

Research and innovation projects supporting the upcoming Circular Economy Act (28 July 2026)	8
Industry rejects move to cash contributions for EU Joint Undertakings (23 July 2026)	9
Other International funding	12
COST Actions Networking Grants Open for 2026 (31 July 2026)	12
Pre-announcement: New DUT call on sustainable European urban transitions opens on 1 September (21 July 2026)	13
Novo Nordisk: Project Grants for Research within Nutrition Related to CMDs (21 July 2026)	14
National funding	15
Open Science: Mobility and Development Programme (4 August 2026)	15
Registration open for the first edition of NWO SHIFT (29 July 2026)	15
Final round of the Perspectief programme open for research proposals (27 July 2026)	16
Third round of the SSH Open Competition XS 2026 now open for applications (23 July 2026)	17
Rubicon: 15 researchers broaden their horizons (23 July 2026)	18
Foreseen call: KIC - Mobile and modular imaging technology for a healthy and safe society (23 July 2026)	18
Third round of the SSH Open Competition XS 2026 now open for applications (23 July 2026)	19
Foreseen call for proposals: Antarctic research and Antarctica InSync (23 July 2026)	19
NWA funding for Dutch-Brazilian consortia in Cerrado research (21 July 2026)	20
NWO awards applications for Scientific Meetings and Consultations (21 July 2026)	21
Seven young first-generation academics receive KNAW-bursary (21 July 2026)	21
Regional funding	22
Internal Wageningen University and Research calls	23
Latest developments within R&I Policies	24
European Policy	24
Give your opinion on the 'do no significant harm' principle (31 July 2026)	24
Japan officially joins Horizon Europe (30 July 2026)	24
Research and innovation projects supporting the upcoming Circular Economy Act (28 July 2026)	25
New Charter boosts access for companies to cutting-edge research and technology infrastructures in Europe (28 July 2026)	26
Building FOOD 2040 Stakeholder Input for the new EU R&I Strategic Agenda for Food Systems (23 July 2026)	27
Global policy	28
The US 'golden age' science strategy: what Europeans need to know (30 July 2026)	28
The truth about getting published in science (30 July 2026)	29
OECD Identifies Five Key Policy Responses to University AI Adoption (23 July 2026)	30
National policy	32
Halting investments in bioplastics plays into the hands of the fossil fuel industry (4 August 2026)	32
Call deadlines	33
HORIZON Europe calls	33
Other related EC calls (European Partnerships, ERA-Net COFUNDS etc.)	40
Other international calls	42
National calls	42
Regional calls	46
About the Wageningen Grant Office	47
Contacts	47
Disclaimer	48
WUR is serious about data	48

Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe..

Latest news on EIC Pathfinder Challenges and EIC Workprogramme 2027 (30 July 2026)

Source: Mailing RVO team IRIS

Pathfinder Challenges 2026

The deadline for the Pathfinder Challenges on October 28th is approaching, and we would like to remind you that we can support the application from your institution. The challenges in 2026 are:

- Advanced Materials for Miniaturised Energy Harvesting Systems
- Biotechnology for Healthy Ageing
- DeepRAP: Deep Reasoning, Abstraction & Planning towards trustworthy Cognitive AI Systems

RVO offers to set-up a digital meeting to check the fit to the Pathfinder Challenge and they can proofread the proposal several times, depending on the timing and our availability. Their support is free and most valuable in the early stages of the preparation.

Note PJ: WGO also offers proof reading of your proposal

The EIC has thematic Programma Managers (PMs), they create the challenges for the EIC, and crucially, they will select the portfolio of winning projects. The PMs for these challenges have hosted a workshop during which they explained carefully what they are looking for in the projects they will select. The workshop is recorded and can be found on the EIC website: **EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2026 - European Innovation Council** https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities/eic-pathfinder/eic-pathfinder-challenges-2026_en. We recommend that the coordinator watch the workshop themselves, because the PMs have a lot of freedom in selecting the projects, there was a challenge in 2025 where the 9 highest scoring projects were not selected because they didn't fit to the challenge well enough.

Draft Work Programme 2027

The draft work programme (WP) for 2027 2: <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/comitology-register/screen/documents/116787/2/consult?lang=en>. The EIC is still developing this draft, so the budgets are not in for example. If you have feedback we can give to the EIC, please send us an email, we can still give feedback at this stage.

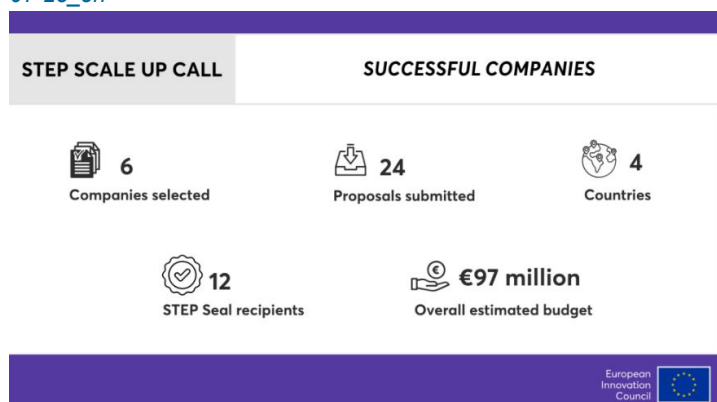
The biggest changes are that Pathfinder Open will be 2-stage. The first stage will be 8 pages, written only by the coordinator and consist of only an Excellence and Impact section. The deadline will be February 25th, 2027.

The Pathfinder challenges in 2027 will be:

- Breakthroughs in Advanced Materials for Future Resilient, Sustainable, and Efficient Energy Grids
- Safe and Controlled Continual Learning in Open World for Reliable AI Agents (CLOWAI)
- Quantum Energetics

The EIC selects new European scale-ups for STEP Scale Up investments (28 July 2026)

Source: Website EIC https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/eic-selects-new-european-scale-ups-step-scale-investments-2026-07-28_en



The European Commission announced a new group of companies selected to receive investments of up to €30 million to help them scale up and establish a strong market position. The investments are part of the **EIC Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform** https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities/step-scale_en (STEP) Scale Up call. Out of 24 companies that submitted their proposal, 17 were invited to interview with independent high-level experts. Six of those met all the eligibility and evaluation criteria and are now put forward for investment decisions by the EIC Fund, subject to due diligence. If negotiations are successful, the companies may receive a combined €97 million of equity investments (between €10 and €30 million per company).

The selected companies cover a wide range of strategic technologies for Europe:

- **Cailabs** (France) - building the ground systems that make laser communications deployable;
- **Cylib** (Germany) - transforming end-of-life batteries into critical raw materials;
- **Paebbl** (The Netherlands) – turning CO₂ into future-proof building materials;
- **SiPearl** (France) - designing high-performance central processing units (CPUs) for sovereign data centres and accelerated computing;
- **Skeleton Technologies Group** (Estonia) - developing rack-to-grid power systems engineered for the demands of next-generation AI compute infrastructure;
- **Vsora** (France) - delivering ultra-high-performance AI inference solutions for both data centers and edge deployments.

These six companies, together with additional six companies that were also considered excellent but not selected in this round due to the limitations of the available STEP budget, will all receive **the STEP Seal** https://strategic-technologies.europa.eu/step-seal/step-seal-explained_en. The Seal aims to facilitate access to complementary or alternative funding as well as to EIC Business Acceleration Services.

For more information: https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/eic-selects-new-european-scale-ups-step-scale-investments-2026-07-28_en

Conference “From Soil to Systems: Living Labs and Artificial Intelligence for a Sustainable Future of Agriculture (28 July 2026)

Source: Website » **SAVE-THE-DATE – From Soil to Systems: Living Labs and Artificial Intelligence for a Sustainable Future of Agriculture**

We are pleased to invite you to the conference “From Soil to Systems: Living Labs and Artificial Intelligence for a Sustainable Future of Agriculture”, which will take place in Brussels on 13 October 2026.

The event, organized by the Polish Science Contact Agency PolSCA of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Committee of Agronomic Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the University of Florence, will focus on soil and plant health, and their role in the future of European agriculture.



Starting from the EU Mission **“A Soil Deal for Europe”**, the conference will look at how research, policy and practice can meet healthier soils, more resilient farming systems and more sustainable food production. Particular attention will be given to **Living Labs**, understood not as a policy slogan, but as practical spaces for testing solutions together with farmers, researchers, businesses, public authorities and local communities. The program will also address **artificial intelligence and the growing role of data in agriculture**, including their potential to support soil and crop monitoring, precision farming, and better decision-making.

The conference will be organized back-to-back with the international brokerage event for selected topics under Cluster 6 of Horizon Europe, which will take place on 12 October 2026 in Brussels.

The website of the event is available here: <https://bit.ly/soil-to-systems>

More information, including the full agenda and registration details, will follow after summer break. We would appreciate if you could share this in your network and among your relevant stakeholders.

Preannouncement: Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership’s Fourth Joint Transnational Call (24 July 2026)

Source: Website European Partnerships Sustainable Blue economy [Preannouncement: Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership’s Fourth Joint Transnational Call | Bluepartnership](#)

Foreseen call launch (Provisional): 14/09/26, 15:00 CEST (Brussels Time)

Pre-proposal submission deadline (provisional): 16/11/2026, 15:00 CET (Brussels Time)

Full proposal submission deadline (provisional): 14/06/2027, 15:00 CEST (Brussels Time)

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership, a **European Partnership under the European Commission's Research & Innovation Framework Programme Horizon Europe**, is pleased to pre-announce its fourth joint transnational call. This fourth Call is co-branded by the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development as a means of stimulating new initiatives in co-designed and co-delivered knowledge and solutions for a sustainable ocean economy as part of the Ocean Decade Action Framework.

The Partnership, composed by 32 countries, pledges to leverage sustainable solutions to boost the green and digital transitions of economic activities related to the ocean, seas and coasts. It aims to strengthen European Union (EU) Blue Economy through national, regional, and EU R&I priorities alignment.

The vision of the Partnership is to:

- Design, steer and support a just and inclusive transition to a regenerative, resilient, and sustainable blue economy.
- Boost the transformation needed towards a climate-neutral, sustainable, productive, and competitive blue economy by 2030
- Create, enhance and sustain ocean health and the social, environmental and economic well-being of the people by 2050”.

