Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

UKRI
Arts and Humanities Research Council
Economic and Social Research Council

Welcome

Horizon Europe, Cluster 2
Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

Kim Littlewood – UK National Contact Point for Cluster 2
ESRC, UKRI

Presented by Nina Shiel,
NI Contact Point – AHSS and Interdisciplinary

Lagan Valley, Lisburn

#HorizonEU #Cluster2

About you…

Which would best describe you?

- **I am new to Horizon Europe**, don't know much about it, but have come to learn today.
- **I know a little about Horizon Europe** but have not applied for a grant before.
- **I am experienced, and have applied to Horizon Europe, or have taken part in a project** (or in the predecessor programmes such as Horizon2020 or FP7).

Agenda

1 Introduction to Horizon

- Framework Programmes
- Overview of Horizon Europe and UK Association
- National Contact Points (NCPs) - support available
- Participation - who can take part and why participate?

2 Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

- An introduction to Pillar II, Cluster 2
- Looking forward – what to do

3 SSH Opportunities and Successes

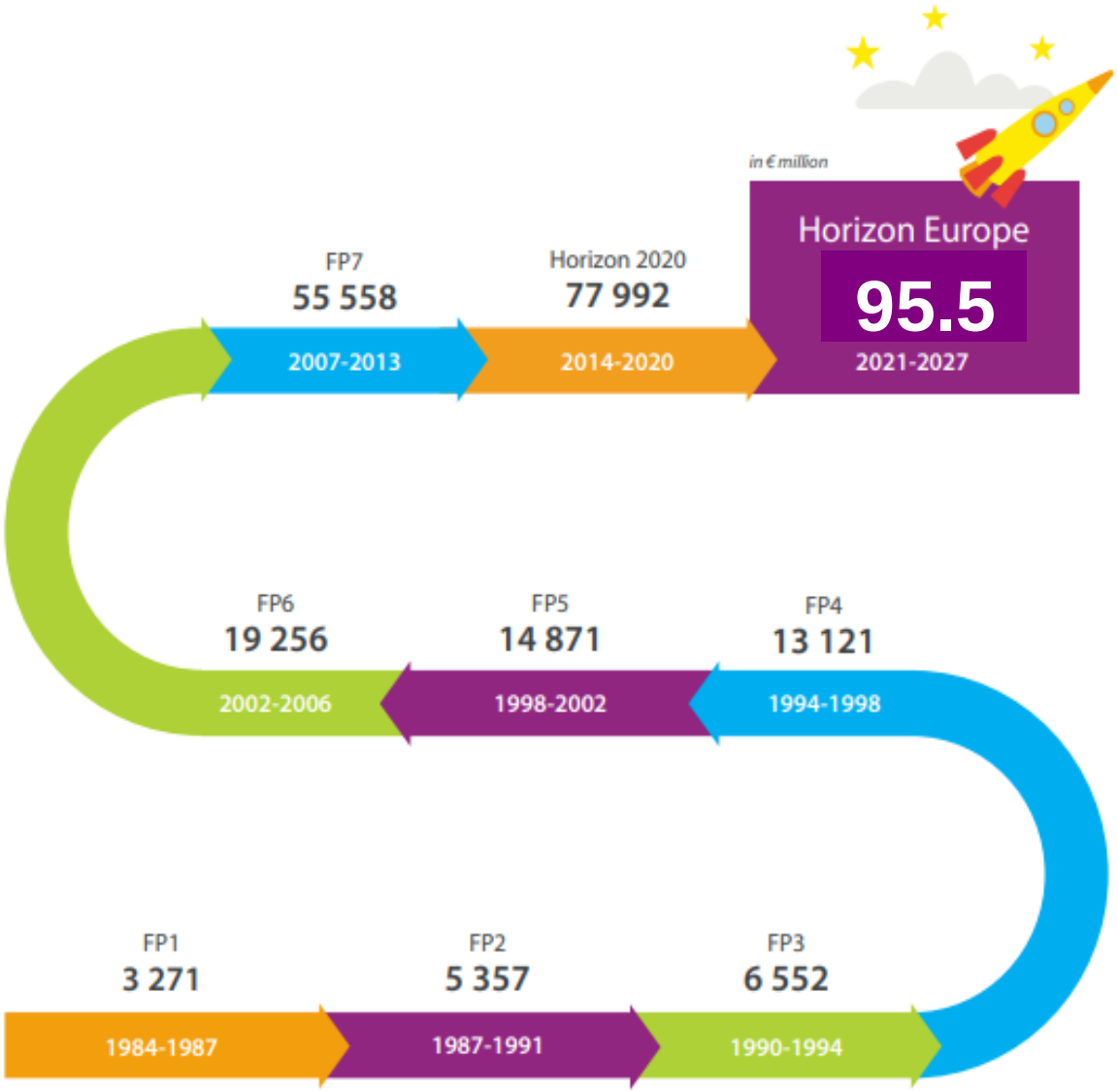
- Pillar 2 – opportunities across Social Science and Humanities
- Successes
- Case Study

4 Q&A

- Ask us questions about Cluster 2 and our experiences of Horizon.
- Call to Action – let me know if you would like to discuss opportunities.

Framework Programmes

- Framework Programmes are the European Commission's (EC) funding programmes for Research and Innovation.
- Horizon Europe is the 9th Framework Programme (FP).
- FP's began in 1984 with a budget of €3 billion.
- The current FP - Horizon Europe – began in 2021 and will end in 2027. The budget over the 7 years will be ~€95.5 billion.
- FP10 will begin in 2028.
  - UK position paper "the UK will be interested in potentially associating to FP10, assuming it is open, relevant, and provides good value for researchers and taxpayers."



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UK Association to Horizon Europe

On Monday 4th December 2023, it was announced that **the UK's association to Horizon has been officially sealed and the UK is back in the Horizon family** from 1st January 2024.

The latest information on UK Association is available on the **UK Horizon Europe website.**

Michelle Donelan UK MP, UK Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology and **Iliana Ivanova, European Commissioner** for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

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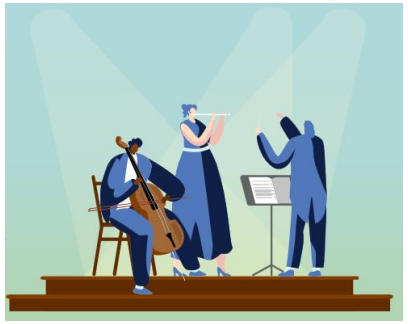
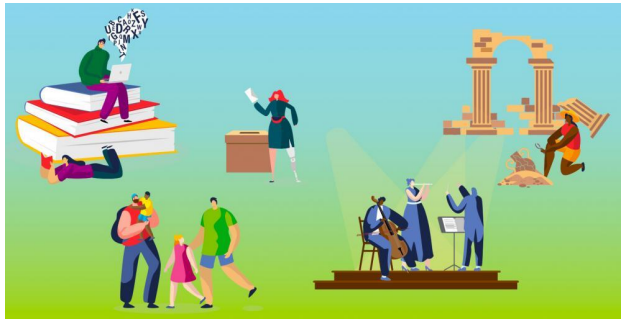
UK Association to Horizon Europe

What does this mean?

- UK organisations can apply for Horizon Europe* funding, from now (2024 onwards) with certainty, that if successful, they will be funded by the European Commission.
- UK organisations can now lead consortia (again).
- If you applied to a call which was not covered by UK Association you will still be covered by the UK Government's Horizon Guarantee for the duration of the projects (for calls dated 2021, 2022, and 2023).





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* Only exceptions: European Innovation Council Fund (equity part of EIC Accelerator) plus very exceptional cases if the eligibility for individual funding calls is limited in the Work Programme to EU Member States or certain other countries

Horizon Europe

Missions:

- Climate Change
- Cancer
- Oceans and Water
- Smart Cities
- Soil
- **New Destination:* New European Bauhaus

Knowledge Innovation Community (KIC):

- **Forthcoming" KIC – Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries*

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***UPDATED MAY 2024*: SSH Opportunities across Horizon Europe**

Key:

Open to all research and innovation fields

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

National Contact Points (NCPs)

Support available

We are a team of sector specific advisors who support UK entities (universities, SMEs, Charities, Heritage organisations) to successfully participate in “EU Framework Programmes”.

NCP services vary in each sector/country, but typically include:

- **Informing, awareness raising –** on Horizon Europe and other EU programmes
- **Assisting, advising and training –** to improve the quality of Horizon Europe proposals
- **Signposting and cooperation –** direct to relevant support and work with each other to support consortium development

Kim Littlewood
UK NCP for Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

ccisncp@esrc.ukri.org

Full list of UK National Contact Points

Other NCPs can be found on the Funding & Tenders portal (filter by country and function)

Participation

Who can take part?

Types of organisations

Unless otherwise stated in the call text, all types of organisations (aka “entities”) can participate in Horizon Europe proposals and projects, including:

- Academia
- Industry of any size
- Research and Technology Organisations
- Governments
- Charities
- Cultural Institutions, and others…

All types of organisation can access funding as long as they come from a country which is eligible for Horizon Europe funding.

If an organisation does not come from an eligible country, they can participate but normally must bring their own funding.

Participation

Who can take part?

*Most Cluster 2 calls require a minimum of 3 partners from 3 different countries. 1 must be a Member State and 2 more from either Member States or Associated Countries.

Types of Countries in Horizon Europe

EU Member States (and their overseas territories)

Associated Countries - includes the UK, Norway, New Zealand, Canada, South Korea, Montenegro, others…

List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe

Many “Third Countries” - includes116 LMICs

Other Countries can participate with their own funding, such as those with developing economies (inc. Brazil, India, Mexico, China*, Chile…) and some industrialised countries (inc. Japan, US, Switzerland…).

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* Please see Work Programme General Annexes for rules about China, Russia, Belarus and parts of Ukraine (pages7-8).

Participation

Why participate?

High funding rate: up to 100% of eligible costs

Solving global grand challenges through R & D

Build domestic and international partners and customers

The only guaranteed and predictable funding for certain sectors

Creating UK jobs, growth and stronger supply chains across the world

No artificial constraints (consortium size, budget allocation to non-industrials)

Work with the best talents nationally & internationally

Influence standards, regulations and research policies

Access to non-UK cutting edge technologies and infrastructure

Collaborate and work as a Community

Increased visibility at EU and Global level

€ 95.5 Billion

Cluster 2

CULTURE, CREATIVITY & INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

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Horizon Europe

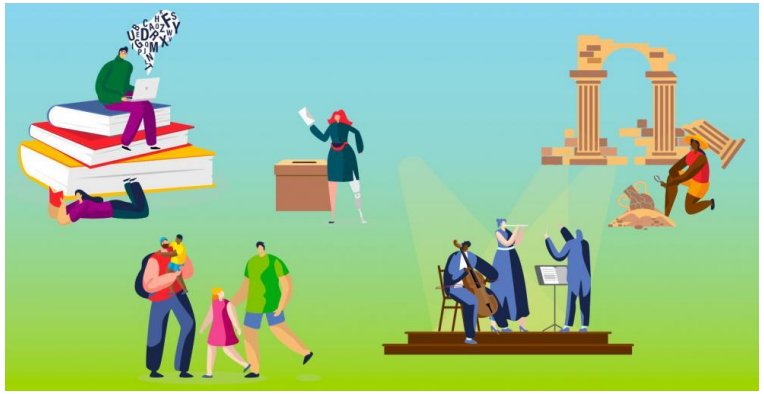
Pillar II

- Challenge driven – must solve the problem posed by the European Commission (presented in the call topics)
- 2-year* Work Programme list call topics
- Specific call topics listed, each with a recommended budget, scope and expected outcome
- Consortium projects with at least 3 legal entities from different Member States and/or Associated Countries (at least 1 MS – the MS does not have to lead).
- Consortium partners often very varied (from any type of legal entity) – it's about having right people for the task
- Projects last between 2-5 years (on average)

Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

Aims:

1. To enhance democratic governance and citizens participation;
2. To safeguard and promote cultural heritage;
3. To respond to and shape multifaceted social, economic, technological and cultural transformations;
4. To mobilise multidisciplinary expertise of European social sciences and humanities;
5. To provide evidence-based policy options for a socially just and inclusive European recovery.



Cluster 2 Work Programme 2023-24/5 - PDF

Destination 1: Democracy and governance

Destination 2: Cultural heritage & cultural and creative industries

Destination 3: Social and economic transformations

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Destination 1: Innovative research on democracy and governance

Call – Past, present and future of democracies

Aims – to contribute to the protection and nurturing of democracies.

Challenges:

- Democracies are more fragile and more vulnerable than in the past.
- Levels of trust in the political institutions of democracy decline.
- Multilateral global governance is under threat/declining.

Expected impact:

- Democratic governance is reinvigorated by improving the accountability, transparency, effectiveness and trustworthiness of rule-of-law based institutions and policies and through the expansion of active and inclusive citizenship empowered by the safeguarding of fundamental rights.

European Commission: Presentation of topics for Destination Democracy and Governance
Please note these calls detailed in this presentation are now closed, this is for reference only.

Destination 2: Innovative research on European cultural heritage and the Cultural and Creative Industries

Calls:
– Research and innovation on cultural heritage and CCI's
– A European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH)

Aims: to promote better access and engagement with cultural heritage and improve its protection, enhancement and restoration.

Challenges:

- GREEN: adapting to the consequences of climate change and mobilising resources to support European citizens and societies for an inclusive, socially and culturally sustainable climate transition.
- DIGITAL: addressing opportunities and challenges in digital transition opportunities for CH and CCIs.
- INNOVATIVE: Societal transformations depend on behavioural changes, largely based on changes in culture and perceptions.

Expected impact:

- The full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative sectors as a driver of sustainable innovation and a European sense of belonging is realised through a continuous engagement with society, citizens and economic sectors as well as through better protection, restoration and promotion of cultural heritage.

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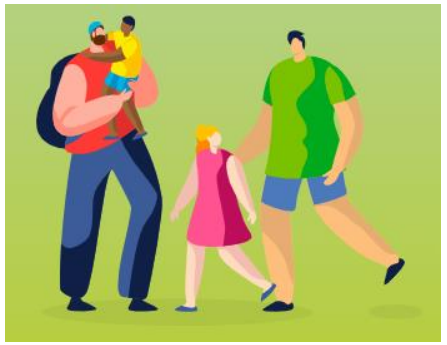
European Commission: Presentation of topics for Destination European Cultural Heritage and CCIS
Please note these calls detailed in this presentation are now closed, this is for reference only.
European Commission: Presentation of topics for the European Collaborative Cloud for Culturall Heritage – 5 *active call topics (deadline 22nd January 2025).*

NEW 2024 Call: A European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH)	Budget per project M€	Expected # of projects
1: HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-01 - Innovative tools for digitisation and analysis of dynamic processes, objects and complex combined data	5-6	2
2: HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-02 - Innovative tools for documenting, interlinking and organising data	3-4	2
3: HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-03 - Innovative tools for advanced data enrichment	5-6	2
4: HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-04 - Innovative tools for high-value interactions with visitors and heritage objects	3-4	2
5: HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-05 - Innovative tools for the study, conservation and restoration of heritage objects	3-4	2

Open: 18/06/2024
Deadline: 22/01/2025

Destination 3: Innovative research on social and economic transformations

Call - A sustainable future for Europe



Aims: seize opportunities emerging from socio-economic transformations, promoting an inclusive recovery that strengthens economic and social resilience

Challenges:

- Raising inequalities, challenges to the EU's employment, education and social, including digital, inclusion policies.
- Global shocks on economy and labour market. Demographic change and ageing societies.
- Need to revise governance of asylum, migration and integration of migrants.

Expected impacts:

- Social and economic resilience and sustainability are strengthened through a better understanding of the social, ethical, political and economic impacts of drivers of change (such as technology, globalisation, demographics, mobility and migration) and their interplay.
- Inclusive growth is boosted, and vulnerabilities are reduced effectively through evidence-based policies for protecting and enhancing employment, education, social fairness and tackling inequalities, including in response to the socio-economic challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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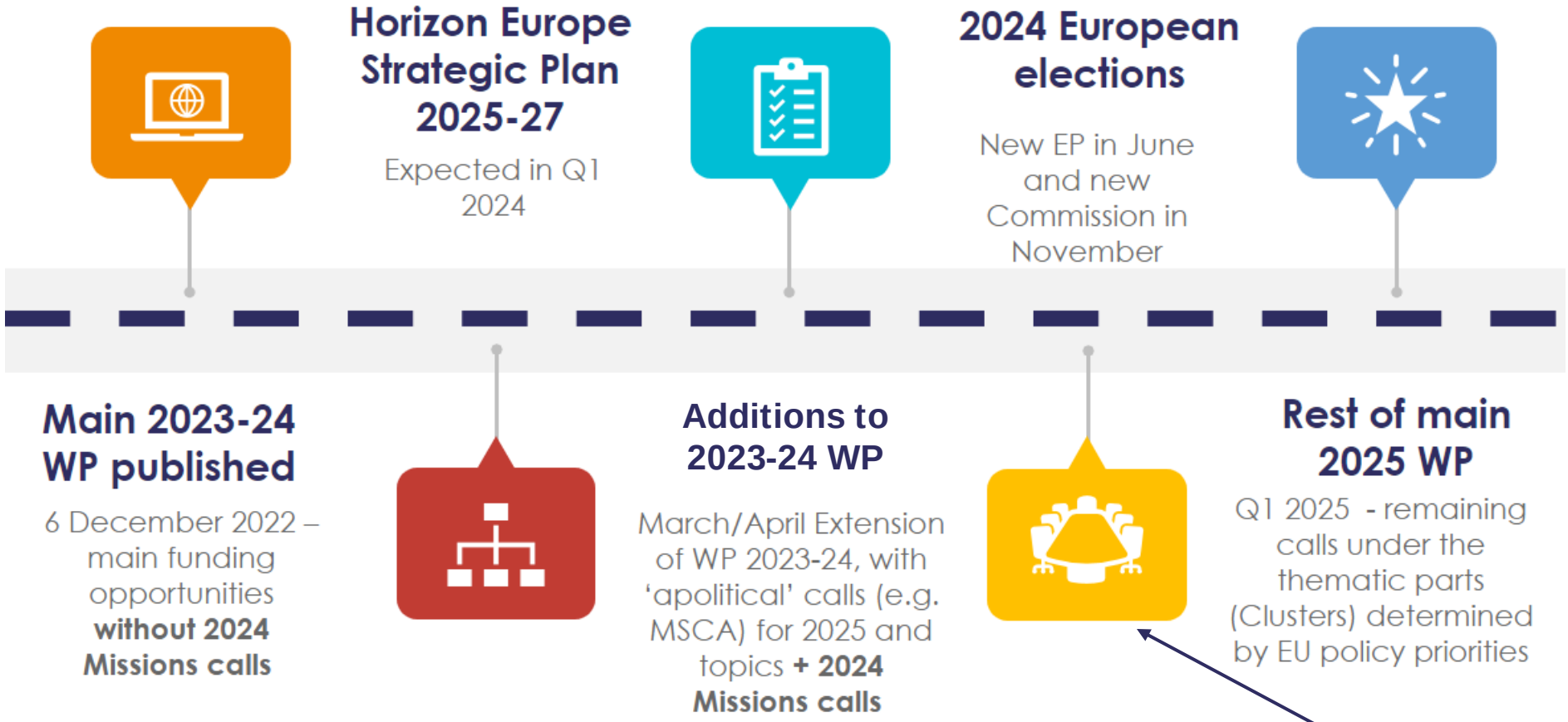
European Commission: Presentation of topics for Destination Social and Economic Transformations

Please note these calls detailed in this presentation are now closed, this is for reference only.

Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

2025 Work Programme Timeline



[Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-27]

The Strategic Plan is a useful resource to better understand the direction of the programme over the coming years.

[Cluster 2 Work Programme for 2023-24]

Ask us for the Orientation Papers

We're here!

The European Parliament elections took place in June 2024.
We're now waiting to welcome a new Commission in November 2024.

