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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe.

ERC Advanced Grants: Nearly €840 million to support Europe's leading researchers (23 June 2026)

Source: Website ERC [ERC Advanced Grants: Nearly €840 million to support Europe's leading researchers |ERC](#)

The European Research Council (ERC) has today announced the winners of its latest Advanced Grant competition. The funding, worth €838 million, will go to 319 leading researchers across Europe. The Advanced Grants give senior researchers the opportunity to pursue ambitious, curiosity-driven projects that could lead to major scientific breakthroughs. The grants are part of the EU's Horizon Europe programme.



Projects selected for funding

The new grantees' work will cover a wide range of subjects, such as investigating people's varying vulnerability to drug addiction, extending women's fertility and health or exploring the brain mechanisms behind stuttering. Another researcher aims to develop new mathematical and algorithmic tools to tackle the growing complexity of large-scale networks, from transport systems to the internet. Yet another scientist seeks to better understand complex systems across mathematics and physics, from magnets to quantum materials.

Read more about the research examples: <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/advanced-grants-2025-examples-projects>

Facts and figures

The new grantees will be based at universities and research centres in 24 EU Member States and associated countries, notably in the UK (62 grants), Germany (46), Switzerland (32), Spain (29), and France (26). Among the winners are 52 Germans, 45 Britons and 29 Italians, as well as researchers of 30 other nationalities.

A record of 3,329 proposals was submitted to this competition, up 31% from 2,534 last year. 9.6% of proposals were selected for funding. Estimates show that the grants will create more than 3,000 jobs in the teams of new grantees.

See more statistics <https://erc.europa.eu/system/files/2026-06/erc-2025-adg-statistics.pdf> **and the full list of winners.** <https://erc.europa.eu/system/files/2026-06/erc-2025-adg-results-all-domains.pdf>

'Choose Europe'

Since the launch of the Choose Europe initiative, which aims to attract and retain scientific talent in Europe, the ERC has opened three grant competitions in which researchers applying from outside Europe have been able to request up to an additional €2 million to support the costs of establishing a new laboratory or research team in Europe.

This ERC Advanced Grants competition is the first of these three calls for which the results have been announced. Thirteen researchers currently based outside Europe (four percent of all winners) were selected for funding: nine from the United States, two in Australia and two in Canada. Last year, four researchers based outside Europe won Advanced Grants (1.4% of successful applicants).

Seven of these thirteen successful applicants made use of the special provision for researchers relocating to Europe under the Choose Europe for Science initiative and requested additional funding to establish a new laboratory and research team in Europe.

The increased interest in ERC grants was also reflected in the number of applications from researchers based outside Europe. A total of 164 researchers applied for an ERC Advanced Grant in 2025, compared with 44 the previous year.

Next Advanced Grants call – 2026 round

Interested in applying for an ERC Advanced Grant? The 2026 funding round is now open for applications, with the deadline set for 27 August 2026.

More information: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/ERC-2026-ADG>

Call for expression of interest to participate in the EU CAP Network brokerage event ‘From practice to impact: building Horizon Europe collaborations for agriculture and rural areas’ (23 June 2026)

Source: Website EU-CAP network https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-brokerage-event-practice-impact-building-horizon-europe_en

The EU CAP Network is organising the brokerage event ‘**From practice to impact: building Horizon Europe collaborations for agriculture and rural areas**’ with a focus on innovation, knowledge exchange and EIP-AGRI. We are looking for participants who would like to share their knowledge and experience.

This event will take place in Brussels, Belgium from **Thursday 5 to Friday 6 November 2026**.

This event will be dedicated to matchmaking and networking among advisors, farmers, researchers, and other relevant stakeholders to support the preparation of proposals for calls from the upcoming Horizon Europe Cluster 6 Work Programme and the Mission Soil 2027 that require a multi-actor approach. Additionally, the event will create opportunities for exchanging knowledge, and innovative ideas and practices, that may inspire potential applicants to take part in future Horizon Europe calls.

The event will particularly welcome and engage representatives of EIP-AGRI Operational Groups, recognising their potential to bridge practice and research by bringing practical knowledge and experience into the development of future Horizon Europe proposals.

We are looking for farmers, advisors, researchers, and representatives of projects and initiatives related to the Horizon Europe Cluster 6 and Mission Soil 2027 calls, including EIP-AGRI Operational Groups and Horizon projects, NGOs, and any others interested in sharing their knowledge on the topics of:

- agrobiodiversity and sustainable agricultural practices
- fostering resilience and competitiveness in farming systems
- supporting climate smart and clean farming
- fostering innovation through Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems
- healthy soils

The brokerage event will:

support the preparation of high-quality project proposals for the Horizon Europe Cluster 6 and Soil Mission 2027 calls, with a focus on multi-actor approach calls

- encourage the integration of knowledge, experience and expertise generated through EIP-AGRI Operational Groups into the development of stronger and more impactful Horizon Europe proposals
- facilitate networking and knowledge exchange among farmers, advisors, researchers, and innovation actors across Europe
- promote the co-creation of practical and impact-oriented project ideas through teamwork and collaborative exchange
- raise awareness of other EU funding opportunities supporting innovation, collaboration and market uptake in agriculture and rural areas

If you are interested in participating and actively sharing your experience and innovative ideas, please fill in the application form by 14 August 2026, 23.59 CET.

Click here to register for brokerage: [EUSurvey - Survey](#)

For more information: [EU CAP Network brokerage event 'From practice to impact: building Horizon Europe collaborations for agriculture and rural areas' | EU CAP Network](#)

Doctoral Networks 2026 Brokerage event (23 June 2026)

Source: Mailing Team IRIS RVO

Our MSCA NCP colleagues of the RADIANCE project will organise a virtual brokerage event dedicated to the MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026 call. This event will facilitate the search for partners, including beneficiaries and associated partners, to complete consortia, build new connections, present project ideas, and identify the most suitable partners to prepare competitive proposals.

The brokerage event is open to all types of entities, including universities, research centres, SMEs, corporations, public administrations, museums, hospitals, and NGOs from any part of the world.

This is a unique opportunity to take part in MSCA Doctoral Networks and explore new collaboration possibilities. The virtual brokerage will take place on 15 and 16 July, from 9:00 to 20:00 GMT+2 (this will allow to anyone to connect from any place in the world and timezone), and registration is available through the following link:

<https://www.b2match.com/e/msca-2026>

MSCA PF 2026 call open – webinar 9 July (23 June 2026)

Source: Mailing Team IRIS RVO

The MSCA Postdoctoral fellowship 2026 call is open for submissions. The call deadline is 9 September 2026. You can find all information, documents and templates on the [EU Funding and Tenders portal](#).

On 9 July the Dutch National Contact Points will organize the second webinar on the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship 2026 call. This webinar is intended for both prospective fellows and supervisors that are planning to apply for the 2026 call.

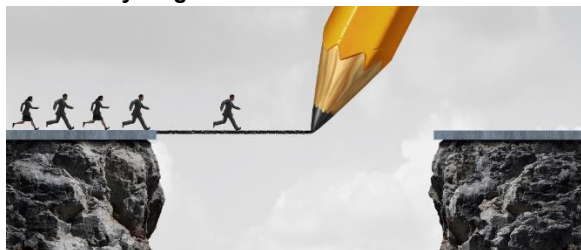
Monday July 9th, 2026, 10.30-12.00. This second webinar will focus on how **to write a MSCA PF proposal**.

Register here <https://english.rvo.nl/events/webinar-series-marie-skłodowska-curie-actions-postdoctoral-fellowships-7-may-2026-9-july> for this webinar. The webinar will be in English and will not be recorded.

What's new in Horizon Europe work programmes in 2027 (16 June 2026)

Source: website Science|Business [What's new in Horizon Europe work programmes in 2027 | Science|Business](#)

The Commission's draft work programme update includes preparations for the next Horizon Europe and a biodiversity mega-call



The current Horizon Europe programme only has a year and a half to distribute what remains of its €90 billion initial budget. The European Commission is now preparing one last big update to its plans for the final year of the programme. Here's what's in the latest draft.

What's the Commission preparing for?

In the final year of the current programme, the Commission will invest €193 million in actions that prepare the research community for innovations in the next Horizon Europe.

Starting in 2028, Horizon Europe will be more oriented towards competitiveness and the market, with Pillar 2, which covers collaborative research, embedded in the new European Competitiveness Fund (ECF). The Commission is planning bridging actions to prepare for this significant change in focus.

The goal is to “ensure a smooth transition” between the two programmes while “strengthening the pathway from research and innovation to deployment and market uptake,” a Commission spokesperson told Science|Business. “The topics within this horizontal call aim to support cross-sectoral cooperation, strengthen links along the innovation journey from research to deployment, encourage the testing of new approaches and respond to emerging priorities and urgent needs identified through the ECF,” they said.

The current [draft work programme update](#) for horizontal actions includes **12 new bridging calls across five topics**. One of the topics will directly tackle the issue of turning research results into innovation. Under this topic, there is €20 million for **five projects valorising Horizon Europe results via innovation ecosystems**, and another **€32.5 million for 13 small-scale projects advancing collaborative research through the innovation journey**.

The biggest topic will involve **applying AI**, a key EU priority. With four calls and a €55 million budget, this topic will fund projects creating an AI infrastructure for multi-lingual European news and visual media, autonomous driving cities, advanced scaling frameworks for high performance AI models, and piloting AI-driven digital platforms for the European energy system. One €10-15 million project will be funded under each topic.

Another big AI call will award lump-sum grants to small and medium enterprises to help them recruit talent. This is another [Choose Europe](#) talent scheme call that will complement Horizon Europe’s researcher training programme Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions. There is €30 million in funding for 130 projects with up to €300,000 in funding each. There is also €30.5 million to support Europe’s research infrastructures and €25 million for climate-related coordination projects.

Biodiversity mega-call

The other big update is a €229.5 million biodiversity mega-call designed to enable the EU to meet its target of dedicating 10% of its overall 2026-27 budget to biodiversity.

The biggest project will be a €50 million Global Ocean Observing System, expected to help enhance strategic autonomy, climate resilience and biodiversity conservation.

The Commission also wants to invest €10 million in a project exploring solar radiation modification, a controversial set of ideas that propose to reflect sunlight back into space to temporarily lower global temperatures.

A €20 million call will fund one project investigating the interface between biodiversity and health, and a €13 million call will finance a project looking for new solutions to wildlife trafficking.

Among calls for smaller projects, Horizon Europe will finance research on the effects of forever chemicals on biodiversity, systemic approaches to accelerate change for biodiversity, analysis of the benefits of clean industry for biodiversity, the drivers for the decline in invertebrates, the creation of living labs for the restoration of ecosystems and cost-effective biodiversity monitoring for policy.

