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Latest Funding News

European Funding News: Horizon Europe..

EU projects to empower researchers with more efficient, competitive and inclusive tools (14 September 2026)

The EU is investing €411 million in 73 new projects that will develop and facilitate access to better technology and services for researchers to address EU priorities and make the European Research Area more competitive.



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A selection of 73 new Horizon Europe projects will provide researchers and innovators with better and more accessible tools, services, and technologies to support fields such as health research, climate resilience, agriculture, transport, and manufacturing.

The projects will also invest in professionals behind research infrastructures by improving training, fostering mobility, and creating new career opportunities.

The outcomes are expected to support Mission Cancer, Destination Earth, accelerate the green and digital transitions, and advance scientific knowledge while making Europe more competitive.

Number of funded projects per call for proposals Research Infrastructures – 2025 call

Developing, consolidating and optimising the European research infrastructures landscape, maintaining global leadership – INFRADEV, **30 projects funded** EU funding €109 million

FAIR and open data sharing, European Open Science Cloud Association (EOSC) Partnership, Innovative and customizable services for EOSC Exchange – INFRAEOSC, **13 projects funded** EU funding €85 million

RIs services to support health research, the green transition, the digital transformation, and frontier knowledge – INFRA SERV, **12 projects funded** EU funding €154 million

Next generation of scientific instrumentation, tools and methods and advanced digital solutions - INFRA TECH **18 projects funded** EU funding €63 million

Total number of projects	73	Total funding	€411 million
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For more information about the funded projects: [EU projects to empower researchers with more efficient, competitive and inclusive tools - European Research Executive Agency](#)

Plus Grants: Facts and figures (9 September 2026)

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

The ERC Plus Grant 2026 competition, the first of its kind, closed for applications on 2 September. The ERC received 198 project proposals.



This call is part of the [ERC work programme](#) for 2026 with €210 million earmarked for ERC Plus Grants.

The ERC is now starting the evaluation of the proposals. The selected projects are expected to be announced in spring 2027.

The ERC Plus Grant is a **new funding scheme for outstanding researchers from Europe and anywhere in the world** with bold ideas and a vision for transformative research that goes beyond the scope of existing ERC programmes. The funding for this new scheme was announced by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in her speech of 5 May 2025 at the Sorbonne, as part of on the '**Choose Europe**' initiative.

European Funding News: FP10

Parliament haggles over EU-wide spending rules delays vote on Horizon Europe (10 September 2026)

Source: Website Science|Business [Parliament haggles over EU-wide spending rules delays vote on Horizon Europe | Science|Business](#)

Votes on all EU programmes are postponed until MEPs in the budgets committee agree the Performance Framework Regulation



MEP Niclas Herbst, of the European People's Party. Photo credits: Alexis Haulot / European Union

Legislative work on key EU programmes, including the next Horizon Europe and the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), has come to a halt while the European Parliament's budgetary committee reaches an agreement on new EU-wide spending rules, known as the Performance Framework Regulation. The delay has derailed a plan by the Parliament's research committee to reach an agreement on Horizon Europe by September 10.

The Parliament had hoped to put the Horizon Europe legislation to a plenary vote in October, but that deadline has now been pushed back until November. The delay was confirmed by MEP Eszter Lakos, of the European People's Party (EPP), who is shadow rapporteur for the Horizon Europe specific programme, a separate piece of legislation covering implementation measures.

"We will finalise the [Horizon Europe] proposal in November," Lakos said at a conference organised by EU research lobbies in Brussels on September 9. *"There are some things that still need to be settled but that's the aim."*

Sources in the Parliament and the EU Council say the delay is a result of uncertainty surrounding the [Performance Framework Regulation](#), a new set of spending rules contained in the European Commission's July 2025 proposal for the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). The regulation aims to make it easier for the Commission to track the performance of programmes in areas such as climate change mitigation, biodiversity protection and gender equality. The deadlock is caused by political disagreement between the Socialists and Democrats (S&D) political group and the EPP, with the EPP opposing an S&D demand that the Performance Framework Regulation be implemented across all sectoral programmes at once.

A forthcoming draft report from budget committee MEPs Jean-Marc Germain for the S&D and Niclas Herbst for the EPP is expected to settle this question. But until it is delivered, it is unclear if the regulation must be applied horizontally across all EU programmes or if it needs to be included in each individual programme.

"The performance regulation is one of the most horizontal files of the next MFF, as it sets the common framework for how EU programmes are monitored and evaluated," Herbst told Science|Business. *"This creates important links with sectoral files such as Horizon Europe and the ECF."*

This means the negotiations are complex, with the budget committee also having to take note of opinions from other committees. *"At the same time, we should avoid unnecessarily holding up the sectoral files and advance the different parts of the MFF in parallel wherever possible,"* Herbst said.

A delayed trilogue

The delays mean that ambitions harboured by many, including research Commissioner Ekatarina Zaharieva, of reaching a deal on Horizon Europe by the end of 2026 have taken a hit.

The Parliament's research committee was originally due to vote on both Horizon Europe and the ECF on September 10, but those votes have now been postponed.

This also delays votes on the programmes in plenary, originally scheduled for October 5, and further pushes back a schedule that was [already around ten months late compared to the previous MFF](#).

While the Performance Framework Regulation is the most significant block on a Horizon Europe vote, the MEPs in the research committee still need to agree on another contentious issue: whether and to what degree Horizon Europe's Pillar 2 should be governed by councils of experts.

Parliament sources now expect the votes in the research committee to take place in October, meaning a confirmation in the Parliament plenary is only expected by mid-November, if all goes well. That leaves little more than a month of 2026 to finalise the trilogue negotiations between Parliament, the Council and the Commission, including settling the budget.

EU own resources 'essential' for future research budget, says leading MEP (10 September 2026)

Source: [Website Science|Business](#) [EU own resources 'essential' for future research budget, says leading MEP | Science|Business](#)

According to Parliament's budget negotiator, Horizon Europe will not get €200 billion without new EU revenue streams



Siegfried Mureșan, Parliament co-rapporteur on the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework. Photo credits: European Union

The European Parliament's push for a €200 billion Horizon Europe programme is at risk unless governments agree to new EU revenue sources, budget negotiator Siegfried Mureșan has warned.

If the overall EU budget shrinks, it is likely to disproportionately affect research and innovation spending. To avoid this, the EU must introduce revenue streams that flow directly into EU coffers, said Mureșan, the Parliament's co-rapporteur on the 2028–34 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

"We think that generating new European resources will be essential for us being able to adopt a budget that is sufficient for research and innovation," he told a conference organised by EU research lobbies in Brussels on September 9.

"We need to find strong resources which will make the EU funding more predictable, more transparent, more automatic, and less political," he said.

The overall size of the next MFF is subject to large disagreements between EU institutions and national governments. Parliament [wants €1.94 trillion](#) in 2025 prices and the European Commission has proposed a budget set at €1.76 trillion. Meanwhile the Cypriot presidency of the EU Council, representing national governments, put the figure at just €1.73 trillion.

To make matters worse for Parliament's ambitions, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz is leading a group of countries [advocating an even smaller budget](#), with cuts totalling *"several hundred billion euros."*

In upcoming negotiations, therefore, the three institutions will need to work hard to reach a compromise. If that results in budget cuts, Mureșan said he feared that programmes such as the Horizon Europe and the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF) would suffer.

"We are afraid that, at the end of the day, governments in the European Council will defend the so-called national envelopes which are more linked to the traditional priorities of agriculture and cohesion where money automatically goes to member states," he said.

MEPs favouring agriculture and cohesion currently form a Parliamentary majority, he went on, and national governments are also likely to favour these priorities. R&D is therefore likely to be the first victim of a shrunken budget.

He added that both the agriculture and cohesion budgets, which form about two-thirds of the 2021-27 MFF, need modernisation and that some money for R&D could also come through these programmes.

"I think that weakening cohesion policy would be a mistake, but keeping it as it is without modernising it would be a mistake as well," he said.

The EU own resources

According to Mureşan, for Horizon Europe to be approved at Parliament's proposed level of €200 billion ([€177 billion in 2025 prices](#)) there must be no reduction in the total EU budget. The only way to avoid that, he said, was for the EU to implement new own resources.

The EU own resources are taxes on services such as custom duties and unrecycled plastic that are paid directly to the EU, not through contributions from national governments.

Read full article here: [EU own resources 'essential' for future research budget, says leading MEP | Science|Business](#)

Joint statement | Investing in what makes Europe strong (9 September 2026)

Source: Website The Guild <https://www.the-guild.eu/publications/statements/investing-in-what-makes-europe-strong.pdf>

The Guild, together with six leading European university and research organisations, call on EU policymakers to strengthen investment in R&I in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

Published amid the negotiations on the European Union's 2028-2034 Multiannual Financial Framework, the statement urges that increased investments in R&I are essential to Europe's competitiveness, resilience, security and long-term prosperity.

The signatories stress that decisions taken in the next few months will shape Europe's ability to generate scientific breakthroughs, develop critical technologies and address societal challenges for decades to come.

The statement highlights Horizon Europe as the EU's flagship R&I programme, enabling excellence in research, talent development, international collaboration and research infrastructure across Europe. The organisations call on Member States and the European Parliament to ensure that Europe's ambitions are matched by adequate resources.

