elements of the Council position

The Council position reflects a balanced compromise across all major components of the framework programme. It reinforces the member states' involvement in Horizon Europe's strategic priority-setting, clarifies the close links with ECF as well as introduces improvements and additional assurances related to European Partnerships, research security, and support for innovation, including for dual use and defence applications. It also strengthens horizontal principles like gender equality, simplification measures for the benefit of the beneficiaries, as well as broad and diversified collaboration throughout the Union

A more coherent four pillar structure

The Council position introduces improvements in different elements of the four pillars of Horizon Europe, notably strengthening the Council and member states' strategic role. Within Pillar I (Excellent Science), adjustments are made to the governance of the European Research Council and a focus on early-career researchers is added; Pillar II (Competitiveness and Society) provides further details on the 'society' component and maintains the balance between bottom-up research and policy priorities. A clear process is foreseen for the member states involvement in the priority setting of the entire pillar, most notably the European partnerships; Pillar III (Innovation) expands the European Innovation Council's role, allowing for support of deep-tech innovation—including limited support to defence applications. Finally on Pillar IV (European Research Area) the agreement grants the Council a more prominent role in co-defining infrastructure support areas and further develops the framework for widening measures.

Governance and priority setting model

The governance model proposed by the Council's position significantly enhances the Council and Member States' role in shaping the strategic direction of Horizon Europe. Careful consideration has been given to ensuring coherence between Horizon Europe and the European Competitiveness Fund, particularly related to the collaborative research and innovation component, while preserving Horizon Europe's self-standing and excellence-driven nature.

Clearer and stronger European partnerships

The Council position clarified and strengthened provisions regarding European partnerships between the Union and public and/or private partners—such as industry associations, member states, universities, and foundations—to address European and global challenges, as well as to boost EU's competitiveness. The Council and its advisory bodies will have a stronger role in identifying priority areas and shaping the strategic direction of partnerships. A stronger lifecycle approach covering the partnerships' creation, monitoring, evaluation and phasing-out is proposed, while improving coherence with other Union programmes.

Simplification measures through clearer rules of participation

To support simplification, the Council's position clarifies eligibility and proposal evaluation rules, making participation in Horizon Europe more transparent and streamlined. Evaluation and implementation procedures aim to improve access, openness, and the impact of Union funding. Key measures include simplified cost options for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), broader use of lump-sum funding, and reduced reporting requirements to lower the administrative burden and risk of errors. The text also simplifies the reimbursement of personnel costs through the use of personnel unit costs, helping participants reduce complexity and facilitate reporting.

Research security and innovation for dual-use projects and defence

The Council position establishes a robust and dedicated framework for identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks associated with research and innovation activities. It clarifies participation restrictions and safeguards through a risk-based and proportionate approach, thereby addressing security concerns while maintaining the openness of research and innovation to the greatest extent possible. Consistent with the Research Security approach and the need to

preserve the predominantly civilian orientation of Horizon Europe, support under Pillar II for dual-use applications will be integrated by design from the outset. In addition, enhanced checks and balances are introduced for European innovation council's support to dual-use and defence-related applications. Taken together, these measures ensure a robust, secure, and transparent framework for supporting critical, dual-use, and defence-related research and innovation activities.

A progress-oriented widening approach

The Council position promotes sustained research and innovation convergence, building on the progress of widening countries (member states that lag behind in research and innovation performance) and transition countries (those catching up to exit the widening status). It sustains current widening instruments and allows for new measures to support the advancement of these member states. These provisions are part of the broader package balance, linked closely to ongoing negotiations on the wider Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

Next steps

The partial negotiating position serves as the Council's mandate to begin discussions with the European Parliament on Horizon Europe. The decision on the programme's budget for 2028-2034 will depend on the final agreement on the next MFF.

Statement of the Guild: The Council's Partial General Approach: much to be welcomed, but key concerns remain (26 June 2026)

Source: Website The Guild https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/statements/the-guild_reaction-to-the-pga-on-horizon-eu_june2026.pdf

The Guild welcomes the adoption of the Council's Partial General Approach (PGA) for FP10, marking a significant milestone toward finalising the FP10 regulation and specific programme.

We applaud improvements that reinforce FP10's focus on excellent research and innovation, including the limitations of activities up to TRL 8 and the removal of actions better suited to the ECF.

We also welcome strengthened support for the autonomy of the European Research Council (ERC), the decision to make all legal entities globally eligible by default, and the introduction of long-requested bottom-up collaborative instruments.

Despite this progress, several concerns remain. The Council has not sufficiently addressed the tight connection between FP10 and the ECF, proposed by the Commission. The joint priority-setting proposal of the Council for the ECF and FP10's Pillar 2 falls short on providing a role to experts on state-of-the-art and emerging technologies. We call on the EU institutions to agree on connections between the ECF and FP10 that are more fit for purpose, including by removing the EU preference rules and accelerated and targeted actions from the ECF rules applicable to FP10.

We reiterate the importance of preserving **FP10 as a civilian programme**. Furthermore, we find the cap on the EIC's funding for defence technologies to be insufficient and argue that defence-related development should instead be funded through the ECF.

We further caution against using FP10 to finance the construction of large research and technology infrastructure, as more suitable EU instruments already exist. Any cap on Pillar 4 funding should be low to avoid diverting resources from smaller infrastructures that researchers rely on daily.

The Guild remains committed to engaging with the EU institutions, including the Council to ensure that FP10 launches on 1 January 2028 as an ambitious, excellence-driven programme that strengthens Europe's scientific leadership, competitiveness, resilience and prosperity.

Jan Palmowski, Secretary-General of The Guild, said: *'With the PGA the Council sends a message of unity, because discussions between the Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission on the FP10 (and the related ECF) regulations must begin this autumn. But while we welcome a number of proposed amendments, key concerns remain, not least around the proposed relationship between the ECF and FP10. Member states of course must frame the overall goals of both programmes, but they cannot involve themselves in the details of how these programmes work – that must be left to experts, those who understand best how to maximise their impact!'*

Read full statement here: [the-guild_reaction-to-the-pga-on-horizon-eu_june2026.pdf](https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/statements/the-guild_reaction-to-the-pga-on-horizon-eu_june2026.pdf)

Germany and the UK can advance an ambitious European science agenda (25 June 2026)

Source: Website Russell Group [Germany and the UK can advance an ambitious European science agenda](#) | Russell Group

Russell Group and German U15 argue Europe's future research strength depends on keeping Horizon Europe open to trusted partners



10 years on from the Brexit vote, leading universities in Germany and the UK today called on EU leaders to preserve the openness of Horizon Europe and ensure UK researchers can continue to strengthen Europe's research excellence and competitiveness.

In a joint article [published today in German newspaper *Die Zeit*](#), Russell Group Chair Professor Chris Day and Professor Michael Hoch, Chair of the German U15 argued Europe's future research strength depends on keeping the flagship EU R&D funding programme open to trusted partners.

This intervention comes on the final day of a policy symposium bringing universities from Germany and the UK, as well as other countries, together with policymakers and industry leaders. Organised by the German U15 together with the Russell Group and the Volkswagen Foundation, the [International Science & Policy Symposium 2026](#) has provided a forum for higher education leaders to discuss the role of European research and mobility funding in a changing global science system.

The full text of the joint article in *Die Zeit* can be read here: [Wissenschaft in Europa: Unsere Universitäten machen Europa stark! | DIE ZEIT](#)

Other International funding

EIT invests €70 million to boost innovation skills in universities and deepen cooperation with the European Universities alliances (8 July 2026)

Source: Website EIT [EIT invests €70 million to boost innovation skills in universities and deepen cooperation with the European Universities alliances](#) | EIT



The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) has selected 35 projects to receive €70 million in funding to help higher education institutions (HEIs) across Europe turn research into innovation, strengthen entrepreneurship education and deepen collaboration with businesses.

Awarded through the 2025 EIT Higher Education Initiative's Call for Proposals, the funding will support 552 organisations from 49 countries, including universities, businesses, research centres and public authorities. This investment will equip Europe's future innovators with the skills needed to launch startups, bring new technologies to market and strengthen Europe's competitiveness.

Supporting Europe's innovation agenda

Contributing to the EU's Startup and Scaleup Strategy, the Union of Skills and its STEM Education Strategic Plan, the EIT has committed to training 200 000 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students and staff in innovation, entrepreneurship and intellectual property management by 2028. For the first time, this call also strengthens cooperation between the EIT's Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) and the [European Universities alliances](#).

Record demand for the latest call

A record 138 consortia, representing 1 865 organisations, applied to the latest call, highlighting growing demand for innovation capacity building in higher education. Nearly half of all European Universities alliances submitted proposals, underlining their increasing focus on entrepreneurship and innovation.

The call comprised two strands. The first supports entrepreneurship and innovation capacity in STEM disciplines. The second supports long-term cooperation between the EIT's KICs and the European Universities alliances supported under Erasmus+.

Each alliance will work with its assigned KIC in areas of shared interest, with activities developed jointly based on the priorities and strengths of both partners. The aim is to strengthen innovation and entrepreneurship across each alliance. Of the 35 selected projects, 18 will focus on the first strand and 17 on the second.

Broad participation across Europe

In total, 351 organisations will participate as full project partners, including 218 HEIs, 76 businesses and 57 other organisations, such as research centres, public authorities and intermediary organisations. A further 201 organisations will participate as associated partners. Since 2021, the initiative has reached 622 HEIs.

The 35 selected projects bring together partner organisations from 49 countries. Italy has the highest number of participating organisations (51), followed by Germany (48), Spain (43), Greece (34), and France and Portugal (30 each). A full list of the selected projects, including participating organisations, countries, budgets, project summaries can be found [here](#), while an interactive map is available [here](#).

SME stars will be born (7 July 2026)

Source: Website [Eurostars Call 11 for projects - deadline September 2026 - Eureka Network](#)

Are you an **SME** with a cutting-edge **research and development project idea** and growing relationships with **international partners** you could cooperate with?

A new **Eurostars call for projects** (Eurostars call 11) opens this month, with a **deadline** on **10 September** at **14:00 CEST**.

Eurostars is a **competitive funding programme** for organisations in **37 countries** that champions **innovative SMEs**. Take advantage of available **advice** from your **national/regional ministry or funding agency, guidelines** and **information webinars** to create a stand-out application.

In our most recent call for projects, we were able to support **110 new innovative projects** involving **328 organisations** – **248** of which were **SMEs** – across **28 countries**. Ready an application to join the next cohort.

For more information: [Eurostars Call 11 for projects - deadline September 2026 - Eureka Network](#)

Researching with Taiwan (7 July 2026)

Source: Website [Globalstars call with Taiwan 2026 - Eureka Network](#)

Is your **research** or **business partner** in **Taiwan**?

A **Globalstars** call for **international R&D projects** is supporting organisations in **Austria, Finland, the Netherlands** and **Sweden** seeking to build relationships with **Taiwanese** counterparts.

This call, in cooperation with the [Department of Industrial Technology \(DoIT\)](#), has a deadline on **15 September**. Now is the moment to start developing your **project idea**

For more information: [Globalstars call with Taiwan 2026 - Eureka Network](#)

Ten Senior Experts in global food security receive funding for collaboration with CGIAR (2 July 2026)

Source: Website [NWO News Ten Senior Experts in global food security receive funding for collaboration with CGIAR | NWO](#)



As part of the second round of the NL-CGIAR Senior Expert Programme II, ten experienced researchers affiliated with Dutch research institutions will be able to launch or expand their collaboration with CGIAR, the world's largest global organisation for agricultural research. They will contribute, for instance, to CGIAR's digital transformation agenda for sustainable and inclusive cocoa production and to innovative data collection on nutrition. Many of the Senior Experts' assignments also pay attention to social dynamics and agro-ecological contexts.

