Horizon Europe Cluster 5 - Climate, Energy & Mobility for 2026 and 2027

11th November 2025

Horizon Europe National Contact Points (NCPs)

Team of national advisors, appointed by the Government, to support organisations to successfully participate in Horizon Europe by:

- Raising Awareness of the programme
- Helping you find the right Topic
- Identifying the best ways to find partners
- Navigating the EU funding & tender opportunities portal
- Developing the proposal
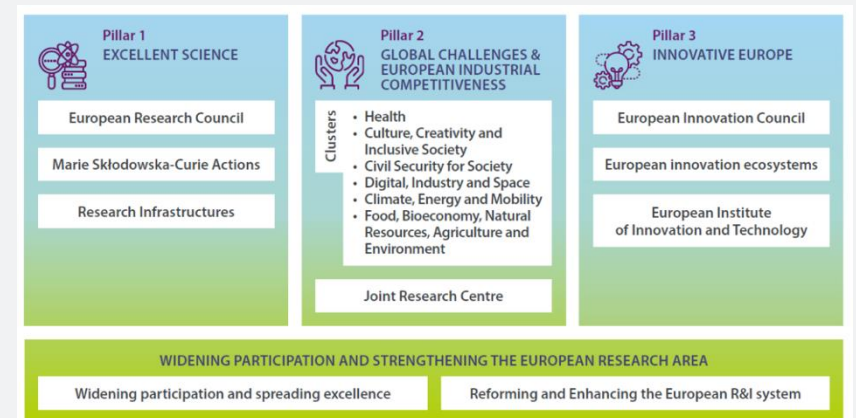- Answering any other Horizon Europe related questions

Top Tip – get to know your NCP and sign up to get their newsletters https://eufunding.ukri.org/subscribe

HORIZON EUROPE'S
NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS
CAN HELP YOU

#HorizonEU   European Commission

Find National Contact Points from all participating countries

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What is Horizon Europe?

- Horizon Europe is the current EU's Framework Research and Innovation funding programme.
- It is the largest R&I funding programme in the world, with a budget of over £81bn for 2021-27

- The programme is divided into **three main parts - Pillars**:
  - Pillar 1 supports excellence in science;
  - Pillar 2 focuses on solving global challenges through collaborative research & innovation; and
  - Pillar 3 supports business growth and competitiveness.

- Other parts of Horizon also include support for research infrastructure and widening participation.
- Key priority areas include food, bioeconomy, climate change, health, digital, transport and mobility, space, energy, industry, civil security and humanities. The programme is open to all types of organisations of all sizes.
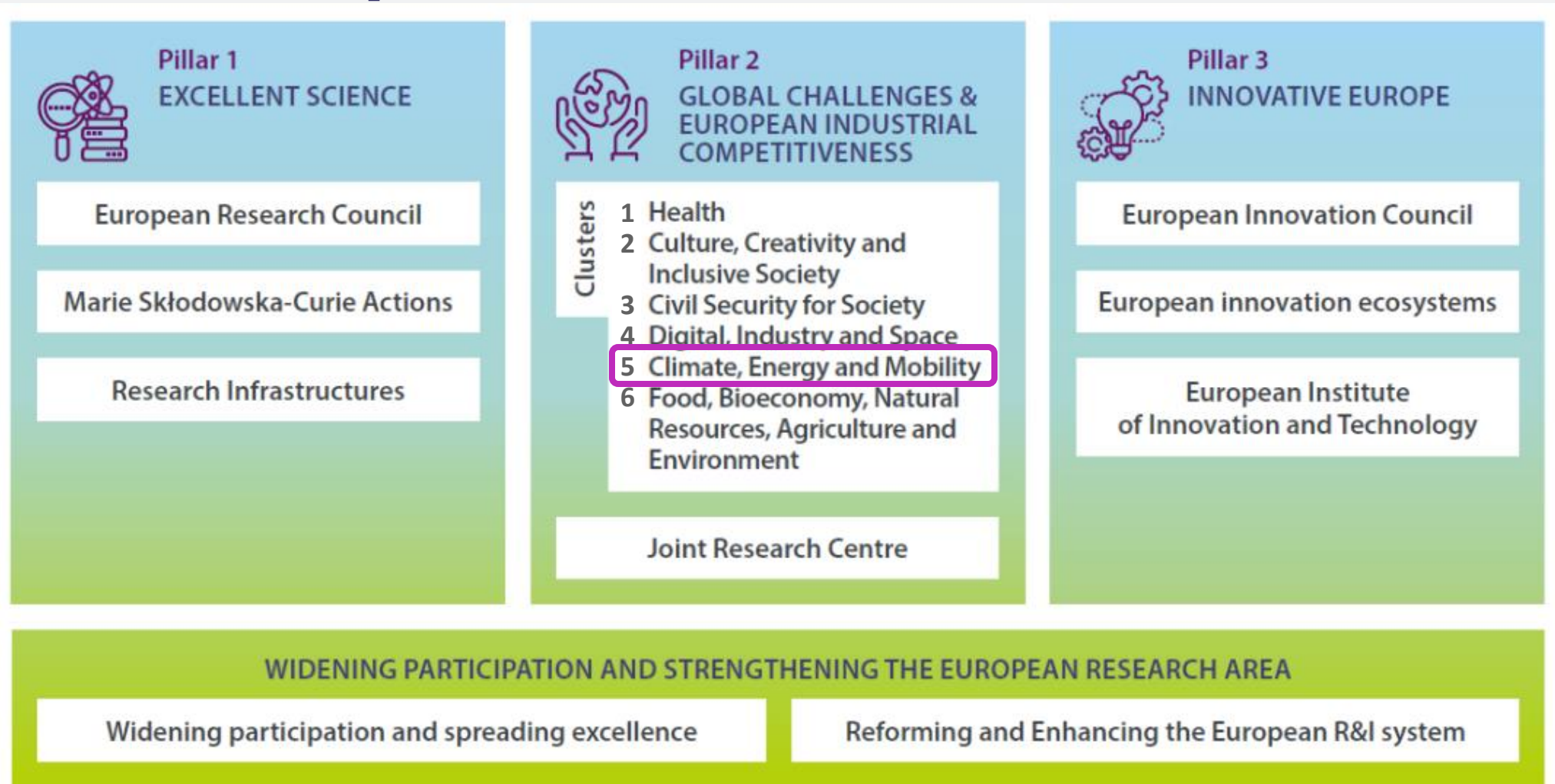
UK is a 'Country Associated to the Programme'

