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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe..

ERC Starting Grants: €705 million to back Europe's next generation of researchers (3 September 2026)

Source: Website ERC [ERC Starting Grants: €705 million to back Europe's next generation of researchers](#)

The European Research Council (ERC) has today announced the winners of its latest Starting Grant competition. The funding, worth €705 million in total, will go to 421 early-career researchers across Europe. Several European researchers who applied from outside the EU and Horizon Europe associated countries will now move to Europe to pursue their research. The grants will help researchers develop ambitious ideas, build their own teams and establish their independence at a pivotal stage in their careers.



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

'Congratulations to all the successful applicants. I am particularly pleased to see that 21 researchers currently based in the United States and Canada plan to relocate to Europe to pursue their work. Their decision reflects Europe's growing appeal for frontier research and is an encouraging sign that the EU's Choose Europe initiative is helping to attract the next generation of scientific talent while reinforcing Europe's position as a destination of choice for excellent research.'

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

'The creativity and ambition of this new generation of grantees are inspiring. Over 50 nationalities are represented amongst these researchers who will carry out their work across Europe. ERC Starting Grants will give them independence and support early on in their careers, needed for them to push scientific boundaries. This is the best investment we can make to further strengthen our research base and Europe's future.'

Projects selected for funding

The selected projects will cover a broad spectrum of research fields from life sciences and engineering to social sciences and humanities. A researcher moving from the US to Germany aims to understand how brains turn information from the world into actions. Another grantee in Poland will explore how inheritance laws can better reflect the realities of modern families, and a scientist in Spain will study how deadly fungi adapt, spread and resist antifungal drugs.

Read more about the [research examples](#)

Facts and figures

A **record of 4 807 proposals** were submitted to this competition, up 22% from 3 928 in last year's call. Of these, only 8.8% could be funded. The increased demand was also reflected in the number of applications from researchers based outside Europe. In particular, 169 US-based researchers applied for this funding, compared to 116 in the previous call. The new grantees will be based at universities and research centres in 25 EU Member States and associated countries, notably in Germany (89 grants), the UK (47), France (38), Switzerland (36), and the Netherlands (33). Among the winners are 84 Germans, 50 Italians, 30 French, and 24 Spanish, as well as researchers of 48 other nationalities. Estimates show that the grants are likely to create more than 2,700 jobs in the teams of the new grantees.

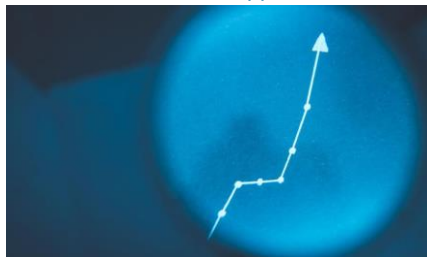
[Skip chart\(Grantees by Country of Host Institution and Domain - ERC Starting Grants 2026\)](#)

See more statistics <https://erc.europa.eu/system/files/2026-09/erc-2026-stg-statistics.pdf> and **the full list of researchers selected for funding** <https://erc.europa.eu/system/files/2026-09/erc-2026-stg-results-all-domains.pdf>

Read full article here: [ERC Starting Grants: €705 million to back Europe's next generation of researchers|ERC](#)

Applications for ERC Advanced Grants 2026: Facts and figures (2 September 2026)

Source: Website [ERC Applications for ERC Advanced Grants 2026: Facts and figures|ERC](#)



The ERC Advanced Grant 2026 call closed for applications on 28 August 2026. These are the preliminary data on the submitted proposals:

- The ERC received **3 458** proposals - 3.9% more than last year and 37% compared to the year before.
- The **highest number of applications** were submitted in **Physical Sciences and Engineering** (1 439), followed by Life Sciences (1 033), and Social Science and Humanities (986).
- **Women** submitted 866 proposals (25%), similar share as in the last call.

In its [Work Programme 2026](#), the ERC earmarked €747 million for an estimated 294 Advanced Grants. The ERC is now starting the evaluation of the proposals. The selected projects will likely be announced in the spring of 2027.

ERC Advanced Grants are designed to support for excellent researchers at the career stage when they are already established leaders with a recognised track record of research achievements. The principal investigators must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition, and feasibility of their research proposal.

European Prize for Women Innovators powered by EIC & EIT (2 September 2026)

Source: Website [EIC European Prize for Women Innovators powered by EIC & EIT - European Innovation Council](#)

This prize celebrates the women entrepreneurs behind Europe's ground-breaking innovations

About

The European Prize for Women Innovators is jointly awarded by [the European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) and [the European Innovation Council \(EIC\)](#). Through this collaboration, the EIT and EIC are showcasing a large pool of women innovators, offering more opportunities for trailblazers, and providing inspiring role models for women and girls everywhere.

The European Prize for Women Innovators celebrates the women entrepreneurs behind Europe's most game-changing innovations. The prize awards women from across the EU and countries associated to [Horizon Europe](#), whose disruptive innovations are driving positive change for people and planet.

Since 2023, the European Innovation Council (EIC) and the [European Institute for Innovation & Technology \(EIT\)](#) have teamed up to create a bigger and bolder European Prize for Women Innovators, with no fewer than 9 prizes to be awarded.

The call is launched in accordance with the [European Innovation Council \(EIC\) Work Programme](#) and is managed by the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT).

Categories

There are three prize categories:

- In the **EIC Women Innovators category**, three prizes of EUR 100 000, EUR 70 000 and EUR 50 000 are awarded to the three highest-ranked applications;
- In the **EIC Rising Innovators**, three prizes of EUR 50 000, EUR 30 000 and EUR 20 000 are awarded to the three highest-ranked applications from promising 'Rising Innovators' under the age of 35.
- The **EIT Women Leadership Award**, awarded to exceptional women leaders from the EIT Community. The winner is awarded EUR 50 000, and two runners-up are awarded EUR 30 000 and EUR 20 000 respectively.

Eligible applicants can only apply to one category. The winners are chosen by an independent expert jury.

Funding opportunities

The call for applications is open from 2 September until 1 December 2026, 17:00 CET. Please check the "[How to apply](#)" section for further information.

Who should apply

All applicants must comply with the following eligibility criteria to participate:

1. The applicant must be a woman (*Please remember you must apply as a natural person and not as a legal entity*);
2. The applicant must be legally established in an EU Member State, including overseas countries and territories (OCTs) or a country associated to Horizon Europe;
3. The applicant must be the founder or co-founder of the company or organisation;
4. The company or organisation must be established in an EU Member State including overseas countries and territories, (OCTs) or a country associated to Horizon Europe, and registered or incorporated at least two years before the call year (before 1 January 2023);
5. Applicants who have already received an EU or Euratom prize cannot receive a second prize for the same activities.

In addition to the above, those applying for the Rising Innovators category must be aged under 35 at the start of the call year. There is no age limit to apply for the Women Innovators category (or for the EIT Women Leadership category), though applicants eligible for several prize categories can only apply to one.

Award criteria

Eligible applications will be evaluated against 3 award criteria:

1. **Breakthrough innovation** – the company or organisation founded or co-founded by the applicant is pioneering a breakthrough and disruptive innovation focusing, among others, on deep-tech and Science Technology Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) fields within the EU or countries associated to Horizon Europe.
2. **Impact** – this innovation addresses a real need or challenge, with significant benefits for people and/or the planet.
3. **Inspiration** – the applicant is an inspiring leader, who has played a pivotal role in the success of the company or organisation and is a role model empowering other women and girls in realising their full potential.

European Commission updates EIC Fund Investment Guidelines for the EIC Accelerator and STEP Scaleup (27 August 2026)

Source: Website European Innovation Council (EIC) [European Commission updates EIC Fund Investment Guidelines for the EIC Accelerator and STEP Scaleup - European Innovation Council](#)

The updated set of [investment guidelines](#) provides information to applicants and selected companies, as well as to potential co-investors, explaining in detail the investment approach and process. It includes the strategy and conditions under which the EIC Fund makes investment and divestment decisions, for those companies selected under the EIC Accelerator (blended finance and equity only) and EIC STEP calls.

Compared to the previous version, the guidelines include defence-related activities to mirror recent [adjustments to the EIC work programme](#) as well as the larger investment amounts following the introduction of the EIC STEP call.

In addition, they provide improved alignment with the EIC work programmes on:

- Investment safeguards;
- Technology readiness levels (TRL);
- Follow-on investments;

- Intellectual property rights.

The investment guidelines ensure that the EIC investments fulfil the objectives to support high potential start-ups and SMEs to accelerate their scale up and to catalyse additional investors. This text is applicable to companies selected for the EIC Accelerator and the EIC STEP Scaleup. The investment guidelines relating to the Scaleup Europe Fund (SEF) will be provided separately following the establishment of this compartment in August 2026.

More information

Download investment guidelines: https://eic.ec.europa.eu/document/download/6df458e7-fa47-4ace-93fa-86099606bdb0_en?filename=EIC_Fund_Investment_2026_guidelines_f.pdf

New Biodiversa+ transnational joint research call: Novel ecosystems: biodiversity, socio-ecological consequences and future trajectories (24 August 2026)

Source: Website European Partnership Biodiversa+ [Upcoming call – Biodiversa +](#)

Biodiversa+ is pleased to announce the upcoming launch of a new transnational joint research call entitled Novel ecosystems: biodiversity, socio-ecological consequences and future trajectories (BiodivFuture).

Co-funded by the European Commission, this call, alongside a range of actions under the **Biodiversa+ Flagship Programmes** <https://www.biodiversa.eu/strategy/>, will contribute to achieving **one of Biodiversa+'s strategic objectives** <https://www.biodiversa.eu/strategy/>: producing actionable knowledge to drive transformative change and halt and reverse biodiversity decline.