The Senior Expert Programme aims to promote knowledge and strengthen innovation in the field of global food and nutrition security. It does this by reimbursing part of the Senior Experts' staff costs. This enables CGIAR to draw on Dutch knowledge and expertise, whilst, conversely, Dutch research institutions can make use of CGIAR's expertise, research facilities and networks. The programme forms part of the partnership between the Dutch government and CGIAR.

Specifically, the Senior Experts will make scientific and strategic contributions to the CGIAR Science Programs 'Climate Action', 'Policy Innovation', 'Scaling for Impact' and 'Food Frontiers and Security', as well as the CGIAR Accelerators 'Capacity Sharing', 'Digital Transformation' and 'Gender Equality and Inclusion'. The funded experts.

The following 7 senior WUR experts are funded:

- Senior Expert on the 4iDs; Digital Data for intake and Diet Dynamics - **dr. Elise F. Talsma (Wageningen University)**
- Senior expert on efficient, inclusive and sustainable value chains - **prof. dr. ir. Erwin H. Bulte (Wageningen University & Research)**
- Senior Expert on Water Cycle System Integration for Policy Innovations - **prof. dr. ir. Petra J.G.J. Hellegers (Wageningen University, Department of Environmental Sciences (WU-DES))**
- Senior Expert on Digital Transformation in Perennial Crops and Sustainable Farming - **dr. Arun Pratihast (Stichting Wageningen Research (WUR))**
- Senior Expert on: Food System Governance, Trade and Policy Innovation - **dr. Ellen M. Mangnus (Wageningen University)**
- Senior Expert on peri-urban food systems: governance diagnostics and decision-window actions - **dr. Diego Valbuena (Wageningen University, Department of Environmental Sciences)**
- Senior Expert on Implementation Knowledge and Skills for Scaling Sustainable Innovations - **dr. ir. Harro Maat (Wageningen University and Research)**

For overview of all the funded experts: [Ten Senior Experts in global food security receive funding for collaboration with CGIAR | NWO](#)

The first Joint Transnational Call 2026 of the Raw Materials Partnership (RAMP) is open (29 June 2026)

Source: Website RAMP <https://ramprawmaterials.eu/call/ramp-joint-call-2026>

The first Joint Transnational Call 2026 of the Raw Materials Partnership is open for transnational research and innovation projects across the raw materials value chain. The call will support projects that contribute to sustainable and resilient systems for the green and digital transition.

37 funders from 25 countries are participating in the first Joint Transnational Call 2026 of RAMP, the European Partnership on Raw Materials under Horizon Europe. Altogether, their national and regional commitments amount to almost 40 million euros, dedicated to support transnational research and innovation projects across the raw materials value chain.

RAMP expects proposals which focus on improving access to raw materials while promoting circular economy practices, achieving sustainability, and minimising social and environmental costs. They should add value, innovate and contribute to industrial development. Proposals are encouraged to connect the different steps of the supply chain, bridge multiple disciplines, engage with stakeholders and situate themselves in the relevant policy context.

The thematic scope of the Joint Transnational Call draws on [RAMP's Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#) and includes primary and secondary supply, design and production, and the use and reuse of products and components.

Call overview

The Joint Transnational Call 2026 is organised as a two-stage application process with centralised evaluation:

- **Stage 1 — pre-proposal:** Applicants submit a pre-proposal which undergoes eligibility checks and is evaluated by a panel of international experts. The selection of pre-proposals invited to proceed to Stage 2 is based on the results of the centralised evaluation and the budget availability of the involved funders.
- **Stage 2 — full proposal:** Only the consortia which are invited to stage 2 will be allowed to submit a detailed full proposal. These undergo again eligibility checks and central evaluation, as well as a review by RAMP's ethics advisory board. The final funding decisions are based on the evaluation results, within the limit of the available budget.

The call covers the following six thematic areas across the raw materials value chain:

1. Ensuring a resilient supply of raw materials from primary sources.
2. Targeting secondary sources to enhance access to raw materials.
3. Efficient and effective use of raw materials in design and production.
4. Overcoming technological barriers to circularity.
5. Putting circular economy ambitions into action.
6. Innovative approaches for analysing raw materials value chains.

For more information about thematic scope: <https://ramprawmaterials.eu/call/ramp-joint-call-2026>

Each project partner receives funding (including EU co-funding) directly from their respective national or regional funder in accordance with national or regional rules. **Note PJ: NWO is the Dutch national funder for this call**
Since rules and procedures may vary by country and funder, all applicants are strongly advised to contact their national contact point (see Call Text Annex 1) before preparing a proposal.

Key dates and timeline

- **Call launch:** 23 June 2026
- **International information webinar:** 2 July 2026
- **Pre-proposal deadline:** 22 September 2026 (15:00 CEST)
- **Stage 1 results:** Mid-December 2026
- **Invitation to stage 2:** Late December 2026
- **Full proposal deadline:** 15 February 2027 (15:00 CET)

For more background information and the templates

RAMP Joint Transnational Call Text 2026:

https://ramprawmaterials.eu/uploads/assets/RAMP_JTC_2026_Call_Text_V1_3_6033b206d5.pdf

Pre-proposal Technical Description Template:

[call_2026_pre_proposal_template_technical_description_37b4bb13e2.docx](#)

Pre-proposal CV Template: [call_2026_pre_proposal_template_technical_description_37b4bb13e2.docx](#)

National funding

Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 (9 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO news <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-impact-explorer-2026>



NWO is expected to open the Impact Explorer 2026 call this October. Following the success of the previous round, NWO has increased the budget in order to give more researchers the opportunity to submit a proposal. With Impact Explorer, researchers with an already existing grant are able to get a top-up to explore the societal impact of an unexpected research result or application.

From curiosity-driven research can come unexpected results or applications that can have an impact on society. As these results or applications were not anticipated in the project description, there is no possibility to pursue them further within that project. To investigate the potential impact anyway, NWO developed the programme Impact Explorer. The Impact Explorer is part of the [Innovation Accelerator](#).

For whom

Proposals can only be submitted by researchers **with an ongoing project from a Talent Programme (Veni, Vidi or Vici) of NWO or ZonMw and/or researchers with an ongoing project from the Open Competition programmes of NWO or ZonMw**. The Open Competition programmes include the Open Competition SSH-XS, -M and -L, the Open Competition Domain Science-XS, -M and -XL, the Open Technology Programme, the ZonMw Open Competition and the ENW Open Competition Science Small and Large. The proposal within the call Impact Explorer stems from this ongoing research project.

Budget

Each proposal can apply for a minimum of 20,000 and a maximum of 35,000 euro. The grant ceiling of this call is 1,450,000 euro.

Deadlines

Proposals can be submitted continuously, or until the grant ceiling is reached. At different collection moments, proposals will be retrieved for evaluation:

- Tuesday 3 November 2026, before 14:00:00 CET
- Tuesday 15 December 2026, before 14:00:00 CET
- Tuesday 2 February 2027, before 14:00:00 CET
- Tuesday 16 March 2027, before 14:00:00 CET
- Tuesday 4 May 2027, before 14:00:00 CEST
- Tuesday 15 June 2027, before 14:00:00 CEST
- Tuesday 10 August 2027, before 14:00:00 CEST
- Tuesday 5 October 2027, before 14:00:00 CEST (also the deadline for closing the grant round)

Disclaimer

This is an announcement of a proposed NWO research programme only. The opportunity to apply for funding is open after publication of a Call for proposals in the Staatscourant (Government Gazette).

New National Knowledge Security Guidelines (Nationale Leidraad Kennisveiligheid) (9 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [New National Knowledge Security Guidelines \(Nationale Leidraad Kennisveiligheid\) | NWO](#)



The new National Knowledge Security Guidelines have been published today. The 2022 guidelines have been updated and supplemented with practical guidance. They help knowledge institutions to further strengthen their own knowledge security policies. The revision was developed in close collaboration between the central government and the knowledge sector. Researchers, administrators and policymakers use the practical checklists and suggested procedures set out in the guidelines to carefully assess the risks associated with, for example, international research collaborations. The underlying principle is that knowledge security is a shared responsibility between the knowledge sector and the government.

International cooperation is indispensable for scientific research, innovation and the social progress that results from them. At the same time, changing geopolitical relations and increasing security risks present new challenges, making the protection of knowledge, technology and individuals increasingly important.

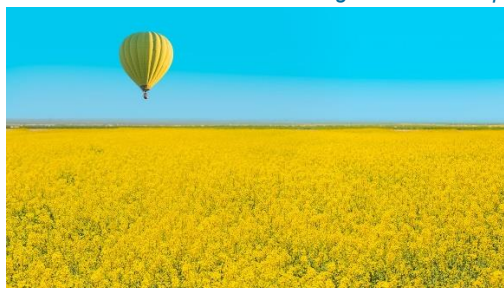
In recent years, knowledge security has become increasingly firmly established within the Dutch knowledge sector. Knowledge institutions and central government have made significant progress in this area together, as demonstrated by the recently published sector report on Knowledge Security . At the same time, current risks and geopolitical developments necessitate a sustained commitment to knowledge security and risk awareness.

The revised guidelines include, amongst other things, an updated threat assessment, a more precise definition of knowledge security, and greater attention to the tension that can sometimes arise between knowledge security and core academic values. The guidelines also provide more detailed guidance on governance, human resources policy, risk assessments and the careful handling of issues such as funding, data ownership and international partnerships. The guidelines support researchers and administrators in the practical decisions they have to make on a daily basis in their work. To this end, the document provides practical checklists and a suggested approach for carefully assessing risks. Many knowledge institutions are incorporating the guidelines into their own knowledge security policies.

Read full article here: [New National Knowledge Security Guidelines \(Nationale Leidraad Kennisveiligheid\) | NWO](#)

56 grants for the Open Competition Domain Science-XS package 26-2 (8 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [56 grants for the Open Competition Domain Science-XS package 26-2 | NWO](#)



The topics range from developing an energy-efficient, brain-inspired computer chip that makes AI more efficient to developing a safe treatment that selectively destroys liver cancer cells without damaging surrounding blood vessels and nerves, and to research into how seed aging reduces germination capacity and whether methionine supplementation can extend seed lifespan.

Funding is also being provided for research to develop a human stem cell-based system that models the female brain throughout the menstrual cycle, capturing hormonal fluctuations at the molecular level. This diversity of projects reflects the breadth of the research being funded in this round. A total of 2.8 million euros has been allocated.

Open Competition Domain Science – XS

The Open Competition Domain Science – XS grants of a maximum of € 50,000 are intended to support promising ideas and to facilitate innovative and more speculative initiatives within the seven Domain Science disciplines. The proposed research is ground-breaking and high-risk. What counts is that all results, be they positive or negative, must contribute to the advancement of science.