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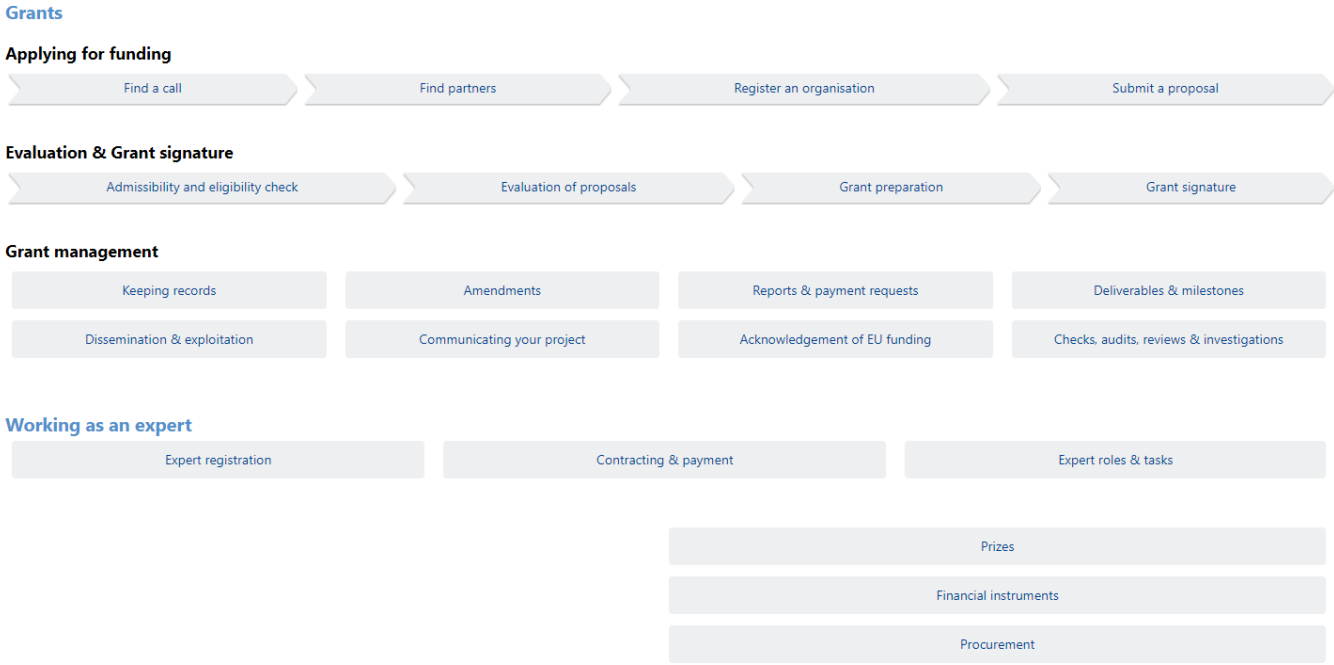
Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

Looking forward

Call to Action - Familiarise yourself with the processes and prepare.

- Look at the **structure of a call**, learn the **terminology**, and relevant **EU policies** for the destinations.
- Gather the relevant **guidance documents** published by the Commission.
- **Find partners and develop your networks**.
- Consider the **structure of the application** and learn how proposals are **evaluated**.
- Get to grips with the application portal – **Funding** and **Tenders Portal**.



Getting Started: Guidance from the Commission

F&T Portal Online manual for applying to HEU

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Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

Looking forward

Familiarise yourself with calls, the conditions, eligibility criteria, possible grant amounts, terminology, and funding types.

- Eligibility Criteria
- Type of Action
- Deadline model (single, 2-stage)
- Lump Sum funding
- Scope
- Relevant EU policies
- Expected Outcome
- Expected Impacts

Start here: Cluster 2 Work Programme for 2023-24

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GREEN

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-01: New European Bauhaus – Innovative solutions for greener and fairer ways of life through arts and culture, architecture and design for all

Specific conditions	
Expected EU contribution per project	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR 3.00 and 5.00 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 16.00 million.
Type of Action	Innovation Actions
Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025). [75].

Expected Outcome: Projects should contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Innovative solutions, validated in pilot trials, demonstrating how strategic investments in the spirit of the New European Bauhaus initiative[76] in cultural heritage (which may include cultural landscapes) and the CCIs can be successfully realised

Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

Looking forward

- **Horizon Europe – Cluster 2 - Work Programme 2023-24** – includes introduction to the cluster and each destination, sets out the call details, topics and descriptions. *Please note, most Cluster 2 calls for 2023-24 have now closed. Only Destination 2: ECCCH (5 topics) are open.*

- **General Annexes** – set out the general conditions applicable to calls and topics for grants including admissibility and **eligibility conditions**, award criteria, **mandatory documents** and **evaluation procedure**, legal and financial set-up of the grant agreements.

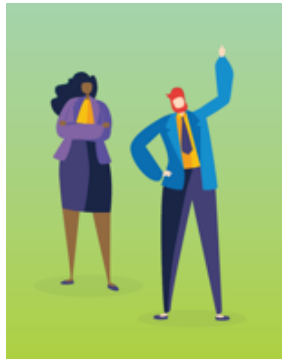
- **HE Programme Guide** – Details the cross-cutting/horizontal themes including **SSH Integration**, **International Cooperation** and **Gender Equality and Inclusiveness.**

- **Template Application form** – applications are split into 2 parts (Part A and Part B). This document offers guidance from the Commission on how to complete it, including structure and what to include in each section.

- **Evaluation form template** **+** **Evaluators briefing slides** – these are useful resources to read in advance of drafting a proposal. Keep in mind how your proposal will be evaluated and write a way that's easy for evaluators to 'tick boxes'.

Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

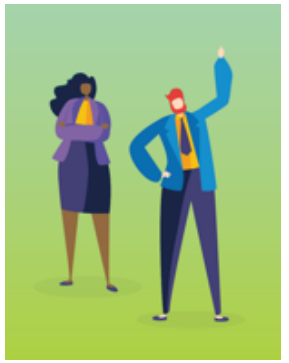
Finding partners



- Attend relevant brokerage events
  - Join Net4Society online brokerage platform – free to use
- CORDIS – find examples of previously funded SSH projects, contact the organisation (look at the project websites linked on Cordis).
- Funding and Tenders Portal
  - Partner Search - under the 'Funding' tab on the EU funding and tender opportunities portal where you can search for past projects and organisations.
  - Every topic listed has a 'Partner Search' function where you can upload your profile and review others that have done so.
- Networking – use your existing networks; expand your networks.
- Ask your NCPs!
- Look out for Pump Priming Opportunities.

Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

Looking forward



Finding Partners

- Attend relevant brokerage events:
  - Join Net4Society online brokerage platform – free to use
- CORDIS – find examples of previously funded SSH+A projects, contact the organisations (look at the individual project websites linked on Cordis).
- Funding and Tenders Portal:
  - Partner Search - under the 'Funding' tab on the EU funding and tender opportunities portal where you can search for past projects and organisations.
  - Every topic listed has a 'Partner Search' function where you can upload your profile and review others that have done so.
- Networking: use your existing networks; expand your networks.
- Ask Kim!

SSH Opportunities and Successes

SSH opportunities in other Clusters within Pillar 2

1: Health

- Tackling Diseases
- *New calls to be announced soon.*

3: Security

- Lawful evidence collection
- Radicalisation and gender
- Resilient and secure urban planning
- Crisis response and recovery after natural-technological disaster
- Sustainable technologies and crisis management strategies (nuclear)

4: Digital, Industry and Space

- Hubs for circularity for industrialised urban peripheral areas
- SME's sustainability transition
- AI, Data and Robotics and the green transition
- Explainable and Robust AI

5: Climate, Energy and Mobility

- *Additions for 2025 published*
- Design for adaptability, re-use and deconstruction of buildings, in line with the principles of circular economy.
- Market Uptake of renewable energy systems
- Next generation low-emission, climate-resilient pathways
- Innovative, Community-Integrated PV systems
- Buildings and circular economy
- Digital solutions, participative design, planning and management of urban environments
- The future transport and mobility systems

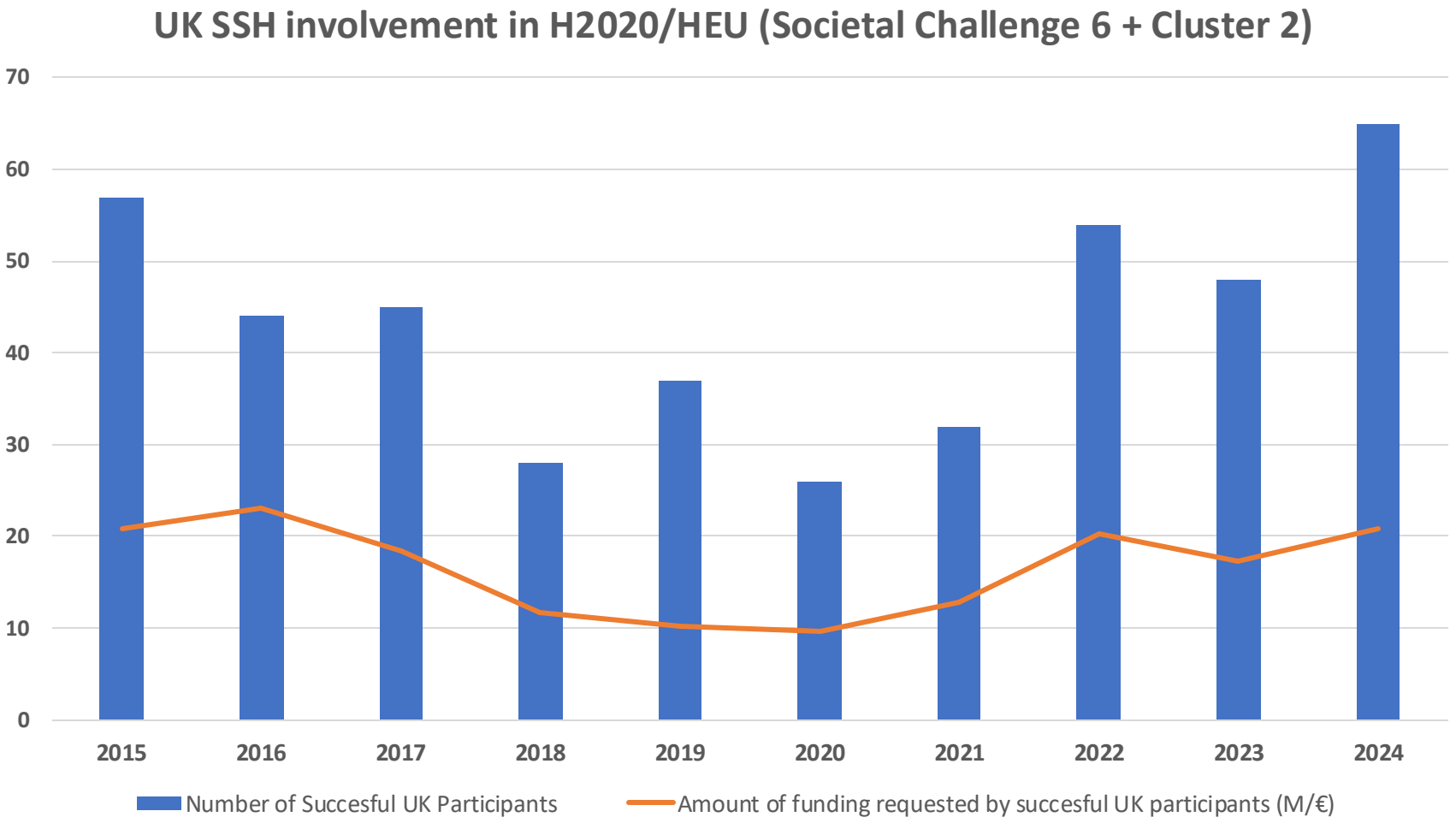
6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

- *Additions for 2025 published*
- Biodiversity, economics and finance
- New healthy and sustainable food products and processes
- Citizens' science and the transition to sustainable food systems
- EU-African Union – towards climate-neutral, social just fair-trade food systems
- The New European Bauhaus in urban food system transformation
- Empowering Arctic communities in environmental decision-making

UPDATED MAY 2024

SSH Opportunities across Horizon Europe

Successes in Cluster 2



Data for 2024 outcomes is not yet confirmed or published. Only preliminary results have been shared.

As of June 2024:

- The number of **successful UK participations <u>increased</u>** from 32 in 2021 to 48 in 2023.
- For of Cluster 2 projects with at least 1 **UK** organisation, the **success rate has risen** from 16% in 2021 to 23% in 2023*.

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Successful projects

AECED:
2023-2026
€ 2 138 281,25

Project title	Description	Partners	Work Packages and deliverables
Aesthetic and embodied learning for nurturing democracy AECED - CORDIS AECED project website	The AECED project will transform education for democracy through aesthetic and embodied learning. An evidence-based and innovative aesthetic and embodied paedagogical framework, as well as teaching toolkits and guides, will be developed through groundbreaking, transdisciplinary participatory research. The project will enable a new and revolutionary way of teaching and nurturing democratic attitudes and predispositions as well as active democratic citizenship.	6 Partners Coordinator: University of Lapland, Finland Partner: University of Hertfordshire, UK (*supported through UK Guarantee*) Partner: Riga Technical University, Latvia Partner: University of Zagreb, Croatia Partner: University of Marburg, Germany Partner: University of Aberta, Portugal	Work packages not available. Project website lists project aims and impact; resources; and, blog. **Search in CORDIS for projects previously or currently funded by the European Commission**

Successful projects

GREENART:
2022-2025
€ 3 826 282,50

Project title	Description	Partners	Work Packages
Green endeavour in Art Restoration GREENART (CORDIS) GREENART - Project website Tate – GREENART	This project will research ways to preserve cultural heritage using environmentally friendly 'green' sustainable materials One of the key aims of the project is to make the research, novel materials and knowledge developed in GREENART accessible to the scientific and art conservation communities, industry and civil society through the involvement of citizens and cultural partners.	28 partners Coordinator: CSGI - Center for Colloid and Surface Science, Italy Partner: Tate Gallery, UK (*supported through UK Guarantee*) Partner: University College Cork, Ireland Partner: Idryma Technologias Kai Erevnas, Greece Partner: Museum of Fine Arts (Houston), USA Partner: Tokyo University of Science, Japan OTHERS…	See progress here: GREENART EU Project - Progress (greenart-project.eu) WP1: Scientific and Financial management WP2: Green cleaning systems WP3: Green protective coatings WP4: Green consolidants and packaging materials WP5 Green tech for monitoring WP6 Life Cycle Safety and Sustainability Assessment WP7 Dissemination, exploitation and communication WP8 Ethics requirements **Search in CORDIS for projects previously or currently funded by the European Commission**

Successful projects

Search in CORDIS for projects previously or currently funded by the European Commission

RE-WIRING: 2023-2026 € 2 461 349,75

Project title	Description	Partners	Work Package structure
Realising Girls' and Women's Inclusion, Representation and Empowerment RE-WIRING CORDIS RE-WIRING project website	Despite years of efforts to eliminate discrimination against women and girls, gender inequalities persist in Europe and worldwide. More work is needed. The RE-WIRING project proposed an innovative, multidisciplinary, three-dimensional (institutional, experiential and symbolic) approach, drawing from the disciplinary perspectives of law and governance, social sciences, and gender, media and culture studies. It will enable the identification of root causes of gender hierarchies and aims to 're-wire' political, cultural and economic institutions.	7 Partners Coordinator: Utrecht University, Netherlands Partner: University of Portsmouth, UK (*supported through UK Guarantee*) Partner: University of the Western Cape, South Africa Partner: University of Gdansk, Poland Partner: KU Leuven, Belgium Partner: University of Deusto, Spain Partner: Centre for Inclusive Leadership, Netherlands	WP: Synchronisation – Transformative Theory and Methodology WP: Laws & Policies – Enhancing Women's Voice, Agency and Decision-making Power. WP: De-biasing Education WP: Gender Gaps in Employment and Enterprise. WP: Representation in Media and Arts WP: Power hegemonies in times of crisis WP: Synthesis – Comparative and Sectoral Perspectives WP: Impact – Engagement and innovative solutions WP: Project coordination, dissemination & Ethics

Q&A

and call to action - get in touch!

Contact Kim:
ccisncp@esrc.ukri.org

Thank you!

Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

UKRI Arts and Humanities Research Council Economic and Social Research Council

Contact details

- Kim Littlewood, UK NCP Cluster 2: CCIS
- Email: CCISNCP@esrc.ukri.org
- LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/uk-ncp-cluster2
- Cluster 2 Newsletters (select: Pillar 2, Cluster 2: CCIS)

UK NCPs contact details can be found here:
UK National Contact Points

International NCPs contact details can be found here:
Funding & Tenders portal NCP contacts

Useful links and definitions

Links

- Horizon Europe Cluster 2 Work Programme
- General Annexes
- HE Programme Guide
- Template Application form
- Evaluation form template + Evaluators briefing slides
- Finding partners - Net4Society online brokerage platform
- Finding partners via past/currently funded projects – CORDIS
- Finding partners via Funding and Tenders Portal - Partner Search
- Funding and Tenders portal – How to Participate
- Horizon Europe helpdesk and support services
- Common mistakes to avoid when applying for Horizon Europe funding
- Gender in EU research and innovation
- Communicating about your EU-funded project. *And* free dissemination and exploitation services
- Become a Horizon Europe evaluator
- List of evaluators/experts *[select 'experts list' from dropdown]*

Definitions

- **Work Programme** – sets out funding opportunities for R&I activities within each cluster. Next C2 WP expected Q1 2025.
- **Cluster** – a major problem space, or research area. There are six in total. Cluster 2 is Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society (CCIS).
- **Destination** – a way of breaking down the Cluster into manageable chunks with a common theme, e.g., Democracy and Governance.
- **Topic** – a specific call for proposals with its own scope, budget, etc.
- **The Portal** – the EU Funding & Tenders portal where all information needed to participate can be found.
- **Type of Action** – Research and Innovation Action (RIA), Innovation Action (IA), Coordination and Support Action (CSA)*details in notes
- Other definitions available: Horizon Europe glossary

ADVANCED
MANUFACTURING
INNOVATION
CENTRE
MANUFACTURING
INNOVATION
FOR REAL
WORLD IMPACT
QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST
BELFAST
REGION
CITY DEAL

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

AMIC is an industry led, open access manufacturing & engineering innovation centre with state of the art facilities and an expert engineering team, underpinned by academic excellence

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

TURBOCHARGING MANUFACTURING

AMIC went live in 2023

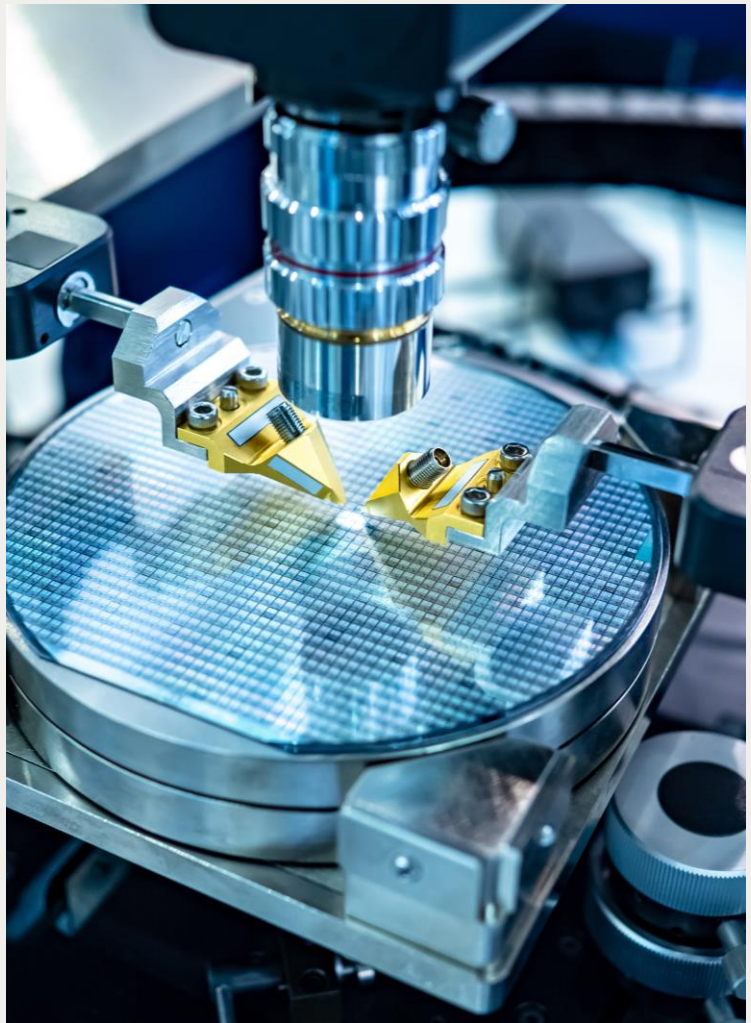
- AMIC is already working with industry – amalgamating existing business units and building new capability
- £98m Factory of the Future will open 2026
- Using the latest Industry 4.0 technology, smart automation, design and materials to solve business challenges

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

55 Years of Excellence

AMIC will build on 55 years of sustained innovation and industry support through the Northern Ireland Technology Centre (NITC), the Polymers Processing Research Centre (PPRC) and the more recent university-industry partnership, NI Advanced Composites and Engineering (NIACE).



QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

NEW FACILITIES

10,500m2 Factory of the future

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

SERVICE ENTRANCE
Service Yard
Car Park
Traffic Calming Ramp Crossing
EXISTING ROAD
LEGEND
biophilic design principles
neobankside london

AMIC

AMIC

Smart Design

Sustainable Composites and Polymers

Digital Factory

Nanotechnology/ photonics

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*Each will have its own Technical Steering Group

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

Experience of European Funding

OASIS Project under Horizon 2020

- Application of Laser Beam Welding (LBW) , Friction Stir Welding (FSW) to fabricate “rivetless” aerostructures
- 3 years through March 2021
- €1.4m of EU funding , €99k to AMIC
- H2020 3.4 – Societal Challenges – Smart Green and Integrated Transport
- https://www.cleansky-oasis.eu/about/

Clean Sky 2 JOINT UNDERTAKING

OASIS

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

OASIS

- 4 Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs), a welding equipment supplier (ESAB), an aerostructure manufacturer (ROMAERO), a simulation technology provider (GEONX)
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- Use of an aircraft cabin door as representative product demonstrator
- Impacts
  - Elimination of rivets offers weight (10%) , fuel and emissions savings
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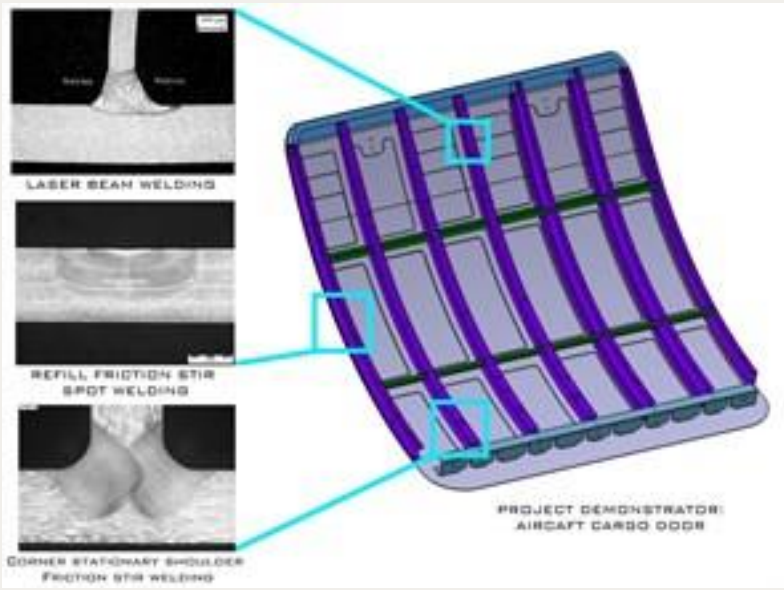

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  - Green manufacturing – decarbonisation
  - Innovative Advanced Materials
  - Circularity and remanufacturing
  - Clean Aviation calls
- Opportunities under SMART Eureka
  - https://www.smarteureka.com/

EFFRA
EUROPEAN FACTORIES OF THE FUTURE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

MADE IN EUROPE

CLEAN AVIATION

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ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

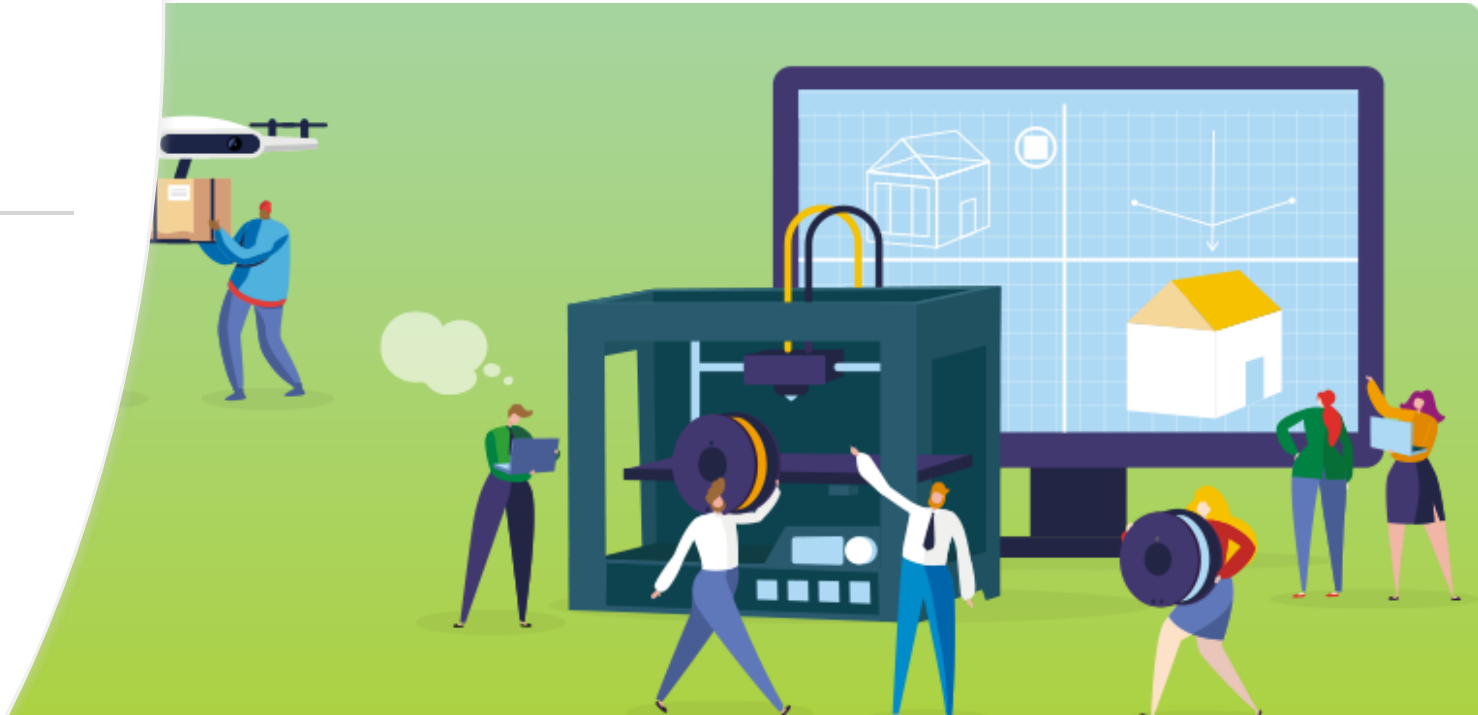
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

Thank you

W: we-are-amic.com
E: c.quinn@qub.ac.uk

Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space

Horizon Europe Roadshow
24 October 2024



1 Introduction

Introduction to Cluster 4 and the NICP Network
Ryan Gabel, NICP ICT

2 Industry

Overview of Industry Topics
Mary Harte, NICP Engineering
(Manufacturing, Materials & Transport)

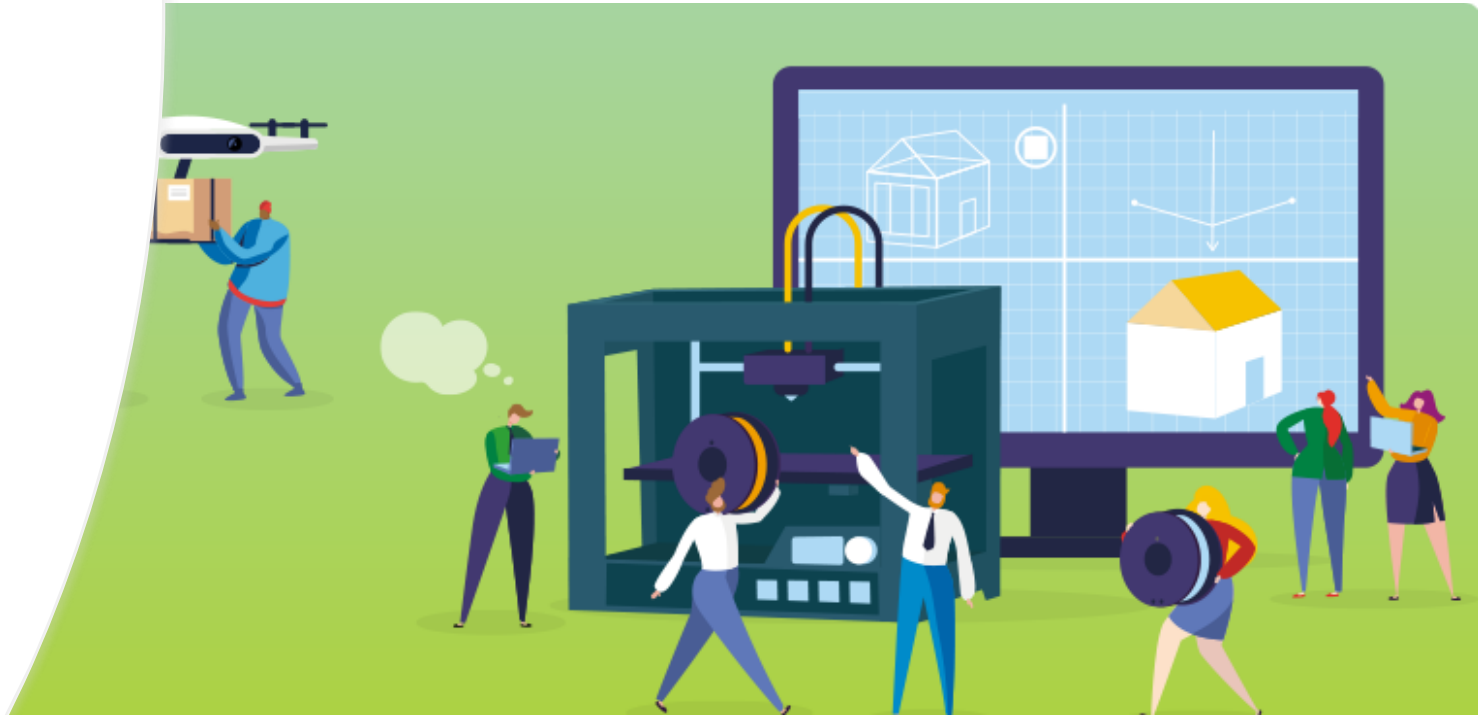
AMIC Membership of Made in Europe and experiences with European funding
Conor Quinn, Business Alliance Manager,
Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Centre (AMIC)

Q&A Industry

3 Digital

Overview of Digital Topics
Craig Sharp, UK NCP for Cluster 4: Digital

Q&A Digital



NI Contact Point (NICP) Network

Engineering
(Manufacturing, Materials & Transport)
Mary Harte

ICT
Ryan Gabel

Energy
Laura Fitzmaurice

Industry
Lisa Braniff

Health
Patricia McCrory

Digital Health
Patrick Cullen

Agri-food, Bioeconomy & Environment
Elaine Groom

Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences
Nina Shiel

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

Ulster University

afbi AGRI-FOOD & BIOSCIENCES INSTITUTE

Invest Northern Ireland

Support provided by Northern Ireland and National Contact Points

- Raise awareness of the value of Horizon Europe funding
- Help with identifying appropriate opportunities
- Identifying the best ways to find partners
- Proposal development assistance
- Navigating the EU portal and associated programme guidance
- Regional expertise to help maximise the potential of North-South collaboration

https://horizoneuropeni.com/

Subscribe to NCP newsletters
https://eufunding.ukri.org/subscribe

Financial Support Available

Invest Northern Ireland – *Project Definition Grant*

- Up to £50k support for eligible Northern Ireland businesses to co-fund the costs of scoping and preparing an application to Horizon Europe
  Contact: Lisa Braniff lisa.braniff@investni.com

Innovate UK – *Travel Support Grant*

- Up to £700 for travel and subsistence costs for UK businesses to attend consortia building events in Europe
  https://iuk.ktn-uk.org/news/travel-support-now-available

Intertrade Ireland – *Travel Vouchers: North-South Collaboration*

- ***Cross-Border Collaboration Voucher*** – Up to £500 (travel and accommodation) for early-stage partnerships travelling across Ireland and Northern Ireland to scope out potential project ideas.
- ***EU Travel Voucher*** – Up to £350 (travel and accommodation) for existing North-South partnerships to attend consortium meetings, Info Days, etc.
  https://intertradeireland.com/innovation/horizon-europe/travel-vouchers

FP9: Horizon Europe (2021-2027)

€95.5bn funding agreed for **2021-2027**

€24.9bn

€53.8bn

€13.4bn

Pillar 1
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2
GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters
- 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

Pillar 3
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

- European Innovation Council
- European innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

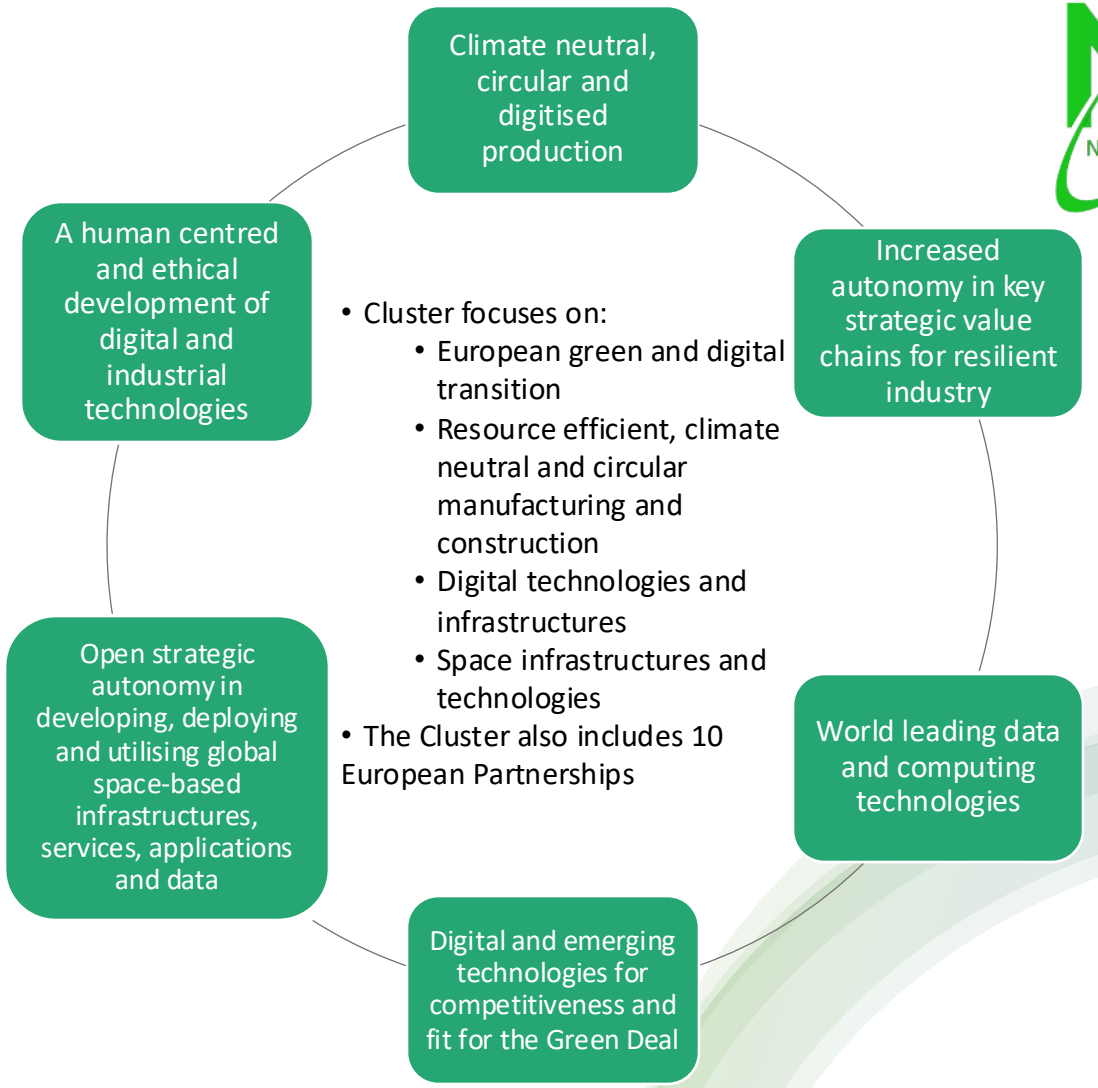
- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

N.B.: Budget figures exclude UK and other Associate Country contributions

Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space

Top-down Science

- **Work programmes** are thematic documents published **approx. every 2 years**;
- **Specific topics** identified for **collaborative research;**
- **Expected outcomes** aligned with **EU Policy**
- Typically, large consortia **- minimal requirement:** 3 Member States or Associated Countries



Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space

NICP Northern Ireland Contact Point Horizon Europe

European Partnerships

- High Performance Computing
- Key Digital Technologies
- Smart Networks and Services
- AI, data and robotics
- Photonics Europe

EuroHPC Joint Undertaking

- Clean Steel – Low Carbon Steelmaking
- European Meteorology
- Made in Europe
- Process4Planet
- Global competitive space systems

CSP The Clean Steel Partnership

6GSNS

MADE IN EUROPE

adra The AI Data Robotics Association

PHOTONICS21

PROCESSES4PLANET

SME4SPACE

EURAMET

Chips JU

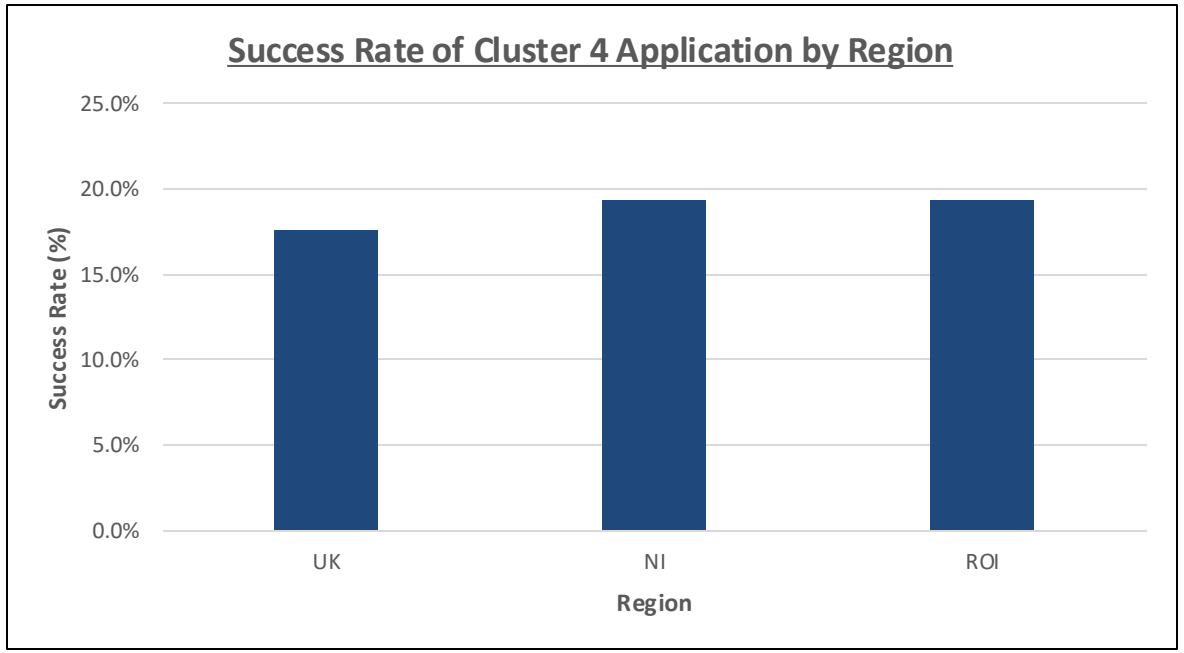
Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space

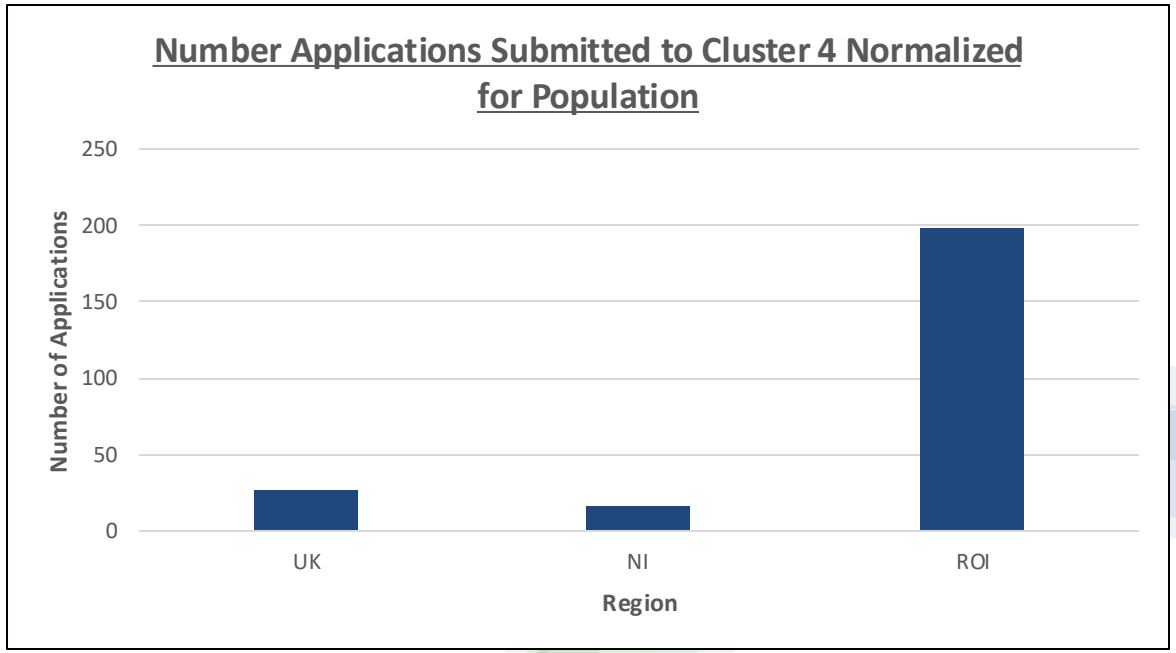
Funding Areas

- Manufacturing technologies
- Key digital technologies including quantum technologies
- Emerging enabling technologies
- Advanced materials
- Artificial intelligence and robotics
- Electronic systems and photonics
- Next generation internet
- Human factors across industry and digital, extended reality
- Advanced computing and big data
- Circular industries including raw materials
- Low carbon and clean industries
- Space technology, infrastructure and applications

Note: Cybersecurity topics are found in Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society

Cluster 4: NI Regional Involvement





Cluster 4 Industry topics

Mary Harte

NICP Engineering (Manufacturing, Materials & Transport)

Contact email m.harte@qub.ac.uk

Northern Ireland Contact Point
Horizon Europe

Industry Priorities

Policies and Plans driving Industry R&I priorities

Industry R&I priorities:

- Green and Digital Transition
- Climate Neutral, sustainable and circular manufacturing
- Resilient Manufacturing - Critical Raw Materials
- Advanced Materials

Important EU Partnerships

Existing partnership

MADE IN EUROPE

PROCESSES4PLANET

CSP The Clean Steel Partnership

New partnership

Innovative Advanced Materials for EU(IAM4EU)
Raw Materials for the Green and Digital Transition
Textiles for the Future

European Partnerships - the European Commission and private and/or public partners come together to address Europe's most pressing societal and industrial challenges through research and innovation initiatives.

