
Health NCP Net

**Health Research and Innovation
Funding Opportunities across Horizon
Europe with Deadlines Sept-Dec 2026**

www.healthncp.net



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IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER

The contents of this document are not legally binding.

Please always check the official European Commission call documentation, including the call text and deadlines.

If you spot any corrections or would like to give feedback on this document, please email ncp-health@iuk.ukri.org. Thank you.



[Health-NCP-Net \(HNN3.0\)](#) is a European project of the Horizon Europe programme funded by the European Commission. The network facilitates trans-national cooperation [between National Contact Points \(NCPs\) for Cluster 1 “Health”](#) within Pillar II (Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness) of Horizon Europe. HNN3.0 aims to align and enhance the services that NCPs provide to applicants of European funding for Health research across Europe and to optimise the support for applicants. Our services are tailor-made to the needs of NCPs and applicants and are free of charge. Find out [here](#) what support we can offer, and see our [supporting tools](#) webpage.

Version History

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

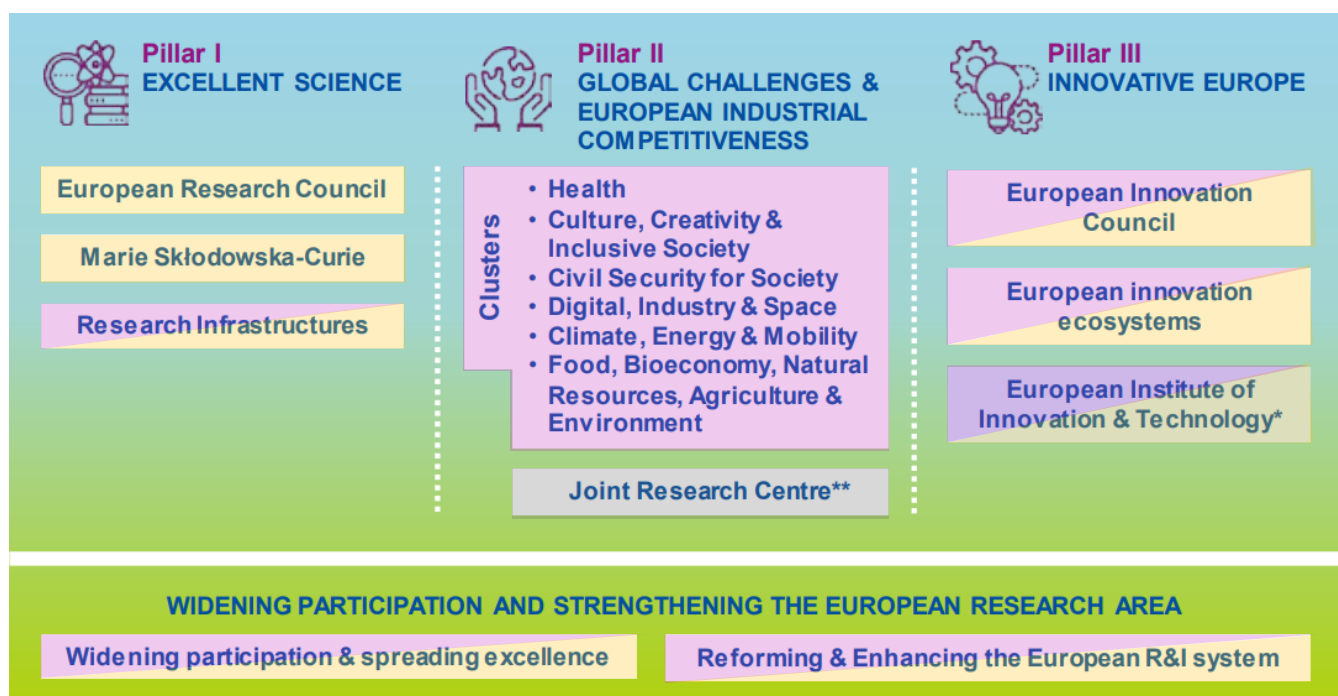
This document aims to give an overview of health-related funding opportunities across [Horizon Europe](#), the EU's Research and innovation funding programme 2021-2027. Horizon Europe is worth €95.5 Billion.

Horizon Europe funds all types of organisations¹ including academia, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), large companies, charities, hospitals, patient groups, regulators, government department and any other types of organisations.

Horizon Europe funds all research and innovation sectors and has two main types of funding calls:

- **Open calls** that leave it up to the applicants to decide the Research and Innovation area; and
- **Challenge driven calls** that specify the Research and Innovation area to be done.

Horizon Europe consists of 3 Pillars, as shown in the diagram below:



Key:

Open to all research and innovation fields

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

Each part of Horizon Europe has a [Work Programme](#) which lists the funding opportunities and calls for proposals. Most parts of Horizon Europe have two-year Work Programmes covering 2026-2027, apart from the European Research Council (ERC) and European Innovation Council (EIC), which have annual Work Programmes. The 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Work Programmes total over 2700 pages - so **the aim of this document is to highlight the health funding opportunities across Horizon Europe with deadlines between September and December 2026** – not only in the Health Work Programme (Pillar II, Cluster 1) but also the many opportunities across the rest of the programme. We hope that you find this document useful. Tables with yellow headers have mostly open calls, tables with pink headers have mostly challenge driven

¹ Unless otherwise specified in the call text.

calls, and tables with grey headers have a mixture of both. We have used these colour codes throughout this document.

Work Programmes

- **This document covers the calls from the 2026-2027 Work Programmes with deadlines between Sept and Dec 2026**
- If there are any calls open from older Work Programmes, then we have not included these.

The 2026-2027 Work Programmes will be the last Work Programmes under the current Horizon Europe Research and Innovation funding programme (2021-2027).

Types of Project

The main types of project in Horizon Europe are listed below, and we have used the abbreviations for these project types throughout this document. These project types are explained further on page 15 of the [General Annexes to the 2026-2027 Work Programme](#). The most common project types are:

- Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs)
- Innovation Actions (IAs)
- Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs)

Some parts of Horizon Europe also have other project types, and where that is the case (for example for the European Research Council, for Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions and for the European Innovation Council) we have explained this in the relevant section of this document.

Did you know?

- Most (but not all) parts of Horizon Europe need a consortium involving different countries. We have tried to highlight whether a consortium is needed or not in the introduction to each section of this document.
- Please also refer to the [list of participating countries in Horizon Europe](#), including the Horizon Europe Associated Countries.

PILLAR I (EXCELLENT SCIENCE)

PILLAR I - OVERVIEW

Pillar I of Horizon Europe (Excellent Science) has three Work Programmes, each of which contains a variety of funding opportunities summarised below, and then explained in more detail further on in this document.

- **[European Research Council \(ERC\)](#): The ERC funds all fields of research.** It provides long-term funding for ground-breaking frontier research, and funds a Principal Investigator (PI) or PIs and their team(s). The PI and team can be at the same Host Institution, but this is not a requirement and PIs/team members can also be other organisations in the same country or different countries.
- **[Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(MSCAs\)](#): The MSCAs fund all fields of research and innovation.** The MSCAs are the EU's flagship programme for doctoral education and postdoctoral training. MSCAs fund excellent research and innovation to equip researchers at all career stages with new knowledge and skills, through mobility across borders and exposure to different sectors and disciplines. Some funding calls require a consortium of organisations in different countries, whilst other funding calls can fund a single organisation or single postdoctoral fellow.

- **Research Infrastructures:** Some funding opportunities are open to research infrastructures relating to all fields of research and innovation, whilst others are focussed on research infrastructures in specific research and innovation areas (for example health). Research Infrastructures are facilities, resources and services that allow researchers and innovators to conduct ground-breaking research. They include research laboratories, scientific instrumentation and technologies, data resources, computational tools, and communication networks. Funding calls in the Research Infrastructures Work Programme typically require a consortium of organisations in three different countries.

PILLAR I - EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL (ERC)

ERC Overview:

The [European Research Council](#)'s (ERC's) mission is to encourage the highest quality research in Europe through competitive funding and to support **investigator-driven frontier research across all fields**, based on scientific excellence. **The ERC provides long-term funding for ground-breaking research and its main grant schemes fund a Principal Investigator (PI) or PIs and their team.**

During an ERC grant, the PI (or PIs) are based at a Host Institution which is typically (but does not have to be) a university or public research institution. The PI(s) do not have to be based at the Host Institution at the time of the ERC application. The team members can be at the same Host Institution as the PI(s) but can also be at other organisations in the same or different countries – see the information in the tables below, the ERC website, ERC Work Programme and call documents for full information.

The [2026 ERC Work Programme](#) has the remaining funding schemes with deadlines in 2026:

- **ERC Advanced Grants** (deadline 27 August 2026)
- **ERC Plus Grant** - this is a **new ERC funding scheme** to support outstanding researchers from Europe and anywhere in the world with bold ideas and a vision for transformative research that goes beyond the scope of existing ERC programmes. This new scheme was introduced in the 2026 Work Programme (deadline 2 September 2026).
- **ERC Proof of Concept Grants** – for those who are already the ERC Principal Investigator under one of the ERC's main frontier research grants (Staring, Consolidator, Advanced or Synergy grant) who want to explore the commercial or societal potential of their ERC work (deadline 17 September 2026).

On 20 July 2026, the [2027 ERC Work Programme was published](#) with the calls listed below which have deadlines between Sept and Dec 2026. If you are interested in these calls, please also see the ERC press release "[Applying for an ERC grant in the 2027 competitions: what you need to know.](#)"

- **ERC Starting Grants** (deadline 14 October 2026)

The ERC [press release with information on 'applying for an ERC grant in 2027 competitions: what you need to know'](#) which includes changes on the eligibility windows for Starting and Consolidator Grants for the 2027 calls:

"To be eligible for an ERC Starting Grant in the 2027 call for proposals, the applicant must have defended their PhD no more than 10 years before 1 January 2027. For a Consolidator Grant in the 2027 call, the thesis defence must have been between 5 and 15 years before 1 January 2027. The eligibility period may be extended in duly documented cases, such as parental leave or clinical training. Researchers will be awarded at most one Starting Grant and one Consolidator Grant during their career."

Please check the correct Work Programmes and Call Documents for full details of each funding opportunity.

The [ERC 2027 Work Programme](#) is the final ERC Work Programme under the current Horizon Europe Programme (2021-2027).

Useful ERC links:

- [ERC Website](#) which includes a **newsletter sign-up** box at the bottom of the [ERC homepage](#) and a [page aimed at non-European researchers](#).
- [Horizon Europe European Research Council \(ERC\) 2026 Work Programme](#)
- [Horizon Europe European Research Council \(ERC\) 2027 Work Programme](#)
- ERC [press release with information on 'applying for an ERC grant in 2027 competitions; what you need to know'](#).
- [ERC National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage).
- The [mERCury project](#) facilitates the cooperation between ERC NCPs. It will be useful both to NCPs and to those interested in applying for ERC funding.
- [ERC Contact Information](#)
- Vacancies for team members interested in joining an ERC led research project, can be published on the [Euraxess-Jobs](#) portal.