You can download the SRIA here: <https://www.biodiversa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/strategic-research-innovation-agenda.pdf>

Don't miss the Information webinar

Join our information webinar on 10 September 2026 for an overview of the BiodivFuture call and application process. The webinar will be held in two parts:

- **13:00 – 14:25 CEST:** General webinar on the call content and process
- **14:30 – 15:00 CEST:** National and regional sessions on specific funding rules and modalities

General webinar (13:00 – 14:25)

This session will give you a full overview of the call, including:

- its scientific content and research priorities;
- the call evaluation process: project types, expectations for applicants, and available resources;
- general eligibility and assessment criteria;
- call calendar and key deadlines.

Registration is mandatory.

National / Regional Sessions (14:30 – 15:00)

In parallel sessions, participating funding organisations will present their specific rules and modalities. Please see below the list of funding agencies that are participating in this info session as well as the link to join their specific webinar and the exact time slot of their session (CEST).

Dutch session

NWO 2:30-3:00 No recording <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/31842542301629?p=Cov2Hsu1O0tmky9A2W>
Meeting ID: 318 425 423 016 29, Passcode: FF95

Key events and updates for Cluster 6 Horizon Europe August 2026 (24 August 2026)

Source: mailing team IRIS RVO

Upcoming calls

- There are several deadlines coming up in September; Cluster 6, CBE JU and EU Missions.

- Soon the European Commission will launch several horizontal calls that are open to applicants. The call **'Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society'** is very much thematically related to the Biodiversity destination of Cluster 6. €230 million is expected to be available across 11 topics. The first topics are expected to open on the 13 October 2026 with deadlines in Q1 2027. **The full draft work programme of the 2027 horizontal calls** can be found [here](#) with the Biodiversity Call on p. **102-144**.
- The 2027 calls in the current 2026-2027 Cluster 6 work programme have already been confirmed. A total of **€556 million** is available across **50 topics**. The weblink where the 2026-2027 **Cluster 6 work programme** can be found is [here](#). We advise consortia to already start preparing before these calls open.
- Also for the EU missions the 2027 calls are already known. Starting from February 2027 new calls will be launched within the missions with most deadlines in September/October 2027. We advise consortia to already start preparing before these calls open. **The 2026-2027 EU Missions work programme** can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Horizon Europe Training by RVO

- RVO is organizing Impact trainings to help project coordinators and/or consortium partner write proposals with more impact. The training is open to Dutch universities, knowledge institutions, innovative companies or other organisations. It will be held on-site in English, free of charge. The next training is on 30 September 9:30-16:30 [Horizon Europe Impact Training | RVO.nl](#).

Cluster 6 Partnerships

There are four Cluster 6 related Partnerships opening transnational calls between 8 and 15 September 2026.

Water4All: Sustainable Water Management

Topics include integrated water monitoring, nature-based approaches, adaptive water infrastructure and resilient water governance. [Call information](#)

- Information webinar: 17 September, 14:00–16:00 CEST [Registration](#)
- Pre-proposal deadline: 10 November 2026

Biodiversa+

The call will address novel ecosystems, their functioning, socio-ecological dynamics, future trajectories, and the distribution of biodiversity benefits, costs and trade-offs. Approximately €40 million has been provisionally reserved. [Call information](#).

- Information webinar: 10 September 2026 11 CEST [Registration](#)
- Pre-proposal deadline: expected in early November

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

The fourth Joint Transnational Call has an indicative budget of €37 million. It covers sustainable blue-economy sectors, digital and ecosystem-based management of sea uses, marine bioresources, and resilient coastal communities and businesses. [Call information](#).

- Questions: sbep.call-secretariat@uefiscdi.ro
- Pre-proposal deadline: 16 November 2026

FORESTPathways See next item

Future events 2026

- 7-11 September, Coimbra, Portugal: [Soils for Europe: Healthy Soils for a Sustainable Future | Cluster 6 | Horizon Europe NCP Portal](#),
- 24-25 September, Brussels: EU AGRI 2040 Conference. Register by 3rd of July [here](#),
- 13-14 October, Helsinki: Forest Partnership launch event,
- 16-18 October, online: [EU Agri-Hackathon - Agriculture and rural development - European Commission](#)
- 20-21 October, Dublin: [Global Bioeconomy Summit \(GBS2026\)](#),
- 5-6 November, Brussels [EU CAP Network brokerage event 'From practice to impact: building Horizon Europe collaborations for agriculture and rural areas'](#),
- 17-18 November, Dublin: [4th European Mission Soil Week](#).

Pre-announcement for first joint call new Forest Partnership FORESTPathways (24 August 2026)

Source: Website Forest Partnership ForestValue2 <https://forestvalue.org/forest-joint-call-2026-pre-announcement/>

The first FOREST Partnership Joint Call will provide more than €40 million in indicative public funding. Its provisional topics cover climate-resilient forest systems, multifunctional forest management, innovative wood-based products, and forest value chains, markets and governance.

Call opening: 15th September 2026 (indicative)

The European Partnership “FOrests, forestry, and the forest-based sector: REsearch and innovation for a Sustainable Transition (FOREST)” aims to mobilise research and innovation to accelerate the transition to a sustainable use of forest resources and a circular, timber-based, bioeconomy. Serving as the primary instrument for collaboration among stakeholders in EU Member States and Associated Countries, the partnership will facilitate coordinated research and innovation (R&I) actions in order to reduce fragmentation and foster innovation and competitiveness in the forest-based sector. The purpose is to support further transformation towards biodiverse, climate-adaptive, multifunctional and sustainable forest management, innovating within the bioeconomy and helping achieve an increasingly productive, resource-efficient and resilient sector.

The first Joint Call of the European partnership FOREST brings together **38 Research Funding Organisations (RFOs)** from 28 countries. The total indicative call budget including EU co-contribution is over **EUR 40 million**.

This first Joint Call is intentionally broad in terms of the range of issues addressed. This allows the partnership the flexibility to accommodate different research and innovation needs while fostering synergies between these areas and aligning with goals outlined in the SRIA.

The following topics are included:

TOPIC 1 – Climate-Resilient Forest Systems

TOPIC 2 – Adaptive and Multifunctional Forest Management Systems

TOPIC 3 – Timber and Innovative Wood-Based Products

TOPIC 4 – Forest Value Chains, Markets and Governance

The precise topics are still to be defined by the participating funders; however, the call will encourage and make best use of cross-sectoral, coherent and integrated perspectives.

The scope and topics of the Joint Call derive from the official [Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#) underpinning the partnership and were selected by the Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) participating in the Joint Call.

Participating countries and organisations:

Belgium: FNRS, FWO // Bulgaria: BNSF // Brazil: CONFAP // Croatia: MZOM // Czech Republic: TA ČR // Estonia: ETAG, MoC // Finland: MMM, AKA, BF // France: ANR // Germany: BMFTR/FZJ-PtJ, BMLEH/FNR // Hungary: NKFIH // Ireland: DAFM // Italy: MASAF, BOZEN // Latvia: LZP, LAAFS // Lithuania: LMT // Moldova: ANCD // **The Netherlands: LVVN** // Norway: RCN // Poland: NCBR // Romania: ANC // Slovakia: CVTI SR // Slovenia: MESY // Spain: AEI, CDTI // Sweden: SWEA, VINNOVA, FORMAS // Switzerland: SNSF // Türkiye: TUBITAK // UK: DEFRA
Pending participation: Austria: BMLUK/FFG // Iceland: RANNIS

For call information: <https://forestvalue.org/forest-joint-call-2026-pre-announcement/>

National and international webinar

- Information international webinar: 17 September at 10:00 CEST. [Webinar information and registration](#)
- **Dutch National Information Webinar:** 21 September at 10:30 CEST. [Registration](#)

The FOREST Partnership is also recruiting independent experts to evaluate proposals. [Become a FOREST Joint Call expert.](#)

Call for evidence now open: contribute to the future EIT Regulation (12 August 2026)

Source: [Website EIT Call for evidence now open: contribute to the future EIT Regulation | EIT](#)



The European Commission is seeking input from stakeholders on the future EIT Regulation and the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the organisation.

The Commission has launched a call for evidence to support the revision of both the Regulation governing the EIT and the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda. This consultation aims to gather insights from various stakeholders, including public authorities, businesses, academia and research organisations, before the Commission prepares its final proposal. Interested organisations and stakeholders are strongly encouraged to participate by sharing their views through the **Have Your Say portal by 23 September 2026**.

Strengthening the EIT's impact

The new Regulation is expected to be adopted in December 2026 and aims to enhance the EIT's ability to support Europe's competitiveness and address evolving priorities. It seeks to build on the EIT's existing work by making the EIT more flexible, effective and closely aligned with EU strategic priorities. It would further strengthen cooperation between education, research and business, supporting the development and market uptake of innovative ideas, expanding entrepreneurial education and skills development, and improving coordination with other EU innovation programmes. The Regulation is set to ensure reduced complexity, enhanced governance and oversight and will also continue to support regional innovation capacity across Europe.

Areas for feedback

Through the call for evidence, the Commission is inviting stakeholders to provide feedback on the following key areas:

- how the EIT and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) can better strengthen Europe's competitiveness and innovation ecosystems;
- how they can enhance Europe's attractiveness to talent, innovators and entrepreneurs;
- how they can strengthen collaboration with other EU innovation instruments and programmes under the next multiannual financial framework (MFF); and
- what changes to the funding and implementation model could improve flexibility, governance, simplicity and impact.

The EIT encourages partners and stakeholders across Europe to share their views and looks forward to receiving their valuable input, experience and expertise as part of the assessment process.

Provide your feedback here until the 23 September 2026: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/19052-European-Institute-of-Innovation-and-Technology-revision-of-the-EIT-Regulation-and-the-strategic-innovation-agenda_en

European Funding News: FP10

MEPs challenge Irish research minister over Horizon Europe plans (2 September 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [MEPs challenge Irish research minister over Horizon Europe plans | Science|Business](#)

Exchange in European Parliament highlights continued divergence on links between Horizon Europe and European Competitiveness Fund



Irish research minister James Lawless was quizzed by MEPs on September 1. Photo credits: Laurie Dieffembacq / European Union

MEPs sought assurances from the Irish presidency of the EU Council on September 1 that links between Horizon Europe and the future European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) would not come at the expense of funding for bottom-up, fundamental research.