NICP Northern Ireland Contact Point Horizon Europe

#HorizonEU HORIZON EUROPE 2021-2027

Previous Industry topic areas 2021-2024

➢ Destination 1: Climate neutral, Circular and Digitised Production

Examples of topics

➢ **Green and Flexible Manufacturing**

- Remanufacturing
- Zero defect manufacturing
- Manufacturing of Biobased materials
- Modular manufacturing
- Bio-intelligent manufacturing

➢ **Energy efficiency in process industry**

- Energy efficiency/flexibility in process industries
- Integration of renewables, hydrogen and electrification
- Renewable hydrogen as a feedstock

➢ **Circularity in Manufacturing**

- Circularity of resources – plastic as a feedstock
- Circularity technologies
- Circularity in extractive and processing value chains
- Sustainable industrial water consumption
- Circular economy in process industries
- Conversion of CO2 emissions into feedstock
- Resource efficiency in process industries

➢ **Digital & Robotic Manufacturing Technology**

- Digital technology for manufacturing
- Digital tools for a circular economy
- AI enhanced robotics for smart manufacturing
- Digital transformation, better use of industrial data
- AI sustainable agile manufacturing

Previous Industry topic areas – 2021-2024

➢ Destination 2: Increased Autonomy in Key Strategic Value Chains for Resilient Industry. Examples of topics

➢ Advanced Materials

- Advanced materials modelling and characterisation
- Light weight/novel materials for energy efficiency
- Innovative materials for electronic components
- Advanced materials for hydrogen storage
- Bioinspired and biomimetic materials
- Nano & biobased materials for agriculture
- Advanced materials for magnets
- Multi-material components
- Organic and hybrid coatings.
- Smart and multifunctional biomaterials
- Circularity of composite materials

➢ Safe and sustainable by design

- Safety and sustainability assessment of materials and chemicals
- Biodegradable polymers for sustainable packaging
- Sustainability of essential materials and chemicals
- Recycled plastics in added value products

➢ Availability of Raw Materials

- Sourcing of primary raw materials
- Exploitation in the deep sea
- Future availability of secondary raw materials
- Climate neutral circular raw materials
- Sustainable technologies for extraction of CRM
- Processing and refining of CRM
- Recyclability of rare earth based magnets
- Exploration of CRM in deep land deposits
- Recovery of minerals and metal byproducts

➢ Increased adoption of key enabling technologies

- Technology for raw material flow tracking
- Optimising systems by digitalisation
- Smart sensors for electronic appliances
- Circular and low emission value chains by digitalization
- Digital platforms for small scale extraction

UK participation 2021-23 – Cluster 4 Industry

- **Destination 1 :Climate neutral, Circular and Digitised Production**
- **Destination 2 :Increased Autonomy in Key Strategic Value Chains for Resilient Industry.**

- **106 awarded projects**

- **Involved 185 UK organisations (120 unique) including 68 SMEs**

NICP Northern Ireland Contact Point Horizon Europe

HORIZON EUROPE 2021-2027

What's Next – 2025 Work Programme

- The 2025 work programme calls are expected to open May 2025 and close Sept 2025

- **Destination 1-** Achieving global leadership in climate-neutral, circular and digitised industrial and digital value chains – budget €300m+

- **Destination 2** - Achieving technological leadership for Europe's open strategic autonomy in raw materials, chemicals and innovative materials – budget €240m+.

NICP Northern Ireland Contact Point Horizon Europe

#HorizonEU HORIZON EUROPE 2021-2027

WP 2025 Orientations

Source: European Commission

Destination 1: Achieving global leadership in climate-neutral, circular and digitised industrial and digital value chains

Manufacturing

- Re-manufacturing and De-manufacturing
- Automating the road to flexible and resource-efficient value chains
- Human-machine interactions

Energy Efficient Industries (EIIs)

- Electrification of production
- Green and resilient production processes
- Integration of renewable energy carriers and net zero technologies
- Upcycling technologies
- Safe and clean processing technologies
- Accelerating innovation in steelmaking

Construction

- Logistics and operation of construction sites

WP 2025 Orientations

Source: European Commission

Destination 2: Achieving technological leadership for Europe's open strategic autonomy in raw materials, chemicals and innovative materials

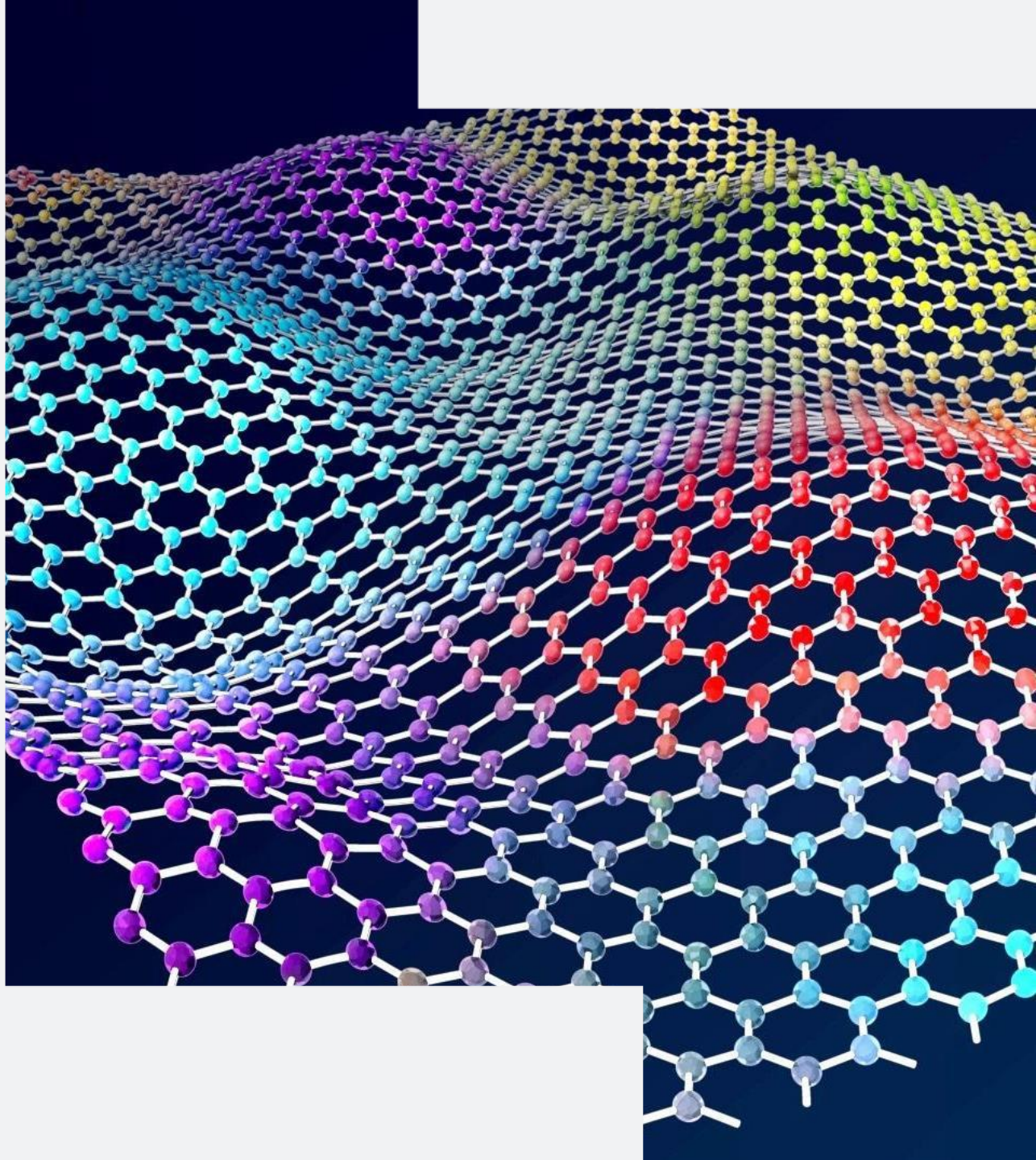
Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD)

- Alternatives to PFAS
- Advanced life-cycle assessment (LCA)

Raw Materials

Innovative Advanced Materials

Digitally Enabled Textile Production



NICP Northern Ireland Contact Point Horizon Europe

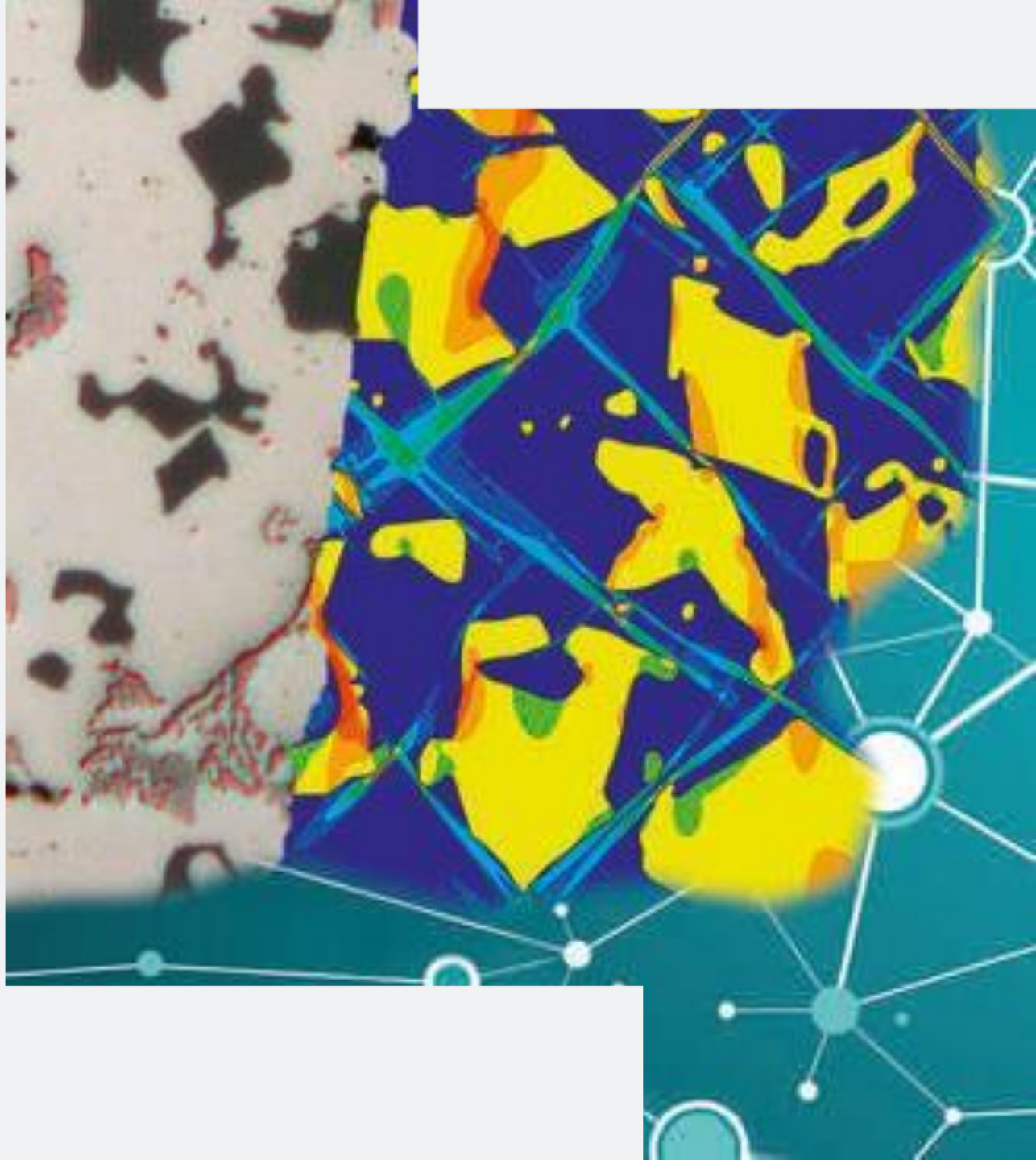
WP 2025 Orientations

Source: European Commission

Destination 4: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies

AI in Science

- AI foundation models for materials
- Facilitated cooperation for ‘AI in Science’



NICP Northern Ireland Contact Point Horizon Europe

WP 2025 Orientations

Source: European Commission

Destination 6: Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation

Standards

- Standardisation landscape analysis tool

Valorisation of Knowledge

- AI for knowledge valorisation
- Pilots for scaling up innovation

Technology infrastructures

- Pilot initiatives on Technology Infrastructures

Incentives for Industry 5.0

- Industry 5.0 system innovation hubs

NICP website

https://horizoneuropeni.com/

Mary Harte
NICP Engineering

Contact email m.harte@qub.ac.uk

Anshumaan Krishnan Ayyangar MIET
Horizon Europe UK National Contact Point and
Global Innovation Lead (Manufacturing & Materials)
Innovate UK
anshumaan.ayyangar@iuk.ukri.org
NCP-Industry@iuk.ukri.org

Northern Ireland Contact Point
Horizon Europe

ADVANCED
MANUFACTURING
INNOVATION
CENTRE
MANUFACTURING
INNOVATION
FOR REAL
WORLD IMPACT
QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST
BELFAST
REGION
CITY DEAL

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

AMIC is an industry led, open access manufacturing & engineering innovation centre with state of the art facilities and an expert engineering team, underpinned by academic excellence

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CENTRE

TURBOCHARGING MANUFACTURING

AMIC went live in 2023

- AMIC is already working with industry – amalgamating existing business units and building new capability
- £98m Factory of the Future will open 2026
- Using the latest Industry 4.0 technology, smart automation, design and materials to solve business challenges

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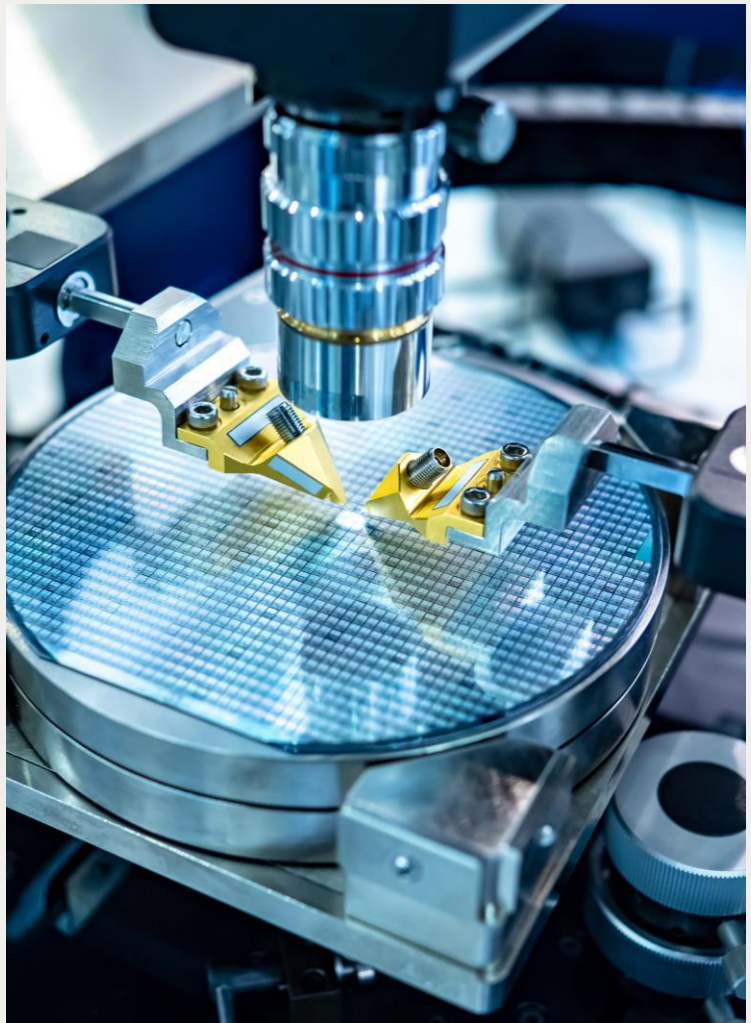

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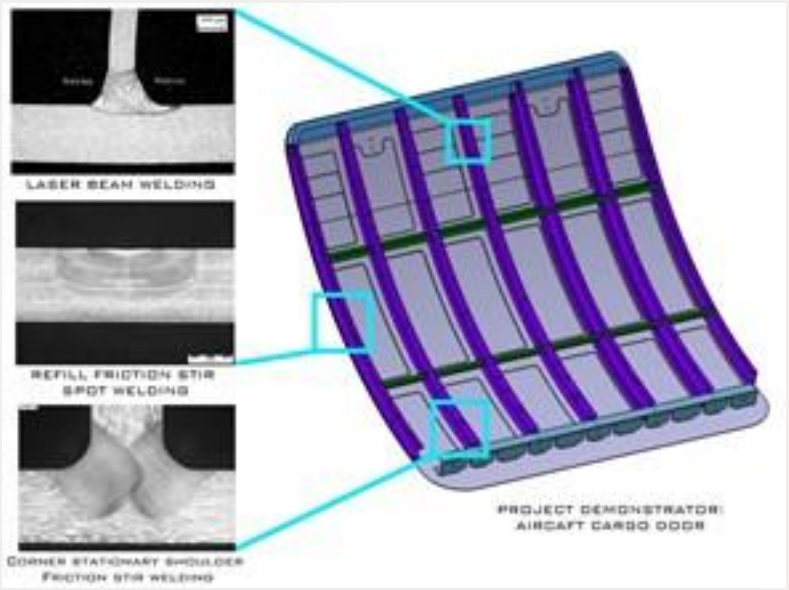

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Thank you

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E: c.quinn@qub.ac.uk

Cluster 4 Digital topics

Craig Sharp
UK NCP for Cluster 4: Digital
NCP-Digital@iuk.ukri.uk

Subscribe to NCP newsletters: **https://eufunding.ukri.org/subscribe**

Cluster 4 Digital – what it covers

DIGITAL TOPIC AREAS:

- **AI, Data & Computing**
- **Robotics**
- **Photonics & Electronics**
- **Smart Networks & Connectivity**
- **Quantum**
- **Graphene/2D materials**
- **Digital Economy, standards, NGI, XR, Human factors, Industry 5.0**

*plus separate calls on:

- **6G Smart Networks and Services**
- **Chips JU – Electronic Systems, Components, Semiconductors**