Among our key recommendations, we support increasing the proposed Horizon Europe budget from €175 billion to at least €200 billion to enable the achievement of fulfilling other policy priorities. We also call for a stable and protected budget throughout the programme's lifetime, warning that uncertainty could undermine long-term research planning and international collaboration.

We further urge policymakers to maintain balanced investment across the full R&I continuum, ensuring strong support for frontier research, research talent, early-stage collaborative research and breakthrough innovation. We also emphasise the importance of reaching agreement on the next budget and Horizon Europe framework in time for the first funding calls to launch on 1 January 2028.

Finally, the statement underlines that an ambitious Horizon Europe must be complemented by stronger national investment, [reiterating our call for Member States to invest 3% of GDP in R&I](#).

The joint statement was published in the morning of joint event "[Investing in What Makes Europe Strong: Research and innovation in the next EU budget](#)".

Secretary-General **Jan Palmowski**: "We need an ambitious budget of at least €200bn for FP10 - given the speed and scale of technological and economic transformation, Europe must show new ambition in investing in R&I, an area where the added value of European cooperation is crystal clear. No European country can develop transformative discoveries alone. Time to recognise this and think big and be serious about competing with China and the US."

Read full statement here: [investing-in-what-makes-europe-strong.pdf](#)

Other International funding

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership's Fourth Joint Transnational Call open (15 September 2025)

Source: Website [Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership's Fourth Joint Transnational Call | Bluepartnership](#)

Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience»

The vision of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership, a European partnership under the Horizon Europe Programme, is to design, steer and support a just and inclusive transition to a regenerative, resilient, and sustainable blue economy. This EU Partnership aims to foster a climate-neutral, sustainable, and innovative blue economy in Europe by supporting research, innovation, and collaboration across marine and maritime sectors.

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

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

Projects in this co-funded call must be impact-driven contributions to the transformation into a blue economy for a more resilient future and towards carbon neutrality targets, following an impact pathway approach.

The proposals are recommended to consider **a minimum of two European sea basins** and to assess the project proposal's impact on various basins. Proposals can target European regional seas such as Adriatic Sea, Aegean Sea, Arctic, Barents Sea, Celtic Sea, etc. however the recommended sea basins to address are: the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.

The fourth co-funded call of this EU Partnership pools national and regional financial resources through the participation of **33 funding organisations from 28 countries** combined with the contribution from the European Union. 25 Member States, 7 Associated Countries and 1 Third Country are participating: Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, **The Netherlands**, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine. The total estimated budget is about EUR 38 million.

To be eligible, each consortium must be composed of eligible partners **from at least three different countries** participating in the call and requesting financial support from at least **three different funding organisations** participating in the call. In addition, the projects must involve at least **two independent legal entities** from two different EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries, eligible for EU funding in this call for (pre-)proposal. Self-funded partners, including partners from countries (and/or regions) not participating in this co-funded call, are allowed but do not contribute to the minimum eligible consortium size.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to **involve stakeholders** (i.e., SMEs, industries, authorities, public administrations, associations, as well as civil society organisations) as partners or self-funded partners (according to national/regional regulations) in their proposal. Stakeholder engagement in the research projects will enhance innovation, policy, and societal relevance and ultimately the impact of the projects.

Applicants must submit their **pre-proposals before 16 November (15:00 CET)**. A first evaluation of pre-proposals will be organised and the **deadline to submit full proposals is foreseen for June 2027**.

For information see also NWO website: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-fourth-joint-transnational-call>

Call open: Biodiversa+ sixth call BiodivFuture (10 September 2026)

Source: Website NWO News <https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/call-open-biodivfuture>



The European research programme Biodiversa+ is launching its sixth call, BiodivFuture. ‘Novel ecosystems: biodiversity, socio-ecological consequences and future trajectories’. NWO participates in the call on biodiversity and novel ecosystems.

As ecosystems are increasingly influenced by human activities and global changes, BiodivFuture will fund research to gain a better understanding of the current transformations, the associated risks, opportunities and trade-offs, and how knowledge can contribute to resilient, interconnected, diverse and well-functioning ecosystems. The call covers all areas (land, freshwater and saltwater, coastal areas) across the globe.

This call is focused on three themes:

- **Theme A – Novel ecosystem functioning**
Understanding the functioning of novel ecosystems and their links to socio-cultural and socio-economic dynamics, identifying mechanisms and developing approaches that can facilitate biodiversity gains.
- **Theme B – Pathways to novel ecosystems**
Studying robust, plausible, and concrete pathways to novel ecosystems and associated socio-ecological dynamics to prosper under temporal asynchronies and uncertainties.
- **Theme C – Biodiversity benefits and equity in the context of novel ecosystems**
Studying fair and equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits in the context of novel ecosystems, supported by inclusive, collaborative, and investment-oriented pathways for nature-positive socio-ecological transformation.

International collaboration

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

Deadlines and budget

The application procedure consists of two stages. The deadline for the (mandatory) pre-proposal is 10 November 2026. The deadline for the full proposal is 16 April 2027. Proposals must not be submitted via ISAAC but via the EPSS system available on the Biodiversa+ website. Please note that the budget form must be emailed to NWO. A total of 3 million euros is available from NWO; a maximum of 400,000 euros may be requested per project.

Visit the BioDiversa+ site: <https://www.biodiversa.eu/2026/06/09/2026-2027-joint-call/>

About Biodiversa+

Biodiversa+ is the European Biodiversity Partnership, bringing together 81 organisations from 40 countries to fund research and innovation, connect science with policy and practice, and advance biodiversity monitoring, nature-based solutions, and biodiversity mainstreaming across sectors.

More information: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/international-programmes/european-partnerships/rescuing-biodiversity-to-safeguard-life-on-earth>

Launch of a new European partnership for resilient cultural heritage (9 September 2026)

Source: Website NWO news [Launch of a new European partnership for resilient cultural heritage | NWO](#)



On behalf of the Netherlands, NWO is participating in a new European partnership in which more than 90 organisations are working together to strengthen the resilience of cultural heritage to climate change and to enhance the contribution of that heritage to climate adaptation. The Resilient Cultural Heritage (RCH) partnership brings together countries and organisations to strengthen knowledge and practice in this field. On 29 September, the partnership will be launched with a kick-off event in Marseille.

The partnership forms part of Horizon Europe, the European Commission's research and innovation programme. Within this programme, European countries, research institutions and civil society organisations work together to find solutions to societal challenges. The European Commission provides financial support, with additional investment in research and innovation.

Kick off event in Marseille

On 29 September, the RCH partnership will be launched with a festive and inspiring event in Marseille (France) and online. This kick-off marks the start of a ten-year initiative aimed at improving, structuring and coordinating research and knowledge-sharing at the intersection of cultural heritage and climate change. The event can be attended online or in person.

Register for Kick-off event here: <https://www.heritageresearch-hub.eu/event/european-partnership-for-resilient-cultural-heritage-to-have-its-kick-off-event-in-september-2026/>

Focus on climate and heritage

The partnership aims to increase knowledge about the impact of climate change on cultural heritage. It will also investigate how cultural heritage can contribute to climate adaptation and climate neutrality, and thereby to the resilience of society. With this dual focus, the partnership aims both to strengthen the protection of heritage and to harness the role of cultural heritage in societal transitions and the European climate debate.

Broad European collaboration

As part of this European partnership, NWO, in collaboration with the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands (RCE) and the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, is participating in the funding of Joint Transnational Calls alongside 29 European funding organisations. This makes these calls accessible to Dutch researchers, policymakers and heritage professionals. The participating countries expect to collectively invest at least 130 million euros in research and innovation. The European Commission is expected to supplement this budget by approximately 30 per cent.

National funding

Seven grants awarded to explore natural biochemical diversity for more sustainable production processes (17 September 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Seven grants awarded to explore natural biochemical diversity for more sustainable production processes](#) | NWO



NWO has awarded funding to seven projects under the KIC call ‘Biochemical Diversity’. The consortia, comprising public and private partners, will receive a total of 8 million euros to harness biochemical substances and pathways from nature for the development of more sustainable production processes.

Synthetic chemicals and man-made production processes can have negative side effects, such as pollution or the depletion of raw materials. Nature offers an immense variety of biochemical substances and pathways that can make current polluting production processes more environmentally friendly and efficient. That is why NWO and the Knowledge and Innovation Agenda’s (KIA) [KIA Key Enabling Technologies](#) and [KIA Agriculture, Water and Food](#) are investing in fundamental changes to production processes in order to preserve the liveability of our planet.

From crop protection to the development of improved medicines: the projects focus on developing and refining key enabling technologies that enable the exploration, analysis and application of the natural biochemical diversity. To further increase the impact and make room for an additional highly rated proposal, NWO has decided to award an extra project within this round. To this end, a one-off sum of 1 million euros has been added to the available budget, drawn from the 2026 KIC budget.