Grant Scheme	Key Information
ERC Starting Grant The next call is the 2027 Call ERC-2027-StG Deadline: 14 October 2026	ERC Starting Grants are for talented early-career scientists who have already produced excellent supervised work, who are ready to work independently and show potential to be a research leader. Who can apply: The ERC has updated the eligibility window for the 2027 Starting Grant Call and published a press release with information on 'applying for an ERC grant in 2027 competitions; what you need to know' which includes that "To be eligible for an ERC Starting Grant in the 2027 call for proposals, the applicant must have defended their PhD no more than 10 years before 1 January 2027" and "The eligibility period may be extended in duly documented cases, such as parental leave or clinical training". Applicants can be any nationality. Criteria: Applications can be made in any field of research. The ERC's grants operate on a 'bottom-up' basis without predetermined priorities. Location: Research must be conducted in a legal entity (known as a host institution, HI). The HI could be where the applicant already works, or any other HI located in one of the EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries. The PI does not need to be employed by the HI at the time of ERC proposal submission. Team: ERC grants support projects carried out by an individual researcher (Principal Investigator, PI) who can employ researchers of any nationality as team members. It is also possible to have one or more team members located anywhere in the world. Funding: Up to €1.5 million for a period of 5 years (pro rata for shorter projects). An additional €1 million funding is available in certain cases. Please check the European Research Council (ERC) 2027 Work

	Programme and Call Documents for full details of the 2027 Starting Grant call.
ERC Advanced Grant Current call: ERC-2026-ADG (Part of the ERC's 2026 Work Programme) Deadline: 27 August 2026 Future call: ERC-2027-AdG (Part of the ERC's 2027 Work Programme) Deadline: 26 August 2027	For established, leading Principal Investigators (PIs) who want long-term funding to pursue a ground-breaking, ambitious project. Who can apply: An ERC Advanced Grant Principal Investigator is expected to be an active researcher with a track record of significant research achievements. Criteria: Applications can be made in any field of research. The ERC's grants operate on a 'bottom-up' basis without predetermined priorities. Location: Research must be conducted at a legal entity (known as a host institution, HI). The HI could be where the applicant already works, or any other HI located in one of the EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries. The PI does not need to be employed by the HI at the time of ERC proposal submission. Team: ERC grants support projects carried out by an individual researcher (Principal Investigator, PI) who can employ researchers of any nationality as team members. It is also possible to have one or more team members located in a non-European country. Funding: Normally up to €2.5 million for a period of 5 years (pro rata for projects of shorter duration). An additional €1 million funding is available in certain cases. Full information: ERC website, Work Programme and Call Documents. The details above are for the ERC Advanced Grants call in the 2026 ERC Work Programme. If you intend to apply for the 2027 Advanced Grants Call, then you will need to check the European Research Council (ERC) 2027 Work Programme and Call Documents.
ERC Plus Grant Current call: ERC-2026-PLUS (Part of the ERC's 2026 Work Programme) Deadline: 2 September 2026 Future call: ERC-2027-PLUS (Part of the ERC's 2027 Work Programme) Deadline: 1 September 2027	This new funding scheme, ERC Plus Grants, aims to support outstanding researchers from Europe and anywhere in the world with bold ideas and a vision for transformative research that goes beyond the scope of existing ERC programmes. Who can apply: Outstanding principal investigators who address major scientific challenges. Scholars at all career stages can apply for an ERC Plus Grant if they have an outstanding record of scientific achievement at the forefront of their field. Their intellectual leadership will be evaluated in accordance with their career stage. Criteria: Applications can be made in any field of research. The ERC's grants operate on a 'bottom-up' basis without predetermined priorities. Location: Research must be conducted at a legal entity (known as a host institution, HI). The HI could be where the applicant already works, or any other HI located in one of the EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries. The PI does not need to be employed by the HI at the time of ERC proposal submission.

	Team: ERC grants support projects carried out by an individual researcher (Principal Investigator, PI) who can employ researchers of any nationality as team members. It is also possible to have one or more team members located in a non-European country. Funding: Up to €7 million for a period of 4 to 7 years. Full information: ERC website, Work Programme and Call Documents. The details above are for the ERC Plus Grants call in the 2026 ERC Work Programme. If you intend to apply for the 2027 ERC Plus Grants Call, then you will need to check the European Research Council (ERC) 2027 Work Programme and Call Documents.
ERC Proof of Concept Grant Current call: ERC-2026-PoC (Part of the ERC's 2026 Work Programme) Deadline: 17 Sept 2026 Future call: ERC-2027-PoC (Part of the ERC's 2027 Work Programme) Deadlines: 10 March 2027 and 16 September 2027	For researchers who have already received an ERC grant for their frontier research project and now want to explore the commercial or societal potential of their work. Who can apply: All Principal Investigators (PIs) in one of the ERC frontier research main grants (Starting, Consolidator, Advanced or Synergy) are eligible to participate and apply for an ERC Proof of Concept (PoC) Grant. PIs in an ongoing main grant, or PIs in a main grant that has ended after 1 January 2025, are eligible to apply. Criteria: The ERC PoC funding is only for those who already have an ERC award, and is to establish proof of concept of an idea that was generated during their ERC-funded projects. Funding: A lump sum of €150 thousand for a period of 18 months. Full information: ERC website, Work Programme and Call Documents. The details above are for the ERC Proof of Concept Grants call in the 2026 ERC Work Programme. If you intend to apply for the 2027 ERC Proof of Concept Call, then you will need to check the European Research Council (ERC) 2027 Work Programme and Call Documents. UK applicants: please note that ERC frontier grants (Starting, Consolidator, Advanced and Synergy Grants) that were evaluated by the ERC but funded by the UK/UKRI Horizon Europe Guarantee are not eligible to apply to ERC Proof of Concept. Swiss applicants: please contact the Swiss ERC National Contact Point for advice.

PILLAR I - MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS (MSCA)

MSCA Overview:

The [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(MSCA\)](#) are the EU's flagship programme for doctoral education and postdoctoral training and are open to **all domains of research and innovation**.

The MSCAs fund excellent research and innovation to equip researchers at all career stages with new knowledge and skills, through mobility across borders and exposure to different sectors and disciplines. The MSCA help build Europe's capacity for research and innovation by investing in the long-term careers of excellent researchers.

The MSCA also fund the development of excellent doctoral and postdoctoral training programmes and collaborative research projects worldwide. By doing so, they achieve a structuring impact on higher education institutions, research centres and non-academic organisations.

Some MSCA funding calls require a consortium of organisations in different countries, whilst other funding calls can fund a single organisation or single postdoctoral fellow.

The most recently published MSCA Work Programme is the [2026-2027 MSCA Work Programme](#). The calls for proposals are listed below, and then explained in more detail in the tables further on in this document.

- [MSCA Doctoral Networks \(DN\)](#)
- [MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships \(PF\)](#)
- [MSCA Staff Exchanges \(SE\)](#)
- [MSCA COFUND](#)
- [MSCA and Citizens](#)
- [Choose Europe for Science](#)

The [2026-2027 MSCA Work Programme](#) is the last MSCA Work Programme under the current Horizon Europe Programme (2021-2027).

Useful MSCA links:

- [European Commission MSCA Website](#)
- [Subscribe to the European Commission's MSCA Newsletter](#)
- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 MSCA Work Programme](#)
- [MSCA Guidelines on supervision](#)
- [European Commission Infoday on 2026 Doctoral Networks Call](#)
- [European Commission Infoday on 2026 Staff Exchanges Call](#)
- Please also see the [webpage with all European Commission Infodays](#) to check if any have been announced since this document was prepared.
- [MSCA National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [RADIANCE project](#) facilitates the transnational cooperation between MSCA NCPs. It provides documents and information that are useful both to NCPs and MSCA applicants.
- **MSCA PhD vacancies:** If you are an individual researcher looking for a PhD position funded by the MSCA, take a look at the [list of vacancies published on EURAXESS](#), which is updated daily.
- **MSCA Postdoctoral vacancies** are also [listed on EURAXESS](#), and on the [RADIANCE Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Matchmaking Platform](#).

Grant Scheme	Key Information
MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN) Calls in 2026-2027 Work Programme: HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01: MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026 Deadline: 24 November 2026 HORIZON-MSCA-2027-DN-01: MSCA Doctoral Networks 2027 Deadline: 23 November 2027	MSCA Doctoral Networks fund a consortium to train doctoral candidates in academic and non-academic organisations. Types of Doctoral Networks: Doctoral Networks implement doctoral programmes, by partnerships of universities, research institutions and infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors from different countries across EU Member States, Horizon Europe Associated Countries and beyond. These doctoral programmes will respond to well-identified needs in various research and innovation areas, expose the researchers to the academic and non-academic sectors, and offer research training, as well as transferable skills and competences relevant for innovation and long-term employability. • Standard MSCA Doctoral Networks • MSCA Doctoral Network - Industrial Doctorates: train PhD candidates who wish to develop their skills and step outside academia, in particular in industry and business. Individual participants must be enrolled in a doctoral programme and jointly supervised by the academic and non-academic partners. • MSCA Doctoral Network - Joint Doctorates: provide a highly integrated type of international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in doctoral training leading to a joint doctoral degree or multiple doctoral degrees awarded by the participating institutions. PhD candidates must be enrolled in a joint programme and be jointly supervised. Who can apply: Doctoral Networks are open to international consortia of universities, research institutions, businesses, SMEs and other non-academic organisations. They should include: • at least three independent legal entities, each established in a different EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country and with at least one of them established in an EU Member State • on top of this minimum, other organisations from any country in the world can also join • specific conditions apply to Industrial and Joint Doctorates. Candidates wishing to apply for PhD positions under Doctoral Networks should apply to funded Doctoral Network projects by consulting their open vacancies advertised internationally, including on the EURAXESS portal. Full information: MSCA website, Work Programme and Call Documents. The above call is open to all areas of Research and Innovation. However, for those working in AI, please also see the call “HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-03: RAISE Doctoral Networks for AI in Science (RAISE pilot)” in the 2026-2027 Horizontal Activities Work Programme.
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) Calls in 2026-2027 Work Programme: HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01: MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships	MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (PFs) support researchers' careers and foster excellence in research. Objective: PFs are for researchers holding a PhD who wish to carry out their research activities abroad, acquire new skills and develop their careers. PFs help researchers gain experience in other countries, disciplines and non-academic sectors.

2026 Deadline: 9 September 2026 HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01: MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2027 Deadline: 8 September 2027	There are 2 types of Postdoctoral Fellowships: • European PFs: open to researchers moving within Europe or coming to Europe from another part of the world to pursue their research career. These fellowships take place in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country and can last between 1 and 2 years. Researchers of any nationality can apply. • Global PFs: fund the mobility of researchers outside Europe. The fellowship lasts between 2 to 3 years, of which the first 1 to 2 years will be spent in a non-associated Third Country, followed by a mandatory return phase of 1 year to an organisation based in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country. Only nationals or long-term residents of the EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries can apply. Both types of fellowships may also include short-term secondments anywhere in the world during the fellowship (except during the return phase of a Global Fellowship). To build bridges between the academic and non-academic sector, researchers can receive additional support to carry out a placement at the end of their fellowship for up to 6 months in a non-academic organisation based in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country. Who can apply: PFs are open to all disciplines. Researchers interested in PFs: • Should have a PhD degree at the time of the deadline for applications. Applicants who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but who have not yet formally been awarded the doctoral degree will also be considered eligible to apply. • Must have a maximum of eight years' experience in research, from the date of the award of their PhD degree. Years of experience outside research and career breaks will not count towards the above maximum, nor will years of experience in research in third countries, for nationals or long-term residents of EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries who wish to reintegrate to Europe • Should comply with mobility rules: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary (for European PFs), or the host organisation for the outgoing phase (for Global PFs) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline. Full information: MSCA website, Work Programme and Call Documents.
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PILLAR I - RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES (RI)

There are no call topics in this Work Programme with deadlines between September and December 2026.

PILLAR II (GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS)

PILLAR II - OVERVIEW

Horizon Europe Pillar II is Global Challenge and Industrial Competitiveness.

Pillar II consists of six “Clusters”:

- **Cluster 1 – Health**
- Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Cluster 3 – Civil Security for Society
- Cluster 4 – Digital, Industry and Space
- Cluster 5 – Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Cluster 6 – Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

There are also five ‘Missions’ in Pillar II (listed below), as well as the New European Bauhaus Facility (NEB).

