



techUK Funding Focus: Horizon Europe Info Session

Introduction to Horizon Europe

Perry Guess Horizon Europe National Contact Point, Cross-Cutting Innovate UK

25 September 2025



What is Horizon Europe?

• €95.5bn Research and Innovation Programme (2021 – 2027)

Businesses, NGOs, LAs, Charities etc.

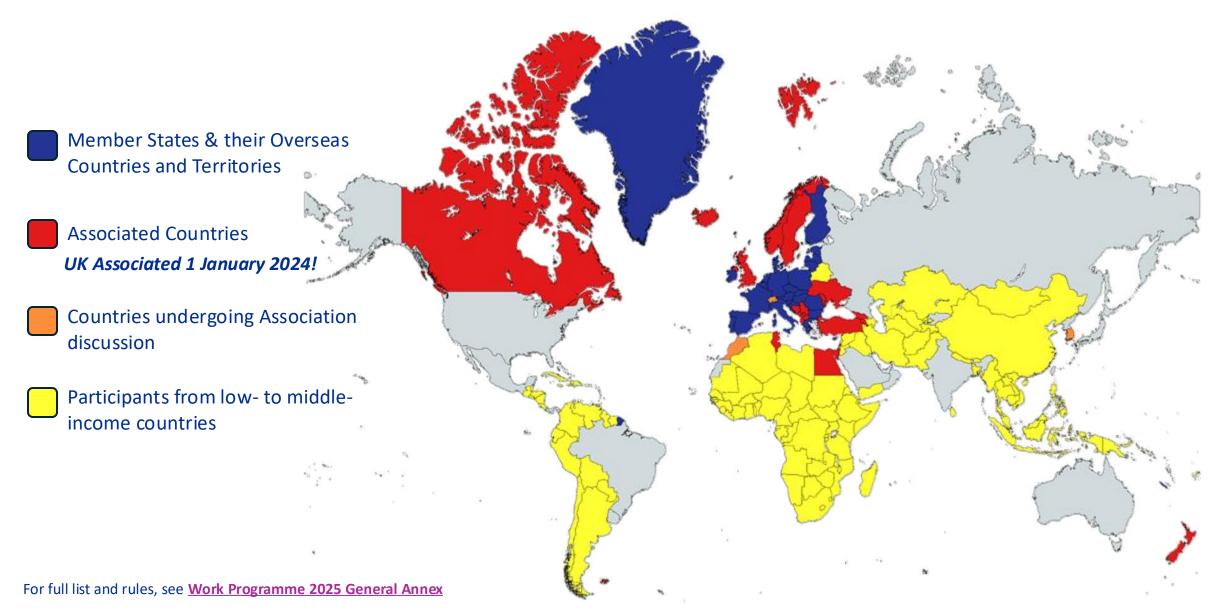
- Access to substantial, non-repayable, nondilutive research and innovation grant funding
- Collaborate with the best of the best from across Europe, and beyond
- Share risks & costs to achieve the otherwise unachievable
- Access to cutting-edge international expertise, talent and facilities
- Enhance research and innovation capability and capacity
- Increase global competitiveness, create new international supply-chain positions and open new foreign markets
- Significant kudos and marketing collateral

Academia and Research Organisations

- Access to substantial research and innovation grant funding
- Collaborate with the best of the best from across Europe, and beyond to achieve the otherwise unachievable
- Contribute to solving significant global challenges
- Access to cutting-edge international expertise, skills and facilities
- Springboard to achieve research independence and pathway to more advanced funding opportunities
- Publications, partnerships and impact
- Significantly enhances status, reputation and visibility



Global Reach of Horizon Europe



Horizon Europe Structure



Excellent Science

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Research Infrastructures

€24.9bn



Clusters

Global Challenges European Industrial Competitiveness

- Health
- Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry and Space
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Joint Research Centre

€53.8bn



Innovative Europe

European Innovation Council

European Innovation Ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation & Technology

€13.4bn

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and enhancing the European R&I system

N.B. Budgets shown are for 2021-2027. Budgets are higher than above when the UK and other Associated Country contributions are included.

Key Open to all research and innovation fields

Challenge driven – must solve the problem posed – not bottom-up idea driven



Global Challenges European Industrial Competitiveness

CL1: Health

CL2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

CL3: Civil Security for Society

lusters

CL4: Digital, Industry and Space

CL5: Climate, Energy and Mobility

CL6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Challenge driven - significant funding to solve specific challenges

- Open to all types of organisations
- Primarily collaborative projects at least three different legal entities from 3 different
 Member States and/or Associated Countries
- Project size varies typically €M's to €10's-M's & duration varies typically 2-5yrs
- Work Programmes set the scope + expected outcomes + budget

Main Types of Actions:

- Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs) establishes new knowledge and/or explores a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution early-stage, e.g. up to TRL3/4, 100% funding
- Innovation Actions (IAs) produces plans or designs for new or improved products, processes or services including prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication mid to late-stage, e.g. TRL3/4 to TRL8, 70% funding (100% funding for non-profit)
- Coordination and Support Action (CSA) improves cooperation around, for example, standards, dissemination, policy dialogue, networking, mutual learning etc. 100% funding