- 'the Programme' is Horizon Europe, i.e., UK is an Associated Country (AC) from the 2024 Work Programme onwards

- UK contributes funding to the programme:
  - EU decides where to allocate UK government contribution (paragraph 50 of Regulation establishing Horizon Europe)

- Except in a very few Topics that are restricted (and clearly marked as such):
  - UK organisations **are** fully eligible to coordinate projects
  - UK organisations **are** classed as one of the minimum required 'three different legal entities from three different eligible countries', as long as at least one consortium member is also from a Member State
  - Successful UK organisations **are** funded by EU as project participants/beneficiaries

- The UK is not the only Associated Country, there are currently 19 and more are negotiating association (South Korea will associate from 2025 onwards). A full list can be seen here

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Why International collaboration is important

- Solve global grand challenges through collaborative R&I
- Collaborate with world leading organisations to learn from the best
- Access cutting edge technologies, infrastructure, talent & markets
- Contribute to the dialogue on standards, regulations and research policies
- Ensure that technology development aligns with global marketplace
- Collaborative relationships frequently become commercial ones – developing system solutions in supply chain partnerships
- **Creating jobs, growth and stronger supply chains**

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Horizon Europe Mobility Funding Opportunities from the Cluster 5 Work Programme

Horizon Europe

Budget figures exclude UK and other Associate Country contributions

Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility

Six Destinations

1. Climate sciences and responses
2. Cross-sectorial solutions for the climate transition (includes Batteries)
3. Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply (includes fuels)
4. Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use
5. Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes
6. Safe, resilient transport and smart mobility services for passengers and goods

Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility

Six Destinations

1. NCP-Climate@iuk.ukri.org

2. NCP-Climate@iuk.ukri.org (except Batteries which is NCP-Mobility@iuk.ukri.org)

3. NCP-Energy@iuk.ukri.org

4. NCP-Climate@iuk.ukri.org
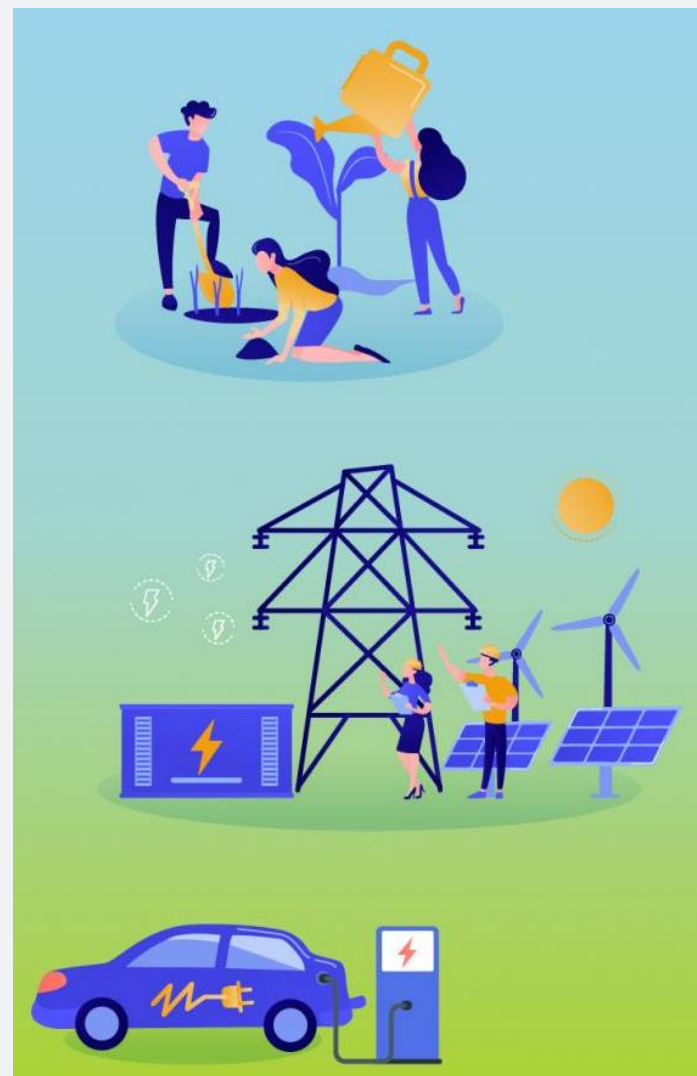
5. NCP-Mobility@iuk.ukri.org

6. NCP-Mobility@iuk.ukri.org

Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility

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The NCPs

1. Cinzia Porcedda
2. Cinzia Porcedda (except Batteries - Louise Mothersole)
3. Conall McGinley
4. Cinzia Porcedda
5. Louise Mothersole
6. Louise Mothersole