WUR is involved in four projects

One as main applicant

- TERpenoid Reconstruction And Pathway Annotation Through multi-omics and Heterologous production (TERRAPATH) – **dr. Justin J.J. van der Hooft (Wageningen University and Research)**

Three as co-applicant

- Spatial Profiling of Interactions and Chemical Ecological diversity for sustainable agriculture (SPICE) - dr. Francisco Barona Gomez (Universiteit Leiden) **Co-applicants: prof. J.J.J. van der Hooft (WUR)**, prof. dr. A.T. Kovacs (UL), dr. P.W. Lindenburg (HSLeiden)
- Discovery of biocatalysts by structure-based genome mining (BIOGEM) – prof. dr. ir. Marco W. Fraaije (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen) **Co-applicants: dr. M.J.L.J. Fürst (RUG), dr. ir. M.A. Kabel (WUR)**
- Soil Chemical Ecology for SustainAble Crop ProtecTion (SCENT) - prof. dr. Paolina V. Garbeva (KNAW): **Co-applicants: Dr. dipl.-ing. V. Cordovez da Cunha (KNAW), Prof. dr. dipl.-ing J. Dickschat (KNAW, Uni Bonn), prof. dr. M.H. Medema (WUR), prof. dr. J.M. Raaijmakers (KNAW), Prof. dr. dipl.-ing G.P. van Wezel (UL)**

For more information about the awarded projects: [Seven grants awarded to explore natural biochemical diversity for more sustainable production processes](#) | NWO

Science Domain is looking for new Board members (15 September 2026)

Source: website NWO News [Science Domain is looking for new Board members | NWO](#)



The board of the NWO Science domain is looking for two enthusiastic and committed board members with an academic background. Membership of the Science domain board offers a unique opportunity to gain greater insight into how science operates at a systemic level and how to influence it.

Applications for this vacancy must be submitted **by 12 October 2026**.

What do we expect from board members?

The board members we are looking for should possess the following knowledge and experience:

Experience with the NWO Science domain: Knowledge of and affinity with the task, organisation and instruments of NWO, and in particular the Science domain, as evidenced, amongst other things, by a relevant academic and professional network and active involvement in research in one or more of the exact and natural sciences disciplines.

Governance experience: Personal qualities enabling effective collaboration within a governing body. Governance experience in an academic context and a broad academic and professional network are an advantage.

Broad perspective: The ability to look beyond the boundaries of (the interests of) one's own discipline and to recognise the added value of inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration.

Strategic insight: An understanding of and experience with policy areas of importance to NWO, such as Recognition and Rewards; Diversity, Inclusion & Equality; thematic collaboration; public-private partnerships; international collaboration; Open Access/Science; knowledge security; and scientific integrity.

The Science domain aims to reflect the Science field of activity and strives for a balanced composition of the domain board in terms of diversity, academic background and experience, and representation across the knowledge institutions. The current composition of the domain board can be found here: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/science-enw>.

The board of the NWO Science domain is looking for two enthusiastic and committed board members for 2027, due to expiring terms of office. The intended start date for the first board member is 1 January 2027. If there are several suitable candidates, it is possible that the other position, with a start date in mid-2027, will also be filled.

Given the current composition of the domain board, **we strongly encourage candidates with a background in Life Sciences or Computer Science to apply.**

Offer

An appointment for a period of three years, with the option to extend this once for a further three years; remuneration (including allowances for insurance premiums, social security contributions, etc.) based on the NWO decision on honoraria (0.15 FTE) and reimbursement of actual expenses for travel, parking and accommodation costs incurred in the course of the work.

Further information about vacancy: <https://www.werkenbijnwo.nl/vacatures/domeinbestuursleden-nwo-exacte-en-natuurwetenschappen> (in Dutch)

Further information about Science: <https://www.nwo.nl/en/science-enw>

Upcoming: SSH Open Competition Expand 2026 (14 September 2026)

Source: Website NWO [SSH Open Competition Expand 2026 | NWO](#)

Through the SSH Open Competition Expand, NWO funds innovative research projects addressing research questions that are primarily of a social sciences and/or humanities nature. The scheme is intended for researchers who wish to carry out a large-scale project that makes a substantial contribution to the development of knowledge within the social

sciences and humanities. There should be a clear research question, a convincing research agenda and research design. Within this framework, there are no thematic restrictions.

SSH Open Competition Expand is the new name of the former SSH Open Competition M/L programmes.

Purpose

The SSH Open Competition Expand funds innovative, curiosity-driven research into research questions of a primarily social sciences and/or humanities nature, without any thematic restrictions. There must be a clear research question, a convincing research agenda and an ambition that requires multiple activities, areas of expertise or researchers.

What to apply for

Expand is intended for researchers who wish to carry out a large-scale research project that makes a substantial contribution to the development of knowledge within the social sciences and humanities. Central to the application is a clear and relevant research question, elaborated in an innovative and potentially groundbreaking research proposal. The research design, methodology, expertise, and resources are fitting to the project's ambition and enable the research questions to be answered in a convincing and feasible manner.

Applicants must hold a PhD and have a permanent or tenure-track appointment at a Dutch research institution (see the [NWO Grant Rules](#) section 1.1).

When submitting your application, please ensure it is submitted to the correct panel. Read more about [the six panels](#) within the SSH domain.

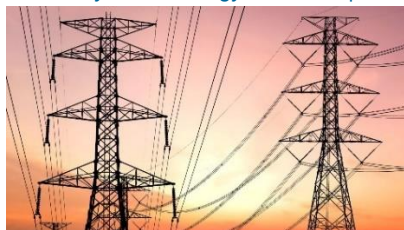
The set deadlines are as follows:

- Assessment foreign organisations: 3 November 2026, 14:00:00 CET (if applicable)
- Pre-proposals: 17 November 2026, 14:00:00 CET
- Assessment foreign organisations: 27 May 2027, 14:00:00 CEST (if applicable)
- Full proposals: 10 June 2027, 14:00:00 CEST

For more information: [SSH Open Competition Expand 2026 | NWO](#) and <https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-SSH-OC-Expand-EN.pdf>

Pre-announcement: call for research into system perspective on materials for strategic autonomy in the energy transition (14 September 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Pre-announcement: call for research into system perspective on materials for strategic autonomy in the energy transition | NWO](#)



To develop the scientific, technological and governance basis for an integrated systems perspective on materials, NWO is expected to launch the NWA call 'System Perspective on Materials for Strategic Autonomy in the Energy Transition' in October 2026. Approximately 3.3 million euros is available for this call.

The Dutch energy transition relies heavily on a broad range of materials, of which the future availability, technical applicability and circular use are uncertain. Combined with international dependencies and global competition, this calls for new, systemic insights into the use of these materials in order to promote and safeguard the strategic autonomy of The Netherlands.

Aim of the call

This call focuses on gaining insights into material reserves, technical value, future availability and the circulation of materials and their components within the energy system, thereby supporting strategic autonomy and evidence-based policymaking. The goal of this call is the development of a transferable methodological framework, enabling the systemic

stewardship of (critical) materials used in the energy transition. The program should provide the scientific foundations, methodologies, interoperable data-infrastructure and governance approaches needed to develop policies aimed at improving the strategic autonomy of the energy system.

The Ministry *Initiators*

of Economic Affairs and Climate (EZK), the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management (IenW) and Energy Innovation NL (previously Topsector Energie) are the initiators of the programme.

Workshops

NWO is organising two collaborative workshops for this call, expected to take place on 24 November 2026 and 12 January 2027. Further information about these meetings will follow on the programme page for this call.

For more information: [Pre-announcement: call for research into system perspective on materials for strategic autonomy in the energy transition | NWO](#)

Development of demonstrators kicks off in eleven research projects (11 September 2026)

Source: Website NWO News [Development of demonstrators kicks off in eleven research projects | NWO](#)



The board of NWO Domain Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES) has awarded funding to six Demonstrator projects. This will allow researchers to further develop their results to make them attractive to the market. The granted projects will receive a total of EUR 2,3 million from NWO.

The aim of the Demonstrator program is to develop knowledge created at universities or universities of applied sciences and transfer it to a third party, or to work towards independent commercialization (after the Demonstrator project). To this end, a demonstrator is created at the level of a Minimal Viable Product. Utilisation activities are also undertaken to increase the chances of market introduction.

Due to the increase in the number of submissions within the Demonstrator programme, NWO has decided to award five additional projects on top of the planned six. To this end, the Executive Board has invested in the Innovation Accelerator and has therefore made a one-off additional amount of over 1 million euros available for the Demonstrator Programme. The eleven awarded projects will receive a total of 2.3 million euros from NWO.

Satellite-based infrastructure monitoring

One project (MIMIC: Mechanism-specific InSAR for Infrastructure Management) develops a demonstrator that links satellite radar deformation measurements to structural engineering models. This connection makes it possible to identify monitoring points that correspond to specific deformation mechanisms in ageing infrastructure such as bridges and quay walls. The resulting tool helps operators interpret satellite data in terms of structural behaviour, supporting more informed maintenance and risk-management decisions.

Regenerative retinal implant for RP patients

Another project (SUPRAVISION-RP) focuses on creating a regenerative retinal implant to restore vision in people with retinitis pigmentosa. The implant combines a supramolecular scaffold with stem-cell-derived RPE cells to replace damaged retinal tissue. In this Demonstrator project, safety and functional efficacy will be evaluated in an RP rat model using electrophysiology, imaging and behavioural testing. The validated preclinical dataset will advance the technology beyond TRL4 and support further clinical translation and transfer to a commercial partner.