For more information: [What’s new in Horizon Europe work programmes in 2027 | Science|Business](#) and Wageningen Grant Office

38 start-ups and SMEs secure EIC support in latest round of the EIC Accelerator (15 June 2026)

Source: Website EIC News [38 start-ups and SMEs secure EIC support in latest round of the EIC Accelerator - European Innovation Council](#)



The European Innovation Council (EIC) has selected **38 innovative start-ups and SMEs**

[https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/circabc-ewpp/d/d/workspace/SpacesStore/8e8173cc-002f-4329-b7ff-](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/circabc-ewpp/d/d/workspace/SpacesStore/8e8173cc-002f-4329-b7ff-2478527722b1/download)

[2478527722b1/download](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/circabc-ewpp/d/d/workspace/SpacesStore/8e8173cc-002f-4329-b7ff-2478527722b1/download) to receive funding following its latest evaluation round. Out of 87 proposals that reached the interview stage, these companies were chosen for their transformative technologies and strong commercial promise, securing a mix of grant and equity support.

The total proposed funding amount for grants to the selected companies is €90* million, with 84% of beneficiaries eligible for blended finance—a combination of grants and equity investment—while others secured either grant-only or equity-only support.

The selected companies represent 16 EU and associated countries, with the highest number coming from France, United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland. 21% of the companies are led by women in key leadership roles such as CEO, CTO, or CSO.

The grant agreements for most selected companies are expected to be finalised within the next three months. Equity investments will follow based on each company's individual development and funding strategy. Managed by the [EIC Fund](#) – the EU's flagship deep-tech investment vehicle – the equity component often draws substantial additional capital from private investors, frequently leveraging the EIC's contribution by a factor of three or more.

A further 95 applications that were assessed above the threshold either at the remote stage or at the interview, but for which there was insufficient funding available, will be awarded a [Seal of Excellence](#). In addition, all 12 companies that reached the threshold under the five EIC Accelerator challenges, regardless of whether they were eventually chosen for funding support, will receive a [STEP Seal](#) - a quality label that is granted to projects that contribute to at least one of the objectives of the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP). These recognitions will facilitate them access to complementary or alternative EU funding.

More information

List of selected companies: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/circabc-ewpp/d/d/workspace/SpacesStore/8e8173cc-002f-4329-b7ff-2478527722b1/download>

Background information

The EIC Accelerator supports start-ups and small businesses with grant funding of up to €2.5 million, complemented by equity investments from the EIC Fund ranging between €1 million and €10 million. Higher amounts are available under the EIC STEP Scale-up scheme, which allows for equity support of up to €30 million.

Beyond financial support, all funded projects gain access to Business Acceleration Services, connecting them with top-level experts, investors, corporates, and innovation ecosystem players.

Applications to the EIC Accelerator can be submitted at any time. Submitted proposals are grouped into monthly batches, with evaluations starting in the first week of each month. Applicants receive the results of the short proposal assessment within 4 to 6 weeks from the start of the respective batch evaluation. If a proposal meets the EIC's standards for excellence, impact, and high risk, companies are invited to submit a full proposal for evaluation. They are batched six times per year. Check the [EIC website](#) for exact dates.

European Funding News: FP10

New Statement The Guild: Towards the Europe we want: A vision for SSH-led research (23 June 2026)

Source: Website The Guild [the-guild_statement-on-ssah-in-fp10_jun2026.pdf](#)

[the-guild_statement-on-ssah-in-fp10_jun2026.pdf](#) for strengthening Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities-led (SSAH) research in FP10, calling for collaborative R&I that frames the continent's forthcoming scientific, digital and economic transformations in a societal aspiration of the Europe we want to see.

In its statement, The Guild emphasises that the Society component of Pillar 2 in Horizon Europe must be anchored in a clear and robust R&I strategy capable of addressing the uncertainties European societies face and of enhancing Europe's ability to adapt and prepare for the future.

The current lack of clarity in the budget allocation within the Society component raises significant concerns. The Guild therefore calls on the European Commission to give transparent budget allocations for each instrument within the Society component and to clearly specify the resources dedicated to SSAH-led collaborative research to address major societal challenges.

The Society component must support collaborative R&I that reinforces and enables competitiveness through a commitment to strengthening democratic participation, our heritage(s), the cultural and creative industries, and social cohesion. To this end, the Guild highlights three thematic priority areas FP10 should prioritise:

1. Shaping transformations

Geopolitical instability, climate change, digital disruption and demographic transition are among the transformations that institutions are still learning to understand. FP10 should enable SSAH expertise to significantly boost research capacity in these areas, building Europe's ability to navigate these fundamental challenges and act before they become unmanageable.

2. Sustaining democratic, inclusive and secure societies

Growing fragmentation and decline of institutional trust are serious challenges the EU is currently facing. Democratic resilience, inequality and security, supported in the current Horizon Europe programme, must remain key research priorities in FP10.

3. Leveraging culture, identity and diversity

Europe's soft power, cultural diplomacy and international engagement are defined by its cultural and linguistic diversity. Research on cultural diversity and coexistence in fast-changing times is critical to countering polarisation and intolerance, thereby strengthening societal cohesion in the face of deep uncertainties.

Secretary-General **Jan Palmowski** says: 'It is important that the European Commission's draft FP10 proposal includes an explicit commitment to SSAH-led collaborative research through its Societies component. It is now critical that policymakers express the strongest possible vision around this, to ensure Europe's competitiveness – and the research that must support it – is grounded in a clear vision of how accelerating change can strengthen institutional trust and social cohesion, grounded in individual purpose and well-being.'

Read full statement here: [the-guild_statement-on-ssah-in-fp10_jun2026.pdf](#)

Exclusive: DG RTD warns of competitiveness takeover in collaborative research (22 June 2026)

Source: Website science|Business [Exclusive: DG RTD warns of competitiveness takeover in collaborative research | Science|Business](#)

A Competitiveness Fund governance exercise has left the Commission's research directorate worried, internal memo shows



European Commission's Berlaymont building. Photo credits: [Bombaert Patrick](#) / Big Stock

In the first half of 2026, the European Commission ran an exercise developing mock work programmes for the new European Competitiveness Fund (ECF). For the directorate responsible for research, the results were worrying. In a leaked document seen by Science|Business, which details feedback on the exercise from DG RTD, the Commission's research directorate, bureaucrats point to a lack of structured priority setting, unilateral decision-making and a lack of consistency.

This was the Commission's first trial of a process for creating work programmes through which the EU will distribute billions of euros in funding each year under the new ECF. It involved several Commission directorates and was coordinated by the directorate for the internal market, DG Grow.

In the exercise, DG RTD was assigned "a general coordinator role" for the Horizon Europe part of the ECF, meaning its job was to manage the [proposed](#) €68 billion collaborative research component of the fund.

Under each of the four "policy windows" of the proposed programme, it was tasked with co-drafting plans for calls for projects in collaboration with sector-specific Commission directorates, covering environmental, health, digital and defence topics.

But it was not smooth sailing for the research group, which reported that most other directorates involved did not follow their lead. "One of the most significant lessons from the mock exercise was the lack of consistent recognition of RTD's coordinating and consolidating role for the Horizon Europe component," RTD says in the feedback document. It further warns that if DG RTD, which is responsible for EU research policy, is not sufficiently involved in the drafting of work programmes, there is a "risk that deployment focus would sideline key research priorities," such as AI in science, health and climate science, as well as skew the funding offer towards close-to-market applied research and innovation opportunities.

Why is this an issue?

In the next EU budget cycle, starting in 2028, the Horizon Europe programme for collaborative research and innovation will be absorbed by the ECF. While most of Horizon Europe will remain relatively independent of the ECF, its Pillar 2 for collaborative research will be programmed in line with the four ECF policy windows, designed to get technology to the market. In practice, the collaborative research calls will have "a specific dedicated part" within the ECF work programmes.

This proposed arrangement has not been popular with the research community, with many concerned that EU research programming will be influenced too much by industry needs, with funding directed towards close-to-market technologies.

How market-oriented the programming will be is likely to depend on who calls the shots on the ECF work programme inside the Commission.

The proposal for the ECF, and Horizon Europe within it, was drafted by DG Grow. The directorate also coordinated the mock exercise. Its expertise mainly lies in dealing with industry-oriented programmes, but its deputy director-general Maive Rute has [repeatedly assured](#) researchers that the ECF will not be a top-down policy tool to unilaterally set R&D funding topics.

And it may be that DG Grow will not be put in charge of the wider programme. This spring, reports appeared that the Commission [may establish](#) a new, centralized DG Invest, tasked with managing the entire ECF. The new DG would absorb several directorates, including DG RTD.

Some university lobbies fear this merger could result in a loss of specialised knowledge among officials who have managed research funds for decades.

The European Parliament, which must approve the regulation for the ECF and Horizon Europe, has yet another vision for their governance. Christian Ehler, the Parliament's rapporteur for the legislative file, wants the EU to create independent expert councils that would guide the development of Pillar 2 work programmes.

"Pillar 2 needs to be aligned with the ECF, but it cannot be dominated by it," Ehler has said. "It needs to be designed to foster frontier collaborative research and innovation."

The largely negative feedback on the mock governance exercise suggests that DG RTD also has concerns that the governance of the ECF will fall into the hands of bureaucrats who do not have much experience with research policy.

In the leaked memo, DG RTD provides several recommendations for improvements, including:

- The directorate should have a clear co-lead role for all policy windows, with a coordinating and consolidating role on research and innovation priorities
- The ECF needs a well-established single governance, with clearly defined roles, procedures and collaborative decision-making structures
- The ECF should leave enough space for "non-competitiveness focused" research and innovation activities.

Science|Business has not seen feedback on the exercise from other directorates, nor an evaluation of the results of the exercise. The Commission declined to provide a comment on the exercise.

EU should spur 'horizontal' research collaborations, former Dutch minister says (18 June 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [EU should spur 'horizontal' research collaborations, former Dutch minister says | Science|Business](#)

Robbert Dijkgraaf thinks the EU could expand on the sectoral plans idea first implemented across Dutch universities



Robbert Dijkgraaf, president-elect of the International Science Council and former Dutch education, culture and science minister (left), and Maryline Fiaschi (right), CEO of Science|Business, at a Science|Business conference on June 16. Photo credits: Sebastian Dohmen / Science|Business

The EU could benefit from setting up "sectoral plans," funding schemes that would enable research institutions to establish long-term collaborations in specific science sectors, Robbert Dijkgraaf, president-elect of the International Science Council, told delegates at a Science|Business event on June 16.

These sectoral plans are a collaborative research instrument established by Dijkgraaf during his mandate as minister for education, culture and science in the Netherlands, from 2022 to 2024.

The idea is to encourage groups of universities to jointly propose a collaborative research programme in one of four academic domains: sciences; engineering and technology; social sciences and humanities; and medical and health sciences.

In 2023, the Dutch government started investing €200 million a year in programmes submitted through the scheme. Specific areas of interest have been proposed within each of the four domains, such as engineering and sustainability, data-driven innovation in healthcare and, within the humanities and social sciences domain, wellbeing and prosperity.

Rather than supporting specific research projects, this money is intended to help the participating institutions build capacity and hire people, strengthening departments active in each field.