Deadline for 2025 Work Programmes – mostly Sept, Oct & Nov 2025

Draft Deadlines in Draft 2026/27 Work Programmes in 2026 – Feb-April, Sept-Oct 2026

DRAFT 2026/27 Work Programmes

- Cluster 1: Health (Draft Version 3)
 - [Feb26 \rightarrow Ap26] [Feb27 \rightarrow Ap27] [Feb27 \rightarrow Ap27 \rightarrow Sept27] [June27 \rightarrow Sept27]
- Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society (Draft Version 2)
 - [May26→Sept26] [May27→Sept27] [June27→Sept27→Feb28]
- Cluster 3: Civil Security For Society (Draft Version 3)
 - [May26→Nov26] [May27→Nov27]
- Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space' (Draft Version 3)
 - Industry: [Jan26 \rightarrow Ap26] [Dec25 \rightarrow Mar26 \rightarrow Oct26] [Sept26 \rightarrow Feb27] [Sept26 \rightarrow Feb27 \rightarrow Sept27]
 - Space: [Mar26→Sept 26] [Mar27→Sept27]
 - Digital: [Jan 26→Ap26] [Nov26→Mar27]
- Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility' (Draft Version 3)
 - [Dec25→Mar&Ap26] [Dec25→Mar/&Ap26→Oct26]
 - [May26→Sept26] [June26→Oct26] [Aug26→Dec26]
 - [Nov/Dec26→Mar27] [Dec26→Ap27] [Dec26→Ap27→Oct27]
 - [May27→Sept27] [June27→Oct27] [Aug27→Dec27]
- Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment (Draft Version 3)
 - [Ap26 \rightarrow Sept26] [Jan26 \rightarrow Ap26] [Aug26 \rightarrow Nov26] [Feb26 \rightarrow Ap26 \rightarrow Sept26]
 - [Ap27→Sept27] [Feb27→May27] [Feb27→Ap27→Sept27]

PLEASE NOTE

As with all work programme drafts, be aware that topics can change both in their description and budget. Always refer to final published document for the definitive version to base your proposal on. However, these drafts will give you a good basis on which to start your preparations.

Keep up to date here: Insight into Horizon Europe Work 2026/2027 Programmes



Global Challenges European Industrial Competitiveness













Missions

EU Missions aim to bring concrete solutions to some of our greatest challenges by 2030.

- Adaptation to Climate Change: support at least 150 European regions and communities to become climate resilient by 2030
- Cancer: working with Europe's Beating Cancer Plan to improve the lives of more than 3 million people by 2030 through prevention, cure and solutions to live longer and better
- Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030
- 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030
- A **Soil** Deal for Europe: 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030 Majority of the Missions 2025 Work Programme deadlines are Sept 2025, cross-cutting in Mar 2026

New European Bauhaus (NEB):

- A policy and funding initiative striving to translate the European Green Deal into tangible change on the ground.
- Provides funding for collaborative projects aimed at transforming living spaces and lifestyles in Europe by integrating sustainability, inclusivity and beauty through creative, interdisciplinary approaches

NEB 2025 Work Programme deadline 12 Nov 2025 : €118.40m available for RIAs and IAs

DRAFT 2026/27 Work Programmes

- EU Missions (Draft Version 3)
 - Climate Mission: [Feb26→Sept26] [Feb27→Sept27]
 - Cancer Mission: [Dec25→Sept26] [Dec26→Sept27]
 - Oceans & Water Mission: [Feb26→Sept26] [Feb27→Sept27]
 - Climate-Neutral Smart Cities: [Feb26→Oct26] [Feb27→Oct27]
 - Soil: [Feb26→Sept26] [Dec25→Ap26→Sept26] [Feb27→Sept27]
 [Nov26→Feb27→Sept27]
 - Soil + Climate Joint Call: [Feb26→Sept26] [Dec25→Sept27]
 - Climate + Cities Joint Call: [Feb27→Sept27]
- New European Bauhaus Facility and Horizontal Activities (Draft Version 3)
 - NEB: [May26→Dec26] [May27→Dec27]
 - Soil Mission + NEB Joint Call: [May27→Nov27]
- Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area (Draft Version 3)
 - [Dec25 \rightarrow Mar26] [Jan26 \rightarrow Ap26] [Jan26 \rightarrow Sept26] [Ap26 \rightarrow Sept26] [Sept26 \rightarrow Mar27]
 - [Dec26→Mar27] [May27→Nov27] [Ap27 →Sept27]

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Innovate Europe

European Innovation Council

European Innovation Council

- Europe's flagship innovation programme
- Significant funding for the creation, development and scale-up of breakthrough, deep tech, game changing innovations

EIC Pathfinder

Open: €3m 1 call/yr - Spring

Challenge: €4m 1calls/yr -Autumn

to TRL3-4

Consortium

EIC Transition

Open¹: €2.5m 1calls/yr - Autumn TRL 3-5 to 5-6 Consortium or single applicant

¹only open to applicants with a 'golden ticket'

EIC Accelerator

Open & Challenge: €2.5m Grant: TRL 6-8 €10m Equity²: TRL 9 2 calls/yr -Spring/Autumn