- Adaptation to Climate Change
- **Cancer**
- Restore our Ocean and Waters
- Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities
- Soil Deal for Europe

There are many **health-related funding opportunities** across Pillar II, and these are detailed in this document.

Nearly all call topics in Pillar II are **challenge driven** where the European Commission specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

Funding calls in the Pillar II Work Programmes also nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

PILLAR II - CLUSTER 1: HEALTH

Cluster 1 Overview:

The aims of this cluster include improving and protecting the health and well-being of citizens of all ages by generating new knowledge, developing innovative solutions and integrating where relevant a gender perspective to prevent, diagnose, monitor, treat and cure diseases.

Further aims include developing health technologies, mitigating health risks, protecting populations and promoting good health and well-being in general and at work.

Finally, this cluster also aims to make public health systems more cost-effective, equitable and sustainable, prevent and tackle poverty-related diseases and support and enable patients' participation and self-management.

The [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Health](#) (Cluster 1) has 6 destinations (subareas):

- Destination 1 - **Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society**
- Destination 2 - **Living and working in a health-promoting environment**
- Destination 3 - **Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden**
- Destination 4 - **Ensuring equal access to innovative, sustainable, and high-quality healthcare**

- Destination 5 - **Developing and using new tools, technologies and digital solutions for a healthy society**
- Destination 6 - **Maintaining an innovative, sustainable, and competitive EU health industry**

There is only one call topic with a deadline between Sept and Dec 2026 in the 2026-2027 Health Work Programme.

Useful Cluster 1 links:

- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Health Work Programme](#) (Cluster 1)
- [European Commission Infoday on the 2026 call topics in the 2026-2027 Health Work Programme](#)
- Horizon Europe Health Brokerage Event 5-6 May 2026 – [the recordings and slides for the pitches for 2026 call topics are available online](#)
- [Horizon Europe Health 2026 call topics – long-term brokerage platform](#)
- [Presentations and brokerage from 'building multidisciplinary collaboration: SSH \(Social Sciences and Humanities\) and STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics\)](#)
- [European Health and Digital Executive Agency \(HADEA\) Website on Cluster 1](#)
- [European Commission Website on Cluster 1](#)
- [Cluster 1 National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [HNN 3.0 project](#) facilitates the transnational cooperation between Cluster 1 NCPs. It provides documents and information that are useful both to NCPs and to researchers and innovators interested in funding. For example, you can [sign up for the HNN Newsletter \(near the bottom of this page\)](#) and the website also contains useful [tools](#). **This document is produced by HNN 3.0.**
- The HNN3.0 network of Health NCPs have created a [guide on how to leverage European Research Infrastructures in a proposal](#). The aim of this guide is to help applicants to Horizon Europe calls (for example calls under Cluster 1 Health and the Cancer Mission) better understand how they can engage with Research Infrastructures and to give an overview of the Research Infrastructures in the health domain.
- [Strategy for European Life Sciences](#) to position Europe as the world's most attractive place for life sciences by 2030.

Destination - Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden

There are no RIA, IA or CSA call topics in this destination with deadlines between September and December 2026.

Topic
HORIZON-HLTH-2026-02-DISEASE-12: European Partnership on Rare Diseases (ERDERA) (Phase 2) (See pages 17-18 and 85-90 of the Work Programme for further details) COFUND. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026 Important Information: • This a 'co-fund action' and is not a research and innovation project. It is unlikely to be suitable for the vast majority of potential applicants – please speak to your National Contact Point for Cluster 1 to explain why before embarking on developing a proposal. The call topic text includes that the "proposal must be submitted by the coordinator of the consortium funded under topic HORIZON-HLTH-2023-DISEASE-07-01: "European Partnership on Rare Diseases". This eligibility condition is without prejudice to the possibility to include additional partners." You can contact the consortium that must submit the proposal at Contact Us - ERDERA.

PILLAR II - CLUSTER 2: CULTURE, CREATIVITY AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

Cluster 2 Overview:

This cluster aims to strengthen European democratic values, including rule of law and fundamental rights, safeguarding our cultural heritage, and promoting socio-economic transformations that contribute to inclusion and growth.

The [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society](#) (Cluster 2) has 3 destinations (subareas):

- Destination 1: Innovative Research on Democracy and Governance
- Destination 2: Innovative Research on European Cultural Heritage and Cultural and Creative Industries
- Destination 3: Innovative Research on Social and Economic Transformations

These destinations contain call topics which are **challenge driven** where the European Commission specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

There are call topics under Destinations 2 and 3 that relate to health which have deadlines between Sept and Dec 2026, and we have included further information below. Whilst we have done our best to include call topics related to health in our sections on each destination below, please see the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society](#) (Cluster 2) for full information on the funding opportunities available.

There are also calls with deadlines in 2027 in the 2026-2027 Work Programme, we have not included these in this document.

Funding calls in the Cluster 2 Work Programme nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries

Useful Cluster 2 links:

- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society](#) (Cluster 2)
- [European Commission Infoday on the 2026 topics in the Cluster 2 2026-2027 Work Programme](#)
- [Horizon Europe Cluster 2 Brokerage Platform](#) (open all year around)
- [Presentations and brokerage from 'building multidisciplinary collaboration: SSH \(Social Sciences and Humanities\) and STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics\)](#)
- [European Research Executive Agency \(REA\) Website on Cluster 2](#) and [Newsletter signup](#)
- [European Commission Website on Cluster 2](#)
- [Cluster 2 National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [Net4Society project](#) facilitates the transnational cooperation between Cluster 2 NCPs. It provides documents and information that are useful both to NCPs and to researchers and innovators interested in funding. For example, on the you can sign up for the [Net4Society newsletter](#) and the website also contains a calendar, events, and services including tools and partner search.

Destination: Innovative Research on Democracy and Governance

This destination has no health-relevant call topics with deadlines between September and December 2026.

Destination: Innovative Research on European Cultural Heritage and Cultural and Creative Industries

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-01: “Artistic intelligence” : harnessing the power of the arts to address complex challenges, enhance soft skills and boost innovation and competitiveness RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Scope: “Focus 1. Enhancing soft skills through creativity and the arts...Supporting research and innovation in this area will help individuals and institutions develop the skills and mindsets needed to thrive and increase creativity, productivity and well-being, including mental health, in a complex, interconnected society.”
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-02: Boosting creative startups for disruptive Innovation IA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Scope: “The cultural and creative industries (CCIs) count a high rate of startups. Data indicate that CCIs are among the early adopters of new technologies, especially in the digital realm. For instance, the European Monitor of Industrial Ecosystems (2024) notes that artificial intelligence-based technology startups were most common among the CCIs and in the health sector.”
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-03: AI integration in CCIS work practice: catalysing innovation and competitiveness IA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Expected Outcome: “By mastering ethical and inclusive AI, CCSI are empowered drivers of culture, innovation, competitiveness and societal wellbeing.”
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-05: Creative alliances: Fostering global partnerships in cultural policies and CCI innovation RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Scope: “Creative industries are gaining global attention for their multifaceted impact on economies and societies, driving economic growth, job creation, opportunities for youth, women, and persons with disabilities, while generating value and fostering wellbeing across regions.”
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-HERITAGE-06: Safeguarding linguistic diversity in Europe RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Scope: “The projects should explore the non-linguistic benefits of language maintenance, regeneration and learning. They could also look at how multilingualism and maintaining and learning heritage languages affects people’s wellbeing, self-respect and health due to the comfort, lower stress and sense of security at being able to speak their first language and not have their identity challenged.”

Destination: Innovative Research on Social and Economic Transformations

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-03: Tackling child poverty and ensuring disadvantaged children's access to Early Childhood Education and Care	Expected Outcome: “Policymakers gain insights into the cost of child poverty and the returns from securing access of disadvantaged children to quality Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) in the EU. Policymakers receive operational advice on ways to reduce this cost and support participation of disadvantaged children in quality ECEC to close the gap with other

RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	children in the EU.” Scope: “Estimate the cost of child poverty and the returns yielded by participation to quality ECEC by taking into account... the economic, social, wellbeing and educational aspects of these costs/returns”
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-04: The impact of the use of digital tools outside school and for communication on educational outcomes and mental health RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Expected Outcome: “Provide policymakers, education practitioners and citizens with a solid understanding of how social media, video gaming and other leisure uses of digital tools relate to the educational outcomes of young people, including through their impact on well-being and mental health.”
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-08: Strengthened implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and a focus on inclusion, integration, and health RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Expected Outcome: “Enhanced health equity for migrants, including refugees by integrating robust health data into national systems, addressing governance barriers, and tackling intersectional inequities in healthcare access, identifying data/indicators on basic needs in health and sanitation, including as compared to adequate treatment... Comprehensive evaluation of long-term social inclusion and integration strategies, providing evidence-based policy recommendations for labour market access, housing, education, health (including mental health), recognition of qualifications and validation of skills, youth participation, and social, political, and cultural inclusion.”
HORIZON-CL2-2026-01-TRANSFO-09: Rethinking long-term care policy in the face of EU demographic shifts RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Scope: “...Develop robust methodologies to model projections until 2070, for long-term care needs and supply including in terms of workforce and types of services, and corresponding public funding needs for at least 15 EU Member States; quantify the cost of non-action in terms of impact on unmet LTC needs, health and well-being outcomes, and missed opportunities for economic returns.”

PILLAR II - CLUSTER 3: CIVIL SECURITY FOR SOCIETY

Cluster 3 Overview:

This cluster responds to the challenges arising from persistent security threats, including cybercrime, as well as natural and man-made disasters.

The cluster builds on lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of prevention, mitigation, preparedness and capacity building for crises (including health crises) and in improving cross-sectoral aspects of such crises.

The introduction section of the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Civil Security for Society](#) (Cluster 3) mentions on page 8 “*Protecting and empowering disadvantaged groups or in a vulnerable situation*. A range of groups are disproportionately exposed to violence and threats towards their security. These include, women, LGBTIQ people, ethnic, racial or religious minorities, persons with a migrant background, **persons with disabilities, persons living with chronic illnesses**, older people and children. The vulnerability of these groups is further exacerbated by factors such as insecure supply chains for **essential medicines** which can be disrupted by disasters or criminal activities.”

The [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Civil Security for Society](#) (Cluster 3) has 6 destinations (subareas):

- Destination: Better protect the EU and its citizens against Crime and Terrorism
- Destination: Effective management of EU external borders
- Destination: Resilient Infrastructure
- Destination: Cybersecurity
- Destination: Disaster-Resilient Society for Europe
- Destination: Strengthened Security Research and Innovation

These destinations contain call topics which are **challenge driven** where the European Commission specifies the research and innovation project to be done, however within the Cluster 3 Work Programme some of the call topics are **open call topics** which are less prescriptive than in other Work Programmes in Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe. This is explained in more detail in the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Civil Security for Society](#), in the call text for each of the open topics.

There are call topics under some of the destinations that relate to **health** as well as call topics that are more open where a health aspect could be included. For call topics with deadlines between Sept and Dec 2026, we have done our best to include these in our sections on each destination below, please see the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Civil Security for Society](#) (Cluster 3) for full information on the funding opportunities available.

Funding calls in the Cluster 3 Work Programme nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries, as well as the involvement of practitioners and end users.

Useful Cluster 3 links:

- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Civil Security for Society](#) (Cluster 3)
- [European Commission InfoDay on the 2026 Work Programme](#)
- [European Research Executive Agency \(EREA\) Website on Cluster 3](#) and [Newsletter signup](#)
- [European Commission Website on Cluster 3](#)
- [Cluster 3 National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [SEREN project](#) facilitates the transnational cooperation between Cluster 3 NCPs. It provides documents and information that are useful both to NCPs and to researchers and innovators interested in Horizon Europe funding. The SEREN5 project concluded in 2025 but the follow-on project, SEREN6, will commence in summer 2026 and will offer Cluster 3 applicants targeted support in areas such as proposal writing and consortium building.
- [CERIS - Community for European Research and Innovation for Security](#)
- Additional useful links:
 - [European Preparedness Union Strategy](#)
 - [EU Adaptation Strategy](#)
 - [EU Cyber Security](#)
 - [EU Disaster Resilience Goals](#)
 - [UN SENDAI Framework for Action](#)
 - [ProtectEU](#)
 - [Counter-Terrorism Agenda](#)

Destination: Better protect the EU and its citizens against Crime and Terrorism

Research and innovation funded under this Destination will contribute to a range of policy objectives including EU Regulation (2022/2371) on **serious cross-border threats to health**.