"I would love to see something like this in Europe," Dijkgraaf said. "Too often, I'm at wonderful universities or companies that have an excellent group in a certain area, but they simply cannot generate in their country, in their institution, the skills that are necessary to compete at the global level. So, we have to somehow link those individual strengths." Dijkgraaf said that Europe would benefit from setting up horizontal structures enabling universities and research organisations to cooperate on long-term goals. "I think of the research system as some kind of a matrix, where the vertical lines are the institutions, and the horizontal lines are the way in which they collaborate, in particular, on strategic topics."

More broadly, the former minister warned of the persisting fragmentation of national research and innovation policies. He said that Europe should find ways to strengthen links rather than the individual organisations. "My dream would be to have a Europe where I have some kind of an atlas of research maps, and I look at the map, say for quantum or biotech, and I see certain areas lighting up," he added.

However, the implementation of sectoral plans at the EU level would require a coalition of institutions that would be willing to engage, Dijkgraaf said. "It's not only top research groups that you need. You need vocational schools, you need small and medium enterprises. You have to make an effort to make sure that everybody can play a part in this." According to Gerard Barkema, a professor of computer science at Utrecht University, who was involved in setting up a sectoral plan in his field, the initiative was largely bottom-up as it allowed research sectors to organise and prove to the government that they were worth being funded. "If a specific sector is able to produce a portrait which is convincing and which also comes with good plans of how to strengthen the sector, then the discussion is started about whether it should be funded or not," he told Science|Business.

Barkema said that the first sectoral plans were set for physics and chemistry and each received €10 million per year. Later on, the scheme expanded to include mathematics and computer science. "It was so successful that other disciplines started to complain that they also wanted to be part of a sectoral plan," he said. But the long-term impact of these plans is still unclear. The sectoral plans that received funding in 2023 are expected to be evaluated by a monitoring committee this year. Then, the plans will be evaluated again in 2029, after which the committees will advise the ministry of science on their long-term viability.

EU-wide expansion

The Dutch sectoral plans inspired René Repasi, the European Parliament's lead rapporteur for the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe, to introduce an amendment calling for a similar initiative to be funded through the European Research Council (ERC) for a period of six years.

However, embedding them in the ERC is probably not a great idea, said Robert-Jan Smits, president emeritus at the Eindhoven University of Technology. "Leave the ERC in peace," he told Science|Business. "If you really want to help the ERC, better call for a strengthening of its autonomy, with the European Commission as its guarantor, and keep it far away from any political interference by Council and Parliament."

Smits also noted that the ERC is likely to get its budget doubled under the next multiannual EU budget and will have more than enough on its plate. "[The ERC] will certainly not have the time to deal with other matters."

MFF 2028-2034: Council agrees its position on new and innovative fund to boost EU's competitiveness (16 June 2026)

Source: Website European Council [MFF 2028-2034: Council agrees its position on new and innovative fund to boost EU's competitiveness - Consilium](#)

The Council has adopted its partial negotiating position on the regulation establishing the new **European Competitiveness Fund (ECF)** – a central pillar of the next EU multi-annual budget (MFF).

The fund is designed to help address the EU's innovation gap with its main global competitors, reduce dependencies, and increase the overall competitiveness of the European economy.

Under a **single rulebook and a single application gateway**, it will channel EU investment to the strategic technologies and industries necessary for Europe to strengthen its global position. The ECF will also draw on **private investment** alongside public funding to maximise the impact of every euro.

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 multiannual financial framework (MFF) covering the period 2028 to 2034.

The Council's position **clarifies synergies** with other EU funds such as Horizon Europe, with **specific measures included for SMEs**. It also introduces improvements to the original Commission proposal to **strengthen the role of member states** in the governance of the fund.

Funding competitiveness

The fund aims to consolidate 14 existing instruments into a single framework, simplifying EU funding and attracting private investment to boost the EU's competitiveness. **It focuses on four key policy areas:**

- clean transition and industrial decarbonisation
- **health, biotech, agriculture and bioeconomy**
- digital leadership
- resilience and security, defence industry and space

Coordination with other EU funds and instruments

The partial general approach clarifies the synergies between the ECF and other EU funds and programmes, paying particular attention to **Horizon Europe**, ensuring joint priority setting.

The Council position also aligns key features of the ECF **InvestEU instrument** with the existing InvestEU programme, while maintaining the ECF's focus on financing higher-risk projects.

Focus on SMEs and support for business

The Council position provides for a **specific focus on SMEs** through work programmes and dedicated calls, together with incentives to attract private capital. The **ECF project advisory** initiative and other business support services will be expanded, improving links between the InvestEU advisory hub and the EU for business network.

Governance and strategy

The Council position strengthens the role of the member states in the implementation of the fund. All comitology procedures will now be subject to an examination procedure, requiring formal opinions from member states on proposed implementing acts.

Additionally, the Council's position reinforces member state involvement within the ECF General Committee – the advisory body governing the programme – granting them a role in providing strategic input on the overall direction of the fund and defining the priorities.

A greater role for Member States

In the PGA, Member States place greater emphasis on their own role in determining the Fund's priorities. They do this primarily through adjustments to the functioning of the Programme Committee, referred to as the 'ECF General Committee' in the document. According to the text, Member States must be able to provide strategic input on the general direction and priorities of the ECF at an early stage. To this end, the Committee may meet before the start of the budget period and again after three years to make recommendations on the strategic course. Additionally, Member States must henceforth provide formal advice on proposed implementing acts. The Committee also serves as a forum for cooperation and information exchange between Member States, including regarding support for SMEs and start-ups. The Commission must take the Committee's advice into account when implementing the Fund.

Strategic alignment of ECF and Horizon 2028-2034

To ensure that the ECF and Horizon Europe 2028-2034 reinforce each other rather than overlap, the Council provides for a joint session between the Programme Committees of both instruments. This concerns the ECF General Committee and the Horizon Europe Committee, which discuss the interfaces regarding joint research and innovation in a joint session. In these programme committees, the Member States determine the course of a programme together with the Commission. In this way, the Council aims to ensure coherence between the ECF, which focuses on the rollout and scaling up of innovation, and Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe, which funds the associated research. Furthermore, according to Recital 21, the ECF can support European Universities alliances and public-private partnerships between universities, vocational education (VET), and businesses.

More direction for defence research

The Council also makes a concrete proposal regarding the method for determining which collaborative defence-related research projects are funded via the ECF. As in the Commission proposal, the partial agreement states that these types of actions, ranging from fundamental to applied research, must be facilitated by the Fund's policy window focusing on resilience, security, the defence industry, and space. However, the Council adds that the results of the fifteen Capability Technology Groups ('CapTechs') of the European Defence Agency (EDA) may serve as input for the precise design of these R&I actions. In these CapTechs, stakeholders from various governments, knowledge and research institutions, and industry are already currently coming together to map gaps in the EU's technological capabilities. In addition, they identify the areas where European cooperation is appropriate.

More background

Regulation establishing the European Competitiveness Fund - partial general approach:

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10625-2026-INIT/en/pdf>

The EU's long-term budget (background information): <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/the-eu-s-long-term-budget-2028-2034/>

European competitiveness fund (Commission's proposal): <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11770-2025-INIT/en/pdf>

Europe cannot cut its way to competitiveness (11 June 2026)

Source: Website LERU [Europe cannot cut its way to competitiveness](#) | LERU

The League of European Research Universities expresses deep concern over the Council Presidency's proposal for the 2028–2034 EU budget, warning that the proposed reductions to research and innovation funding undermine Europe's stated ambitions on competitiveness, innovation, technological sovereignty and resilience.

Under the proposal, both Horizon Europe and the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) are cut by 4% compared to the European Commission's proposal. As a result, Horizon Europe's budget falls from €175 billion to €167.9 billion - far below the €200 billion target advocated by Europe's research and innovation community and fully aligned with the recommendations of Mario Draghi.

The contradiction could not be clearer. For the past two years, European leaders have repeatedly stated that competitiveness, innovation, technological sovereignty and resilience are among the European Union's highest priorities. Yet when budget negotiations begin, research and innovation once again become the easiest targets for cuts. While the overall EU budget decreases by only 2%, Horizon Europe and the ECF are reduced by 4%. This is not a budgetary adjustment. It is a strategic mistake.

Research and innovation are not costs to be contained. They are investments that generate economic growth, jobs, technological leadership, societal solutions and long-term prosperity. They form the foundation of Europe's future competitiveness.

Europe cannot seriously claim to implement the Draghi agenda while simultaneously reducing investment in the very programmes that create the knowledge, talent, technologies and innovations on which competitiveness depends. The proposed cuts weaken Europe's scientific excellence, innovation capacity, technological leadership and ability to compete globally with the United States and China.

The message from the European research community is clear:

- Reject these cuts.
- Protect Horizon Europe.
- Maintain at least the European Commission proposal of €175 billion.
- Work towards a €200 billion Horizon Europe budget.

If Europe wants to remain a global leader in science, innovation and technology, now is the time to invest more in research and innovation - not less.

LERU Secretary-General, Prof. Kurt Deketelaere, says: *"The Council Presidency's proposal is an astonishing act of political incoherence. Europe cannot proclaim competitiveness as its top priority while imposing the deepest cuts on the very programmes that generate competitiveness. Cutting Horizon Europe by €7 billion compared to the Commission proposal and more than €30 billion compared to the widely supported €200 billion target is a strategic error that Europe will regret for years. If the EU is serious about implementing the Draghi agenda, strengthening technological sovereignty and securing long-term prosperity, it must invest more in research and innovation - not less."*

Other International funding

Pre-announcement: BiodivFuture call opens on 9 September (22 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO [Pre-announcement: BiodivFuture call opens on 9 September | NWO](#)



The European research programme Biodiversa+ is expected to launch its new BiodivFuture call on 9 September. NWO is participating in this call, which focuses on new ecosystems, biodiversity, socio-ecological impacts and future scenarios. A total of 40 million euros will be made available.

As ecosystems become ever more shaped by human influence and global change, BiodivFuture will fund research to better understand ongoing transformations, the risks, opportunities and trade-offs they entail, and how knowledge can help foster resilient, interconnected, diverse and well-functioning ecosystems. This call covers all realms (terrestrial, freshwater, marine and coastal areas) across the entire world.

The call will focus on three themes:

- Theme A – Novel ecosystem functioning
Understanding the functioning of novel ecosystems and their links to socio-cultural and socio-economic dynamics.
- Theme B – Pathways to novel ecosystems
Studying pathways to novel ecosystems and associated socio-ecological dynamics under uncertainty and changing conditions.
- Theme C – Biodiversity benefits and equity in the context of novel ecosystems
Exploring how biodiversity benefits, costs and trade-offs are shared across contexts, communities and generation.

Additional information

To participate, consortia must comprise partners from at least three of the participating countries. On the Biodiversa+ website, you can find out which countries are participating and search for partners using the partner search tool. They are organising a webinar on 10 September from 13:00 to 15:00. You can register for this via the Biodiversa+ website.

About European Partnerships

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

Disclaimer

This is solely an announcement of an intended NWO research programme. The possibility to apply for funding will open after the call for proposals has been published in the Staatscourant (Government Gazette).