Horizon Europe Competition Structure within Cluster 5 Work Programme

The Work Programme is published at the Cluster level – it is all the competitions for the entire year (or more often two years)

Each competition is called a Topic:

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Horizon Europe
     └ Pillar
          └ Cluster
               └ Call for Proposals
                    └ Destination
                         └ Topic
                              └ Project
```

The competition happens here

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

  - e.g. HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-02 (reading backwards) is the second Topic in Destination 5 in the fifth Call for Proposals in 2026 in Cluster 5 in Horizon Europe

Funding rates and main types of Action (type of project)

Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
- Typically, low(ish) Technology Readiness Level
- Consortium of at least three different legal entities from three different eligible countries (all UK legal entities are classed as eligible). At least one consortium member must be from a Member State (MS)
- All participants receive 100% of eligible direct costs plus 25% for indirect costs

Innovation Action (IA)
- Typically, high(er) Technology Readiness Level
- Consortium of at least three different legal entities from three different eligible countries. At least one must be from a MS
- All not-for-profit participants receive 100% of eligible direct costs plus 25% for indirect costs
- All for-profit participants receive 70% of eligible direct costs plus 25% for indirect costs

Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
- As name suggests, for coordinating and supporting activities such as working groups, networking, regulation review, communications, organising EU conferences, etc
- Formally do not need a collaborative approach but often do to meet the scope. Must have at least one partner from a MS
- All participants receive 100% of eligible direct costs plus 25% for indirect costs

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Energy

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Novelties in the Work Programme 26-27

Societal Readiness Pilots

- **Expanded Societal Readiness Pilot**: The pilot continues from WP2025 with broader integration across multiple topics, especially in energy systems, mobility, and CCUS.
- **Dedicated Coordination & Support Action**: A new CSA (HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2-09) will monitor and evaluate the pilot's implementation across projects.
- **Structured Reporting Requirements**: Projects must produce a *First Report on Societal Readiness* within 6 months and a *Final Report* in the last 3 months, reflecting on stakeholder engagement, societal needs, and lessons learned.
- **Mandatory SSH Integration**: Proposals must include Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) partners to facilitate interdisciplinary design and societal uptake.
- **RRI-Based Evaluation**: Societal Readiness is assessed under the Excellence criterion using Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) dimensions—reflection, inclusion, anticipation, and responsiveness.
- **Increased Page Limit**: Proposals under Societal Readiness topics are allowed two additional pages to accommodate methodology and stakeholder engagement plans.
- **Clustering & Coordination**: Projects are expected to engage with each other and the CSA through workshops, interviews, and shared learning platforms.

Carbon Capture, Utilisation & Storage (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Pre-commercial appraisal for CO2 aquifer storage	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-30	31-Mar-26	Innovation Action	5m	5
Advancements in Direct Air Capture	HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D3-31	31-Mar-27	Innovation Action	9m	2
Support to the implementation of an EU policy framework for CO2 transport and storage infrastructure	HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D3-32	31-Mar-27	Coordination & Support Action	5m	1
Delivery of industrial CCUS clusters – Societal Readiness pilot	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-33	09-Sept-27	Innovation Action	10m	3

Energy Systems (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Grid-forming capabilities for more resilient and RES-based electricity grids	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-19	31-Mar-26	Innovation Action	10m	2
Affordable and sustainable primary equipment for Future-Ready multi-terminal HVDC Systems	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-20	31-Mar-26	Innovation Action	4-12m	3
Hybrid AI-Control Framework for a next-generation grid-scale energy storage and system integration	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-21	31-Mar-26	Innovation Action	7m	2
Novel solutions for off-grid storage of renewable energy for critical infrastructures	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-22	31-Mar-26	Research & Innovation Action	4m	3
AI driven forecasting algorithms for Grid and Consumer friendly Energy Sharing – Societal Readiness pilot	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-23	31-Mar-26	Innovation Action	7m	2

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Energy Systems (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Data sharing to support the training and development of AI foundation models in the energy sector	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-24	10-Sept-26	Innovation Action	10m	3
Large scale operational validation and upscaling of state-of-the-art (Generative) AI tools and models powering a next generation digital energy system	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-25	31-Mar-27	Innovation Action	13m	2
Advanced TSO control rooms to enhance grid observability, stability and resilience	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-26	09-Sept-27	Innovation Action	10m	3

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Energy Systems (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Advanced Distribution Management Systems (ADSM) for more efficient and flexible distribution	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-27	09-Sept-27	Innovation Action	10m	3
Integrated Approaches for Retrofitting Infrastructures with Innovative Energy Storage Technologies	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-28	09-Sept-27	Innovation Action	8m	3
Community of practice - Data-Driven Decision-Making in Energy	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-29	09-Sept-27	Coordination & Support Action	6m	1

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General (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Targeting key value chain components for increasing the competitiveness of renewable energy technologies in Europe	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-01	31-Mar-26	Research and Innovation Action	3.3m	3
Next generation of renewable energy technologies	HORIZON-CL5-2026-04-Two-Stage-D3-02	31 Mar 2026 (First Stage), 20 Oct 2026 (Second Stage)	Research and Innovation Action	3m	9
Renewable Energy Valleys in Africa to increase energy security and energy access in Africa	HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D3-11	31-Mar-27	Innovation Action	5m	2