In June, EU governments [agreed their position](#) on the next Horizon Europe programme for 2028-34. Like the European Commission, the Council is proposing to include collaborative research and innovation calls under Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe in a dedicated part of ECF work programmes.

"This is a point of fundamental disagreement with the Parliament, because it puts future-oriented research and innovation at risk," said Parliament's rapporteur for Horizon Europe, Christian Ehler, during an exchange with James Lawless, Ireland's research minister.

The European People's Party MEP, who is also co-rapporteur for the ECF legislation, pointed out the continuing lack of detail on ECF governance, and asked Lawless how the Council plans to ensure ECF priorities do not "cannibalise" the budget of Horizon Europe.

In response, the minister said EU governments were "very aware" of these concerns. *"The Council objective is not to subordinate research and innovation to industrial policy,"* he told the Parliament's research and industry committee. *"It's critical that [Horizon Europe] should not be subordinate to the ECF,"* he later added.

Instead, the goal is to *"reduce the fragmentation across the pipeline from research ideas to market deployment."* Research and innovation activities in Pillar 2 will remain part of Horizon Europe and continue to follow the programme's rules.

The Council mandate *"preserves the need for the right balance between strategic priorities and bottom-up research,"* Lawless said. *"Topics will be broader, simpler, but allowing researchers more freedom within those to develop the best solutions."*

Preview of the trilogues

The exchange offered a first glimpse of how trilogue negotiations between the Parliament, Council and Commission could play out later this year. The governance question could be a major sticking point in those talks.

To strengthen the bottom-up nature of Pillar 2 and ensure there is no subordination to the ECF, Ehler wants to introduce expert councils, responsible for drafting funding calls. EU governments, on the other hand, are pushing for a greater say in priority setting, building on the current comitology procedure.

"The Council's approach is not to reinvent what already works, but to preserve and bring forward what works well, while evolving and innovating to ensure [Horizon Europe] remains relevant and fit for purpose," Lawless said.

Ehler also bemoaned the lack of attention given to academic freedom in the Council's position, while Lina Gálvez, Horizon Europe shadow rapporteur for the Socialists and Democrats, asked about the presidency's plans to ensure gender equality in the next programme. Lawless pointed to references to the European Convention on Human Rights, which he said underpins both academic freedom and gender equality.

Read full article here: [MEPs challenge Irish research minister over Horizon Europe plans | Science|Business](#)

Zaharieva hopes for a Horizon Europe deal in 2026 (24 August 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [Zaharieva hopes for a Horizon Europe deal in 2026 | Science|Business](#)

In a wide-ranging interview, the EU research commissioner sets out her hopes for speedy negotiations and an expanding role for Europe in global science



Research Commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva. Photo credits: Aurore Martignoni / European Union

Ekaterina Zaharieva hopes the European Parliament and EU Council will reach a deal on the next Horizon Europe by the end of 2026, warning that a delayed political decision would have a knock-on effect on the first calls for proposals, due to be published in early 2028.

"If we want to have the programme up and running on the first of January 2028, we have to have a deal by the end of this year," the European commissioner responsible for research told Science|Business.

The Council reached a partial agreement on the programme in June, with EU governments pushing for a greater say in setting priorities in the next Horizon Europe programme. However, the Parliament has at least two more months of deliberation before it can put the file to a plenary vote at the end of October. From then on, the Council, Parliament and European Commission will enter trilateral talks, which Zaharieva hopes will be smooth.

While the Council agreement does not steer too much away from the Commission's proposal, the Parliament's rapporteurs in the industry and research committee have amassed hundreds of amendments, which will first be negotiated internally, then voted in the committee, then taken to a plenary vote.

Some of their proposals could be pared back, but chances are that the Parliament will enter the trilogues with demands that are radically different from what the Commission and Council want. For example, German MEP Christian Ehler, the Parliament's lead rapporteur on the next Horizon Europe and co-rapporteur on the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), wants to move programming decisions to new [expert councils](#) and to ensure that future industrial policies implemented through the ECF will **not "dictate" research priorities**.

The Commission stands by its proposal, but at a recent event organised by the German academy of sciences Leopoldina and the European Research Council (ERC), Ehler said that a compromise was still possible. According to Zaharieva, the Commission is "happy" with plans by the Irish presidency of the Council to push for a deal on Horizon Europe legislation by the end of the year. Reaching an agreement by then will *be "very, very difficult, but not impossible,"* she said. On the other hand, any delay could be damaging, since the Commission will need *"time to prepare the systems, to start working, otherwise we are going to have a gap, and that's not fair to our scientists."*

Budget woes

Zaharieva made the comments on the Horizon Europe negotiation timeline just days after 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."*

Last summer, the Commission put forward its proposal for a 2028-34 EU budget of €1.76 trillion in 2025 prices adjusted for inflation. In June, the Cypriot presidency of the EU Council [published the first figures](#) 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, Horizon Europe may come under further pressure.

When asked whether she believes member states understand the significance of investments in the EU research and innovation programme, Zaharieva said research organisations across the bloc should be *“a bit more vocal”* in telling their stories, not just in front of finance ministers, but also in front of citizens. *“This will help when we negotiate the budget,”* she said.

Merz said that Germany will also oppose plans to hire more people in the Commission, but as certain programmes, such as the European Innovation Council and the European Research Council are slated to triple and double in budget starting 2028, the EU executive will need to hire more people to manage the additional workload. The Commission will need more staff to deliver on the promise of bigger funding allocations, shorter times to grant and experimenting with novel funding schemes.

Re-association in 2028

The Commission has recently advanced a string of association deals as more countries around the world are interested in getting involved in Horizon Europe. Japan is the latest to sign a deal, but the Commission is also in advanced talks with India and has already reached deals with Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Korea.

However, the deals only cover the current iteration of Horizon Europe, which will end in December 2027, and the Commission is getting ready to re-start talks with governments that wish to continue after January 2028.

Zaharieva said that while the process will not be a simple formality, all countries could re-associate to the next Horizon Europe by the end of 2028. *“[Associated countries] really want this to go smooth, as fast as possible without interruption, and we can do it, it’s much faster negotiations.”*

In the interview, Zaharieva also responded to concerns expressed by university groups from countries associated to Horizon Europe that they could be locked out of sensitive calls and governance debates, as the EU might choose to focus on immediate technological needs, particularly in defence.

Currently, associated countries send observers to the meetings where research calls in Horizon Europe are decided. Although they don’t get a vote, they do get a chance to express an opinion. Zaharieva said this system should carry on to the next Horizon Europe and associated countries will not get a vote.

Countries currently associated to Horizon Europe will have to negotiate separate deals to join the ECF, despite overlapping priorities. Zaharieva said. *“Of course, coordination should happen in the Commission and it will happen, but Horizon Europe is a self-standing programme with a separate regulation, and separate budget, the same of ECF, so there are separate negotiations,”* she said.

Some international stakeholders worry that in the case of the ECF, which is supposed to boost funding across strategic technology sectors, the number of exceptions related to sensitive technologies might be bigger than in Horizon Europe. *“They may presume this, but let’s not pre-empt,”* Zaharieva said.

Getting popular

Horizon Europe is becoming increasingly popular around the world and more countries could join after January 2028, but Zaharieva did not want to say which might be next in line. She visited Vietnam this spring, and in June Sayasat Nurbek, the research minister of Kazakhstan, visited her in Brussels.

In the case of Vietnam, Zaharieva noted that the south-east Asian country is interested in strengthening trade, technology and science ties with the EU, but an association deal is not on the table at the moment, although the door is open for future talks after 2028.

Other International funding

Call open: new DUT Call on sustainable European urban transitions (1 September 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Call open: new DUT Call on sustainable European urban transitions | NWO](#)



Researchers can now apply for funding under the fifth Call of the European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future (DUT). DUT focuses on transnational projects that develop solutions to social and spatial challenges in urban areas. The themes of this Call are 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

Visit the call for proposals: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/driving-urban-transitions-call-2026>

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 Call text and further information are available on the [DUT website](#). The national conditions can be found on the [NWO DUT call page](#). The budget for this call is provided by NWO and the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations. NWO will 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.

- 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

For more information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-new-dut-call-on-sustainable-european-urban-transitions>

Seven European-African consortia receive funding for research on climate adaptation and just energy transitions within the water-energy-food nexus (1 September 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Seven European-African consortia receive funding for research on climate adaptation and just energy transitions within the water-energy-food nexus | NWO](#)



Together with nine African Science Granting Councils, NWO has awarded funding to seven transnational research projects. This first Call under the Long-term Europe – Africa WEF Nexus (LEAWEF) Multilateral Research Programme focuses on strengthening knowledge and collaboration around the water-energy-food nexus, with the aim of advancing sustainable transitions across these interdependent sectors. Through this integrated approach, the programme seeks to promote the sustainable, inclusive and resilient provision and distribution of water, energy and food.

Europe and Africa face similar challenges in their water, energy and food systems. Climate change is intensifying pressure on, and competition for, these resources. At the same time, the energy transition is introducing new complexities, further exposing the interdependencies between water, energy and food. This Call therefore focuses, on the one hand, on developing ecosystem-based strategies for climate adaptation, and, on the other, on fostering a just energy transition, in which burdens are fairly shared and benefits widely distributed.

LEAWEF promotes sustainable collaboration between knowledge institutions and societal partners from both the public and private sectors, with the aim of increasing the societal impact of research. The seven funded transdisciplinary consortia apply the WEF nexus approach across a range of contexts, contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy). Within the WEF nexus, this first Call places a specific emphasis on climate adaptation and just energy transitions.

