

Horizon Europe Energy Series Session 1

Finding topics and building a concept

10th March 2026

Welcome and housekeeping

Focus Areas – Session 1

- How to find funding topics for Energy R&D in Horizon Europe
- Understand the rationale for Horizon Europe funding
- How to build a network and raise your profile
- Laying the foundation for Session 2 (Proposal Writing)

Focus Areas – Session 2

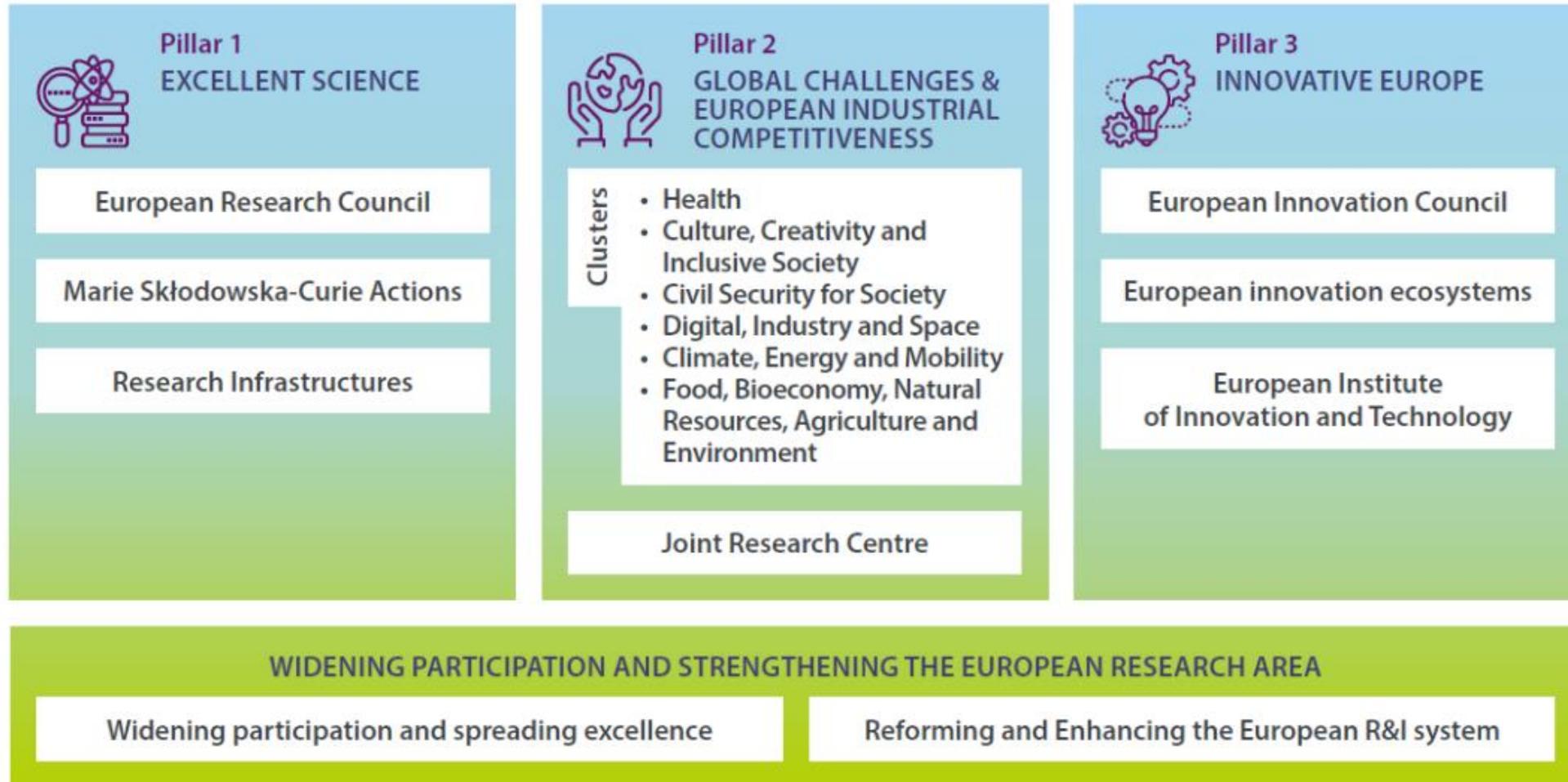
- The proposal writing process
- Using practical examples, templates and insights from evaluators
- How to transform an initial idea into a fundable Horizon Europe proposal

Structure of today's session

- Quick Poll
- Introduction to the Programme and relevance to the UK
- The Policy Background to Cluster 5
- Finding a topic
- How to build a network and a consortium

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 fundamentals of Horizon Europe

- Must apply as part of a consortium representing at least three member states/associate countries
- Proposal preparation generally takes 3-6 months or longer
- Projects generally last 2-5 years
- Projects must advance cutting-edge innovation **at a European level**



Case Study - NAVHYS

Project Name: NAVHYS

Scope: LH₂ storage and fuel-system below deck integrated in a Service Operating Vessel