General (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
R&I in Support of the Clean Industrial Deal: Clean Technologies for Climate Action 2026	CID-1-2026	10-Sept-26	Innovation Action	15-25m	8
R&I in Support of the Clean Industrial Deal: Clean Technologies for Climate Action 2027	CID-1-2026	09-Sept-27	Innovation Action	15-25m	8

Clean Industrial Deal – how is it different?

Purpose & Strategic Context
- Supports the EU's climate goals: 55% GHG reduction by 2030, 90% by 2040, and climate neutrality by 2050.
- Responds to energy price volatility and geopolitical risks by boosting clean tech and industrial resilience.
- Aligns with the European Green Deal, Competitiveness Compass, Draghi Report, and Net-Zero Industry Act.
-

Call Objectives
- Accelerate deployment of clean technologies and decarbonisation solutions.
- Promote industrial competitiveness, resilience, and strategic autonomy.
- Mobilise public and private investment in clean energy and industry.
- Reinforce circular economy and reduce energy costs.

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Clean Industrial Deal – how is it different?

Call Structure

Two large open topics:

- **Clean Technologies for Climate Action**
- **Decarbonisation of Energy-Intensive Industries**

Complementary €50M call via the Research Fund for Coal and Steel.

Total indicative budget: €600M (2026–2027 WP), with €150M and €140M allocated per topic.

Proposal Requirements

- Must be **industry-led**, with a manageable consortium size (ideally ≤10 participants).
- Include a robust **business plan** and **market-readiness strategy**.
- Address one or more of three clean tech areas:
  - Net-zero energy systems
  - Zero-emission power technologies
  - Storage, renewable fuels, and CCU
- Include a **go/no-go milestone** before demonstration phase.

Clean Industrial Deal – how is it different?

Expected Outcomes

- Projects should be "fit for deployment" — technologically mature and market-ready.
- Demonstrate impact on competitiveness, circularity, cost reduction, and biodiversity.
- Strengthen EU manufacturing capacity and reduce dependency on third countries.

Technical & Financial Details

- **Type of Action**: Innovation Actions
- **EU Contribution per Project**: €15M–€25M
- **Funding Rate**: 70% (100% for non-profits)
- **TRL Range**: Start at TRL 6, reach TRL 8
- **Page Limit**: Extended to 60 pages to accommodate business and exploitation plans

Geothermal (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Resource assessment for deep sedimentary and basement reservoirs	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-07	10-Sept-26	Research & Innovation Action	5m	4
Inducement Prize - Lithium production from geothermal plants in Europe	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-08	10-Sept-26	Coordination & Support Action	5m	1

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Hydro (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Demonstration of hydropower technologies for efficient and forward-looking refurbishment of existing hydropower plants	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-12	09-Sept-27	Innovation Action	9m	2

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Hydrogen

- Please note that Hydrogen R&D is funded through a separate European partnership, the Clean Hydrogen Partnership
- Calls are announced annually, opening in mid-January and closing in mid-April

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Low Carbon Fuels (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
De-risking renewable fuel technologies through transnational pre-commercial procurement of renewable fuel industrial value chains	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-04	10-Sept-26	Pre-Commercial Procurement	40m	1
Demonstration of solid biofuel supply and conversion to large scale CHP from fully sustainable regional value chains	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-05	10-Sept-26	Innovation Action	7.5m	2
Co-funding Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan renewable fuel value chains at EU, national, regional, and local level	HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D3-09	31-Mar-27	CoFund	30m	1

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Solar PV (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Long-lifetime and optimised use of materials in recyclable Ag and In-free Si PV modules (EUPI-PV Partnership)	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-13	31-Mar-26	Research & Innovation Action	5m	3
Industrial processes and equipment for innovative, reliable and scalable tandem technologies (EUPI-PV Partnership)	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-14	31-Mar-26	Innovation Action	10m	3
Improved system design for innovative PV applications (EUPI-PV Partnership)	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-15	10-Sept-26	Innovation Action	7.5m	4
Improved system design for innovative PV applications (EUPI-PV Partnership)	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-15	10-Sept-26	Innovation Action	7.5m	4
Production technologies for solar photovoltaics beyond the state-of-the-art (EUPI-PV Partnership)	HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D3-16	31-Mar-27	Innovation Action	13m	3

Solar PV (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Industrial scale up and circularity pathway for IPV technologies (EUPI-PV Partnership)	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-17	09-Sept-27	Innovation Action	12m	3
PV based electrification of the economy: Designing & optimising PV systems supporting industrial electrification and promoting participation in electricity markets (EUPI-PV Partnership)	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-18	09-Sept-27	Innovation Action	6m	3

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Solar Thermal (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Concentrated solar thermal systems for decarbonising industrial processes	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-06	10-Sept-26	Innovation Action	6m	2

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Wave & Tidal (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Innovative technologies and solutions to improve wave and tidal energy systems	HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D3-10	31-Mar-27	Innovation Action	45m	1

Wave & Tidal – how is it different?

Innovative Technologies and Solutions to Improve Wave and Tidal Energy Systems
(HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-10)

- **Single Large Innovation Action (€43M)**: One major project will be funded to demonstrate advanced wave and tidal technologies.
- **Focus on Deployment Readiness**: Projects must reach TRL 8 by the end, meaning near-commercial readiness.
- **System-Level Integration**: Emphasis on integrating wave/tidal systems into broader energy networks, including hybridisation and grid compatibility.
- **Environmental & Societal Impact**: Proposals must address biodiversity, spatial planning, and public acceptance.
- **Digitalisation & Circularity**: Use of AI, robotics, and circular design principles is encouraged to improve performance and sustainability.
- **Strategic Autonomy**: Projects should reduce EU dependency on non-EU supply chains and enhance domestic manufacturing capacity.