Novo Nordisk Foundation and Global Health EDCTP3 launch €18M partnership (18 June 2026)

Source: Website Global Health EDCTP3 https://www.global-health-edctp3.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/novo-nordisk-foundation-and-global-health-edctp3-launch-funding-partnership-advance-global-health-2026-06-15_en

Denmark's Novo Nordisk Foundation and the EU's Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking have announced a funding partnership to support research aimed at improving health outcomes in Africa and strengthening global health innovation.

The Novo Nordisk Foundation will contribute up the €18 million to the initiative, which will advance research priority areas under the EDCTP3 work programmes for 2026 and 2027. It is seen as the first step towards a more ambitious collaboration in the future.

"By combining resources, we can fund critical research and development to combat Africa's dual burden of infectious and non-communicable diseases," said Michael Makanga, executive director of Global Health EDCTP3.

Learn more here: [Novo Nordisk Foundation and Global Health EDCTP3 launch funding partnership to advance global health research - Global Health EDCTP3](#)

National funding

NWO assigns fourteen computing time applications on the National Computer Facilities (Mar-Jun 2026) (24 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [NWO assigns fourteen computing time applications on the National Computer Facilities \(Mar-Jun 2026\) | NWO](#)



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

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

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

The NWO Committee for the Scientific Use of Supercomputers (WGS) meets six times a year in order to assess the applications that are complete at that moment. In 2026, meetings will be held in February, March, June, September, October and December. The next meeting will take place mid September 2026. The WGS advises the Board of the NWO Domain Science on allocating or rejecting computing time applications.

For more information about the funded proposals: [NWO assigns fourteen computing time applications on the National Computer Facilities \(Mar-Jun 2026\) | NWO](#)

From initiatives to promote the long-term employability of nurses to political neutrality in education: Doctoral Grant for Teachers showcases a broad scientific spectrum (23 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO [From initiatives to promote the long-term employability of nurses to political neutrality in education: Doctoral Grant for Teachers showcases a broad scientific spectrum | NWO](#)



Twenty-four teachers have been awarded the Doctoral Grant for Teachers. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science provides 11 million euros on an annual basis for PhD programmes up to and including 2027. With the grant, teachers are given the opportunity to further their professional development and strengthen the link between universities and schools.

The awarded proposals clearly highlight the programme's broad academic scope. For example, one of the research projects examines interventions to support the transition from training to practice, as a strategy to retain newly qualified nurses in the trade. In addition, one of the teachers is investigating how social studies teachers maintain neutrality in their day-to-day teaching, navigating the tension between government expectations, school organisations and classroom interactions. Another lecturer is investigating theoretical and empirical insights into the perceptions, decision-making and actions (or lack thereof) of bystanders in cases of child abuse. The applicants for the awarded projects will be conducting research over the next five years, which will ultimately lead to a PhD.

For more information about the awarded grants: [From initiatives to promote the long-term employability of nurses to political neutrality in education: Doctoral Grant for Teachers showcases a broad scientific spectrum | NWO](#)

For more information about doctoral grants: [Doctoral Grant for Teachers | NWO](#)

New round of Embassy Science Fellows open for applications (23 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [New round of Embassy Science Fellows open for applications | NWO](#)



The new round of the Embassy Science Fellows (ESF-NL) programme is now open for applications. The ESF-NL programme offers researchers a unique opportunity to go abroad and contribute to addressing a scientific and/or societal issue at a Dutch embassy or consulate.

ESF-NL provides embassies and consulates with access to expertise in the fields of science and technology.

Researchers from universities and other Dutch knowledge institutions can contribute to activities that strengthen scientific and diplomatic relations between the Netherlands and the host country in question. This can range from meeting local researchers to providing policy advice or drafting technical reports.

In addition to applying their expertise to Dutch foreign policy, the ESF programme offers researchers the opportunity to gain experience within a diplomatic context and to gain insight into how their field operates under different circumstances. Living abroad temporarily and building or expanding an international scientific and social network also provides significant personal and professional benefits. The fellowships last from one to three months. The programme assists fellows in finding accommodation and a workspace.

Want to know more about the new round? Read the Call for proposals here: [Embassy Science Fellowship \(ESF-NL\) 2027 | NWO](#)

Countries and topics involved:

- Australia (theme: Advancing Sustainable Aviation: Procurement for Innovative Solutions)

- Canada (theme: Trusted AI in a World of Giants: Canada-Netherlands Cooperation on Trusted and Responsible AI)
- Chile (theme: How to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Chile with the help of the Netherlands?)
- Egypt (theme: The Nile conflict (between Egypt and Ethiopia))
- Ethiopia
- Ivory Coast (theme: Beyond Ivory: The Dutch (Slave) Trade Legacy on the Ivorian Coast)
- Malaysia (theme: Strengthening the curricula regarding 'advanced manufacturing' at Malaysia's leading (public) engineering faculties, to expand bilateral K2K relations in the context of the MAL-NL memorandum of cooperation for our semiconductor industries)
- PV Rome (theme: The impact of the Rome-based agencies on food and agriculture. What's in it for the Netherlands?), Senegal (theme: Effects of mining pollution on water (scarcity))
- South Africa (theme: South Africa's Position in the Digital World Order: How Middle Powers like South Africa and the Netherlands can reduce their Strategic Dependencies through Mutual Cooperation)
- South Korea (theme: How the Netherlands' and EU's industrial policies compare to South Korea's and the effect of this on bilateral trade, innovation and investment potential)
- Sweden (theme: Extending life in good health in the Netherlands – lessons to learn from Sweden)
- Taiwan (theme: Critical Materials Resilience through Taiwan's Semiconductor Waste Streams)
- Vietnam (theme: Sustainable Nature-Based Solutions for Delta Resilience and Identification of the Added Value of Dutch Water Expertise in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam)

Budget and deadlines

The budget per project is €30,000. In this round, a maximum of 13 proposals are expected to be funded. Researchers may apply for only one of the 13 selected positions for 2027. The deadline for submitting full applications is 10 September 2026, before 14:00 CEST.

Meetings

An information webinar will be held on 2 July for this round. Want to know more about the meeting? Click on the button here: [Online Information webinar Embassy Science fellowships | NWO](#).

Ten potentially groundbreaking Open Mind research ideas received a grant (19 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Ten potentially groundbreaking Open Mind research ideas received a grant | NWO](#)



Ten research ideas have received a grant of €100,000 during the NWO's annual innovation festival TEKNOLOGY. Through the Open Mind programme, NWO funds innovative and outside-the-box research ideas that use technology to create a global societal impact.

Ten research ideas have received a grant of €100,000 during the NWO's annual innovation festival TEKNOLOGY. Through the Open Mind programme, NWO funds innovative and outside-the-box research ideas that use technology to create a global societal impact.

From all the applications, twenty finalists were selected this year, who were given the opportunity during TEKNOLOGY to pitch their research ideas to a panel. Ten winners were chosen based on these pitches. The grant will enable them to explore their bold idee over the course of a year.

The awarded out-of-the-box projects are so-called 'high-risk, high-gain' research ideas. This means that the projects are high-risk, but at the same time could lead to groundbreaking breakthroughs. Due to the risky nature of these research ideas it is difficult for researchers to secure funding. The Open Mind programme therefore offers researchers the freedom to think outside the box and explore innovative ideas. This year, the committee was chaired by dr. ir. Tim van Emmerik.

For more information about the funded projects: [Ten potentially groundbreaking Open Mind research ideas received a grant | NWO](#)

Outcome of 'Innovation Impulse' PPP call (17 June 2026)

Source: Website TKI Agri&Food [Uitkomst PPS-oproep 'Innovatie Impuls' - TKI Agri & Food](#)

TKI Agri&Food intends to finance eight new PPP projects aiming for a technological or systemic breakthrough. This involves a total investment of nearly €3 million, which will be more than doubled by contributions from the project partners. The projects were selected within the Innovation Impulse Agri & Food PPP call, which opened at the beginning of this year and focuses on disruptive innovations with major societal and economic impact.



The projects focus, among other things, on smart sensor technology for real-time monitoring of food quality and animal health, and on innovative continuous fermentation processes for the production of alternative proteins.

One of the projects to be launched concerns future-proof water use in the agricultural and food sector. This project investigates how water use can be better aligned with a balanced water system, ensuring that sufficient and high-quality water remains available for food production in the future. The initiative stems from a targeted investment boost by TKI Agri&Food, based on an exploration in 2025 and in line with the ambition to proactively stimulate public-private cooperation on themes crucial to the sector.

Note PJ: projects can be found in project database <https://www.kia-landbouwwatervoedsel.nl/projecten/> ??

NWO expands access to the SSH Open Competition (16 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-expands-access-to-the-ssh-open-competition>



The SSH Open Competition offers researchers the opportunity to conduct curiosity-driven research. The funding scheme is intended for a broad group of researchers at various stages of their careers, specifically five, ten and fifteen years after obtaining their PhD. However, based on feedback from the field, it has become clear in recent years that there is a need for more opportunities to apply for funding immediately after obtaining a PhD. Also, selection based on the number of years since obtaining a PhD does not align well with the programme's objective: to stimulate free and innovative research. NWO is therefore broadening access to the SSH Open Competition in certain areas.

Currently, the SSH Open Competition consists of three instruments focusing on different phases of an academic career: an XS round open for applicants five years after the PhD date, an M round open for ten years after a PhD, and an L

round open for researchers who obtained their PhD fifteen years ago. By renewing and updating the funding instrument, NWO is broadening access to the programme, ensuring it aligns better with diverse academic careers, so that more researchers have the opportunity to submit innovative and exploratory research.

What is changing in 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.

More information about the merged SSH Open Competition M and L

- The Open Competition M and L will be merged into one instrument.
- Researchers may submit a pre-proposal immediately after obtaining their PhD, if they have a permanent contract or a tenure-track agreement with a research organisation.
- The budget to be requested is flexible and ranges from €350,000 to €800,000. As part of the assessment criteria, applicants must explain why the requested budget is appropriate and necessary.
- Researchers may submit one application annually within the SSH Open Competition as a whole, but no more than one application per calendar year (including the SSH Open Competition XS).
- If the applicant already has an OC project (NWO or ZonMW), a new application may only be submitted if this project's end date lies within one year of the pre-application deadline.
- The pre-application phase uses distributed peer review (where applicants assess each other's pre-applications). This means that applicants are also required to act as reviewers. The procedure for the full application phase remains unchanged.

The Call for Proposals is expected to be published in mid-September 2026 (deadline for the pre-proposals no earlier than November 2026; and deadline for full applications expected before the summer of 2027).

Further information on the SSH Open Competition XS

- From 2027, researchers will also be permitted to submit a proposal immediately after obtaining their PhD, provided they are employed by a research organisation throughout the entire application period and the duration of the proposed project.
- The existing submission conditions and structure of the Open Competition XS remain unchanged.

The Call for proposals is expected to be published in mid-September 2026 (with three rounds in 2027 and expected deadlines in January, April, and September).