UK Partners: University of Birmingham, North Star Shipping (Aberdeen) Limited

Germany Partners: Arianegroup GmbH; Maritimes Cluster Norddeutschland EV

Budget: €4.9 million

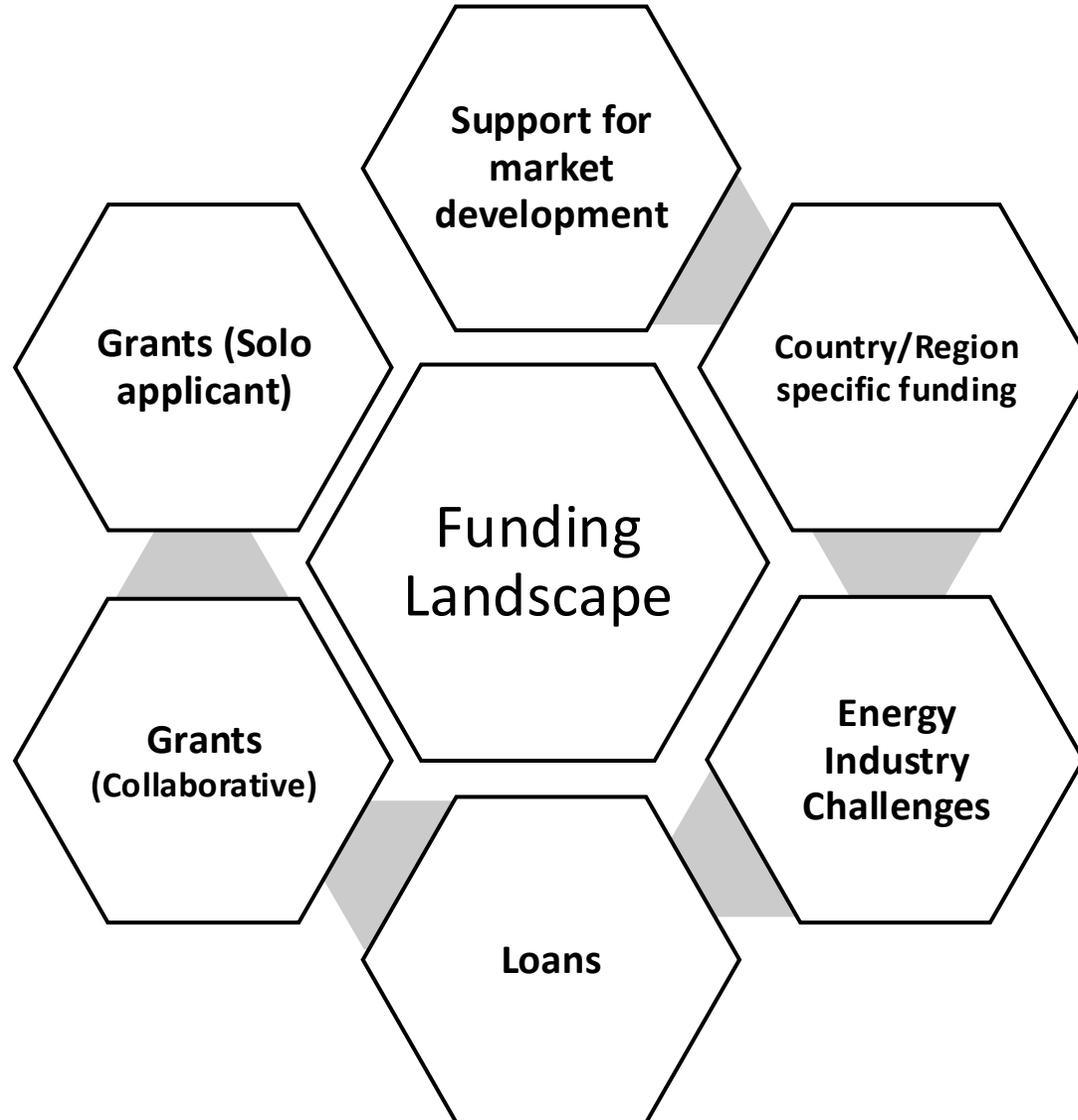
Number of Partners: 13



Horizon Europe in Context

Global Business Innovation Programme

- Targeted Innovate UK/DSIT Calls
- Energy Catalyst Challenge Calls
- Knowledge Transfer Partnership funding
- EIC Accelerator



- Scottish Enterprise SMART Grant
- Scottish Enterprise CETP Grant
- Enterprise NI Grants
- Wales SMART Partnerships funding

- Targeted Innovate UK/DSIT Calls
- **Horizon Europe**
- Eureka Eurostars
- OFGEM Strategic Innovation Fund

- Energy Innovation Council Challenges
- Innovate UK Innovation Exchange

Innovate UK Innovation Loans

The fundamentals of Horizon Europe

- Horizon Europe exists to respond to the needs of the European Commission
- Calls are built around policy objectives, expected impacts, and strategic choices
- Analysing the call logic and stress-testing the fit early on is key
- When policy elements are treated as constraints to adapt to, rather than as the starting point of the project, proposals tend to drift
- “I need funding quickly” is not the ideal starting point
- The growing level of competition means alignment to call text is crucial



The fundamentals of Horizon Europe

- When priorities are unclear, writing feels difficult. When priorities are set, writing becomes more straight-forward.
- 40% of applicants find the effort is disproportionate to their chances of success
- Biggest Issues:
 - You have not been taught to think like an evaluator, to translate great science into impact
 - You try to figure it out on your own, but the labyrinth of documents and rules leaves you second-guessing each step
 - Horizon Europe plays by unique rules



Impact Pathways guiding Horizon Europe

1. Creating high-quality new knowledge
2. Strengthening human capital in R&I
3. Fostering diffusion of knowledge and Open Science

**Scientific
Impact**



4. Addressing EU policy priorities & global challenges through R&I
5. Delivering benefits & impact via R&I missions
6. Strengthening the uptake of R&I in society

**Societal
Impact**



7. Generating innovation-based growth
8. Creating more and better jobs
9. Leveraging investments in R&I

**Economic
Impact**



The fundamentals of Horizon Europe



Supports research that could not be funded at national or regional level



Provides greater scale and scope than national / regional funding



Aligns the R&I landscape across the EU and even globally



Generates significant co-investment from participants

Considerations for you and your organisation



➤ Consider the following before you embark on participation

- Is the call topic the right one for you and your organisation? - “Square peg round hole”
- Have you got the support you need? - “Team work essential”
- Are there benefits for your organisation to participate? - “Not just about the funding”
- Will the work contribute to your organisation’s business strategy? - “Be ready for success”
- Will the work build on your organisation’s R&I strategy? - “Stay on track”
- Has your organisation the capabilities/resources to actively participate? – “for the duration”

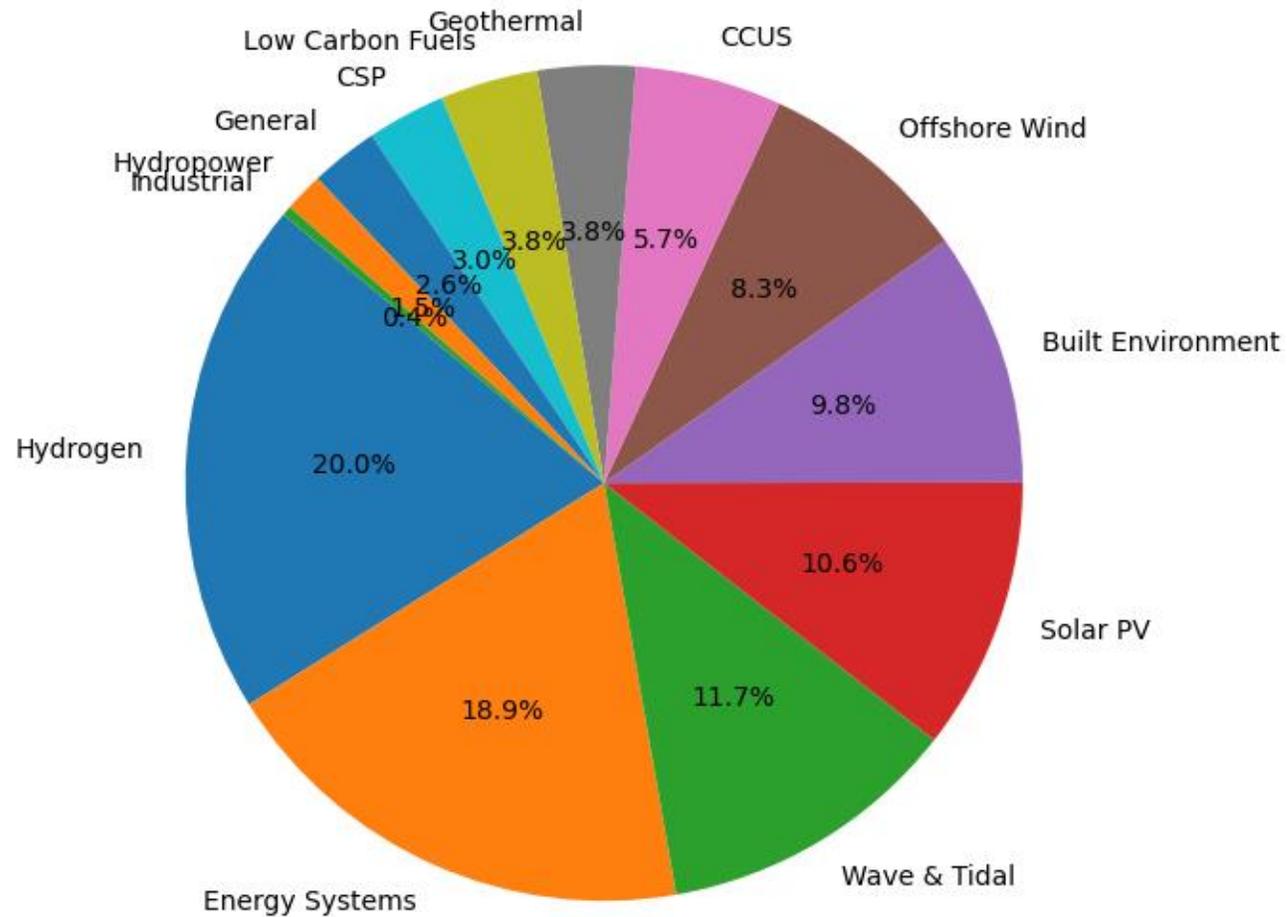
Yes	No
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What has Horizon Europe done for the UK Energy R&D community?