Wind (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Call Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan wind energy research and innovation joint programme	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-03	10-Sept-26	Innovation Action	95m	1

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Wind topic – how is it different?

SET Plan Wind Energy Research and Innovation Joint Programme
(HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-03)

- **Massive Innovation Action (€93M)**: Structured as a multi-year programme with a core consortium and cascading grants (FSTP) to third parties.
- **Three R&I Challenges**:
  - *Breakthrough*: Disruptive concepts and early-stage innovation.
  - *Validation*: Lab and field testing of promising technologies.
  - *Demonstration*: Full-scale deployment of mature solutions.
- **FSTP Grants**: Up to €1M per third party; used to fund SMEs, start-ups, and research bodies via open calls managed by the core consortium.
- **Mandatory Demonstration Activities**: At least three distinct demonstrations, each with a go/no-go milestone and full permitting/business plans.
- **Governance & Advisory Board**: Includes SET Plan IWG, ETIP Wind, and EC representatives to ensure alignment with EU wind energy strategy.
- **Data Platform & KPIs**: Projects must contribute to a shared data repository and report against SET Plan KPIs annually.

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Climate

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Destination 1 – Climate Sciences and Responses: Overview and Key Aspects

Overall shift: From climate research alone → to applied, place-based adaptation and decision-making support.

❖ Stronger requirement for real-world deployment, not only modelling or data generation.
❖ Place-based adaptation pilots are prioritised (cities, regions, coastal areas, rural communities).
❖ Direct alignment with Mission "Adaptation to Climate Change" and Mission Cities.
❖ Use of existing EU climate data infrastructures (Copernicus, Destination Earth digital twins) rather than creating new tools.
❖ Focus on compound climate risks (heat + drought + biodiversity loss; climate-security link; critical infrastructure exposure).
❖ Policy, finance and planning uptake must be explicitly demonstrated (e.g., involvement of public authorities, insurers, utilities).
❖ Societal readiness and behavioural adaptation are embedded as mandatory—not optional.

What this means for consortia? Must include local authorities + implementation actors and show institutional uptake beyond research deliverables.

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Destination 1: Climate Science and Responses for the Transformation towards climate Neutrality – DRAFT 2026

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1-01	Next generation climate monitoring and related capabilities	18 Dec 2025	15 Apr 2026	RIA	3	Around €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1-02	Advancing European climate risk assessments	18 Dec 2025	15 Apr 2026	RIA	3	€4m to €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1-03	Economics of climate change and cost of inaction	18 Dec 2025	15 Apr 2026	RIA	4	Around €4m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1-04:	Fighting disinformation and effectively communicating on climate change	18 Dec 2025	15 Apr 2026	RIA	3	€4m to €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-07-D1-05:	Improving climate and weather models for Africa	18 Dec 2025	15 Apr 2026	RIA	3	Around €7m

Destination 1: Climate Science and Responses for the Transformation towards climate Neutrality – DRAFT 2026

2- Stage Call

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-08-Two Stages-D1-06:	Closing knowledge gaps on Earth system science in support of global and regional assessments and climate policy	18 Dec 2025	15 Apr 2026 First Stage 8 October Second Stage	RIA	7	€5m to €9m

Destination 1: Climate Science and Responses for the Transformation towards climate Neutrality – DRAFT 2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-07	Advancing understanding, modelling and prediction of extreme events in a changing climate	17 Nov 2026	04 Mar 2027	RIA	3	Around €6m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-08	Palaeoclimate science for a better understanding of Earth system dynamics	17 Nov 2026	04 Mar 2027	RIA	2	Around €7m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-09	Assessing the performance of policy instruments to inform climate change mitigation action	17 Nov 2026	04 Mar 2027	RIA	3	Around €3m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-10	Understanding and avoiding maladaptation to climate change	17 Nov 2026	04 Mar 2027	RIA	3	€5m to €6m

Destination 1: Climate Science and Responses for the Transformation towards climate Neutrality – DRAFT 2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-11	Africa-EU CO-FUND action on climate	17 Nov 2026	04 Mar 2027	COFUND	1	Around €15m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-12	Better understanding and attribution of land and ocean carbon sources and sinks	17 Nov 2026	04 Mar 2027	RIA	5	Around €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-13	Next generation scenarios for informing climate and sustainability transitions	17 Nov 2026	04 Mar 2027	RIA	6	Around €4m

Destination 4 – Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use: Overview and Key Aspects

Overall shift: From single-technology efficiency → to system-level demand reduction, flexibility, and user adoption.

❖ Smart buildings & districts: Buildings are treated as energy nodes interacting with grids, mobility, and heat networks.
❖ Demand-side flexibility is now a priority (residential, municipal and industrial loads).
❖ Social and behavioural factors must be integrated into project design and KPIs.
❖ Energy poverty, affordability, and inclusion are now core evaluation elements, not just narrative context.
❖ Greater push for replicable demonstration in real environments, with measurable energy and emissions outcomes.
❖ Industrial decarbonisation focuses on process integration, waste heat recovery and sectoral system change, not isolated pilots.

What this means for consortia? Must combine technical partners + social scientists + municipalities/industry + citizen/user groups and show scalable and transferable solutions.

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Destination 4: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use – DRAFT 2026

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D4-01	Researching the technical, social & economic factors impacting the energy performance of Smart Buildings (Built4People Partnership)	5 May 2026	15 Sept 2026	RIA	3	Around €5.25m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D4-02	Low disturbance prefabrication approaches for deep renovation of multi-storey buildings (Built4People Partnership)	5 May 2026	15 Sept 2026	IA	4	Around €7m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D4-03	Advanced data platforms to integrate whole life carbon in building information tools, assessments, and certification (Built4People Partnership)	5 May 2026	15 Sept 2026	IA	3	Around €5.25m

Destination 4: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use – DRAFT 2026