Single applicant

²equity not available to UK applicants

EIC STEP

Open³: €10M-€30m Equity Continuously open

Single Applicant

³not available to UK applicants

2025 Open: 2025 Challenge: €142m / 21 May 25 €120m / 29 Oct 25 €98m / 17 Sept 25

€384m / Stg2: 12 Mar 25 & 01 Oct 25

€250m / Stg2: 12 Mar 25 & 01 Oct 25

€300m / continuous

DRAFT 2026/27 Work Programmes

EIC 2026 (Draft Version 2)

EIC Pathfinder Open [06May26]

EIC Pathfinder Challenge [28Oct26]

EIC Transition (open) [19Sept26]

EIC Accelerator Open [Continuous: 07Jan26; 04Mar26; 06May26; 08July26; 02Sept26; 03Nov26]

• EIC Accelerator Challenge [Continuous: 07Jan26; 04Mar26; 06May26; 08July26; 02Sept26; 03Nov26]

- General Introduction (Draft Version 1)
- General Annexes (Draft Version 1)

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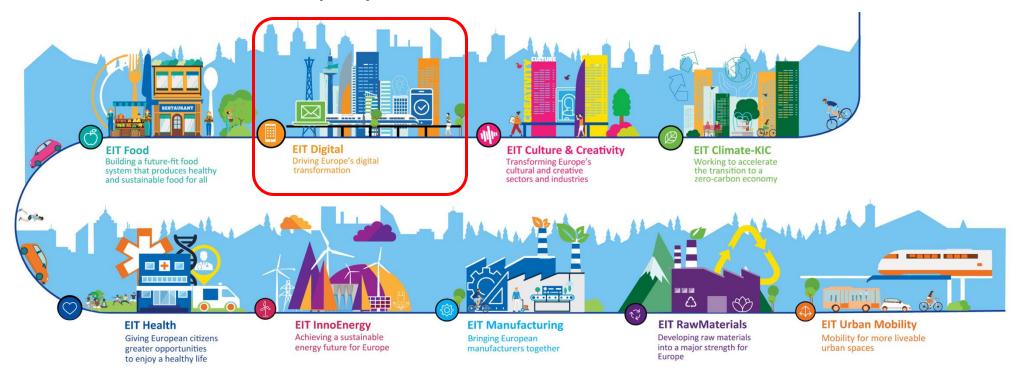


Innovate Europe



European Institute of Innovation & Technology (ETI)

EIT strengthens Europe's ability to innovate by powering solutions to pressing global challenges and by nurturing entrepreneurial talent to create sustainable growth and skilled jobs in Europe via nine Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs):



www.eit.europa.eu

EIT intro video

www.eit.europa.eu/our-activities/opportunities





techUK Funding Focus: Horizon Europe Info Session

A deep-dive into *draft* 2026/27 Work Programme opportunities

Dr Eleni Bohacek Horizon Europe National Contact Point, Digital Innovate UK

25 September 2025





Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space

CL1: Health

CL2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

CL3: Civil Security for Society

usters

CL4: Digital, Industry and Space

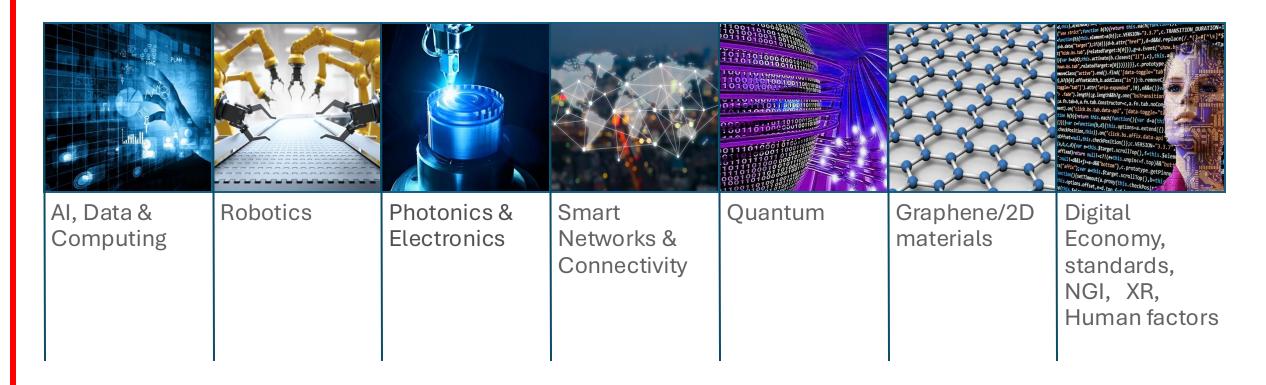
CL5: Climate, Energy and Mobility

CL6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment Vision: To build a competitive, digital, low-carbon and circular industry, ensure sustainable supply of raw materials, develop advanced materials and provide the basis for advances and innovation in global challenges to society.



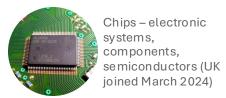


Cluster 4: Digital Topic Areas



Plus Separate Joint Undertaking Calls in:









Partnerships types in Cluster 4 Digital topics

The aim of European Partnerships with EU and associated countries, the private sector, foundations and other stakeholders is to deliver on global challenges and modernise industry.