In this first Call, Science Granting Councils from the following countries are involved: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, the Netherlands, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. The second LEAWEF Call is currently in development, with new Science Granting Councils joining from Africa and Europe. The launch is expected end of 2026.

WUR is Main applicant of one of the funded projects

Upscaling faecal sludge briquette production for enhanced resource recovery and accelerating just energy transition

Main applicant Netherlands: Professor A.R. Mels (Wageningen University & Research)

Main applicant Kenya: Professor D. Nyaanga (Egerton University)

Main applicant Ethiopia: Dr K. Jemal (Adama Science and Technology University)

Co-applicants and cooperation partners: dr. ir. K. Haldar (Wageningen University & Research), prof. dr. D. Huitema (Wageningen University & Research), dr. J.K.L. Koehler (Wageningen University & Research), dr. M. Degnet (Wageningen University & Research), M. Webers (VEI), J.N. Gachathi (Nakuru Water and Sanitation Services Company), W. Hirpa (VEI), M.M. Asefa (Adama Science & Technology University), dr. M.G. Magangi (Egerton University), N. Oubrahim (WASTE), A. Bekele (Bishoftu Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Services Enterprise), S. Mahanta (WASTE), P. Bundi (Finish INK), S. Okoth (UN-Habitat)

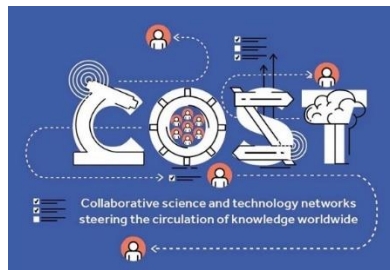
For overview of awarded projects of the first LEAWEF Call: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/seven-european-african-consortia-receive-funding-for-research-on-climate-adaptation-and-just-energy-transitions-within-the-water-energy-food-nexus>

80 new COST Actions will soon kick off! (31 August 2026)

Source: Website Cost [COST Newsletter - August 2026](#)

As the next collection date of the COST Open Call approaches, we get as well closer to the 2-month busy period of first meetings of the 80 new COST Actions approved earlier this year.

If you haven't had a chance to learn about the new Actions of your interest, have a look at the information available on our website.



For more information about the 80 funded COST projects: [Browse COST Actions - List of COST Actions past and ongoing | COST](#)

COST Actions welcome new participants at any time during their 4-year lifetime. At the kick-off meeting, the Action's Management Committee appoints several leadership positions, responsible for the network's coordination, implementation and management.

Would you like to get involved and boost your career?

Apply to join here: <https://www.cost.eu/join-ca25-cost-actions/>

2026 Call for Proposals — Kunming Biodiversity Fund (11 August 2026)

Source: Website UN Environment Programme [2026 Call for Proposals — Kunming Biodiversity Fund](#)

The [Kunming Biodiversity Fund \(KBF\)](#) invites UN organizations, together with relevant partners specified in the guidelines, to submit proposals for projects that support the conservation, protection, and restoration of biodiversity. Proposed projects must contribute to at least one of the following thematic areas. Proposals that address multiple thematic areas will be viewed favorably. Further details on each thematic area are available in the guidelines.

Thematic areas

- Restoring and protecting ecosystems to improve biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- Mainstreaming biodiversity effectively into policies, regulations, planning, and strategies.
- Strengthening resource mobilization for biodiversity conservation.
- Sharing benefits from genetic resources and digital sequence information on genetic resources.

Project budget

Proposed projects should focus on country-level or sub-national level implementation of the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#) (KMGBF) and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). The project budget for each single country project is no more than \$500,000.

Regional projects with multiple countries will also be considered. The project budget for each multi-country project should not exceed \$800,000.

The project duration is between 12 – 24 months.

The 2026 Call for Proposals will be conducted in two stages:

- Stage 1 deadline for submissions—15 September 2026
- Stage 2 deadline for submissions—15 November 2026

Applications are to be sent directly to the KBF Secretariat by email: kbf@un.org.

For more information, please reach out to kbf@un.org.

National funding

Vidi round 2026 now open for pre-proposals (3 September 2026)

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



Talented and creative researchers who are in the stage of transitioning to academic leadership can now apply for a Vidi grant. This funding instrument of the NWO Talent Programme offers personal grants. The funding amounts to a maximum of EUR 850,000.

Vidi: brief overview

The Vidi target group consists of researchers who are in the stage of transitioning to academic leadership. The Vidi grant is intended to support further development in this area. Researchers eligible for a Vidi grant have academic qualities that clearly exceed what is customary and demonstrate developing leadership and mentoring qualities. The funding amounts to a maximum of €850.000.

Who can apply

The Vidi round is open to researchers who obtained their PhD between October 1, 2018 and October 1, 2026. In order to be eligible for the Vidi grant, researchers must submit an embedding guarantee.

Mandatory pre-proposal phase

Applicants must submit a pre-proposal to be considered for a Vidi. In the pre-proposal the 'quality of the researcher' (100%) is assessed. If a positive decision follows the pre-proposal, the applicant is invited to submit a full application. If a negative decision follows the pre-proposal, the applicant cannot submit a full proposal. In the proposal the assessment is based on the criteria 'Quality and innovative character of the research proposal' (75%) and the 'Scientific and/or societal impact' (25%).

Go to funding site of NWO talent programme: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme>

The planning for the 2026 Vidi round is as follows:

- The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is November 3, 2026, by 14:00:00 CET.
- The deadline for submitting full applications is April 6, 2027, before 14:00:00 CEST.

For more information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/vidi-round-2026-now-open-for-pre-proposals> and <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme>

Six new awarded research projects within the Open Technology Programme (31 August 2026)

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



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

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

Advanced single-molecule methods

Human cells are full of tiny molecular machines that move, twist, and react in unpredictable ways. Standard assays can't capture these details, but single-molecule methods let us watch and manipulate them in action, molecule by molecule. The project of dr. D. Dulin will therefore focus on making advanced single-molecule techniques more accessible. They aim to build a next-generation platform that automates data acquisition and analysis, using lab-on-a-chip and AI-powered technology.

Synthesis of polyamides

Polyamides are all around us: from the proteins that make up our bodies to everyday plastics like nylon in stockings. In nature, these molecules are built with remarkable precision, yet current technologies cannot replicate this precision in the lab or industry. The project of dr. K. Neumann introduces a groundbreaking technology for the automated and programmable synthesis of polyamides, bridging the gap between natural precision and synthetic production.

Two WUR projects / PI's are granted

1. **Single-cell guided improvement of lactic acid bacteria (LAB) starter cultures: LABprobe - dr. J. Hohlbein, Wageningen University & Research (23228):** Co-applicant(s): **prof. dr. M. Kleerebezem**, Wageningen University & Research
2. **GlycoVacs – a sweet spot for developing vaccines against parasitic worms - dr. ir. R.H.P. Wilbers, Wageningen University & Research (23233):** Co-applicant(s): prof. K. Else, University of Manchester

An overview of all granted projects can be found here: [Six new awarded research projects within the Open Technology Programme | NWO](#)

Green light for the next phase of two ongoing National Growth Fund projects (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The National Growth Fund has definitively awarded €175.10 million to two ongoing projects. The LLO-Katalysator programme receives €143.8 million. In addition, €31.3 million has been definitively awarded to the Future-proof Living Environment programme. The Cabinet has fully adopted the recommendation to this effect from the National Growth Fund Advisory Committee.

Central Government news item: [Groen licht voor vervolg 2 lopende projecten Nationaal Groeifonds | Rijksoverheid.nl](#) (in Dutch)

National Growth Fund news item: [Aanvullende besluitvorming over 7 Nationaal Groeifondsprojecten | Nationaal Groeifonds](#) (in Dutch)

Foreseen call Mosaic 3.0 (20 August 2026)

Source: Website NWO [Mosaic 3.0](#) | NWO

The Mosaic 3.0 PhD scholarship programme encourages graduates with a non-Western migration background—a group underrepresented in the Dutch scientific community—to pursue a career in science.

Closing date for pre-proposals: 3 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.)

Closing date full application: 4 May 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.)

Disclaimer

NWO informs visitors to this website about calls that are currently being prepared. Some information fields on this page are therefore not yet filled in. The information and the expected opening date are subject to change and may be amended. NWO may also decide to discontinue the preparations. Only once a call has been approved by the NWO Board will the final call texts be published on our website and in the Government Gazette. The call will then be given the status 'In preparation' and all information fields will be filled in. The texts from the call for proposals are always authoritative.

Foreseen call Large Scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) - National Roadmap consortia 2026 (20 August 2026)

This call concerns the first funding round for the National Roadmap for Large-Scale Research Infrastructure 2026 (in progress). Only Roadmap consortia mentioned in the Roadmap 2026 will be given the opportunity to apply for funding for the realization of their LSRI-plans.

Foreseen closing date: Closing date full application 1 June 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.)

Budget

Disclaimer

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Foreseen call: Impact Explorer – Exploring opportunities for societal impact (20 August 2026)

The aim of this top-up grant is to explore whether and how an unexpected research outcome, or an unexpected application of a research outcome, arising from curiosity-driven research can lead to societal impact. Only projects based on research arising from the Talent Programme and the Open Competition of both NWO and ZonMw are eligible for funding.

Disclaimer

NWO informs visitors to this website about calls that are currently being prepared. Some information fields on this page are therefore not yet filled in. The information and the expected opening date are subject to change and may be amended. NWO may also decide to discontinue the preparations. Only once a call has been approved by the NWO Board will the final call texts be published on our website and in the Government Gazette. The call will then be given the status 'In preparation' and all information fields will be filled in. The texts from the call for proposals are always authoritative.