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D4-04:	Validating policies and business models for affordable and sustainable housing (Built4People Partnership)	5 May 2026	15 Sept 2026	RIA	3	€4m to €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D4-08:	Full-scale demonstration of heat upgrade solutions in industrial processes (Industry)	5 May 2026	15 Sept 2026	IA	2	Around €9m

Destination 1: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use – DRAFT 2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-05	On-site robotic and automated techniques for building renovation and new construction	05 May 2027	15 Sept 2027	IA	3	Around €6.75m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-06	Thermal energy optimisation and waste heat recovery of high energy demand IT rooms in buildings or small edge data centres	05 May 2027	15 Sept 2027	IA	3	Around €5.25m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-07	Integrating circularity in LCA-based modelling frameworks for renovation of buildings (Built4People Partnership)	05 May 2027	15 Sept 2027	IA	4	Around €6.75m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-09	Demonstration of industrial excess/waste heat conversion to mechanical or electrical power (Industry)	05 May 2027	15 Sept 2027	IA	32	Around €6.75m

Mobility

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Batteries for Europe (Batt4EU)

- [Batt4EU](#) is a Co-Programmed Partnership (€925m)
- The members of the partnership association (BEPA) wrote the initial Topic descriptions before the Programme Committee (PC) review
- If you join the partnership association:
  - You will be invited to be part of the drafting team for the next Work Programme
  - You will know what the Topics are likely to be well before the delegates to the PC
  - You will be 'rubbing shoulders' with your counterparts from across Europe. These will include competitors and potential customers as well as possible partners for collaboration.
  - **Every** battery innovator from across Europe is a member already
  - You will have an opportunity to shine – to show the others in the room that they need you in their consortium if they stand any chance of winning

Destination 2: Cross-sectorial solutions for the climate transition – Batteries DRAFT 2026

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D2-01	Producing battery-grade materials for electrodes through sustainable processing and refining of raw materials or developing bio-based materials (BATT4EU Partnership)	19 Dec 2025	31 Mar 2026	RIA	4	Around €7.5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D2-02	Development of direct recycling processes (BATT4EU Partnership)	19 Dec 2025	31 Mar 2026	RIA	3	Around €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D2-03	Integrated Production and Product Development for Next-Generation Lithium-based Batteries for Mobility (BATT4EU and Made in Europe Partnerships)	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	IA	3	Around €35m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D2-04:	Coordinated topic with India on recycling of EV batteries	5 May 2026	10 Sept 2026	IA	1	Around €10m

Destination 2: Cross-sectorial solutions for the climate transition – Batteries DRAFT 2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D2-05	Improvement of Adaptability, Flexibility and Efficiency of Existing Recycling Processes (BATT4EU Partnership)	03 Dec 2026	31 Mar 2027	IA	2	Around €10m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D2-06	Sustainable and Competitive Cell Production Techniques for Lithium-ion And Sodium-ion Batteries (BATT4EU Partnership)	03 Dec 2026	31 Mar 2027	IA	2	Around €20m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-06-Two-Stage-D2-07	Novel approaches towards next-generation battery concepts, leveraging the enabling role of innovative advanced materials (BATT4EU and IAM4EU Partnerships)	05 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027 **then** 07 Oct 2027	RIA	10	Around €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D2-08	Demonstration for Long-duration Battery Energy Storage Systems (BATT4EU Partnership)	07 May 2027	09 Sept 2027	IA	2	Around €10m

Towards Zero Emission Road Transport (€615m)

- [2ZERO](#) is a Co-Programmed Partnership
- The members of the partnership association wrote the initial Topic descriptions before the Programme Committee (PC) review
- If you join the partnership association:
  - You will be invited to be part of the drafting team for the next Work Programme
  - You will know what the Topics are likely to be well before the delegates to the PC
  - You will be 'rubbing shoulders' with your counterparts from across Europe. These will include competitors and potential customers as well as possible partners for collaboration.
  - **Every** automotive OEM and Tier 1 from across Europe is a member already
  - You will have an opportunity to shine – to show the others in the room that they need you in their consortium if they stand any chance of winning
  - For example, Ricardo UK have 8 projects in the first 3 years of Horizon Europe – they don't do this just for the money (although that is welcome) but for the influence and exposure

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Destination 5: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes – Towards Zero Emission Road Transport (2ZERO) DRAFT 2026/2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-01	Large Scale Demonstration of Heavy-Duty Battery Electric Vehicles (HD BEV) towards long-haul logistics operations	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	IA	2	Around €34m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-02	Energy-efficient software-defined EVs	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	IA	1	Around €16m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-03	Data-driven circular economy for e-mobility ecosystem	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	IA	5	Around €6m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-04	Demonstration of zero emission coaches and buses in long distance operations	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	IA	1	Around €13.5m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-05	Higher Voltage, Megawatt Charging System compatible, modular powertrain for Heavy Duty Vehicles (HDV)	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	IA	2	Around €8m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-06	Fire prevention and mitigation for EVs in confined areas	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	IA	1	Around €8m

Aviation Competitions (Topics) in Horizon Europe Cluster 5 Work Programme DRAFT 2026/2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-06-Two-Stage-D5-07	AI-assisted digital aircraft design, manufacturing and MRO, towards a competitive aviation	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	RIA	2	Around €5.0m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D5-08	Sustainable aircraft circular design and additive manufacturing, towards a climate neutral aviation	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	RIA	2	Around €2.5m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-06-Two-Stage-D5-09	Noise reduction breakthroughs for new ultraefficient aircraft	05 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027 **then** 07 Oct 2027	RIA	2	Around €2.5m