One of the funded project is led by WUR

A VanS-Targeted Resistance Breaker to Restore Vancomycin Activity Against Enterococcus (23728) - **prof. dr. J.M. Wells MBA, Wageningen University & Research:** Co-applicant(s): Utrecht University - prof. R. Gehring

Demonstrator

Demonstrator is one of the [innovation accelerators](#) of NWO. This funding instrument is open for applications annually. A maximum of EUR 200,000 can be applied for per project. The new round is expected to open in December 2026 or January 2027.

You can find more information about the eleven granted projects here: [Development of demonstrators kicks off in eleven research projects | NWO](#)

About the Innovation Accelerator

NWO's Innovation Accelerator supports researchers in accelerating the translation of research results into applications for the market and society. New insights from all disciplines can develop into innovations that address societal challenges and strengthen the Netherlands' earning capacity. That is why the Innovation Accelerator offers a range of funding options—including grants, training programmes, and loans—tailored to the researcher's needs. The programmes included in the Innovation Accelerator are Demonstrator, Faculty of Impact, Impact Explorer, Take-off, and Venture Challenge.

Regional funding

Internal Wageningen University and Research calls

Seed funding: turn your preventive health idea into action! (13 September 2026)

Source: Website EWU <https://preventivehealth.ewuu.nl/>

Do you have a research idea that could help accelerate preventive health transitions in the Netherlands? The [Institute for Preventive Health](#) has opened its 2026 Seed Call. Up to €50,000 is available per project for transdisciplinary proposals from researchers at TU/e, WUR, Utrecht University, and UMC Utrecht.

Deadline: **16 October 2026**. 🖱️ [View the call and all documents](#)



Latest developments within R&I Policies

European Policy

The State of the European Union 2026 (16 September 2026)

Source: blog Jan Palmoski *The Guild*

The Commission President's **#SOTEU** speech is a key moment to take the political temperature of the Commission, and gauge the Commission's top priorities for next year. **A first conclusion is that R&I was barely mentioned explicitly - but the same is true for other key EU domains, like agriculture or cohesion policies.** Instead, we should focus more on the key concerns **Ursula von der Leyen** has for the future of the EU - and **here universities will (and must) play a central part:**



👉 **competitiveness and completing the single market** were important themes, and for **this a strong FP10** and its optimal connection to the European Competitiveness Fund in the next **#MFF** will be critical

👉 **applying #AI in ways that bring value to society and the economy** cannot be done without researchers, entrepreneurs, start-ups: it is a call to arms not just to our digital researchers, but to the entire AI in Science community across all subjects, and to those who generate knowledge about the impact of AI in society.

👉 **In responding to Europe's geopolitical challenges**, R&I is already playing an important role in strengthening the EU's relationships, alongside trade. Association, as well as R&I partnerships with Lower and Middle Income Countries, can shore up the EU's close ties. A key lesson for the R&I community is that it has a huge opportunity to fill the international collaborative opportunities with action, through the unique and reliable framework that Horizon Europe offers. **And a key lesson for policy-makers is to strengthen Horizon Europe, Global Europe and Erasmus+ not least for the geopolitical importance they have in strengthening Europe's resilience.**

European values - whether in relation to AI, to accession, or to the EU's future - featured prominently. They cannot be strengthened without universities. We know this not only from research, which shows that European university alliances are quintessential carriers of European identities, but indeed the values that drive Europe also inspire our universities, and our communities.

Note PJ: you can read state of the European Union 2026 here:

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_26_1868 and https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/state-union_en

Competitiveness and strategic autonomy back at the heart of the State of the Union (16 September 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderwijs > Concurrentiekracht en strategische autonomie opnieuw centraal in State of the Union](#)

In 2027, the European Commission is once again focusing on strengthening Europe's strategic autonomy and competitiveness. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, announced this in her annual State of the European Union (SOTEU) speech. Topics addressed in this context included defense, economic and strategic resilience, support for Ukraine, digitalization, and artificial intelligence (AI). Education received less emphasis.



Renewed focus on the Union's competitiveness

In her annual State of the Union (SOTEU) address

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_26_1868, Von der Leyen once again emphasized the importance of strengthening the EU's competitiveness. Consequently, the Commission is continuing its efforts to simplify existing legislation and accelerate permitting processes, while urging Member States to combat "gold-plating"—whereby Member States go beyond EU policy requirements in their national legislation. These proposals align with the previously **announced omnibus proposals** https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation/simplification-implementation-and-enforcement/simplification_en for simplification. Building on the Savings and Investments Union initiative, Von der Leyen also announced a new Banking Package. This package aims to facilitate access to capital for young companies—including tech startups—and to counter the fragmentation of European capital markets.

Strategic independence

Developing and bringing new, strategic technologies to market often requires so-called "critical raw materials." These are scarce materials essential to the EU for developing technologies in strategic industries, such as batteries or wind turbines. To secure the supply of these materials, Von der Leyen announced the creation of a new European entity tasked with sourcing these materials and building up a stockpile.

New initiatives on AI and digital security

The European Commission aims to translate AI-related innovations into market value, thereby strengthening the EU's economic position. To this end, it is focusing on concrete AI applications in societal contexts—such as in factories, hospitals, and agriculture. To achieve this, the Commission will present new initiatives in November for AI development across various sectors. Stakeholders will be invited to provide input on these proposals.

Impact of AI on skills and education

The impact of AI on employment was also highlighted. Von der Leyen emphasized the ambition to implement **the Quality Jobs Act** https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies-and-activities/rights-work/quality-jobs-companies-and-workers-europe_en this year. Among other things, this initiative aims to support workers in developing new skills that align well with the increasingly important role of AI in the workplace. Additionally, Von der Leyen announced a Mediterranean Youth Skills and Jobs initiative. This is a new initiative designed to foster skills development and job creation in neighboring countries around the Mediterranean, with the aim of helping to reduce emigration pressure in those regions.

Cooperation with Canada

The speech also highlighted the strengthened cooperation with Canada. The Commission aims for the country to become the Union's first 'associated member'. Future cooperation is set to cover areas such as technology, AI, defense, and critical raw materials. Since July 2024, Canada has already been associated with Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe, enabling Canadian researchers to participate and receive funding under virtually the same conditions as EU partners.

EU Missions drive systemic change, new assessment shows (14 September 2026)

Source: Website EC [EU Missions drive systemic change, new assessment shows](#)

The **five EU Missions in Horizon Europe** are delivering tangible positive results in addressing some of Europe's most pressing societal challenges through scientific and technological innovation, according to a mid-term assessment published today by the European Commission.

All Missions are making steady progress towards their objectives – with the [Climate Adaptation](#) Mission having already met and surpassed its 2030 targets.

The five Missions are large-scale initiatives under [Horizon Europe](#), the EU's multiannual research and innovation programme. They are designed to translate scientific and technological innovation into practical solutions that can be tested and deployed in real-life settings across Europe.

EU Missions advancing towards their goals

According to the assessment, all five EU Missions are making good progress towards their 2030 goals:

- **Climate Adaptation:** The goal of this mission is to support at least 150 European regions, local authorities and communities to become climate resilient. The target has already been largely surpassed, with 292 regional and local authorities having already implemented climate adaptation measures.
- **Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities:** Its objective is to support at least 100 cities in achieving climate neutrality, and to inspire other cities across Europe. Currently, already 107 cities have Climate City Contracts. They are projected to cut emissions by 76% by 2030, backed by more than €13 billion in supported or developing investment.
- **Cancer:** Its aim is to improve the lives of more than 3 million people through prevention, early detection, treatment and care for not only those affected by cancer, but also their families. The current actions show that it will be able to improve the lives of 2.3 million people by 2030. Upcoming projects expected to raise this figure beyond the target of 3 million.
- **Restore our Ocean and Waters:** The goal is to restore the health of our ocean and waters by protecting and restoring aquatic ecosystems, reducing pollution and making the blue economy carbon-neutral and circular. It has delivered 121 innovative solutions tested in 349 real-world demonstration sites, engaged 86 regions in replication efforts and secured over 1,000 Charter Actions from stakeholders. Under the Mission, the design of the core infrastructure of the [European Digital Twin Ocean](#) – expected to be fully operational by 2030 – was completed and is now accessible to all.
- **A Soil Deal for Europe:** The Mission is progressing towards its goal of 100 Living Labs, with 45 already established. It involves over 500 real sites (such as farms) across Europe, and 60 to 70 additional ones are expected to become operational by 2028.
-

Background

The five EU Missions were launched in 2021 under Horizon Europe 2021-2027. They address pressing societal challenges – climate change, soil and waters health, and cancer – by going beyond traditional instruments and giving research and innovation a new role. Their clear, ambitious and time-bound objectives help mobilise coordinated action and support long-term societal transformation.

For more information

Report on the mid-term assessment of the EU Missions' progress, achievements and impact: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2026:467:FIN>

Commission staff working document accompanying the report: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=SWD%3A2026%3A275%3AFIN&qid=1789390553988>

EU Missions webpage: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe_en

EU split over how much to cut long-term budget (14 August 2026)

Source: Website Euractiv [EXCLUSIVE: EU split over how much to cut long-term budget | Euractiv](#)

Diplomatic text admits that EU divisions “point to” the need to cut spending plans

European governments are averse to paying more directly into Brussels coffers but lack appetite for agreeing new taxes to fund EU spending making “reflection” on cuts inevitable, an internal diplomatic note seen by *Euractiv* shows.