NWO is contributing to the National Action Plan for Integrated Innovation (16 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [NWO is contributing to the National Action Plan for Integrated Innovation | NWO](#)

On 16 June, NWO, TNO, CLICKNL and the SSH-council jointly presented the National Action Plan for Integrated Innovation to the Ministers for Education, Culture and Science and for Economic Affairs and Climate Policy. This marks an important step towards more effective solutions to major societal challenges.

An important step: collaboration is essential for successful innovation. Solutions to societal challenges such as energy and climate change, (digital) security and healthcare are more likely to succeed if the relevant parties join forces.



The presentation of the Action Plan at the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy. From left to right: Bas van Bavel (Chair of the SSH Council), Anka Mulder (Vice-Chair of NWO), Heleen Herbert (Minister for Economic Affairs and

Climate Policy), Rianne Letschert (Minister for Education, Culture and Science), Tjark Tjin-a-Tsoi (Chair of TNO) and Bart Ashmann (Director of CLICKNL).

Comprehensive innovation as the key to impact

The Netherlands is brimming with innovations. But all too often, solutions get stuck – not because the technology fails, but because it is insufficiently aligned with people, policy or practice. The core of this action plan is therefore clear: innovation only really works when knowledge of both technological and socio-cultural aspects is developed from the outset.

This means bringing researchers from all scientific disciplines together around the table and collaborating with businesses and civil society organisations. Only in this way can solutions emerge that are not only smart, but also desirable, workable and sustainable. The action plan is not an end point, but an invitation to everyone in the innovation ecosystem.

Learn more about national Plan for integrated innovation here: [NWO is contributing to the National Action Plan for Integrated Innovation | NWO \(in Dutch\)](#)

Embassy Science Fellowship (ESF-NL) (2027) (15 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO [Embassy Science Fellowship \(ESF-NL\) \(2027\) | NWO](#)

The ESF-NL programme aims to strengthen the interaction between diplomacy and science by placing fellows within missions. Acting as a bridge between the scientific and diplomatic domains, fellows apply their scientific expertise and international networks to inform and support evidence-informed Dutch foreign policy. In doing so, they contribute to strengthening scientific cooperation with third countries while gaining practical experience in a diplomatic context.

Purpose

For the Embassy Science Fellows Programme (ESF-NL), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NWO are looking for 12 researchers who would like to bring their scientific expertise and networks to a mission in Australia, Canada, Chili, Egypt, Ivory Coast, Malaysia, PV Rome, Senegal, South-Africa, South-Korea, Taiwan or Vietnam for a period of 1 to 3 months. The project descriptions per mission are found in the Call for Proposals annexes.

ESF-NL offers missions access to scientific and technological expertise. Researchers from universities and other Dutch knowledge institutions can contribute to activities that strengthen scientific and diplomatic relations between the Netherlands and the host mission. For example, Embassy Science Fellows can be sent to meet foreign researchers, give advice, or carry out studies or produce technical reports.

As such, the ESF-NL aims to achieve cross-fertilisation between diplomacy and science. Fellows can gain experience in the diplomatic world and use their expertise to inform Dutch foreign policy. The fellows give an additional boost to the scientific cooperation with third countries and feed the policies of missions with scientific knowledge. Researchers can apply for a maximum of 1 of the 12 selected positions for 2027. The selected fellows will be posted for 1 to 3

When to apply

The submission deadlines and a timeline for the entire assessment procedure for this round are given below. NWO reserves the right to make adjustments to this timeline in the course of the procedure if needed. These will be communicated to the applicant. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration by NWO.

2 July 2026
10 September 2026 before 14:00:00 CEST

Informative webinar (attendance not mandatory)
Deadline for proposals

For more information: [Embassy Science Fellowship \(ESF-NL\) \(2027\) | NWO](#)

For call for proposals click here: [Call for Proposals - Embassy Science Fellowship](#)

Nine new collaborations between Dutch and Ukrainian researchers (15 June 2026)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nine-new-collaborations-between-dutch-and-ukrainian-researchers>



The final projects in the second funding round of the 'NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine' have been awarded. Nine ongoing Dutch NWO projects are adding a researcher from Ukraine to their project team. In total, these awarded projects represent more than 200,000 euros.

About the call

'NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine 2025' offers ongoing NWO projects the opportunity to add a qualified researcher from Ukraine to their project team. The initiative is intended to support Ukrainian researchers in expanding their professional network within the Dutch academic world. Project teams can contribute through advice, mentoring and other forms of guidance.

This is the second funding round within the partnership initiative between NRFU and NWO. [The first eleven awards were announced previously](#), bringing the total to 20 awarded applications. With these nine awards, the maximum budget for this call has been reached and this round is therefore closed. No further applications can be submitted.

WUR leads one of the awarded projects

1. Precision medicine for agriculture: harnessing peptide-producing microbiota for sustainable crop protection: **prof. dr. M.H. Medema** (Wageningen University & Research) & dr. O.M. Gromyko (Department of Genetics and Biotechnology of Ivan Franko National University of Lviv)

Funded projects

For more information about the funded projects: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nine-new-collaborations-between-dutch-and-ukrainian-researchers>

Regional funding

Register for the AWTI Annual Symposium (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

How do regional ecosystems of knowledge and innovation break the innovation paradox? What is needed to strengthen regional ecosystems? How do regional ecosystems connect within the Netherlands and across borders? These questions are central to the AWTI Annual Symposium *How Regions Break the Innovation Paradox* on Thursday, October 8 at NEMO, Amsterdam. By participating in this symposium, you also actively contribute to the insights the Council is gathering for an advisory report currently in preparation on valorization and ecosystems. Will you be joining us?

Read more and register for the AWTI Annual Symposium: [Home](#) | [AWTI - Jaarsymposium 2026 \(in Dutch\)](#)

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

European Parliament approves modernization of New Genomic Techniques regulations (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

This week, the European Parliament approved new regulations for New Genomic Techniques (NGTs). For the first time, the new regulations distinguish between simple genetic modifications, which could also have arisen through classical breeding, and more complex modifications. Expanding the first category creates more scope for innovation.

European Parliament Press Release: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20260611IPR45215/new-genomic-techniques-for-plants-to-boost-innovation-in-sustainable-agriculture>

Recap: Neth-ER Webinar “Connecting Research & Technology Infrastructures, a Dutch perspective” (25 June 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > Recap: Neth-ER Webinar “Connecting Research & Technology Infrastructures, a Dutch perspective”](#)

On 16 June 2026, Neth-ER, in collaboration with KNAW and TNO, hosted the webinar on ‘Connecting Research and Technology Infrastructures: A Dutch Perspective.’ The session brought together European and Dutch policymakers as well as infrastructure users to discuss the EU’s strategy on Research and Technology infrastructures, what it means for the Netherlands and how to move forward.



A milestone for the research ecosystem

Guillaume Milot and Emma Sokkanen from DG RTD set the scene by elaborating on the EU’s [strategy](#) on research and technology infrastructures, published in September 2025. The strategy, which is “a milestone in itself”, as they said, positions Research Infrastructures (RIs) and Technology Infrastructures (TIs) as fundamental, complementary pillars of Europe’s R&I ecosystem. While [RIs](#) support scientific excellence through access to equipment, data and collections, [TIs](#) enable the development, testing and upscaling of new technologies for market adoption. Together, they form a continuum of services essential for closing Europe’s innovation gap and safeguarding the Union’s technological sovereignty. Among other things, the strategy aims to facilitate hubs, connect facilities and pool strategic assets.

Charter of Access

Milot and Sokkanen outlined the key challenges the strategy is seeking to address: from fragmented policies and funding procedures, which are particularly burdensome for SMEs and startups, to skills gaps and the untapped potential of AI and digitalisation. To lower barriers for industrial users, the Commission is developing a *Charter of Access*, which will be a voluntary framework harmonising visibility, transparency, intellectual property, contracts and support for companies. Organisations can sign up to be early endorsers. In addition, a call for good practices is open to contributions. Looking ahead, the proposal for the next Framework Programme (FP10) earmarks €10.9 billion for research and technology

infrastructures, with up to 20% co-funding for the construction of “critical new world-class capacities of European research and technology infrastructures.”

EU approaches to shared challenges

In the second session, Jeroen Arts (Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science) and Patrick Schelvis (Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs) reflected on the significance of the strategy in the Netherlands. The Dutch landscape is already deeply connected to that of the EU; any improvement hinges upon cooperation and prioritisation. Arts and Schelvis welcomed the strategy both as validation of what the Netherlands is already doing and as an impetus for further action. The Netherlands faces some of the same challenges as the rest of the EU: how to simplify [access to infrastructures](#), how to promote digitalisation and internationalisation. Access, for example, is an area best handled on a European level.

Read full article here: [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > Recap: Neth-ER Webinar “Connecting Research & Technology Infrastructures, a Dutch perspective”](#)

New EPO platform to support innovation policy (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

The European Patent Office has launched a new online platform to provide companies, researchers, and policymakers with better insight into global technology trends. The free tool brings together patent applications, granted patents, and developments in deep tech in interactive overviews. According to the EPO, the Data Desk should help to better identify promising technological niches and leading players.

EPO Press Release: [EPO launches its Data Desk, providing actionable intelligence for Europe's innovators and policymakers | epo.org](#)

JRC: Clean transition crucial for European competitiveness and autonomy (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

Accelerating the clean transition is essential for the EU's long-term competitiveness, energy security, and strategic autonomy, states the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. Although the EU has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 37 percent compared to 1990, transport emissions continue to rise and agricultural reductions are stagnating. The report points to bottlenecks such as slow permitting, shortages of skilled personnel, fragmented regulations, and limited private financing for clean technologies.

JRC Report: [JRC Publications - A pathway to Europe's competitiveness: the clean transition](#)

Report summary: [JRC Publications - A pathway to Europe's Competitiveness: the clean transition. The essential brief](#)

The Council is aiming for an MFF agreement in 2026 (22 June 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Overige thema's > De Raad koerst op een MFK-akkoord in 2026](#)

The Irish Presidency must get to work on the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), and the heads of government aim to reach an agreement in 2026. That is the key outcome of the European Council of 18 and 19 June regarding the next multiannual budget. The MFF includes, among other things, the next Horizon Europe programme, the Erasmus+ programme, and the new European Competitiveness Fund. Rob Jetten and his colleagues also discussed the situation in Ukraine, the Middle East, and European earning capacity, among other topics.



Positions have been taken

The Member States therefore call [nl-20260619-european-council-conclusions.pdf](#) **(in Dutch)** upon the Irish Presidency to move the negotiations towards the European Council in October to the next phase. However, the Member States'

positions regarding the next MFF had already been taken before the Council. The previously presented 'nego-box' by Cyprus, the current President of the Council, elicited many reactions. The 'friends of modernisation', including the Netherlands, consider the Cypriot proposal too extensive and to focus too little on new challenges such as innovation and competitiveness. The 'friends of cohesion', on the other hand, protect the more traditional European budget items and advocate for a larger European budget.