This fourth co-funded call aims to support transnational research and innovation projects (36 months) addressing one of the four priority areas below (subject to funded priority areas by participating funding organisations, see Annex):

- **Priority area 1:** Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy
- **Priority area 2:** Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches
- **Priority area 3:** Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in marine production and harvesting
- **Priority area 4:** Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses

Each of these priority areas contributes directly to one or more of the Ocean Decade Challenges, supporting actionable knowledge generation, policy uptake, capacity development, and inclusive innovation in the blue economy context. Projects in this co-funded call must be impact-driven contributions to the transformation into a blue economy for a more resilient future and towards carbon neutrality targets, following an impact pathway approach.

The proposals are strongly recommended to consider a minimum of two EU sea basins which are: the Atlantic Ocean, Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea, and North Sea, and to assess the project proposal's impact and potential replication/scalability on various sea basins. Proposals can target European regional seas such as Adriatic Sea, Aegean Sea, the Arctic, Barents Sea, Celtic Sea, etc. but **they must be from a minimum of 2 different EU sea basins**.

The fourth co-funded call pools national and regional financial resources through the participation of 35 funding organisations from 28 countries combined with the contribution from the European Union. 20 Member-States, 7 Associated Countries and 1 Third Country are participating: Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, **The Netherlands**, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine. The total estimated budget is about **EUR 37 million**.

EIC Launches Three Pathfinder Challenges for 2026 (21 July 2026)

Source: Website EIC [EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2026 - European Innovation Council](#)

The European Innovation Council (EIC) is the Commission's primary tool for identifying and supporting breakthrough technologies and significant innovations with the potential to scale up internationally and become market leaders. The EIC Pathfinder enables multidisciplinary research teams to develop the scientific basis to underpin breakthrough technologies. This route supports early stage development of future technologies up to proof of concept.

The majority of funding issued through the EIC takes the form of Open Funding with no predefined thematic priorities. However, a challenge-driven approach is also used to provide funding to address specific technological and innovation breakthroughs, taking into account EU priorities for transitioning to a green, digital and healthy society.

The 2026 round of Pathfinder Challenge calls are now open for application. Applicants are able to submit projects to achieve breakthroughs in the following three strategic areas:

- [Advanced Materials for Miniaturised Energy Harvesting Systems](#)
- [Biotechnology for Healthy Ageing](#)
- [Deep Reasoning, Abstraction & Planning Towards Trustworthy Cognitive AI Systems](#)

Submissions may generally be made by consortia of at least three different independent legal entities (such as research organisations, universities, SMEs, start-ups, industry, natural persons) established in at least three different eligible countries (EU Member States and Associate Countries), of which at least one must be an EU Member State. However, single applicants may be able to apply for Pathfinder challenges according to the call specifications.

The total indicative budget is €96 million, which is expected to be allocated in approximately equal shares across the Challenges. Grants of up to €4 million are available per project to enable them to achieve the proof of principle and validate the scientific basis of breakthrough technology (eg TRL 1-4).

Proposals must be submitted by 26 October 2026

For more information: [EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2026 - European Innovation Council](#)

European Funding News: FP10

Research funding at risk as Germany opposes higher EU spending (30 July 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [Research funding at risk as Germany opposes higher EU spending | Science|Business](#)

German Chancellor Merz says EU budget proposal should be cut by several hundred billion euros



German Chancellor Friedrich Merz. Photo credits: European Union

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz called for cuts to the European Commission's proposal for the next long-term EU budget "across all areas," totalling "several hundred billion euros," during a visit to Dublin on July 28.

This staunch opposition to increased spending from the largest contributor to the EU budget throws further doubt on plans to significantly expand the Horizon Europe research and innovation programme.

Last summer, the Commission put forward its proposal for a 2028-34 EU budget of nearly €2 trillion in current prices, the equivalent of €1.76 trillion in 2025 prices adjusted for inflation. In June, the Cypriot presidency of the EU Council published **the first figures** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/horizon-europe/council-presidency-proposes-eu167b-horizon-europe-budget> for negotiations between EU governments, proposing an overall budget of €1.73 trillion, or a cut of almost 2%.

The Cypriot figures included a 4% cut to Horizon Europe, from €154.9 billion to €148.6 billion. **But with a number of countries, including Germany, pushing for even deeper cuts to the overall budget, the Framework Programme for research and innovation may come under further pressure.**

The European Parliament's rapporteurs <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/eu-budget/meps-adopt-long-term-budget-report-eu200-billion-next-horizon-europe> for the next EU budget have proposed €177 billion for Horizon Europe in 2025 prices, which is equivalent to the €200 billion the research community has been pushing for.

The Commission's Horizon Europe budget proposal should be considered a baseline, said Gabi Lombardo, director of the European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities. "Anything below that, the Framework Programme risks becoming a lottery game and becoming irrelevant," she told Science|Business.

The current Horizon Europe programme has a seven-year budget of €93.5 billion, but applications are on the rise, **causing success rates to plummet** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/r-d-funding/horizon-europe/data-corner-horizon-success-rates-are-dropping>.

"The Framework Programme is not just about investing in research to make few researchers happy, it is a matter of projecting a politically strong Europe," Lombardo said. An ambitious budget is also critical if the EU wants to continue to collaborate with non-EU countries and to use the programme as a tool of European soft power, she added.

Read full article here: [Research funding at risk as Germany opposes higher EU spending | Science|Business](#)

Russell Group Urges UK Association to Next Horizon Europe Programme From Day One (28 July 2026)

Source: Website [Horizon Europe and Framework Programme 10 | Russell Group](#)

Briefing highlights the importance of UK participation in Horizon Europe and its successor programme to support research excellence, innovation and economic growth.



The Russell Group has urged the UK government to make an early commitment to association with Framework Programme 10 (FP10), the successor to [Horizon Europe](#), arguing that continued participation in European research funding programmes is vital for strengthening research, innovation and long-term economic growth.

In a new policy briefing <https://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/policy/policy-briefings/horizon-europe-and-framework-programme-10>, the organisation notes that European framework programmes have played a significant role in supporting scientific discovery, international collaboration and innovation across Europe. Following the UK's return to Horizon Europe, the Russell Group says stable participation in future programmes would help universities and researchers maintain and expand partnerships with European counterparts.

The briefing emphasises the value of programmes that support frontier research and researcher mobility, including the [European Research Council](#) and [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#). According to the Russell Group, these schemes are central to attracting and retaining talented researchers, building international networks and supporting the development of future scientific leaders.

Looking ahead to FP10, the organisation argues that fundamental research should remain a core priority. It highlights concerns that a growing proportion of high-quality research proposals are currently unable to secure funding and calls for strong support for early-stage, curiosity-driven research alongside innovation-focused activity. The briefing also advocates greater backing for lower technology readiness level projects and a balanced approach to assessing long-term research impact.

The Russell Group further stresses the need to minimise administrative burdens and ensure that any future reforms to funding mechanisms do not discourage ambitious or higher-risk research. It argues that governance arrangements should maximise the value of collaborative research while preserving excellence as a guiding principle for funding decisions.

Published as discussions continue over the design of FP10, the briefing underlines how international research collaboration is increasingly viewed as a strategic asset in addressing shared challenges, enhancing competitiveness and translating scientific knowledge into economic and societal benefits.

For more information: [Russell Group - Horizon Europe and Framework Programme 10 \(Briefing\)](#)

Research and innovation projects supporting the upcoming Circular Economy Act (28 July 2026)

Source: Website EC DG-RTD [Research and innovation projects supporting the upcoming Circular Economy Act - Research and innovation](#)

Drawing on results from EU-funded Research and Innovation projects under the Horizon Europe programme, the reports on **Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act** identify key barriers and success factors for scaling circular solutions across regions, across borders and within key sectors and material streams. Each publication focuses on one of the following thematic areas:

1. *circular public procurement*
2. *extended producer responsibility*
3. *recycled and bio-based content and end-of-waste criteria, and*

4. waste electrical and electronic equipment and the recovery of critical raw materials

The project portfolio analyses illustrate key constraints, linked, for instance, to regulatory fragmentation, limited data interoperability, and insufficient cross-border coordination. The reports suggest field-specific recommendations, such as life cycle-based Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes, procurement tools, and harmonised end-of-waste criteria.

In addition, they highlight the importance of elements such as territorially grounded circular policies, the deployment of Digital Product Passports, and the development of integrated reverse supply chains for critical raw materials. The targeted recommendations gathered from on-the-ground implementation projects provide valuable insights for the upcoming Circular Economy Act, supporting Europe's circular economy transition in a manner that is actionable, coherent, and systemic.

Reports

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - **Focus area: circular public procurement:**

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/6b06631b-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - **Focus area: extended producer**

responsibility: [https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/95ef3080-8185-11f1-bf5e-](https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/95ef3080-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en)

[01aa75ed71a1/language-en](https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/95ef3080-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en)

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - **Focus area: recycled and bio-based content**

and end-of-waste criteria: [https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/9399599f-8185-11f1-bf5e-](https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/9399599f-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en)

[01aa75ed71a1/language-en](https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/9399599f-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en)

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - **Focus area: waste electric and electronic**

equipment and recovery of critical raw materials: [https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/b38cabe2-](https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/b38cabe2-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en)

[8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en](https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/b38cabe2-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en)

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - **Focus area: transnational and regional**

initiatives: [https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/21036567-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-](https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/21036567-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en)

[en](https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/21036567-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en)

Industry rejects move to cash contributions for EU Joint Undertakings (23 July 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [Industry rejects move to cash contributions for EU Joint Undertakings | Science|Business](#)

Stakeholders ask for more complementarity, stronger participation and easier access to research and innovation partnerships



Photo credits: European Union

The European Commission has received significant pushback to its suggestion that industry could be required to make cash contributions to Horizon Europe joint undertakings (JUs), rather than supporting them with contributions in kind. Joint undertakings are large research and innovation partnerships between the EU and industry, and in some cases member states. While set to continue in the next Horizon Europe programme, the Commission has signalled its desire for a revamp and a reduction in their number. Currently there are 12 JUs, in sectors ranging from hydrogen to health. On industry support, the Commission [has said](#) that in-kind contributions, such as the use of facilities or personnel time, will not be excluded in the Horizon Europe legal texts, but it does want the partnerships to attract more cash contributions.

This proposal received a strong reaction from stakeholders submitting evidence to a Commission exercise on the future of the JUs, which closed on July 14.