Ambassadors on Wednesday will discuss how EU expenditure could be structured under the bloc's next seven-year spending plan 2028 to 2034 as governments grapple with the level of spending, where the funds should come from, as well as how cash will be distributed across policy areas.



“When coupled with the reluctance of many to increase their contributions to the EU budget and the varying degrees of appetite for the different parts of the new own resources package, these factors point to a need to reflect on our level of ambition for expenditure increases,” said a note from the Irish presidency of the EU Council.

Deep **disagreements** remain over the European Commission's proposed €2 trillion budget, which includes a major structural overhaul of spending as most governments resist paying larger contributions at a time when national capitals are cutting back.

On top of this, there is no consensus on how to find funding streams for the EU budget, known as ‘**own resources**’, focusing attention on levels of spending, areas where European governments are deeply **divided**.

A group of fiscally hawkish member states, including Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden, champion a ‘modern’ budget focused on defence and competitiveness. They eye cuts to traditional policies, including agriculture and cohesion.

On the other hand, the group of **cohesion-friendly countries** – including Italy, Poland and Spain – refuse cuts to the spending heading that supports poorer areas and farmers.

“Differences remain as to the appropriate volume under this heading,” the note said,

“With the budget of the twentieth century, we will not be able to solve the problems of the twenty-first century,” said Friedrich Merz, the German chancellor, last week, reiterating the need for cuts “across the board”.

The Irish presidency of the Council of the EU asked ambassadors to identify changes that could make the Commission's package more acceptable, including on potential landing zones on overall volume and whether they believe a previous “nego box” struck the right expenditure balance across the future budget.

The note further urges ambassadors to come forward with “specific input” on what would be an acceptable budget volume to them.

European Commission presents package of measures to boost European innovation (10 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

The European Commission has published the European Innovation Act: a package of measures designed to help develop, finance, and scale up innovative ideas. The package aims to make it easier for start-ups and scale-ups to access finance, including through a common EU framework for valuing intellectual property and a digital marketplace connecting buyers and sellers. The EU framework for public procurement is also being adjusted to allow more scope for innovative tenders. A European approach to regulatory sandboxes is intended to provide more room for companies, researchers, and public authorities to test innovative services and technologies.

Read more:

European Commission press release (Innovation Act): [Commission proposes new European Innovation Act](#)

European Commission press release (public procurement):

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_1817

See also next article from Neth-ER

New Innovation Regulation aims to accelerate and strengthen the procurement and financing of European innovations (10 September 2026)

Source: Website Neth-ER [Neth-ER > Onderzoek en innovatie > Nieuwe Innovatieverordening moet aanbesteding en financiering van Europese innovaties versnellen en versterken](#)

The European Commission has published its proposal for a European Innovation Act. The regulation introduces new rules for the procurement of research and development and a harmonized framework for the valuation of intellectual property. With this, the Commission aims to make it easier to test, finance, and scale up innovations within the EU and to reduce disparities between Member States.



New rules for research and innovation procurement

The European Commission's proposal https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/961e80de-b6a0-4c34-9b2f-b66ea0bb7ee1_en establishes a standardized, accelerated procedure for the procurement of research and development (R&D) activities. This includes pre-commercial procurement, where the public sector does not purchase a finished product but rather the development of a completely new solution to a societal problem. The Commission requires public contracting authorities to apply uniform timeframes for the submission and evaluation of tenders. A maximum evaluation period of sixty days applies to reduce the time taken to award contracts. This is intended to boost the participation of start-ups, scale-ups, and other innovative companies. Additionally, the Commission is introducing EU-wide criteria for innovation-oriented procurement, providing contracting authorities with greater certainty on how to factor in innovation-related aspects alongside price.

EU preference for European knowledge and technology

The proposal also includes an EU preference scheme for the public procurement of fundamental research, industrial research, and experimental development. This aims to stimulate private investment in innovative EU technologies and products, encourage more companies to remain in the EU, and thereby create high-quality jobs. Through this measure, the Commission seeks to strengthen the Union's competitiveness and strategic autonomy. Innovations from countries associated with the EU are also covered by the scheme.

Intellectual property as collateral for financing

Regarding intellectual property (IP), the legislative proposal focuses on three concrete measures: 1) an EU knowledge centre for IP-backed financing, hosted by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO); 2) a harmonised European framework for IP valuation; and 3) a digital marketplace to facilitate the buying and selling of IP. According to the Commission, IP is currently underutilised as collateral when innovative companies in the EU seek financing. Financial institutions in the EU continue to rely on more traditional forms of collateral, such as tangible assets. This is partly attributed to the lack of a standardised method for determining the value of a start-up's or scale-up's IP. Consequently, companies whose value lies primarily in their IP find it more difficult to secure sufficient financing in the EU. The Commission aims to remove these structural barriers and thereby improve access to finance for innovative companies in the EU.

Read full Neth-ER article here: <https://www.neth-er.eu/onderzoek/nieuwe-innovatieverordening-moet-aanbesteding-en-financiering-van-europese-innovaties-versnellen-en-versterken> (in Dutch)

Commission aims for robotics programme by 2028 (10 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

The European Commission plans to propose a "robust programme" for robotics ahead of 2028, when the next multiannual financial framework begins. According to a Commission representative, the initiative will focus on infrastructure, data spaces, environmental sustainability, and accelerating the transition from lab to market. Critics point to slow European decision-making, unfair competition from the US and China, and a lack of the speed and scale needed for the sector to achieve a breakthrough.

Read more:

Science Business article: <https://sciencebusiness.net/news/robotics/commission-propose-solid-programme-robotics-2028>

New Atlas compares clean technology across 30 European countries (10 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

In the new *European Clean Tech Atlas 2026*, the think tank Bruegel maps the adoption and production of clean technologies across 30 European countries. It also compares Europe's competitive position with that of China and the United States. For the Netherlands, the Atlas includes data on natural gas following the closure of the Groningen gas fields, the growth of solar and wind energy, and rising sales of heat pumps and electric vehicles. The Atlas thus provides a detailed overview for anyone interested in the energy transition or the competitive standing of European clean tech.

Read more:

Clean Tech Atlas: [European Clean Tech Atlas](#)

Science Europe: academic freedom under growing pressure worldwide (10 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

Scientific freedom is facing increasing pressure globally, according to Science Europe. Data from the Academic Freedom Index show that academic freedom has declined in almost all regions since 2010, with a particularly sharp drop in the United States. Cited threats include the growing power of a few major publishers over scientific journals, reliance on project-based funding, and the impact of AI on scientific work.

Read more:

Science Europe report: [Strengthening Academic Freedom & Institutional Resilience in the European Research Area - Science Europe](#)

Food 2040: shaping the future of Europe's food systems together (8 September 2026)

Source: Mailing DG-RTD and website EC https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/bioeconomy/food-systems/food-2040_en

Today marks an important milestone for European research and innovation in food systems with the adoption of the new Strategic Approach to Research and Innovation for agriculture, forestry, rural areas and food systems, developed jointly by DG Research and Innovation and DG Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission.

As part of this Strategic Approach, the freshly published Food 2040 framework builds on the achievements and experience of Food 2030 and provides a renewed framework to guide research and innovation towards food systems that are more sustainable, healthy, resilient, inclusive and competitive. The strategy is structured around six cross-cutting priorities and three common enablers: governance, technologies, and territories and communities.

Food 2040 is structured around six areas for action:



These areas did not emerge in isolation. They are the result of an extensive process of evidence gathering, consultation and, importantly, co-creation with the Food 2030 community and a wider range of stakeholders.

Over the past years, we have drawn on expert reports, the experience of EU-funded research and innovation projects, workshops and exchanges with stakeholders across the food system. An EU-wide survey and written consultation provided further insights into the priorities, needs and challenges that Food 2040 should address, with the results published in the report **Building Food 2040: stakeholder input for the new EU Strategic R&I Agenda for Food Systems**: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/388df32b-7cce-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1> .

A particularly important moment in this process was our Food 2040 stakeholder workshop in March 2026, which brought together more than 90 participants, including researchers, innovators, civil society, representatives of European Commission services and other stakeholders from across the food-system community. Over the course of an intensive day, participants worked in dedicated groups to challenge, rethink and reshape the Food 2030 framework, helping us ensure that Food 2040 responds to today's challenges and emerging priorities while preserving the systemic approach that has always been at the heart of Food 2030.

Food 2040 is also about seizing the opportunities ahead. Research and innovation can help Europe adapt faster, strengthen its strategic autonomy and connect excellent science with practical solutions, deployment and market uptake. This also means harnessing the potential of biotechnology and other emerging technologies and innovations to develop solutions that contribute to more competitive, resilient and sustainable food systems.

We want to continue working closely with all of you to translate the areas for action of Food 2040 into research and innovation activities with tangible impact. At the same time, we want to broaden the Food 2040 stakeholder community, bringing in new voices, perspectives and actors from across Europe and beyond.

Our ambition is to reinforce a sense of shared responsibility and shared capacity to shape the food systems of tomorrow. Research and innovation can only achieve lasting transformation when knowledge, ideas and solutions are developed together with those who will ultimately use, implement and benefit from them.