Foreseen opening call Use of space infrastructure for Earth observation and planetary research (GO) (20 August 2026)

Source: Website NWO <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/use-of-space-infrastructure-for-earth-observation-and-planetary-research-go>

Various national and international space organisations and institutions deploy and maintain advanced and extensive infrastructure in space. This space infrastructure, and the data and signals it generates, is available to scientific and other users. NWO, in collaboration with NLSA and within the framework of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science's space policy, aims to encourage Dutch researchers to utilise this infrastructure for the benefit of science and society. The objective of the GO programme is therefore:

To provide support to researchers working in the Netherlands in making substantial use of space infrastructure for the purpose of high-quality scientific research.

Within this objective, the GO programme is open to scientific research in two thematic areas: Earth observation and planets (and other objects) within our solar system. These themes are scientific priorities under the current Dutch space policy.

Foreseen Closing date full application: 9 February 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.)

Disclaimer

NWO informs visitors to this website about calls that are currently being prepared. Some information fields on this page are therefore not yet filled in. The information and the expected opening date are subject to change and may be amended. NWO may also decide to discontinue the preparations. Only once a call has been approved by the NWO

Board will the final call texts be published on our website and in the Government Gazette. The call will then be given the status 'In preparation' and all information fields will be filled in. The texts from the call for proposals are always authoritative.

Upcoming call: Impact Explorer 2026 (12 August 2026)

Source: website NWO [Impact Explorer 2026](#) | NWO

Impact Explorer is a small top-up, for ongoing research-projects in the open competition or talent line, to explore an unforeseen opportunity for impact in close collaboration with an Impact Partner.

Purpose

The purpose of this grant, identically to the earlier Impact Explorer round, is to explore whether and how an unexpected research outcome, or an unexpected application of a research outcome, from curiosity-driven research can lead to societal impact. These are opportunities and ideas that were not anticipated in advance when the project plan was made, but have emerged during the lifetime of a project.

Only explorations based on research arising from the Talent Programme and the Open Competition of both NWO and ZonMw are eligible for funding.

When to apply

Applications may be submitted to NWO on a continuous basis from Tuesday 6 October 2026 up to and including **Tuesday 5 October 2027 before 14:00:00 CEST**.

20 Take-off projects awarded (5 August 2026)

Source: website ZonMw [20 Take-off projecten toegewezen](#) | ZonMw

Twenty projects have been awarded funding under the Take-off programme: nine in the continuous round for Take-off Phase 1 (Feasibility Studies) and eleven early-stage projects in the 2026 spring round for Take-off Phase 2. In Phase 1, researchers have the opportunity to assess the commercial feasibility of an idea derived from innovative research results.

Since this year, applications for Take-off Phase 1 can be submitted on a rolling basis and are processed in batches of twenty. In Phase 2, knowledge-driven, innovative startups in the early stages of development receive a loan to get their business off the ground. Applications for Take-off Phase 2 can be submitted during two annual rounds: the spring round and the autumn round.

Feasibility studies (Phase 1)

Feasibility studies enable researchers to assess the commercial viability of their innovative ideas. If the idea proves viable, they can use the feasibility report as a basis for launching a company.

Two WUR led feasibility studies were granted

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

Early-stage trajectories (Phase 2)

In the early-stage trajectories, startups receive a loan to bring their business—based on research findings from Dutch research organizations—to market. This loan enables them to develop a proof of concept. The aim is for the entrepreneurs to be able to convince other public and/or private parties to invest by the end of this trajectory.

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

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

Study warns of vulnerabilities in clean-tech manufacturing (3 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

The EU leads the way in clean-technology patents, yet this success remains heavily reliant on public funding for innovation. This is the finding of a new study commissioned by the European Parliament. The report assesses the EU's competitive position in clean tech relative to the US and China. Among other things, the researchers recommend shifting the focus of innovation funding towards private capital and reducing dependencies within supply chains.

Read more:

European Parliament study summary: [Cleantech Innovation, Industrial Decarbonisation and Global Competition - Where the EU stand in the race towards net-zero compared to the US and China?](#)

European Parliament study: [Cleantech Innovation, Industrial Decarbonisation and Global Competition - Where does the EU stand in the race towards net-zero compared to the US and China?](#)

Flemish study refutes 'Nature' paper on decline in groundbreaking research (3 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

Research by Vrije Universiteit Brussel and KU Leuven shows that an influential 2023 'Nature' study on declining scientific innovation was largely based on errors in the underlying data. Based on millions of publications and patents, the original study concluded that research findings had become significantly less groundbreaking since the mid-20th century. According to the VUB researchers, older publications in particular lack references, leading to them being erroneously classified as groundbreaking. Once corrected, the reported decline virtually disappears.

Read more:

VUB press release: [More nuanced view of the decline in scientific innovation | Vrije Universiteit Brussel](#)

ARUA-The Guild joint leaders' statement: Transformative science relationships are indispensable to address common global challenges (31 August 2026)

Source: Website The Guild <https://www.the-guild.eu/news-and-blog/news/2026/arua-the-guild-joint-leaders'-statement-transforma.html>

At the ARUA <https://arua.org/> -The Guild Summit, held at the University of Glasgow 14-17 June 2026, Vice-Chancellors and Presidents of 46 leading universities in Africa and Europe resolved to redouble their efforts to address humanity's common challenges in health, digital transformation, environmental degradation, technological shifts, cultural tensions and geopolitical strife together.



To achieve this they will strengthen equitable, long-term collaboration through the Africa-Europe Clusters of Research Excellence (CoRE), which bring together more than 400 researchers from over 120 institutions across both continents and beyond. In this way, they confirm their commitment to implementing [the AU-EU Innovation Agenda](#), [the African Union's Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa \(STISA 2034\)](#) and [the European Union's Global Gateway strategy](#).

But more needs to be done, Africa's resources in talent, human development, and science requires systemic change to reach our aspirations. It is therefore an imperative that Africa's science capacity is strengthened through equitable partnerships that develop ideas and solutions that are scalable, inclusive, and transformative – not just for higher education and research, but for the societies they serve. To this end, we call on African and European policymakers, national and global research funders, and local and global industry partners committed to this transformation to work with us and all R&I stakeholders to:

- Encourage and incentivise excellent innovative models for R&I collaboration.
- Invest in addressing local phenomena of global societal challenges, in this way creating new solutions for all.
- Strengthen the human talent pipeline, including marginalised groups, through new pedagogical tools, by investing in higher education.
- Maximise return on investment by aligning development assistance with highly beneficial research infrastructures and R&I investment.
- Recognise the diversity of the African and European continents as opportunities, rather than obstacles, as research builds on the challenges and ideas of all.

At this time of geopolitical rupture, Universities must acknowledge that global science has also been predicated on power inequalities and it is by addressing this issue effectively that universities, funders and governments can build trust-based networks that provide a more effective response to the politics of division that characterises the present-day international order.

Read the PDF version: https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/statements/arua-guild-joint-leaders--statement_august2026.pdf

EU set to bring in world-leading screening to prevent man-made pandemics (27 August 2026)

Source: [Website Science|Business](#) [EU set to bring in world-leading screening to prevent man-made pandemics | Science|Business](#)

Biotech Act proposes mandatory checks by companies on scientists ordering DNA



The EU's proposed Biotech Act will bring in one of the world's first mandatory screening mechanisms to stop risky fragments of DNA falling into the wrong hands and potentially triggering a man-made pandemic.

Under the proposals, released in December last year and now being discussed by EU governments and MEPs, all companies selling DNA in the EU would have to check the identities and positions of public and private scientists before shipping them potentially dangerous sequences.

DNA screening is seen as the first line of defence against terrorists, criminals or even irresponsible scientists concocting new pathogens and then deliberately or accidentally setting them free.

"You can order fragments of a pathogen genome online today and nobody is legally obliged to check who you are," said Eloise Todd, executive director of the Brussels-based Resilience Action Network International, which focuses in part on pandemic prevention. "You can't do that with explosives precursors; biology is the outlier."

The proposed EU rules "will mean a safer Europe and a safer world, and others are quickly catching up," said Todd. New synthetic biology tools have made it easier to engineer pathogens to make them more dangerous in so-called "gain-of-function" research, [experts worry](#). In addition, there's the risk that scientists could revive previously eradicated

diseases such as smallpox, against which the world has limited vaccine stocks. In one [notorious experiment](#) in 2017, Canadian researchers revived the closely-related horsepox using mail-order DNA.

Advances in artificial intelligence have also arguably [lowered the barriers to man-made pandemics](#), enabling new pathogen design tools, and potentially making it easier for more junior scientists to follow the complex process of pathogen creation.

Earlier this month, Stanford University scientists revealed that they had used an open-source AI model to create the [world's first synthetically designed bacteriophages](#): tiny, [spider-like viruses](#) that target bacteria. The results could lead to new forms of antibiotics, but some scientists have [sounded the alarm](#) that far more guardrails are needed to prevent misuse.

So far, DNA screening by companies remains largely voluntary. Some of the [world's biggest DNA companies](#) do already check their customers, and in 2024 the US made screening a condition of receiving federal funds. But a [recent analysis](#) of more than 1,000 firms could only confirm that around 7% of them screened orders, with global awareness of screening “low.”

The EU's Biotech Act, however, would introduce one of the world's first mandatory systems, if and when the legislation, which covers a much broader range of biotechnology policy, makes it through the bloc's institutions.

Read full article here: [EU set to bring in world-leading screening to prevent man-made pandemics | Science|Business](#)

EU Government R&D Allocations Rise 61% Over Decade (24 August 2026)

Source: Website European Commission [EU R&D government allocations up by 61% in 10 years - News articles - Eurostat](#)

Member States allocated €130.2 billion to research and development through their 2025 budgets.

Government budget allocations for research and development (GBARD) across the EU reached an estimated €130.2 billion in 2025, according to [recent data](#) from Eurostat. This represents a 2.4% increase on 2024 and a 60.5% increase compared with 2015, when EU government R&D allocations stood at €81.1 billion.

On a per-capita basis, government R&D allocations reached €288.90 per person in 2025, up 57.7% from €183.20 in 2015. Luxembourg recorded the highest allocation at €917.20 per inhabitant, followed by Denmark at €627.10 and Germany at €553.50. Romania had the lowest allocation at €18.80 per inhabitant, followed by Hungary and Malta.