Researchers with a promising idea or an innovative and risky initiative can submit applications within the Open Competition ENW-XS 2026 call. The call has three deadlines in 2026, **the third and last is on 15 September 2026 at 14:00 CEST**. All information about the call can be found on **the funding page**: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-xs-package-26-2>

For WUR researchers received a grant

BENI: Bacterial Engineering for Nitrification Inhibition: *Dr E. Asin Garcia (Wageningen University & Research)*

Every molecule deserves a CPuORF: engineering CPuORFs as programmable biosensors: *Dr S.W. van der Horst (Wageningen University & Research)*

SWITCH: Stimulating Wasp Instincts To Control Hosts: *Dr B.A. Pannebakker (Wageningen University & Research)*

Timed to survive: a new regulatory layer in seed desiccation tolerance: *Dr M.A. Silva Artur (Wageningen University & Research)*

For more information about the approved applications: [56 grants for the Open Competition Domain Science-XS package 26-2 | NWO](#)

Six projects started in Impact Explorer 2025 (8 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Six 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. Six projects are now receiving a small top-up to further investigate unexpected discoveries. In total almost 180,000 euros has been granted.

About this call

The grant is intended for activities to explore the potential societal impact of unexpected discoveries or applications 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. **A new round of Impact Explorer is expected to open in October 2026.**

For overview of funded projects: [Six projects started in Impact Explorer 2025 | NWO](#)

Sixteen innovative research projects awarded through Open Competition Domain Science-M programme (8 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Sixteen innovative research projects awarded through Open Competition Domain Science-M programme | NWO](#)



The NWO Science Board has approved sixteen grant applications in the Open Competition Domain Science-M programme. The topics vary from research into catalysts with a lower environmental impact, the use of the language of discrete mathematics to address contemporary issues, and research into the use of large marine animals in coastal management. M-grants are intended for innovative, high-quality, fundamental research and/or studies involving matters of scientific urgency.

Two of the awarded projects are led by WUR

- Seafloor Sensing Sentinels: Using Behavioural Bioindicators of large animals to monitor underwater ecosystems **Dr Marjolijn Christianen (WUR)**
- Altruism in bacteria? **Dr Johannes Hohlbein & Dr Raymond Staals (WUR/WUR)**

For overview of the sixteen granted projects: [Sixteen innovative research projects awarded through Open Competition Domain Science-M programme | NWO](#)

About the NWO Open Competition Domain Science-M

M-grants are intended for realising non-programmed, curiosity-driven scientific research with impact. There are four categories of M-grants:

- ENW-M-1: one scientific position
- ENW-M-1X: one ENW-M-1 application with an additional investment component
- ENW-M-1-Weave: Dutch main applicant with one or more co-applicants from Germany, Flanders Luxembourg (NWO as 'lead agency' and DFG, FWO or FNR as 'partner agency')
- ENW-M-2: Two scientific positions in collaboration.

All categories are evaluated in mutual competition.

In this M-round (package 25-2), a total of 75 grant applications were evaluated, of which 39 M-1 proposals, 6 M-1-Weave proposals, 6 M-1-X proposals and 24 M-2 proposals. The NWO Science Board decided to award eight M-1 proposals, one M-1X proposal and seven M-2 proposals.

First international researchers to come to the Netherlands via the Tulip Fund (7 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [First international researchers to come to the Netherlands via the Tulip Fund | NWO](#)



The Tulip Fund, set up in 2025 by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) and the Dutch Research Council (NWO), offers top international scientists the opportunity to continue their research in the Netherlands: on the one hand because scientists are on the move due to a worldwide growing pressure on academic freedom, on the other hand because their knowledge and expertise can provide a huge boost to the Netherlands' capacity for innovation. The first nominations from research institutions have been approved: 34 leading researchers will come to enrich and strengthen the Dutch research landscape, focusing on research topics of urgent importance to the Netherlands.

With a global race for knowledge and innovation, research talent is key. For it is scientists who provide the much-needed knowledge and solutions that help our society move forward. At the same time, academic freedom is under pressure in many parts of the world. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science therefore asked NWO to set up a new fund for leading scientists and talented researchers who would like to work in the Netherlands, and made 25 million euros available. NWO doubled that amount, bringing the total available funding to 50 million euros. Nominations could be submitted by various research organisations, such as universities, university medical centres and universities of applied sciences.

Access to new knowledge and international networks

Although the Tulip Fund, with its purpose to further strengthening both Dutch and European competitiveness, is intended for all scientists currently working outside the European Union, the fund holds great appeal for scientists from the US who would like to work in Europe because of the favourable academic climate: 29 of the 34 researchers come from or work in the US, for example at renowned institutions such as Harvard, Stanford, Columbia and Yale, and federal research institutes such as the National Cancer Institute. In most cases, these include both Americans and Europeans who wish to return. Other researchers work in countries including Israel, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Singapore. 'The arrival of these scientists is good news for the Netherlands,' said Minister Rianne Letschert of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. 'This really makes a difference. Every additional top scientist means access to new knowledge, networks and fresh perspectives for current researchers in our country. For example, in the fields of AI, quantum technology, vaccines and societal resilience. This strengthens our scientific community and makes us less dependent on other countries.'

Read full article here: [First international researchers to come to the Netherlands via the Tulip Fund | NWO](#)

Pre-announcement: new round of the Open Competition ENW-M (7 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Pre-announcement: new round of the Open Competition ENW-M | NWO](#)



On 18 August, NWO will open the new round of the Open Competition Domain Science-M. Under this funding scheme, researchers may submit research proposals, either individually or in collaboration, for unrestricted, curiosity-driven fundamental research addressing questions at the interface of earth sciences, astronomy, chemistry, computer science, life sciences, physics and mathematics.

Open Competition Domain Science-M funding provides researchers with the opportunity and freedom to initiate or strengthen excellent, challenging and innovative monodisciplinary, multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary lines of research. There are various categories of Open Competition Domain Science-M funding:

- ENW-M-1: One research post.
- ENW-M-1X: One ENW-M-1 application with an extension for an investment.
- ENW-M-1-Weave: A collaboration between a Dutch principal applicant and one or more co-applicants from Germany, Flanders or Luxembourg. This concerns Weave applications in which NWO is the lead agency. It is also possible to submit Weave applications in which NWO is the partner agency. **Further information:** [Weave: research funding for international collaboration | NWO](#)
- ENW-M-2: Two research posts in collaboration.

For further news on this call: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-m-2026/2027>

Opening and budget

The new round of the Open Competition Domain Science-M (2026–2027) will open on **18 August 2026**. A total of **45 million euros** in funding is available for projects assessed by NWO. In addition, **11 million euros** in funding is available for the allocation of projects by Dutch co-applicants that are assessed via the Weave principle by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), the Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) or the Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen (FWO).

20 Take-off projects awarded (7 July 2026)

Source: website NWO news [20 Take-off projects awarded](#) | NWO



Twenty projects have been awarded funding within the Take-off programme, nine of which are part of the continuous round of Take-off phase 1 Feasibility Studies and eleven are early-stage projects within the 2026 spring round of Take-off phase 2. The Take-off program gives researchers in phase 1 the opportunity to test the feasibility of commercializing their idea based on innovative research results. Proposals for Take-off phase 1 can be submitted continuously throughout the year and are processed in batches of twenty proposals. In phase 2, knowledge-based, innovative start-ups in the early stages of their development receive a loan to get their business off the ground. Proposals for Take-off phase 2 can be submitted at two rounds each year: the spring and autumn round.

Feasibility studies (phase 1)

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

MetaSafe is one of the project set to begin a feasibility study. They are developing an innovative metamaterial that makes battery-electric vehicles lighter and safer. As part of this project, the application for electric cars will be further developed, with the goal of creating safer, more sustainable, and more efficient vehicles.

SeaCreate is another project that starts a feasibility study. They are developing an eco-friendly spray that can enhance biodiversity in marine ecosystems. This project will further develop the large-scale application of the spray. The ultimate goal is to contribute to healthier and more resilient ocean ecosystems.

Loans for early-stage trajectories (phase 2)

In the Take-off phase 2 instrument, start-ups receive a loan to bring their business, based on research results from Dutch research organizations, to market. This loan gives them the opportunity to develop a proof of concept. The aim is that, at the end of this phase, entrepreneurs will be able to convince other private and public parties to invest. One of the projects set to begin an early-stage program is Flexsupp. Pelvic organ prolapse affects nearly half of women over 40, causing discomfort and reduced quality of life. This project develops an individually adjustable, patient-tailored pessary designed with input from patients and clinicians to improve comfort, reduce fittings, and support self-management.

Another project is Speaklee. This is a digital technology designed to help children with speech and language disorders. Currently, wait times for professional support for children are very long. As a result, there is a risk that children will fall behind or receive insufficient guidance and monitoring, which can lead to suboptimal treatment outcomes. This technology provides support to children during the wait time and, at the same time, helps address the shortage of therapists, ensuring that children receive guidance sooner and more consistently.

Two Feasibility studies (phase 1) of WUR are awarded

- Hydra Peck: Transforming the poultry sector, one peck at a time – **EngD S. Salma Rian, Wageningen University & Research (23406)**
- SeaCreate - Developing a sprayable coating that can be used to increase biodiversity in marine environments – **dr.ir. T.E. Thomas Kodger, Wageningen University & Research (23441)**

For overview of all awarded projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/take-off/grants-take-off/2026>

Nomination period for Spinoza and Stevin Prizes 2027 launched in Staatscourant (6 July 2026)

Source: Staatscourant 6 July 2026 <https://www.officielebekendmakingen.nl/stcrt-2026-23952.html> and <https://www.officielebekendmakingen.nl/stcrt-2026-23953.html>

NWO has published the calls for the NWO Spinoza and the NWO Stevin Prize for 2027.

The Spinoza Prize is the highest distinction in Dutch science. NWO awards the Spinoza Prize annually to researchers working in the Netherlands who, by international standards, belong to the very best scientists worldwide. The NWO Spinoza laureates conduct outstanding and groundbreaking research with a major impact and are an inspiration to early-career researchers.

The Stevin Prize is the highest distinction in science for a researcher in the Netherlands who has achieved exceptional success in the field of knowledge utilization for society.

Two Spinoza and two Stevin Prizes will be awarded in 2027. Each prize amounts to €1.5 million. This amount must be used for the benefit of science in the Netherlands.

Nominations for both prizes can be submitted up to and including 29 October 2026.

Candidates may only be nominated in a personal capacity by Rectors Magnifici and Chairs whom NWO invites for this purpose.

Six research projects awarded within the Open Technology Programme (6 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Six research projects awarded within the Open Technology Programme | NWO](#)



Six new promising research projects have been selected within the Open Technology Programme (OTP). With these grants, NWO is stimulating the development of new technologies that offer solutions to a wide range of social and scientific issues.

The funded projects combine scientific excellence with tangible impact. Thanks to OTP funding, top scientists are given the opportunity to turn their ideas into solutions that contribute to addressing various societal challenges.

Simulating structural responses of buildings

Hazards like flooding and land subsidence are becoming more frequent and severe, putting buildings at increasing risk. The project of dr. G. Giardina addresses a fundamental gap: the inability to simulate structural responses to these hazards due to their complexity, time-consuming manual processes and a lack of scalable tools. The project thus shifts from reactive disaster response to proactive risk reduction, ultimately improving safety in areas exposed to multiple hazards.

Developing MRI protocols

Quantitative MRI is a powerful imaging method that measures tumour features such as blood supply and cell density, which could help doctors tailor treatment to each patient. Despite encouraging research, these MRI techniques vary widely across scanner manufacturers and thus between and within hospitals, hindering their use in patient care. The project of dr. O.J. Gurney-Champion aims to solve this problem by developing standardized, vendor-neutral, community-supported MRI protocols.