Read the report Building Food 2040: stakeholder input for the new EU Strategic R&I Agenda for Food Systems here: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/388df32b-7cce-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1>

Commission adopts a new Strategic Approach to R&I for agriculture, forestry, rural areas and food systems (8 September 2026)

Source: Website EC

The European Commission has adopted a new Strategic Approach to Research and Innovation for agriculture, forestry, rural areas and food systems, **bringing together AgRI 2040 and Food 2040** under a common strategic direction. The Strategic Approach aims to strengthen the contribution of research and innovation to more competitive, sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems, while accelerating the uptake of knowledge and innovation and helping promising solutions move from research to deployment and market uptake. It will help inform future EU research and innovation priorities.

The Communication is accompanied by a Commission Staff Working Document, which provides the supporting evidence and takes stock of achievements under the existing EU R&I approaches for agriculture and food systems. It also highlights the strong links and synergies between the two agendas and the opportunities for a more integrated approach to research and innovation across agriculture, forestry, rural areas and the wider food system.

AgRI 2040 and Food 2040

AgRI 2040 will focus on agriculture, forestry and rural areas. Its eight preliminary areas of action will cover soils and agri-ecosystems, cropping and livestock systems, the bioeconomy, multifunctional forests, rural areas and stronger agri-food value chains, as well as digitalisation, artificial intelligence and robotics.

Food 2040 will focus on food systems, including fisheries and aquaculture. Its six areas of action will address place-based food systems; healthy and sustainable diets; resource efficiency and zero pollution in food systems; food environments and consumer empowerment; scaling innovations, business models and fair food systems solutions; and aquatic food.

The two frameworks are guided by **six shared priorities**: competitiveness, startups and scaleups; food security, resilience and preparedness; natural resources and circularity; food and feed safety, nutrition and health; fairness; and global cooperation. Common enablers include governance, technologies, and territories and communities.

Information and useful links:

 **Food 2040 webpage:** https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/bioeconomy/food-systems/food-2040_en

 **New Strategic Approach to R&I for agriculture, forestry, rural areas and food systems:** <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2026%3A453%3AFIN&qid=1788857028841>

 **Commission Staff Working Document:** EUR-Lex - 52026SC0271 - EN - EUR-Lex

 **Building Food 2040: stakeholder input for the new EU R&I strategic agenda for food systems:** <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/388df32b-7cce-11f1-bf5e-01aa75ed71a1>

 **Food 2040 and AgRI 2040 factsheet:** <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/db0107f1-ab2a-11f1-b9e5-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

New SCAR report on “Resilience of European Food Systems: Research and Innovation Mapping and Insights” (8 September 2026)

Source: Website SCAR https://scar-europe.org/images/FOOD/Documents/SCAR-WG_Food_Systems_Resilience_Report.pdf

The **Food Systems Working Group of SCAR** <https://scar-europe.org/> has recently published this expert report. Feeding into the preparatory work of Food 2040, the report analyses the R&I undertaken to date on the resilience of food systems.

The findings highlight opportunities for Food 2040 to strengthen systemic and transformative approaches to resilience. They point to the need for greater investment in holistic food-system resilience, governance, supply chains, by promoting better coordination between technological and organisational innovation, as well as the need to develop R&I on cascading and compound risks.

 **Read the report here:** https://scar-europe.org/images/FOOD/Documents/SCAR-WG_Food_Systems_Resilience_Report.pdf

Global policy

Two Dutch regions in international ranking of science and technology clusters (17 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 17 September 2026

The World Intellectual Property Organization has published its ranking of the top 100 science and technology clusters worldwide. The Shenzhen–Hong Kong–Guangzhou region tops the list, followed immediately by Tokyo–Yokohama, San Jose–San Francisco, Seoul, and Beijing. The results underscore the continued dominance of East Asia and the United States in global technological innovation. The Netherlands is represented by two clusters: Amsterdam–Rotterdam at number 26 and Eindhoven at number 66.

Read more:

WIPO article: [WIPO GII: Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou, Tokyo-Yokohama, San Jose-San Francisco, Beijing and Seoul Are World's Biggest "Innovation Clusters"](#)

OECD makes recommendations on research and innovation careers (17 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 17 September 2026

The rapidly changing research and innovation landscape calls for a more strategic approach to talent development and mobility. This is according to the OECD's annual *Research and Innovation Careers Observatory*, a comprehensive overview of the state of careers in research and innovation. Among other things, the researchers argue that greater benefits could be derived from international exchange.

Read more:

OECD report: [Research and Innovation Careers Observatory 2026 | OECD](#)

Canadian talent program attracts dozens of US scientists (10 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

Canada has attracted 48 US researchers through a new talent program. Together, the researchers will receive 500 million Canadian dollars over the course of eight years. Uncertainty regarding research funding under the Trump administration was a decisive factor for several researchers in their decision to leave. In doing so, Canada is following the example of France, which previously attracted 41 researchers based in the US through the "Choose France for Science" program. Various researchers writing in *Nature* have warned of a brain drain from the US.

Read more:

'Nature' article: [Canada recruits dozens of US scholars — including several science stars | Nature](#)

Vrije Universiteit Brussel recruits four US climate researchers (10 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) is recruiting four internationally renowned climate researchers currently affiliated with US universities. The researchers will work within the VUB-US Research Chair program over the next three years. According to VUB Vice-Rector for Research Pieter Ballon, the intention is not for the researchers to sever ties with their US universities; rather, the program aims to build a bridge between Europe and the US.

Read more:

VUB press release: [VUB welcomes four leading US researchers to Brussels for climate and sustainability research | Vrije Universiteit Brussel](#)

OECD Report Reveals Continuing Decline in Student Performance (9 September 2026)

Source: Website [OECD PISA 2025 Results \(Volume I\)](#) | [OECD](#)

PISA 2025 findings show persistent challenges in reading and mathematics, while highlighting the growing influence of digital technologies and artificial intelligence in education.

The OECD has published the first volume of its Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2025 results, providing a comprehensive overview of student achievement and wider learning outcomes across 91 countries and economies. More than 760,000 students, representing around 33 million 15-year-olds worldwide, participated in the assessment, which focused on science alongside reading, mathematics and a new evaluation of learning in the digital world. An optional assessment of English as a foreign language was also included.

The report presents a mixed picture of global education. Following the significant fall in performance recorded in PISA 2022, results have largely stagnated or continued to decline in many education systems. Science, the principal focus of the 2025 cycle, proved relatively resilient, with average scores across OECD countries falling only modestly between 2015 and 2025, while remaining broadly stable among non-OECD participants.

Performance in mathematics and reading was less encouraging. Average mathematics scores across OECD countries fell by 22 points over the decade, equivalent to just over one year of learning, while reading scores declined by 28 points. Reading performance also dropped among non-OECD participants, raising concerns about the foundational literacy skills needed to navigate an increasingly digital society. Across OECD countries, 20% of students are now classified as low performers in science, mathematics and reading, up from 16% in 2022.

The findings suggest that many of these challenges predate the COVID-19 pandemic and may reflect longer-term trends, including increased screen time and declining rates of reading for enjoyment. However, the report highlights examples of progress. Science scores improved in several OECD countries, including the United Kingdom. Furthermore, several countries demonstrated that higher performance and more inclusive outcomes can go hand in hand as they managed to reduce their share of low-performing students, while increasing their share of top-performers.

The study also examines the growing role of digital technologies and artificial intelligence in learning. While moderate use of digital tools was associated with stronger science outcomes, excessive use and classroom distraction were linked to weaker performance. The OECD argues that effective education systems should maintain high expectations in core subjects, support teachers' professional development and ensure that artificial intelligence enhances learning rather than replacing students' own effort and understanding. Evidence from PISA 2025 is expected to inform future education policy debates, including those relating to digital literacy, educational equity and workforce preparedness.

For further information: [OECD - PISA 2025 Results Volume I \(Report\)](#)

National policy

State Secretary: innovative environmental policy can contribute to a strong economy (17 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 17 September 2026

By structuring environmental policy in a smart, clear, and transparent way, it can go hand in hand with other interests, such as a strong economy. This is the argument put forward by State Secretary Bertram in the introduction to a special issue of the economics journal 'ESB' focusing on the economy and the environment. Bertram states that well-designed environmental policy reduces uncertainty, stimulates investment, and fosters the development of clean technologies. The special issue includes various articles touching upon innovation policy.

Read more:

ESB publication: [Innovatief milieubeleid voor een sterke economie - ESB](#)

ESB 4861S: The benefits of a clean environment: [4861S - ESB](#)

Opinion: Academic freedom as a blind spot in the innovation debate (17 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 17 September 2026

Academic freedom plays a major, yet underestimated, role in innovation, argues Professor Mirjam van Praag—chair of the AWTI—in an opinion piece in the 'FD'. She points, among other things, to research showing that greater academic freedom goes hand in hand with an increase in patent applications. According to Van Praag, strengthening innovation capacity requires investing not only in valorisation and knowledge ecosystems but also in the academic and creative freedom of researchers.

Read more:

'FD' opinion piece: <https://fd.nl/opinie/1612133/een-blinde-vlek-in-het-innovatiedebat-academische-vrijheid> (in Dutch)

Key subsidy news from Budget Day 2026 / 'Prinsjesdag 2026' (15 September 2026)

Source: Website Rijksoverheid

Investments

WBSO remains stable

The WBSO budget for 2027 has been set at €1.968 billion. The rates remain unchanged from 2026: 36% on the first €391,020 of the total R&D base (with a higher rate of 50% on the first €391,020 of the total R&D base applying to start-ups) and 16% on the remaining R&D base.