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-FCT-03: Missing persons: prevention and investigation IA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: "This call topic aims to fight the issue of missing persons relying on the synergy of technology, the latest socio-psychological knowledge learned from cases as well as field experience of Police Authorities and entities dealing with victims." Scope: "People may go missing under a variety of circumstances, such as ...cases related to mental health crises. Groups in a vulnerable situation - notably ... persons with disabilities and persons suffering from cognitive impairments face an even greater risk of going missing. When it comes to investigation, Police Authorities need efficient tools ...to solve cold cases while combining modern forensic science (including biometrics and digital forensics)"
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-FCT-04: Crime prevention approaches, online and off-line, tackling the nexus between addictions and crime RIA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: "Among others, this call topic aims to improve understanding of links between addictions and crime, including drivers of criminality." Scope: "Novel approaches of collaboration between different community stakeholders, from Police Authorities, civil society ... trained psychologists, are expected to be developed as well, with the aim of increasing communities' addiction resilience, security and safety."
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-FCT-05: Enhancing the security of citizens against terrorism and lone-actor violence in confined spaces such as schools IA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: "This call topic aims to increase understanding of policymakers and relevant security practitioners of the phenomenon of terrorism and lone-actor violence." Scope: "Proposals are invited from consortia involving Police Authorities and other relevant security practitioners, Civil Society Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations, and the appropriate balance of IT specialists, psychologists..."
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-FCT-06: Prevention and mitigation of misuse of synthetic biology for bioterrorism purposes RIA RIA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: "This call topic aims to raise awareness within the related scientific community how research in synthetic biology can be used for malicious purposes." Scope: "The potential economic and social consequences of biological attacks necessitate robust prevention and preparedness measures to mitigate overwhelming impacts on healthcare systems and society at large."

Destination: Effective management of EU external borders

The call topics under this destination do not specifically mention health related aspects, although they are open in scope. If you think you might be interested in this destination, please refer to the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Civil Security for Society](#).

Although the introduction to the border management destination does not explicitly reference health, there is an indirect relevance as it states "research and innovation under this Destination will focus on preserving

and securing the basic right to feel secure and on protecting and **promoting fundamental rights** as a priority.”

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-BM-02: Accessible and available travel facilitation IA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: “Improved trusted, secure, and easier automated seamless facilitation for travel, border crossing through border crossing points (BCPs), and/or visa procedures with an integrated approach, minimized risk for bias, and accessible for all travellers minimising digital divides” Scope: The call topic aims to address the fact that it can be “difficult for families, other groups of people travelling together, people with disabilities and/or reduced mobility, or with relatively lower digital skills, to smoothly use travel and border crossing facilitation solutions.”
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-BM-03: Reliability of age assessment methods in the context of security and border management CSA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: “Improved protection of minors, including by more reliable age assessments and by minimising the use of intrusive age assessment methods” Scope: Under the scope of this call topic, it notes “The Methods may use approaches as diverse as interviews, psychological assessments and other holistic approaches; medical approaches such as X-rays, CT scans, DNA methylation, dental observation, or other analyses”

Destination: Resilient Infrastructure

The introduction to this destination states that proposals should contribute (among other things) to developing new and upgraded systems that “support the interoperability enabling rapid response and recovery from complex security incidents without significant human involvement, and situational awareness and information sharing functionalities are available, especially where **emergency responders**’ intervention is required”

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-INFRA-01: Tools and processes to support stress tests of critical infrastructure IA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: This call topic aims to ensure that “critical entities have broader and deeper understanding of their technical and operational vulnerabilities and adaptive capabilities, improving the scenario building and stress tests exercises.” Scope: Under the scope of this call topic it is noted that “resilience of critical entities is of paramount importance as disruptions to these systems can have significant consequences for the whole economy, public health, security or safety”
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-INFRA-02: Security challenges of the green transition in urban and peri urban areas RIA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: This call topic aims to “contribute to the development of a resilient and sustainable urban environment, where the benefits of green technologies can be fully realized while minimizing their potential risks and negative impacts.” Scope:

	"Proposals should also consider the threat of malicious access, software and data manipulation and misuse of managing systems potentially leading to harm to health, loss of life, environmental damage or economic damage, regardless of whether the intention is criminal, vandalism, hybrid attack or other. The ultimate goal of this research is to inform operators, first responders and authorities on how to mitigate risks, enhance their preparedness and improve their response to potential incidents."
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-INFRA-03: Targeted innovative capabilities for the resilience of critical entities to natural and human-induced disasters, including hybrid scenarios IA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: "Demonstration of advanced technological solutions that enhance the ability of public and private providers of critical services to prepare for, respond to, and recover from complex, multi-hazard scenarios ..." "Deployment of common platforms and operational tools for dynamic risk assessment, decision support, between public authorities, first responders, and critical infrastructure operators during disruptive events" Scope: The call topic notes that "ensuring the monitoring, protection and continuity of essential services has become fundamental to preserving and enhancing societal resilience." It states that "Proposals should also demonstrate cross-border, multi-actor coordination mechanisms through simulations or testing in real operational environments, involving public authorities, emergency responders, and critical service operators or representative environments where critical infrastructure is particularly exposed to multi-hazard risks."

Destination: Increased Cybersecurity

The Cybersecurity actions proposed under this destination are designed to reinforce the EU's ability to detect, prevent, and respond to cyber threats, including those targeting critical infrastructure. The call topics under this destination do not specifically mention health related aspects, although they are open in scope. If you think you might be interested in this destination, please refer to pages 155 -163 in the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Civil Security for Society](#).

Please note that the deadline for these calls is **15 September 2026**

Destination: Disaster-Resilient Society for Europe

As one of the key objectives of this destination is '**supporting medical countermeasures against public health threats**', there are multiple references to health within the introduction including;

'follow a multi-hazard approach, addressing disasters and threats of all kinds, including their cascading issues, climate-related or natural or human-made and geological hazards, industrial accidents, **pandemics ...**

'provide the means for regional and/or local decision-makers and operational responders, i.e., first and second responders. A "second responder" is a worker who supports "first responders" such as police, fire, and **emergency medical personnel**.'

'Strengthen resilience and enhancing protection strategies for **emergency services and healthcare workers** in case of disasters"

"Enhance preparedness for **optimised detection, prevention, response and control measures in case of** bioterrorism or **emerging diseases**."

“Deploy innovative solutions in emergency situations including trusted communication channels, **emergency medical response, including triage of victims pre-hospital and clinical services, medical countermeasures, support equipment (e.g. detectors), as well as protection of first responders**”

“Enhance ... responses to climate-related and geological disasters and emergency crises by different practitioner sectors (firefighters, **medical emergency services**, civil protection, police, NGOs)”

“Education and training aspects for **first and second responders** for different types of threats... and adapted to all types of **disability**.”

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-DRS-01: Designing new ways of risk awareness and enhanced disaster preparedness RIA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: This call topic aims to support among others the development of “comprehensive, inclusive preparedness plans that involve all societal sectors and governance levels, ensuring coordinated and effective responses to disasters (such as from early warning to early action), including scarcity of resources...” Scope: “Proposals should work towards the creation of comprehensive, multi-stakeholder preparedness plans that involve all levels of governance, civil society, the private sector, and local communities.” “Special attention should be given to marginalized or vulnerable groups in a vulnerable situation ensure equitable access to risk information and preparedness resources.”
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-DRS-02: Multi-hazard approach and cumulative / cascading impacts IA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: This call topic aims to develop “holistic risk and resilience metrics to support multi-hazard prevention strategies, encompassing main physical, economic and social effects.” Scope: “A holistic, systemic, and cross-cutting approach should be applied...taking into consideration ...vulnerabilities such as gender, age, disabilities and others social factors.” “Projects should contribute to strengthening risk governance at multiple levels by fostering collaboration between scientific communities, policymakers, emergency responders, and infrastructure operators.”
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-DRS-03: Development of innovative tools, processes, equipment and technologies through responses to disasters and emergencies for search and rescue in hazardous conditions IA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: The development of “autonomous drones, robotics, and other technologies specifically designed for emergency medical response and search and rescue operations in hazardous conditions...” “Improvement of response efficiency and safety for survivors and emergency practitioners ...” “Consider needs of existing EU-level capacities, emergency reserves, and stockpiling ...” Scope: “The scope of this topic is the development of innovative tools, equipment, and technologies to enhance the capabilities of emergency responders operating in complex and hazardous disaster environment”

	"Issues such as... human-life protection... should be addressed to facilitate the responsible and effective use of these innovations." Eligibility Conditions: This topic requires the active involvement, as beneficiaries, of at least 2 practitioner organisations (first responders) and 2 medical emergency authorities from at least 3 different EU Member States or Associated Countries.
HORIZON-CL3-2026-01-DRS-05: Climate security and civil preparedness – new ways to develop pre- and post-crisis climate-change related scenarios for a more resilient Europe IA. Deadline: 5 Nov 2026	Expected Outcome: Among other things, this call topic seeks to identify and prioritise "climate security scenarios, assessing cascading and compounding risks across multiple sectors." Scope: The call topic acknowledges that "climate change ...exacerbates risks across multiple sectors, including agriculture, biodiversity, health, ...leading to severe socio-economic consequences and destabilizing communities...The study of cascading effects and compounding disasters is critical, particularly regarding groups in a vulnerable situation such as older people, people with disabilities, and children."

Destination: Strengthened Security Research and Innovation

This destination's expected impact is to generate knowledge and value in cross-cutting matters to avoid sector-specific bias and break silos that impede the proliferation of common security solutions. It will also support innovation uptake and go-to-market strategies. While the destination does not specifically reference health, it does aim to '**meet the needs of practitioners across various disciplines**'. If you think you might be interested in this destination, please refer to the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Civil Security for Society](#).

PILLAR II - CLUSTER 4: DIGITAL, INDUSTRY AND SPACE

There are no call topics in this Work Programme with deadlines between September and December 2026.

PILLAR II - CLUSTER 5: CLIMATE, ENERGY AND MOBILITY

Cluster 5 Overview:

This cluster aims to fight climate change by better understanding its causes, evolution, risks, impacts and opportunities, and by making the energy and transport sectors more climate and environment-friendly, more efficient and competitive, smarter, safer and more resilient.

The [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Climate, Energy and Mobility](#) (Cluster 5) has 6 destinations (subareas):

- Destination: Climate sciences and responses for the transformation towards climate neutrality
- Destination: Cross-sectoral solutions for the climate transition
- Destination: Sustainable, secure and competitive energy supply
- Destination: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use
- Destination: Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes
- Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods

These destinations contain call topics which are **challenge driven** where the European Commission specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

There are call topics under some of the above destinations that relate to health. Whilst we have done our best to include call topics with deadlines between Sept and Dec 2026 that are related to health in our sections on these destinations below, please see the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Climate, Energy and Mobility](#) (Cluster 5) for full information on the funding opportunities available.