"The regulatory framework must explicitly exclude any mandatory cash contributions into centralised pots to prevent subsidising international industrial competitors," says a submission from Airbus.

Replacing in-kind contributions with mandatory cash-only contributions “*would significantly reduce private participation and weaken Europe’s collaborative innovation ecosystem*,” says the Royal Netherlands Aerospace Centre. Universities are also worried this could reduce the engagement of industry partners and civil society organisations. “*In-kind contributions facilitate cross-sector collaboration, a core objective of partnerships, to the direct benefit of universities and researchers willing to engage in collaborative research projects*,” writes the Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities.

The European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations argues that in-kind contributions “*often represent the most valuable assets that industry can provide to collaborative research*.” It cites examples from the health sector including datasets, clinical networks and regulatory expertise. In their amendments to the Horizon Europe proposal, which must now be negotiated with the European Parliament, EU governments introduced an explicit reference to in-kind contributions.

Areas for action

While a part of Horizon Europe, JUs are legal entities and so will be subject to a separate legislative proposal. The Commission is due to present its proposal by the end of 2026, but stakeholders are sceptical this timeline will be met. By the end of the four-week call for evidence, around 1,300 responses had been submitted. Continuation of JUs as a key instrument for collaborative research and innovation received widespread backing, but there are lots of suggestions for how JUs could be improved under the next Horizon Europe programme, starting in 2028. Here, Science|Business picks out four of the common themes.

1. More complementarity

The JUs as an instrument are widely deemed to have proven their value as a stable framework for long-term collaboration between the EU, industry, research organisations and member states.

Going forward, many want to see connections between JUs and other partnerships and instruments strengthened. For example, the European Rare Diseases Research Alliance says projects it supports should have faster and more structured access to funding under the Innovative Health Initiative JU.

That also means more coordination mechanisms between JUs. “The absence of a portfolio management approach is one of the most significant structural weaknesses of the current JU framework,” writes the Fraunhofer Society, a German network of applied research institutes.

This is an issue the Commission itself identified in [the call for evidence](#). “Cross-fertilisation and knowledge dissemination is low among institutionalised partnerships, and between institutionalised partnerships and other publicly funded research and innovation initiatives,” it noted.

Synergies among JUs and between JUs, Horizon Europe and the ECF “should be implemented through genuine portfolio management, cross-JU calls, shared technology roadmaps and common access to infrastructures,” says the National Research Council of Italy.

2. A stronger role for universities, RTOs and SMEs

There is a broad feeling that it should be easier for universities, research and technology organisations (RTOs) and SMEs to participate in the JUs, and that they should have a stronger role in these partnerships’ strategic planning and governance.

“R&D funding should be guided by organisations and experts at the forefront of aviation innovation rather than incumbents who have little incentive to innovate,” says environmental group Transport and Environment. Aviation JUs should support new players working on high-risk, high-reward technologies, and include start-ups and scale-ups on governance boards, it adds.

3. Stronger links between R&D and industrialisation

There is strong support for bridging the gap between research and implementation, but not at the expense of early-stage research. Each JU should cover the full innovation journey, from pre-competitive research to pilot, demonstration and deployment, stakeholders say. Links with the ECF are seen as an opportunity to strengthen this innovation pipeline. “Greater focus is needed on technology maturation, system integration, validation in relevant environments and interoperability,” says Vito, the Flemish Institute for Technological Research.

This is another challenge the Commission highlighted in its call text. JUs currently allocate limited funding to high technology readiness levels and lack strong links with EU deployment programmes, it said.

4. Simplification

There is support for the Commission's push to simplify the partnerships and make them easier to access. The European Association of Innovation Consultants calls for more harmonised reporting obligations, and for all JU calls and submission procedures to be integrated into the EU Funding and Tenders Portal.

Current governance structures and reporting obligations “*generate a disproportionate administrative burden,*” says French agricultural research organisation Cirad. “This is particularly true for partnerships relying on decentralised national funding systems, where differences in eligibility rules, funding rates and implementation calendars considerably increase complexity,” Cirad notes.

However, there are also calls to avoid excessive centralisation and to ensure the JUs' governance reflects the diversity of industrial and stakeholder ecosystems and their specific policy objectives.

“*Fragmentation and complexity should not automatically be addressed by creating an overarching centralised governance structure,*” writes the Initiative for Science in Europe, a group of learned societies and research organisations. It adds that, in some cases, fragmentation “can create competitive advantages by stimulating diversity, experimentation and competition between different approaches and stakeholders.”

Other International funding

COST Actions Networking Grants Open for 2026 (31 July 2026)

Source: Website COST <https://www.cost.eu/how-to-apply/>

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is an intergovernmental framework for European Cooperation in the field of scientific and technical research. COST does not fund research itself, but funds the expenses of interdisciplinary research networks called COST Actions. These support a range of networking tools, such as workshops, conferences, training schools, short-term scientific missions (STSMs), communication activities, and virtual networking tools.

COST Actions enable researchers from academia, SMEs, public institutions and other relevant organisations to investigate a topic of their choice for four years. They are open to all science and technology fields, including new and emerging fields, and offer an inclusive, pan-European environment for individuals of all levels of seniority to grow their professional research networks and boost their careers.

Proposals for new Actions are bottom-up and can be on any topic. Researchers can participate by submitting a proposal for a new COST Action, or by joining an existing COST Action. COST Actions are open throughout their lifetime to new members including researchers, engineers and scholars or other stakeholders.

Participation is open to researchers in universities, research centres, and large and small public and private organisations from all COST Member Countries and its Cooperating State (Israel) and Partner Member (South Africa). Proposals must include a Network of Proposers from at least seven different COST Full or Cooperating Members amongst which a minimum of 50% must be from COST Inclusiveness Target Countries:

COST Member Countries

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine and United Kingdom.

Inclusiveness Target Countries

Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Türkiye, and Ukraine.

The funding a COST Action receives covers the expenses of networking activities rather than research. Eligible costs include coordination costs such as contributions to workshops/conferences, travel costs for meetings, contributions to publications and short-term scientific missions of researchers to visit other laboratories.

No budget forecast is requested when submitting a proposal. An estimated €150,000 is made available for a COST Action in its first year and €180,000 per year for the other three (variable depending on the number of COST Countries represented in the Working Groups).

For more information and the guidelines: <https://www.cost.eu/funding/documents-guidelines/>

The funders anticipate supporting up to 80 new COST Actions in the 2026 cycle.

Applications must be submitted by the 28 October 2026 (12:00) deadline.

Pre-announcement: New DUT call on sustainable European urban transitions opens on 1 September (21 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Pre-announcement: New DUT call on sustainable European urban transitions opens on 1 September | NWO](#)



The European Partnership ‘Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future’ (DUT) has announced its fifth Call for proposals. Researchers will soon be able to submit applications for transnational projects that develop solutions to social and spatial challenges in urban areas. DUT focuses on the energy transition, mobility and the circular economy.

DUT’s integrated and transnational approach enables global strategies for sustainable cities to be translated into local action. In this way, the partnership contributes to creating more inclusive, resilient, climate-neutral and sustainable cities across Europe.

About DUT

The DUT Partnership aims to create attractive, sustainable and economically viable urban areas in which European citizens, communities and their environment thrive. The partnership focuses on projects in a global context and aims for a sustainable future.

Aim of the call

Many of today’s and tomorrow’s complex challenges must be tackled in cities and by urban communities. Urban areas are the places where change is needed to secure a sustainable future. The aim of this call is therefore to support transnational projects that tackle these complex urban challenges and help cities in their transition to a more sustainable economy and more sustainable functioning. Within DUT and in this call, these challenges are grouped into three thematic pillars known as ‘Transition Pathways’:

1. 15-minute City
2. Circular Urban Economies
3. Positive Energy Districts

Call themes

In the Netherlands, funding is available for universities and other research organisations via NWO, and for universities of applied sciences via [Taskforce for Applied Research SIA](#) (Dutch only). The draft call text and further information are available on the [DUT website](#). The budget for this call is provided by NWO and the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations. NWO intends to open the following themes within the DUT Call 2026 for research-oriented projects in the fields of urban energy transition, mobility and the circular economy. The national conditions will be confirmed no later than the launch of the Call for Proposals.

- 15mC – topic 2: Align ambitions for mobility transitions across sectors
- 15mC – topic 3: Nurture neighbourhood economies – activate innovation in local everyday services
- CUE – topic 2: Innovative maintenance of urban green and blue spaces
- CUE - Topic 3: Rethinking urban production for circular and resilient cities
- PED - Topic 2: PED solutions in private housing across different urban contexts
- PED - Topic 3: Sustainable PEDs, flexibility in energy systems, and integrated technologies

Expected timeline and information day

- 1 September 2026: launch of phase 1
- 9 September 2026: transnational information webinar (online)
- 17 November 2026: deadline for pre-applications (phase 1)
- 12 February 2027: opening of phase 2
- 15 April 2027: deadline for full proposals (phase 2)

Novo Nordisk: Project Grants for Research within Nutrition Related to CMDs (21 July 2026)

Source: Website Novo Nordisk [Project Grants for Research within Nutrition Related to CMDs - Novo Nordisk Fonden](#)

Purpose

The purpose of the 'Project Grants for research within nutrition related cardiometabolic diseases (CMDs)' is to develop new understandings and the translation/implementation of new and existing knowledge into society within prevention and management of nutrition related CMDs, as well as to support science capital in Denmark within nutritional sciences.

Eligibility

The main applicant must be based at a Danish university, hospital, or other non-profit research organisation. They must have at least a 50% affiliation at this institution.

The profile of applicants may be experienced independent researchers who have already established their own line of research or researchers that are in the process of establishing themselves as independent researchers. As this grant cannot cover salary of the grantee, the applicant must be guaranteed his or her own salary for the entire applied project period. Applications from Master students and PhD students will not be taken into consideration.

If there is a co-applicant, they must be employed at a university, hospital, or other non-profit research organisation outside of Denmark. The co-applicant should significantly contribute to the scientific advancement of the project and receive part of the funding. Collaboration with industry is possible within this programme, however funding cannot be awarded to industrial partner(s).

All study designs will be eligible for funding (e.g., follow-up studies, observational studies, registry-based research, re-analysis of existing original data and RCT) as long as it is the most appropriate method for the given research question within the allocated time and budget. Projects including anti-obesity medication are not eligible for funding.