National Investment Institution and National Agency for Disruptive Innovation

The government is establishing a National Investment Institution (NII) and **making €3.3 billion** available for this purpose. It is also launching **the National Agency for Disruptive Innovation (NADI)** to ensure that knowledge is more frequently translated into market-ready applications; **€500 million has been allocated for this**. Through NADI, the government will assume the role of 'launching customer' for innovative (SME) companies—a role that is currently often missing.

*In the coalition agreement, the coalition announced plans to establish a National Investment Institution (NII) to strengthen long-term earning capacity. The NII is intended to provide funding to projects and companies unable to secure financing independently; **this includes funding for start-ups and scale-ups**. The government is making €4 billion (non-structural) available for this purpose.*

*As announced in the coalition agreement, the government is establishing the **National Agency for Disruptive Innovation (NADI)**, modeled on the US agency DARPA and the German agency Sprind. NADI is tasked with funding*

and coordinating high-risk R&D—drawing, for instance, on the scientific knowledge base—through temporary, problem-driven programmes, and guiding promising innovations toward application and market entry. **Pilot projects in the fields of Digitalisation & AI, Security & Resilience, and Life Sciences & Biotech will launch in 2027.** Funding of €10 million is available for NADI in 2027, rising to **a structural €75 million from 2029 onwards.** Further details regarding the plans for NADI are set out in a letter https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/brieven_regering/detail?id=2026Z18878&did=2026D43459 to the House of Representatives that was also sent today.

Expansion of the Innovation Box

The Innovation Box scheme is being expanded. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that develop new products or technologies in-house can use this scheme to pay less tax on the profits generated from them. The cap for this scheme is being raised from €25,000 to €100,000.

New round of the National Growth Fund

A new round of the National Growth Fund (NGF) is also being launched, **with €375 million** allocated for large-scale projects that contribute to **sustainable economic growth in the Netherlands.** *These are funds that have become available within the National Growth Fund. Minimum of €30 million and maximum of €100 million per project is foreseen, with projects focused on the six industrial policy programmes under the Task Force on Future Prosperity and Business Climate: innovative chemistry, biotechnology, mechanical engineering, semiconductors, digital services, or defense-related applications. Consortia comprising companies, knowledge institutions, and other parties may apply for project funding. For more information: <https://open.overheid.nl/details/8a427493-d11e-4a8e-93e5-ccf00ec63854> (in Dutch)*

Support programme for academic spin-offs

The number of academic spin-offs in the Netherlands is low compared to other countries. To increase the number of spin-offs from academic institutions, the government is launching a scheme providing **structural funding for the creation of academic spin-offs**, subject to entrepreneur-friendly conditions. Under this scheme, universities can apply for a five-year grant to carry out valorisation activities, with a requirement for co-financing from the university itself. The government is making structural funding available for this purpose, **rising to €30 million.**

Climate and energy

Energy Innovation

Call openings are scheduled for the coming years for energy innovation schemes such as the Mission-driven Research, Development and Innovation scheme (MOOI), the Energy and Climate Research and Development scheme (EKOI), and the Demonstration Energy and Climate Innovation scheme (DEI+).

Digital economy and infrastructure

The government is making €120 million available for Dutch participation in an Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) in the field of AI. IPCEIs are large-scale European collaborations between companies and knowledge institutions focused on strategic innovation or infrastructure of strategic importance to the EU. Member States are permitted to provide public funding for these projects.

Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature

Testing innovations

The government is allocating nearly €50 million in additional funding to test innovations, measures, and solutions in actual farming practice. This will be done through means such as experimental sites, where farmers and knowledge institutions collaborate to further develop innovations.

To quickly get started **with the nitrogen strategy**, LNV is making €500 million available for seven areas, with €100 million allocated for 2027. This funding boost will be used to implement measures benefiting Natura 2000 sites within these priority areas and economic clusters.

Nature Management and Restoration

Over the coming years, the government will invest an additional €423 million in nature management and restoration. The funds will be used for purposes such as better mapping of natural areas, restoration measures, creating a more nature-inclusive living environment, and strengthening the corps of specialized nature enforcement officers (*groene boia's*). The government is also making nearly €500 million in additional funding available for agricultural nature management, bringing the total budget to over €1.4 billion.

Agrifood innovation

€2 million is being made available to connect investors and entrepreneurs and to accelerate the development and scaling-up of promising agrifood innovations.

Education and research

Research

Previous cuts to research funding are being partially reversed; the government is making a structural investment **of €428 million** in this area. Part of this budget consists of additional funding for existing, successful measures. For instance, an **extra €80 million per year is being allocated to better assist scientists in securing European research grants**.

So The **'Matching Horizon Europe' scheme** (*providing €80 million in structural funding from 2030 onwards*) is being extended; in addition, the government is allocating **extra structural funds** within the budgets of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy (EZK) and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) **for the co-financing of European partnerships**.

The government is also **investing in practice-based research**, with structural funding rising to **€68 million for universities of applied sciences (HBO)** and **€17 million** for secondary vocational education (MBO). Regarding the allocation of the **additional €132 million in annual funding for sector plans**, universities have been asked to focus on key areas. *So this budget also confirms the plan to invest an amount rising to a structural €154 million in higher professional education (HBO) and university education (WO). The allocation between the two sectors is in line with earlier expectations: a structural €49.1 million for HBO and €105.4 million for WO. This marks the first time the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) has publicly confirmed this distribution.*

Additional funds are also being made available for state-of-the-art scientific instrumentation—for example, €185 million for the successor to the national supercomputer Snellius and an extra €25 million to prepare for the arrival of the Einstein Telescope.

BHOS

The BHOS budget states that the Cabinet has “once again actively focused on funding vocational and higher education and targeted training scholarships.” This is a new and positive development; the size and allocation of the budget for this component remain unclear.

Defence: cooperation with industry

In 2027, the Defence Strategy for Industry and Innovation will be further implemented. In this context, the Ministry of Defence is collaborating with other government departments, knowledge institutions, and companies to increase production capacity, strengthen security of supply, and accelerate the development of innovative military applications and technology. Additionally, Defence is working to improve the conditions for innovation and industrial scaling-up—including through public-private partnerships, the strengthening of supply chains, improved access to testing and production facilities, and a more attractive financing environment for the defence industry and defence-related innovation.

In 2027, the Ministry of Defence will launch concrete initiatives in collaboration with other departments, knowledge institutions, and the defence industry. To ensure focus and momentum, this cooperation will be further elaborated, and the Defence Innovation Scaling-up Authority will be launched. This authority will drive the development of military and dual-use applications based on the (future) challenges faced by the Dutch armed forces ('pull') and on developments within the civil knowledge landscape and business sector ('push').

Some setbacks

A setback is that the cabinet has decided not to grant wage and price adjustments in 2027 and 2028 for all planned investments from the coalition agreement, including those in the OCW budget

Another setback is that a portion of the €80 million—structurally earmarked from 2031 onwards for the National Microchip Talent Strengthening Plan (Beethoven)—is being cut. Of this available amount, €41 million remains reserved for education funding and student financial aid. The remaining sum—for which no plans had yet been submitted—is being reclaimed by the Ministry of Finance.

Reactions to Budget Day: Knowledge sector welcomes investments; business community seeks growth agenda (15 September 2026)

Many parties have responded to the national budget statement (Miljoenennota) over the past week. A selection of relevant reactions is summarized below. The knowledge sector has responded positively to the plan to reverse previous budget cuts affecting research and education. Employers' organizations VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland welcome the focus on boosting earning capacity but worry that significant uncertainty remains due to the minority government. FME, the trade association for the technology industry, welcomes the new investments in innovation,

though it believes insufficient action is being taken to strengthen competitiveness. In a joint assessment, the government's policy analysis agencies conclude that while the cabinet is investing in addressing various societal challenges, certain tasks remain unaddressed and the financial burden is being deferred to the future.

Read more:

Response from UNL: [Universiteiten van Nederland positief over plannen Prinsjesdag | Universiteiten van Nederland](#) (in Dutch)

Response from VH: [Vereniging Hogescholen | Prinsjesdag 2026: VH vraagt om structurele aanpak om- en bijscholing](#) (in Dutch)

Response from KNAW and De Jonge Akademie: [KNAW juicht investeringen in wetenschap toe - KNAW](#) (in Dutch)

Response from VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland: [Ondernemersorganisaties: agenda voor groei noodzakelijk](#) (in Dutch)

Response from FME: [Miljoenennota 2027: innovatie krijgt impuls, concurrentievermogen blijft achter | FME](#) (in Dutch)

Response from Digital Holland: [Digital Holland | Veel aandacht voor digitalisering, AI,...](#) (in Dutch)

Assessment by CPB, SCP, and PBL: [Prinsjesdag: Kabinet-Jetten investeert in de toekomst maar schuift óók belangrijke opgaven door | CPB Website](#) (in Dutch)

Cabinet to present plan for achieving 3% R&D target (10 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

The Cabinet will issue a letter in late September outlining its approach to reaching the goal of investing 3% of GDP in R&D. Minister Herbert made this commitment during a 'two-minute debate' on innovation. Several motions were passed during the debate, including calls to identify structural funding mechanisms for knowledge valorisation and to develop a temporary regulatory sandbox for innovative companies. The AWTI issued advice on investing in knowledge and innovation late last year.