An overview of UK participation in Horizon Europe energy projects

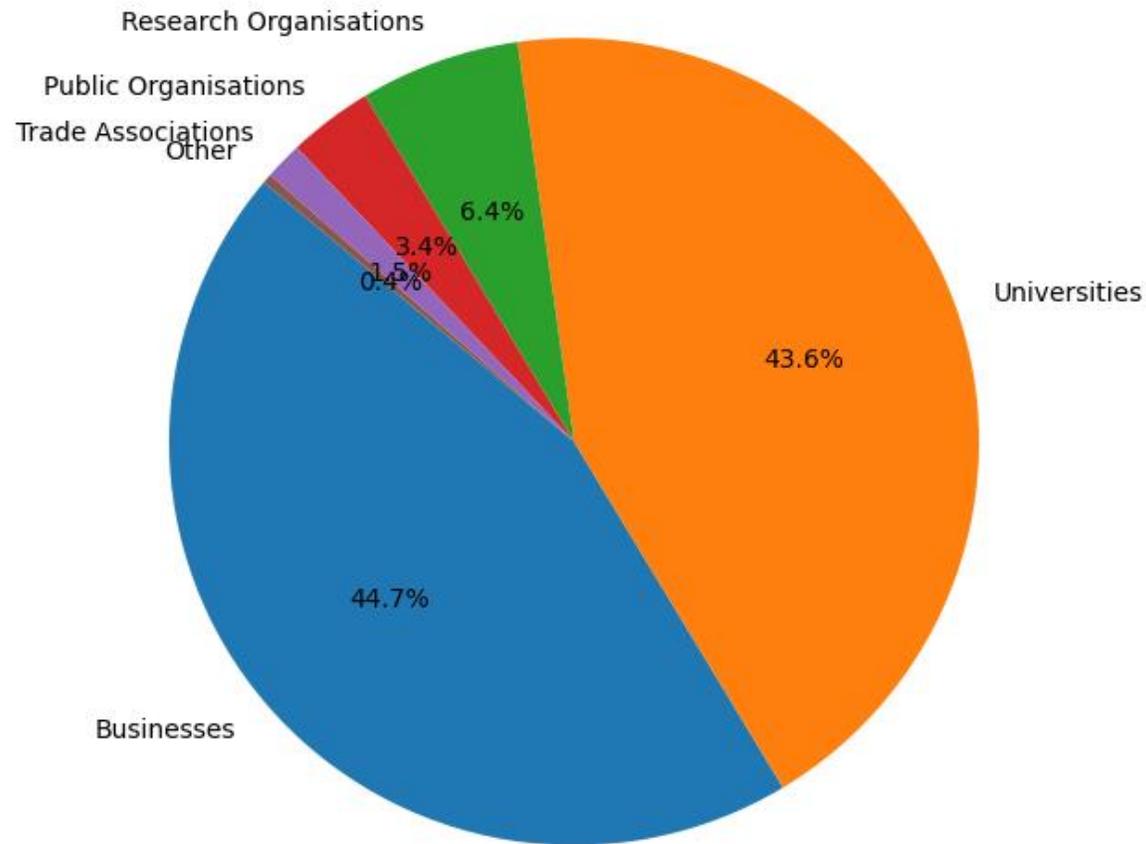
UK Participation by Sector (Energy)

UK Participation by Sector



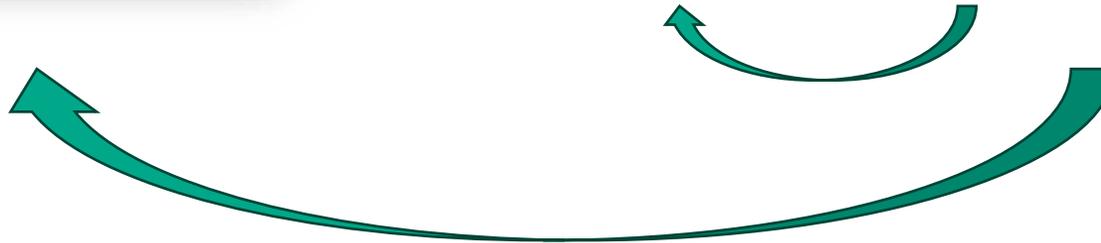
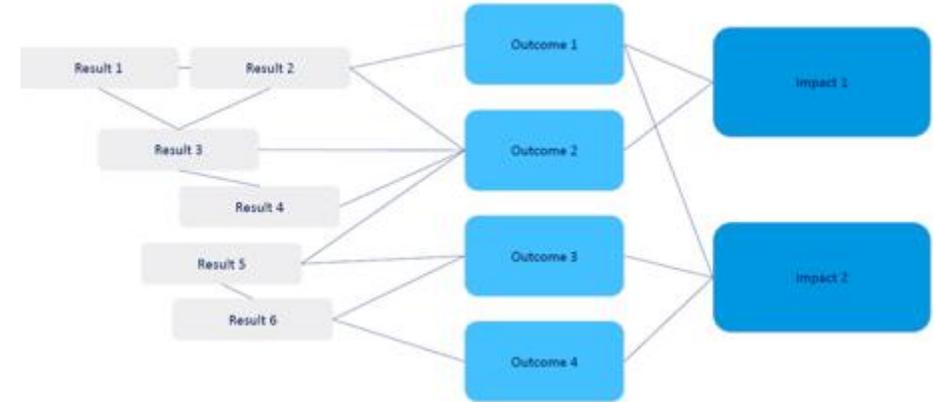
UK Participation by Organisation Type (Energy)

UK Participation by Organisation Type



Policy Background

Horizon Europe - from policies to specific actions through R&I projects



Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility

Addresses issues relevant to the twin green and digital transitions and the post-COVID 19 recovery, focussing on the transformation of our economy, industry and society with a view to achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050.



Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility



Six Destinations (within the Cluster 5 Work Programme)

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

Four Joint Undertakings (each have their own Work Programmes)

- Clean Hydrogen JU
- Clean Aviation JU
- Europe's Rail JU
- SESAR (Single European Skies ATM Research) JU

Two Missions (have their own, combined Work Programme)

- Climate Neutral and Smart Cities
- Adaptation to Climate Change

Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility



Six Destinations (within the Cluster 5 Work Programme) ~€15Bn

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

Four Joint Undertakings (each have their own Work Programmes)

- Clean Hydrogen JU ~€1Bn
- Clean Aviation JU ~€1.7Bn
- Europe's Rail JU ~€0.6Bn
- SESAR (Single European Skies ATM Research) JU ~€0.6Bn

Two Missions (have their own, combined Work Programme)

- Climate Neutral and Smart Cities ~€1Bn
- Adaptation to Climate Change ~€1Bn

Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility



Six Destinations (within the Cluster 5 Work Programme) ~€1.8Bn

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 low-carbon solutions for all transport modes
6. Safe resilient transport and smart mobility services for passengers and goods

Four Joint Undertakings (each with their own Work Programmes)

- Clean Hydrogen JU ~€1.8Bn
- Clean Aviation JU ~€1.8Bn
- Europe's Strategic Clean Energy Research JU ~€0.6Bn
- SESAR (Single European Skies ATM Research) JU ~€0.6Bn

Two Missions (have their own combined Work Programme)

- Climate Neutral and Smart Cities ~€1Bn
- Adaptation to Climate Change ~€1Bn

Over €21Bn over 7 years

Navigating EU Polices

EU Energy research
and innovation

REPowerEU

Strategic Energy
Technology Plan

Renewable Fuels and
Bioenergy

Energy union

Research and
innovation for the
European Green Deal

European Energy
Research Alliance

The European
Technology &
Innovation Platform
on Wind Energy (EIT
WIND)

Renewable Energy
Directive

European Technology
and Innovation
Platform on
Bioenergy (ETIP
Bioenergy)

Planning your proposal & reading a call topic

Horizon Europe Work Programme Structure

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

Each competition is called a Topic:

Horizon Europe

└ Pillar

└ Cluster

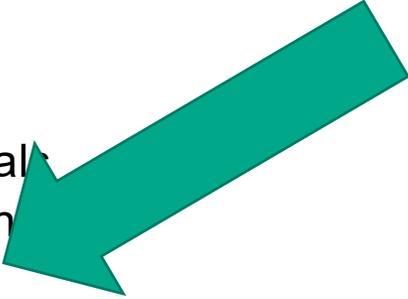
└ Call for Proposal

└ Destination

└ Topic

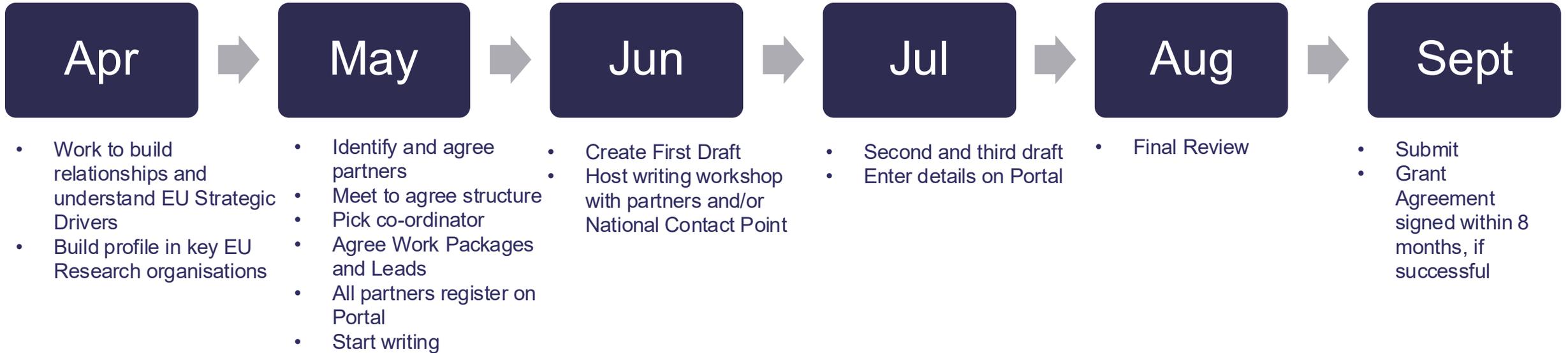
└ Project

Topic - 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

Planning matters - typical lead in times (an example)



From Work programme to topic detail...

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2026-2027
Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

EN

Annex IX

Horizon Europe

Work Programme 2026-2027

9. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

DISCLAIMER

This draft has not been adopted or endorsed by the European Commission. Any views expressed are the preliminary views of the Commission services and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the Commission. The information transmitted is intended only for the Member State or entity to which it is addressed for discussions and may contain confidential and/or privileged material.

Proposals should contribute to one or more Expected Impacts, at “Destination” level



Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2026-2027
Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Destination - Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption

This destination will support the EU Commission priority ‘Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature’.

R&I will provide new knowledge and innovation in support of the EU Vision for Agriculture and Food, built on the recommendations of the Strategic Dialogue on Agriculture, to ensure the long-term competitiveness and sustainability of our farming, fisheries, aquaculture and food sector within the boundaries of our planet. The implementation of the Green Deal actions will continue to guide R&I in this destination to foster sustainable food systems, addressing potential trade-offs between economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability.

The R&I activities under this Destination will contribute to the ambitious objectives of the current CAP concerning the competitiveness and sustainability of feed, food and non-food production as well as additional future CAP policy priorities. More specifically, actions will contribute to the specific objectives of the CAP; EU action plan for the development of organic production; food safety regulations; sustainable use of pesticides requirements under the plant protection products framework; action plan against antimicrobial resistance; animal health and welfare legislations; legislative and non-legislative initiatives to enhance cooperation of primary producers and improve their competitiveness and position in the food chain; protein strategy; contingency plan for ensuring food supply and food security and communications on food security and fertilizers, the Nature Restoration Regulation, the Zero Pollution Action Plan.

R&I will also support the announced Vision for the Fisheries Sector with a 2040 perspective and the European Ocean Pact, a framework of coherence across all policies linked to the ocean. R&I will also be relevant to the outcomes of the evaluation of the common fisheries policy (CFP) and will support its placement under this Pact, as fisheries and aquaculture are affected by other ocean related policies.

An important driving force of food systems transformation should be the integration of sectors, actors (including citizens and consumers) and policies. This will involve a better understanding of the multiple interactions between the components of current food systems, to foster solutions that maximise co-benefits with respect to the priorities of Food 2030¹³⁴.

The EU Communication on Boosting Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing in the¹³⁵ EU provides an overview of the application of biotechnologies in several sectors including food and feed. R&I activities in this destination will also contribute to achieving the objectives of the Strategy for European Life Sciences, the EU Biotech Act, and the Bioeconomy Strategy.

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-02: Tackling pesticide resistance: early detection, management strategies, and foresight

Call: Call 02 - single stage (2026)

Specific conditions

<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 6.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 12.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply: The following additional eligibility criteria apply: the proposals must apply the multi-actor approach. See definition of the multi-actor approach in this work programme part.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	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) ¹⁴² .

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

Do you fit the call topic?

Review the scope and expected impact:

- **Ambition** at a European or international scale
- **Clear policy context**
- **Deliver impact** – think about the change you want as you develop your proposal, not after drafting

Review the specific conditions

- Budget & Type of action
- Single or Two stage submission

Understand the specific conditions

- Eligibility conditions – additional requirements
 - **Key stakeholders & partners** including third countries
 - **Practitioner involvement** often essential
- Legal & financial
 - Blind evaluation
 - Lump sum financing
- Interdisciplinary Approach
- Others eg SSH, gender
- Balanced portfolio

Overview of Lump Sum funding

- Proposal template – standard template + finances in an Excel spreadsheet
- Proposal preparation
 - align Work Package (WP) duration with Reporting Periods – split long duration WPs (if project has long duration)
- Evaluation – finances are scrutinised – ensure justification for costs
- Payment upon completion of WPs at the end of reporting periods
- No reporting of actual costs

HORIZON-CL3-2023-FCT-01-03: New methods and technologies in service of community policing and transferable best practices

Specific conditions

Expected EU contribution per project The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of **around EUR 4.00 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 4.00 million.

Type of Action Research and Innovation Actions

Eligibility conditions The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply:
The following additional eligibility criteria apply:
This topic **requires the active involvement, as beneficiaries, of at least 3 Police Authorities¹³ from at least 3 different EU Member States or Associated Countries**. For these participants, applicants must fill in the table "Information about security practitioners" in the application form with all the requested information, following the template provided in the submission IT tool.

Technology Readiness Level Activities are expected to **achieve TRL 6-7 by the end of the project** – see General Annex B.

Security Sensitive Topics Some activities resulting from this topic may involve using classified background and/or producing of security sensitive results (EUCI and SEN). Please refer to the related provisions in section B Security – EU classified and sensitive information of the General Annexes.

Expected Outcome Projects' results are expected to contribute **to some or all** of the following outcomes:

¹³ In the context of this Destination, "Police Authorities" means public authorities explicitly designated by national law, or other entities legally mandated by the competent national authority, for the prevention, detection and/or investigation of terrorist offences or other criminal offences, specifically excluding police academies, forensic institutes, training facilities as well as border and customs authorities.

- **Strengthened resilience** of local communities **against crime and radicalisation**, lowered feeling of insecurity and **improved law enforcing**;
- Negative factors in local communities are identified early, possible **threats are detected**, and **crime reporting is enhanced**;
- Better recognition for **community diversity** within neighbourhoods, and **tailored** approaches to milieus including communities traditionally not engaging with statutory authorities resulting in **comprehensive community empowerment**;
- The interactions, and potential feedback between CP and **alternatives to incarceration** are explored;
- Identification and **EU wide dissemination** of validated community policing best practices;
- New methodologies, tools and adoption of technological support are developed; and
- Training curricula for Police Authorities are developed on community policing in non-homogenous local milieus with social complexities, including balancing of majority needs while recognising expectations of minorities and/or sub-groups.