Funding

A total of up to DKK 30 million is available for grants up to DKK 4 million (DKK 5 million if the project includes an international co-applicant) for projects lasting up to three years.

If there is an international co-applicant, it is expected that the main applicant receives at least half of the project funding but no more than DKK 4 million.

If relevant, the grant period can be extended to 4 years to cover 4-year PhD stipends without changing the granted amount.

The grant cannot be used to cover salary for main applicants, co-applicants, or scientific faculty with time-unlimited contracts.

Call closes: 8 September 2026 1:00pm (Copenhagen time)

Application

All relevant information is contained in the application guidelines document 'Project grants for research within nutrition related CMDs': **Application guidelines can be downloaded here:** <https://novonordiskfonden.dk/app/uploads/Project-grants-within-nutrition-Guidelines-2026-1-1.pdf>

National funding

Open Science: Mobility and Development Programme (4 August 2026)

Source: Website OpenScience NL <https://www.openscience.nl/en/calls/mobility-and-development-programme>

Through this programme, open science professionals can apply for funding for a study visit to a research institution abroad. This enables open science professionals to gain valuable knowledge and experience of best practices in the field of open science.

Purpose

Open Science NL believes that open science professionals – who hold roles such as data steward, research software engineer and community manager, amongst others – are indispensable in the process of making open science the norm. Within their institutions, they act as a point of contact for researchers grappling with complex issues relating to data, software and open methods. At the same time, Open Science NL notes that it is often difficult for open science professionals to gain knowledge and experience because there is a lack of formal training programmes and the available knowledge is not always equally accessible to everyone.

As many institutions abroad possess knowledge that could be of great value to Dutch open science professionals, Open Science NL is now making funding available for study visits to research organisations abroad. Open science professionals can submit an application themselves and bring the knowledge and experience they have gained back to their own institution — and, where possible, share it with the wider open science community.

When to apply

Applications may be submitted at any time, there are no intermediate deadlines. **The final deadline for submitting a proposal is 3 December 2026, before 14:00:00 hours CET.**

Open Science NL will handle applications that meet the formal requirements in order of receipt. If all the budget is spent before 3 December 2026, the funding instrument will be closed.

For more information: <https://www.openscience.nl/en/calls/mobility-and-development-programme>

Registration open for the first edition of NWO SHIFT (29 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Registration open for the first edition of NWO SHIFT | NWO](#)



In collaboration with the SSH Council, NWO is organising the first edition of NWO SHIFT on 16 November 2026. At Figi in Zeist, researchers, policymakers, societal organisations and businesses will come together to discuss the choices that will shape our future.

The conference

NWO SHIFT addresses issues that are too complex to be viewed from a single perspective. How do we tackle societal challenges that interlink technology, behaviour, policy and society? At this conference, people from various disciplines and sectors will come together to exchange knowledge, connect perspectives and develop new insights, thereby creating a common ground for solutions that make a practical impact.

The central theme for 2026: Attention

The first edition of NWO SHIFT centres on the theme *Attention – Shaping society in uncertain times*. In a world shaped by constant stimuli and fierce competition for visibility, attention is not a neutral resource. It shapes authority and

influence, affects how we understand ourselves and others, and ultimately determines whose voices are heard and whose are overlooked. NWO SHIFT invites attendees to explore the role of attention in power and decision-making, its psychological and existential dimensions, and its broader societal consequences.

Programme

The programme is structured around three thematic pillars: *Attention & society*, *Attention & power* and *Attention & the self*. Although the programme for the day is still under development, many of the speakers have already been confirmed. These include internationally recognised speaker Carl Miller, Peter-Paul Verbeek, Stefan van der Stigchel, Lisa Loeb, Haroon Sheikh, Idil Galip, Luc Sels, Amandine Lerusse, Rebecca Schaeffer, Claes de Vreese and Maarten Reesink.

Want to find out more? Then click here: [NWO SHIFT – Shaping Society in Uncertain Times](#) [NWO SHIFT – Shaping Society in Uncertain Times | NWO](#)

Registration

NWO aims for a balanced mix of participants, ensuring that diverse sectors, disciplines and perspectives are represented. We therefore warmly invite you to register via the link below and to promote the conference within your network. For questions please contact shift@nwo.nl.

Register here: <https://nwo-shift.yellenge.nl/registration/#/participants>

Final round of the Perspectief programme open for research proposals (27 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Final round of the Perspectief programme open for research proposals | NWO](#)



For the last time, researchers from universities, universities of applied sciences and TO2 institutions can submit a proposal to work on research projects for technological innovation in consortia with businesses and civil society organisations. The focus lies on high-risk, early-stage technology development that strengthens the positioning of the Dutch knowledge and innovation system.

Read full call for proposals here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/perspectief-round-2026-2027>

Note PJ: It is really a pity that the ministry of economic affairs stops this funding scheme, which really contributes / contributed to more impactful research and innovations. This seems contra-productive seeing the increased emphasis on innovation in Dutch and European policies

Perspectief offers researchers the opportunity to set up a large-scale research project and to establish or further develop a cross-disciplinary consortium. Researchers, businesses and civil society organisations must submit a joint project proposal. Due to the discontinuation of funding for the programme <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-disappointed-by-the-discontinuation-of-perspectief-at-odds-with-innovation-plans>, this will be the final round of Perspectief.

Proposals under Perspectief are assessed on **three criteria**: Societal and economic impact, technology development and scientific quality. The Technology development criterion relates, amongst other things, to the degree of technological innovation and the (further) development of one or more Key Enabling Technologies. The 2026–2027 round of Perspectief will be open to research projects that *contribute to the Knowledge and Innovation Agendas (KIAs)* [Knowledge and Innovation Agendas | NWO](#) and focus on **Key Enabling Technologies** <https://www.nwo.nl/en/key-enabling-technologies> and digitalization.

Application procedure, deadlines and budget

Between 2 and 5 million euros is available from NWO per research project. Funded projects have a maximum duration of six years. It is expected that six projects will be funded.

The first step in submitting a Perspectief proposal is to submit a letter of intent using the form on the NWO website.

NWO will publish the statements submitted by the applicants, including a short summary of the project proposal, on its

website in October 2026. If you are a researcher, company or civil society organisation and would like to participate in a research idea, you have the option of contacting the applicants directly.

- The deadline for submitting letters of intent is **6 October 2026**, by 14:00:00 CEST.
- The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is **24 November 2026**, by 14:00:00 CET.
- The deadline for submitting proposals is **25 May 2027**, by 14:00:00 CEST.

Information session

An online information session about Perspectief will take place on 1 September 2026 from 15:00 to 16:00. Would you like to attend this session? Please register by emailing ttw-perspectief@nwo.nl. You can also contact this address with any other questions about the programme.

Over twenty years of Perspectief

After more than twenty years, Perspectief is coming to an end. During this period, the programme brought together researchers, businesses and civil society organisations to work on innovative solutions to social and economic challenges. This has led – and continues to lead – to new knowledge, technologies and long-term partnerships that endure even after projects have concluded.

Projects within Perspectief have worked, or are currently working, on solutions including CO2 reduction in shipping, increasing the resilience of lettuce, new forms of cancer treatment and the standardisation of organ-on-chip technology. Each of these projects demonstrates the power of public-private collaboration within consortia. They show how fundamental research is translated into practical applications and how the Netherlands can thereby maintain or strengthen its leading international position in the field of various Key Enabling Technologies.

Would you like to find out more about the projects and the impact of the Perspectief programme? Click here:
[The impact of Perspectief | NWO](#).

Third round of the SSH Open Competition XS 2026 now open for applications (23 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Third round of the SSH Open Competition XS 2026 now open for applications | NWO](#)



The third round of the SSH Open Competitions XS 2026 is now open. SGW researchers who obtained their PhD at least five years ago and have a promising idea may submit an application. The deadline for submitting an application for the third round is 15 September 2026, by 14:00:00 CEST.

About the call

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

The characteristics of SSH Open Competition XS research are:

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

XS applications are peer-reviewed by the applicants themselves on the basis of the research idea. For this reason, applicants submit their research idea anonymously via the application form.

Applications under this call may total up to €50,000. The maximum duration of an XS project is two years.

Rounds in 2027

Following the final round in 2026, there will again be three rounds in 2027. The Call for Proposals for 2027 is expected to be published in mid-September 2026 (with three rounds in 2027 and expected deadlines in January, April and September).

In 2027, NWO will broaden access to the SSH Open Competition XS.

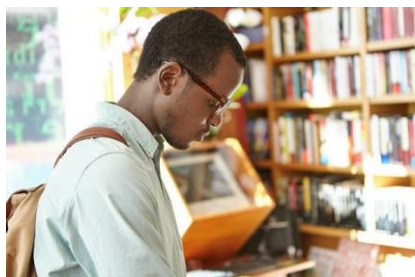
Read more about the changes: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-expands-access-to-the-ssh-open-competition>

More information

- Call page: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/ssh-open-competition-xs-2026-round-3>
- Programme page: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/open-competition-ssh>

Rubicon: 15 researchers broaden their horizons (23 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Rubicon: 15 researchers broaden their horizons | NWO](#)



No fewer than fifteen talented researchers who have recently completed their PhDs are being given the opportunity to gain valuable research experience abroad. The Rubicon round, organised by NWO, had a budget of over 3.1 million euros.

The fifteen funded projects vary enormously. Whilst L. Roelofs is conducting research in the United Kingdom into pyroclastic flows on planets, A.A. Nana Gassa Gongu is investigating in France what makes a sign language interpreter effective on television. There are many more projects, but they all have one thing in common: the experience the researchers gain in a new environment. You can read their public summaries below.

One WUR researcher received a Rubicon Grant

The beginning of the start: vasculature establishment during Ceratopteris embryogenesis: Dr. S Woudenberg -
> Wageningen University and Research -> Belgie -> VIB-UGent Center for Plant Systems Biology -> 24 months

For more information about the awarded projects: [Awarded Rubicon grants 2026 | NWO](#)

Features of the Rubicon programme

The grant enables young researchers to carry out research at a foreign institution that offers the best environment for their research. The amount of funding depends on the chosen destination and the duration of the stay. Each year, NWO and ZonMw can fund around forty young researchers (for a total amount of around 9 million euros, divided over three rounds). The awards announced in this news item relate to the first funding round of 2026.