Horizon Europe - multiple work programmes

- Digital opportunities are also available across other (Pillar 2) Cluster work programmes
- Mobility, Health, Energy, Climate, Security, etc. - often embedded in project activities, not just Digital, Industry and Space
- Each work programme has its own National Contact Point for support

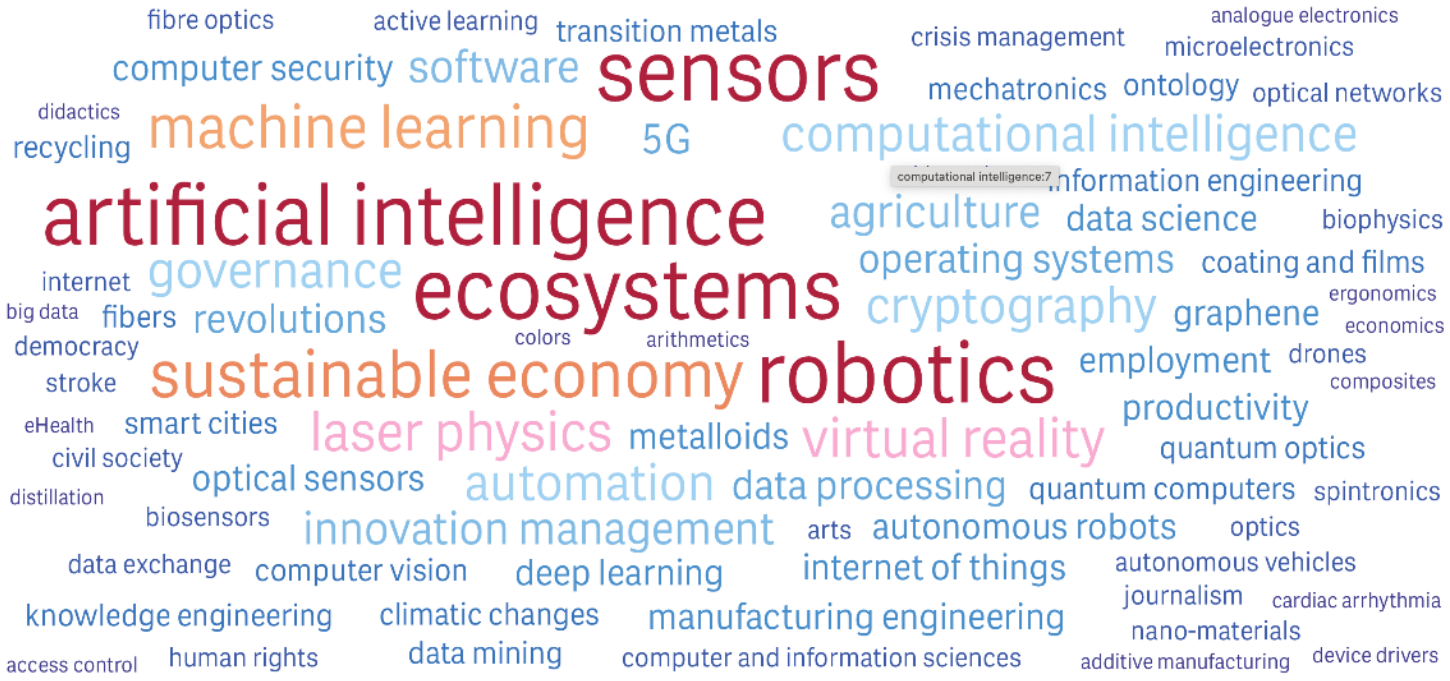
www.ukri.org/HorizonEU

UK Digital topic participation: 2021-2023

182 UK participations (97 unique) across 129 projects to date

52 company participations (48 unique), 33 SMEs (26 unique)

UK Association - renewed interest in UK participation – from EU co-ordinated proposals and UK participants



Source: Horizon Europe Dashboard

www.ukri.org/HorizonEU

Partnerships types in 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->topics, networking):

- Artificial Intelligence, Data and Robotics – https://adr-association.eu
- Photonics - https://www.photonics21.org
- Virtual Worlds (new) - https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/virtual-worlds
- (6G) Smart Networks and Services JU - https://6g-ia.eu
- Chips JU (formerly Key Digital Technologies) – https://www.chips-ju.europa.eu

Digital, industry and space (europa.eu partnership details)

AI, Data and Robotics Association Partnership (ADRA)

- Roadmaps
- Project info
- Events
- Membership

Adra has officially released its fourth edition of the Strategic Research, Innovation, and Deployment Agenda (SRIDA).

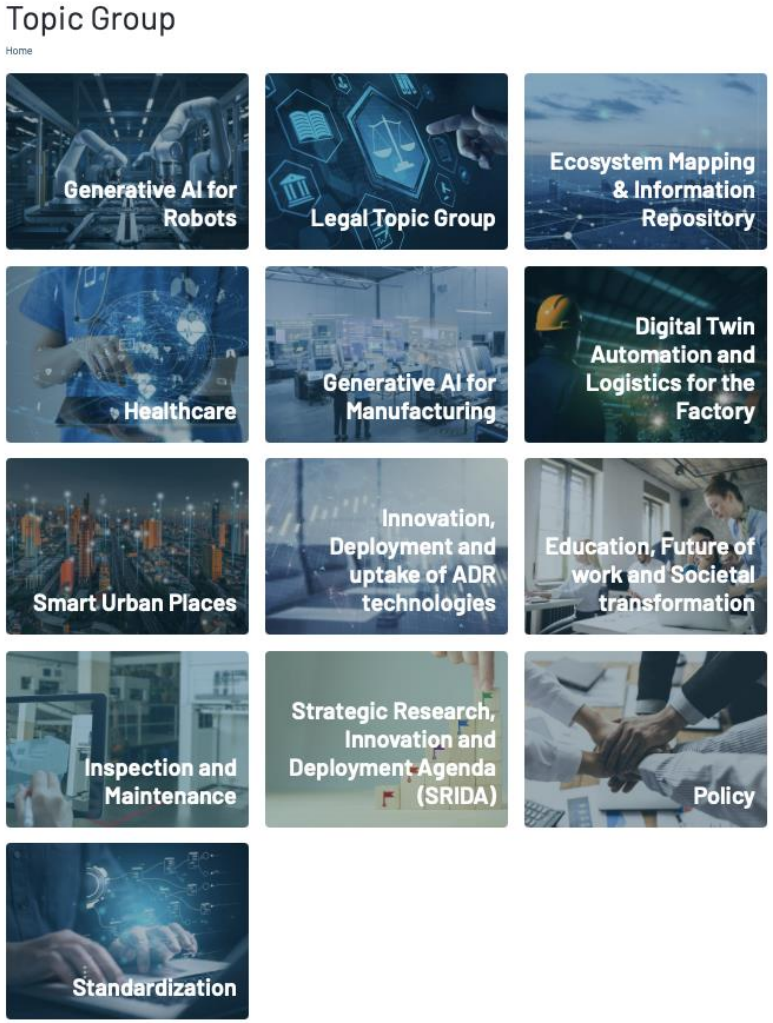
This important document outlines the long-term vision for the development and deployment of trustworthy AI, Data, and Robotics technologies in Europe and provides key recommendations to guide future European work programs. https://adr-association.eu/news/adra-releases-strategic-research-innovation-and-deployment-agenda

The SRIDA is divided into three key sections:

•**ADR Vision 2030 -** A forward-looking perspective on how ADR technologies can address global challenges and support Europe's strategic goals.

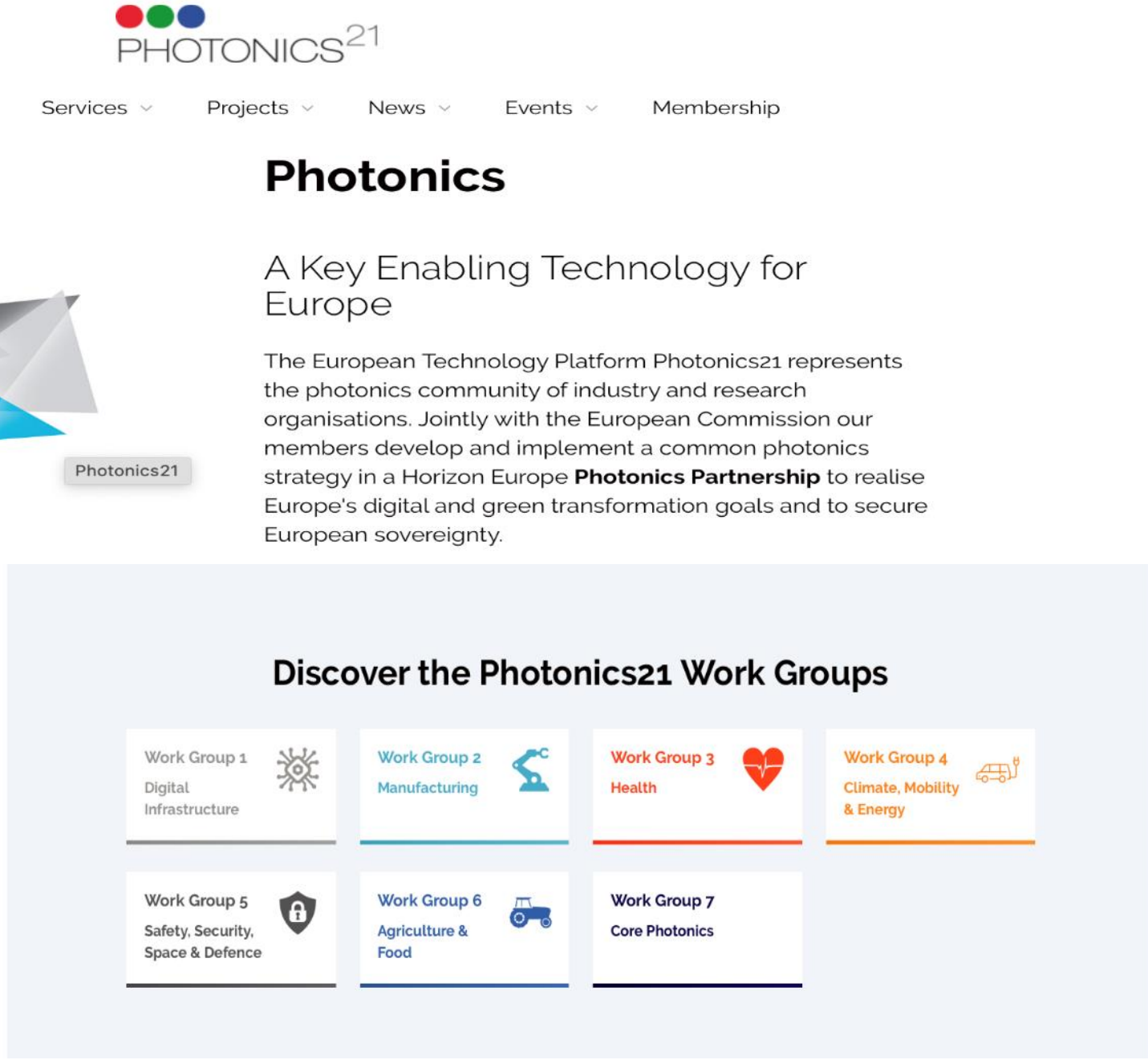
•**Major Trends and Gaps -** A detailed analysis of the current trends in ADR technologies and identification of key gaps that need to be addressed.

•**The Next Strategic Plan 2025-27 -** Practical recommendations aimed at informing the European Union's strategic planning, ensuring ADR technologies continue to drive innovation, competitiveness, and welfare across Europe.



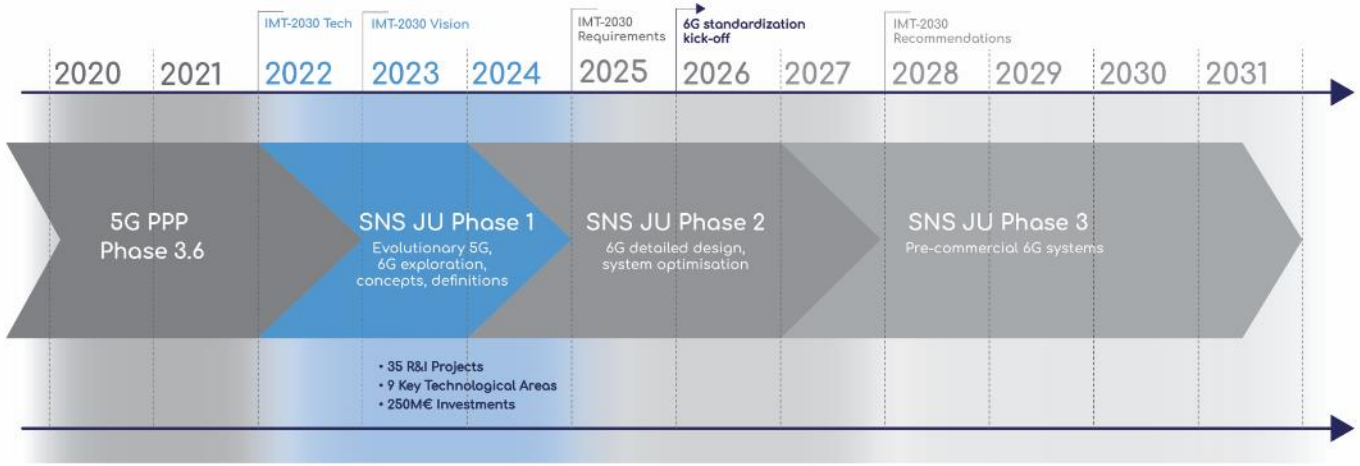
Photonics Partnership

- Roadmaps
- Project info
- Events
- Membership
- https://www.photonics21.org



www.ukri.org/HorizonEU

6G Smart Networks and Services JU



- Advanced 5G/6G development
- €900m programme budget, annual calls
- More info/funded projects: https://smart-networks.europa.eu
- 2024 calls - https://smart-networks.europa.eu/current-call-for-proposals/
- 2025 calls under development ~late 2024 publication (tbc)
- 6G Industry Association - https://6g-ia.eu
- Stream B, C & D (2024+)

UK organisations are eligible for 6GIA membership (roadmaps, networking, WGs)

Chips Joint Undertaking (JU)

ECS R&I Calls

The ECS R&I calls are designed to foster innovation and development in fields such as European artificial intelligence, high-performance computing, cybersecurity, and digital infrastructure.

- Electronic Components and Systems (ECS)
- €1.3Bn programme budget ("ECS/non-initiative")
- Mix of Open (roadmap) and focused topics
- More info/funded projects: https://www.chips-ju.europa.eu/Projects/
- Annual calls (non-initiative) - https://www.chips-ju.europa.eu/noninitiative/
- Co-funded by National Funding Agencies (UK co-funding announced March 2024)
- See 2024 UK Info session for overview
- 2025 calls under development – publish ~late 2024
- Key events – EFECS (5-6 Dec 2024), ECS (~Feb 2025 – matchmaking event)

- *(Eureka XECS cluster shares the ECS roadmap with Chips ECS/non-initiative calls)*

2025 Digital orientations

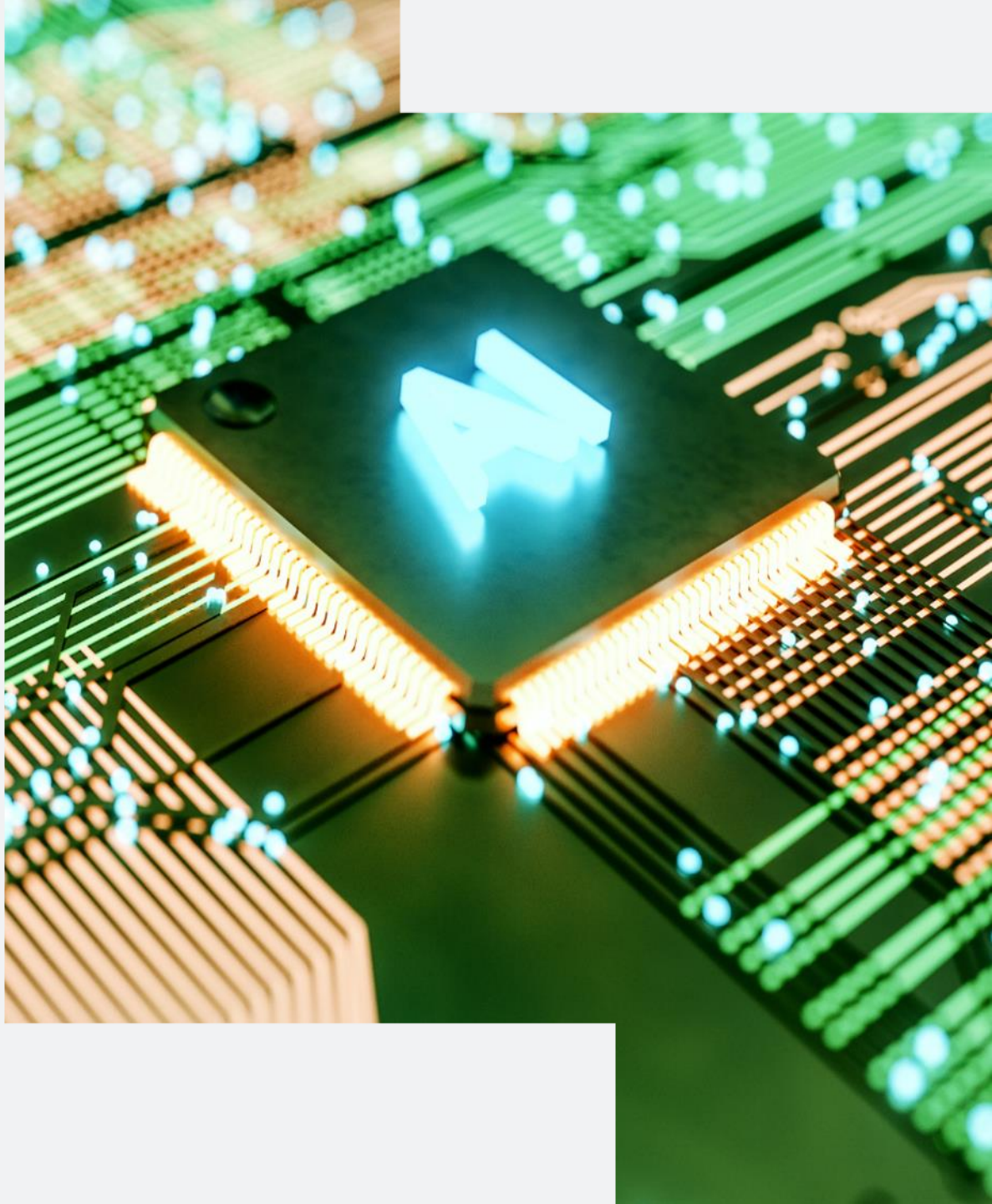
Destination 3: Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services

Generative AI

- Effective, Sustainable and Trustworthy General Purpose AI
- Compliance technologies, Data Spaces

3C Networks (Connected Collaborative Computing Networks)

- large-scale pilots- end-to-end integrated infrastructures and platforms
- Integration of device, network computing and communications
- Networked, agile and green IoT-edge computing solutions for an extended decentralisation of virtual world concepts