Scope: Community policing (CP) is an integral part of policing focusing on cooperation with local community for better understanding challenges and the given group needs and meeting them. From both a theoretical and a practical point of view, three ways of delivering CP may be outlined: **reactive, proactive, and co-active** – based on **community consultations** and **common actions**. While performing such actions, police provides information, initiates and participates in programs to prevent crime and ensures the protection of citizens in **cooperation** with other institutions. CP aims to create opportunities for positive, mutually respectful interactions between civilians and the police, to increase citizens' trust and enhance the ability of police to enforce the law. To maximise the impact of CP actions, proposals should analyse its potential relations with introduction of **innovative alternatives to imprisonment**.

Nowadays, Police Authorities, while carrying out their duties to provide community security, are faced with numerous economic and demographic challenges. As a consequence, more **efficient solutions, tools and methodologies are sought**. First responders cope with growing communities, tighter budgets, and diverse, quickly evolving milieus in their areas of responsibility, regularly facing challenges that initial professional training could not prepare them for. Moreover, rapidly changing social, economic and political environment, both domestically and internationally, complicates these problems and fuels new tensions.

New approaches should cover **internal review of Police Authorities' personnel training**, possible **change of attitudes** and communication language, or countering existing misconceptions and biases. International exchange of validated best practices is encouraged. Proposals should eventually integrate societal findings, relevant new or already existing technologies and legal framework into a comprehensive CP model. The successful proposal should **build on the publicly available achievements and findings of related previous national**

or EU-funded projects. Activities proposed within this topic should address both technological and societal dimensions of CP in a balanced way.

This topic requires the **effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise**, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related innovation activities.

1 Go through all relevant Text: call, intro etc.



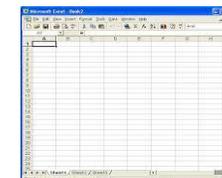
2 Break down into 'bite-size' pieces by:



3 Highlighting important words, phrases, ref. documents etc.



4 Transfer all your information into a 'managed' list



Highlight key words, phrases and sentences

Deconstruct the topic text

➤ Deconstruction Technique may be for you, it can help you to:

- Better understand what is required
- Helps you plan your proposal and your future project
- Ensures you have all bases covered
- Manage your work!

➤ STEPS TO TAKE

1. **Copy all the relevant text from the Work Programme relating to your topic and paste into a separate word document**
 - i. Use this document as your “Aide Mémoire” (electronic/hard copy) unique to your project
2. **Highlight key elements e.g.**
 - i. Single words, phrases or short sentences
 - ii. Documents that you need to read
 - iii. References to previous projects
 - iv. Actions you may need to carry out
3. **Create a list from your key elements into a spreadsheet or table**



Deconstruct the topic into ‘bite size’ pieces

Title: New methods and technologies in service of community policing and transferable best practices

Section of work Programme	Key Issues/points	How my project will address the key issues	Section of the Proposal Template	Work Package Descriptor	Expertise required for activities in WP's	Documents/policies/other projects to research
Introduction to FCT	Support EU policy priorities					Promoting the European way of Life
	Build on lessons learnt - COVID					European Green Deal
	Improve cross sectoral aspects					Europe fit for the digital age
	Synergies with others in Pillar 2					Security Union Strategy
	Take in human factors					Counter Terrorism Agenda
	Citizen engagement					EU Strategy to tackle Organised Crime
Specific Conditions						
Expected EU contribution	EURO 4 Million					
Type of Action	Research and Innovation					
Eligibility Conditions	3 Police Authorities from....					
TRL	6 - 7					
Security Aspect						
Expected Outcomes						
Bullet 1).	strengthened resilience					
	fighting crime and radicalisation					
	Improved law enforcement					
Bullet 2).	threats are detected					
	crime reporting is enhanced					
Bullet 3).	tailored approach to milieus					
	community empowerment					
Bullet 4).	alternatives to imprisonment					
Scope						
	Community consultation					
	Alternative to imprisonment					
	Efficient solutions					
	Efficient tools					
	Efficient methodoloies					
	Internal review of police training					
	findings of related previous projects					

Create columns to help you manage your work and to make notes or jot down ideas about how you will address each of the key elements

Create a table from your topic's key elements

Identify needs, results, target groups, Expected outcomes, Expected Impacts

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2026-2027
Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Destination - Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption

This destination will support the EU Commission priority 'Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature'.

R&I will
and Food
long-term
sector will
continue
trade-off

The R&I
current
product
contribution
product
protectio
welfare
primary
strategy
food sec

R&I will
and the
R&I will
(CFP) a
by other

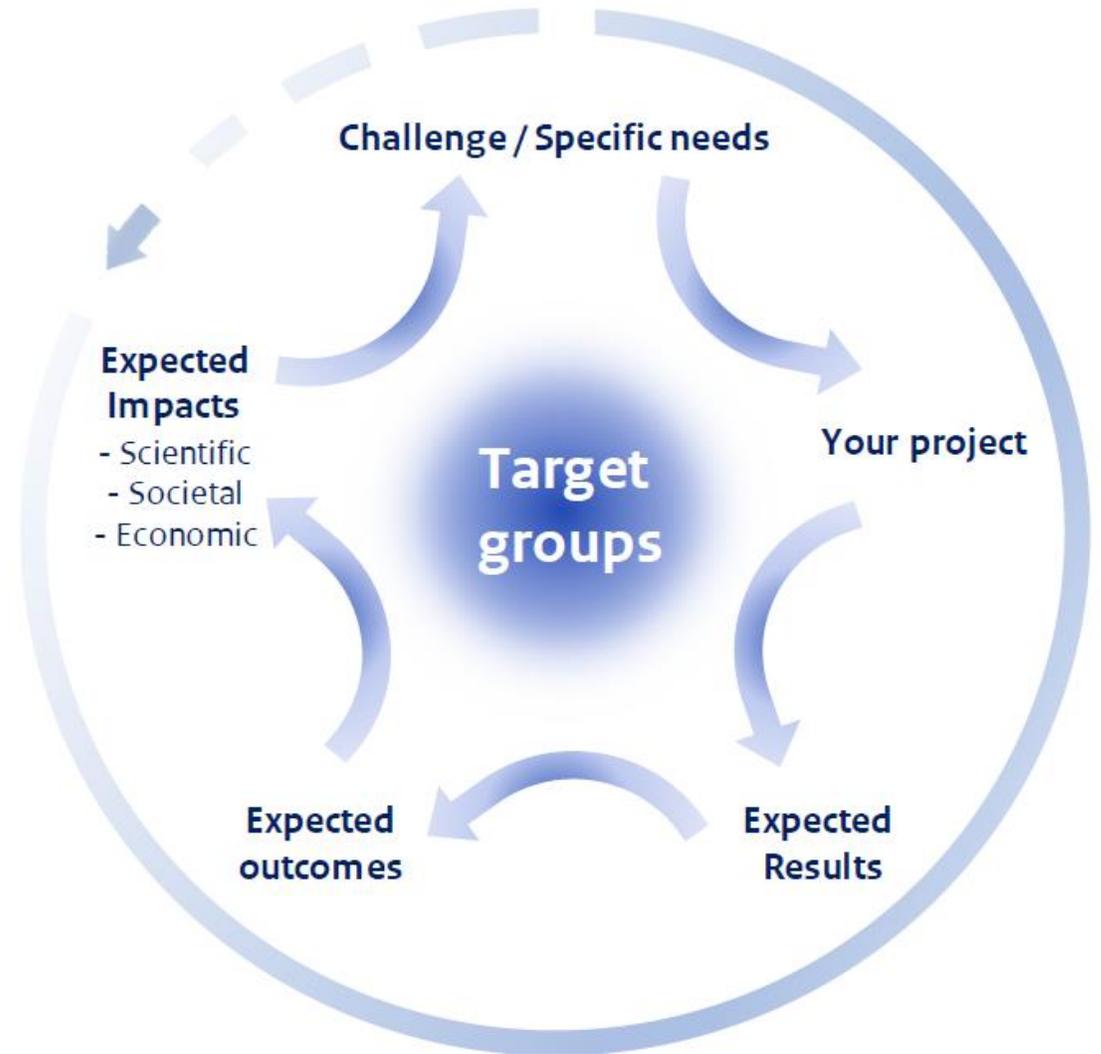
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HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-02: Tackling pesticide resistance: early detection, management strategies, and foresight