The Irish Presidency and the Election Year 2027

On July 1, Ireland takes over the European Presidency from Cyprus. This means that Ireland will chair the meetings in the Council and thereby assume an important role in the negotiations on the next MFF. The member states hope to reach a joint agreement on the budget before the end of 2026. The reason for this likely lies in the large number of elections scheduled for 2027. The French presidential elections take place in April. Furthermore, the Italians and the Spanish, among others, will also go to the polls.

Context

The Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) is the framework for the EU budget for 7 years and will run from 2028 to 2034. The European Parliament already approved its negotiating position in April. In it, it advocates a budget increase of approximately 10% for the MFF [EU long-term budget: responding to citizens' expectations and major challenges | News | European Parliament](#), compared to the European Commission's proposal from July 2025. Once the Member States have also determined a joint position, negotiations between the Parliament, the Commission, and the Council can begin.

European Commission launches platform for start-ups and innovators (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

The European Commission has launched a new EU Innovation Platform to give start-ups and innovators easier access to European support. The platform features a recommendation system that matches users with relevant services, funding opportunities, and events based on sector, location, and development stage.

European Commission Press Release: <https://euip.sbo.services.ec.europa.eu/public/news/40020>

Parliamentary committee and lobbies push for green R&D in Competitiveness Fund (18 June 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [Parliamentary committee and lobbies push for green R&D in Competitiveness Fund | Science|Business](#)

18 Jun 2026 | [News](#)

Key MEPs are split on whether EU environmental goals are a prerequisite for competitiveness or a hindrance



Stine Bosse, Renew Europe MEP and the environment committee's rapporteur on the ECF. Photo credits: European Parliament

The European Parliament's research committee is sifting through thousands of amendments to arrive at a common position on the proposed European Competitiveness Fund (ECF). One of the questions that could stall the process is whether it should include support for environmental research and innovation.

In its [opinion](#) on the research committee's April [draft report](#), the Parliament's environment committee pushed for several references to sustainability, decarbonisation and policy frameworks such as the European Green Deal and the Net-Zero Industry Act.

The amendments also call for more environmental R&D, including on sustainable production in the agri-food sector, and technology development that protects nature.

This sustainability push was voted through the environment committee by a broad coalition, which included the European People's Party (EPP). Despite this, the idea has been rejected by Christian Ehler, also of the EPP and one of two rapporteurs in charge of research committee's final report on the ECF.

According to the environment committee rapporteur on the ECF, Stine Bosse of Renew Europe, the amendments are necessary to ensure EU competitiveness.

"The committee assesses that competitiveness and green transition are prerequisites for each other," she told Science|Business. "Look at current oil and gas prices: it's hopeless for our competitiveness. We need to move as quickly as possible to our own energy sources: sun, wind, water and nuclear power."

Bosse's call for more environmental requirements of the ECF was backed by Claire Skentelbery, director general of EuropaBio, a lobby group representing the European biotechnology industry. References to specific legal frameworks could help "provide direction" and "level the playing field," she said.

Skentelbery also pointed out, however, that an overly prescriptive approach could create "unintended barriers" to innovation and scale-ups. "A well-balanced approach," she told Science|Business, "will be key to ensuring that the fund strengthens both Europe's environmental objectives and its global competitiveness."

Adel El Gammal, secretary general of the European Energy Research Alliance, said the question would "undoubtedly" affect low-carbon energy research because of the planned links between the ECF and Horizon Europe, the EU's main research funding programme.

In order to support a broad range of low-carbon energy research, he called for an understanding of competitiveness that also prioritises environmental and societal goals and doesn't focus narrowly on the economy.

"The objective should be to support projects that contribute simultaneously to competitiveness, resilience, sustainability and strategic autonomy, rather than treating these objectives as separate, if not conflicting, policy silos," El Gammal told Science|Business.

However, these calls to consider the environment may turn out to be in vain. According to Ehler, the environment committee's proposed amendments are "extremely unlikely" to end up in his next draft report.

"[References to external legal frameworks] would just hamper the implementation of the ECF without contributing to a meaningful change on the ground given that all the legal frameworks apply across the Union, regardless of whether the funding for an activity comes from the Union budget," he told Science|Business.

Read full article here: [Parliamentary committee and lobbies push for green R&D in Competitiveness Fund | Science|Business](#)

Invest-NL: Europe has a strong starting position for the next AI wave (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

The EU has a strong starting position to play a leading role in the next generation of AI, concludes Invest-NL in the report Deep Dive: Strategic Investing in Europe's Nextgen AI. The report outlines the European AI landscape and is intended to help policymakers, companies, and investors make choices. According to the report, the global AI race is entering a new phase, in which value creation is increasingly shifting towards creating applications in the real economy.

Invest-NL News Release: [Europa heeft sterke kaarten voor volgende AI-golf \(in Dutch\)](#)

Invest-NL Publication: [Deep Dive: Strategic Investing in Europe's Nextgen AI \(in Dutch\)](#)

EU member states make bid to shape ECF priorities (16 June 2026)

Source: Science|Business [EU member states make bid to shape ECF priorities | Science|Business](#)

Council agreement on Competitiveness Fund would give EU governments a central role in priority setting



General Affairs Council meeting in Luxembourg on June 16. Photo credits: European Union

EU governments have agreed to push for strengthening their role in setting funding priorities in the future European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) at all stages of the implementation cycle.

Ministers for EU affairs have reached an agreement on the main parts of the ECF proposal, but the deal does not include financial and horizontal issues that are being discussed as part of overall negotiations on the EU budget for 2028-34.

According to the agreement, the adoption of future ECF work programmes, the documents that would set the priorities and budgets for funding calls, would require a formal opinion from EU member states.

Meanwhile, an “ECF general committee”, made up of member state representatives, would be tasked with advising the European Commission on the strategic direction and priorities of the ECF, long-term competitiveness trends, the need to adjust priorities to evolving economic conditions, and strengthening the connection between research, innovation and industrial policy.

The ECF would be a new programme for which the European Commission has proposed a €409 billion budget, [or €362 billion when accounting for inflation](#). It's set to steer investments towards technologies and industries that are important to Europe's independence and economic competitiveness.

EU countries want to ensure they have a strong say over where that money is going. The ECF general committee would meet at least once a year, with additional meetings before the preparation of the first work programmes and three years after the start of the programme.

Read full article here: [EU member states make bid to shape ECF priorities | Science|Business](#)

Commission launches two calls for evidence on the future ocean and water research and innovation strategy (15 June 2026)

Source: Website EC [Commission launches two calls for evidence on the future ocean and water research and innovation strategy - Research and innovation](#)

Today, the European Commission has launched two calls for evidence to help shape the future Ocean and Water Research and Innovation (R&I) Strategy. This key follow-up initiative is expected to be adopted by the end of 2026.

The strategy aims to strengthen Europe's capacity in ocean and water research and innovation by addressing persistent challenges such as fragmented coordination across EU, national and regional levels, and barriers to bringing innovations to market. It will also support efforts to tackle increasing pressures linked to climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss and water scarcity.

The two calls for evidence will support the development of a coordinated source-to-sea approach, connecting rivers, groundwater, lakes, coastal areas and seas to better address interconnected environmental and societal challenges. The ocean R&I Call for Evidence focuses on ocean-related research and innovation priorities, including marine ecosystems, ocean observation, marine knowledge and the sustainable blue economy. The water resilience R&I Call for Evidence, addresses freshwater systems, water resilience and efficiency, and innovative solutions for sustainable water management.

The Calls for Evidence are open until 02/08/2026 on the Commission's “Have Your Say” portal, available in all official EU languages. Researchers, innovators, industry, policymakers, public authorities, NGOs, stakeholders and citizens are invited to share their views on the challenges, opportunities and priorities for ocean and water research and innovation.

The feedback collected will contribute to the development of the strategy, which aims to:

- strengthen the EU's global leadership in ocean and water sciences

- identify and structure strategic R&I priorities and investments under the next Multiannual Financial Framework, Horizon Europe 2028–2034, and the European Competitiveness Fund
- improve coordination in research and innovation to better align EU, national and regional programmes and boost cross-border and international collaboration
- support innovative solutions for the protection and restoration of ocean and water ecosystems and increase the upscale of nature-based solutions, while creating new business opportunities in the blue economy and water sector
- strengthen ocean and water observation, monitoring and forecasting systems through new models, technologies and improved knowledge-sharing
- support the implementation of EU legislation and international processes linked to seas and ocean, water protection and resilience, biodiversity and climate adaptation
- optimise support across the innovation cycle, from research to scale-up, deployment and market uptake.
- strengthen skills development for ocean science, water resilience and blue economy jobs

The contributions will also help shape priorities under Horizon Europe 2028–2034 and strengthen synergies with local, national and regional strategies.

More information

The European Ocean Pact: https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/european-ocean-pact_en

Water resilience strategy: https://commission.europa.eu/topics/environment/water-resilience-strategy_en

Call for evidence Ocean: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/16392-European-ocean-research-and-innovation-strategy_en

Call for evidence Water Resilience: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/16276-A-water-resilience-research-and-innovation-RI-strategy_en

The Cypriot presidency adopts a restrained stance in MFF negotiations (12 June 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > Het Cypriotische voorzitterschap stelt zich terughoudend op in MFK-onderhandelingen](#)

The Cypriot Presidency has presented its proposal for the next long-term EU budget. A 2% budget cut is on the table for the budget as a whole. However, these cuts are not distributed evenly across the budget components: the Presidency proposes cutting both Horizon Europe and Erasmus+ by 4% compared to the Commission proposal.



Investments in knowledge under budgetary pressure

For Horizon Europe 2028-2034, the Council proposes a total budget of 167.8 billion euros, within a broader envelope of 392.6 billion euros for the European Competitiveness Fund. This is 7 billion lower for the framework programme than the Commission proposal and significantly lower than the doubling of the current budget (which amounts to 95.5 billion euros), which, according to Mario Draghi and Manuel Heitor, is necessary to sufficiently strengthen European competitiveness. Knowledge is Europe's most important strategic capital, but without adequate investments in research and innovation (R&I), the EU lags behind the US and China. Therefore, the Dutch knowledge sector is also advocating for this doubling of the current budget through Neth-ER's 'Double Knowledge' campaign.

Ambition and budget at odds for Erasmus+

In addition, the Council Presidency has proposed a cut of 1.6 billion euros to the Erasmus+ 2028-2034 budget compared to the Commission proposal. Given the growing demand for mobility, the need to deliver high-quality education and build skills in a rapidly changing world, the proposed cuts put the ambitions of the Erasmus+ programme under pressure. As Draghi and Enrico Letta also emphasized, investments in education and skills are crucial, precisely at this geopolitical

moment, for strengthening European competitiveness and the resilience of the EU. Neth-ER's 'Double Knowledge' campaign therefore advocates for a doubled Erasmus+ budget of at least 60 billion euros.

Multi annual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028-2034 - Negotiating Box:

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10058-2026-INIT/en/pdf>

Note PJ: University umbrella organizations warn that the lower budgets are at odds with European ambitions for competitiveness, innovation, and technological sovereignty.