For the higher education sector, the distribution of funding is particularly significant. Some 37.3% of total EU government R&D budget allocations were directed towards the general advancement of knowledge, primarily through public general university funds (GUF). These block grants are used by public higher education institutions to support their research and wider activities. A further 18.4% was allocated to the general advancement of knowledge through other funding sources. Other major socioeconomic objectives included industrial production and technology, which accounted for 9.5% of allocations, health at 6.7% and defence at 5.8%. The figures therefore highlight the continued importance of broad-based public support for research alongside more targeted investment in strategic priorities.

Eurostat cautions that GBARD figures represent budget provisions rather than actual expenditure, meaning that they do not necessarily indicate how much governments ultimately spent on R&D. Data for 2025 are also provisional for most EU countries and are due to be reviewed later in 2026.

The figures nevertheless provide a useful indication of the scale and direction of public R&D investment across Europe, particularly as the EU seeks to strengthen its research and innovation capacity and improve the competitiveness of its knowledge economy.

For more information

European Commission press release: [EU R&D government allocations up by 61% in 10 years - News articles - Eurostat](#)

Eurostat database: [Database - Science, technology, and innovation - Eurostat](#)

Austria's R&D intensity reached record high in 2025 (24 August 2026)

Source: Website Federal Ministry Women, Science and Research Republic of Austria [Austrian Research and Technology Report](#)

Austria's R&D intensity reached a record high in 2025, with spending equalling 3.39% of GDP, according to a new government report. In 2026, GDP is expected to grow more strongly, resulting in an R&D intensity of 3.34%, still above the EU target of 3%.

In the past decade, public sector funding has made a particularly strong contribution to the increase in R&D intensity, according to the 2026 Austrian Research and Technology Report, compiled on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Women, Science and Research.

At the same time, R&D activities are becoming increasingly concentrated in three federal states: Upper Austria, Styria and Vienna, the report notes.

Read the report here: [Austrian Research and Technology Report](#)

Scaleup Europe Fund to start making investments (5 August 2026)

Source: Website [Scaleup Europe Fund to start making investments](#)

Today, the European Commission completed the final legal steps to establish the Scaleup Europe Fund https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-fund/scaleup-europe-fund_en, which will start boosting Europe's scaleup companies to grow faster and compete globally with a target of €5 billion.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said: *"When Europe invests in its innovators, Europe invests in its future. This is the goal of our Scaleup Europe Fund. From today, it will ensure our scaleups can find what they need right here in Europe to grow into world-leading companies. To turn European innovation into our competitive edge."*

With the adoption of the Fund's legal documentation, the Scaleup Europe Fund is established as part of the [European Innovation Council Fund](#). Private equity firm EQT has taken up its role as investment manager and is now empowered to take investment decisions independently and on market terms. EQT was selected [through an open and competitive process](#).

The Fund is now able to operate at full capacity, investing directly in Europe's leading scaleup companies.

Public and private capital joining forces for Europe's scaleups

The first investments are expected in the coming weeks. The Fund will support scaleup companies across critical technology areas, including artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, biotechnology and clean technologies.

The founding investor group brings together a strong coalition of public and private partners including Novo Holdings, EIFO (the Export and Investment Fund of Denmark), CriteriaCaixa, Santander/Mouro Capital, Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo together with Intesa Sanpaolo and Fondazione Cariplo, APG Asset Management on behalf of Dutch pension fund ABP, Wallenberg Investments and Allianz, alongside the Commission. Further fundraising will continue with the aim of reaching a target of €5 billion.

Background

The Scaleup Europe Fund was announced by President von der Leyen in her [2025 State of the Union Address](#) to help ensure that Europe's most promising companies can grow into global leaders. While Europe has strong scientific excellence and a solid startup pipeline, many high-potential firms have had to look abroad for the capital needed to scale. The Fund was created to help close this gap and keep the value of European innovation in Europe.

The EU's investment in the Fund is backed by [Horizon Europe](#), the world's largest research programme.

Read full article here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_1718

For more information about Scaleup Europe Fund: https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-fund/scaleup-europe-fund_en

Global policy

Bill Gates: World unprepared for the impact of AI (3 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

Former Microsoft executive Bill Gates warns that the world is ill-prepared for the consequences of artificial intelligence. In an essay, Gates argues that AI could become "the greatest equalizer ever" or "the greatest source of inequity." Gates advocates for national AI oversight bodies. He also calls for an international organization, similar to existing frameworks for nuclear inspections and aviation safety. Additionally, he suggests deliberately reserving certain jobs for humans and introducing a tax on the use of AI and robots.

Read more:

Bill Gates' essay: (6) [The turbulent AI era is here. The choices we make now are critical.](#) | LinkedIn

Axios article: [Bill Gates sounds alarm on an AI transition](#)

China holds the most green patents globally (3 september 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

The number of global patents for green technology nearly quadrupled between 2003 and 2023, according to a new report by the World Intellectual Property Organization. Growth is heavily concentrated in smart energy grids, battery storage, and air pollution control—sectors that together accounted for more than 40 percent of all green patents between 2021 and 2023. China dominates the field, holding nearly 72 percent of all green patent families worldwide in 2023.

Read more:

WIPO report: <https://www.wipo.int/web-publications/mapping-green-innovation-an-overview-of-the-new-wipo-ipc-green-technology-concordance/en/index.html>

UK makes it easier for foreign researchers to join companies 93 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

UKRI, the British research funding agency, is making the so-called Global Talent Visa available to more than a hundred British companies. Previously, foreign researchers coming to the UK on this visa could only be employed by the agencies funding the research. Now, companies conducting research supported by such funders can also use the visa to recruit foreign researchers.

Read more:

UKRI press release: <https://www.ukri.org/news/global-talent-visa-expanded-to-innovative-research-businesses/>

OECD examines success factors for government innovation programs (3 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

An OECD analysis reveals that an increasing number of government bodies are implementing innovation support programs to develop and test new policy solutions more rapidly. Through such programs, government teams receive temporary support—such as coaching, funding, or expertise—enabling them to quickly pilot new ideas. The report outlines five factors that determine the success of these programs and concludes with a practical roadmap for policymakers wishing to apply these insights.

Read more:

OECD report: [Incubators and accelerators for public sector innovation](#) | OECD

US aims to leverage science for national security (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The US government has unveiled the National Security Science and Technology Strategy, which harnesses science and technology to safeguard national security. Key areas of focus include AI, space technology, undersea technology, hypersonic weapons, and cyber technology. The government emphasizes the importance of preventing this knowledge from falling into the wrong hands. Regulations that hinder innovation are being relaxed, and collaboration with the private sector is being strengthened. According to Nextgov, it is notable that the Trump administration is once again opening the door to foreign talent.

National Security Science and Technology Strategy document: [NSSTS-082026.pdf](#)

Nextgov article: [White House S&T strategy calls for new approaches to safeguard US research - Nextgov/FCW](#)

US researchers critical of science reform plan (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

Articles in 'Nature' and 'Science Business' have voiced criticism regarding the US plan to fundamentally overhaul the scientific system. The document 'Science, a New Golden Age'—authored by Michael Kratsios, Director of the US Office of Science and Technology Policy—proposes, among other things, prioritizing research into artificial intelligence. Funding strategies are also expected to place greater emphasis on individual researchers, public-private partnerships, and high-risk research. Critics quoted by 'Science Business' describe the plan as a smokescreen intended to divert attention from earlier interventions in science funding by the Trump administration.

White House press release: [Trump Administration Announces More Than \\$5 Billion for the Genesis Mission, a National Mission on AI for Science – The White House](#)

Document: 'Science, a New Golden Age': [Science: A New Golden Age – The White House](#)

'Nature' article: [What's missing from the White House plan for the future of US science | Nature](#)

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

OECD: The formulas for successful scaling (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The commercial success rate of innovative start-ups can be boosted by better aligning policy with the various stages of development and the characteristics of the local ecosystem. This is the conclusion of an OECD analysis examining start-ups in the EU and the United States between 2000 and 2025. The findings show that successful growth companies distinguish themselves not so much by their innovative capacity, but primarily by the timing of the commercial exploitation of their innovations. Access to sufficient funding during later growth stages also plays a crucial role. Furthermore, management capabilities, international market expansion, and acquisitions are key factors in scaling up rapidly.

OECD analysis: [Which start-ups achieve scale? | OECD](#)

UK government scraps science and technology ministry (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The UK's Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) has been merged into a new ministry: the Department for Business, Innovation, Science and Trade. Newly appointed Prime Minister Andy Burnham has named Jonathan Reynolds as the minister for the new department. According to 'The Guardian', the decision has drawn criticism from tech experts and parliamentarians. They view AI as an urgent economic and security issue and believe this is not the right time for a reorganization.

UK government press release: [Business Secretary: "I'm backing investment and innovation to power good growth in every corner of the UK" - GOV.UK](#)

'The Guardian' article: [UK tech advocates alarmed by Burnham plan to scrap technology department | Technology policy | The Guardian](#)

UKRI presents five-year strategy for research and innovation (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

UK research funder UKRI has unveiled a five-year strategy aimed at translating the UK government's record investment of £38.6 billion into breakthroughs and economic growth. UKRI aims to generate at least £3 in private investment for every pound of public funding. Additionally, UKRI intends to make its own processes more efficient; for instance, grant application timelines are to be reduced by at least 50 percent.

UKRI press release: [UKRI to drive future tech to next level and back thousands more scientists and innovators through new five-year roadmap – UKRI](#)

WIPO: GenAI patents see explosive growth (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The number of new patents for generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) has nearly tripled in two years, according to figures from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). In 2025, over 37,800 new patent families were published, compared to approximately 14,000 in 2023. China remains the clear market leader in GenAI patents; six of the ten largest applicants are Chinese. Germany is the European leader, having overtaken the United Kingdom.