Funding calls in the Cluster 5 Work Programme nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

Useful Cluster 5 links:

- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Climate, Energy and Mobility](#) (Cluster 5)
- [European Commission Infoday on the 2026 Cluster 5 Work Programme](#)
- [Horizon Europe Cluster 5 Brokerage Event](#) (this was on 6 May, but website contains [pitches](#) and [cooperation profiles](#))
- [Presentations and brokerage from 'building multidisciplinary collaboration: SSH \(Social Sciences and Humanities\) and STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics\)](#)
- [European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency \(CINEA\) website on Horizon Europe](#) Climate, Energy and Mobility.
- [European Commission Website on Cluster 5](#)
- [Cluster 5 National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [GREENET project](#) facilitates the transnational cooperation between Cluster 5 NCPs. It provides documents and information that are useful both to NCPs and to researchers and innovators interested in funding. For example, you can sign up for the [GREENET newsletter](#) and the website also contains a calendar, events, training for applicants, and services including tools, [partner search](#), stakeholder directory and factsheets.

Destination: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D4-01: Researching the technical, social & economic factors impacting the energy performance of Smart Buildings (Built4People Partnership) RIA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026	Expected Outcome: "Increased evidence of factors such as physiological, behavioural, social, environmental and cultural that influence how different user and demographic groups perceive and use smart, secured, integrated energy efficient building systems, and how it affects the building whole-life cycle and energy savings, as well as occupant satisfaction, health and well-being "
HORIZON-CL5-2026-09-D4-04: Validating policies and business models for affordable and sustainable housing (Built4People Partnership) RIA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026	Scope: "One of the key principles for housing renovation towards 2030 and 2050 is affordability, i.e. making energy efficient, comfortable, healthy , sustainable and climate-resilient buildings widely available, in particular for medium and lower-income households and vulnerable people and areas. A better understanding of the impact of current policy frameworks on the affordable housing sector and on energy poverty is needed."

Destination: Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for passengers and goods

Topic	Health aspects
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HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D6-09: Road Safety and resilience of rural areas IA. Deadline: 08 Oct 2026	Expected Outcome: “Prevention strategies for reducing road fatalities and serious road traffic injuries on rural roads along with the respective implementation guidelines and policy measures tailored to the responsible stakeholders (regional authorities, police, healthcare professionals, national governments, etc.)” Scope: “In an ageing society, cognitive and physical impairments pose an increasing threat to safe mobility. In rural areas, people with any kind of impairment or disability often lack alternatives to driving a car for their mobility needs. Addressing these issues will not only enhance road safety but also improve the quality of life and prevent the social exclusion of these people.” “Crash prevention strategies should also include countermeasures to reduce the effects of health-related risk factors and to guarantee at the same time the mobility of older people and persons with health impairments in rural areas.”
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PILLAR II - CLUSTER 6: FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Cluster 6 Overview:

This cluster aims at reducing environmental degradation, halting and reversing the decline of biodiversity on land, inland waters and sea and better managing natural resources through transformative changes of the economy and society in both urban and rural areas.

It will ensure food and nutrition security for all within planetary boundaries through knowledge, innovation and digitalisation in agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and food systems and steer and accelerate the transition to a low carbon, resource efficient circular economy and sustainable bioeconomy, including forestry.

The introduction section of the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment](#) (Cluster 6) includes that “Cluster 6 helps accelerate the transition to competitive, resilient, sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems to achieve the objectives of the European Green Deal, the Vision for agriculture and food and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). R&I activities aim at empowering farmers, fishers and aquaculture producers to efficiently transform their production methods, making the best use of Nature-based Solutions, technological, digital and social innovations and transferable knowledge while supporting fair incomes and the competitiveness of the entire EU food value chain. This will accelerate climate mitigation and result in positive environmental outcomes, increased climate resilience and reduced dependency on pesticides and antimicrobials, fostering multi-disciplinary approaches including the **One Health approach**. Furthermore, it will also provide consumers with affordable, safe, **nutritious, healthy and sustainable food**.”

“R&I also seek to stimulate sustainable practices at all stages of the food system, (from production to processing services, the use and valorisation of waste and by-products and surplus management) and to ensure safe and sustainable food and enable a shift to sustainable and **healthy diets for all**.” The cluster is strongly committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including SDG3 on Good health and well-being.

The [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment](#) (Cluster 6) has 7 destinations (subareas):

- Destination: Biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Destination: Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption
- Destination: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors
- Destination: Clean environment and zero pollution
- Destination: Land, ocean and water for climate action
- Destination: Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities
- Destination: Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal

These destinations contain call topics, which are normally **challenge-driven** where the European Commission specifies the research and innovation project to be done. However, the Work Programme contains various call topics marked as 'Open topic' which are more open in scope (for example "[HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CLIMATE-01-two-stage: Open topic: Innovative solutions for the European Water Resilience Strategy](#)").

There are call topics with deadlines Sept-Dec 2026 under some destinations that relate to health. Whilst we have done our best to include call topics related to health in our sections on each destination below, please see the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment](#) (Cluster 6) for full information on the funding opportunities available.

Funding calls in the Cluster 6 Work Programme nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

Useful Cluster 6 links:

- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment](#) (Cluster 6)
- [European Commission Infoday on the 2026 Cluster 6 Work Programme](#)
- [Horizon Europe Cluster 6 Brokerage Event and Platform](#)
- ["How approach Cluster 6 funding opportunities"](#) slides
- [Presentations and brokerage from 'building multidisciplinary collaboration: SSH \(Social Sciences and Humanities\) and STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics\)](#)
- [European Research Executive Agency \(REA\) Website on Cluster 6](#) and [Newsletter signup](#)
- [European Commission Website on Cluster 6](#)
- [Cluster 6 National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [CARE4BIO project](#) facilitates the transnational cooperation between Cluster 6 NCPs. It provides documents and information that are useful both to NCPs and to researchers and innovators interested in funding. For example, on the you can sign up for the [CARE4BIO newsletter](#) and the website also contains a calendar, events and training.

Destination: Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-10:	Expected Outcome:

Bio-based innovation in society: supporting the sustainable way of living RIA. Deadline: 17 Sept 2026	The topic is on “advanced socio-economic transformation, based on biobased sectors and bioeconomy.” “Improved public understanding and engagement in bio-based innovation underpinned by scientific advances in life sciences and biotechnology; Better living conditions for individuals and communities, benefiting from less polluted ecosystems, via healthier, and environmentally sustainable products and services with a reduced carbon footprint and based on circular and bio-based solutions.” Scope: “The projects under this topic are relevant to the EU policies related to the European Commission communication on: Building the future with nature: Boosting Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing in the EU, the Strategy for European Life Sciences, the EU Biotech Act, Clean Industrial Deal and the policies related to the fair green transition (objective of not leaving anyone behind). It also contributes to the Start-ups and Scale-ups strategy. Synergies with activities under the Circular Bio-based Europe (CBE) Joint Undertaking and New European Bauhaus are encouraged”.
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PILLAR II - EU MISSIONS (Adaptation to Climate Change, Cancer, Restore our Ocean and Waters, Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities, Soil Deal for Europe + Joint Call between Missions)

Missions Overview:

[EU Missions](#) are large-scale initiatives under Horizon Europe setting clear, time-bound goals that drive focused efforts towards some of our greatest challenges.

The 5 EU Missions are:

1. [Adaptation to Climate Change: support at least 150 European regions and communities to become climate resilient by 2030](#)
(also see the [Mission Adaptation Community of Practice](#))
2. [Cancer: working with Europe's Beating Cancer Plan to improve the lives of more than 3 million people by 2030 through prevention, cure and solutions to live longer and better](#)
(also see the [Cancer Mission Implementation Platform](#))
3. [Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030](#)
4. [100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030](#)
5. [A Soil Deal for Europe: 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030](#)

Each mission operates as a portfolio of actions – such as research projects, policy measures or even legislative initiatives - to achieve a measurable goal that could not be achieved through individual actions.

These missions contain call topics which are **challenge driven** where the European Commission specifies the research and innovation project to be done. The Missions Work Programme also has prizes.

Under some Missions there are call topics with deadlines between Sept and Dec 2026 that relate to health. Whilst we have done our best to include call topics related to health in our sections on each Mission below,

please see the [2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme](#) for full information on the funding opportunities available.

Funding calls in the Missions Work Programme nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

Useful Missions links:

- [European Commission website on Missions](#) which links to the website and newsletter sign-up for each Mission.
- **Cancer Mission: [Subscribe to the Newsletter](#)**
- [2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme](#)
- [European Commission Infoday on the 2026 Missions Call Topics \(including the Cancer Mission\)](#)
- European Commission and NCP: [Brokerage Event](#) and [online brokerage platform](#) (open until 30 Sept 2026) for the 2026 Mission call topics, **including the Cancer Mission.**
- [Presentations and brokerage from 'building multidisciplinary collaboration: SSH \(Social Sciences and Humanities\) and STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics\)](#)
- [Missions National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage).
- The [NCP4Missions project](#) brings together Missions NCPs in different countries. One of the project aims is to lower the entry barriers for applicants and raise the quality of proposals by offering support to potential Mission applicants, including brokerages, workshops and other digital tools.
- The HNN3.0 network of Health NCPs have created a [guide on how to leverage European Research Infrastructures in a proposal](#). The aim of this guide is to help applicants to Horizon Europe calls (for example calls under the Cancer Mission) better understand how they can engage with Research Infrastructures and to give an overview of the Research Infrastructures in the health domain.

Adaptation to Climate Change Mission

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA-03: Standardising and supporting climate services for climate adaptation RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Scope: "Promote and demonstrate the use of pilot standardized climate services in key adaptation-related areas, assessing and integrating quality-assured climate information. into decision-making. This should be in line with the adaptation objectives of the Paris Agreement and could include for example ... Other sectors (e.g. health , agriculture, energy, water management, insurance, natural environment) if properly justified."
HORIZON-MISS-2026-01-CLIMA-04 Bridging the gap between disaster risk management and climate adaptation CSA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Scope: "The goal of this action is to strengthen collaboration between the Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management communities. This will enable the Mission and the Disaster Risk Management community to disseminate their innovative solutions in support of the implementation of the EU Preparedness Union Strategy and the upcoming European Climate Adaptation Plan."

Cancer Mission

Topic
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-01: Virtual Human Twin (VHT) Models for Cancer Research (See page 67 of the 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme for further details)

RIA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-02: <u>Microbiome for early cancer prediction before the onset of disease</u> (See page 70 of the 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme for further details)
RIA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-03: <u>Pragmatic clinical trials to optimise immunotherapeutic interventions for patients with refractory cancers</u> (See page 73 of the 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme for further details)
RIA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-04: <u>Earlier and more precise palliative care</u> (See page 76 of the 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme for further details)
RIA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-05: <u>Boosting mental health of young cancer survivors through the European Cancer Patient Digital Centre (ECPDC)</u> (See page 78 of the 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme for further details)
IA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-06: <u>Development of a research capacity building programme on cancer with and for Ukraine</u> (See page 81 of the 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme for further details)
CSA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026
HORIZON-MISS-2026-02-CANCER-07: <u>Improve the Quality of Life of older cancer patients</u> (See page 84 of the 2026-2027 Horizon Europe Missions Work Programme for further details)
RIA. Deadline: 15 Sept 2026

Restore our Oceans and Waters Mission

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2026-03-OCEAN-02: <u>Addressing aquatic pollution and biodiversity loss through nature positive solutions from source to sea</u> RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Scope: "Pollution of freshwater and marine environments from nutrients, chemicals and plastics including microplastics poses proven risks to human and environmental health . As the latest assessments of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Water Framework Directive have shown, large parts of Europe's groundwater bodies, rivers, lakes, coastal, transitional and marine waters have not reached good ecological or good environmental status and often exceed regulatory threshold levels set to avoid potential risk to human health and the environment."
HORIZON-MISS-2027-03-OCEAN-02: <u>Circularity of seafood supply chain</u> IA. Deadline: 21 Sept 2026	Scope: "Innovative and efficient methods and techniques for extracting high-value compounds and valorising seafood by-products from discards of unavoidable unwanted catches or waste products (e.g.: fish sludge, fish manure, trimmings, viscera, shells, seaweed and algal residues, etc.). These high-value extracted compounds can be used for different

	applications, such as animal feed, or as inputs for other industries like, for instance, food production, ... nutraceuticals , ...biotech industries, bioplastics and biobased packaging. Applications in the field of ... pharmaceuticals are excluded under this topic.
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Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission

This Mission has no health-relevant call topics with deadlines between September and December 2026.