Science Business Article: [Council presidency proposes €167B Horizon Europe budget | Science|Business](#)

LERU Press Release: [Europe cannot cut its way to competitiveness | LERU](#)

EUA Press Release: [MFF: EU member states must match competitiveness ambitions with investment in Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe](#)

CESAER Press Release: [Europe must back the programmes that underpin its competitiveness - CESAER](#)

EU and Republic of Korea bolster strategic partnership with new areas of cooperation (10 June 2026)

Source: Website EC [EU and Republic of Korea bolster strategic partnership with new areas of cooperation](#)

The European Union and the Republic of Korea held their 11th Summit in Brussels today. The President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, and the President of the European Council, António Costa, met with the President of the Republic of Korea, Lee Jae-Myung.

The Summit marked a new phase in the EU-Republic of Korea strategic partnership, delivering a series of concrete outcomes to enhance economic resilience, security and defence cooperation, research, and the clean energy transition. President **von der Leyen** said: *"The partnership between the European Union and the Republic of Korea has never been more important. We are working together to strengthen economic security and drive innovation. Our close cooperation delivers real benefits for our citizens and helps shape a more prosperous future for the next generation."*

Partnering up for shared prosperity

The EU and the Republic of Korea agreed to launch a new Competitiveness Partnership to enhance their cooperation on key policies. This will strengthen engagement on issues of strategic importance such as trade, investment, supply chains, digital, advanced technologies, energy, and innovation.

To drive this agenda forward, both sides agreed to establish a High-Level Economic Dialogue to reinforce their economic ties. The Dialogue will deepen cooperation on economic security, trade and industrial policy. It will be underpinned by existing fora such as the EU-Korea Trade Committee, the EU-Korea Strategic Dialogue on Economic Security and Emerging Trade Issues, and the EU-Korea Industrial Policy Dialogue.

For more information: [EU and Republic of Korea bolster strategic partnership with new areas of cooperation](#)

Global policy

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

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

China's next growth phase is no longer driven by scale alone, but by the ability to rapidly scale up new technologies and apply them widely. This is stated by the World Economic Forum in an analysis. According to the WEF, China is building an innovation system in which artificial intelligence, advanced manufacturing, biotechnology, and clean energy are translated more quickly from laboratory research to commercial applications. The main challenge lies not in developing new technology, but in achieving productivity growth, economic value, and broad adoption.

WEF Article: [How China's innovation systems are driving the next growth cycle | World Economic Forum](#)

Nature sees bright spots in UK-EU scientific relationship 925 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

Ten years after the Brexit referendum, scientific ties between the United Kingdom and the European Union appear to be cautiously recovering. Nature reports on this. Important steps include the country's return to Horizon Europe and Erasmus+. However, researchers warn that restoring international cooperation networks and trust will take more time. Although the political will for further normalization is present, talks on new agreements, including a mobility scheme for young people and researchers, are proceeding with difficulty.

Nature Article: [Brexit tore apart European science — now the research rifts are healing](#)

AI and semiconductors drive growth in private R&D investments (25 Jun 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

The largest private investors in R&D have increased their spending by an estimated 6 percent in 2025, compared to 3 percent a year earlier. This is according to an OECD analysis based on corporate reports from sixty of the world's largest R&D investors. The growth is primarily driven by companies in software, AI, semiconductors, and other digital technologies. At the same time, investments in life sciences stagnated and spending in the automotive and aerospace sectors declined. According to the OECD, the figures confirm that the current AI wave is increasingly translating into higher private investments in research and innovation.

OECD Article: [Tracking business R&D in real time: the largest investors raised R&D spending by 6% in 2025](#)

WEF presents ten most influential emerging technologies of 2026 (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

The World Economic Forum has published its annual report on the ten most influential emerging technologies. In first place is a technology that feeds unused power from sources such as electric cars and batteries back into the grid when demand peaks. This allows shortages at peak times to be compensated for without the use of fossil fuel power plants. Other technologies on the list include direct lithium extraction, passive radiative cooling, PFAS degradation, and personalized mRNA cancer vaccines.

WEF News Item: [These are the Top 10 Emerging Technologies 2026 | World Economic Forum](#)

WEF Report: [Top 10 Emerging Technologies of 2026 | World Economic Forum](#)

Just 16% of SDG Targets on Track, 2026 Report Finds (23 June 2026)

Source: Website SDG Transformation Center <https://sdgtransformationcenter.org/>

New report finds widespread backing for SDGs but major gaps in delivery, finance and governance.



Global progress towards the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remains 'significantly off track', with only 16% of targets on course to be met by 2030, according to the latest [Sustainable Development Report](#). Published by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), the 2026 report underscores the scale of the challenge as governments and funders enter the final years of the 2030 Agenda.

Despite slow progress, commitment to the SDGs remains strong across most countries, with broad support for maintaining the framework beyond 2030. However, delivery continues to be constrained by geopolitical tensions, uneven implementation, and persistent gaps in financing and governance - factors that place increasing pressure on national systems and international funding mechanisms.

The report highlights a set of priorities for accelerating progress, including strengthening national implementation capacity, expanding access to finance, and making more systematic use of science and data in policymaking. For funders, this points to a growing emphasis on supporting delivery systems and evidence-informed interventions, rather than agenda-setting alone. It also calls for renewed international cooperation, warning that sustainable development cannot be achieved in the context of ongoing conflict and weakening multilateral engagement - trends that risk undermining collective financing and coordination efforts.

Performance remains uneven across regions. East and South Asia have made the strongest gains since 2015, while many other countries are experiencing stagnation or backsliding on key indicators, reinforcing the need for more targeted and context-specific investment strategies.

The report also includes the latest SDG Index, ranking all UN member states, alongside new survey data showing strong public and expert support for more ambitious action - suggesting continued political space for scaled-up interventions. The report ultimately suggests that without a step change in how the SDGs are implemented - particularly on financing, governance and international coordination - the 2030 targets will remain out of reach. It argues that the remaining years should be treated as a 'delivery phase', with greater political focus on execution rather than goal-setting, and warns that choices made now will shape the credibility of any post-2030 global development framework.

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, President of the SDSN and a lead author of the report, said:

'Support for sustainable development as the global paradigm remains strong throughout the world. Notable success stories have emerged across East and South Asia and in many other countries and regions. Sustainable development cannot be achieved amid ongoing conflict, making peace the top priority of our time. As the 2030 landmark approaches, the next era of sustainable development must put the global emphasis on implementation and ensuring strong financing and effective governance at all levels.'

For further information: <https://sdgtransformationcenter.org/>

OECD makes recommendations to increase industrial energy productivity (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

Governments can do more to increase the energy productivity of companies and thereby promote their economic resilience and competitiveness. This can be read in a report by the OECD. The research shows that there are currently large differences in energy productivity between comparable companies, which means that there are still major steps to be taken here. According to the OECD, many countries are currently working with the wrong incentives, whereby energy-intensive companies are supported.

OECD Report: [How improving industrial energy productivity can cut emissions and boost competitiveness | OECD](#)

Researchers launch innovation atlas for policymakers (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

The interactive online tool Atlas of Innovation, launched last week, is intended to help policymakers make a targeted choice between subsidies, research grants, or competition when driving innovation. Economist Matt Clancy was involved in the project and explains in a blog that the tool presents the optimal proposals per policy objective based on available knowledge, literature, and context. Furthermore, the tool must be easy to use, even for policymakers with less economic knowledge. Clancy hopes that the tool also provides insight into the unequal distribution of resources.

Atlas of Innovation: <https://atlasofinnovation.org/atlas>

Blog Matt Clancy: [An Atlas of Innovation - by Matt Clancy](#)

RAND: Chinese tech strategy yields progress and tensions (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

Under Xi Jinping, China has linked its technology and industrial policy more strongly to national security, technological self-reliance, and leadership in strategic sectors. This is stated by think tank RAND in an analysis. According to the report, policy is becoming more centralized, more financially driven, and more strongly controlled by the party-state. China is making progress as a result, but the system also experiences tensions. According to the think tank, central control hinders local innovation, the costs of industrial policy are shifted onto companies, and companies make decisions based on what the state wants rather than what is economically sensible.

RAND Analysis: [China's Techno-Industrial Strategy in the Xi Era: Producing Under Pressure | RAND](#)

National policy

Broad coalition calls on politicians to push ahead with NADI establishment (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

Politicians must hurry with the establishment of a National Agency for Disruptive Innovation. This is stated in an open letter signed by investors, researchers, knowledge institutions, and innovative companies. 500 million euros have been reserved for NADI in the coalition agreement. The cabinet wants all this money to be recouped. The authors suggest limiting this to a maximum of 30%. "If 100% of the capital must be recouped through investments, NADI cannot take higher risks." The AWTI has already advised previous cabinets to establish a NADI, including in **Oppakken en doorpakken** (2016) and **Duurzame doorbraken** (2025), and is organizing a panel discussion on this topic at the NWO and NERA energy symposium on July 3.

Open letter: [Open brief - NADI \(in Dutch\)](#)

AWTI advice **Oppakken en doorpakken (2016):** [Oppakken en doorpakken - Durven kiezen voor energie-innovatie | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie \(in Dutch\)](#)

AWTI advice **Duurzame doorbraken (2025):** [Duurzame doorbraken - Naar systeeminnovatie in de energietransitie | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie \(in Dutch\)](#)

Panel discussion on sustainable breakthroughs at Energy Symposium: [NWO NERA Energy Symposium 2026 | NWO \(in Dutch\)](#)

Positive interim evaluation for all sector plans (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

Minister Letschert has sent three interim evaluation reports on the sector plans to the House. The evaluation committees note that the participating institutions have been actively implementing the plans since 2022 and that substantial steps have been taken in all sectors. The Cabinet is advised to continue the sector plans, with unchanged allocation of resources and retention of the current distribution. The Minister will provide a substantive response to the reports in the autumn.

Letter to the House of Representatives from Minister Letschert: <https://open.overheid.nl/details/d802a86d-cdce-4241-8393-4d26a894fe49> (in Dutch)

Cover letter accompanying evaluations:

<https://open.overheid.nl/overheid/openbaarmakingen/api/v0/attachment/189fc990-8e52-461d-860a-12142a437a67>

PNN, NEWS, and De Jonge Akademie launch guide for PhD of the future (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

In addition to scientific publications, other activities should also be able to count fully in the assessment of PhD candidates. This is argued by PNN, NEWS, and De Jonge Akademie in the guide PhD of the Future. The organizations advocate that dialogue with society should become a fixed part of doctoral trajectories, such as the development of educational materials, open-source software, or policy advice.

News item De Jonge Akademie: [PNN, NEWS en De Jonge Akademie lanceren 'PhD van de toekomst'-gids | De Jonge Akademie](#)

Dutch universities drop in QS rankings (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

Eleven of the thirteen universities have dropped in the QS World University Rankings 2027. Only Leiden University maintains its position, and VU has risen slightly. TU Delft is the leader, just like last year. HOP writes in an analysis that the Netherlands is still performing well, but that institutions in other countries are managing to make

faster progress. Criticism of such rankings has grown in recent years. UNL considers the method by which the various core tasks are measured to be questionable.