WIPO press release: [GenAI Innovation Soaring, With Patent Activity Nearly Tripling in Two Years](#)

WIPO publication: [SPARK: Patent Trends Update in GenAI](#)

National policy

RTL: Cabinet plans new round for National Growth Fund (3 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

The cabinet intends to allocate €333 million over the coming years for a new round of the National Growth Fund. According to the political desk at RTL Nieuws, this is outlined in the Budget Day documents. The cabinet also reportedly plans to expand a tax incentive for innovative companies. Last week, BNR reported that the coalition parties might double the budget for the National Agency for Disruptive Innovation. According to RTL Nieuws, €500 million is being earmarked for this purpose, in line with the coalition agreement.

Read more:

RTL Nieuws article: <https://www.rtl.nl/nieuws/politiek/artikel/5647196/kabinet-trekt-333-miljoen-uit-voor-nieuwe-ronde-groeifonds> (in Dutch)

BNR article: <https://www.bnr.nl/nieuws/economie/10608827/verdubbel-het-budget-om-disruptieve-innovatie-te-stimuleren> (in Dutch)

WRR: Innovation alone is not enough; a different trade policy is needed (3 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

The Netherlands and Europe must not only strengthen their innovation systems but also adopt trade measures to counter competition from China and the US. This is the recommendation made by the Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR) in its report *Strategic Action: Policy for a Geopolitical Economy*. The WRR warns that both the US and China currently have more effective innovation policies. Furthermore, the WRR states that US trade tariffs and low-cost Chinese products are putting European industry under pressure and could further increase economic dependencies.

Read more:

WRR news item: [Innovatie alleen is niet genoeg, ander handelsbeleid is nodig | WRR](#) (in Dutch)

WRR publication: [Strategisch handelen. Beleid voor een geopolitieke economie | WRR](#) (in Dutch)

Rathenau Institute maps out national knowledge institutes (3 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 3 September 2026

In a factsheet, the Rathenau Institute maps out the various Dutch national knowledge institutes. The document provides insight into aspects such as their core tasks, scientific and societal contributions, funding, and the relationship between research and innovation activities. Later this year, the AWTI will issue an advisory report on the broader group of public knowledge institutes.

Read more:

Rathenau Institute publication: [Rijkskennisinstellingen | Rathenau Instituut](#) (in Dutch)

AWTI advisory report in preparation: <https://www.awti.nl/adviezen/adviezen-in-voorbereiding/publieke-onderzoeksinstellingen> (in Dutch)

Government takes action on AWTI advice regarding transformation-oriented policy (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The government has sent a response to Parliament regarding the AWTI advisory report *In the Service of the Future – From Optimization to Transformation* (2023), the second part of the advisory report *In the Service of the Future – A Guide to Transformation-Oriented Policy* (2025), and the Action Plan for Integrated Innovation, which was drafted in response to the AWTI advisory report *Natural Connection – Embedding Social Sciences and Humanities Research in Innovation* (2024). In the letter, the government indicates that it is taking the AWTI's recommendations seriously. The government views the advice as encouragement to continue along the path initiated in recent years with mission-driven innovation policy. The government describes the AWTI guide for transformation-oriented policy as "a

useful tool for arriving at an appropriate policy mix based on the integrated challenge." Furthermore, the government commits to the National Action Plan for Integrated Innovation, which elaborates on the recommendations made in the AWTI advisory report.

Read more about the government's response: [Kabinetsreactie op AWTI-advies 'In dienst van de toekomst' en 'Nationaal Actieplan Integrale Innovatie' | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie](#) (in Dutch)

Read more about the National Action Plan for Integrated Innovation: [Nationaal Actieplan Integrale Innovatie wil impact innovaties vergroten | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie](#) (in Dutch)

Cabinet Presents Talent Strategy (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The Cabinet adopted the Talent Strategy just before the summer recess. The strategy aims to shift from fragmented sectoral approaches to a single, cohesive effort by linking policies across the fields of the labor market, education, taxation, innovation, and migration. The Cabinet is focusing specifically on digitalization and AI, security and resilience, energy and climate technology, and biotechnology. In the coming period, the plans will be further elaborated in collaboration with societal partners and the business community.

Central Government news item: [Kabinet lanceert Talentstrategie voor toekomstige welvaart | Rijksoverheid.nl](#) (in Dutch)

Letter to Parliament: <https://open.overheid.nl/overheid/openbaarmakingen/api/v0/attachment/965701b2-b7de-45bc-bb38-3a570cfbf4e1> (in Dutch)

UNL response: [Onderwijssector zet in op talent voor toekomstige welvaart | Universiteiten van Nederland](#) (in Dutch)

VH response: [Vereniging Hogescholen | Onderwijssector zet in op talent voor toekomstige welvaart](#) (in Dutch)

MKB-Nederland/VNO-NCW response: ['Nu doorpakken met goede koers Talentstrategie'](#) (in Dutch)

Entrepreneurship and innovation policy receives positive evaluation (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

Entrepreneurship and innovation policy is generally effective and legitimate. This is evident from periodic reports submitted to Parliament by Minister Herbert. The innovation policy reportedly contributes to, among other things, fostering innovation in the business sector, maintaining a high-quality applied knowledge system, and increasing the valorisation of knowledge and research. The researchers also highlight several areas requiring attention, including the scale and coherence of policies targeting valorisation, start-ups and scale-ups, and the digital transition.

Letter to Parliament from Minister Herbert:

<https://open.overheid.nl/overheid/openbaarmakingen/api/v0/attachment/c06005e1-f66c-4857-adc1-3dde99281be1> (in Dutch)

Periodic reports on entrepreneurship and innovation policy: [2702e467-acdc-4ea2-938d-b66a32f40b93](#) (in Dutch)

New National Guideline on Knowledge Security Published (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The new National Guideline on Knowledge Security was published in July. It is a revision of the previous guideline from 2022. The content has been updated, and information has been clarified or supplemented with practical guidance where necessary. Knowledge institutions can use the guideline to strengthen their knowledge security policies.

Knowledge Security Helpdesk publication: [Nationale Leidraad Kennisveiligheid 2026 | Loket Kennisveiligheid](#) (in Dutch)

KNAW news item: [Nieuwe Nationale Leidraad Kennisveiligheid - KNAW](#) (in Dutch)

UNL news item: [Nieuwe Nationale Leidraad Kennisveiligheid | Universiteiten van Nederland](#) (in Dutch)

Why a National Agency for Disruptive Innovation Is Needed (27 August 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 27 August 2026

The team behind the Wennink report has written an article on the importance of a strong National Agency for Disruptive Innovation (NADI). Establishing such an agency was one of the report's recommendations, intended to provide long-term support for groundbreaking innovations. Prior to the summer, more than 80 investors, researchers, knowledge institutions, and companies urged the House of Representatives in a joint letter to expedite the establishment of NADI. The AWTI had previously advised earlier cabinets to set up a NADI, including in the reports *'Oppakken en doorpakken'* (2016) and *'Duurzame doorbraken'* (2025).

Article on the Wennink report: [Wat is een Nationaal Agentschap voor Disruptieve Innovatie en waarom is het nodig? - Rapport Wennink | Rapport Wennink \(in Dutch\)](#)

Call for NADI: [NADI - Nationaal Agentschap voor Disruptieve Innovatie \(in Dutch\)](#)

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

AWTI advice: ‘Duurzame doorbraken’ (2025): [Nieuw advies: “Versnel doorbraakinnovaties in de energietransitie” | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie \(in Dutch\)](#)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the the upcoming Horizon Europe calls per 3 September 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	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>	
<u>Destination: Leadership in materials and production for Europe</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD two-stage	17 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED), 13 October 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD single stage	Foreseen opening 22 September 2026 and foreseen deadline 2 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD two-stage	Foreseen opening 22 September 2026 and foreseen deadline 2 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage), 2 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-two-stage)
<u>Destination: Open Strategic Autonomy in Developing, Deploying and Using Global Space-Based Infrastructure, Services, Applications and Data</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-03 single stage	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 Foreseen deadline 2 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-03)
<u>Destination: Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-DATA-04)
<u>Destination: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING)
<u>Destination: Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation</u>	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN)
<u>CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility</u>	
<u>Destination - Climate sciences and responses for the transformation towards climate neutrality</u>	

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</u>: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply	
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</u>: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes	
<u>Destination</u>: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods	
<u>CLUSTER 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment</u>	
<u>Destination 1</u>: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	
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</u>: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK two-stage	14 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) and 15 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
<u>Destination 3: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO single stage	Foreseen opening: 17 April 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-CIRCBIO two-stage	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CIRCBIO two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
<u>Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION single stage	17 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-ZEROPOLLUTION two-stage	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-ZEROPOLLUTION single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 22 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination 5 - Land, ocean and water for climate action</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CLIMATE single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CLIMATE-01-two-stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027; Deadline(s): 8 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
<u>Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 23 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-04-GOVERNANCE-01: Additional	Foreseen opening: 25 August 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 26 November 2026 17.00 Brussels time

activities for the European Partnership of Agriculture of Data	
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 (HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-01)
Biotechnology for Healthy Ageing HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-02 EU Funding & Tenders Portal	28 October 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-02)
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 (HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-03)
<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 (<i>HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01 Call - Teaming Synergies</i>)
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 (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-01: ERA Chairs)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02: ERA Research Managers	Foreseen opening Opening: 7 April 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02: ERA Research Managers)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03-WIDENING-01: ERA TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European	Foreseen opening Opening: 7 April 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 8 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03-WIDENING-01: ERA TMA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04-WIDENING-01: Excellence Hubs	Foreseen opening Opening: 2 September 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 4 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04-WIDENING-01: Excellence Hubs)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01: Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights	Foreseen opening Opening: 8 December 2026 and foreseen deadline(s): 11 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-01: Pillar I: Facilitating development of institutional open access policies through the retention of intellectual property rights)
Destination: Reforming and enhancing the European research and innovation system	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01: EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening	Foreseen opening Opening: 5 May 2027 and foreseen deadline(s): 18 November 2027 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01: EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening)

Other related EC calls (European Partnerships, ERA-Net COFUNDS etc.)