Soils Mission

The introduction to Mission Soil part in the Work Programme of Missions for 2026-2027 lists the aims of the Work Programme on page 183. Among several others, one aim is directly related to human health: The programme aims to explore the **interlinkages between human and soil health**, helping to fill key knowledge and policy gaps and contributing to a **more integrated One Health approach**.

Topic	Health aspects
HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL-02: Antimicrobial resistance and antibiotic biosynthesis in soils: developing key understanding and counteractive strategies using a One-Health approach RIA. Deadline: 23 Sept 2026	Expected Outcome: “Activities under this topic will help progress towards the objectives and targets of the Mission Soil and of the EU Soil Strategy for 2030, the Zero Pollution Action Plan, the European One Health Action Plan against antimicrobial resistance as well as the Sustainable Development Goals” Project results are expected to contribute to all the following expected outcomes: “policymakers, land managers and other relevant stakeholders have an enhanced understanding of antimicrobial resistance development in soils, the key drivers and pathways of soil’s contribution to human and animal exposure to antimicrobial resistant genes and organisms, as well as antibiotic biosynthesis in soils;” “policymakers and land managers have increased access and capacity to implement evidence-based strategies aimed at reducing the risk of antimicrobial resistance development in soils and minimising the exposure of humans and animals to antimicrobial resistant genes and organisms;” “citizens are more aware of the importance of soil and soil biodiversity for human, animal and environmental health as well as on their potential as a source of molecules of interest for pharmaceutical purposes.” Scope: “Soil biodiversity plays a major role in human, animal and ecosystem health. Soil microorganisms (bacteria and fungi) have been crucial in the discovery of antibiotics used in human and veterinary medicine. However, soils can also be a hotspot for antimicrobial resistance development and can play a key role in the transfer of antimicrobial resistance genes between organisms and environmental compartments. ... According to the World Health Organization, antimicrobial resistance is one of the greatest threats to public health.” Proposals should:

	“analyse the role of soils in the transfer of antimicrobial resistance genes among organisms and environmental compartments and in the exposure of humans and animals to antimicrobial resistance genes and organisms” “develop concrete guidelines for policymakers and land managers to: i) better address the exposure of humans and animals to antimicrobial resistant genes and organisms; and, ii) facilitate the discovery of new molecules of pharmaceutical interest” “carry out communication and awareness raising activities targeted to citizens on the importance of soil and soil biodiversity for human, animal and environmental health as well as on their potential as a source of molecules of interest for pharmaceutical purposes.”
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EU Missions' Cross-cutting activities

Topic	Health aspects
Mission Anchoring Prize Will be launched in Q3 2026 on the Funding and Tenders Portal. See p254 of the Work Programme	Objective: “By the cutoff date, the applying local authorities have embedded the EU Missions into new, ambitious local initiatives targeting one or more of the objectives of the Missions. The applicants shall demonstrate the potential of the EU Missions to strengthen and complement local activities and work as a catalyser for positive developments in local governance.”
Mission Citizen Engagement Prize Will be launched in Q3 2026 on the Funding and Tenders Portal. See p256 of the Work Programme	Objective: “By the cutoff date, the applying local authorities have implemented actions to engage citizens not typically involved in R&I projects around the challenges of the EU Missions. The applicants shall demonstrate the importance of the social dimension in achieving the ambitious goals set for the Missions and how change triggered by the missions can positively impact the livelihoods of all groups of EU citizens.”
Mission Ecosystem Prize Will be launched in Q3 2026 on the Funding and Tenders Portal. See p258 of the Work Programme	Objective: “By the cutoff date, the applying local authorities have developed innovative value networks (actors across different arenas partnering up and creating value for the EU Missions at local level in innovative ways), involving R&I stakeholders and actors from business, civil society and administration, that realised projects delivering concrete impact for the EU Missions. The applicants shall demonstrate the potential of Missions to contribute to lead markets.”
Mission Ecosystem Prize Will be launched in Q3 2026 on the Funding and Tenders Portal. See p260 of the Work Programme	Objective: “By the cutoff date, the applying local authorities have developed innovative value networks (actors across different arenas partnering up and creating value for the EU Missions at local level in innovative ways), involving R&I stakeholders and actors from business, civil society and administration, that realised projects delivering concrete impact for the EU Missions. The applicants shall demonstrate the potential of Missions to contribute to lead markets.”

PILLAR II - NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS (NEB)

New European Bauhaus (NEB) Overview:

The [New European Bauhaus \(NEB\)](#) was launched in 2021 and is a policy and funding initiative that makes green transition in built environments and beyond enjoyable, attractive and convenient for all. Even the smallest communities on the ground deserve living spaces that improve their well-being and sense of belonging. The initiative promotes solutions that are not only sustainable, but also inclusive and beautiful, while respecting the diversity of places, traditions, and cultures in Europe and beyond.

The New European Bauhaus works by:

- engaging people at a grassroots level, focusing on neighbourhoods
- providing tools and guidance
- offering tailor-made solutions for different communities
- incorporating the views of various stakeholders into the process of design and implementation
- prioritising people and social inclusion but also the economy to boost competitiveness and EU strategic autonomy

The [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for the New European Bauhaus Facility](#) has 3 destinations (subareas):

- Destination: Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy
- Destination: Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment
- Destination: Innovative funding and new business models for the transformation of neighbourhoods

There is also a Joint Call between the New European Bauhaus Facility and the Soil Deal for Europe Mission.

These destinations contain call topics which are **challenge driven** where the European Commission specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

There are call topics with a deadline between Sept and Dec 2026 under one of the three destinations that relates to health. Whilst we have done our best to include call topics related to health in our sections on each destination below, please see the [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for the New European Bauhaus Facility](#) for full information on the funding opportunities available.

Funding calls in the New European Bauhaus Work Programme nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

Useful NEB links:

- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for the New European Bauhaus Facility](#) (NEB)
- [European Commission Infoday on the 2026 calls in the 2026-2027 Work Programme](#)
- [NEB Facility matchmaking 2026](#)
- [NEB newsletter signup, social media links and contact form](#)
- [European Commission Website on the NEB](#)
- [NEB National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [NEB4ALL project](#) facilitates the transnational cooperation between NEB NCPs, with useful info and support, including events on the Horizon NCP Portal.

Destination: Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy

Call Topic	Key Information
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-03: Understanding inhabitants' experiences of neighbourhoods to support their health and well-being RIA. Deadline: 1 Dec 2026	Expected Outcome: "Robust evidence on how inhabitants experience their neighbourhood and the impact of these experiences on their human health and well-being." Scope: "Obtain a deep understanding of inhabitants' sensory and emotional experience of their neighbourhood and the impact of these experiences on their health and well-being." "Based on the research evidence, provide recommendations to local authorities and the artistic, cultural and heritage sector in those neighbourhoods: improve inhabitants' experiences and sense of belonging, support their health and well-being; guide the green transition of neighbourhoods."

PILLAR III (INNOVATIVE EUROPE)

PILLAR III - OVERVIEW

Pillar III of Horizon Europe (Innovative Europe) has three main parts, each of which contains a variety of funding opportunities which are summarised below and then explained in more detail further on in this document.

- **[European Innovation Council \(EIC\)](#): The EIC has a mix of "Open Calls" (for projects in any fields of science, technology or application without predefined priorities) and "Challenge Calls" (with predefined thematic areas).** The EIC is Horizon Europe's flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale-up game changing innovations. Some EIC funding calls require a consortium of organisations in different countries, whilst other EIC funding calls are open to a single organisation.
- **[European Innovation Ecosystems \(EIE\)](#): The EIE contributes to improving the overall ecosystem for innovation in Europe.** The EU aims to create more connected and efficient innovation ecosystems to support the scaling up of companies, encourage innovation and stimulate cooperation among national, regional and local innovation actors.
 - EIE also funds Eurostars, Innowide, Investment Readiness and the Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator. Further details on these (and other Eureka schemes) are provided in the EIE section of this document.
- The **[European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) is Europe's largest innovation network.**

PILLAR III - EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL (EIC)

EIC Overview:

The **[European Innovation Council \(EIC\)](#) is Horizon Europe's flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale-up game breakthrough technologies and game changing innovations.** The EIC has a budget of €10.1 billion to support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early-stage research to proof of concept, technology transfer, and the financing and scale up of startups and SMEs.

The most recently published EIC Work Programme is the [European Innovation Council \(EIC\) 2026 Work Programme](#) (including a useful table summarising the main calls on page 9) and there is also a useful [EIC website with further information about the 2026 Work Programme](#). The main calls for proposals are listed below and explained in more detail in the tables further on in this document.

- **EIC Pathfinder (€262 million)** for multi-disciplinary research teams to undertake visionary research with the potential to lead to technology breakthroughs (grants up to €4 million).
- **EIC Transition (€100 million)** to turn research results into innovation opportunities, following up on results generated by EIC Pathfinder projects, European Research Council (ERC) Proof of Concept projects, Horizon Europe Pillar 2 (societal challenges) collaborative projects and Research Infrastructures projects (grants up to €2.5 million).
- **Advanced Innovation Challenges Pilot (€6 million)** to support high-risk, demand-driven deep tech innovation with transformative potential especially in areas where there is extensive research but lack of commercial uptake (grants up to €300,000 lump sum).
- **EIC Accelerator (€634 million)** for startups and SMEs to develop and scale up innovations with the potential to create new markets or disrupt existing ones (grants below €2.5 million, investments from €0.5 to €10 million). Open for defence and dual-use technologies since 17 June 2026.
- The **EIC Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) Scale Up (€300 million)**, which will provide additional equity funding to promising companies (SMEs, startups, spin-offs and small mid-caps) driving innovation in critical areas to help them secure larger private co-investment rounds of €50 million or above for further scaling their businesses (investments from €10 to €30 million). Open for defence and dual-use technologies since 17 June 2026.
- **EIC STEP Scale Up Defence call (€100 million)** with up to €30 million in direct equity financing to accelerate the scale-up of industrial capabilities on, among others, air and missile defence, drones and counter drones, and other critical defence technologies. This is the first time any EU funding programme will ever invest direct equity in defence companies.
- There is also an **EIC Pre-Accelerator** call which is a joint scheme between the EIC and the [Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area \(WIDERA\)](#) programme. It is funded under the [WIDERA Work Programme 2026-2027](#). The aim of the call is to boost the innovation potential of early-stage deep-tech startups in widening countries by enhancing their business, investor, and technology readiness to secure funding from different sources.

The EIC has a mix of:

- **“Open Calls”** (for projects in any fields of science, technology or application without predefined priorities) and
- **“Challenge Calls”** (with predefined thematic areas - in the 2026 Work Programme these are for the EIC Pathfinder, EIC Advanced Innovation Challenges and EIC Accelerator calls)

EIC Pathfinder funding calls require a consortium of organisations in different countries, whilst EIC Transition and EIC Advanced Innovation Challenges can either be a consortium or single applicant. The EIC Accelerator and EIC STEP are for single applicants that must be an SME.

The EIC also has [EIC Prizes](#):

- [The European Capital of Innovation Awards](#) (Deadline 4 August 2026)
- [European Prize for Women Innovators](#) (Opens Q1-Q3 2026, deadline Q3-Q4 2026)

The EIC publishes annual Work Programmes that set out the funding calls for each of EIC funding schemes. If the funding call that you are interested in has already closed, there may be similar future funding calls. Open calls are likely to be similar, whereas the challenge calls are typically different each year. The 2027 EIC

Work Programme is expected to be adopted and published in autumn 2026. It will be the last EIC Work Programme under the current Horizon Europe Programme (2021-2027).