2025 Digital orientations

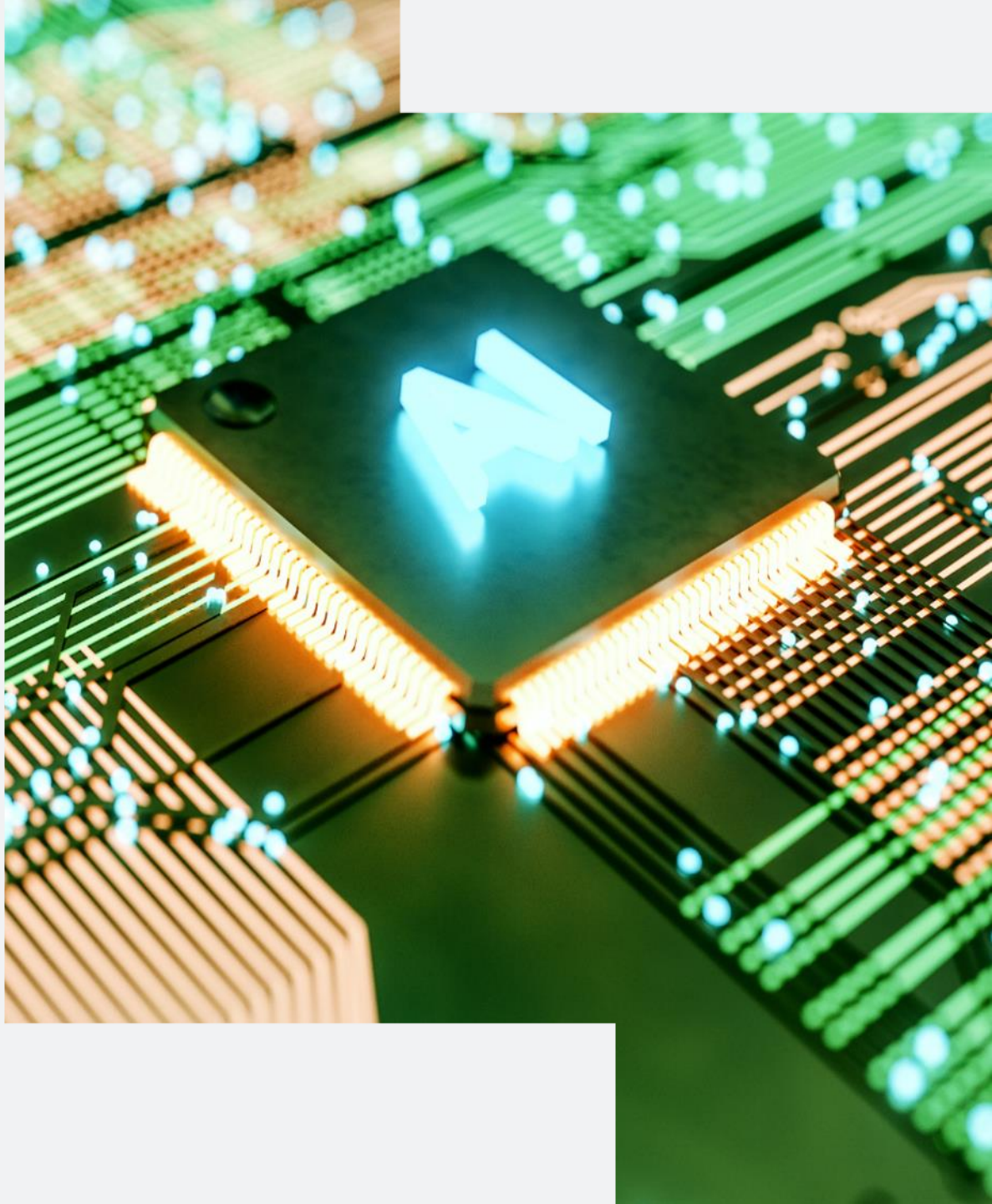
Destination 4: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies

AI-GenAI, Data, Robotics and Software Engineering

- Quantum and High Performance Computing
- Photonics (inc Virtual Worlds, sensing)
- Next generation smart embodied Robotic systems
- *Advanced/Graphene-2D materials (moved to Destination 2 – IAM, inc photonics)*

Destination 6: Digital and industrial technologies driving human-centric innovation

- Virtual Worlds
- AI, Next Generation Internet
- International Cooperation (Semiconductors, AI)



Centre for Wireless Innovation, Queens University

6G-SANDBOX – Supporting Architectural and technological Network evolutions through an intelligent, secureD and twinning enaBled Open eXperimentation facility (6G SNS JU project)

- ***Grant Agreement ID:*** *101096328*
- *18-member consortium, led by a Belgian company, with 1 UK partner*
- *EU funding of €8.5M (Queens University £250K)*
- ***DOI:*** ***https://doi.org/10.3030/101096328***
- *Within 6G-SANDBOX Queen's University Belfast is developing disruptive wireless technologies, in particular Reconfigurable Intelligent Surfaces for future 6G networks*

- ***Project in a Nutshell:***
  - The EU-funded 6G-SANDBOX project will develop a complete and modular facility for the European experimentation ecosystem. Since 6G requires a fresh design approach to the network architecture, the project will support the next-decade technology and research validation processes. It will introduce the concept of trial networks, which refers to fully configurable, manageable and controlled end-to-end networks, composed of both digital and physical nodes.

Moy Park Ltd

EFRA: Extreme Food Risk Analytics

Grant Agreement ID: *101093026*

9-member consortium, led by a Greek company, with 1 UK partners

- *EU funding of €4.8M (Moy Park £140K)*
- ***DOI:*** ***https://doi.org/10.3030/101093026***
- ***Aim:*** Data mining, aggregation and analytics are essential to address scientific, economic and societal challenges associated with food safety.

- ***Project in a Nutshell:***
  - The EFRA project will develop and test solutions to discover food risk data from heterogeneous and dispersed/scarce data sources with minimal delay and appropriate format. It will also design relevant human aspects and interactions with users to measure usefulness for human risk prevention actions in real-world use-cases. By integrating big data, IoT and AI, it is possible to foster links to food data innovator communities. EFRA will design, test, and deploy tools and undertake initiatives to facilitate their uptake, elicit feedback, and engage stakeholders.

WP 2025: What lies ahead for ‘Digital’?

- The next set of Digital calls/topics is expected ~ Q1 2025.
- The indicative (Digital) topics budget is ~€500m.
- Separate Joint Undertaking (JU) calls are expected to publish late 2024, deadlines ~Spring 2025 (tbc)
  - 6G (Smart Networks and Services)
  - Chips JU (Electronic Components and Systems)
- Candidate (new) partnerships of relevance:
  - Virtual Worlds

Questions?

Subscribe to NCP newsletters: **https://eufunding.ukri.org/subscribe**

CLUSTER 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Dr Elaine Groom

Northern Ireland Contact Point for Cluster 6

24th October 2024

Goals of today's presentation

Understanding the big picture

- **Overview of Horizon Europe and Cluster 6**

Overview of forthcoming opportunities

- **2025 Draft Work Programme**

Where do I start?

- **How to approach topics and what you can do to prepare**

Supports available

- **Where to find further support and information**

Evolution of Commission Approaches

2007-2013

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Framework Programme 7 (FP7)

- Prescriptive topics
- Drive to include SMEs in research – mandated in specific topics (% of funding to SMEs)

2014-2020

Horizon 2020 (FP8)

- 'Simplification'
- Challenge-based topics
- Open Science, Open Innovation and Open to the World
- Inclusion of industry expected
- Technology Readiness Levels used
- Involvement of end users (Co-Design)

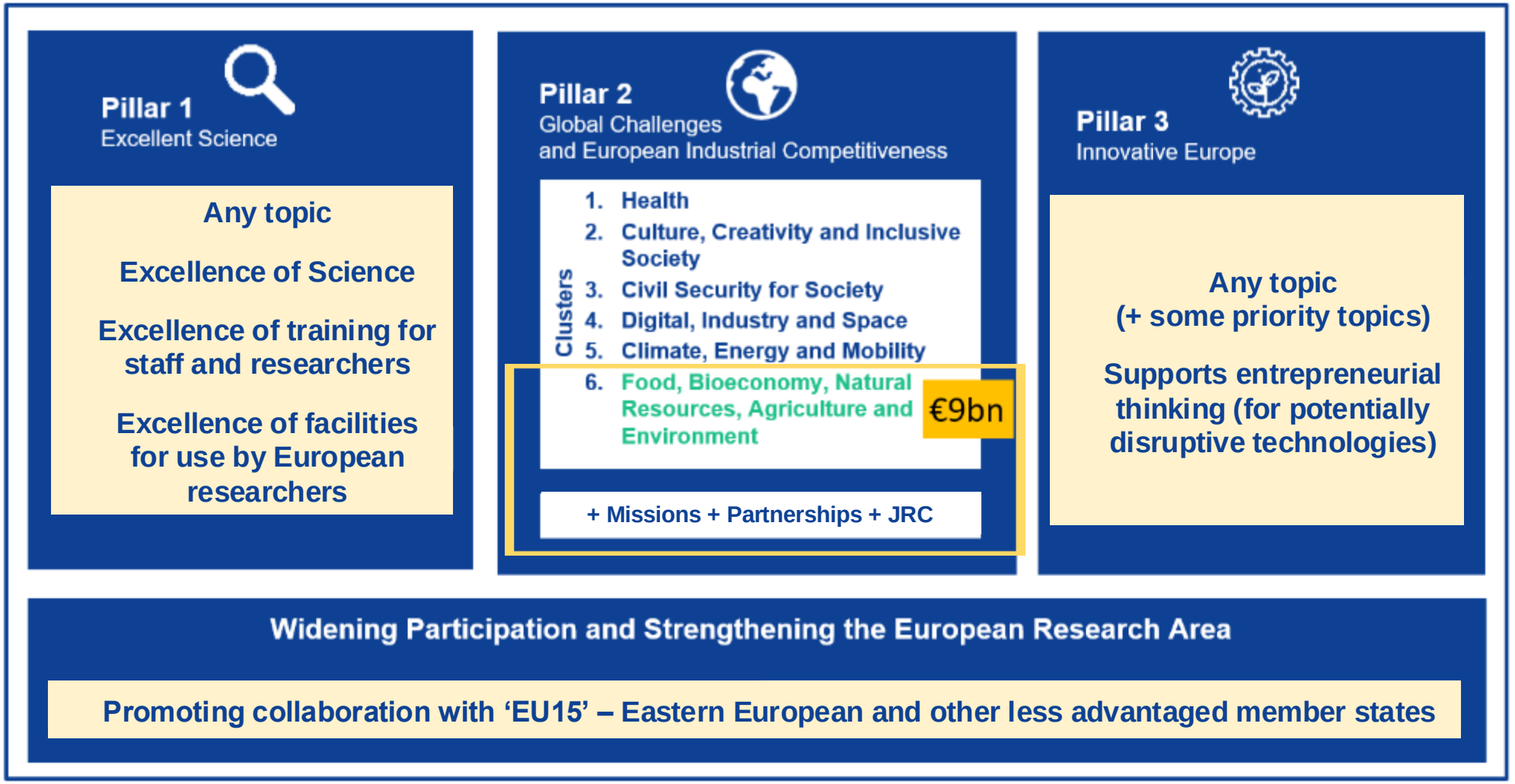
2021-2027

Horizon Europe (FP9)

- Impact-based programming (projects should deliver "Expected Outcomes")
- Concept of 'Portfolio of projects' delivering desired change
- Societal readiness for innovations (Social Innovation, SSH disciplines)

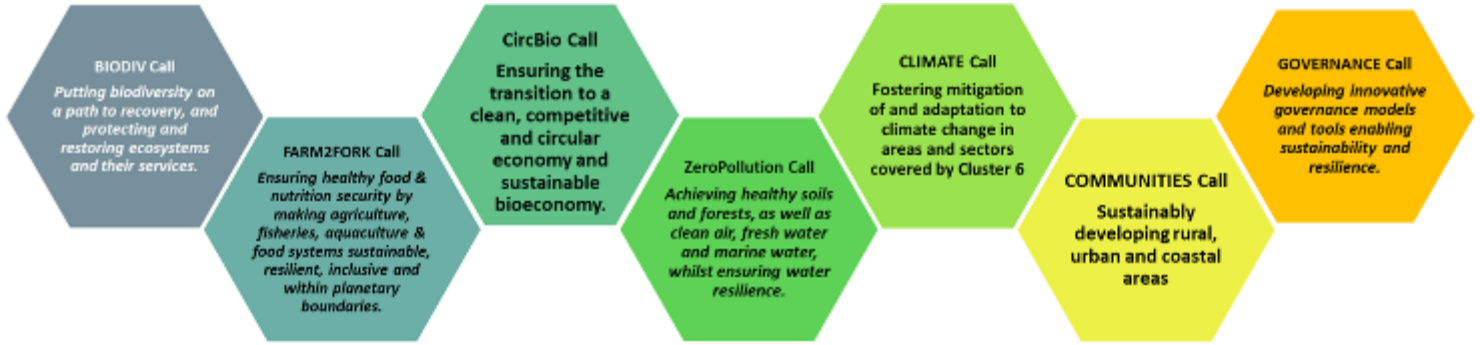
Increased measures to ensure research is not just published but is actually used

Orientation: Agri-food / Natural Systems opportunities



Terminology

Seven Destinations under Cluster 6



- **Pillars:** Excellent Science; Global Challenges; Innovative Europe
- **Clusters** – global challenges grouped together
- **Work Programmes:** 2021-2022, 2023-2024, 2025, 2026-2027
- **Destinations** - what the EC wants research to achieve, contributing towards global challenges *and crosscutting areas*
- **Calls** for proposals to deliver impacts of destinations
  - Usually a Single Stage call per year per destination
  - Some destinations also a 2-Stage call
- **Topics** – variable number and type per call
  - Research and Innovation Actions (RIA)
  - Innovation Actions (IA)
  - Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)
  - Others (e.g. COFUND, PCP)

Related Opportunities

Co-Funded European Partnerships

- Partnerships of Research funders/other public authorities (COFUND projects)
- National Funders provide funding for call coordinated by the partnership ('ERA-Net type' calls)
  - Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda (SRIA) priorities for funding (in preparation for calls)
- 8 partnerships of most relevance to Cluster 6

DEFRA
UKRI

- Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare (PAHW)
- Water security for the planet (Water4All)
- Sustainable Food Systems for People, Planet & Climate Partnership (FutureFoodS)
- European Biodiversity Partnership (Biodiversa +)
- Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership
- Agroecology living labs and research infrastructures Partnership
- European Partnership for Agriculture of Data
- Partnership on Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Co-Programmed Partnership

Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

Circular Bio-Based Europe JU
Market-led research and innovation for sustainable bio-based solutions; **Budget €2bn**

Missions – 2 most relevant to Cluster 6 area:

A Soil Deal for Europe

Restore our ocean and waters by 2030

Budget estimate €5bn per Mission

Why look at CLUSTER 6 as an opportunity?

- High budget per call – large project budgets
- Collaboration across Europe:
  - leverage effect (others' knowledge and expertise), new thinking, learning
  - opportunity for wider dissemination and influence
- Highly ambitious projects

Success Rates - Cluster 6 - 2021-2023

EU – 27%, Ireland – 31%c, UK – 30%

Northern Ireland – 37%

- 43 applications, 16 retained for funding

Horizon Europe Funding rates

- RIA: 100%
- IA: 70% (100% non-profit)
- CSA: 100%

Direct costs (+25% OH)

Funding up to €1 billion per year

2021: €895 M, 99 topics, ~158 projects

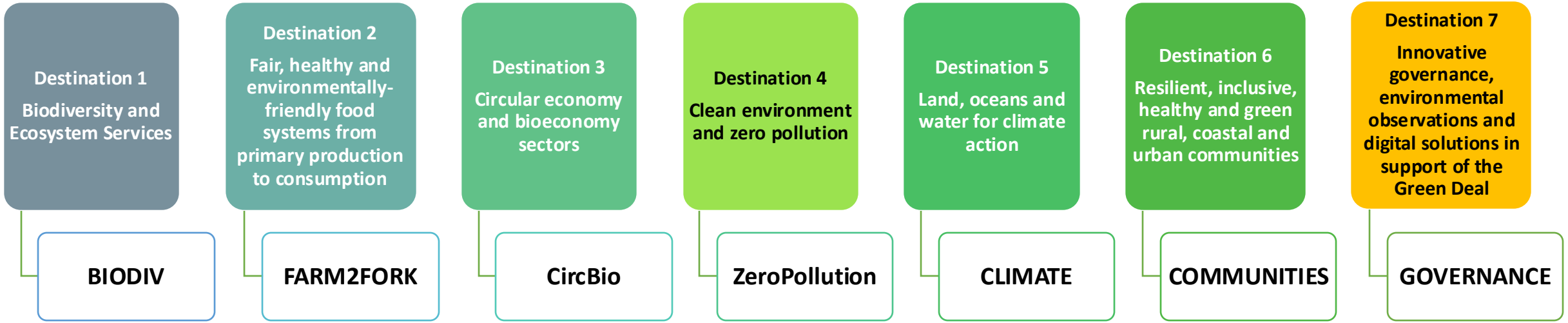
2022: €873 M, 81 topics, ~150 projects

2023: €897 M, 134 topics, ~155 projects

2024: €707 M, 77 topics, ~134 projects

2025: €956 M, 83 topics, ~142 projects

CLUSTER 6 Calls for 2025



Three Calls in 2025:

- 'Single stage' application process
- Calls expected to open: 6th May 2025
- Draft WP *may* be published as an 'Orientation Paper' in Q1 2025

Call	Destinations	Deadline
1.	1. Biodiv, 3. CircBio, 4. ZeroPollution	6th Sept
2.	2. Farm2Fork, 5. Climate, 6. Communities	17th Sept
3.	7. Governance	24th Sept

CLUSTER 6 Calls for 2025

	€172M	€295M	€170M	€68M	€94.5M	€37M	€120M
	Destination 1 Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	Destination 2 Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption	Destination 3 Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors	Destination 4 Clean environment and zero pollution	Destination 5 Land, oceans and water for climate action	Destination 6 Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities	Destination 7 Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal
CALL AREA	BIODIV	FARM2FORK	CircBio	ZeroPollution	CLIMATE	COMMUNITIES	GOVERNANCE
OPPORTUNITY	4 areas 12 topics	4 areas 22 topics	4 areas 16 topics	1 area 8 topics	1 area 6 topics	1 area 4 topics	4 areas 15 topics
	~24 projects	~37 projects	~29 projects	~12 projects	~13 projects	~6 projects	~21 projects

Work Programme 2025 (3rd Draft): €956M total, 83 topics, ~142 projects

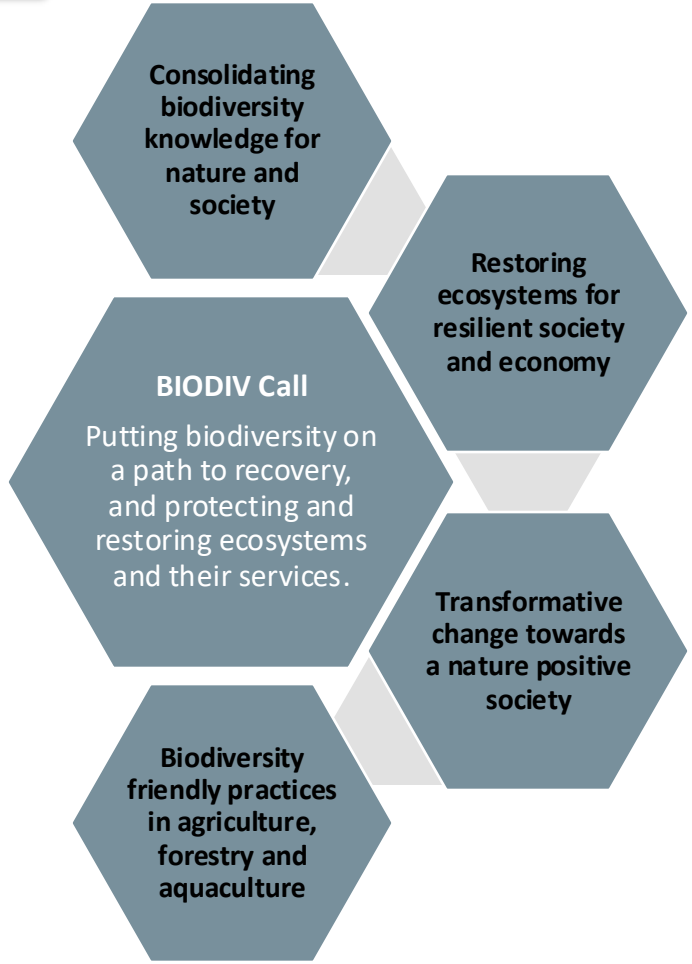
Horizon Europe mandate for Cluster 6

- To provide research and innovation opportunities to strengthen and balance environmental, social and economic goals and to set human economic activities on a path towards sustainability.
- Therefore, the underlying paradigm is the need for a transformative change of the EU economy and society to:
  - Reduce environmental degradation,
  - Halt and reverse the decline of biodiversity,
  - Better manage natural resources while meeting the EU's climate objectives and ensuring food and water security,
  - Building on the new research and innovation (R&I) priorities outlined in the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-2027
- Activities in this work programme will contribute to all Key Strategic Orientations (KSOs) defined by the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-2027, namely:
  - The green transition;
  - The digital transition;
  - A more resilient, competitive, inclusive and democratic Europe.