Overview of deadlines of most important public-public and public-private EC calls related to Horizon Europe based on information per 3 September 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/	Pre-announcement: BiodivFuture call opens on 9 September 2026
European Partnership Water4All https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/	Water4All 2026 Joint Transnational Call Pre-announcement: "Sustainable Water Management" Tentative timeline • Call opening: 8 September 2026 • Submission deadline of preproposals: 10 November 2026, 15:00 CET • Selection of preproposals: Early February 2027

	• Submission deadline of full proposals: 6 April 2027, 15:00 CEST • Selection of funded proposals: September 2027 • Projects start: End 2027/beginning 2028 For more information: https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-2026-joint-transnational-call-pre-announcement and Water4All 2026 Joint Transnational Call Pre-announcement: "Sustainable Water Management" European Partnership Water4All
European Partnership FutureFoods https://www.futurefoodspartner ship.eu/	
European Partnership Agroecology https://www.agroecologypartne rship.eu/	
European partnership Agriculture of Data	
European partnership Sustainable Blue Economy https://bluepartnership.eu/	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: https://www.bluepartnership.eu/funding-opportunity/preannouncement-sustainable-blue-economy-partnerships-fourth-joint
European partnerships Forestry ForestValue 2 https://forestvalue.org/forest-partnership/	NEW: FORESTPathways pre-announcement https://forestvalue.org/forest-joint-call-2026-pre-announcement/ The first FOREST Partnership Joint Call: Building Knowledge and Solutions for Resilient Forests and Sustainable Forest-Based Futures Call opening: 15th September 2026 (indicative) Information international webinar: 17 September at 10:00 CEST. Webinar information and registration • Dutch National Information Webinar: 21 September at 10:30 CEST. Registration • The FOREST Partnership is also recruiting independent experts to evaluate proposals. Become a FOREST Joint Call expert. For more information: https://forestvalue.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/260617_FOREST_JC2026_Pre-Announcement_FINALv3.pdf and https://forestvalue.org/forest-joint-call-2026-pre-announcement/
European Partnership Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT) https://dutpartnership.eu/	NEW: Pre-announcement: New DUT call on sustainable European urban transitions opens on 1 September 2026 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) More information: https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/pre-announcement-new-dut-call-on-sustainable-european-urban-transitions-opens-on-1-september and https://dutpartnership.eu/calls/dut-call-2026

European Partnership ERA4HEALTH ERA4Health The Partnership	
Joint Technology Initiatives	
Joint Programming Initiatives	
	• A healthy diet for a healthy life (HDHL): http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/ • Agriculture, food security and climate change (FACCE): http://www.faccejpi.com/ • Antimicrobial Resistance- The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health (JPI AMR): http://www.jpiamr.eu/ • Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (Clik'EU): http://www.jpi-climate.eu/home • Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI-Oceans): http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/ • More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (JPI MYBL): http://www.jp-demographic.eu/ • Neurodegenerative Disease/Alzheimer's (JPND): http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/ • Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions (Urban Europe): http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/ • Water challenges for a changing world (Water-JPI): http://www.waterjpi.eu/ • Cultural Heritage a Challenge for Europe (Cultural Heritage): http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/

Other international calls

This list is a SELECTION of other international calls. The list was compiled on **3 September 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
07-09-2026	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 <u>Research Fellow Grants 2027</u> . The Co-operative Research Programme's call for applications for funding research fellowship grants in 2027 is now OPEN. The deadline to apply is <u>Thursday 10 September 2026, midnight, Paris time</u> . https://www.oecd.org/en/about/programmes/co-operative-research-programme/crp-applications-for-fellowships.html
10-09-2026	Deadline of OECD Co-operative research Programme for <u>funding international events</u> (conference, workshop, symposium) . The Co-operative Research Programme's call for applications for funding international events (conference, workshop, symposium) in 2027 is now OPEN. The deadline to apply is <u>Thursday 10 September 2026, midnight, Paris time</u> . CRP Applications for Events (Conferences, Workshops and Symposiums) OECD
03-10-2026	Deadline for submission 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
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National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **3 September 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

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 request for assessment of organisations for phase 1 for the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of organisations based in the Netherlands for phase 1 (see section 3.1.1) is 18 August 2026 before 14:00:00 CEST / The deadline for submitting a request for assessment of foreign organisations for phase 1 (see section 7.1.1) is 18 August 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST.. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO
15-09-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals SSH Open Competition XS 2026 - round 3 . 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 Full applications for phase 1 of the new NWA call 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' The deadline for submitting applications in phase 1 is 15 September 2026, before 14:00:00 CEST. New NWA call opened: 'Resilient Digital Ecosystems' NWO and Resilient Digital Ecosystems NWO
17-09-2026	Deadline for submission pre-registration Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions (TRI-POLAR) call Pre-registration: Thursday, 17 September 2026 at 14:00:00 CEST Call open: Triple planetary crisis in the polar regions (TRI-POLAR) NWO and Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions NWO and Call for Proposals - Triple Planetary Crisis in the Polar Regions
17-09-2026	Deadline for submission full proposals NWA Citizen Science 2026 call . Closing date full application 17 September 2026 14:00 hrs. Citizens and researchers now able to join forces through the NWA Citizen Science call NWO and NWA Citizen Science 2026 NWO
22-09-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications DeepNL Top-up Call "Opportunities for Integration and Impact" . Closing date full application 22 September 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). DeepNL Top-up Call: Opportunities for Integration and Impact NWO
22-09-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia -S 2026 . Foreseen closing date full application: 22 September 2026 14:00 hrs. KIC Demand-driven Research by Consortia -S 2026 NWO and Demand Driven Research By Consortia - S NWO
29-09-2026	Foreseen Deadline for submission Full proposals KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food . Closing date full application 29 September 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.). https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/kic-ai-for-agriculture-horticulture-water-and-food
06-10-2026	Deadline submission of Full proposals for the NWA-ORC 2026 round . The deadline for submission of proposals via ISAAC is 6 October 2026, at 14:00:00 CEST . NWA call for Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 now open NWO and Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - NWA ORC
06-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals KIC - Early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases . The deadline for submission of full applications is 6 October 2026, 14:00:00 CEST. KIC call opened: AI-driven early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases NWO and KIC - Early detection of (emerging) outbreaks of infectious diseases NWO and Call for Proposals - Early detection of (emerging) infectious disease outbreaks

06-10-2026	Deadline for submission of letter of intent 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 Full applications for KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 . Closing date full application 13 October 2026 14:00 hrs . 7 million euros available for research into AI applications in the agriculture, horticulture, water, and food sectors NWO and KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - KIC AI for agriculture, horticulture, water and food 2026
20-10-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full applications KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future . Foreseen closing date Closing date full application 20 October 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO
26-10-2026	Foreseen deadline for submission Full proposals NWA ORC Round 2026 . The deadline for submission of proposals via ISAAC is 6 October 2026, at 14:00:00 CEST . Research along Routes by Consortia 2026 NWO and NWA ORC 2026 NWO and Call for Proposals - NWA-ORC
27-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals call Holomicrobiome 2026 - Towards novel microbiome applications for the environment, food and health . Closing date full application 27 October 2026 14:00 hr , Deadline registration for matchmaking: 25 June 2026, 14:00:00 CEST . Matchmaking: 30 June 2026 . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/holomicrobiome-2026-towards-novel-microbiome-applications-for-the-environment-food-and-health and Call for Proposals - NGF Holomicrobiom
28-10-2026	Deadline for submission for Full applications for call Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition . The deadline for applicants to submit their full application is October 28, 2026, 23:59 CEST . Call open: Research on Future-Proof Strategies for Societies in Transition NWO and Preparing for Tomorrow: Societies and Strategies in Times of Transition NWO and Preparing-for-tomorrow-overview-of-the-call-application-form-and-instructions-and-assessment-procedure-30.03.2026-1.pdf
03-11-2026	NEW : Foreseen deadline for submission Pre-proposals Mosaic 3.0 call . Foreseen closing date for pre-proposals 3 November 2026 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . Mosaic 3.0 NWO
03-11-2026	NEW : Deadline for submission pre-proposals Vidi round 2026 . The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is November 3, 2026, by 14:00:00 CET . https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/vidi-round-2026-now-open-for-pre-proposals and NWO Talent Programme NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme
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	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
09-02-2027	NEW : Foreseen deadline Full applications call Use of space infrastructure for Earth observation and planetary research (GO) . Foreseen closing date full application 9 February 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c.) . Use of space infrastructure for Earth observation and planetary research (GO) NWO
16-02-2027	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
06-04-2027	NEW : Deadline for submission Full-applications Vidi round 2026 . The deadline for submitting full applications is April 6, 2027, before 14:00:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/vidi-round-2026-now-open-for-pre-proposals and NWO Talent Programme NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme
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
04-05-2027	NEW : Foreseen deadline for submission Full-proposals Mosaic 3.0 call . Foreseen closing date full applications 4 May 2027 14:00 hrs. (s.t.c). Mosaic 3.0 NWO
14-05-2027	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	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
01-06-2027	NEW : Foreseen Deadline for Full applications Large Scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) - National Roadmap consortia 2026 . Foreseen Closing date full application 1 June 2027 14:00

	hrs. (s.t.c.). Large Scale Research Infrastructure (LSRI) - National Roadmap consortia 2026 NWO
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
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
From 06010-2026 until 05-10-2027	NEW: Deadline for submission Full Applications the Impact Explorer 2026 call . Applications may be submitted to NWO on a continuous basis from Tuesday 6 October 2026 up to and including Tuesday 5 October 2027 before 14:00:00 CEST. Impact Explorer 2026 NWO
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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