Useful EIC links:

- [European Innovation Council \(EIC\) website](#) including a [Get Support](#) section, [Podcasts](#) and [Tech Talks](#)
- [European Innovation Council \(EIC\) 2026 Work Programme](#) (including a useful table summarising the main calls on page 9) and [EIC website with further information about the 2026 Work Programme](#)
- [EIC Infodays](#) and [all EIC events](#) (you can add filters on the left of the page)
- [EIC Data Hub](#) - presents previously funded EIC projects, which helps you understand the types of projects funded
- [Subscribe to the EIC newsletter](#) and [browse archived newsletters](#)
- [European Commission website on the EIC](#)
- [EIC National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [Access2EIC](#) project (also see [this website](#)) is a Horizon Europe funded network of 16 partners who share the common purpose to work as a network of EIC NCPs supporting national applicants and raising the quality of applications submitted under the EIC
- [EIC Scaling Club](#)
- [EIC Business Acceleration Services](#) (support for EIC awardees, EIC Accelerator applicants how have passed step 1, EIC Scaling Club members, and other recognised entities)
- [EIC Fund](#) including the [EIC Scaleup Fund](#) a new multi-billion late-stage and growth fund aimed at investing in the most promising European companies in strategic tech areas, such as **artificial intelligence**, quantum technologies, semiconductor technologies, **robotics and autonomous systems**, **energy technologies**, space technologies, **biotechnologies**, **medical technologies**, advanced materials, and agritech, and across all parts of Europe.
- EIC webpage for those [interested in investing in the EIC Fund](#), the venture capital arm of the EIC

EIC Grants:

Grant Scheme	Key Information
EIC Pathfinder There are two types of EIC Pathfinder Grants: (1) EIC Pathfinder Open There is normally an annual call for proposals. The 2026 Call already closed on 12 May 2026. Next deadline: tbc (Expected to be announced by the end of 2026.) (2) EIC Pathfinder Challenges	The EIC Pathfinder is for multi-disciplinary research teams to undertake visionary research with the potential to lead to technology breakthroughs. It provides grants of up to €4 million, booster grants (€50 thousand), coaching & mentoring, networking. What is the EIC Pathfinder? Funds research teams by: • funding research to develop the scientific basis to underpin breakthrough technologies • supporting the earliest stages of scientific, technological or deep-tech Research & Development • aiming to build on new, cutting-edge directions in science and technology to disrupt a field and a market or create new opportunities • realising innovative technological solutions to identify, develop and scale up breakthrough technologies and disruptive

There is normally an annual call for proposals, and each annual call normally has different challenges. 2026 Call: HORIZON-EIC-2026-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01 Deadline: 28 October 2026	innovations in EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries There are two types of EIC Pathfinder Call: • EIC Pathfinder Open: For projects in any field of science, technology or application without predefined thematic priorities. Only consortia can apply. • EIC Pathfinder Challenges: For projects that match any of the predefined thematic areas of the Pathfinder Challenges. There are normally different Pathfinder Challenges call in each annual EIC Work Programme. According to page 32 of the 2026 EIC Work Programme, in general the starting point of a proposal answering to a Pathfinder Challenge is early Technology Readiness Level (e.g. TRL 2) to up to proof of concept or validation in the lab (e.g. TRL 3 or 4), but please see each call topic for specific details on whether there are any TRL expectations or not. The TRLs are defined on page 24 of the Work Programme. Smaller consortia (at least two eligible entities) or single applicants as well as larger consortia can apply. The 2026 Pathfinder Challenges are: ○ Biotechnology for Healthy Ageing - further details are available on the EIC website and call documents, in particular see: ▪ Page 39 of the EIC 2026 Work Programme ▪ EIC Infoday about this Challenge ○ Advanced Materials for Miniaturised Energy Harvesting Systems ○ DeepRAP: Deep Reasoning, Abstraction & Planning towards trustworthy Cognitive AI Systems Who can apply: Consortia from EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries • Consortia of at least three different independent legal entities • At least one legal entity established in a Member State • At least two other independent legal entities, each established in different Member States or Associated Countries • Additionally, single applicants, small and larger consortia (two partners) for EIC Pathfinder Challenges only. Requirements Your proposal must meet all the following essential characteristics: • Convincing long-term vision of a radically new technology that has the potential to have a transformative positive effect to solving a challenge in our economy and society
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	- Concrete, novel and ambitious science-towards-technology breakthrough, providing advancement towards the envisioned technology - High-risk/high-gain research approach and methodology, with concrete and plausible objectives Full information: EIC website, Work Programme and Call Documents. The details above are for the EIC Pathfinder calls in the 2026 EIC Work Programme. In general, the EIC tends to have funding calls for the EIC Pathfinder in each of their annual Work Programmes – an EIC Pathfinder Open call and different EIC Pathfinder Challenges in each Work Programme. If you intend to apply for an EIC Pathfinder in the future, you will need to check the future EIC Work Programmes and Call Documents once published. The 2027 EIC Work Programme is expected to be adopted and published in autumn 2026.
EIC Transition Open There is normally an annual call for proposals. Current call: EIC Transition Open HORIZON-EIC-2026-TRANSITIONOPEN Deadline: 16 September 2026	The EIC Transition can be used to mature and validate your novel technology [e.g. towards Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 6] as well as improve market readiness (incl. business plan) for specific applications with high market potential. It provides non-dilutive support (grants up to €2.5 million and additional booster grants for ongoing projects) to mature and validate technology in application-relevant environment (starting at TRL 4 aiming to achieve TRL 5/ 6) and develop business and market readiness. The TRLs are defined on page 24 of the Work Programme. The EIC Transition also provides additional booster grants for ongoing projects, as well as access to a wide range of tailor-made Business Acceleration Services (BAS). What is the EIC Transition? The EIC Transition targets innovation activities that go beyond the experimental proof of principle in laboratory. It supports both the maturation and validation of novel technologies from the lab to the relevant application environments. The EIC Transition offers support to SMEs, startups and organisations that: - have identified EU-funded project result(s) with promising commercial potential that could be the basis for innovation and promising new businesses. - envision novel promising technology that is ready for the next steps towards its maturation and validation, to be further developed and validated for some specific, high potential, commercial applications. - have conducted preliminary market research to identify potential markets for their innovation and explored potential competitors. - envisage building a motivated and entrepreneurial team with a mix of skills, including researchers, business people, marketers etc. to develop and drive the idea towards commercial success. The EIC Transition Open has no predefined thematic priorities and is

	open to proposals in any field of science, technology or application. There is no EIC Transition Challenge Call in the 2026 EIC Work Programme. Who can apply: • Single legal entities established in a Member State or an Associated Country ('mono-beneficiary') if you are a startup, SME or research performing organisation (university, research or technology organisation, including teams, individual Principal Investigators and inventors in such institutions who intend to form a spin-off company). Larger companies (i.e. which do not qualify as SMEs) are not eligible to apply as a single legal entity. • Small consortia of two independent legal entities from two different EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries. • Consortia of minimum three and maximum five independent legal entities ('multi-beneficiary') following standard rules i.e. must include at least one legal entity established in a Member State and at least two other independent legal entities, each established in different EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries. Your proposal must build on results already achieved within an eligible project that are, at least, at experimental proof of concept (TRL 3 completed) or, ideally, technology validated in the lab level (TRL 4). Proposals building on project results at TRLs other than TRL3 or TRL4 are not eligible. EIC Transition is restricted to proposals based on results generated by the following eligible projects: • EIC Pathfinder projects (including projects funded under the Horizon 2020 EIC pilot Pathfinder, FET-Open, FET-Proactive, CSA and CSA Lump sum FET Innovation Launchpad.) • European Research Council Proof of Concept projects funded Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe. • Research and Innovation Actions funded under Horizon 2020 Societal challenges and Leadership in Industrial Technologies and under Horizon Europe pillar II, with an eligible TRL. • European Defence Fund (EDF), including the Preparatory Action on Defence Research, research projects, but only for proposals which are focused on civil applications (including dual use). • Research and Innovation Actions funded under the Horizon Europe or Horizon 2020 Research Infrastructures part. A list of eligible projects for the 2026 call is available on the EIC Transition website. Full information: EIC website, Work Programme and Call Documents. The details above are for the EIC Transition calls in the 2026 EIC Work Programme. In general, the EIC tends to have funding calls for the EIC Transition in each of their annual Work Programmes. If you intend to apply
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	for an EIC Transition in the future, you will need to check the future EIC Work Programmes and Call Documents once published. The 2027 EIC Work Programme is expected to be adopted and published in autumn 2026.
<u>EIC Accelerator</u> There are two types of EIC Accelerator Grants: (1) <u>EIC Accelerator Open</u> There is normally an EIC Accelerator Open call in each EIC Work Programme. EIC Accelerator 2026 - Short proposal <u>HORIZON-EIC-2026-ACCELERATOR-01</u> Deadline: any time (continuous) and at the latest by 17 December 2026. Short applications will be batched and sent for evaluation the 1st Tuesday every month. If you succeed with your short application under the 2026 Work programme, your full proposal can be submitted to any of the cut-offs for 2026. EIC Accelerator Open 2026 - remaining cutoffs for full proposals: 2 September 2026, 4 November 2026 Once the 2027 EIC Work Programme is published, please check to see if you can submit a full proposal in 2027 from a successful 2026 short proposal. (2) <u>EIC Accelerator Challenges</u> There is normally an annual call for proposals, and each annual call has different challenges.	The <u>EIC Accelerator</u> is for startups and SMEs to develop and scaleup innovations with the potential to create or disrupt markets (Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) 6-8). It provides a grant component below €2.5 million. Up to €10 million of equity investments, coaching & mentoring, networking. What is the EIC Accelerator? Funding to support startups and SMEs that: • have an innovative, game changing product, service or business model that could create new markets or disrupt existing ones in Europe and even worldwide, • have the ambition and commitment to scale up, • are looking for substantial funding, but the risks involved are too high for private investors alone to invest There are two types of EIC Accelerator Call: • <u>EIC Accelerator Challenges</u>: For projects that match any of the pre-defined topics of the EIC Accelerator Challenges. There are normally different Accelerator Challenges call in each annual EIC Work Programme. The <u>2026 Accelerator Challenges</u> are: • Biotech for Regenerating Agricultural Soils • Advanced Materials for Renewable Energy and Energy Storage Systems • Alternative Concepts and Key Enabling Technologies for Fusion Power Plants • Boosting the European Critical Raw Materials value chain • Deep Tech for Climate Adaptation • <u>EIC Accelerator Open</u>: For projects that are outside the EIC Accelerator Challenge topics, the EIC Accelerator Open is open to proposals in any field of technology. Funding • Grant funding: Lump sum contribution below €2.5 million, for innovation activities (TRL 6-8), to be completed within 24 months. ◦ Grant only - for startups and SMEs with capacity to scale-up. To be provided only once during the implementation period of the Horizon Europe programme (2021-2027). • Investment component: To fill the gap for high-risk innovation to a stage where they can be fully financed by other investments. €1 - 10 million. Higher amounts are available in <u>STEP Scale UP</u>. ◦ Blended finance: a grant component & direct equity or quasi-equity such as convertible loans. ◦ Investment only: for companies looking to scale-up rapidly and don't need a grant.