For overview of all granted projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/six-research-projects-awarded-within-the-open-technology-programme>

Open Technology Programme

The Open Technology Programme provides funding for application-oriented technical-scientific research that is free and unfettered and unencumbered by disciplinary boundaries. The programme provides a low-threshold way for companies and other organisations to join scientific research that should lead to societal and/or scientific impact.

Economic transition: 25 projects launched with Knowledge-in-Action Grant (3 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Economic transition: 25 projects launched with Knowledge-in-Action Grant | NWO](#)



Twenty-five projects that are paving the way for an economy centered not on growth, but on well-being, ecology and justice, are getting underway thanks to the Knowledge-in-Action grant from the Dutch Climate Research Initiative (KIN).

What does an economy look like that is not purely focused on growth, but also contributes to well-being and a liveable planet? Within the 25 projects that have been awarded the 'Knowledge-in-Action' Grant 'Economic transition: the costs and benefits of (In)Action' by the KIN, researchers and practitioners are working together to address this. A maximum of €50,000 was available per application.

A key condition for funding was that academia and practitioners work together in a co-creative manner. The projects focus on themes such as 'A financial system without (monetary) growth', 'Dealing with loss, inaction and contraction' and 'New forms of entrepreneurship and ownership without shareholding'. Projects may be visual, design-based, entrepreneurial or, conversely, highly process-oriented, reflective or activist in nature. The aim is to pool the strengths of practitioners and researchers, with a shared ambition to accelerate the desired transition by jointly exploring interventions.

WUR involved in the following project

Cook & Care – Cooperative Entrepreneurship for an Inclusive Catering Market

W.H.A.M. van den Broek (Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Metropolitan Solutions (AMS)); **N. Zerouali** (Stichting Women on food); **J. Devis Clavijo** (Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Metropolitan Solutions (AMS)); **L.M. Leatemia** (Stichting Women on food); **dr. V.C. Materia** (Wageningen University & Research); **dr. W.J.J. Bijman** (Wageningen University & Research);

Which projects are getting underway? View an overview here <https://hetkin.nl/en/25-projects-award-economic-transition/> on the KIN website.

About the Dutch Climate Research Initiative (KIN)

The Dutch Climate Research Initiative (KIN) is the hub within NWO where the knowledge needed for climate transitions flows, from science to practice and vice versa. To this end, KIN breaks down existing barriers within the (scientific) system where necessary and fosters collaboration. This way knowledge is given the opportunity to really make a difference in accelerating transitions to a climate-neutral and climate-resilient future.

NWO magazine Onderzoek: Open about failure? Only over coffee (3 July 2026)

Source: website NWO News [NWO magazine Onderzoek: Open about failure? Only over coffee | NWO](#)



Science is all about trying, testing, adapting and starting again. But what if there isn't really any room for failure? In this edition of NWO's Onderzoek magazine, we explore what is lost when researchers are not allowed to 'fail'.

Trial and error are part and parcel of scientific research. Yet much of this process remains hidden from view. Researchers are under pressure to deliver results that advance their careers through publications, awards and breakthroughs. As a result, mistakes often go unacknowledged, journals shy away from negative or null results, and studies are rarely replicated. Can we 'fail successfully' in science? This summer edition explores 'failure' as a driver of scientific progress, as a sentiment within a culture of success, and how we personally deal with things that don't go according to plan.

Hidden away in a drawer

'We tend to publish our successes and leave unsuccessful research hidden away in a drawer. But other researchers can learn from failures too,' says Florencia Abinzano from the Eindhoven University of Technology. For months, she worked on research into cartilage repair, but she didn't find what she expected. Instead of leaving the results unpublished, she published them in the *Journal of Trial and Error*, which is dedicated to research yielding negative or null results. 'Scientists are afraid of failing,' she says. 'But that fear is misplaced. Science is about exploring the unknown, so some things will inevitably "fail".'

Read full article here: [NWO magazine Onderzoek: Open about failure? Only over coffee | NWO](#)

Download NWO magazine online here: [The art of failing | NWO](#)

Veni round 2026 now open for pre-proposals (1 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Veni round 2026 now open for pre-proposals | NWO](#)



Talented, creative and newly promoted researchers can now apply for a Veni grant. This funding instrument of the NWO Talent Programme offers person-specific funding. The funding amounts to a maximum of EUR 320,000.

Veni: brief overview

Veni is for researchers who have recently graduated. Researchers eligible for a Veni grant have academic qualities that clearly exceed what is usual. The Veni grant is intended to fund innovative scientific research and thereby give these researchers the opportunity to develop as independent researchers. The funding amounts to a maximum of €320,000.

Applications Who can apply

can be submitted by PhD researchers with permanent or temporary employment, from home or abroad. The 2026 Veni round is open to researchers with a PhD date after 1 January 2023 and before 1 September 2026.

Mandatory pre-proposal phase

Applicants must submit a pre-proposal to be considered for a Veni. In the pre-proposal the 'quality of the researcher' (100%) is assessed. If a positive decision follows the pre-proposal, the applicant is invited to submit a full application. If a negative decision follows the pre-proposal, the applicant cannot submit a full proposal. In the proposal the assessment is

based on the criteria 'Quality and innovative character of the research proposal' (75%) and the 'Scientific and/or societal impact' (25%).

Important dates

The planning for the 2026 Veni round is as follows:

- The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is 1 September 2026, by 14:00:00 CEST.
- The deadline for submitting full applications is 26 January 2026, before 14:00:00 CET.

Submission windows

The Veni round 2026 has several submission windows within NWO's four domains. Check the domain's funding page for the specification of the submission windows.

Domain's funding pages

- [Science Domain](#)
- [Applied and Engineering Sciences \(AES\)](#)
- [Health Research and Development \(ZonMw\)](#)
- [Social Sciences and Humanities \(SSH\)](#)

Read full article here: [Veni round 2026 now open for pre-proposals | NWO](#)

Take-off phase 2 autumn round 2026 open for proposals (1 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Take-off phase 2 autumn round 2026 open for proposals | NWO](#)



The 2026 autumn round of the Take-off call phase 2 Vroegefasetrajecten is now open for proposals. Through Take-off phase 2, NWO supports innovative business activity based on science, with funding from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate. Innovative starters can apply for funding for an early-stage programme to bring an innovative idea – based on research findings from Dutch knowledge institutions - to market. A maximum of €4,950,000 is available for this round, and it is expected that a maximum of 11 projects will be awarded funding.

Important details Take-off phase 2 Vroegefasetrajecten 2026 autumn round

- The pre-registration step is no longer part of the procedure, instead the full proposal is submitted straight away;
- The time for corrections if an application is administratively inadmissible, is 10 working days. This used to be 2 working days;
- The minimum qualification is an average total score of 4.0 and at least an average of 5.4 on each individual criterion;
- Be aware of the mandatory appendices, both in the application form (i.e. cashflow prognosis, feasibility study, knowledge transfer agreement) and those that must be submitted separately (i.e. SME test, KvK Business Register Extract, GEER declaration).

Information session 2026 autumn round Take-off phase 2

On Tuesday 25 August 2026 from 10:00 to 11:00 hrs, NWO organises an online information session about the 2026 autumn round of Take-off phase 2. You can register for this information session via the link below.

Take-off

The science-wide grant instrument Take-off stimulates entrepreneurship arising from Dutch knowledge institutions. Academic innovative starters, as well as innovative starters from universities of applied sciences and innovative starters building on knowledge from Applied Research Organisations (TO2) can use it to bring their innovative research results to the market. Take-off is one of the instruments for knowledge valorisation that NWO implements together with ZonMw. The programme consists of two phases aimed at different stages of innovation: feasibility studies and early-stage trajectories.

Unsung heroines and child interpreters: 51 projects launched in the SSH Open Competition L (30 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Unsung heroines and child interpreters: 51 projects launched in the SSH Open Competition L | NWO](#)



NWO has awarded funding of up to 800,000 euros to 51 research projects in the SSH Open Competition L. This will enable experienced researchers who obtained their PhD at least 15 years ago to pursue a promising idea or innovative initiative of their own choosing. In total, over 40 million euros has been made available in this round. The projects cover the entire spectrum of the SSH research field. For example, one project is investigating how women keep democracy alive in Eastern Europe in their daily lives. Another project centres on the question of who does and does not perceive discrimination. Research is also set to begin into the role of 'child interpreters' for children and their parents. Further research is being conducted into how the brains of blind and sighted people construct environments based on verbal descriptions. In addition, one project examines the aversion to taxation among the super-rich.

The following WUR projects were awarded

- **Why Here? Drivers of Marine Protection in the Coral Triangle:** *dr. A.L. Abatayo (F), Wageningen University & Research*
- **From scrolling to snacking: Algorithm-like food exposure and eating norms in early adolescence**
dr. E. van Kleef (F), Wageningen University & Research
- **Domination through Starvation: Hunger Politics and State of War on American Slave Plantations, 1776-1861** *dr. V.F. Müller (F), Wageningen University & Research*

View the funded projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh/granted-projects>

About the programme

The SSH Open Competition offers researchers the opportunity to conduct research into a topic of their own choosing, without any thematic restrictions. This research programme is intended for a broad group of researchers at various stages of their academic careers. The SSH Open Competition L is for researchers who obtained their PhD 15 years or more ago and is open every other year.

NWO broadens access to the SSH Open Competition

The SSH Open Competition remains an overarching programme with various instruments, and its nature remains unchanged. However, instead of three, SSH will offer two Open Competition variants to better meet the needs of the scientific community. The Open Competition XS will continue in its current form, but from 2027 it will also be open to researchers immediately after they have obtained their PhD. The most significant change is that the Open Competition M and L will be merged into one instrument, and that access to these will also be broadened.

The calls for proposals are expected to be published in mid-September 2026.

Consortium awarded €3.2 million for space-based vegetation research (30 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News



In the latest thematic round of the 'Use of Space Infrastructure for Earth Observation and Planetary Research' (GO) programme, €3,199,970 has been awarded to the ASCENT consortium project. The awarded project falls under the theme use of space infrastructure for vegetation with a focus on integration of multiple types of satellite data and in-situ data.

Vegetation is under increasing pressure from climate change, nitrogen deposition and changes in land use. As a result, ecosystems in the Netherlands and the rest of Europe are under threat. The ASCENT project will use advanced satellite technology to monitor how vegetation is changing and how ecosystems function.

The GO Programme

This call for proposals forms part of the GO Programme 'Use of space infrastructure for Earth observation and planetary research'. The overarching aim of the GO programme is to provide support to researchers working in the Netherlands in making substantial use of space infrastructure for the purpose of high-quality scientific research. Within this objective, the GO programme is open to scientific research in the fields of Earth observation and planets (and other objects) within our solar system.

The awarded project:

Advancing hyperSpectral imaging for Cross-scale Ecosystem fuNctioning and vegeTation research (ASCENT)

Main applicant: *Prof. dr. L. Kooistra (Wageningen University & Research)*

Vegetation is under increasing pressure from climate change, nitrogen deposition, and land use change, threatening ecosystems within the Netherlands and across Europe. The project ASCENT uses advanced satellite technology to monitor vegetation change and related ecosystem functioning. By combining hyperspectral satellite data, field measurements, and ecosystem models, we aim to monitor the state of ecosystems and understand impacts from disturbances. The research will improve our ability to track plant health across scales, from leaves to landscapes, and support better nature conservation and land management decisions.