Note that all high Technology Readiness Level Aviation Research and Innovation is carried out within the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking who publish their own competitions that are also open to everyone from the UK

Zero Emission Waterborne Transport (€430m)

- [ZEWT](#) is a Co-Programmed Partnership
- The members of the partnership association wrote the initial Topic descriptions before the Programme Committee (PC) review
- If you join the partnership association:
  - You will be invited to be part of the drafting team for the next Work Programme
  - You will know what the Topics are likely to be well before the delegates to the PC
  - You will be 'rubbing shoulders' with your counterparts from across Europe. These will include competitors and potential customers as well as possible partners for collaboration.
  - **Every** maritime innovator – ports, shipyards, operators, etc., from across Europe is a member already
  - You will have an opportunity to shine – to show the others in the room that they need you in their consortium if they stand any chance of winning
  - For example, University of Strathclyde are already part of [six Horizon Europe ZEWT projects](#)

Destination 5: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes – Zero Emission Waterborne Transport (ZEWT) DRAFT 2026

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-06-Two-Stage-D5-10	Disruptive Technologies and Innovative Concepts for Energy Saving Onboard of long-distance ships (ZEWT Partnership	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026 **then** 08 Oct 2026	RIA	3	Around €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D5-12	Shipyards of the future (ZEWT Partnership)	04 Jun 2026	08 Oct 2026	IA	2	Around €10.5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D5-13	Safety of renewable low and zero-carbon waterborne fuels in port areas: risk assessment, regulatory framework, and guidelines for safe bunkering, handling and storage (ZEWT partnership)	04 Jun 2026	08 Oct 2026	CSA	1	Around €2m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D5-14	Ports of the future (ZEWT Partnership)	04 Jun 2026	08 Oct 2026	IA	2	Around €10.5m

Also, note **HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA-06: Improving climate resilience of navigable inland waterways, their surroundings and related water infrastructure**

Destination 5: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes – Zero Emission Waterborne Transport (ZEWT) DRAFT 2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2027-08-D5-15	Prospective evaluation of nuclear power potential for shipping (ZEWT Partnership)	03 Jun 2027	07 Oct 2027	CSA	1	Around €2m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-08-D5-16	Autonomous vessels in short sea shipping and inland waterways	03 Jun 2027	07 Oct 2027	IA	2	Around €7.5m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-08-D5-17	Innovative Solutions for mitigating the environmental impact of waterborne transport in marine and aquatic Ecosystems (ZEWT Partnership)	03 Jun 2027	07 Oct 2027	RIA	2	Around €7m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-08-D5-18	Enhanced electric operation and battery durability (ZEWT Partnership)	03 Jun 2027	07 Oct 2027	IA	2	Around €10m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-08-D5-19	Onboard renewable energy solutions and energy saving measures to reduce the fuel consumption of ships by at least 55% (ZEWT Partnership)	03 Jun 2027	07 Oct 2027	RIA	2	Around €7.5m

Also, note **HORIZON-MISS-2027-03-OCEAN-03: Green, circular and resilient harbours**

Destination 5: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes – Transport-related health and environment DRAFT 2026/2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-06-Two-Stage-D5-20	Non-exhaust emissions in road and railway transport	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026 **then** 08 Oct 2026	RIA	2	Around €3.5m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D5-21	Assessing the effect of airport operations on air quality and noise in nearby communities	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	RIA	2	Around €3.5m

Connected, Cooperative and Automated Mobility

- [CCAM](#) is a Co-Programmed Partnership (€500m)

- The members of the partnership association wrote the initial Topic descriptions before the Programme Committee (PC) review

- If you join the partnership association:

  - You will be invited to be part of the drafting team for the next Work Programme

  - You will know what the Topics are likely to be well before the delegates to the PC

  - You will be 'rubbing shoulders' with your counterparts from across Europe. These will include competitors and potential customers as well as possible partners for collaboration.

  - **Almost every** autonomous vehicle innovator from across Europe is a member already

  - You will have an opportunity to shine – to show the others in the room that they need you in their consortium if they stand any chance of winning

  - For example, University of Warwick are already part of [six Horizon Europe CCAM projects](#)

Destination 6: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods – Connected, Cooperative and Automated Mobility (CCAM)

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D6-01	Advancing remote operations to enable the sustainable and smart mobility of people and goods based on operational and societal needs (CCAM Partnership) – Societal Readiness Pilot	06-05-2024	04-09-2025	RIA	2	Around €6.0m
HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D6-02	Preparing for large-scale CCAM demonstrations (CCAM Partnership) – Societal Readiness Pilot	06-05-2024	04-09-2025	CSA	1 (1)	Around €4.0m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6-03	Next-generation environment perception for real world CCAM operations: Error-free and secure technologies to improve energy-efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and circularity (CCAM Partnership)	16-09-2025	13-01-2026	RIA	2	Around €4.0m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6-04	Integration of human driving behaviour in the validation of CCAM systems (CCAM Partnership)	16-09-2025	13-01-2026	RIA	1	Around €5.0m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6-05	Approaches, verification and training for Edge-AI building blocks for CCAM Systems (CCAM Partnership)	16-09-2025	13-01-2026	RIA	1	Around €4.0m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D6-06	Federated CCAM data exchange platform (CCAM Partnership)	16-09-2025	13-01-2026	IA	1	Around €4.0m

Destination 6: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods – Connected, Cooperative and Automated Mobility (CCAM) DRAFT 2026/2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D6-01	Flagship-pilot: large-scale demonstrations of CCAM	04 Jun 2026	08 Oct 2026	IA	1	Around €100m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D6-02	Geopolitical competition and socioeconomic resilience in CCAM: an innovation and policy roadmap for EU leadership	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	RIA	2	Around €3m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D6-03	Generative AI for smarter CCAM: enhancing perception, decision-making, and validation	04 Jun 2026	08 Oct 2026	RIA	2	Around €7m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D6-04	Holistic solutions for CCAM integration in critical scenarios	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	RIA	2	Around €4m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D6-05	European CCAM knowledge hub and tools for safe and scalable deployment	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	CSA	1	Around €4m