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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:



Using the Portal

The Horizon Europe Portal - 1

- The European Commission publishes everything you need to know on the [EU Funding & Tender Portal](#)
- The [Funding](#) tab is the one everyone uses most, and the Calls for Proposals section is where you find your Topic (EU word for competition) and submit your application

Top Tips

- **Once you have identified your Topic, click through to and read every link**
- **If the Topic is open for submissions, click on the ‘Submit’ button, even if you aren’t ready to take that step yet, as you will then be able to access a writable proposal template**
- There is a [Partner Search](#) section in the Funding tab and each Topic page has a ‘Partner Search Announcement’ button

Top Tip – there are much more effective ways to find partners

The Horizon Europe Portal - 2

- The [Reference Documents](#) section (in the Guidance & documents tab) is the definitive text
 - Work Programmes for full competition definition
 - Guidance documents
 - Templates and forms – including for evaluation
 - Evaluator lists

Top Tip – scan the list of evaluators to see if you know any of them. If you do, contact them and ask them about the process

- The [Work as an Expert](#) tab includes material such as standard evaluator briefing slides

Top Tip – register as an Expert. It is a paid role (€450 per day) and would give you valuable insight into the evaluation process

How do I build/join a winning consortium?

(the most frequently asked question)

**European Commission for Cluster 5:
“*Never in the history of Horizon Europe
has a proposal from a team of just
newcomers to the programme been
successful*”**

Top Tip: Treat joining a consortium as a project in its own right. Develop a plan, allocate resources, set milestones, have regular progress reviews, etc.

**3% of organisations account for 42% of
the requested EU contribution across
Cluster 5**

**92% of all proposals included an
organisation applying 50 times or more**

98.5% of all Innovation Action projects include at least one SME, whereas for RIAs the share is 90.5%

12.4% of all coordinators are SMEs

Only 4.6% of all coordinators were newcomers in 2021-24

Formal consortium building mechanisms

Participant portal – Every topic on the [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#) has a ‘Partner Search’ function where you can upload your profile and review others that have done so

Partner Search – under the ‘[How to participate tab](#)’ on the EU Funding and Tenders Portal where you can also search for past projects and organisations

Brokerage events and tools – European Commission, Technology Platforms, Co-Programmed Partnerships, Enterprise Europe Network, Innovate UK Business Connect, NCPs from around Europe, etc will hold in-person and/or virtual events with e.g., Meeting Mojo, B2B and other tools



Searching the formal consortium building mechanisms is a bit like looking for a needle in a needlestack – they all look like needles so finding the ones for you can be difficult

The best ways to join winning teams

Being an *effective networker in relevant platforms (eg EERA)* is much more useful than submitting a profile into a portal and awaiting contacts. 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**
 - Be an *active* member
 - 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

TOPIC NUMBER AND NAME

Your
Organisation
Logo / Brand

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)

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 'hypertension' returns [30 projects](#)
 - 1st listed is a project called 'Hypermarker: Personalised pharmacometabolomic optimisation of treatment for hypertension'
 - Gives project coordinator as UNIVERSITAIR MEDISCH CENTRUM UTRECHT 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**



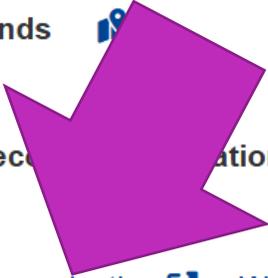
Coordinator

 UNIVERSITAIR MEDISCH CENTRUM UTRECHT

Address
HEIDELBERGLAAN 100
3584 CX Utrecht
 Netherlands 

Activity type
Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

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



Participants (10)

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

Finding a Topic

Finding a Topic

Main Options:

- Cluster 5 Destination 3 and 4
- Cluster 4
- Missions
- Other Clusters

Batteries (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic Number	Topic Name	Deadline	Type of Action	Budget per project (€)	Number of Projects
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)	15 Sept 26	RIA	Around €7.1m	4
HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D2-02	Development of direct recycling processes (BATT4EU Partnership)	31 Mar 2026	RIA	Around €4.7m	3
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)	08 Oct 26	IA	Around €33.3m	3
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D2-04	Coordinated topic with India on recycling of EV batteries	15 Sept 2026	IA	Around €9.4m	1

Batteries (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic Number	Topic Name	Closing Date	Type of Action	Budget per project (€)	Number of Projects
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D2-05	Improvement of Adaptability, Flexibility and Efficiency of Existing Recycling Processes (BATT4EU Partnership)	31 Mar 2027	IA	Around €9.4m	2
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D2-06	Sustainable and Competitive Cell Production Techniques for Lithium-ion And Sodium-ion Batteries (BATT4EU Partnership)	31 Mar 2027	IA	Around €18.9m	2
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)	14 Apr 2027 then 07 Oct 2027	RIA	Around €4.8m	10
HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D2-08	Demonstration for Long-duration Battery Energy Storage Systems (BATT4EU Partnership)	15 Sept 2027	IA	Around €9.4m	2

Built Environment (Draft 26/27 Calls)

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

Built Environment (Draft 26/27 Calls)

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

Built Environment (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic Number	Topic Name	Closing Date	Type of Action	Budget per project (€)	Number of Projects
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-05	On-site robotic and automated techniques for building renovation and new construction	15 Sept 2027	IA	Around €6.75m	3
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	15 Sept 2027	IA	Around €5.25m	3
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-07	Integrating circularity in LCA-based modelling frameworks for renovation of buildings (Built4People Partnership)	15 Sept 2027	IA	Around €6.75m	4
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-09	Demonstration of industrial excess/waste heat conversion to mechanical or electrical power (Industry)	15 Sept 2027	IA	Around €6.75m	2

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

Topic 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	8m	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	01-Dec-27	Innovation Action	10m	3

Energy Systems (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	4m	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	6m	2

Energy Systems (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	01-Dec-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	10m	2
Advanced TSO control rooms to enhance grid observability, stability and resilience	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-26	01-Dec-27	Innovation Action	9.5m	3

Energy Systems (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	01-Dec-27	Innovation Action	9.5m	3
Integrated Approaches for Retrofitting Infrastructures with Innovative Energy Storage Technologies	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-28	01-Dec-27	Innovation Action	7.5m	3
Community of practice - Data-Driven Decision-Making in Energy	HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-29	09-Sept-27	Coordination & Support Action	6m	1

General (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	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	4m	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	4.5m	2

General (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	HORIZON-CID-2026-01-02	15-Sept-26	Innovation Action	15-25m	8
R&I in Support of the Clean Industrial Deal: Clean Technologies for Climate Action 2027	HORIZON-CID-2027-01-02	15-Sept-27	Innovation Action	15-25m	8

Please note:

- The focus is on large-scale demonstration of clean technologies for energy-intensive industries
- Solutions must be fit for deployment, technologically mature, and market-ready
- Proposals must include a Business Plan and Market-Readiness Strategy
- Activities are expected to start at TRL 6 and achieve TRL 8 by the end of the project
- Proposals are expected to address one or several of these areas:
 - Integrated net-zero emissions energy systems (e.g. including energy grids, networks and systems)
 - Enhanced zero-emission power technologies (e.g. including renewable electricity, heat and energy technologies)
 - Storage technologies, renewable fuels, and carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) (e.g. including batteries and other energy storage solutions, renewable hydrogen, advanced biofuels and synthetic renewable fuels) enabling climate neutrality