The following are key partnerships in the area of Digital (roadmaps, networking):



- Artificial Intelligence, Data and Robotics https://adr-association.eu
- Photonics https://www.photonics21.org
- Virtual Worlds (new)
 https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip
 23_3718







Upcoming Horizon Europe Digital Calls (Subject to Change)

2026 Calls

- Expected Opening Date: 15 January 2026
- Deadline to Apply: 15 April 2026
- Indicative Budget:
 - €242 million for Digital topics under Cluster 4
 - €24 million for IAM sensing (Identity and Access Management)

2027 Calls

- Expected Opening Date: 17 November 2026
- Deadline to Apply: 18 March 2027
- Indicative Budget: €261 million for Digital topics





Divided into six 'Destinations' (research themes), each containing a list of call 'Topics' (funding opportunities)



D1: Climate neutral, circular and digitised production

Budget €260m

Topics 12

Projects ~77



D4: Digital and emerging technologies for competitiveness and fit for the Green Deal

Budget €167m

Topics 13

Projects ~24



D2: Increased autonomy in key strategic value chains for resilient industry

Budget €94m Topics 5

Projects ~14



D5: Open strategic autonomy in developing, deploying and using global space-based infrastructures, services, applications and data

Budget €92m Topics

Projects ~19



D3: World leading data and computing technologies

Budget €76m Topics

Projects ~6



D6: A human-centred and ethical development of digital and industrial technologies

Budget €48m

Topics

Projects ~10



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D3: World leading data and computing technologies

Budget	Topics	Projects	
€76m	3	~6	

HORIZON-CL4-2026	Topic Title	Type of Action	Overall Budget (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per Project (EUR million)	Expected no. of Projects funded
04-DATA-02	Open Internet Stack Sovereign Solutions	RIA	22	11	2
04-DATA-03	Open Internet Stack Support for Scale	CSA	4	4	1
04-DATA-06	Efficient and compliant access to and use of data	IA	50	16-17	3

Strategic thread:

- Digital sovereignty control over core internet/data infrastructure.
- Trust and compliance building systems that are secure, GDPR/AI Act-ready.
- Scalability for SMEs ecosystem growth, testbeds, and cross-border adoption.

Aligns with techUK's agenda on:

- Open, trusted, and resilient digital infrastructure.
- Building UK SME competitiveness in EU/global markets.
- Shaping standards and frameworks in AI, data, and digital services.





D4: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies (Part 1 of 3. Al and Robotics)

Budget €167m Topics

Projects ~24

HORIZON-CL4-2026	Topic Title	Type of Action	Overall Budget (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per Project (EUR million)	Expected no. of Projects funded
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-01	Pilot of the "Science for AI" Pillar of RAISE (Resource for AI science in Europe)	RIA	17	17	1
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-08	Robotics for Manufacturing: Advancing Core Skills through Technical Challenges	RIA	18	18	1
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-09	Advanced local digital twins using Al for Early warning and preparedness	IA	6	6	1

Strategic thread:

- Foundations to applications linking core AI science to robotics and industrial use cases.
- Skills and resilience digital twins for preparedness, robotics for workforce upskilling.
- Industrial competitiveness AI integration into factories and process industries.

Aligns with techUK's agenda on:

- Responsible and trustworthy Al development.
- Boosting productivity through robotics and automation.
- Strengthening UK leadership in digital twins, industrial AI, and advanced manufacturing.



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D4: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies (Part 2 of 3. Quantum and Photonics)

Budget €167m

Topics 13

Projects ~24

HORIZON-CL4-2026	Topic Title	Type of Action	Overall Budget (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per Project (EUR million)	Expected no. of Projects funded
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-11	Quantum Sensors for Inertial Navigation	CSA	2	1	2
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-12	Standards for Quantum Technologies	CSA	1	1	1
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-18	Large-Scale Photonic Quantum Computing Platform Technologies	RIA	10	10	1
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-14	Networking and Future Photonics Strategy	CSA	3	3	1





D4: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies (Slide 3 of 3. Quantum and Photonics)

Budget
€167m

Topics 13

Projects ~24

HORIZON-CL4-2026	Topic Title	Type of Action	Overall Budget (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per Project (EUR million)	Expected no. of Projects funded
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-15	Strengthening the cooperation of semiconductor-intensive EU regions	CSA	1	1	1
04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-17	Fostering 2-Dimensional Materials (2DM) based emerging and enabling technologies	CSA	1	1	1

Strategic thread:

- Resilient infrastructure quantum navigation independent of GPS.
- Standardisation and governance quantum standards shaping global rules.
- Deep tech competitiveness quantum computing and photonics industrial strategy.

Aligns with techUK's agenda on:

- Securing the UK's role in global standards-setting.
- Positioning UK quantum and photonics SMEs in pan-European supply chains.
- Ensuring resilience and competitiveness in critical digital and telecoms infrastructure.