Funding for 16 new PhD students in the humanities (30 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Funding for 16 new PhD students in the humanities | NWO](#)



Funding has been awarded to sixteen talented, up and coming researchers under the 2026 round of the PhDs in the Humanities programme.

The projects span a wide range of fields and topics, from colonisation and environmental discourse in ancient Greek literature to emotional language processing in everyday listening situations. Finally, one of the selected research projects will examine how film canons are formed.

About the programme

The PhDs in the Humanities programme serves to boost the influx and advancement of young talent in the humanities. The programme is funded by the Deans' Consultative Committee for Literature and the Humanities of the SSH Council and the NWO Social Sciences and Humanities domain. In total, EUR 5.4 million is disbursed for this funding round, including a 20% matching contribution from the institutions that submitted the awarded project proposals.

Following the recommendations of the assessment committee, the NWO Executive Board has selected the following projects.

For more information about the awarded projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/funding-for-16-new-phd-students-in-the-humanities>

Cabinet chooses for science; cuts reversed (26 June 2026)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid actueel nieuws [Kabinet kiest voor wetenschap; bezuinigingen teruggedraaid](#) | [Rijksoverheid.nl](#)

The Cabinet plans to allocate structurally additional funds for research and science. This is necessary to keep our country strong and prosperous and to be able to tackle major problems. This involves an amount rising to €428 million per year, for targeted strengthening of science across the full spectrum: from engineering to social sciences, from fundamental to applied research, and from universities to universities of applied sciences. This also reverses research cuts made by the previous Cabinet. The Council of Ministers decided this today, on the recommendation of Minister Letschert (Education, Culture and Science).

Letschert: *"With a global race for knowledge and innovation, major challenges in the fields of security, environment, and health, and war close at hand, I am glad that science exists. For it is scientists who provide much-needed new knowledge and solutions. Science stands at the foundation of every innovation we need for our happiness and prosperity. But we must strengthen science so that it remains leading and internationally competitive."*

Structural investment in proven solutions

The cabinet is reversing major cuts to university budgets and strengthening science across the board, while minimizing regulatory burden. Successful temporary reinforcements implemented by the Rutte IV cabinet are also being made permanent.

Focus on world-class research and European cooperation

One of the measures receiving increased funding is encouraging universities to focus their research more. For one university, this might mean specializing in research on digitization and AI, while for another, it might involve biotechnology or safety and resilience. In recent years, it has become clear that world-class research gets off the ground much better this way. An additional €132 million per year will be allocated for this. An additional €80 million per year will also be provided to scientists to help them even better secure European research grants, which already fund a great deal of crucial research in the Netherlands.

Practice-oriented research and Einstein Telescope

Extra funding will be allocated to major scientific infrastructure, such as a national supercomputer and the Einstein Telescope. These kinds of cutting-edge instruments are, first and foremost, indispensable for scientists to conduct high-quality research. But secondly, they attract innovation like a magnet, just like employment and regional revenue over the long term.

The Cabinet also intends to make structural additional investments in practice-oriented research at the HBO (€69 million per year) and research at the MBO (€17 million per year). This research is an important source of innovations that are directly applicable.

Security is also receiving extra attention. Therefore, educational institutions will receive additional funding in the coming years, totaling €80 million, to help them with knowledge security and strengthening their cyber resilience.

Spinoza and Stevin Prizes awarded to four groundbreaking researchers (26 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Spinoza and Stevin Prizes awarded to four groundbreaking researchers](#) | NWO



The recipients of the Spinoza and Stevin Prizes, the highest distinction in Dutch science, have been announced. **Hermen Overkleef and Karin Roelofs will receive this year's Spinoza Prize. The Stevin Prize will be awarded to Iris Sommer and Claes de Vreese. All four researchers will receive 1.5 million euros to spend on scientific research and activities related to knowledge utilisation.**

Academic excellence and societal impact

The researchers are receiving the prizes in recognition of their outstanding, groundbreaking and inspiring work. Both prizes focus on the quality of the researcher. While the Spinoza Prize primarily honours scientific work and fundamental issues, the Stevin Prize focuses on societal impact.

Spinoza Prize

The NWO Spinoza Prize is the highest award in Dutch academia. It honours researchers who, by international standards, rank among the very best in the world. Recipients of the NWO Spinoza Prize conduct outstanding and groundbreaking research with a broad impact.

Stevin Prize

The Stevin Prize is the highest award for researchers in the Netherlands who have achieved exceptional results in utilising knowledge for the benefit of society. Knowledge utilisation refers to the application of knowledge through productive interactions with a stakeholder group to create societal value, including economic value.

The selection process

Candidates are nominated by rectors and chairpersons of research institutions invited by NWO to do so. The committee consists of seventeen members and a chair, drawn from various countries and disciplines. Based on the nominations, they draw up a shortlist. Committee members then consult with international experts regarding each candidate. Partly on the basis of these consultations, the committee advised NWO this year to award the Spinoza and Stevin Prize to these four candidates.

Award ceremony

The four prizes will be presented at an award ceremony on 7 October 2026. During this event, the winners will discuss their research in more detail and explain how they intend to use the prize money.

For more information about the prize winners: [Spinoza and Stevin Prizes awarded to four groundbreaking researchers | NWO](#)

Invitation to sign open letter on NWO Open Competition changes (26 June 2026)

Source: Initiative Researchers Danny Broere and Robert de Vries (university Utrecht) and Website NWO changes Open Competition domain <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/changes-to-the-next-round-of-the-open-competition-domain-science-m>

We invite you to sign an open letter expressing concern about the recently announced changes to the NWO Open Competition (Domain Science–M), which introduce new eligibility restrictions and waiting periods linked to prior funding.

While intended to reduce application pressure, these measures risk limiting participation in the competition and restricting access based on funding history rather than the quality of research proposals.

The letter calls for:

- preservation of openness in the Open Competition
- evaluation based on scientific merit, not eligibility restrictions

- broader consultation with the Dutch research community

If you support this statement, you can:

 **Read the letter:**

<https://github.com/dbroere1/OpenCompetitionLetter/blob/main/Letter%20to%20NWO%20about%20open%20competition%20changes.pdf>

 **Sign here:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdxDEJJa88uSTbvXikOEKtk62U9um8BQSH_qQejFu1S5yq0A/viewform?usp=header

 **For more details on the NWO announcement:** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/changes-to-the-next-round-of-the-open-competition-domain-science-m>

We would greatly appreciate if you could also **forward this message to other researchers in the ENW domain** who may wish to sign.

See also https://www.linkedin.com/posts/dannybroere_robert-de-vries-and-i-thought-it-was-time-activity-7476372089915031555-jMZW/

Regional funding

Seed call for preventive health transitions – Building the future of Preventive Health (29 June 2026)

Source: Website EWUU [Seed call for preventive health transitions - Building the future of Preventive Health](#) - Institute 4 Preventive Health

New collaborations, new ideas, real impact. The Institute for Preventive Health is inviting EWUU researchers to submit innovative proposals through the i4PH Seed Call 2026. With up to €50,000 per project and a total budget of €200,000, this is a chance to turn your research idea into action. Apply by 16 October 2026.

At the EWUU – institute 4 Preventive Health (i4PH), we drive systemic transitions toward a fundamentally different approach to health and prevention. Lasting improvements in health and reductions in health inequalities require change across healthcare, public policy, living environments, technology, and society — so we work transdisciplinary, bringing together perspectives and sectors to accelerate transformative change toward healthier people, communities, and environments.

Quick access to all needed information

Full call text including Terms & Conditions: <https://preventivehealth.ewuu.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/398/2026/06/1.-i4PH-Seed-call-2026-Terms-Conditions-Final-June-9th.-docx.pdf>

Application Form: <https://preventivehealth.ewuu.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/398/2026/06/2.-i4PH-Seed-call-Application-form.docx>

Budget Sheet: <https://preventivehealth.ewuu.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/398/2026/06/3.-i4PH-Seed-call-Budget-template.xlsx>

About the Call

Our vision: a healthier Netherlands for all. We align with Health Holland's Knowledge and Innovation Agenda: +5 years of healthy lifespan for every Dutch citizen and –30% in health disparities by 2040. We aim to direct our research towards groups where we can achieve the most substantial improvement in health outcomes, especially people living in circumstances that make them vulnerable. We involve their experiences, priorities, and ideas when shaping research from the start. We focus on critical life stages while driving system-wide transitions in preventive health that are more inclusive, sustainable, and impactful.

Through this Seed Call we catalyse new collaborations and ideas that accelerate these transitions and strengthen future transdisciplinary funding consortia. We invite innovative, transdisciplinary proposals that contribute to one or more EWUU – i4PH Transition Pathways and align with our Research Themes.

Seed funding supports tangible outcomes — for example turning your project idea into a larger application (e.g. Horizon Europe, NWA), developing a white paper or literature review, organizing co-design workshops or building new collaborations with societal stakeholders, policymakers, healthcare organisations, or living-lab environments.

Timelines

Submission deadline	16 October 2026, 23:59 CET
Evaluation period	October–November 2026
Funding decisions communicated	December 2026
Project start date	From 1 January 2027

Please contact the programme team for support and matchmaking:

- TU/e: Dasha Alexeeva - d.v.alexeeva@tue.nl
- WUR: Martine van der Mast – martine.vandermast@wur.nl
- UU/UMCU: Tessa Scherphof - c.t.scherphof@uu.nl

For more information: <https://preventivehealth.ewuu.nl/2026/06/seed-call-for-preventive-health-transitions-building-the-future-of-preventive-health/>

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

JRC: research and innovation are the key to a competitive clean transition (7 July 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > JRC: onderzoek en innovatie zijn de sleutel tot een concurrerende schone transitie](#)

Research and innovation are indispensable to accelerate the clean transition and strengthen European competitiveness. This is stated by the Joint Research Centre (JRC), the Commission's scientific service, in a new study. The report warns that scientific breakthroughs too often stall before reaching the market and calls for stronger public-private partnerships to close that gap.



The commercialisation gap

According to the JRC [Harnessing the clean transition will be key to building a more competitive EU - Joint Research Centre](#), science and research drive the innovation that enables the transition, but breakthroughs too often fail to develop into market-ready products. To close this gap, public-private partnerships, funding, simpler regulation, and investments in skills are needed. This aligns directly with the discussions regarding the next framework programme and the role of partnerships therein.

EU Action Plan on Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence (7 July 2026)

Source: Website EC [EU Action Plan on Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

The European Commission has presented an Action Plan on Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence to support the safe and responsible use of AI while strengthening Europe's cybersecurity.



Artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming the cybersecurity landscape. AI can help detect vulnerabilities, prevent cyberattacks and strengthen the protection of critical infrastructure. At the same time, it can also be exploited by

malicious actors to automate attacks, identify weaknesses and carry out cyber operations at unprecedented speed and scale.

Building on the EU's existing legal framework on AI and cybersecurity, the Action Plan sets out a coordinated approach to help Member States, businesses and public authorities benefit from the opportunities offered by AI while addressing the new risks it creates. It focuses on **3 complementary objectives**:

1. Promoting the safe and responsible use of advanced AI
2. Reinforcing the EU's cybersecurity and resilience
3. Scaling up Europe's AI capabilities for cybersecurity

To promote the safe use of advanced AI, the Commission will strengthen Europe's capacity to evaluate AI models before they are placed on the EU market, in line with the [AI Act](#). It will also work with the [European Union Agency for Cybersecurity \(ENISA\)](#) to develop a European Blueprint for secure access to advanced AI systems for cybersecurity purposes and establish a secure testing platform to help organisations in critical sectors, such as energy, transport, health, finance and public administration, safely test and deploy AI solutions.