General (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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: Decarbonisation of energy intensive industries (IA) (Processes4Planet and Clean Steel partnerships) 2026	HORIZON-CID-2026-01-01	15-Sept-26	Innovation Action	15-25m	8
R&I in Support of the Clean Industrial Deal: Decarbonisation of energy intensive industries (IA) (Processes4Planet and Clean Steel partnerships) 2027	HORIZON-CID-2027-01-01	15-Sept-27	Innovation Action	15-25m	8

Please note:

- Activities are expected to start at TRL 6 and achieve TRL 7-8 by the end of the project
- Proposals must include a Business Plan and Market-Readiness Strategy
- Proposals are expected to contribute to all the following expected outcomes:
 - Accelerate the use of innovative technologies to decarbonise industrial processes and bring to the market more cost-effective clean products to strengthen the competitiveness, sustainability (including biodiversity), and resilience of EU industries;
 - Create new innovative first-of-a-kind operational demonstrators and/or optimise newly installed industrial decarbonisation solutions in Europe; and
 - Demonstrate the market readiness of the envisaged future clean products and their innovative processes via a credible business plan and an exploitation strategy for industrialisation, including market-tested use cases.

Geothermal (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	01-Dec-26	Research & Innovation Action	4.5m	4
European Union Contest on Lithium production from geothermal plants in Europe	HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3-07	10-Sept-26	Coordination & Support Action	5m	1

Hydropower (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	01-Dec-27	Innovation Action	8.5m	2

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

Low Carbon Fuels (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	01-Dec-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	01-Dec-26	Innovation Action	6.75m	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	Programme CoFund	30m	1

Solar PV (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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-CL5-2027-07-D3-17	01-Dec-27	Innovation Action	9.5m	3
Improved system design for innovative PV applications (EUPI-PV Partnership)	HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D3-15	01-Dec-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	12m	3

Solar PV (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	31-Mar-26	Innovation Action	10.5m	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

Solar Thermal (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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	31-Mar-27	Innovation Action	6m	2

Wave & Tidal (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic 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-CL5-2027-02-D3-10	31-Mar-27	Innovation Action	43m	1

Please note:

- The action consists of activities directly implemented by the consortium and activities implemented through Financial Support to Third Parties. The latter can include cooperation with the activities undertaken by the beneficiaries of the EU grant and may complement them. The R&I activities are divided into three challenges:
 - Breakthrough challenge
 - Validation challenge
 - Demonstration challenge

Wind (Draft 26/27 Calls)

Topic Title	Topic ID	Deadline	Type of action	Budget per Project (€)	Number of projects to be funded
Innovative technologies and solutions to improve wind energy systems supporting the Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan on wind	HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-03	31-Mar-26	Innovation Action	93m	1

Please note:

- The action consists of activities directly implemented by the consortium and activities implemented through Financial Support to Third Parties. The latter can include cooperation with the activities undertaken by the beneficiaries of the EU grant and may complement them. The R&I activities are divided into three challenges:
 - Breakthrough challenge
 - Validation challenge
 - Demonstration challenge

Cluster 1: Health

Non exclusive list of possible calls of interest

Topic	Budget (EUR million)	Opening	Deadline(s)	Description
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-ENVHLTH-04: Towards climate resilient, prepared and carbon neutral populations and healthcare systems	7.00 to 8.00	10-Feb-26	16-Apr-26	develops inclusive, accessible and effective interventions, technologies and frameworks to help healthcare systems mitigate their environmental impacts, decarbonise, and adapt to climate-related health risks while protecting biodiversity and ecosystem services.



Pillar II: Cluster 3 - Civil Security for Society

A key enabler of EU Civil Security Research and Innovation

- Prevention, preparedness and resilience to a wide range of threats including disasters of all kinds - multi-hazard approach
- Improve the resilience of crucial infrastructure
- Enhancing cybersecurity and addressing cybercrime
- Supporting the green transition in civil security
- Strengthen EU leadership, strategic autonomy, digital sovereignty and resilience



Cluster 3 - Civil Security for Society

Non exclusive list of possible calls of interest

Topic	Budget (EUR million)	Opening	Deadline(s)	Description	Key Words
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-BM-01: Advanced border surveillance and situational awareness	Around 6.00	06-May-26	05-Nov-26	enhance border security by improving the detection, tracking, and neutralisation of unmanned vehicles used in trafficking or smuggling, while ensuring compliance with legal and ethical standards; demonstrate that the proposed equipment and technologies contribute to cost reduction and energy efficiency of border surveillance and situational awareness operations.	energy efficiency
HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-BM-03: Detection and characterisation of threats or illegal/ smuggled goods in cargo	Around 3.50	05-May-27	04-Nov-27	enhance the security of transport and supply chains —air, maritime, land, and postal—by improving detection, tracking, and response to threats such as explosives, hazardous chemicals, and illicit goods; Proposals are expected to address one of the following: 1) security of cargo 2) detection of smuggled and trafficked goods/materials in cargo	energy efficiency
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-INFRA-02: Security challenges of the green transition in urban and peri urban areas	Around 4.00	06-May-26	05-Nov-26	safety, security, and resilience risks associated with deploying green technologies in urban and peri-urban areas - technologies such as green and grid-interactive roofs and walls, solar power installations, electric vehicle charging stations, energy storages, smart sensors and surveillance systems, green transportation systems, nature-based or other sustainable or reused construction materials, or specific infrastructure solutions;	new and emerging energy related technologies, security

Pillar II - Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space

Strengthening technological sovereignty and supporting the transition towards net-zero emissions

- Advance manufacturing technologies (renewable energy, renewable economies, achieving carbon neutrality, circularity etc.)
- Foster leadership in digital and key enabling technologies
- Explore future technologies (such as quantum technologies, bio-enabled or two-dimensional materials)
- Support development of standards and regulations, upskilling and reskilling
- Reduce dependence on and the environmental impact of using critical raw materials
- Design, development, production and recyclability of new and innovative materials and composites
- Develop eco-friendly and resilient space infrastructure
- Support Copernicus, Galileo & the EGNOS & develop the secure connectivity satellite constellation IRIS2



Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space

Topic	Budget (EUR million)	Opening	Deadline(s)	Description	Key Words
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-31: Efficient capture / purification / utilisation of CO2 for the production of competitive products (Processes4Planet partnership)	5.00 to 7.00	06-Jan-26	21-Apr-26	development of integrated, energy-efficient processes for converting captured CO₂ into valuable products ; promotes innovation in process design, renewable energy use, and lifecycle assessment to enable sustainable CO ₂ valorisation and contribute to circular economy and emissions reduction goals . <i>Conversion of CO₂ to methanol and fuels is considered outside the scope of this call.</i>	reduction of carbon emissions, energy efficiency
HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD-32-two-stage: Efficient energy input from renewable sources and energy management in the process industries (Processes4Planet and Innovative Advanced Materials for the EU partnerships)	7.00 to 9.00	Opening: 22 Sep 2026	02 Feb 2027 (First Stage), 02 Sep 2027 (Second Stage)	enable significant decarbonisation —at least 20% reduction in CO ₂ emissions— in energy-intensive process industries through renewable energy integration, electrification, and hybrid solutions. Projects should address both low/medium and high-temperature energy demands, develop advanced energy storage systems , and apply innovative materials to improve energy efficiency and resilience	decarbonising, reduce GHG emissions; reduce fossile fuels, Clean energy systems
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-09: Energy efficiency and sustainability of AI data processing in Data Centres	Around 13.00	17-Nov-26	18-Mar-27	supports pilot projects and a demonstration site focused on energy-efficient and sustainable AI data processing in data centres, contributing to EU climate goals and strategic autonomy. Projects should deliver innovations in thermal management for AI chips, novel backup power systems with minimal cooling needs	thermal management, novel backup power systems, energy-efficient processing
HORIZON-CL4-2026-02-MAT-PROD-21-two-stage: Development of safe and sustainable alternatives to substances of concern	6.00 to 7.50	16-Dec-25	17 Mar 2026 (First Stage), 13 Oct 2026 (Second Stage)	the development of safer and more sustainable alternatives to substances of concern (SoCs) , aiming to enhance industrial competitiveness, reduce regulatory burdens, and accelerate innovation across key sectors like energy, mobility, and electronics .	replace existing SoCs in various sectors/areas including energy
HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-04: Optimise the usage of resources in a circular economy (Processes4Planet and Clean Steel partnerships)	5.00 to 7.00	06-Jan-26	21-Apr-26	enhance recycling and upcycling across industrial value chains, aiming to reduce EU dependency on imported raw materials and improve resource efficiency in terms of energy, water, and materials. It promotes the re-integration of industrial side-streams and end-of-use waste into production processes,	reduced GHG and air pollutant emissions, minimal energy usage, clean energy
HORIZON-CL4-2027-01-MAT-PROD-06: Circular innovative advanced materials: facilitating the transition from design to markets (Innovative Advanced Materials for the EU and Made in Europe partnerships)	5.00 to 6.50	06-Jan-26	21-Apr-26	supports the development and accelerated adoption of innovative advanced materials designed for circularity , promotes full-cycle innovation—from material design to industrial integration—alongside circular business models, digital tools, and regulatory alignment to enhance resource efficiency and supply chain resilience.	Resource efficiency (materials and energy)