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- Total	

D6: Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation

Budget €48m Topics 2

Projects ~10

HORIZON-CL4-2026	Topic Title	Type of Action	Overall Budget (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per Project (EUR million)	Expected no. of Projects funded
04-HUMAN-01	Developing and demonstrating core technologies for Virtual Worlds and Web4.0	IA	30	3-4	7
04-HUMAN-02	Web 4.0 architectural framework and Open Internet Stack applications for virtual worlds	RIA	18	6	3

Strategic thread:

- Next-gen immersive infrastructure core technologies for scalable, accessible, energy-efficient virtual worlds.
- Standards and openness Web4.0 architecture linked with open internet stack to ensure interoperability.
- Cross-sector adoption applying immersive tech to industry, health, education, public services.

Aligns with techUK's agenda on:

- Championing the UK's creative and immersive industries globally.
- Ensuring UK voices shape emerging Web4.0 standards.
- Supporting SMEs and scale-ups in deploying immersive solutions across multiple sectors.





techUK Funding Focus: Horizon Europe Info Session

Finding Funding Finding Partners

Perry Guess
Horizon Europe National Contact Point, Cross-Cutting
Innovate UK

25 September 2025



Decoding Topic Identifier

e.g. HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-03-two-stage

Each Horizon Europe funding competition is called a Topic:

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Horizon Europe

Pillar

Cluster

Call for Proposals

Destination

Topic

Project
```

Topic Identifier 'decoded' is [PROGRAMME]-[CLUSTER]-[YEAR]-[CALL]-[DESTINATION]-[TOPIC] i.e. a 'postcode' for the Topic

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-03-two-stage (reading backwards) is the third Topic [03] in Destination 'FARM2FORK' (which, in full, is 'Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption') in the second [02] Call for Proposals in 2025 [2025] in Cluster 6 [CL6] in Horizon Europe [HORIZON]...and it's a two-stage call



Work Programmes

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2025 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

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Destination - Biodiversity and ecosystem services
reefs and associated ecosystems (mangroves and seagrass beds) conservation, restoration, and climate mitigation and adaptation

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2025 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-08: Strengthening pathways to alternative socio-
economic models for continuous improvement of biodiversity
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-09: Understanding the perceptions of and improving
communication on the biodiversity crisis and nature restoration benefits to sustain citizen
engagement and democratic governance
Biodiversity friendly practices in agriculture
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-10: Supporting the implementation of nature restoration
measures for sustainable farming systems
Restoring ecosystems for resilient society and economy
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-01-two-stage: Living labs co-creating innovative
solutions for forests and freshwater ecosystems restoration
Biodiversity friendly practices in agriculture
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oroduction to consumption
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Transforming food systems for health, sustainability and inclusion

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2025 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

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HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-04-two-stage: Research and innovation for food waste prevention and reduction at household level through measurement, monitoring and new technologies

Work Programmes

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-03-two-stage: Making food systems more resilient to food safety risks through the deployment of technological solutions

Specific conditions	
Expected EU contribution per project	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 6.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 12.00 million.
Type of Action	Innovation Actions
Admissibility conditions	The conditions are described in General Annex A. The following exceptions apply:
	Applicants submitting a proposal under the blind evaluation pilot (see General Annex F) must not disclose their organisation names, acronyms, logos nor names of personnel in the proposal abstract and Part B of their first-stage application (see General Annex E).
Eligibility conditions	The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply: The following additional eligibility criteria apply: The proposals must apply the multi-actor approach. See definition of the multi-actor approach in the introduction to this work programme part.
Technology Readiness Level	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 8 by the end of the project – see General Annex B.
Procedure	The procedure is described in General Annex F. The following exceptions apply: This topic is part of the blind evaluation pilot under which first stage

Work Programmes

Expected Outcome: The successful proposal will be in line with the European Green Deal priorities and the farm to fork strategy for a fair healthy and environmentally friendly food system. This topic is also in line with the overall challenges highlighted in the updated Food 2030 pathways for action 2.0 report, particularly on the food safety systems of the future pathway, this report was published in December 2023 by the European Commission.

Project results are expected to contribute to all the following expected outcomes:

- a new level of ambition and creativity is implemented to tackle innovation creation, enhancing the deployment of solutions in the field of food safety and/or food fraud using existing knowledge, available technologies (such as molecular methods, genomic strategies, photonics, biotechnology, etc.) and the results achieved by European framework programmes projects. The EU's strong knowledge base is translated into marketable results addressing the "innovation paradox" (i.e. the fact that knowledge does not always translate to marketable products and services);