Download Action Plan on Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/redirection/document/130848>

Nature: Europe can grow into a scientific superpower (2 July 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 2 July 2026

Europe has the chance to establish itself as a third scientific superpower alongside the United States and China, especially now that the American research system is under pressure. Nature writes this in an analysis. A key asset is the expansion of Horizon Europe to include associated countries such as Canada, South Korea, Japan, and Australia. Opposite these opportunities stands a persistent innovation gap. Europe invests approximately 750 billion dollars annually in R&D, compared to over a trillion dollars in both the US and China.

Nature Article: [Europe as science superpower: what it will take to rival the US and China](#)

More than 200 biotech players call on EU to take action (2 July 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 2 July 2026

More than 200 European biotech companies, investment funds, and organizations are calling on European leaders to implement more efficient regulations for the life sciences sector. The signatories warn that Europe is losing ground to the United States and China. The EU attracts only 7 percent of global life sciences venture capital, compared to 63 percent for the US and 14 percent for China. According to the coalition, Europe possesses strong science and promising start-ups, but too often fails to grow them into large companies.

Open letter Invest Europe: [european-life-sciences-coalition-and-signatories-joint-open-letter-to-eu-leaders_june-2026.pdf](#)

Members of international coalition for science, research and innovation in Ukraine sign Gdansk declaration (2 July 2026)

Source: Website EC [Members of international coalition for science, research and innovation in Ukraine sign Gdansk declaration - Research and innovation](#)

On 26 June, the first-ever High-level Steering Committee of the International Coalition for Science, Research and Innovation in Ukraine signed the [Gdansk Declaration](#) during the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Poland.

The Declaration outlines a shared ambition to support Ukraine in increasing the research and development investment to 3% of the GDP following the end of Russia's full-scale war of aggression. This is in line with the European Research Area target. It also identifies a number of activities that Coalition members can implement to achieve this objective. The Declaration further provides a strategic framework for the Coalition's work to support Ukraine's modern and sustainable social and economic recovery.

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

"With the Gdansk Declaration, we have taken another step forward in making science, research and innovation pillars of Ukraine's recovery. It sets out a strategic plan guided by three priorities: strengthening R&I, reforming R&I, and

leveraging R&I for reconstruction. I welcome in particular the clear determination to integrate Ukraine in the European Research Area."

The Committee was co-chaired by Commissioner Zaharieva and Tetyana Berezhna, Deputy Prime Minister for Humanitarian Policy of Ukraine and Minister of Culture of Ukraine. It guided the work of the Coalition and enabled high-level dialogue on science, research and innovation in Ukraine.

The meeting, attended by representatives of 35 member organisations, also marked the official launch of the Communities of Interest under the Coalition. They will address specific science, research and innovation challenges in Ukraine.

Three Communities of Interest are already active, focusing on:

- research equipment donations to Ukraine
- engagement with Ukraine's scientific diaspora and the internationalisation of Ukrainian science
- and the use of research and innovation for local and regional development

Commissioner Zaharieva's broader engagement at the Ukraine Recovery Conference

Prior to participating in the High-level Steering Committee, Commissioner Zaharieva held several bilateral meetings with Ukrainian counterparts. She also participated in a panel on 'Recovery Under Attack: Safeguarding Trust, Media, and Transparency against Russia's Cognitive Warfare'. On this occasion, Commissioner Zaharieva highlighted the importance of countering disinformation as part of Ukraine's recovery process. She underlined that Russia's war did not begin with the invasion of Ukraine itself, but already years before with hybrid warfare and disinformation campaigns, spreading false narratives in Ukraine and the EU.

Background

The International Coalition for Science, Research and Innovation is a multi-stakeholder initiative aimed at making science, research and innovation pillars of Ukraine's modern and sustainable recovery, launched by the European Commission, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, UNESCO and the Ministry of Universities and Research of Italy. It was launched in 2025 on the occasion of the Ukraine Recovery Conference, in Rome, Italy. To date, the Coalition consists of 55 member organisations, including governments, non-governmental organisations and international organisations. The intent to implement the Coalition was set out in the [Rome Declaration for Science, Research and Innovation in Ukraine](#).

The Coalition pursues its aim by offering a platform to engage in dialogue on the urgent needs faced by Ukraine's research and innovation ecosystem and encourage the mobilisation of additional support, coordination and collaboration amongst the members of the Coalition. The Coalition meets at technical level three times between the high-level steering committee.

More information

[International Coalition for Science, Research and Innovation in Ukraine](#)
[Ukraine Recovery Conference | URC 2026 — Gdańsk, Poland](#)

How can Europe create better conditions for Knowledge Valorisation? (26 June 2026)

Source: Website ERA [INSPIRING ERA Policy Brief. Supporting the Uptake of ERA Policy Agenda Outcomes: Knowledge Valorisation - Inspiring Era](#)

Knowledge Valorisation is an important element of the European Research Area . Yet experiences from across Europe show that **turning research results into practical economic and societal value remains a complex challenge**.

Drawing on **24 interviews** conducted across **13 European countries**, the new INSPIRING ERA Policy Brief explores **how Knowledge Valorisation is implemented across Europe**. Taking a system-wide perspective, it looks at challenges, needs, and successful approaches at researcher, demand-side, institutional, national, and European level.

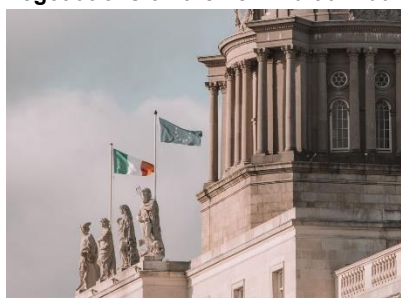
The findings show that successful Knowledge Valorisation depends on much more than individual projects. Stakeholders highlight the importance of **skills development, supportive institutional structures, intermediary organisations, stable funding, and practical implementation support**. At the same time, the brief showcases **examples and lessons learned from across Europe**, illustrating how Knowledge Valorisation can be strengthened across diverse research and innovation systems. Alongside these insights, the brief also provides **policy recommendations** for strengthening Knowledge Valorisation across the European Research Area.

Read the Policy Brief <https://www.inspiring-era.eu/resource/inspiring-era-policy-brief-supporting-the-uptake-of-era-policy-agenda-outcomes-knowledge-valorisation/> to explore the findings, recommendations, and practical experiences gathered from across Europe.

The Irish presidency comes at a crucial moment and links core values to the R&I agenda (25 June 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderwijs > Iers voorzitterschap komt op een cruciaal moment en koppelt kernwaarden aan O&I agenda](#)

Competitiveness, values, and security will be the central themes of the Irish presidency. Under the motto “Strength with unity,” the coming six months will focus on a competitive European economy and safeguarding democracy and the rule of law. Security and defense will also receive special attention. Concluding the negotiations on the new multiannual budget is one of the major challenges.



Competitiveness, European values, and security

Competitiveness, values, and security will be the central themes of the Irish Presidency, which starts on July 1. Under the motto “Strength with unity,” the European economy must become more competitive over the coming six months, and democracy and the rule of law must remain safeguarded. Security and defense will also receive extra attention.

Key role for research and innovation

The Presidency coincides with a crucial phase in the European policy and budget cycle. Therefore, the Irish want to accelerate negotiations on the next Framework Programme (FP10) and thus firmly anchor the role of research and innovation in a competitive, safe, and prosperous Europe. In addition, the Innovation Act must reach a further stage to strengthen European innovation capacity. Discussions on the European Research Area Act (ERA Act) must also begin. The ERA Act aims to ensure a fully functioning European Research Area that attracts and retains international talent and increases the impact of research.

Health for the Future of Europe

The upcoming Presidency also emphasizes the role of medical research and healthcare for European competitiveness and position on the global stage. In this context, negotiations on the Biotech Act I (both the Directive and the Regulation) must make progress. Additionally, work is underway on the implementation of the European Health Data Space to promote secure data usage, interoperability, and digital trust frameworks. This supports research, innovation, and the development of safe and effective AI in healthcare. Finally, the Irish pledge to pay more attention to women's health as part of proactive innovation in healthcare.

Education: lifelong learning, digitalisation and inclusion

Education and training play a central role in safeguarding European values and strengthening the European economy. The Irish Presidency intends to adopt Council conclusions on STEM education to support the green and digital transition, as well as on AI literacy skills and competencies for flexible and inclusive learning. In addition, there will be a package aimed at basic skills, strengthening digital skills, and the future of vocational education and training.

Events

Below is an overview of the planned meetings of the Irish Presidency related to research, innovation, and education. You can find all events **via this link** <https://irish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/events/?Types=&Topics=&Locations=&StartDate=2026-06-25&EndDate=2026-12-31&page=11>.

Informal meeting of Employment and Social Affairs Ministers	5 - 6 juli
4th European Universities Initiative Forum	10 juli
Informal meeting of Research and Innovation Ministers	20 - 21 juli
2026 Annual Conference of the European Society for Prevention Research on Innovation in Prevention to Support Health Equity	15 - 18 september
Competitiveness Council (Research)	25 september
Meeting of National Agencies of Erasmus+ Directors and National Agencies for Youth	28 september - 1 oktober
Inclusive Education - Shaping an Inclusive and Empowering Higher Education System	9 - 10 oktober
European Research Area and Innovation Committee	12 - 13 oktober
Unlocking Skills Mobility: The Role of European Transparency Tools to Drive the Skills Portability Initiative and Talent Mobility	12 - 14 oktober
AI in Science Summit 2026 (AIS26)	15 - 16 oktober
Informal meeting of Education Ministers (EYCS Education)	15 - 16 oktober
The Gathering - Impact of EU programmes and opportunities, including Erasmus+, the European Solidarity Corps	15 oktober
Meeting of Directors General for Vocational Education and Training	18 - 20 oktober
Meeting of Directors General for Higher Education	22 - 23 oktober
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Presidency Conference: Celebrating Mobility, Shaping Resilience	4 - 5 november
Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council (Education and Youth)	19 november
Competitiveness Council (Research and space)	4 december
Meeting of Education Attachés	9 - 11 december

New Breeding Techniques for Plants: DFG Welcomes European Parliament Approval of New Regulation (25 June 2026)

Source: Website Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft <https://www.dfg.de/en/service/press/press-releases/2026/press-release-no-20>

Decision strengthens European competitiveness and establishes the conditions for the development of more resilient, sustainably produced crops

The European Parliament has given its final approval in Brussels to a new legal framework for plants produced using new breeding techniques (new genomic techniques, NGTs). At second reading, Parliament adopted the regulation that were the subject of trilogue negotiations with the Member States and the European Commission in December 2025. The Council gave its final approval to the regulation in April 2026. The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) welcomes this step, having actively advocated at European level for a reform of legislation governing genetic engineering in recent years.

The adopted regulation provides for simplified rules concerning so-called NGT-1 plants that could also have been produced using conventional breeding methods. These plants will no longer have to comply with the strict authorisation and labelling requirements that will continue to apply to other plants produced using new breeding techniques (NGT-2). In future, the EU will assess plants more based on their characteristics than on the breeding method used.