Pillar II Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Reducing environmental degradation, halting and reversing the decline of biodiversity

- Support to the development and implementation of EU environmental legislation and the European Green Deal
- Food and nutrition security
- Sustainable and circular management and use of natural resources
- Clean environment and zero pollution
- Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities
- Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal



Innovate
UK

Cluster 6 - Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

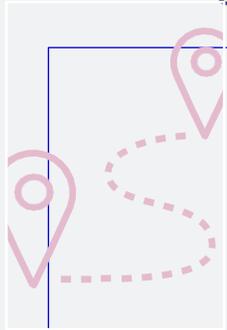
None exclusive list of possible calls of interest

Topic	Budget (EUR million)	Opening	Deadline(s)	Description	Key Words
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-02-two-stage: Optimising the water-nutrient-energy nexus for sustainable and climate smart agriculture in Africa (FNSSA)	Around 6.00	04-Feb-27	08 Apr 2027 (First Stage), 14 Sep 2027 (Second Stage)	development of sustainable, circular and climate-smart farming approaches that strengthen water, nutrient and energy management ; biodiversity-friendly and resource-efficient agriculture across diverse agro-ecosystems	energy management in agriculture
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-04-two-stage: Mainstreaming and scaling-up evidence-based Nature-Based Solutions towards a nature positive and climate-resilient economy	Around 6.00	12-Feb-26	16 Apr 2026 (First Stage), 23 Sep 2026 (Second Stage)	enerate robust, policy-aligned evidence on the long-term environmental, social and economic impacts of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) across ecosystems , enabling policymakers to systematically integrate NbS into sectors such as energy, water management, transport and the built environment	integrate NbS across policy domains such as Energy domain
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-05: Enhancing farmer's profitability and resilience through innovations for diversified crops and value chains	Around 6.00	20-Apr-27	23-Sep-27	velopment, testing and demonstration of innovative technical, business and cooperation solutions that help farmers transition to diversified, resilient and low-input cropping systems that enhance sustainability, profitability, biodiversity and climate , showcase the benefits of crop diversification adaptation/mitigation	crop diversification - e.g. bioenergy, biomaterials, biochemicals

Pillar III - European Innovation Council (EIC)

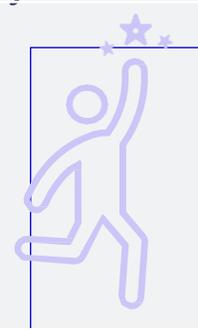
Innovation funding that supports projects with market potential

- Principally targeted at Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and industry – a ‘one-stop shop’ for European innovators
- Both **‘Open’ and ‘Challenge’ calls**
 - ‘Open’ calls are bottom-up annual calls
 - ‘Challenge’ calls are policy driven and change each year



Pathfinder

- Support international consortia working on establishing future and emerging breakthrough technologies through collaborative research and innovation projects.



Transition

- funds innovation activities that go beyond the experimental proof of principle
- restricted to applications from schemes in the work programme



Innovate
UK

European Innovation Council (EIC) – Challenge Calls

Topic	Budget (EUR million)	Deadline(s)	Description
EIC Pathfinder Challenge: 1.2.1 Advanced Materials for Miniaturised Energy Harvesting Systems	4.00	28 October 2026	reduce energy consumption and environmental impact from the exponential growth of IoT and sensor networks by developing advanced materials for miniaturized energy harvesting devices . Proposals should design innovative materials that minimize reliance on critical raw materials, integrate them into autonomous systems such as wireless sensors, and benchmark their performance against the state of the art using representative use cases. Successful projects will leverage digital tools like AI to accelerate material development, demonstrate significant efficiency improvements, and identify potential markets to support sustainability and EU strategic autonomy goals.



❖ Does not include opportunities directed through the open calls

Cross Cutting Actions

- [EU Mission](#) - **Bringing concrete solutions to some of our greatest challenges**
 - Adaptation to Climate Change
 - Cancer Mission
 - Restore our Ocean and Waters Mission
 - Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission
 - A Soil Deal for Europe Mission
- [New European Bauhaus Facility](#) - **Translating the EU Green Deal into tangible change on the ground**
 - Revitalise EU neighbourhoods with design for sustainability and inclusion
 - Sustainable transformation of the built environment



Missions and NEB

Topic	Budget (EUR million)	Opening	Deadline(s)	Description	Key Words
HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-01: Innovative microgrids for improved energy system integration and efficiency in urban contexts	Around 7.00	09-Feb-27	07-Oct-27	accelerate the development, demonstration and acceptance of safe, efficient and sustainable Low Voltage Direct Current (LVDC) microgrids ; improve energy and resource efficiency , and enable greater integration of renewables, storage, and demand-response solutions	sustainable energy solutions, energy systems
HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-02: Hydrogen cities	Around 5.00	09-Feb-27	07-Oct-27	support twinning between Hydrogen Valleys and cities seeking to decarbonise hard-to-abate local and peri-urban sectors —such as heavy transport, industry, aviation or maritime—through renewable hydrogen , positioning cities as innovation hubs for cleaner air, economic growth, and job creation	hydrogen, energy transition, decarbonisation, energy-efficiency, transport, cities

Topic	Budget (EUR million)	Opening	Deadline(s)	Description	Key Words
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-03: Novel combinations of knowledge and research methods to address social issues and advance a fair green transition of neighbourhoods	Around 3.5	05-May-27	01-Dec-27	better understand social issues, such as energy poverty , affordable housing, and access to green spaces affecting a fair and nature-positive green transition in neighbourhoods	energy poverty, fair green transition
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-01: Sustainable, inclusive, affordable and beautiful solutions for thermal comfort in buildings	Around 4.00	05-May-26	01-Dec-26	develop and demonstrate beautiful, affordable and sustainable building-level solutions ; reducing life-cycle energy use, GHG emissions and cost	reducing life cycle energy use, GHG emissions, thermal resilience



UK Research
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Horizon Europe Masterclass: Resources & overlooked elements



Innovate
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European Commission Info Days (2026)

- Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility – 15 Jan



HORIZON EUROPE



Find out more here:
[Upcoming info days](#)

Policy Database (Cluster 5)

WHAT:

CL5: Excel database of policies/strategies & synergies per destination; CL6: Multi-tab policy/strategy index

WHY:

Saves time and strengthens Impact logic and stakeholder plan; handy for citing the right EU frameworks and constructing credible pathways to impact

WHERE :

[Greenet \(CL5\) Policy and Synergies Database \(12/01/26\)](#)