- food systems become more resilient to food safety risks through the use and exploitation
 of available knowledge and technologies;
- increased food chain and food systems competitiveness creating close to the market impactful applications that will benefit and connect solutions for food systems actors (i.e., farming, raw materials and ingredients suppliers, food industry, etc.);
- increased complementarities and results uptake in the field of food safety and/or food fraud with past and existing European framework programmes projects, and synergies with programmes and their associated project results from the European Research Council (ERC) and the European Innovation Council (EIC);
- contribute to EU climate action: deployment of clean technologies in the food industry, to boost food manufacturing efficiency and reduce carbon footprint.

Scope: Proposals should contribute to all of the following aspects:

- in the areas of food safety and food fraud a lot of efforts have been invested in European
 framework programme projects generating knowledge and potential applications.

 Proposals should contribute to further develop existing knowledge and technological
 results in the areas to reach higher TRLs aligned with user's needs and estimating the
 potential impact on cost for the consumers;
- support innovation to foster advances along the food system implementing digital and technological solutions in high TRL's covering existing food safety and/or food fraud gaps. Proposals should develop and implement innovative solutions close to the market. This should be based on an initial food chain needs and technology gap analysis in the area of food safety hazards (including climate-related ones when applicable) and/or food fraud justifying the followed decision-making process. When selecting the food safety and/or food fraud technologies the most innovative clean technologies should be favoured in scenarios of equal conditions to reduce GHG emissions. The exploitation plan should include preliminary plans for commercialisation and deployment (feasibility study, business plan) indicating the possible funding sources to be potentially used;
- identify existing regulations and give recommendations about which technologies could use sandboxes to foster future commercialisation:

Activities are expected to achieve TRL 8 by the end of the project. Proposals should clearly define the TRL starting point for each involved technology and the plan to reach more advanced TRL.

Applicants should seek complementarities and leverage on the results of past and ongoing research and innovation projects (including projects under the same topic) in the areas of food safety and/or food fraud (i.e. HORIZON-CL6-2023-FARM2FORK-01-12, HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-3, HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-4 among others). Therefore, proposals should include a dedicated task, appropriate resources, and a plan on how they should collaborate with other ongoing projects under this theme. In the case of already finished projects applicants will define the best way to engage relevant stakeholders of such projects and the cooperation agreements (also in terms of technology transfer and intellectual property) that are needed.

Governmental and food safety regulatory authorities (i.e. EFSA) should, alongside with other stakeholders (startups, SMEs, investors, etc.) be involved. The multi-actor approach applies to this topic.

Proposals are encouraged to consider, where relevant, the services offered by European research infrastructures such as METROFOOD-RI (the infrastructure for promoting metrology in food and nutrition) or other relevant research infrastructures.

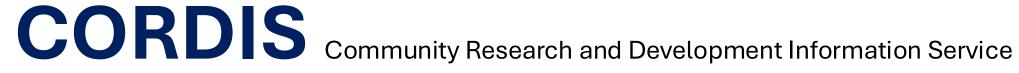
Proposals are also encouraged to consider citizens and societal engagement in their activities for the implementation of technological results better aligned with consumer's needs.

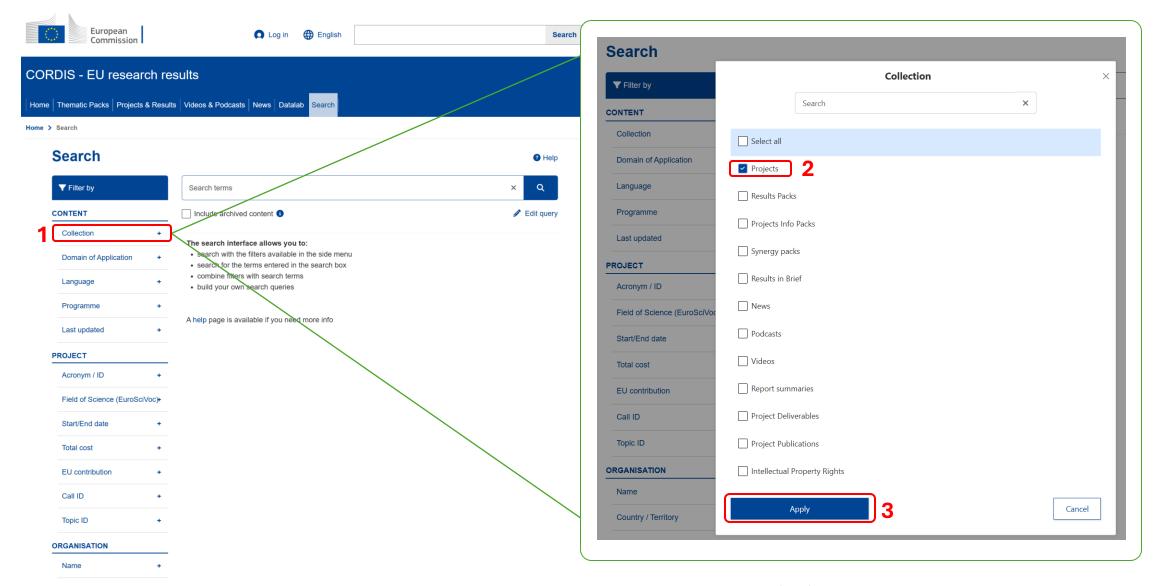
To achieve the expected outcomes, international cooperation is encouraged.

The best ways to join winning teams

Being an *effective networker* is much more useful than submitting a profile into a portal and awaiting contacts. Don't wait to be invited to the party, be proactive!

- **Reach out** use your existing professional networks if you don't know who the sector leaders are in Europe then find out (LinkedIn is a great resource)
- Attend networking events such as conferences and workshops.
- Join relevant technology platforms, networks, associations and partnerships