"Following the initial political breakthrough in December 2025, when the Council and Parliament arrived at a provisional agreement, we hoped for swift approval by the EU institutions in the interests of science," said DFG President Prof. Dr. Katja Becker. "I'm delighted that this has now been achieved without further amendments. From mid-2028, when the regulation comes into force, researchers will now be able to conduct field trials much more easily, for example to improve plants' resilience to climate change and resistance to pests. This will mean that new breeding techniques can become one of the tools for securing stable and increasing yields while reducing the use of pesticides."

"In this way we can help safeguard food security, sustainability and adaptation to climate change in Europe," added Prof. Dr. Axel Brakhage, Chair of the DFG Senate Commission on Genetic Research. He reiterated: "From a scientific perspective, genome-edited plants whose genetic modifications could also have arisen naturally or through conventional breeding techniques do not pose any specific risks. In our view, they can be treated in the same way as conventionally bred varieties."

The classification of NGT-1 plants as adopted in the regulation reflects this scientific assessment, thereby overcoming the strictly process-based regulatory approach that has significantly restricted research and innovation to date. The newly adopted legal framework provides researchers and breeders in Germany and Europe with reliable prospects. It

facilitates field trials, strengthens competitiveness and establishes the conditions for developing more robust, sustainably produced crops that can contribute to the objectives of the EU's Vision for Agriculture and Food.

Further Information

For further information on the DFG Permanent Senate Commission on Genetic Research and its publications, see: www.dfg.de/sc_genetic_research

Global policy

WEF: Chinese innovation policy shifts focus to technology scaling (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 2 July 2026

Science: NSF frees up resources for X-Labs at the expense of fundamental research (2 July 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 2 July 2026

Incubation in Entrepreneurial Ecosystems | OECD. According to insiders, the unexpected cuts are intended to urgently free up funds for the so-called X-Labs: a new \$1.5 billion technology initiative. This program focuses on independent teams of researchers and entrepreneurs outside traditional university labs. Scientists fear that the intervention will come at the expense of long-term fundamental research and weaken the international competitiveness of American science.

Science Article: [Exclusive: NSF slashes research programs to support new tech initiative, insiders say | Science | AAAS](#)

OECD: Incubators transform into central links in innovative ecosystems (2 July 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 2 July 2026

While incubators initially focused primarily on supporting individual startups, they must now evolve into central links in entrepreneurial ecosystems. This is stated by the OECD in a new report. According to the researchers, governments can utilize incubators more effectively through a personal approach, including coaching, international support, and encouraging collaboration with investors and knowledge institutions. The report serves as a guide for policymakers in making choices regarding which sectors to support, with what resources, and in what way.

OECD Publication: [Incubation in Entrepreneurial Ecosystems | OECD](#)

National policy

Column: Do not let industrial policy be based on blind trust (2 July 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 2 July 2026

Regulation of industry is not an obstacle to prosperity, but a prerequisite. This is argued by PBL Director Marko Hekkert in a column in the economics journal ESB. He is responding, among other things, to the message from the Wennink report to reduce regulatory burden. Hekkert argues that prosperity encompasses more than production and income, but that subjects **such as nature quality and health must also be taken into account**. He states that regulation can play an important role in correcting market failures and stimulating innovation.

ESB Column: [Laat industriebeleid geen blind vertrouwen zijn - ESB](#) (in Dutch)

House of Representatives wants debate on National Agency for Disruptive Innovation (2 July 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 2 July 2026

The House of Representatives wants a plenary debate on the establishment and structure of the National Agency for Disruptive Innovation (NADI). This was decided last week during the scheduling of proceedings, partly in response to the open letter from investors, researchers, knowledge institutions, and companies. During the committee debate on innovation, Minister Herbert promised to send a letter shortly regarding the progress of NADI and the National Investment Institution. The Cabinet will make a decision on the more 'complex matters', such as the legal and financing structures, during the August decision-making process.

Report of plenary meeting: [Plenaire verslagen | Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal](#) (in Dutch)

Committee debate on Innovation: [Innovatie | Debat Direct](#) (in Dutch)

Open letter: <https://www.nadi.nl/open-brief> (in Dutch)

The Netherlands leads the way in Europe with Recognition & Appreciation (2 July 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 2 July 2026

The Netherlands is considered a frontrunner in the European reform of research evaluation, according to a study by the European Commission. The aim of the reform is to give less weight to publication numbers and citation scores in evaluations and to provide more room for other achievements, such as societal impact. The Dutch Recognition & Appreciation program is designated as an influential example for other countries. Elsewhere in Europe, the reform is progressing more slowly.

European Commission Press Release: [New study assesses progress in reforming research assessment - Research and innovation](#)

European Commission Publication: [Implementing research assessment reform - Publications Office of the EU](#)

Cabinet frees the Netherlands from the nitrogen deadlock: Solid package creates space again for farmers, nature, and construction (26 June 2026)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid [Kabinet haalt Nederland van het stikstofslot | Rijksoverheid.nl](#)

The Netherlands wants to move forward. That is why the Cabinet is presenting a package of measures to get the Netherlands moving again. So that farmers gain clarity, nature recovers, builders can build again, and we can grant permits once more. To achieve this, all sectors must deliver. The package consists of, among other things, targets at the farm level, a standard for a better balance between cows (manure) and land, additional measures in areas where nature is under the most pressure, and investments in nature restoration. The Cabinet is also introducing a legally defensible calculation floor as soon as possible. With these measures, the Cabinet is getting permit granting back on track, and farmers and entrepreneurs receive clarity and support for future-proof choices.

Minister Van Essen: *"The Netherlands has been stuck for too long: permits are being delayed, plans are facing setbacks, and farmers do not know where they stand. We are breaking through that deadlock today. With this coherent, ambitious package, we are once again creating space for farmers, construction, and nature. The changes ahead demand a great deal, certainly from farmers as well. That is why we are investing 20 billion euros to make the transition together, break the stagnation, and get the permit granting process moving again."*

Agriculture for the future

Entrepreneurs want to be in the driver's seat themselves. That is why the Cabinet is introducing standards that allow farmers to steer the reduction of nitrogen emissions themselves. For dairy farming, this standard is set at 0.164 kilograms of ammonia per phosphate right in 2035. For poultry, pig, and calf farming, the standards will follow in early 2027. The standard is based on what entrepreneurs can realistically achieve on their farms using the best available techniques, for example through adjustments to the barn or feed. This realizes a significant part of the agricultural challenge. The remaining part is addressed by reducing manure application, extensification, voluntary terminations, and the reduction of animal rights upon transfer outside the family.

The farm standards indicate how much emission is still permitted in 2035. Entrepreneurs who have already taken significant steps in recent years will see those efforts reflected in the standards. At the same time, farmers can count on substantial support to meet the standards. 2 billion is available for adjustments to barns and feed, among other things. To ensure a future-proof dairy farming sector, the Cabinet is also focusing on extensification by introducing a land-based standard of 2.6 livestock units per hectare, including scope for cooperation agreements with arable farmers. The Cabinet is carefully developing this measure, paying attention to spatial and societal consequences.

****Targeted approach regarding vulnerable nature****

Additional measures are being taken where nature needs them most. This concerns not only nitrogen, but also desiccation, nature fragmentation, and water quality. Because measures around vulnerable nature and water areas are most effective, the Cabinet is opting for a targeted approach in these areas. By specifically choosing measures near vulnerable nature areas, more can be done in large parts of the country. Therefore, zones are being established around these areas where additional measures apply.

It is expected that an additional zone will be required for approximately 100 nitrogen-sensitive nature areas. For about 15 of these areas, a zone of 1,000 meters applies, while for the other areas, a zone of 500 meters applies. A separate approach will be developed for major industrial polluters in the zones. An approach will be implemented in the zones to prevent, among other things, further deterioration of nature, water, and soil quality. There will remain scope for extensive agriculture in these areas.

The Cabinet is aware that this is a far-reaching measure. Therefore, we are working with the provinces on a support package for farmers. This package includes, among other things, the revaluation of agricultural land, a scheme for extensive farming operations, and support for the transition to organic farming. 9 billion is available for this purpose.

Nature restoration, with the involvement of all sectors

Nature is important to everyone, and only through nature restoration can the Netherlands be unlocked. That is why 2.2 billion euros is being invested in nature restoration and management. To ensure that land management organizations can quickly get to work scaling up and expanding existing management and restoration measures, we are already allocating 100 million euros in 2026 for the implementation of concrete projects. We will make clear agreements with other levels of government and land management organizations regarding implementation, results, and accountability.

Industry and mobility are also making a substantial contribution: a 50% nitrogen reduction by 2035. A significant part of this reduction will be achieved through climate and environmental policy, but the Cabinet has chosen to take an extra step in these sectors as well and allocate a total of 250 million euros for nitrogen measures. This concerns measures that contribute effectively to nitrogen reduction in Natura 2000 areas and that are quickly implementable. Such as a zoning approach for industry around vulnerable nature areas, cleaner construction and inland shipping, and a new opening of the Industrial Ammonia Emission Limitation scheme.

Supermarkets and other chain parties are also an indispensable link in the changes we are facing. Increased demand for organic products, among others, is essential for the success of the transition to organic farming. Farmers who wish to switch need confidence in a structural and significant increase in that demand. Therefore, firm agreements will be made with supermarkets and processors before April 1, 2027; if this is not achieved, statutory incentives will follow as of January 1, 2029. The central government is taking the lead in this by purchasing more organic and sustainable food.

Cabinet opts for science; cuts reversed (26 June 2026)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2026/06/26/kabinet-kiest-voor-wetenschap-bezuinigingen-teruggedraaid>

The Cabinet plans to allocate structural additional funds for research and science. This is necessary to keep our country strong and prosperous and to be able to tackle major problems. This involves an amount rising to €428 million per year, for targeted strengthening of science across the full spectrum. From engineering to social sciences, from fundamental to applied research, and from universities to universities of applied sciences. This also marks the end of research cuts made by the previous cabinet. The Council of Ministers decided this today, on the recommendation of Minister Letschert (Education, Culture and Science).

Letschert: *“With a global race for knowledge and innovation, major challenges in the fields of security, the environment, and health, and war close at hand, I am glad that science exists. For it is scientists who provide much-needed new knowledge and solutions. Science stands at the foundation of every innovation we need for our happiness and prosperity. But we must strengthen science so that it remains leading and internationally competitive.”*

Structural investment in proven solutions

The cabinet is reversing major cuts to university budgets and strengthening science across the board, with as little regulatory burden as possible. Successful temporary reinforcements from the Rutte IV cabinet are also being made permanent.

Focus on world-class research and European cooperation

One of the measures receiving increased funding is encouraging universities to focus their research more. For one university, this might mean specializing in research on digitalization and AI, while for another, it might focus on biotechnology or safety and resilience. In recent years, it has become clear that world-class research gets off the ground much better this way. An additional €132 million per year will be allocated for this. There will also be **an extra €80 million per year for scientists to help them even better secure European research grants (Note PJ: this is the follow up / successor of the current SEO Horizon Europe which provides a part of the co-funding gap)**, which already fund a great deal of crucial research in the Netherlands.