QS rankings			
Universiteit	2027	2026	
TU Delft	48	47	-1
Universiteit van Amsterdam	60	53	-7
Universiteit Utrecht	113	103	-10
Universiteit Leiden	119	119	0
Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam	148	140	-8
TU Eindhoven	152	140	-12
Wageningen Universiteit	154	153	-1
Rijksuniversiteit Groningen	157	147	-10
VU Amsterdam	185	194	9
Universiteit Twente	223	203	-20
Universiteit Maastricht	254	239	-15
Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen	283	279	-4
Tilburg University	429	347	-82

Article HOP/U-Today: [UT zakt op QS-ranglijst, net als meeste andere Nederlandse universiteiten - U-Today \(in Dutch\)](#)

Call: Connect technology strategy with societal challenges (25 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 25 June 2026

The Cabinet wants to accelerate major transitions in healthcare, energy and climate, mobility, housing, and digital independence, and increase our economic earning capacity. In doing so, we aim to strengthen both our broad prosperity and resilience. Investments in research and innovation are essential for this. In a memorandum, the AWTI calls on the House of Representatives to connect the National Technology Strategy with the major societal challenges of today. This afternoon's debate on innovation by the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs with Minister Herbert is an excellent opportunity to do so.

Read the AWTI memorandum on strategic technology policy: [Notitie: Strategisch technologiebeleid met een integrale aanpak is essentieel voor brede welvaart en weerbaarheid | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie \(in Dutch\)](#)

Watch the debate of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs: [Innovatie | Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal \(in Dutch\)](#)

The Netherlands is among the international leaders in open science (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

The NWO Open Science NL program has developed into a leading international program in a short time. This is the conclusion of an independent evaluation of the program's first phase. The international evaluation committee states that the program can serve as an example for other European countries. The committee also points out the importance of the further development of open science, as this may come under pressure due to geopolitical tensions and discussions regarding digital autonomy and knowledge security.

NWO News Release: [Evaluation: With Open Science NL, the Netherlands is among the international leaders | NWO](#)

Register for the AWTI Annual Symposium (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

How do regional ecosystems of knowledge and innovation break the innovation paradox? What is needed to strengthen regional ecosystems? How do regional ecosystems connect within the Netherlands and across borders? These questions are central to the AWTI Annual Symposium *How Regions Break the Innovation Paradox* on Thursday, October 8 at NEMO, Amsterdam. By participating in this symposium, you also actively contribute to the insights the Council is gathering for an advisory report currently in preparation on valorization and ecosystems. Will you be joining us?

Read more and register for the AWTI Annual Symposium: [Home | AWTI - Jaarsymposium 2026 \(in Dutch\)](#)

Number of international students falls for the first time (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

The number of international students in the Netherlands has decreased for the first time. This is evident from research by Nuffic into incoming degree mobility, which has been conducted annually since 2006. Although it concerns a small decrease of 0.1 percent, according to Nuffic this indicates a break in the trend. The decline is mainly concentrated in bachelor's programs, meaning the expectation is that the decline will continue in the coming years. International intake in the Engineering field of study has, however, increased. This aligns with the administrative agreements made with universities, which are still permitted to actively recruit for sectors facing shortages.

Nuffic News Report: [Voor het eerst lichte daling internationale studentenpopulatie | Nuffic](#) (in Dutch)

Three Dutch companies in Time ranking of green tech companies (18 June 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 18 June 2026

Three Dutch companies are included in Time Magazine and Statista's annual ranking of the world's 250 best green technology companies: Mosa Meat (91), ROCSYS (117), and The Ocean Cleanup (162). The list, which is dominated by American companies (57 percent), focuses on companies developing technologies in the fields of renewable energy, clean infrastructure, and innovative food production.

On the 2026 list, [the U.S.](#) was home to the majority of top greentech companies, with 57.2% of headquarters based stateside, headed by geothermal provider Fervo Energy (no. 4) and agriculture innovator Pivot (no. 5). The country with the second largest portion of companies on the list is France, which is [one of the leading renewable energy producers](#) and [sustainability innovators](#) in the EU with a €240 million plan unveiled in April to further reduce its [fossil fuel reliance](#).

Renewable energy companies—including companies using solar, wind, geothermal, fusion, or biomass to generate power; or creating infrastructure for clean energy production—make up 34% of the list. The top two companies, Canada-based General Fusion (no. 1) and Eavor (no. 2), both fall under this category. General Fusion is a nuclear energy startup specializing in a technique called [magnetized target fusion](#) that plans to [go public on the U.S. stock exchange](#) through a \$1 billion SPAC deal in mid-2026.

Time Magazine Ranking: [World's Top GreenTech Companies of 2026](#)

Sensible reorientation on the screening law emphasizes the great responsibility of universities for the security of knowledge (11 June 2026)

Source: Website UNL [Verstandige heroriëntatie op screeningswet benadrukt grote verantwoordelijkheid universiteiten voor kennisveiligheid | Universiteiten van Nederland](#)

Minister Letschert has just announced that she intends to revise the Knowledge Security Screening Bill. In a letter to Parliament, the Minister indicates that broad screening for knowledge security is not feasible for several reasons. Instead, the Minister wishes to explore a limited and targeted form of screening. As far as the universities are concerned, this new course aligns better with our shared objective of an effective and efficient knowledge security policy. The Dutch universities fully endorse the importance of preventing unwanted knowledge transfer. Despite financial pressure, they have invested heavily in measures to improve knowledge security in recent years. UNL Chair Caspar van den Berg: "Protecting knowledge at universities is crucial for Dutch security. We support the Minister in her task of anchoring this principle in workable policy and are happy to actively contribute to this."

During the internet consultation on the original bill, the universities expressed major concerns regarding, among other things, proportionality and feasibility, for instance due to the high number of screenings and the uneven playing field that would arise compared to the business community and other countries. The lack of precision in the list of subject areas (resulting in an enormous number of screenings, including the administrative burden) and the problem that a screening is by definition a snapshot in time were also problematic. In this letter to Parliament ([external link](#)), Minister Letschert explicitly addresses such issues. Based on the responses during the online consultation, the advice of the Advisory Committee on Regulatory Burden Assessment and Implementation Tests of the Inspectorate of Education, and the intended implementers Nuffic and Justis, the original legislative proposal appears indeed to be neither feasible nor proportionate. Continuing on this path could hold a genuine improvement in the knowledge security situation hostage.

Read full article here: [Verstandige heroriëntatie op screeningswet benadrukt grote verantwoordelijkheid universiteiten voor kennisveiligheid | Universiteiten van Nederland](#) (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 25 June 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 **25 June 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

From 20-01-2026 until 23-06-2026	Deadline for submission proposals for The second 'NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine 2025 . Applications can be submitted continuously until the deadline of Tuesday 23 June 2026 at 14:00:00 CE(S)T, or until the budget has been exhausted. Open: Hop-On Call for Ukrainian researchers NWO and NWO-NRFU Partnership Initiative NWO and NWO-NRFU Partnership Initiative NWO
23-06-2026	Deadline for submission of the mandatory Letter of intent for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil . Deadline for submission of the mandatory Letter of intent is 23 June 2026 14:00:00 CET (via e-mail) and 23 June 2026 23:59:59 BRT (SAGe) . Call open: Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future (KIC) NWO and KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO and Call for Proposals - Integrated biorefineries for a circular future
10-09-2026	Deadline for applications of OECD co-operative Research Programme for Funding for Research Fellow Grants 2027 . The Co-operative Research Programme's call for applications for funding research fellowship grants in 2027 is now OPEN. The deadline to apply is Thursday 10 September 2026, midnight, Paris time . 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 funding international events (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 Thursday 10 September 2026, midnight, Paris time . CRP Applications for Events (Conferences, Workshops and Symposiums) OECD
03-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full Proposals in the portal of the NFRF Call '2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges' . Deadline for submission of the full proposals in the portal of the NFRF. Please check the website of the NFRF for exact details. Call open: International Call for groundbreaking innovations to address global challenges NWO and 2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges NWO and Call-for-proposals-NFRF-221225_1.pdf
20-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil . Deadline for submission of Proposals is 20 October 2026 14:00:00 CEST (ISAAC) and 20 October 2026 23:59:59 BRT (SAGe) . Call open: Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future (KIC) NWO and KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO and Call for Proposals - Integrated biorefineries for a circular future

National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **25 June 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

30-06-2026	Deadline for submission of statement of intent for KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 . The deadline for submitting a statement of intent 30 June 2026. KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026
08-07-2026	Deadline for submission letter of Intent for call Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition . The deadline for applicants to declare their Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI) is 8 July, 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
15-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3 . Round 3: 15 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2026-round-1 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/call_for_proposals_sgw_oc_xs_2026.pdf
16-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for Full proposals KIC - Early detection and impact forecasting of (threatening) infectious diseases outbreaks . Closing date full application 16 June 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-early-detection-and-impact-forecasting-of-threatening-infectious-diseases-outbreaks
Until 23-06-2026	Deadline for submission full applications for the 'NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine' . Closing date full application 23 June 2026 14:00 hrs NWO and NRFU launch second funding round for Ukrainian researchers NWO and NWO Hop-On Call for Proposals for Researchers Based in Ukraine 2025 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-2025---DEF.pdf

23-06-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Letter of Intent KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future. Foreseen closing date for letter of intent 23 June 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO
02-07-2026	Deadline submission proposals NWO Impact Explorer 2026 fall round. Deadline for submission proposals fall deadline 2 July 2026 14:00:00 CET. Full 2026 round of Venture Challenge open now NWO and Venture Challenge Spring 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Venture Challenge
02-07-2026	Deadline submission Full applications Venture Challenge Fall 2026. Closing date full application 2 July 2026 14:00 hrs <i>Registration for the spring edition opens 5 May 2026 and closes on 2 July 2026 14:00:00 CET.</i> 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 Full proposals NWO-Talent Programme Vici 2026. The deadline for submitting full applications is September 8, 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. Vici round 2026 now open for pre-proposals NWO and NWO Talent Programme NWO
10-09-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of proposals for Embassy Science Fellowship (ESF-NL) (2027) programme. 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</u> for the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of <u>organisations based in the Netherlands for phase 1</u> (see section 3.1.1) is 18 August 2026 before 14:00:00 CEST / The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of <u>foreign organisations for phase 1</u> (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
21-01-2027	Deadline submission proposals for KIC Societal Earning Capacity: Connection, Synthesis and Knowledge Utilisation This Call for proposals has a specific lead time during which applications can be submitted continuously. During the term, three deadlines/collection times have been determined when applications will be assessed. Applications can be submitted continuously until January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET. January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation

28-02-2027	Foreseen deadline for full applications Large Scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) - National Roadmap consortia 2026 . Closing date full application 28 February 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/large-scale-research-infrastructure-lsri-national-roadmap-consortia-2026
02-03-2027	Deadline for submission full applications NWA Call 'Municipal policy for biodiversity restoration' . The deadline for submitting applications is Tuesday, 2 March 2027, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-restoration and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-restoration
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
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
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 **25 June 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 hulpbronnenefficiënte 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
2021-2027	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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