The second round of 2026 is now open for applications: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/rubicon-2026-2>

From 2027, NWO is introducing a change to the Rubicon programme. From that year onwards, there will be two application rounds per year instead of three. The new deadlines for 2027 are Tuesday, 6th of April and Tuesday, 5th of October at 2.00 pm.

For further information: <https://www.nwo.nl/node/57731>

Foreseen call: KIC - Mobile and modular imaging technology for a healthy and safe society (23 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO [KIC - Mobile and modular imaging technology for a healthy and safe society | NWO](#)

Imaging technologies play a key role in addressing societal challenges in areas such as health, care and safety. This call will focus on the (further) development of these systems to tackle these societal challenges.

Specifically, the development of modular, portable and autonomous systems can ensure that these systems are deployed widely and efficiently, even in a shrinking labour market or in the face of volatile activities across the broad field of security and care. To achieve this, factors such as responsible implementation right through to the end user and user-friendliness are crucial for widespread application. Furthermore, developments in AI, edge computing, and consumer electronics are accelerating this innovation.

Within this call, security is broadly defined; for example, (dual use) applications for the Ministry of Defense, police/public safety, and climate security such as dyke monitoring and the monitoring of water (flooding). In addition, sustainability requires attention in all cases but will not be an aim on its own.

Foreseen closing date full application 14 May 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.)

Disclaimer

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Third round of the SSH Open Competition XS 2026 now open for applications (23 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Third round of the SSH Open Competition XS 2026 now open for applications | NWO](#)

The third round of the SSH Open Competitions XS 2026 is now open. SGW researchers who obtained their PhD at least five years ago and have a promising idea may submit an application. The deadline for submitting an application for the third round is 15 September 2026, by 14:00:00 CEST.



About the call

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

The characteristics of SSH Open Competition XS research are:

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

XS applications are peer-reviewed by the applicants themselves on the basis of the research idea. For this reason, applicants submit their research idea anonymously via the application form.

Applications under this call may total up to €50,000. The maximum duration of an XS project is two years.

Rounds in 2027

Following the final round in 2026, there will again be three rounds in 2027. The Call for Proposals for 2027 is expected to be published in mid-September 2026 (with three rounds in 2027 and expected deadlines in January, April and September).

In 2027, NWO will broaden access to the SSH Open Competition XS.

Read more about the changes: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/nwo-expands-access-to-the-ssh-open-competition>

Foreseen call for proposals: Antarctic research and Antarctica InSync (23 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO [Antarctic research and Antarctica InSync | NWO](#)

This Call for proposals invites researchers in the Netherlands to submit proposals about Antarctica, which also contribute to Antarctica InSync. Proposals should align with one or multiple of the 7 international InSync themes, and should be embedded with international research expeditions or campaigns.

The Netherlands Polar Programme invites researchers to come with proposals for research about Antarctica, in which they also contribute to [Antarctica InSync](#). Applications must align with one or multiple InSync themes and be embedded

in international expeditions or campaigns. The Call for proposals will likely enable the application of one or two scientific positions, applied for by researchers with a fixed paid position at universities and university medical centres, and/or by researchers with a fixed or temporary position at universities of applied science and TO2 institutes.

Interested researchers are strongly advised to coordinate access to research infrastructures as timely as possible with the operators. Either via InSync, in direct contact with operators, via POLARIN's Call for Transnational Access, or (for British Antarctic Survey facilities) the NPP Secretariat. The round will likely include a prioritisation for one proposal using Rothera and/or Dirck Gerritsz Lab.

More information is to be announced in September.

The opening and publication of this Call for proposals is scheduled early October

Foreseen Closing date for full applications 16 February 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.).

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NWA funding for Dutch-Brazilian consortia in Cerrado research (21 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [NWA funding for Dutch-Brazilian consortia in Cerrado research | NWO](#)



Biodiversity in the Brazilian Cerrado is under pressure due to increasing deforestation for agricultural production. This challenge calls for scenarios and practical solutions that safeguard agricultural production in the Cerrado, protect and promote biodiversity, and mitigate climate change. Four consortia are receiving funding from the Dutch Research Agenda and the Brazilian research council CNPq (Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico) for research into this comprehensive challenge.

The funded projects aim to improve our understanding of how agricultural systems in the Cerrado can be designed to be future-proof. They will focus on the ecological, social and economic aspects of sustainable land use and the role played by Brazilian-Dutch value chains in this context. With these insights, the consortia aim to develop strategies, practical tools and policies that ensure a better balance between agricultural production and biodiversity.

The funding stems from the NWA programme 'Balancing agriculture and biodiversity in the Brazilian Cerrado: an integrated socio-ecological approach', developed in collaboration with the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature (LVVN) and the Brazilian research council CNPq. The programme contributes to climate-resilient and equitable land use that protects and promotes biodiversity, food security and local economies.

The consortia consist of Dutch and Brazilian researchers who collaborate closely with civil society partners, including local communities, agricultural cooperatives, NGOs and policymakers.

WUR coordinates one project

Leveraging biodiversity for reshaping agricultural production in the Brazilian Cerrado. **Dr. Jorge Sellare (Wageningen University & Research)** and **Prof. Sônia Maria Carvalho Ribeiro (Federal University of Minas Gerais)**

For more information about the four funded projects: [NWA funding for Dutch-Brazilian consortia in Cerrado research | NWO](#)

NWO awards applications for Scientific Meetings and Consultations (21 July 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [NWO awards applications for Scientific Meetings and Consultations | NWO](#)



The aim of this programme is to facilitate academic networks and collaboration in the (inter)national context within the natural and physical sciences, including collaborations with other scientific domains, by means of scientific meetings and consultations. The programme supports the exchange of research and ideas as well as the formation of research communities.

Via this low-threshold instrument, researchers can request support for the organisation of scientific meetings as well as consultations for the formation of new (cross-domain) teams and consortia.

The NWO Domain Science Board decides multiple times per year on the submitted applications. Applications can be submitted continuously.

Visit the funding page <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/scientific-meetings-and-consultations-2026> for more information

For more information about funded meetings and Consultations: [NWO awards applications for Scientific Meetings and Consultations | NWO](#)

Seven young first-generation academics receive KNAW-bursary (21 July 2026)

Source: Website KNAW [Seven young first-generation academics receive KNAW-bursary - KNAW](#)

Four PhD-students en three postdoctoral researchers receive a bursary from the KANW Trailblazers Fund. The fund is designed to support young first-generation scholars by providing financial resources that help them take the next step in their academic careers.

Making healthcare more inclusive, organising a data workshop on colonial sources, or undertaking an international research visit to support a fellowship application: these are a few of the seven projects supported by the KNAW Trailblazers Fund. The fund provides first-generation scholars with financial support to help advance their academic careers. Eligible activities include conference participation, research travel, and science communication projects, and can be combined with personal development opportunities such as career coaching and personal leadership training.

The KNAW Trailblazers Fund

The first funding round generated an unexpectedly high number of applications, requiring the programme committee to make difficult choices. The projects ultimately awarded funding stood out for their carefully developed plans, strong personal motivation, and compelling case for why this particular fund would make a meaningful difference. Four PhD-candidates will receive grants of €5,000 each, and three postdoctoral researchers will receive €10,000 each. The researchers will have one year to carry out their proposed projects.

One of the awarded young scientist is from WUR

Jasper Steenvoorden - Postdoctoral Researcher, Plant Ecology & Nature Conservation, Wageningen University & Research

'To me, science is about more than analysing complex datasets, it is equally about making knowledge accessible and bringing it to a wider audience. The KNAW Trailblazers Fund offers me the chance to bridge scientific and creative work. With this support, I am co-developing a documentary with friends that explores our relationship with the Dutch landscape through the lens of peatlands. Alongside this, I am organising a session at the European Geosciences Union to gather fresh perspectives on peat monitoring and help accelerate a coordinated global approach. On a personal level, this grant gives me the confidence that, as a first-generation scientist, I have a valued place in the academic world.'

For more information: [Seven young first-generation academics receive KNAW-bursary - KNAW](#) and [KNAW Trailblazers Fund - KNAW](#)

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

Give your opinion on the 'do no significant harm' principle (31 July 2026)

Source: website Neth-ER <https://neth-er.nl/onderzoek/geef-uw-mening-over-het-039-do-no-significant-harm-039-principe>

The European Commission has opened a consultation on the application of the 'do no significant harm' (DNSH) principle in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). This principle means that EU funds may not support activities that seriously harm the Union's climate and environmental goals. The Commission wants to make the rules simpler and more predictable. Responses can be submitted until 16 September 2026.



Simpler and clearer rules

The European Commission has opened a **consultation** https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/performance-and-reporting/performance-regulation_en#the-consultation-on-the-do-no-significant-harm-principle on the application of the 'do no significant harm' (DNSH) principle in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). Based on this, it will draw up a single clear directive before 1 January 2027 for the application of the DNSH principle under the 2028-2034 MFF. This directive is intended to replace the current fragmented approach, which, according to the Commission, too often leads to administrative burdens, complexity, and legal uncertainty. The DNSH principle is part of a broader effort to apply horizontal principles, such as climate, environment, and gender equality, more consistently across the EU budget. The consultation is open for nine weeks and is based on a draft paper.

Japan officially joins Horizon Europe (30 July 2026)

Source: Website EC https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_1705

As of today, Japan is officially associated to Horizon Europe. Home to 123 million people, Japan is the most populous country associated to the programme, adding one of the world's most advanced research and innovation ecosystems to Europe's network of scientific cooperation.

The agreement allows Japanese researchers and organisations to take part in Horizon Europe on equal terms with those from EU Member States and other associated countries. They will be able to join and lead international research consortia, receive EU funding, and work alongside top research institutions to help address global challenges.

Research and Innovation cooperation with Japan

Negotiations on Japan's accession were successfully concluded by the European Commission and the Government of Japan in December 2025. Since January 2026, transitional arrangements have already enabled Japanese entities to apply to Horizon Europe Pillar II calls and to be evaluated as prospective beneficiaries.

Japan's association marks an important step in the [EU–Japan Strategic Partnership](#) and underlines a shared commitment to scientific excellence, innovation, open and rules-based international research cooperation.

The EU and Japan will now further expand cooperation to address shared global challenges, notably in the digital transition, health, and technologies that support climate neutrality.