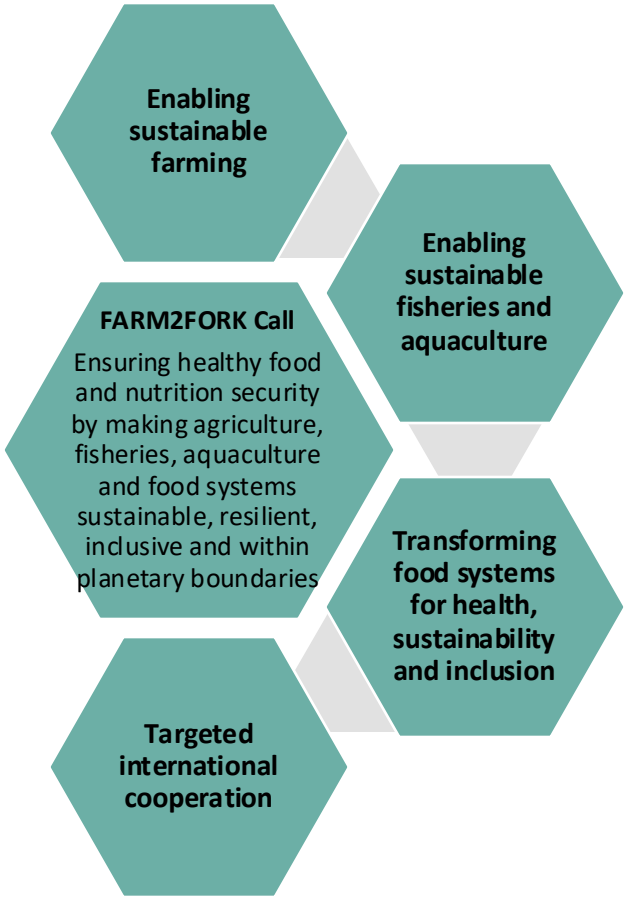
Destination 1 - Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

12 topics: 1 COFUND, 10 RIA, 1 CSA (single stage)

- BIODIV-02: Strengthening the capacity of citizen science in biodiversity observation
- BIODIV-05: Assessing and modelling ecosystems' dynamic process to guide restoration activities and to improve models used for climate
- BIODIV-06: Assessing and modelling socio-economic impacts of nature restoration
- BIODIV-07: Living labs and lighthouses co-creating innovative solutions for forests and freshwater ecosystems restoration
- BIODIV-10: Understanding the perceptions of and improving communication on the biodiversity crisis and nature restoration benefits to sustain citizen engagement and democratic governance
- BIODIV-11: Supporting the implementation of nature restoration measures for sustainable farming systems
- BIODIV-12: Breeding for resilience: enhancing multi-stress tolerance in crops



Destination 2 – Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption



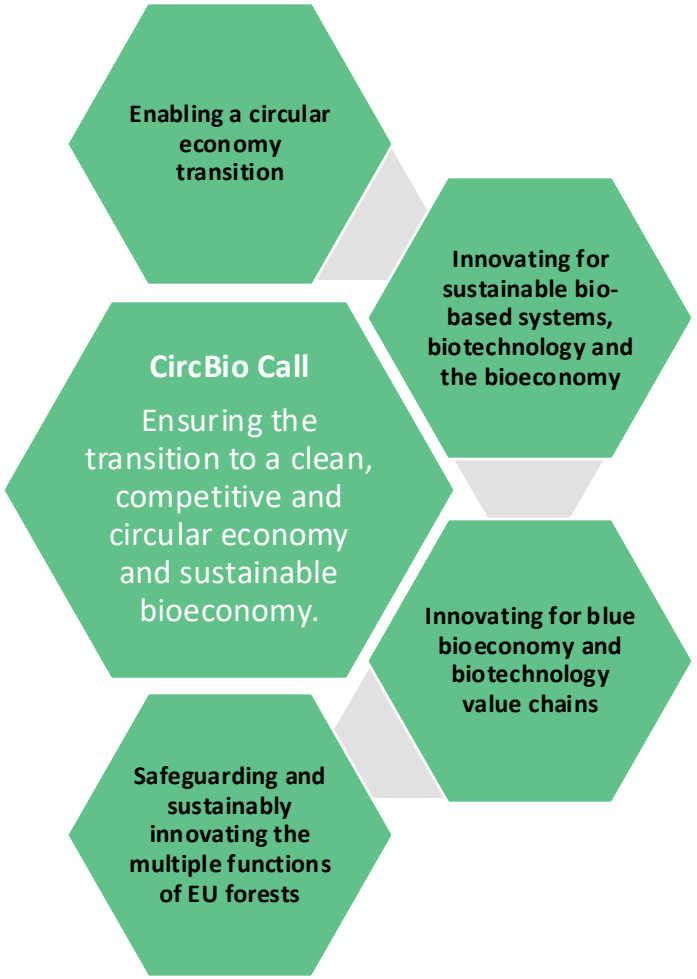
22 topics: 3 COFUND, 11 RIA, 6 IA, 2 CSA (Single Stage)

- FARM2FORK-04: Enhancing plant protein production to bolster the resilience of agricultural systems and EU self sufficiency in plant protein feed
- FARM2FORK-05: Emerging and future risks to plant health
- FARM2FORK-07: Improving grassland management in EU livestock farming systems
- FARM2FORK-08: Fostering animal breeding and genetics for climate change adaptation and mitigation, improved robustness and resilience
- FARM2FORK-11: Diversifying aquaculture production with emphasis on low-trophic species
- FARM2FORK-12: Towards modern, integrated, and effective fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance systems in Europe
- FARM2FORK-13: Nutrition and Mental Health
- FARM2FORK-16: Making food systems more resilient to food safety risks through the deployment of technological solutions
- FARM2FORK-17: Research and innovation for food waste prevention and reduction at household level through measurement, monitoring and new technologies

Destination 3 – Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors

16 topics: 1 COFUND, 4 RIA, 9 IA, 2 CSA (single stage)

- CIRCBIO-01: Novel circular business models to enable the just transition to a sustainable and circular economy
- CIRCBIO-05: Consumption patterns and environmental awareness as enablers of transition to circular economy
- CIRCBIO-06: Open Topic: Innovative solutions are paving the way for the sustainable and circular transformation of SMEs
- CIRCBIO-09: Bioprospecting and optimized production of the terrestrial natural products: new opportunities for bio-based sectors
- CIRCBIO-10: Unleashing the potential and advancing the impact of the digitalization/AI of the bio-based value chains
- CIRCBIO-13: Harmonizing and optimising composting plants performances in Europe
- CIRCBIO-15: Bioprospecting and optimised production of marine/aquatic natural products in the omics & artificial intelligence era



See also: Circular Bio-Based Europe JU (CBE-JU) annual call

Destination 4 – Clean environment and zero pollution

ZeroPollution Call

Achieving healthy soils and forests, as well as clean air, fresh water and marine water, whilst ensuring water resilience.

8 topics: 4 RIA, 3 IA, 1 CSA (single stage)

- ZEROPOLLUTION-01: Innovative and advanced monitoring and modelling systems for revised air quality policies
- ZEROPOLLUTION-02: Environmental impacts from the production of agricultural crops for bio-based industrial systems
- ZEROPOLLUTION-03: Substances of concern and emerging pollutants from bio-based industries and products: mapping and replacement
- ZEROPOLLUTION-04: Environmental biotechnology applications in service of remediation of polluted ecosystems
- ZEROPOLLUTION-05: Towards a comprehensive European strategy to assess and monitor aquatic litter including plastic and microplastic pollution
- ZEROPOLLUTION-06: Cumulative impacts of marine pollution on marine organisms and ecosystems
- ZEROPOLLUTION-07: Provide digital solutions tailored to small and medium-sized farms to monitor and sustainably manage agricultural inputs and natural resources
- ZEROPOLLUTION-08: Reducing pollution from the food and drink industries

Destination 5 – Land, oceans and water for climate action

6 topics: 1 COFUND, 4 RIA, 1 IA (single stage)

- CLIMATE-01: The ocean-climate-biodiversity nexus and marine carbon dioxide removal (mCDR)
- CLIMATE-02: The ocean-climate-biodiversity-people nexus: uncovering safe operating space for safeguarding the integrity and health of the global ocean
- CLIMATE-03: Understanding and managing medium and longer-term challenges and opportunities for agriculture stemming from shifting climatic zones and changing agroecological environments
- CLIMATE-04: Monitoring, reporting, verification and mitigation of non-CO2-greenhouse gas emissions and related air pollutants from agriculture
- CLIMATE-05: Strengthening the resilience of water systems and water sector to climate and global socio-economic change impacts
- CLIMATE-06: Additional activities for the European Partnership Water Security for the Planet (Water4All)

CLIMATE Call

Fostering mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in areas and sectors covered by Cluster 6

Destination 6 – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities

4 topics: 3 RIA, 1 IA (single stage)

COMMUNITIES Call

Sustainably developing rural, urban and coastal areas

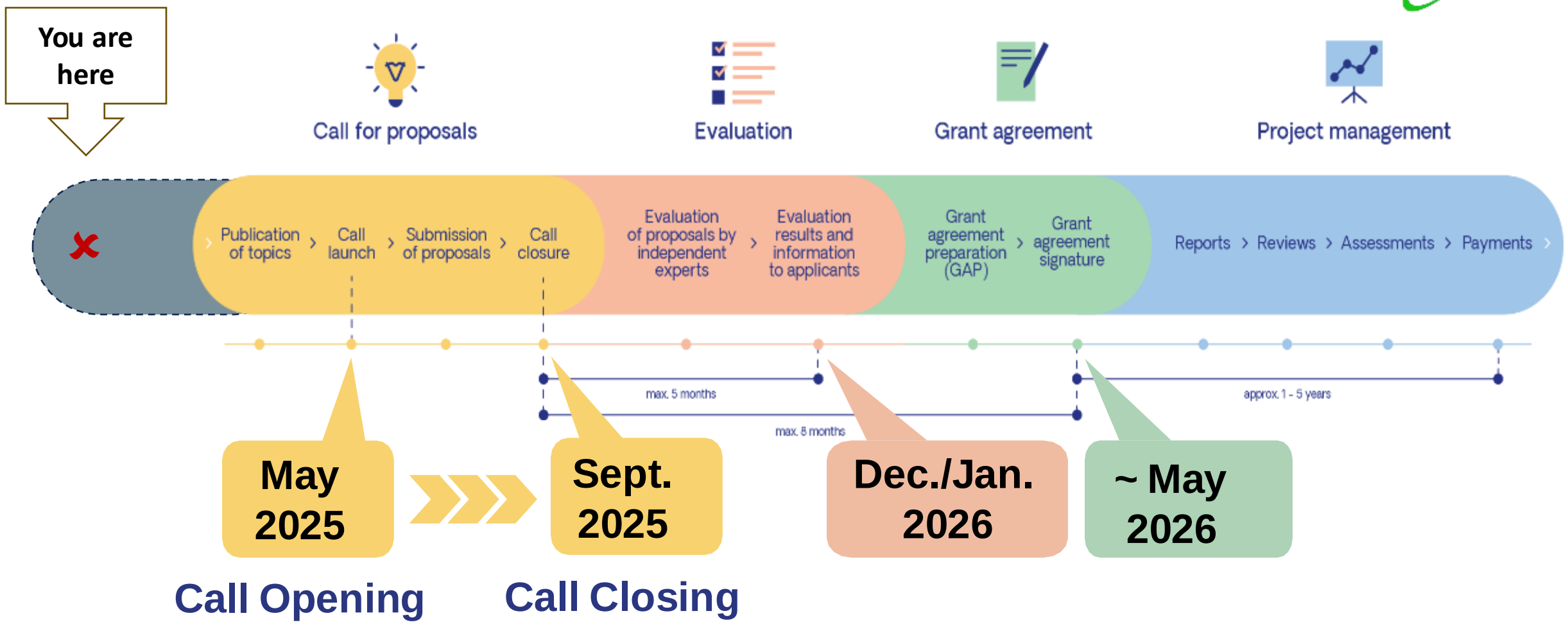
- COMMUNITIES-01: Adapting to and mitigating demographic trends in rural areas through evidence-based planning and innovative solutions
- COMMUNITIES-02: Exploring and improving access to housing in rural areas and developing the houses and villages of the future
- COMMUNITIES-03: Research and Innovation solutions for resilient and climate-adapted coastal communities in the Atlantic
- COMMUNITIES-04: Creating urban co-creation spaces for driving sustainable food system transformation

Destination 7 – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal

15 topics: 8 RIA, 2 IA, 5 CSA (single stage)

- GOVERNANCE-01: Improving analytical capacity and understanding bargaining power of farmers and interactions with the upstream and downstream actors in the agriculture and food value chains
- GOVERNANCE-02: Upscaling payments for environmental services with result-based collective or spatially-coordinated approaches for more support targeted towards the delivery of agri-environment-climate public goods
- GOVERNANCE-03: Boosting the attractiveness of agriculture and the connection between the farming community and society
- GOVERNANCE-08: Effective environmental observing systems and associated governance
- GOVERNANCE-09: Delivering Earth Intelligence to accelerate the green and digital transition
- GOVERNANCE-11: Enhancing sustainability and resilience of agriculture, forestry and rural development through digital twins.
- GOVERNANCE-14: Preparing farmers, their workforce and advisors to the future of agriculture by providing the relevant knowledge and skills at the right time and place

Proposal preparation



It’s not too early . . .

- Survey of 46 **successful coordinators** by the German NCPs for Life Sciences

… before the submission deadline was when coordinators began, on average, to prepare full proposals in the one-stage process. The preparation times cited by the respondents ranged from one to 24 months.

“Many underestimate the time needed to prepare . . .”

Where do I start?

Find a topic of interest in the draft work programme that fits with your ideas

- Does your idea fit with the topic? Do discuss your ideas with your NICP/NCP
- If an idea doesn't fit in a topic don't try to make it fit.

WHAT and WHO has been funded in this area previously?

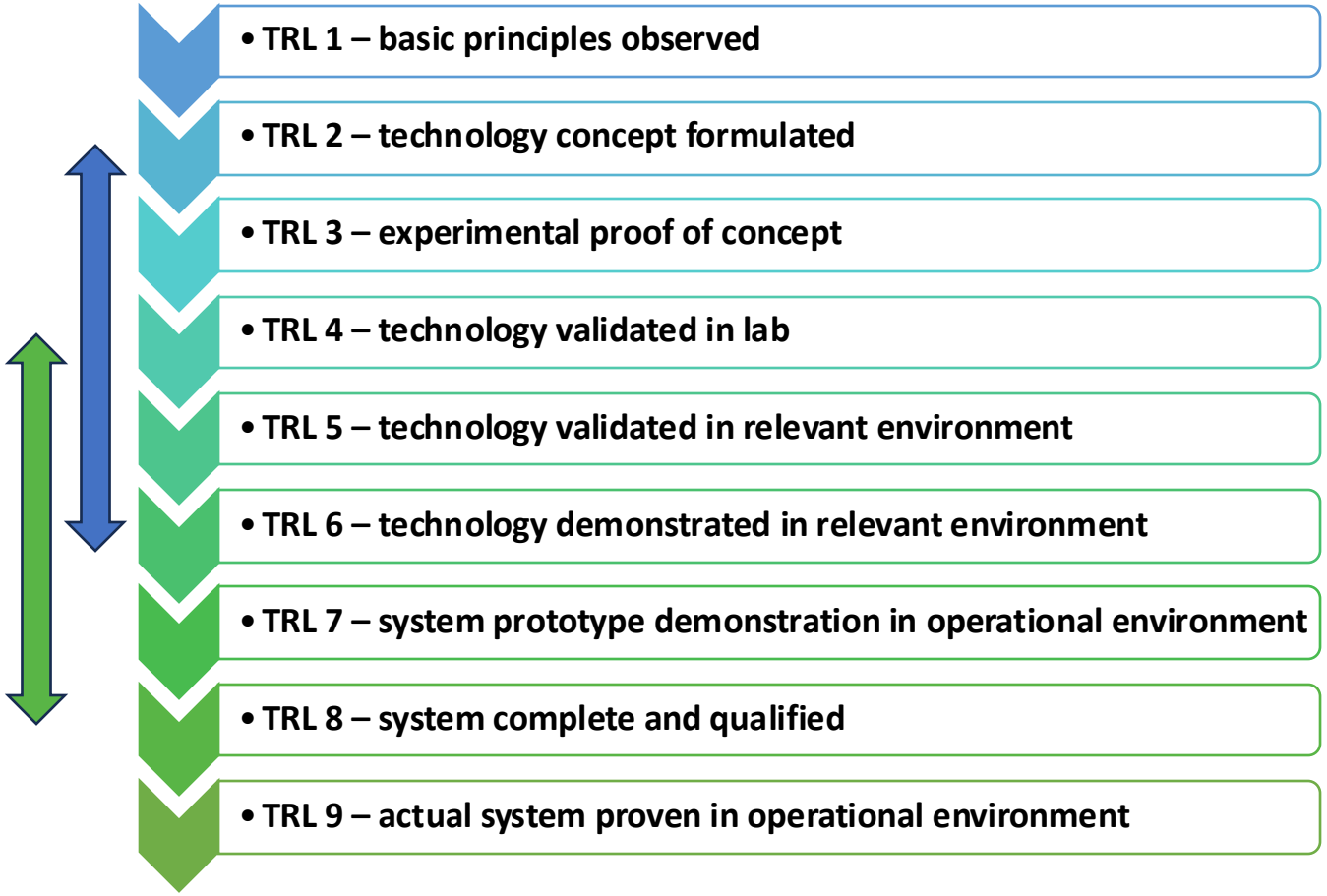
Do your homework!

- Find previous projects
- Are your ideas original?
- Do they idea build on funded work?

Use CORDIS to search for funded projects and results https://cordis.europa.eu/projects/en

Is the funding instrument right for you?

- Research and innovation actions (RIA):
  - Activities aim to establish **new knowledge** or to explore the feasibility of a **new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution**.
  - May include **basic and applied research**, technology development and integration, testing, demonstration and validation of a small-scale prototype in a laboratory.
- Innovation Actions (IA):
  - **Builds on previous research to move towards end use.**
  - Activities that aim directly to produce plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services.
  - May include **prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication**
- Coordination and support actions (CSA)
  - Activities such as gathering existing knowledge, gap analysis, **excludes research and innovation** (R&I) activities.



Check eligibility criteria and specific conditions

Consortium composition for collaborative proposals (RIA, IA, CSA):

- Three legal entities independent from each other and each established in a different country as follows:
  - at least one independent legal entity established in a Member State; and
  - at least two other independent legal entities, each established in different Member States or Associated Countries.

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.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic … EUR 12.00 million.
Type of Action	Research and Innovation Actions, Innovation Actions, Coordination and Support Actions
Eligibility conditions	(Additional eligibility criteria): e.g. multi-actor approach;
Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Funding rate exceptions; lump sums; include /exclude specific regions or countries;

Develop your understanding

Background research

- Make sure you understand the topic and the policies it supports;
- Gain familiarity with the language being used
- Use it to translate what you want to do

Ready to collaborate?

- Partner search profiles
- Matchmaking / brokerage events
- Use the language being used in the topic (linguistic mirroring)

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Call topic structure and how to read it

Changes desired for the longer term

- A broad description of what impact the project is expected to achieve or which it is expected to contribute
- The dissemination and exploitation of future research results are vital for the impact

What problem does the Commission want addressed?

- Identifies the aspects of the challenge that needs to be tackled
- Specifies a perimeter to the problem described
- Does not specify the expected solutions to the problem, nor the approach to be taken

Don't overlook the need to include. . .

- Cooperations, collaboration, specific groups or expertise

BIODIV-07: Living labs and lighthouses co-creating innovative solutions for forests and freshwater ecosystems restoration

- Research and Innovation Actions, €6M (2 projects); additional eligibility: **multi-actor approach**.
- **Policies:** European Green Deal; EU biodiversity strategy for 2030; EU Nature Restoration Law

Expected outcomes:

- Capacities of stakeholders are enhanced
- **Practice-oriented knowledge** and tools are available to stakeholders having to restore ecosystems
- Competent authorities in charge of restoration plans are aware of effective solutions
- Collaborations between actors across territories and sectors are strengthened
- Co-benefits and trade-offs of nature restoration activities are demonstrated

Scope - Proposals should:

Apply the three main principles of the **living labs research concept**:

a) co-creating innovative solutions in **real-life sites** focusing on end-users' needs;
b) co-deciding / **co-creating with end-users** all along the project;
c) bringing together actors with complementary knowledge in a targeted combination.

Set up three living labs to work together on ecosystem restoration covering one or several ecosystem types

Establish a detailed work plan ensuring the co-design, co-development, and co-implementation of locally adapted innovative solutions

Other: Cooperation with the Science Service for Biodiversity (SSBD) & project BioAgora; consider Nature-based solutions; involve social sciences and humanities (SSH)

Language - the Multi-Actor Approach (eligibility criterion)

Stakeholders vs Multi-Actors

- **Informing**: Providing information to enable understanding of problems, alternatives, opportunities and solutions.
- **Consulting**: Obtaining feedback to inform decision making.
- **Involving**: Working directly to ensure issues, concerns and aspirations are understood and considered.
- **Collaborating**: Working in partnership on all aspects of decision-making - development of options and identifying preferred solutions.
- **Empowering**: Final decision-making in their hands.
- **Co-creation** (e.g. through Mobilisation and Mutual Learning): ensures all are involved in design of future agendas, integrating ideas and concerns to jointly identify and address opportunities, challenges and risks.