Read more:

Report of the plenary session: https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/plenaire_verslagen/detail/2025-2026/93#2716edbd (in Dutch)

Overview of votes: [Plenaire verslagen | Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal](#) (in Dutch)

AWTI advisory report: Resilient and Future-proof: [Nieuw advies: "Maak de samenleving en economie weerbaar: investeer in onderzoek en innovatie" | Adviesraad voor wetenschap, technologie en innovatie](#) (in Dutch)

House of Representatives calls on government to expedite concrete implementation of Wennink report (10 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

Last Thursday, the House of Representatives held its first debate on the Wennink report. There was a broad call within the House for the government to accelerate the implementation of the recommendations. Minister Herbert maintains that the government is on the right track and has already set a great deal in motion over the past few months. More clarity regarding funding for some of the plans—including the national investment institution and the National Agency for Disruptive Innovation—is expected by Budget Day (Prinsjesdag). One challenge in the implementation process is that multiple ministries are working on it simultaneously.

Read more:

Debate report: [Plenaire verslagen | Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal](#) (in Dutch)

Debate summary: [Rapport-Wennink over toekomstige welvaart | Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal](#) (in Dutch)

FD article (paywall): [Kamer mist regie bij uitvoeren rapport Wennink](#) (in Dutch)

TNO Vector: The Netherlands is missing opportunities in biotechnology 910 September 2026)

Source: AWTI e-mail alert 10 September 2026

The Netherlands is well-positioned to establish unique global market positions in biotechnology, yet it is missing opportunities. This is the conclusion of a data publication by TNO Vector. While the Netherlands performs well globally in terms of the number of biotech start-ups, relatively few of these companies subsequently succeed in growing into scale-ups. According to the researchers, the Netherlands is thereby missing chances to make itself indispensable to other countries.

Read more:

TNO Vector news item: [Nederland heeft de kennis en de handelspositie voor biotech control points, maar verliest het op opschaling - TNO Vector](#)

Call deadlines

HORIZON Europe calls

Overview of the the upcoming Horizon Europe calls per 18 September 2026

Call identifier	Deadline
Pillar I Excellent Science	
ERC	
ERC-2027-StG	14 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (<i>ERC Starting Grant</i>)
ERC-2027-CoG	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-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> INFRA SERV - 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 INFRA SERV</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	
<u>Destination</u> - 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 October 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:</u> Leadership in materials and production for Europe	
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD two-stage	17 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) , 13 October 2026 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD single stage	Foreseen opening 22 September 2026 and foreseen deadline 2 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD two-stage	Foreseen opening 22 September 2026 and foreseen deadline 2 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) , 2 September 2027 (Second Stage) 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-two-stage</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Open Strategic Autonomy in Developing, Deploying and Using Global Space-Based Infrastructure, Services, Applications and Data	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-03 single stage	Foreseen opening 9 March 2027 Foreseen deadline 2 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-03</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-DATA-04</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING</i>)
<u>Destination:</u> Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation	
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN single stage	Foreseen opening 17 November 2026 and foreseen deadline 18 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN</i>)
<u>CLUSTER 5 - Cluster 5: Climate - Energy - Mobility</u>	
<u>Destination</u> - Climate sciences and responses for the transformation towards climate neutrality	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-08-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-CL5-2027-02-D2	Foreseen opening: 3 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 31 March 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL5-2027-04-Two-Stage-D2	Foreseen opening: 15 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 14 April 2027 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) and 7 October 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
<u>Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply</u>	
HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D3	31 March 2026 17.00 Brussels time (first stage) (CLOSED) and 20 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3	1 December 2026 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes</u>	
<u>Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods</u>	
<u>CLUSTER 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment</u>	
<u>Destination 1: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV two-stage	16 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) and 23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV single stage	Foreseen opening: 20 April 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 22 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>Destination 2: Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption</u>	
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-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-CL6-2026-02-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-CL6-2026-02-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 activities for the European Partnership of Agriculture of Data	Foreseen opening: 25 August 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 26 November 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE two-stage	15 April 2026 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) (CLOSED) and 30 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE single stage	Foreseen opening: 4 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 11 May 2027 17.00 Brussels time
Circular Biobased Europe	
CBE Circular Biobased Europe partnership https://www.cbe.europa.eu/	
Pillar III Innovative Europe	
EIC Transition 2026	16 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2026 EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2026 - European Innovation Council	

Advanced Materials for Miniaturised Energy Harvesting Systems HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-01 EU Funding & Tenders Portal	28 October 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-01</i>)
Biotechnology for Healthy Ageing HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-02 EU Funding & Tenders Portal	28 October 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-02</i>)
DeepRAP: Deep Reasoning, Abstraction & Planning towards trustworthy Cognitive AI Systems HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-03 EU Funding & Tenders Portal	28 October 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time (<i>HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-03</i>)
<u>Mission calls 2026-2026</u>	
CLIMATE MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA single stage	23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-01-CLIMA single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
CANCER MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2027-02-CANCER single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2026-03-OCEAN single stage	23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-03-OCEAN single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
CITIES MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-04-CIT single stage	8 October 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 7 October 2027 17.00 Brussels time
SOIL MISSION	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL	23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL single stage	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time

HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-two-stage:	Foreseen opening: 10 November 2026; Deadline(s): 15 February 2027 17.00 Brussels time (First Stage) and 14 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time (Second Stage)
JOINT MISSION CALLS	
HORIZON-MISS-2026-06-CLIMA-SOIL joint call SOIL and CLIMATE missions	23 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-06-SOIL-CANCER Joint call SOIL and CANCER mission	Foreseen opening: 9 December 2026 and foreseen Deadline(s): 21 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
HORIZON-MISS-2027-07-CLIMA-CIT-NEB Joint Call between the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and the Adaptation to Climate Change Mission	Foreseen opening: 9 February 2027 and foreseen Deadline(s): 16 September 2027 17.00 Brussels time
<u>WIDERA 2026 - 2027</u>	
<u>Destination:</u> Widening participation and spreading excellence	
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01-WIDENING-01: Teaming Synergies	24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01 Call - Teaming Synergies)
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03: Hop-on Facility	24 September 2026 17.00 Brussels time (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03 Call - Hop on Facility)
HORIZON-WIDERA-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)
<u>Destination:</u> 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 18 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.agroecologypartner-ship.eu/	
European partnership Agriculture of Data	
European partnership Sustainable Blue Economy https://bluepartnership.eu/	Applicants must submit their pre-proposals before 16 November (15:00 CET). A first evaluation of pre-proposals will be organised and the deadline to submit full proposals is foreseen for June 2027. More information: https://bluepartnership.eu/funding-opportunity/sustainable-blue-economy-partnerships-fourth-joint-transnational-call
European partnerships Forestry	NEW: FORESTPathways pre-announcement https://forestvalue.org/forest-joint-call-2026-pre-announcement/

ForestValue 2 https://forestvalue.org/forest-partnership/	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.facejpi.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 **18 September 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list

Deadline	Call
03-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full Proposals in the portal of the NFRF Call '2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges' Deadline for submission of the full proposals in the portal of the NFRF. Please check the website of the NFRF for exact details. Call open: International Call for groundbreaking innovations to address global challenges NWO and 2026 International Joint Initiative for Research Harnessing Disruptive Technologies to Address Global Challenges NWO and Call-for-proposals-NFRF-221225_1.pdf
20-10-2026	Deadline for submission Full proposals for KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future call with Brazil . Deadline for submission of Proposals is 20 October 2026 14:00:00 CEST (ISAAC) and 20 October 2026 23:59:59 BRT (SAGe) . Call open: Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future (KIC) NWO and KIC Integrated Biorefineries for a Circular Future NWO and Call for Proposals - Integrated biorefineries for a circular future

National calls

This list is a selection of open national calls. The list was compiled on **18 September 2026**. Calls marked with **NEW** are newly included in the list:

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: deadline for submission Pre-proposals Mosaic 3.0 call . The deadline for the pre-proposal is 3 November 2026, 14:00 CET . Foreseen closing date for pre-proposals 3 . https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/mosaic-30 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/mosaic_3.0_2026_pre-proposal_form.docx
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/
17-11-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of Pre-proposals SSH Open Competition Expand 2026 . Deadline for Pre-proposals: 17 November 2026, 14:00:00 CET . SSH Open Competition Expand 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-SSH-OC-Expand-EN.pdf
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/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/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/overview-pages/innovation-accelerator
04-05-2027	NEW: deadline for submission Full-proposals Mosaic 3.0 call. Full proposals can be submitted until 4 May 2027, 14:00 CEST. https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/mosaic-30 and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/mosaic_3.0_2026_pre-proposal_form.docx
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
10-06-2026	NEW: Deadline for submission of Full-proposals SSH Open Competition Expand 2026. Deadline for Full proposals: 10 June 2027, 14:00:00 CEST. SSH Open Competition Expand 2026 NWO and https://www.nwo.nl/sites/nwo/files/media-files/Call-for-Proposals-SSH-OC-Expand-EN.pdf
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/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 18 September 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
2021-2024	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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