Japan's association covers Horizon Europe Pillar II, which has a budget of €52.4 billion. This pillar funds multinational research and innovation projects addressing major societal challenges related to climate, energy, health and the digital economy. Japan will also contribute financially to the programme's budget covering for the participation of Japanese entities.

In addition, Japanese participants will continue to have access to other parts of Horizon Europe that are open to third countries, including the [Excellent Science pillar](#), the [Innovative Europe pillar](#) and the [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#), which support doctoral education, postdoctoral training and international research collaboration.

Background

With a budget of €93.5 billion for the 2021–2027 period, Horizon Europe is EU's flagship research and innovation programme. It supports cutting-edge research and innovation to address global challenges, accelerate the clean and digital transitions, contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and strengthen Europe's competitiveness and growth.

Japan becomes the 23rd country associated to Horizon Europe, joining the other **22 countries already associated** - https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/europe-world/international-cooperation/association-horizon-europe_en either through the European Economic Area membership, the enlargement process, the European Neighbourhood Policy, or as other third countries and territories that meet the programme's eligibility criteria.

Japan's association builds on a long-standing and increasingly strategic research and innovation partnership with the EU initiated in 2011 with the Science and Technology cooperation agreement. A recent example of the close collaboration between the EU and Japan is the recommendation made by an EU-Japan expert panel which was done under the **enhanced dialogue on advanced materials** https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_1781 . This recommendation explores complementarities and synergies in the areas of electronics, mobility, construction, energy and data-driven science which can be both beneficial for EU and Japan citizens.

Research and innovation projects supporting the upcoming Circular Economy Act (28 July 2026)

Source: Website EC [Research and innovation projects supporting the upcoming Circular Economy Act - Research and innovation](#)

Drawing on results from EU-funded Research and Innovation projects under the Horizon Europe programme, the reports on **Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act** identify key barriers and success factors for scaling circular solutions across regions, across borders and within key sectors and material streams. Each publication focuses on one of the following thematic areas:

1. circular public procurement
2. extended producer responsibility
3. recycled and bio-based content and end-of-waste criteria, and
4. waste electrical and electronic equipment and the recovery of critical raw materials

The project portfolio analyses illustrate key constraints, linked, for instance, to regulatory fragmentation, limited data interoperability, and insufficient cross-border coordination. The reports suggest field-specific recommendations, such as life cycle-based Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes, procurement tools, and harmonised end-of-waste criteria.

In addition, they highlight the importance of elements such as territorially grounded circular policies, the deployment of Digital Product Passports, and the development of integrated reverse supply chains for critical raw materials. The targeted recommendations gathered from on-the-ground implementation projects provide valuable insights for the upcoming Circular Economy Act, supporting Europe's circular economy transition in a manner that is actionable, coherent, and systemic.

Reports

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - Focus area: circular public procurement: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/6b06631b-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - Focus area: extended producer responsibility:

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/95ef3080-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - Focus area: recycled and bio-based content and end-of-waste criteria: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/9399599f-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - Focus area: waste electric and electronic equipment and recovery of critical raw materials: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/b38cabe2-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

Research and innovation projects supporting the Circular Economy Act - Focus area: transnational and regional initiatives: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/21036567-8185-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

New Charter boosts access for companies to cutting-edge research and technology infrastructures in Europe (28 July 2026)

Source: Website EC *New Charter boosts access for companies to cutting-edge research and technology infrastructures in Europe - Research and innovation*

The Commission has **adopted a Charter of Access** https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/cc2786ed-2a54-4450-8fa4-09dc2398cdf6_en for Industrial Users to Research and Technology Infrastructures to **speed up and simplify companies' access to Europe's world-class infrastructures**. By putting forward a set of six principles, to be voluntarily endorsed by infrastructures, this initiative aims to help companies to better access infrastructures' cutting-edge services, ranging from advanced laboratories to large scientific instruments, pilot lines and more.

This will help companies to test their products in state-of-the-art environments, bringing them to the market more quickly, thereby contributing to Europe's innovation and competitiveness, in line with the **EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy** https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/jobs-and-economy/eu-startup-and-scaleup-strategy_en.

Faster and easier access to world-class services

Companies rely on research and technology infrastructures to **develop, test and validate new technologies, products and services**, before bringing them to the market. However, information on the availability and access conditions of relevant services is often still limited, impacting especially small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), startups and scaleups.

The Charter seeks to **break down these barriers**. By endorsing the Charter, infrastructures will help companies to commercialise their innovations faster and easier, shortening the journey from idea to market. Additionally, making infrastructure services more visible and accessible provides a strong incentive to 'Choose Europe' as the top destination for developing and commercialising breakthrough innovations.

The Charter's **six key principles** are designed to improve the access conditions for businesses to research and technology infrastructures:

1. Increased visibility and availability of services
2. Transparency and quality of services
3. Simplified contract and agreement procedures
4. Safe intellectual property management
5. Tailored support to companies
6. Cooperation between infrastructures and access to data

Endorsing and promoting the Charter

Research and technology infrastructures are invited to endorse the Charter here https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/Charter_Access_Industrial_users_RTIs and join the **many leading research and innovation organisations** https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/our-digital-future/charter-access-industrial-users-research-and-technology-infrastructures_en already committed to its principles.

To support the uptake and implementation of the Charter, the Commission has launched an outreach campaign including a series of webinars, events and an open repository for good practices. Organisations interested in submitting their best practices are invited to do so **through the website** https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/our-digital-future/charter-access-industrial-users-research-and-technology-infrastructures_en.

Building FOOD 2040 Stakeholder Input for the new EU R&I Strategic Agenda for Food Systems (23 July 2026)

Source: Website EC [Building FOOD 2040 stakeholder input for the new EU R&I strategic agenda for food systems - Publications Office of the EU](#)

The Commission is developing a new strategic research & innovation agenda on food systems, Food 2040, to foster the development of competitive, sustainable and resilient food systems solutions benefiting citizens, the environment and climate. An EU-wide survey was conducted, to which 631 stakeholders responded. This report summarises the findings of the survey and presents a qualitative analysis of 63 supplementary written submissions (position papers, policy briefs, roadmaps, and vision statements) provided by various stakeholders, industry associations, NGOs, and academic networks. It also provides an overview of the respondent profile, summarises stakeholder views on future cross-cutting R&I priorities, analyses suggestions for updating the current pathways, and identifies broader considerations for the conceptualisation of Food 2040.

The quantitative survey and qualitative submissions confirm that stakeholders highly value the systems-thinking approach introduced through Food 2030. Food 2030 helped consolidate a more integrated understanding of food systems Research & Innovation (R&I) and supported collaboration across disciplines, sectors and policy areas. Building on this foundation, stakeholders emphasised that Food 2040 should further strengthen the links between R&I priorities, implementation pathways, measurable impacts, and the uptake of results in policy, practice, and the market.

The results underline the need to bridge the "valley of death" between basic and conceptual research, covering activities up to Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 6, helping promising solutions progress towards deployment, commercialisation and wider uptake.

Respondents highlighted several key priorities, including:

- Greater integration of primary producers in post-farm-gate valorisation (processing, manufacturing, scale-up)
- Significant capital investments in technology and infrastructure deployment
- Faster EU regulatory procedures
- Prioritisation of EU strategic autonomy

The results also point to a need to update and streamline the existing Food 2030 pathways. Respondents called for better alignment with current food-system realities, clearer objectives and expected impacts, and stronger monitoring of progress. Open-ended responses and written submissions further emphasised:

- Circularity, environmental impacts
- Decentralised and short supply chains
- Protein diversification
- Resilience
- Strategic autonomy as areas deserving stronger visibility in the future agenda

Read full report here: [Building FOOD 2040 stakeholder input for the new EU R&I strategic agenda for food systems - Publications Office of the EU](#)

Global policy

The US 'golden age' science strategy: what Europeans need to know (30 July 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [The US 'golden age' science strategy: what Europeans need to know | Science|Business](#)

Is it a good faith attempt to fix problems in academia, or a smokescreen for cuts to universities and political control over science?



US President Donald Trump with OSTP director Michael Kratsios (far left). Photo credits: White House

The US has unveiled what officials claim is the most radical overhaul of the public R&D system in a generation, which if implemented could have significant implications for transatlantic research collaboration.

Science: A New Golden Age <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Science-A-New-Golden-Age.pdf> derides universities as “legacy institutions” and instead wants to prioritise funding on technological challenges, new research labs and funding that follows individual scientists, rather than being linked to their institutions.

“Too much of our research enterprise has come to serve itself rather than the scientists within it,” writes Michael Kratsios, director of the White House’s Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), the only named author of the report. “Federal funding agencies should support a broader range of performers.”

But some critics argue that the strategy is a smokescreen, using genuine problems in academia as an excuse to further weaken US universities, which US vice-president JD Vance has labelled “the enemy.”

Even as it talks of a “golden age” for science, the White House has **proposed halving** <https://www.science.org/content/article/slasher-sequel-trump-again-proposes-major-cuts-u-s-science-spending> the 2027 budget of the US National Science Foundation (NSF), and has put forward double-digit cuts for other funding bodies, such as the National Institutes for Health. It asked for similarly steep savings in 2026, but Congress stopped them going through.

Science: A New Golden Age says success will be measured by the extent to which scientists are “free” to pursue the most “vital questions,” painting academia as currently hidebound by bureaucracy, sluggishness and consensual conservatism. And yet the Trump administration is simultaneously **planning new rules** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/international-news/european-researchers-sound-alarm-trump-rule-changes-will-hit-cooperation> that will hand political appointees unprecedented powers to screen and cancel grants.

The report has pretensions to be the successor to Science: The Endless Frontier, the seminal 1945 document in which presidential science advisor Vannevar Bush set out the case for post-war government funding of basic research, helping to spur the creation of funders such as the NSF. Even the title page font is the same. But it remains unclear if the latest report will leave anything like as lasting a legacy.

Here, Science|Business explains some of the biggest proposed changes in Science: A New Golden Age, and how Europeans think it might change the landscape of their biggest science partner.

Universities under fire

A key target of the report are US universities, which it repeatedly suggests are outmoded as research institutions.

It criticises the NSF for channelling resources “overwhelmingly to a single type of performer, the university-based, principal investigator-led research group.” Universities “extract” money from researchers’ grants to support “growing administrative bloat,” alongside legitimate uses. The Trump administration has been trying to cut the overhead costs in federal research grants that flow to universities.