Read full article here: [Kabinet kiest voor wetenschap; bezuinigingen teruggedraaid | Rijksoverheid.nl](#) (in Dutch)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Call identifier	Deadline
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC	
ERC-2026-AdG	27 August 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Advanced Grant</i>)
ERC-2026-PoC	17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Proof of Concept Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-StG	Foreseen Deadline 14 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Starting Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-CoG	Foreseen Deadline 12 January 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Consolidator Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-AdG	Foreseen Deadline 26 August 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Advanced Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-PLUS	Foreseen Deadline 1 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Plus Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-SyG	Foreseen Deadline 11 May 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Synergy Grant</i>)
Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions	
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01	24 November 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01 Call - MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026</i>) - 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>) - HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01 - TMA Doctoral Networks - Industrial Doctorates - TMA Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01	9 November 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01 Call - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026</i>) - European Fellowships - Global Fellowships
HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01	8 September 2027 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01 Call - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2027</i>) - European Fellowships - Global Fellowships
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>) TMA-Cofund-Doctoral

	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-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-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-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-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-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-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-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>Cluster 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 two-stage	17 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED), 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 (HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-two-stage)
<u>Destination: Open Strategic Autonomy in Developing, Deploying and Using Global Space-Based Infrastructure, Services, Applications and Data</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-03 single stage	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 Foreseen deadline 2 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-03)
<u>Destination: Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-DATA-04)
<u>Destination: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING)
<u>Destination: Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN)
<u>CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility</u>	

<u>Destination</u> - Climate sciences and responses for the transformation towards climate neutrality	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-08-Two-Stage-D1-06:	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) (CLOSED) 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-CL5-2026-09-D2	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: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply</u>	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3	31 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) (CLOSED) 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
<u>Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes</u>	
<u>Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods</u>	
<u>CLUSTER 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment</u>	
<u>Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV single stage	17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV two-stage	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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</u>	

systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK two-stage	14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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-CL6-2026-01-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	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION single stage	17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-ZEROPOLLUTION two-stage	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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-CL6-2027-01-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)
<u>Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital</u>	

solutions in support of the Green Deal	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-04-GOVERNANCE-01: Additional activities for the European Partnership of Agriculture of Data	Foreseen opening: 25 August 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 26 November 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE two-stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) 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	
EIC Transition 2026	16 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Mission calls 2026-2026</u>	
CLIMATE MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA single stage	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	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	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	23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL-two-stage	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 2026; 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	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	24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01 Call - Teaming Synergies)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03: Hop-on Facility	24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03 Call - Hop on Facility)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05-WIDENING-01: ERA Fellowships	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-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 9 July 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. Submission deadline for pre-proposals: March 30 th , 2026 (CLOSED), 12:00 h (CEST) Deadline for full-proposals 16th September 2026, 12:00 CEST EUPAHW: Call 2 PP
European Partnership Biodiversa+ https://www.biodiversa.eu/	
European Partnership Water4All https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/	
European Partnership FutureFoods https://www.futurefoodspartner-ship.eu/	FutureFoodS hereby pre-announces the 2nd co-funded call for transnational research projects Second Joint Transnational Co-funded Call — FutureFoodS and FutureFoodS: Call2 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: ~ 11 February 2026 (CLOSED) Deadline for full-proposal submission: ~27 July 2026 (only by invitation)
European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartner-ship.eu/	Announcement 3 rd call AGROECOLOGY partnership 3rd co-funded call — Agroecology Partnership and Agroecology: Call3 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.
European partnership Agriculture of Data	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" 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).
European partnership Sustainable Blue Economy https://bluepartnership.eu/	
European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) https://dutpartnership.eu/	
European Partnership ERA4HEALTH ERA4Health The Partnership	
Joint Technology Initiatives	
Joint Programming Initiatives	
	• A healthy diet for a healthy life (HDHL): http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/ • Agriculture, food security and climate change (FACCE): http://www.faccejpi.com/ • Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR): http://www.jpiamr.eu/ • Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU): http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home • Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/ • More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (JPI MYBL): http://www.jp-demographic.eu/ • Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND): http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/ • Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions (Urban Europe): http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/ • Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI): http://www.waterjpi.eu/ • Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage): http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/

Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **9 July 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
07-12-2025 until 31-07-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission <u>proposals</u> for Weave with NWO as partner agency 2025/2026; NWO acts as partner agency when a Weave-proposal with Dutch co-applicant is submitted to the <u>Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)</u>, <u>Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR)</u> or the <u>Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)</u>. 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

10-09-2026	Deadline for applications of OECD co-operative Research Programme for Funding for <u>Research Fellow Grants 2027</u> . The Co-operative Research Programme's call for applications for funding research fellowship grants in 2027 is now OPEN. The deadline to apply is <u>Thursday 10 September 2026, midnight, Paris time</u> . https://www.oecd.org/en/about/programmes/co-operative-research-programme/crp-applications-for-fellowships.html
10-09-2026	Deadline of OECD Co-operative research Programme for <u>funding international events</u> (conference, workshop, symposium) . The Co-operative Research Programme's call for applications for funding international events (conference, workshop, symposium) in 2027 is now OPEN. The deadline to apply is <u>Thursday 10 September 2026, midnight, Paris time</u> . CRP Applications for Events (Conferences, Workshops and Symposiums) OECD
03-10-2026	Deadline for submission <u>Full Proposals in the portal of the NFRF Call '2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges'</u> 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 <u>Full proposals for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil</u> . 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 **9 July 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

15-09-2026	Deadline for submission <u>Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3</u> . 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 <u>Full proposals KIC - Early detection and impact forecasting of (threatening) infectious diseases outbreaks</u> . 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 <u>full applications for the 'NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine'</u> . 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 <u>proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2026 fall round</u> . 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
02-07-2026	Deadline submission <u>Full applications Venture Challenge Fall 2026</u> . Closing date full application 2 July 2026 14:00 hrs Registration for the spring edition opens 5 May 2026 and closes on 2 July 2026 14:00:00 CET . Fall round Venture Challenge 2026 now open NWO and Venture Challenge Fall 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Venture Challenge
08-09-2026	Deadline for submission <u>Full proposals NWO-Talent Programme Vici 2026</u> . 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
10-09-2026	Deadline for submission of <u>proposals for Embassy Science Fellowship (ESF-NL) (2027) programme</u> . Deadline for proposals 10 September 2026 before 14:00:00 CEST . Embassy Science Fellowship (ESF-NL) (2027) NWO and Call for Proposals - Embassy Science Fellowship
18-08-2026	Deadline for submission for a <u>request for assessment of organisations for phase 1 for the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems'</u> 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	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	Deadline for submission pre-registration Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR) call Pre-registration: Thursday, 17 September 2026 at 14:00:00 CEST Call open: Triple planetary crisis in the polar regions (TRI-POLAR) NWO and Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions NWO and Call for Proposals - Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions
17-09-2026	Deadline for submission full proposals NWA Citizen Science 2026 call . Closing date full application 17 September 2026 14:00 hrs. Citizens and researchers now able to join forces through the NWA Citizen Science call NWO and NWA Citizen Science 2026 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
06-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals KIC - Early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases . The deadline for submission of full applications is 6 October 2026, 14:00:00 CEST. KIC call opened: AI-driven early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases NWO and KIC - Early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases NWO and Call for Proposals - Early detection of (emerging) infectious disease outbreaks
13-10-2026	Deadline for submission of Full applications for KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 . Closing date full application 13 October 2026 14:00 hrs. 7 million euros available for research into AI applications in the agriculture, horticulture, water, and food sectors NWO and KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026
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
27-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals call Holomicrobiome 2026 - Towards novel microbiome applications for the environment, food and health . Closing date full application 27 October 2026 14:00 hr, Deadline registration for matchmaking: 25 June 2026, 14:00:00 CEST. Matchmaking: 30 June 2026. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/holomicrobiome-2026-towards-novel-microbiome-applications-for-the-environment-food-and-health and Call for Proposals - NGF Holomicrobiom
28-10-2026	Deadline for submission for Full applications for call Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition . The deadline for applicants to submit their full application is October 28, 2026, 23:59 CEST . Call open: Research on Future-Proof Strategies for Societies in

	Transition NWO and Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition NWO and Preparing-for-tomorrow-overview-of-the-call-application-form-and-instructions-and-assessment-procedure-30.03.2026-1.pdf
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
12-11-2026	Deadline submission full proposals Thematic Digital Competence Centers (TDCC) call . Applications can be submitted from 1 May 2026 until 12 November 2026, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/tdcc-2026-call-for-proposals-open and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/thematic-digital-competence-centres-2026 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-TDCC-2026_UK.pdf and https://tdcc.nl/nwo-tdcc-call-for-proposals-2026/
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
Until 10-12-2026	Deadline for submission applications for Take-off phase 1 – Feasibility studies WO 2026 . Applications can be submitted continuously via ISAAC until December 10, 2026, at 14:00:00 CET at the latest . Changes to the 2026 call Take-off phase 1 NWO and Take-off phase 1 – Feasibility studies WO 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Take-off fase 1 - Haalbaarheidsstudies WO
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
15-12-2026	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 15 December 2026, before 14:00:00 CET . Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
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
02-02-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 2 February 2027, before 14:00:00 CET . Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
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
16-03-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 16 March 2027, before 14:00:00 CET . Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
04-05-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 4 May 2027, before 14:00:00 CET . Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026

	NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
15-06-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 15 June 2027, before 14:00:00 CET . Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
31-07-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Open Competition Domain Science – M 2026/2027 . The current round (2026/2027) opens on 18 August 2026 and is closing: Once 420 (5x84) applications have been received or, No later than 31 July 2027. Note! ENW-M-1-Weave proposals with a Flemish co-applicant should be submitted no later than 24 November 2026, 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-new-round-of-the-open-competition-enw-m and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-m-2026/2027 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-proposals-OC-ENW-M-round-26-27_EN.pdf
09-09-2027	Deadline for submission Full application for Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR) call The deadline for submitting full application Thursday 9 September 2027 at 14:00:00 CEST . Call open: Triple planetary crisis in the polar regions (TRI-POLAR) NWO and Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions NWO and Call for Proposals - Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions
10-08-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 10 August 2027, before 14:00:00 CET . Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
18-09-2029	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
05-10-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 5 October 2027, before 14:00:00 CET (also the deadline for closing the grant round). Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
16-10-2029	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 **9 July 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
2021-2027	EFRO 2021-2027 Eastern Netherlands: For for overview calls go to EFRO Oost https://www.efro-oost.eu/geplande-openstellingen
18-05-2026 until 20-09-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission proposals in EFRO East Test- and demonstration projects (prioriteit 1) . Opening from 18 may 2026 until September 30, 2026, 5:00 PM (as long as budget is available) Test- en Demonstratieprojecten 2026
18-05-2026 until 20-09-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission proposals in EFRO East Innovation projects . Opening from 18 may 2026 until September 30, 2026, 5:00 PM (as long as budget is available) Innovatieprojecten 2026
18-05-2026 until 20-09-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission proposals in EFRO East Clean and resource-efficient technologies projects . Opening from 18 may 2026 until September 30, 2026, 5:00 PM (as long as budget is available) Schone en hulpbronnefficiënte technologieën
2021-2027	EFRO 2021 – 2027 Western Netherlands: For calls Kansen voor West III https://kvw3.kansenvoorwest.nl/openstellingen/openstellingen/
2021-2027	EFRO 2021-2027 Northern Netherlands: For calls Northern Netherlands go to Website SNN https://www.snn.nl/programmas/efro-2021-2027

2021-2074	EFRO 2021-2027 Southern Netherlands: For calls Southern Netherlands go to website Stimulus https://www.stimulus.nl/opzuid-2021-2027/openstellingen/

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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