 - Top Tip: ask your NCP for suggestions in your sector for events and associations
 - **Be an** *active* **member** say 'hi' when you join the virtual room. Ask questions, support others' opinions, act as if you are already well known to all in the virtual room
 - Volunteer to draft working papers, take notes, send in useful information be helpful
 - **Speak up** at workshops demonstrate Thought Leadership
 - Show that you would be a **valuable partner** for collaborative projects and that without you they won't win you have the secret sauce that is necessary for their success

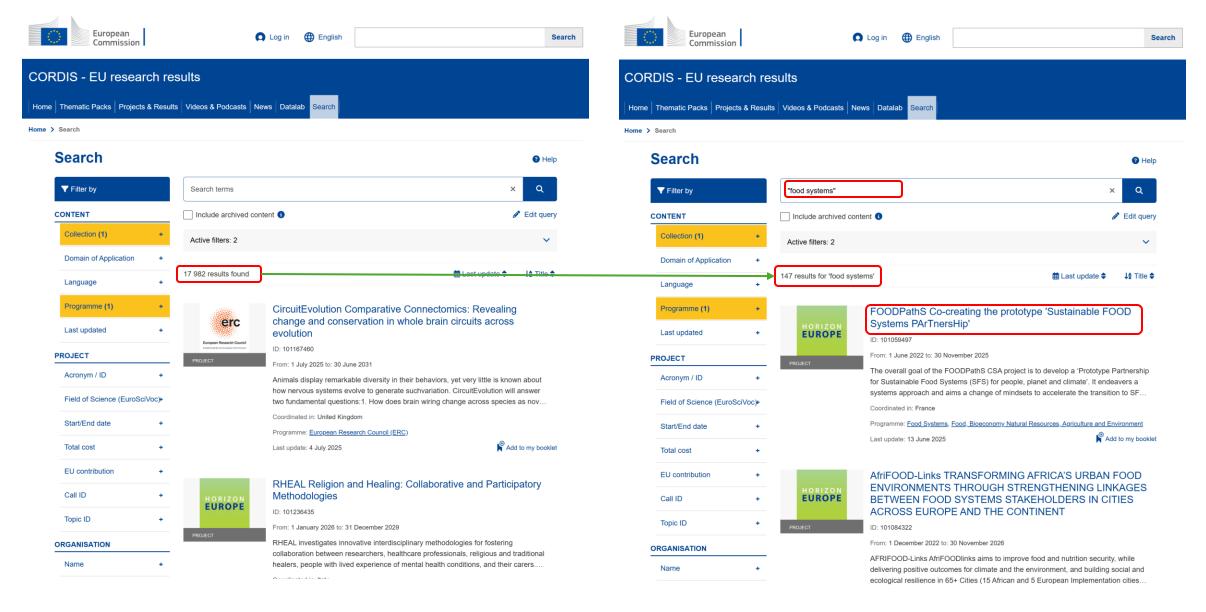




CORDIS Community Research and Development Information Service



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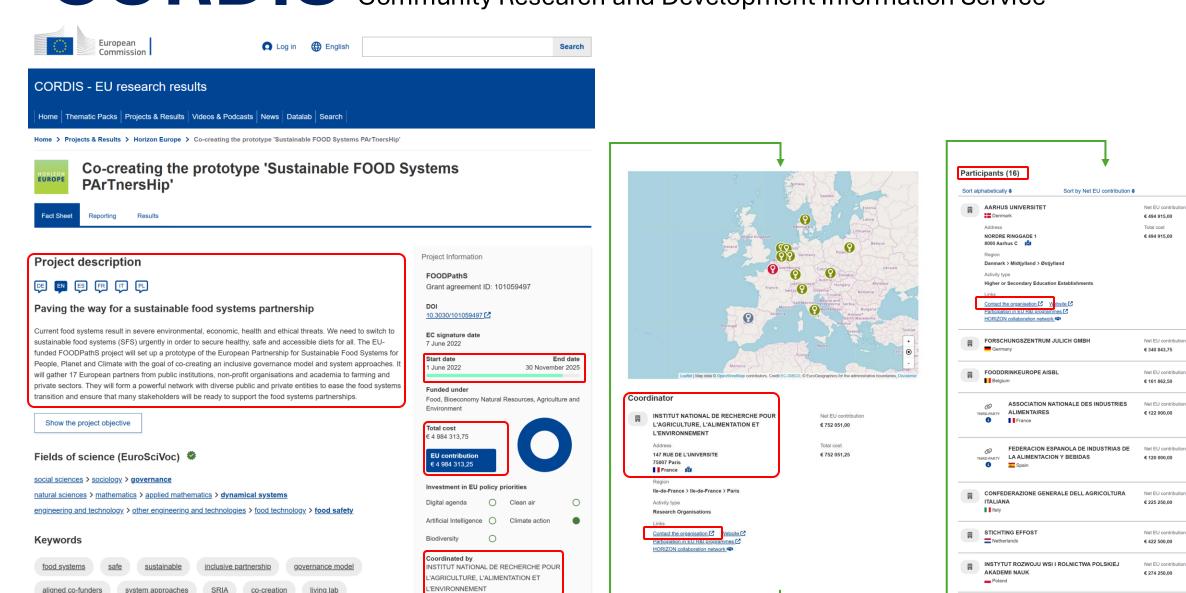


CORDIS Community Research and Development Information Service

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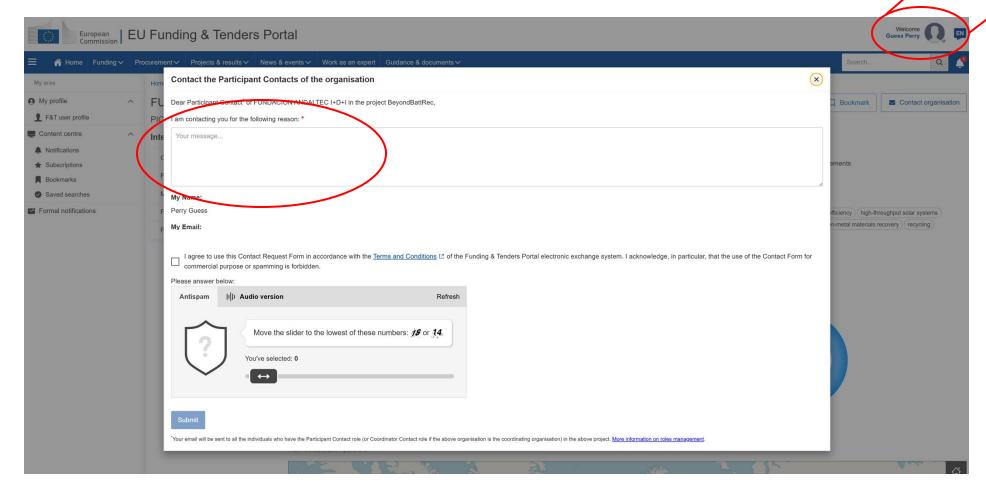
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Making Contact via the Funding & Tenders Poral



Top Tip: Write them a note saying you think their project looks really interesting, etc. – get into a conversation before asking to join their next proposal etc.

You need to be logged in to do this...click on 'sign in' or 'register' (if you don't have an account)

What Support is available? Pillar III: Innovative Europe Zale Johnson **Claire Griffin Civil Security** Louise EIC & EIE Mothersole for Society Eureka & Transport Eurostars /Mobility Conall Teresa Invest McGinlev Arumardi Northern Energy Ireland Cinzia **Chris Young** Porcedda Finance & Legal Climate **Horizon Europe** Horizon Europe Pillar II **Cluster Key:** Anshumaan **Perry Guess National Contact Points** Avyangar **Cross-Cutting** Cluster 1: Health Industry Cluster 2: Culture. Raise awareness Creativity and Inclusive Alice Society Chadwick increase participation Eleni Bohacek Cluster 3: Civil Security Research Digital For Society Infrastructures Assistance, guidance and training Cluster 4: Digital, Industry Raquel Meco and Space help simplify the process and Melguizo **Craig Sharp** Marie Skłodowska-Cluster 5: Climate, Energy UK Science enhance the quality of applications Digital **Curie Actions** and Mobility &Technology (MSCA) Network Cluster 6: Food security, Antonino Bioeconomy, Natural Signposting and cooperation Puglisi Resources, Agriculture and **Catherine Holt** European Environment Space & help connectivity and Research Environment Council (ERC) consortium development Laura Joiner enterprise European **Paul Bello** europe Bioeconomy Research network Council (ERC) **Hazel Dalgard** New European **Kerry Young** Food, natural Bauhaus & COST resources and Ludovica agriculture Jo Frost Kim Littlewood Grossi Health Culture, **WIDERA** TBC (Industry) Creativity & Inclusive (Academia) Society and Innovation

Funding for UK Applicants

Pump Priming

- To support preparation for Horizon Europe participation
- up to £5,000 for UK SMEs via Innovate UK
 - Currently closed (last deadline 15/07/2025)
- up to £10,000 for academia and research institutions via British Academy
 - Currently closed (last deadline 11/06/2025)

Travel Grants

- up to £700 via <u>Innovate UK</u>
- for one person per organisation to attend conferences, exhibitions etc. for the express purpose of making connections for future consortium participation
- Can apply for and attend more than one event
- If there is a forthcoming event (at least 8 weeks into the future) not on the list, ask and we may be able to get it added





Brokerage visits

- **Germany:** Advanced Materials, Raw Materials and Chemicals (23-25 September 2025) [deadline 15 August 2025]
- Spain: Fast-tracking Circularity (1-3 October 2025) [deadline 15 Aug.2025]
- Spain: Sustainable Agriculture (20-22 October 2025) [deadline 15 Aug.2025]
- France: Smart Energy Systems (21-23 October 2025) [deadline 29 Aug. 2025]
- Netherlands: Sustainable Agriculture (17-19 November 2025) [deadline 22 Sept.2025]
- Netherlands: Innovative Advanced Materials / Technologies and Al for Manufacturing (1-4 December 2025) [deadline 13 Oct.2025]
- Belgium: Automotive Mobility (10-12 February 2026) [deadline 24 Sept.2025]

In planning:

- Netherlands: Photonics and Semiconductor (late Nov/early Dec 2025)
- **Spain:** Border Security (TBC)
- Italy: Environment (TBC)



Useful weblinks...

Horizon Europe Hub
UK Research Office

EU Funding & Tenders Portal – How to Participate

EU Funding & Tenders Portal – Calls for Proposals

Cordis – EU Research Results

Horizon Europe 2025 Work Programmes

Draft 2026/27 Work Programmes

National Contact Point contact details

National Contact Point Newsletters



Thank you Questions?

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NCP-CrossCutting@iuk.ukri.org