Instead, new institutions are being built. In May, **the NSF announced** <https://www.nsf.gov/tip/updates/nsf-announces-15b-nsf-x-labs-initiative-pursue-generational> it would spend \$1.5 billion on two new so-called X-Labs, focused on scientific instrumentation and quantum systems. The idea is that they fill a niche in the landscape, tackling problems that are too big for a university lab, but too early stage for private start-up funding.

Parallel with Europe?

This shift to new research organisations parallels moves in Europe to set up new innovation agencies, such as Germany’s Sprind, the UK’s Advanced Research and Invention Agency, and the EU’s European Innovation Council. The Dutch and French governments are looking to set up their own entities too.

There’s now an emerging consensus, evident in a number of new strategies, that public R&D needs to be shaken up, Charles McIvor, an economist at the OECD, **has written** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/charlesmcivor/> in response to Kratsios’s plans.

“What stands out for me across these strategies [in the US, Germany, South Korea and Japan] is that governments are realising that the old ways of delivering STI [science, technology and innovation] programming no longer works,” he said in a LinkedIn post.

Metascience wins?

The document is, at least on the face of it, also a big win for some policy thinkers in the US who want far more experimentation with **new forms of research grant and institution** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/r-d-funding/research-infrastructure/new-tool-helps-policy-makers-get-technologies-they-want>.

It name-checks a litany of new public R&D ideas, from focused research organisations <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/r-d-funding/focused-research-organisations-what-are-they-and-how-do-you-set-them> and advance market commitments <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/r-d-funding/ecosystem-uk-trials-advance-market-commitment-low-carbon-concrete> to **“golden tickets** <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/us-national-science-foundation-looks-shake-funding-golden-ticket-pilot>,” which allow grant reviewers the power to hand applicants money without requiring the consensus of other review panellists.

In addition, every federal research funding agency should set up a metascience unit, the strategy says, “with authority to run controlled experiments on review and funding mechanisms.” The UK has already set one up, the strategy points out.

The truth about getting published in science (30 July 2026)

Source: Website Cordis <https://cordis.europa.eu/article/id/466732-the-truth-about-getting-published-in-science>

New study sheds light on the science publication process.



With submissions at an all-time high, it’s never been harder to get published in influential scientific journals. ‘Science’ and ‘Science Advances’, two leading journals published by The American Association for the Advancement of Science – the world’s largest general science association – **received over 50 000 submissions in 2025**[opens in new window](https://www.science.org/content/page/journal-metrics) <https://www.science.org/content/page/journal-metrics>. So who gets published in a top-tier journal, anyway?

A research team at the University of Vermont (UVM) and University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) investigated the review process and came up with an answer. An author’s institution and group size exert much more influence on acceptance rates than almost any other factor, including gender. The findings were published in **‘Science Advances’**[opens in new window](https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.aec0494) <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.aec0494>.

Publish or perish

The researchers examined five years of submission data for the two journals. The journals' editors provided deidentified data on over 110 000 articles submitted to the publications system for review between 2015 and 2020 for them to build an anonymised dataset and determine patterns within. They found that scientists with specific characteristics had an easier time getting published in 'Science', which accepted about 6 % of submissions during the five-year period while 'Science Advances' accepted around 10.5 %. Papers by authors from top-ranked institutions had an 11.6 % acceptance rate, compared to 3.4 % for those from the lowest-ranked ones.

"This is really a first look at this process that was previously opaque," commented co-lead author Sam Zhang, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics at UVM, **in a news item(opens in new window)**

<https://www.uvm.edu/uvmnews/news/new-study-reveals-editorial-trends-top-science-journals>. "With the rise of AI slop and the ability to mass produce junk science, the role of established gatekeepers like these elite journals becomes more important as these processes get put under strain."

The team also found that research topic, country of origin and gender also affected acceptance rates. Research on viruses, RNA immune response and infection achieved the highest success rates. In contrast, politics, economics, gender and societal issues involving COVID-19 experienced the lowest. Papers from teams consisting of 10 or more authors were accepted at three times the rate of smaller teams (up to five). While there was a gender gap in acceptance rates, it was considerably smaller than the disparities driven by status, team size or research topic. Papers written for the two journals by women had a slightly lower acceptance rate of 5.3 %, compared to 6.4 % for men.

The hidden gatekeeping process

"Peer review by scientific experts remains the gold standard for critically assessing whether new scientific work meets or surpasses high standards for scientific discovery," stated corresponding author Aaron Clauset, professor of computer science at CU Boulder. "Our new anonymised data set ... offers a first ever look at how elite peer review works."

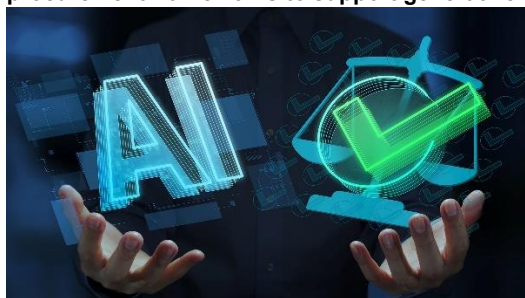
The researchers found that editors screened out and rejected roughly 80 % of submissions to 'Science' and more than 70 % of submissions to 'Science Advances' before sending them for peer review.

"The current evidence suggests, overall, these journals seem to be doing pretty well at just treating the science as the science. But this is not a totally clean bill of health," concluded Clauset in a **news release(opens in new window)** <https://www.colorado.edu/today/2026/07/15/want-get-published-top-tier-journal-where-youre-matters> . "In the current environment where the integrity of science is being attacked in bad faith, we need to be thinking about whether the processes at these journals live up to the ideals the scientific community has set for them."

OECD Identifies Five Key Policy Responses to University AI Adoption (23 July 2026)

Source: Website OECD [Policies supporting responsible and systematic GenAI adoption in higher education | OECD](#)

The organisation's latest review charts how countries are developing guidance, skills programmes and procurement frameworks to support generative AI in higher education.



The OECD has published a new spotlight examining how generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) is transforming higher education and the policy measures emerging to support its responsible use. The report finds that GenAI has moved rapidly from a novel technology to a mainstream tool used by most students and a growing share of academic and professional staff.

Evidence reviewed by the OECD suggests that GenAI use among students now exceeds 90% in several countries, although adoption remains uneven across disciplines, institutions and user groups. While students and staff are using AI for tasks ranging from summarising information and drafting content to research support and administration, more advanced educational uses remain less common.

The report identifies several concerns associated with widespread AI adoption, including data privacy, academic integrity, equity, the reliability of AI-generated outputs and the potential impact on critical thinking and skills development. Many institutions also remain heavily reliant on consumer AI tools rather than education-specific systems, creating challenges around governance, data protection and access.

According to the OECD, current approaches to AI adoption are often driven by individual initiative rather than institutional strategy. Only a minority of higher education institutions have formal AI policies in place, and many staff members report limited preparation for managing AI use in teaching and learning.

To address these challenges, the report highlights five areas of emerging policy action: developing guidance on responsible AI use, creating common approaches to procurement and compliance, strengthening AI literacy and skills, supporting evidence gathering and pilot projects, and developing specialised AI tools for higher education. Examples include national AI frameworks, sector-wide procurement arrangements, staff training programmes and the creation of education-focused AI platforms.

The OECD argues that effective policy frameworks should ensure equitable access, strengthen AI literacy, maintain human oversight and support ongoing evaluation of AI tools and outcomes. As AI becomes embedded in higher education systems, coordinated policy responses are likely to play an increasingly important role in shaping teaching, learning, research and institutional management.

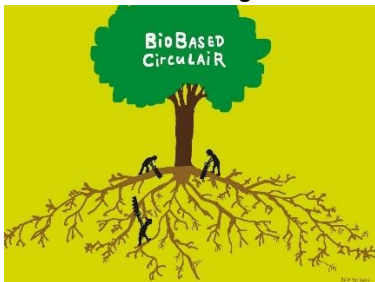
For report: [Policies supporting responsible and systematic GenAI adoption in higher education | OECD](#)

National policy

Halting investments in bioplastics plays into the hands of the fossil fuel industry (4 August 2026)

Source: Website Financieele Dagblad [Stopzetten investeringen bioplastics speelt fossiele industrie in de kaart](#)

The Cabinet is pulling the plug on funding for the BioBased Circular program, thereby slowing down the transition to plastics based on biodegradable material. By doing so, the government is falling into a classic trap, writes Arnold Stokking.



The National Growth Fund BioBased Circular program is building a new industrial sector for the Netherlands. BioBased Circular focuses on replacing oil in plastics using so-called biopolyesters. Currently, 140 companies are active in 200 projects in the first phase. Eight demonstration plants are to be realized by 2032. Despite these developments, the Cabinet decided on July 10 – on the advice of the National Growth Fund Committee – not to grant funding for the second phase of the program. Read the full article: <https://fd.nl/opinie/1606415/stopzetten-investeren-bioplastics-speelt-fossiele-industrie-in-de-kaart>

Biopolyester

Replacing oil with biopolyesters is not the only solution, but it offers great potential in various large markets such as packaging, building materials, paint, and textiles. Biopolyesters require much less biomass and land use than other bioplastics. In addition, the material is characterized by its generally complete biodegradability. No microplastics remain in the environment after use.

Illustrative of such a transition is that small players are gradually establishing themselves alongside large, established companies. This is also the case with BioBased Circular: scaling up is the key challenge for these new players. In doing so, these start-ups seek collaboration with large companies that, remarkably enough, usually do not come from the basic chemical sector but from the agricultural chain and retail.

Transitions are undermining the business models of established companies that use fossil raw materials. The European plastics industry is facing major problems. The editor-in-chief of the chemical trade journal *Industrielinqs*, Wim Raaijen, recently published the book *SOS Industrie* (2026) on this subject. Disruptive innovation such as biopolyesters is not a priority for the current industry.