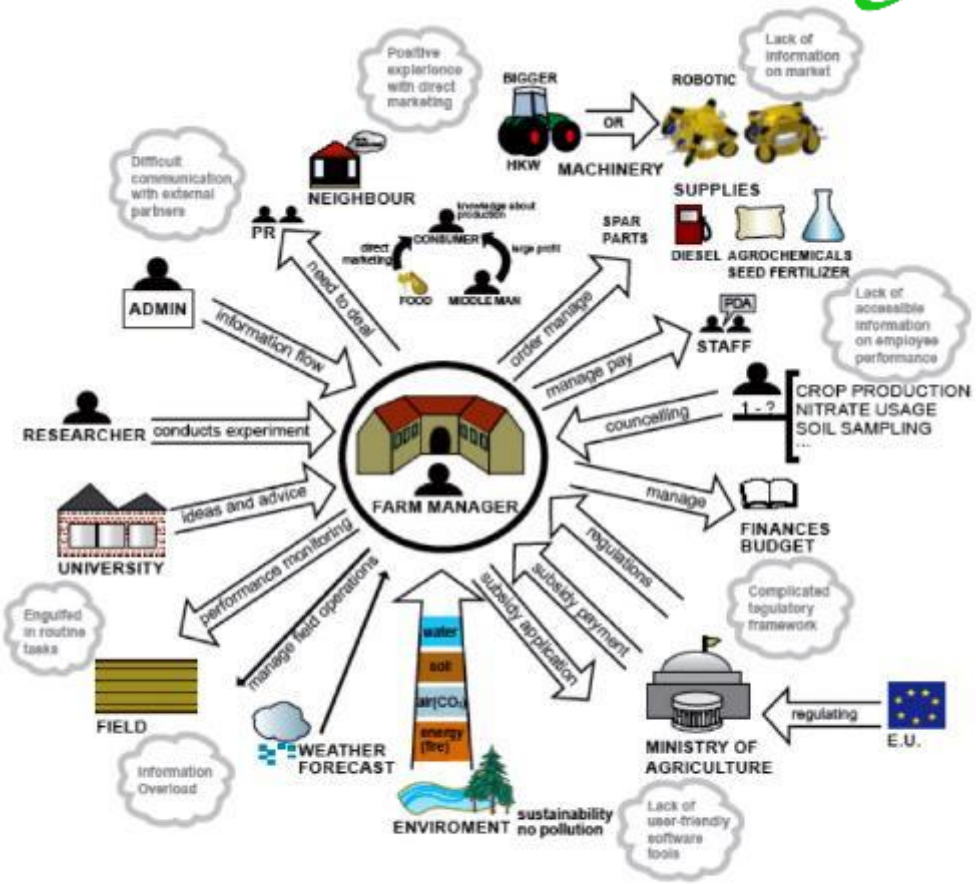


Image credit: Sørensen, Claus & Fountas, Spyros & Nash, Edward & Pesonen, Liisa & Bochtis, Dionysis & Pedersen, S.M. & Basso, Bruno & Blackmore, B.. (2010) [1]

Soil Health Living Labs & Lighthouses: Implementation Plan - Criteria

Learn from / adapt for "BIODIV-07: Living labs for forests or freshwater ecosystems restoration"

Living Labs*

AIMS	• **Innovation**, **co-creation**, formal learning • Contribution to **societal challenges** • **Improving soil health and related ecosystem services** (=> mission objectives)
ACTIVITIES	• **Co-creation, co-development & experimentation** of innovations improving soil health and related ESS • **Research on impact of these innovative practices** on **ecosystems** • **Networking** and **knowledge exchange** • **Demonstration** (in particular lighthouses)
PARTICIPANTS	• **Public-private people partnership** • **Real users (soil managers connected with broad array of stakeholders & decision-makers)** • **Demonstration:** wider public, policy arena, EIP and relevant networks
CONTEXT	• Multiple **disciplines** (-> transdisciplinary, inc. social sciences), **methods, dimensions** (technical, economic, social) • **Place-based** approach and **real-life context** = real farms/forest/urban sites • **Robust scientific setup** for **ecosystem assessment** • **Openness,** communication, dissemination

Lighthouses

Criteria based on **exemplary performances** in terms of soil health and related ecosystems services

*adapted from McPhee et al. (2021)

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-07: Provide digital solutions tailored to small and medium-sized farms to monitor and sustainably manage agricultural inputs and natural resources

- Innovation Actions, €8M (1 project); additional eligibility: **use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS;** multi-actor approach. TRLs: Activities are expected to **achieve TRL 7-8.** L&F: Beneficiaries may provide **financial support to third parties**
- **Policies:** European Green Deal; Common agricultural policy (CAP); EU biodiversity strategy for 2030

Expected outcomes:

- Small- and medium-sized farmers are empowered with innovative digital and data-driven solutions tailored to their specific needs, allowing for the sustainable management of water, nutrients, other inputs and natural resources in conventional, organic and other farming systems;
- The digital divide between farms with differing capacities and characteristics is reduced

Scope - Proposals should:

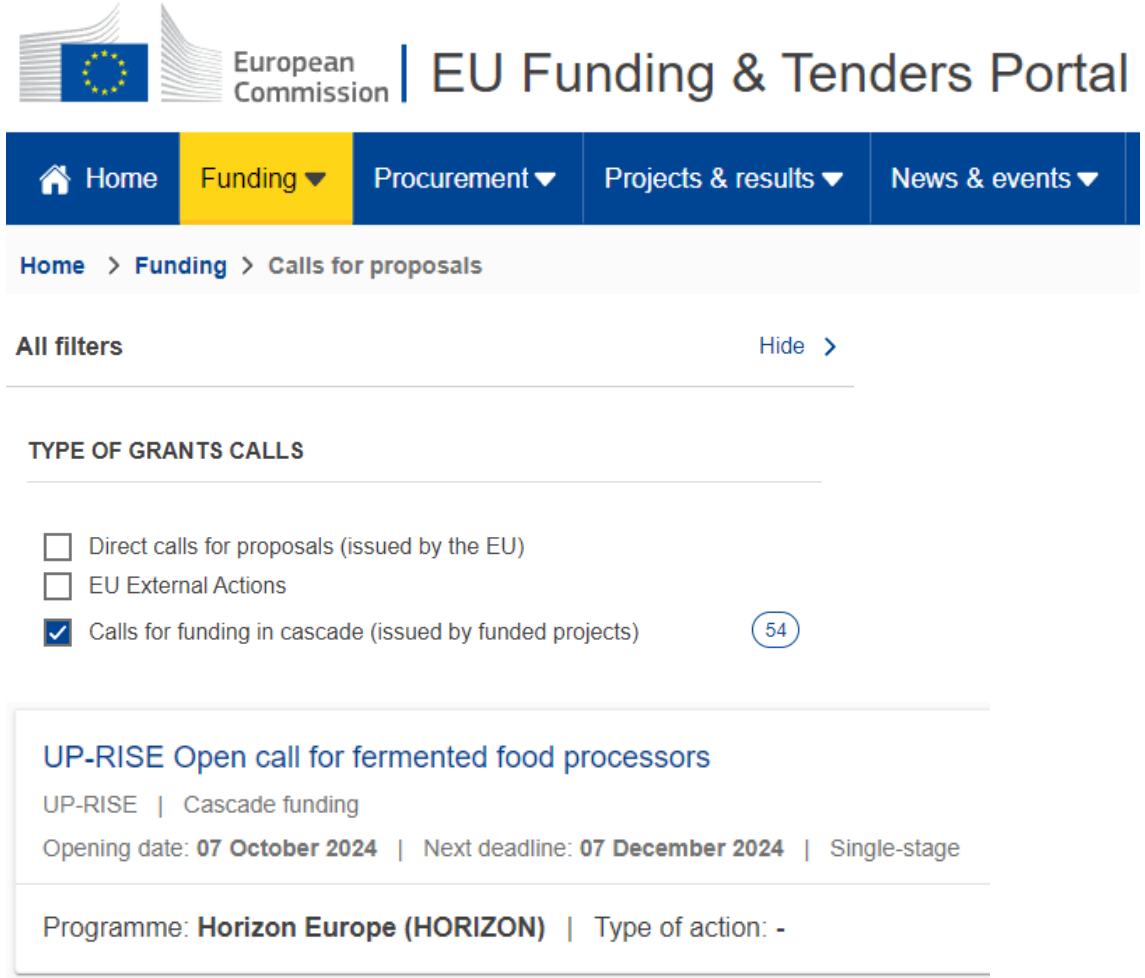
- critically analyse the potential and limitations of R&I results from relevant past and ongoing projects and identify barriers and enablers for translation of results into practical and commercial tools
- set up an **accessible and searchable web-based database** and **central brokerage and support service point** aimed at matching innovation ideas from industrial partners
- establish a network of research and innovation providers; **develop prototypes of the innovations and test them in an operational environment**; set up a community of practice for science-business exchanges
- propose **a clear strategy to disseminate and exploit results**, innovations and best practices

Other: Define a selection process for the industrial partners (for financial support); provision of training; contribution from Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) / behavioral sciences.

Financial support to third parties ('Cascading funding')

Beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties.

- *in the form of grants*
- *open calls to be evaluated in a fair and transparent process*



Consortium structure

Research and Innovation Action vs Innovation Action

Geographical spread	Research Provider	Industry Body	Ind, SME	Other
Region A	Univ 1 (Coord)			Policymaker (agri)
Region B	Univ 2 (modelling) RTO 1 (fertiliser exp)	Wastewater Assoc	DigiSmart (Apps)	NGO (Comms)
Region C	RTO 2 (waste exp) RTO 3, (agronomy) Univ 3 (behavioural sciences)			Standards Institution City Council
Region D	Univ 4 (Air poll)	Farming body		Regional Govt
Etc.			NewFertiliser Inc	

COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION
WHY THEY ALL MATTER AND WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Communication:
Promote your action and results

Inform, promote and communicate your activities and results

Reaching multiple audiences
Citizens, the media, stakeholders

How?
- Having a well-designed strategy
- Conveying clear messages
- Using the right media channels

When?
From the start of the action until the end

Why?
- Engage with stakeholders
- Attract the best experts to your team
- Generate market demand
- Raise awareness of how public money is spent
- Show the success of European collaboration

Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement

Dissemination:
Make your results public

Open Science: knowledge and results (free of charge) for others to use

Only to scientists?
Not only but also to others that can learn from the results: authorities, industry, policymakers, sectors of interest, civil society

How?
Publishing your results on:
- Scientific magazines
- Scientific and/or targeted conferences
- Databases

When?
At any time, and as soon as the action has results

Why?
- Maximise results' impact
- Allow other researchers to go a step forward
- Contribute to the advancement of the state of the art
- Make scientific results a common good

Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement

Exploitation:
Make concrete use of results

Commercial, Societal, Political Purposes

Only by researchers?
Not only, but also:
- Industry including SMEs
- Those that can make good use of them: authorities, industrial authorities, policymakers, sectors of interest, civil society

How?
- Creating roadmaps, prototypes, softwares
- Sharing knowledge, skills, data

When?
Towards the end and beyond, as soon as the action has exploitable results

Why?
- Lead to new legislation or recommendations
- For the benefit of innovation, the economy and the society
- Help to tackle a problem and respond to an existing demand

Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement

What else? Acknowledge the EU funding!

https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/imgs/quick-guide_diss-expl_en.pdf

Communication & Dissemination Measures

Exploitation Strategy

- How would you protect IP?
  - Patents, trademarks, copyrights
  - Trade Secrets
  - Contractual agreements for use of "know-how“
- How would you exploit results?
  - Commercialisation by one or more partners?
  - Licensing – when, how and to whom?

Seeking a consortium to join?

- Use your connections
- Understand what coordinators are looking for
  - The most experienced are slow to take on a ‘new’ partner
- Partner selection is driven by:
  - Quality - they want ‘the best’
  - Prior research achievements and scientific track record (quality and relevance of publications and innovations)
  - Balance of roles, skills and levels of experience
  - Complementarities may include geography
- Do prepare a summary of what you can offer
- Be prepared to travel to EU-level events
- Be responsive and provide the right information
- Be prepared to be patient

“It can be like playing poker, with everyone guarding their hand closely”

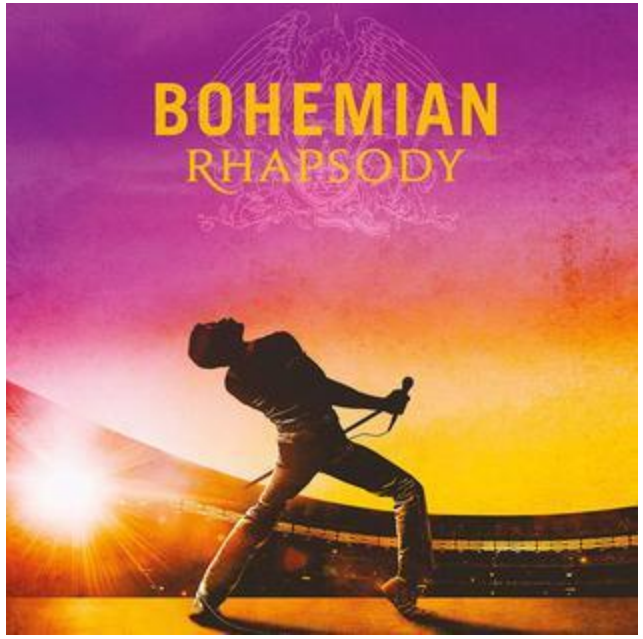
What Coordinators want . . .

- Ideal Partners . . .
- Have background understanding of the call topic area, policies and Commission needs
- Are used to working in a multidisciplinary consortium
- Understand what they are asking for when they request information and will deliver it promptly
- Have a track record (of projects, publications, innovations etc.) in the right field
- Have great links with stakeholders and can engage them without offering them funding
- Industrial participation
  - Needed to show a pathway to commercial impact
  - But . . . they want companies with ambitions that match the Commission's aims and plans

- Will avoid . . .
- First-timers who need to have everything explained to them
- Partners who do only what THEY want to do
- Partners that have to be asked again and again, but just don't do what they are asked
- Seem to have good facilities, but lack a convincing track record in the area they propose to contribute
- Tend to focus on local issues and policies without linking them to EU-level impacts

Good proposals take time

- Remember – it is collaborative funding – it's not just about you!
- Ideas should grow and change
  - Friendly conflict is often a good thing
  - What if we could . . ? How would we . . ? Why would you do it that way?
- Sometimes the best projects look nothing like the first ideas
- Accept that it's a journey - good proposals take time to develop.



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"I went to Munich. I hired a bunch of guys. I told them exactly what to do and the problem was, they did it. No push-back from Roger, none of Brian's re-writes, none of John's funny looks. I need you, and you need me."

Next Steps

- Do develop a partner search profile /short pitch slide
- Do network and attend matchmaking / brokerage events
- Do sign up for NCP/NICP newsletters
- For travel:
  - Horizon Europe: Travel Vouchers | InterTradeIreland
  - Travel support for UK businesses to attend European events - apply now - Innovate UK Business Connect
- Do join projects without funding (multi-actor, associated partner)
- Consider registering as an evaluator

Other Sources of Information and Support

- Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) https://een.ec.europa.eu/ - in UK Innovate EDGE www.innovateukedge.ukri.org/
  - Advice, support and opportunities for European and international partnerships
- European IP Helpdesk https://intellectual-property-helpdesk.ec.europa.eu/
- Horizon Europe On-line Manual https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/funding-tenders-opportunities/display/OM/Online+Manual

Register as an evaluator

European Commission | EU Funding & Tenders Portal

Home | Funding | Procurement | Projects & results | News & events | Work as an expert | Guidance & documents

We need experts for:

- Assessing applications for EU funding (including prizes and tenders),
- Monitoring of EU funded projects and contracts,
- Giving your advice on specific issues.

Experts act in their individual capacity to assist the EU services with the implementation of EU funding & tenders managed through the Portal.

Do you have an extensive professional experience & proven domain-knowledge?

Register as expert

As new expert, you will be first requested to create your EU login account and register your profile.

Registered experts can update the profile via the 'My Expert Area' once signed in.

Find out more about the evaluation and monitoring objectives and scope in the terms of reference.

If you need further guidance, access the key steps for experts.

Calls for expressions of interest for experts

Call for expressions of interest for experts (2021-2027)

Research Professional News: Horizon Europe - an evaluator's perspective

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert

CARE4BIO - Official Network of the Horizon Europe Cluster 6 NCPs

https://horizoneuropencpportal.eu/cluster-6

Contact

Cluster 6 Repository

Horizon Europe Cluster 6 Policy Database

- Sets out the context and overview of the policies relevant to Horizon Europe's Cluster 6.
- Outlines how there is a coherent and logical approach to R&D priorities and funding. In turn, that research goes on to inform and support policy and strategy development.

Annotated Proposal Templates for Cluster 6

- Annotated templates with comments for guidance to applicants.
- Available for Stage 1/full proposals for:
  - Research and Innovation Actions (RIA),
  - Innovation Actions (IA),
  - Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)

Find your NCP
Activities
Repository
News
Funding opportunities
Subscribe to newsletter!

National Contact Points

The services offered by NCPs vary in each country but typically include:

- **Guidance** on choosing relevant Horizon Europe topics and types of action
- **Advice** on administrative procedures and contractual issues
- **Training**, assistance and advice on proposal writing, to improve the quality of proposals
- **Signpost** to documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.) and other supports available
- **Assistance** in partner search

Find UK NCPs: https://www.gov.uk/business-finance-support/horizon-europe-funding#find-your-uk-national-contact-point-for-advice

Specific CL6 information: https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/.../food-bioeconomy-natural-resources-agriculture-and-environment/

Email for all UK CL6 NCPs: NCP-Food-Bio-Marine@iuk.ukri.org

Mark SWEENEY, Enterprise Ireland

Darragh O'Neill, EPA

Willie RYAN, DAFM

Fiona GRANT, Marine Institute

Irish CL6 NCPS details @ https://horizoneurope.ie/

How Local NICPs can help you

Meetings, links and contacts:

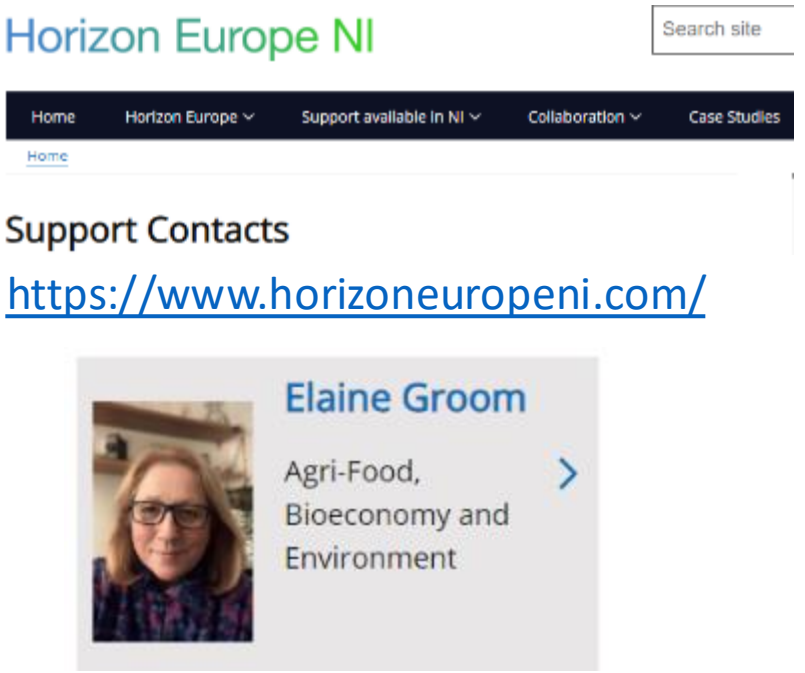
- Workshops, presentations, discussions – aid understanding and interpretation of the opportunities
- Links to NCPs and other supports

Ideas stage:

- Signpost towards resources to aid concept development
- Aid in finding partnerships and new contacts
- Challenge the ambition of your ideas – and fit with the topic and call
- Are you using the right language?

Proposal development stage:

- Critical friend – ensuring you 'do the hard bits' early enough
- Steering direction, content and execution
- Understanding of how evaluators perceive proposals



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Feedback & Follow up

Request for further information / follow up (optional) - email to elaine.groom@afbini.gov.uk

Your Name:	**Your Email:**

Please indicate your preferred options for follow up

Please sign me up for NICP Cluster 6 email and newsletters	
I would like further information on how to . . .	
I would like to receive details of specific call topics (as listed below)	
Please provide a topic identifier e.g. CIRCBIO-10 (digitalisation/AI)	
I would like a meeting to discuss the fit of an idea to a specific topic	
Please provide a topic identifier e.g. CIRCBIO-10 (digitalisation/AI)	