Destination 6: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods – Multimodal transport, infrastructure and logistics DRAFT 2026/2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D6-06	Increasing competitiveness and resilience of multimodal freight transport and logistics for competitive supply chains	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	IA	3	Around €7m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D6-07	Supporting sustainable and smart urban mobility in Europe (CIVITAS)	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	CSA	1	Around €4m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D6-08	Enhancing Mobility for All: affordable, reliable, and accessible multimodal transport for inclusive rural and urban connectivity – Societal Readiness pilot	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	IA	3	Around €7m

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Also note: **HORIZON-MISS-2026-04-CIT-NEB-B4P-CCRI-03: Introducing circular economy models in the construction sector, from buildings to city scale**

Destination 6: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods – Safety and resilience DRAFT 2026/2027

Topic Number	Topic Name	Opening Date	Closing Date	Type of Action	Number of Projects	EU grant per project
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D6-09	Road Safety and resilience of rural areas	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	IA	2	Around €6.5m
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D6-10	Enhanced resilience in multimodal passenger transport through digital technologies and generative and discriminative AI	18 Dec 2025	14 Apr 2026	IA	2	Around €5m
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D6-11	Enhancing Resilience and Accuracy in Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) Systems and e-conspicuity solutions	15 Dec 2026	14 Apr 2027	IA	1	Around €5m

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Maximising your chances of success

Briefings and Events

- GREENET Brokerage Event
  - 14th January – link here and shared in chat
- European Commission Information Day – online only
  - 15th January – link here and shared in chat

- Link to latest version of Work Programme

Useful links and sources of information

- [EU Funding & Tenders portal](#) where all the open and forthcoming Topics that are formally published can be seen

- [Briefing that evaluators](#) are given to explain how they should evaluate proposals – you too should sign up to be an evaluator

- [Reference documents](#) that include templates, guides, General Annexes, full published Work Programmes, etc

- [UK Horizon Europe Hub](#) with links to published draft Work Programmes for 2026-2027

- The EC has its own [YouTube channel](#) with videos explaining what makes a good proposal, how to calculate costs, etc.

The best ways to join winning teams

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

- Use your existing professional networks – if you don't know who the sector leaders are in Europe then you should find out (LinkedIn is a great resource)

- Attend networking events such as conferences and workshops.

- **Join the relevant technology platforms, networks, associations and partnerships**
  Top Tip: ask your NCP for suggestions in your sector for events and associations

  - Be an *active* member – say 'hi' when you join the virtual room. Ask questions, support others' opinions, act as if you are already well known to all in the virtual room

  - Volunteer to draft working papers, take notes, send in useful information – be helpful

  - Speak up at workshops – demonstrate Thought Leadership

  - Show that you would be a valuable partner for collaborative projects and that without you they won't win – you have the secret sauce that is necessary for their success

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TOPIC NUMBER AND NAME

Proposed Approach

What is your understanding of the part of the problem you can solve?

What part of the Scope do you want to address? ==Be specific==.

Top Tip: print this out in A5 and take a few copies with you to hand to likely partners

Organisational Capabilities

What skills, capabilities, facilities does your organisation have that will be vital for this project?

Is your organisation academic, SME, big business, etc (and explain the benefits to this project of whichever you are)

Experience

What previous, relevant, work or track record can you bring to the team?

Include your ability to attract the 'Big Names' in the sector (e.g. leading academics, major thought leaders)

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Administrative Information

Are you planning on being the Coordinator or a Partner?

Your contact details including:
Name, email and phone number
What country are you from

Your organisation's Participant Identification Code (PIC)

How to find partners with a track record of success

- Search [Cordis](#) using key words for relevant projects already underway

  - E.g. searching for 'CCAM' returns [46 past projects](#)

  - Picking one at random, [SUNRISE](#): Safety assUraNce fRamework for connected, automated mobIlity SystEms

  - Gives project coordinator as IDIADA AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY SA and **gives the opportunity to contact them and their partners**

  - Contact is to the Project Participant, not just a central administrative function

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

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Coordinator

🏢 **IDIADA AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY SA**

Address

L ALBORNAR
43710 Santa Oliva
🇪🇸 **Spain** 🗺️

Region

Este > Cataluña > T~~~gona

Activity type

Private for-p~~~ ~~~cluding Higher or Secondary Education Es~~~

Links

[Contact the organisation](#) ↗   [Website](#) ↗
[Participation in EU R&I programmes](#) ↗
[HORIZON collaboration network](#) ✉

Participants (26)

What constitutes a winning consortium?

One that can **deliver** the expected outcomes within the stated scope and budget (and give the evaluators confidence that they can)

Common to see universities, big business, small business, research and technologies organisations, consultancies, local authorities, national authorities all within the one consortium. There is no 'typical' or 'model' consortium structure/membership

Useful to include exploitation partners – someone who is going to take the outputs of the project and actually implement them (e.g. a pharmaceutical company, end user cohort, etc) to show immediate impact

Useful to include the end user community, possibly as an advisory board (not direct beneficiaries but costs e.g. travel can be included in 'other costs') or associate partners, again to demonstrate route to implementation

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Summary

Get out there and network – getting into the winning team is as important as writing a good proposal

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Questions?

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