Read full article here: [Stopzetten investeringen bioplastics speelt fossiele industrie in de kaart](#) (in Dutch)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the the upcoming Horizon Europe calls per 5 August 2026

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	NEW FORESEEN DEADLINES
<u>Destination</u> - Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society	
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-STAYHLTH	Foreseen opening: 29 October 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 February 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: 29 October 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination</u>– Destination - Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden	
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-DISEASE single stage	Foreseen opening: 29 October 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-DISEASE two-stage	Foreseen opening: 29 October 2026 and foreseen deadlines 17 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage), 16 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): 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-TOOL-01-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 29 Oktober 2026 Foreseen Deadlines: 17 February 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage), 16 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Cluster 2 Culture Creativity and Inclusive Society</u>	
<u>Custer 3 Civil Security for Society</u>	
<u>Cluster 4 Digital - Industry - Space</u>	
Destination: Leadership in materials and production for Europe	
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)
Destination: Open Strategic Autonomy in Developing, Deploying and Using Global Space-Based Infrastructure, Services, Applications and Data	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-03 single stage	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 Foreseen deadline 2 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-03)
Destination: Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services	
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)
Destination: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies	
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)
Destination: Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation	
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 systems from primary production to consumption</u>	
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</u>	

observations and digital 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
EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2026 EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2026 - European Innovation Council	
Advanced Materials for Miniaturised Energy Harvesting Systems HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-01 EU Funding & Tenders Portal	28 October 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-01</i>)
Biotechnology for Healthy Ageing HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-02 EU Funding & Tenders Portal	28 October 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-02</i>)
DeepRAP: Deep Reasoning, Abstraction & Planning towards trustworthy Cognitive AI Systems HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-03 EU Funding & Tenders Portal	28 October 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-03</i>)
<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 (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03 Call – Hop on Facility</i>)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05-WIDENING-01: ERA Fellowships	9 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05 Call – ERA Fellowships</i>)
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 (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-01: ERA Chairs</i>)
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 (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02: ERA Research Managers</i>)
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 (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03-WIDENING-01: ERA TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European</i>)
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 (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04-WIDENING-01: Excellence Hubs</i>)
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 (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01: Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights</i>)
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 (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01: EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening</i>)

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 5 August 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/	
European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartner-ship.eu/	
European partnership Agriculture of Data	
European partnership Sustainable Blue Economy https://bluepartnership.eu/	NEW: Preannouncement: Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership's Fourth Joint Transnational Call. Pre-proposal submission deadline (provisional): 16/11/2026, 15:00 CET (Brussels Time) Full proposal submission deadline (provisional): 14/06/2027, 15:00 CEST (Brussels Time) More information: Preannouncement: Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership's Fourth Joint Transnational Call Bluepartnership
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/
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Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **5 August 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
07-09-2026	NEW: Deadline for <u>expressions of interest</u> for call for candidates to conduct a synthesis study of the NL-CGIAR research programme on global food security. Expressions of interest need to be submitted by 7 September 2026. NWO will select a minimum of three suitable applications and invite those to submit a full response to the Terms of Reference for the synthesis study and knowledge facilitation. The study is expected to run from 2027 to 2030. The available budget is 120.000 euros ex. VAT. Call for candidates to conduct a synthesis study of the NL-CGIAR research programme on global food security NWO and The Netherlands (NL) - CGIAR research programme NWO
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 <u>Thursday 10 September 2026, midnight, Paris time</u> . https://www.oecd.org/en/about/programmes/co-operative-research-programme/crp-applications-for-fellowships.html
10-09-2026	Deadline of OECD Co-operative research Programme for 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 <u>Thursday 10 September 2026, midnight, Paris time</u> . 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 **5 August 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

01-09-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission Full proposals Take-off phase 2 Early-stage trajectories wo/hbo/TO2 autumn 2026 . A full proposal must be submitted via our ISAAC system before Tuesday 1st September 2026 14:00:00 CEST . Please use the correct form (spring 2026, see tab 2 "Prepare"). In the ISAAC system, a pre-proposal can be converted into a full proposal. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/take-off-phase-2-early-stage-trajectories-wo/hbo/to2-autumn-20 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-proposals-Take-off-phase-2-Early-stage-trajectories-autumn-2026_0.pdf
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	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	NEW: Deadline for submission <u>Full proposals</u> SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3. The deadline for submitting an application for the third round is 15 September 2026, by 14:00:00 CEST. Third round of the SSH Open Competition XS 2026 now open for applications NWO and Open Competition SSH NWO and SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-SGW-OC-XS-2026-EN-1.pdf
15-09-2026	Deadline for submission <u>Full applications for phase 1</u> 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 <u>pre-registration</u> 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 <u>full proposals</u> 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 <u>Full applications</u> DeepNL Top-up Call "Opportunities for Integration and Impact". Closing date full application 22 September 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). DeepNL Top-up Call: Opportunities for Integration and Impact NWO
22-09-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission <u>Full applications</u> 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 <u>Full proposals</u> 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 <u>Full proposals</u> 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 <u>Full proposals</u> 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
06-10-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of <u>letter of intent</u> for Perspectief round 2026-2027. The deadline for submitting letters of intent is 6 October 2026, by 14:00:00 CEST . Final round of the Perspectief programme open for research proposals NWO and The impact of Perspectief NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/perspectief-round-2026-2027
13-10-2026	Deadline for submission of <u>Full applications</u> 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 <u>Full applications</u> 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 <u>Full proposals</u> 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 <u>Full proposals</u> 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/
24-11-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission for Pre-proposals for Perspectief round 2026-2027 . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is 24 November 2026, by 14:00:00 CET . Final round of the Perspectief programme open for research proposals NWO and The impact of Perspectief NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/perspectief-round-2026-2027
30-11-2026	Foreseen deadline for full proposals call NWA programme Knowledge about unprotected species for sustainable fisheries policy . Closing date full application 30 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/knowledge-about-unprotected-species-for-sustainable-fisheries-policy
30-11-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission full applications call Netherlands Polar programme The Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR) . Closing date full application 30 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . The Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR) NWO
Until 10-12-2026	Deadline for submission applications for Take-off phase 1 – Feasibility studies WO 2026 . Applications can be submitted continuously via ISAAC until December 10, 2026, at 14:00:00 CET at the latest . Changes to the 2026 call Take-off phase 1 NWO and Take-off phase 1 – Feasibility studies WO 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Take-off fase 1 - Haalbaarheidsstudies WO
From 12-01-2026 to 11-12-2026	Deadline for submission proposals Open Technology Programme 2026 . Applications can be submitted on a continuous basis between 12 January 2026 until 11 December 2026, as long as the grant ceiling or the maximum number of applications submitted has not yet been reached. Open Technology Programme 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - Open Technology Programme 2026
15-12-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 15 December 2026, before 14:00:00 CET . Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
21-01-2027	Deadline submission proposals for KIC Societal Earning Capacity: Connection, Synthesis and Knowledge Utilisation This Call for proposals has a specific lead time during which applications can be submitted continuously. During the term, three deadlines/collection times have been determined when applications will be assessed. Applications can be submitted continuously until January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET. January 21, 2027, before 2:00:00 PM CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-societal-earning-capacity-connection-synthesis-and-knowledge-utilisation
02-02-2027	Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 2 February 2027, before 14:00:00 CET . Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
16-02-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for Full proposals Antarctic research and Antarctica InSync call . Closing date full application 16 February 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . Antarctic research and Antarctica InSync NWO

28-02-2027	Foreseen deadline for full applications Large Scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) - National Roadmap consortia 2026 . Closing date full application 28 February 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/large-scale-research-infrastructure-lsri-national-roadmap-consortia-2026
02-03-2027	Deadline for submission full applications NWA Call 'Municipal policy for biodiversity restoration' . The deadline for submitting applications is Tuesday, 2 March 2027, before 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-restoration and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/municipal-policy-for-biodiversity-restoration
16-03-2027	Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 16 March 2027, before 14:00:00 CET. Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
04-05-2027	Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 4 May 2027, before 14:00:00 CET. Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
14-05-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals KIC - Mobile and modular imaging technology for a healthy and safe society . Closing date full application 14 May 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). KIC - Mobile and modular imaging technology for a healthy and safe society NWO
25-05-2027	NEW: Deadline for submission for Full applications for Perspectief round 2026-2027 . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is 24 November 2026, by 14:00:00 CET. Final round of the Perspectief programme open for research proposals NWO and The impact of Perspectief NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/perspectief-round-2026-2027
15-06-2027	Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 15 June 2027, before 14:00:00 CET. Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
31-07-2027	Foreseen deadline for submission proposals for Open Competition Domain Science – M 2026/2027 . The current round (2026/2027) opens on 18 August 2026 and is closing: Once 420 (5x84) applications have been received or, No later than 31 July 2027. Note! ENW-M-1-Weave proposals with a Flemish co-applicant should be submitted no later than 24 November 2026, 14:00:00 CET. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-new-round-of-the-open-competition-enw-m and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/open-competition-domain-science-m-2026/2027 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-proposals-OC-ENW-M-round-26-27_EN.pdf
09-09-2027	Deadline for submission Full application for Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR) call The deadline for submitting full application Thursday 9 September 2027 at 14:00:00 CEST. Call open: Triple planetary crisis in the polar regions (TRI-POLAR) NWO and Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions NWO and Call for Proposals - Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions
10-08-2027	NEW: Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 10 August 2027, before 14:00:00 CET. Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
18-09-2029	Deadline for submission for a request for assessment of organisations for phase 2 for the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of organisations based in the Netherlands for phase 2 (see section 3.1.1) is 18 September 2029 before 14:00:00 CEST / The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of foreign organisations for phase 2 (see section 7.1.1) is 18 September 2029, before 14:00:00 CEST.. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO Note PJ: I wonder if 18-09-2029 is the right date
05-10-2027	Foreseen deadline for submission proposals the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Foreseen deadline Tuesday 5 October 2027, before 14:00:00 CET (also the deadline for closing the grant round). Pre-announcement: Impact Explorer 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/impact-explorer and https://www.nwo.nl/en/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
16-10-2029	Deadline for submission Full applications for phase 2 of the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting applications in phase 1 is 16 October 2029, before 14:00:00 CEST. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO Note PJ: I wonder if 16-10-2029 is the right date

Regional calls

This list is a selection of regional calls. The list was compiled on **5 August 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 30-09-2026	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 30-09-2026	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) https://www.efro-oost.eu/innovatieprojecten-2026
18-05-2026 until 30-09-2026	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) https://www.efro-oost.eu/schone-en-hulpbronnenefficiënte-technologieen-2026
01-04-2026 until 10-10-2026	Deadline for submission proposals in EFRO Vinnovate 2026 For SMEs in the Eastern Netherlands looking for collaboration with companies from other European regions. https://www.efro-oost.eu/vinnovate-2026
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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