EIC Accelerator 2026 - Short proposal HORIZON-EIC-2026-ACCELERATOR-01 Deadline/cutoffs: Short applications will be batched and sent for evaluation the 1st Tuesday every month. If you succeed with your short application under the 2026 Work programme, your full proposal can be submitted to any of the cut-offs for 2026. EIC Accelerator Challenges 2026 - remaining cut-offs for full proposals: 2 September 2026, 4 November 2026	Who can apply? Applicants from EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries: • Single startup or SME (including spin-outs) • Small mid-caps (up to 499 employees) in need of rapid scale up of the TRL 9 activity. Mid-caps can apply for investment only. • Natural persons or legal entities willing to set up an SME or a mid-cap. • Applicants from the United Kingdom can apply for “grant only”. For the latest updates related to UK access to equity funding, please contact the UK NCP and see the FAQ “Is the United Kingdom eligible to apply for equity” on the EIC FAQs. Applicants from third countries: • Applicants from third countries may relocate their company in order to become eligible. This must be done before submitting the full application (Step 2). The EIC welcomes applications from innovators in all EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries. The EIC particularly welcomes applications from startups and SMEs with female CEOs. <i>The details above are for the EIC Accelerator calls in the 2026 EIC Work Programme. In general, the EIC tends to have funding calls for the EIC Accelerator in each of their annual Work Programmes. If you intend to apply for an EIC Accelerator in the future, you will need to check the future EIC Work Programmes and Call Documents for full details of calls once they are published. The 2027 EIC Work Programme is expected to be adopted and published in autumn 2026.</i>
STEP Scale Up HORIZON-EIC-2026-STEP EIC STEP Scale Up Deadline: 25 November 2026	The EIC STEP Scale Up scheme is part of the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP), offering financial support in the form of investments to startups, SMEs, and small mid-caps, between €10 to 30 million. Its goal is to scale-up innovation in Europe's strategic technology sectors, particularly in quantum technologies and semiconductors, thereby enhancing the EU's economic and technological competitiveness. The EIC Step Up scheme will catalyse larger funding rounds, amplifying the impact of the initial investment. Funding: Minimum investment €10 million, maximum €30 million in 2026. Equity only investments managed by the EIC Fund, the STEP Scale Up scheme aims to bridge the funding gap for high-risk innovations that cannot be fully financed by other investors. If you intend to apply from the UK, please contact the UK NCP for the latest information on eligibility for the EIC STEP Scale Up. Scope of Innovation: In order to apply, your innovation must be within the scope of the priority areas defined in the STEP regulation, which includes raw materials, and further developed in the Guidance note:

	a. Digital technologies, and deep tech innovations: This includes: advanced semiconductor technologies; artificial intelligence technologies; quantum technologies; advanced connectivity, navigation and digital technologies; advanced sensing technologies; robotics and autonomous systems; and Deep tech (see Glossary of the EIC Work Programme 2026). b. Clean and resource efficient technologies, including net-zero technologies. This includes: solar technologies; onshore wind and offshore renewable technologies; energy storage technologies; heat pumps and geothermal technologies; hydrogen technologies; sustainable biogas and biomethane technologies; carbon capture and storage technologies; electricity grid technologies; nuclear fission technologies, sustainable alternative fuel technologies; hydropower technologies; other renewable technologies; energy system-related energy efficiency technologies; renewable fuels of nonbiological origin technologies; biotech climate and energy solutions; transformative industrial technologies for decarbonisation; CO₂ transport and utilisation technologies; wind and electric propulsion technologies; other nuclear technologies; advanced materials, manufacturing and recycling technologies, technologies vital to sustainability such as water purification and desalination; and circular economy technologies. c. Biotechnologies, including medicinal products on the Union list of critical medicines and their components. Including DNA/RNA; proteins and other molecules; cell and tissue culture and engineering; process biotechnology techniques; Gene and RNA vectors; bioinformatics; and nanobiotechnology. These technologies are deemed critical where they meet either of the following conditions: a. they bring to the internal market an innovative, emerging and cutting-edge element with significant economic potential; b. they contribute to reducing or preventing strategic dependencies of the Union. Who can apply: • A single SME or small mid-cap (fewer than 500 employees) established in an EU Member State or in an eligible Horizon Europe Associated Country (excluding the UK) • An investor may submit a proposal on behalf of an eligible SME or small mid-cap as defined above Note: This scheme targets companies seeking major funding rounds, requiring proof of initial market interest from a qualified investor covering at least 20% of the total target funding round.
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EIC Prizes:

EIC Prizes	Key Information
The European Capital of Innovation Awards (iCapital)	An annual recognition prize awarded to the European cities that best promote innovation in their communities. The competition rewards those European cities that are courageous enough to open their governance

Deadline: 04 August 2026	practices to experimentation and push the boundaries of technology for the benefit of their citizens.
European Prize for Women Innovators The next edition will be launched on Q1 – Q3 2026, and close on Q3 – Q4 2026	This prize celebrates the women entrepreneurs behind Europe’s ground-breaking innovations. There are two prize categories: • EIC Women Innovators • EIC Rising Innovators For further information see page 126 of the EIC 2026 Work Programme .

PILLAR III - EUROPEAN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS (EIE) including the related EUROSTARS, INNOWIDE, Investment Readiness and Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator schemes

EIE Overview

The [European Innovation Ecosystems \(EIE\)](#) contributes to improving the overall ecosystem for innovation in Europe. The EU aims to create more connected and efficient innovation ecosystems to support the scaling up of companies, encourage innovation and stimulate cooperation among national, regional and local innovation actors.

Areas of intervention

- builds interconnected, inclusive innovation ecosystems across Europe by drawing on the existing strengths of national, regional and local ecosystems and pulling in new, less well-represented actors and territories to set, undertake, and achieve collective ambitions towards challenges for the benefit of society, including the green, digital, and social transitions
- reinforces network connectivity within and between innovation ecosystems to accelerate sustainable business growth with high societal value
- supports the **European Partnership for Innovative SMEs** ([Eurostars 3](#))
- complements the European Regional Development Fund support for innovation ecosystems and interregional partnerships around smart specialisation topics

The most recently published EIE Work Programme is the [European Innovation Ecosystems \(EIE\) 2026-2027 Work Programme](#). It promotes better connected and more efficient innovation ecosystems², creating framework conditions that would allow Europe to become a startup powerhouse, as foreseen by the [EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy](#). In line with this strategy, the EIE work programme aims to address some critical obstacles faced by many startups and scaleups throughout their journey, notably linked to the high level of market fragmentation in Europe, which include limited access to capital, slow innovation uptake and underutilised potential of public procurement.

The [European Innovation Ecosystems \(EIE\) 2026-2027 Work Programme](#) will be the last Work Programme under the current Horizon Europe Programme (2021-2027).

The calls for proposals are under the destination (subarea) below. The calls are explained in more detail in the tables further on in this document.

- **Destination: CONNECT - Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems**

² Definition as per Article 2(47) of the [Horizon Europe Regulation](#).

Other opportunities related to the European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE) part of Horizon Europe include Eurostars, Innowide, Investment Readiness and Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator.

Whilst we have done our best to include call topics with deadlines between Sept and Dec 2026 related to health in our sections on each destination below, please see the [European Innovation Ecosystems \(EIE\) 2026-2027 Work Programme](#) for full information on the funding opportunities available.

Useful EIE links:

- [European Commission webpage on European Innovation Ecosystems \(EIE\)](#)
- European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA) [webpage on European Innovation Ecosystems](#)
- [European Innovation Ecosystems \(EIE\) 2026-2027 Work Programme](#)
- [EIE National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage).
- The [Access2EIC](#) project is a Horizon Europe funded network of 16 partners who share the common purpose to work as a network of EIC and EIE NCPs supporting national applicants and raising the quality of applications submitted under the EIC.

Destination: CONNECT - Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems

The **Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems destination** focuses on building interconnected and inclusive innovation ecosystems across the EU. Drawing on the existing strengths of national, regional and local ecosystems and encouraging the involvement of all actors and territories, this destination aims to reinforce network connectivity for sustainable business growth and to define and achieve ambitious collective goals for the benefit of society, including green, digital, and social transitions. It supports the flagship actions on accelerating and strengthening innovation in European Innovation Ecosystems across the EU and addressing the innovation divide, funding for deep tech scale-ups and enabling deep tech innovation through experimentation spaces and public procurement under the [New European Innovation Agenda](#) (which mentions that “Innovation is essential to drive Europe’s competitiveness and to ensure the **“health and well-being of its citizens”** and **burning challenges including “improving healthcare”**”).

Grant Scheme	Key Information
HORIZON-EIE-2026-03-CONNECT-01 From lab to market: Strengthening the role of Technology Transfer Offices in bringing knowledge to the market CSA. Deadline: 22 Sep 2026	Expected Outcome: “Increased commercialisation of academic research results... ” “Strengthened collaboration between industry and academia... ” “Introduced more startup friendly intellectual asset transfer/licensing policies in universities/research and higher education institutions/RTOs” “Increased number of spinoffs...” “Reduced transaction costs related to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and “Optimised transfer/licensing processes by universities/research and higher education institutions/RTOs...” Scope: “Academic knowledge producing organisations (universities, research and higher education institutions and RTOs) are acting as innovation engines by fuelling startups and industries with new knowledge, technologies and skilled individuals...”

Other funding related to the European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE) part of Horizon Europe

The EIE part of Horizon Europe supports the [European Partnership on Innovative Small and Medium-sized Enterprises \(SMEs\)](#), which will help innovative SMEs to increase their research and innovation (R&I) capacity and productivity and successfully embed in global value chains and access new markets – through the Eurostars and Innowide Programmes.

Eurostars, Innowide, Investment Readiness and Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator

Grant Scheme	Key Information
Eurostars Deadlines: Calls for projects in the Eurostars programme are usually organised twice a year. To be notified of calls, sign up for the newsletter (in the blue section at the bottom of the webpage).	Eurostars is an international funding programme for collaborative research and development (R&D) projects led by innovative small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). As the world's largest SME R&D funding programme, Eurostars supports the creation of innovative products, processes, and services for commercialisation. Eurostars is one of only a few close-to-market collaborative R&D programmes that spotlight SMEs, but large companies, universities and research organisations can also participate and benefit from funding if there is national or regional support available. How Eurostars supports you if you are a SME You can use Eurostars to access public funding for international R&D projects. The programme has some unique features: • Work with international partners to strengthen your R&D • Reduce the risk of your R&D • Develop new business relationships • Access international markets • Be guided from idea to commercialisation with advice and support from a network of national project coordinators Contact form if you have any questions
Innowide Deadlines: A call for projects in the Innnowide programme is launched once a year. To be notified of calls, sign up for the newsletter (in the blue section at the bottom of the webpage).	Innowide supports innovative small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and startups to assess the viability of research or commercial plans in international markets. The programme offers grants of 60,000 euro. How Innnowide supports you The Innnowide programme provides grant funding to SMEs and startups so that they can run market feasibility projects in cooperation with local actors in the selected target country. Market feasibility projects allow SMEs to gain a deep understanding of the business environment in a specific target country. Some key outcomes from the project include: • Understanding the technical feasibility of your product, process, or service in that market • Understanding the viability of your business model • Identifying key local legal, financial, political, cultural, and behavioural characteristics that could affect the deployment of your solution

	Identifying ideal ways to exploit your solution, including further research and innovation How Innowwide works Funded projects receive a grant of 60,000 euro to assess the practical, technical, and economic feasibility of an innovative solution in a new market during a 6-month timeframe. Who can apply You can apply if you are an SME or startup from an EU Member State, Iceland, Israel, Norway, Switzerland, Türkiye or the United Kingdom. Applications to Innowwide must include an independent subcontractor that is established in the target country in Africa, the Americas, Asia or Oceania. Innowwide funding is awarded to the applicant SME. The partner entity is the main subcontractor for the market feasibility project. Contact form if you have any questions
Investment Readiness Deadlines: Corporate Challenges are set throughout the year. Check the Investment Readiness webpage for opportunities and be notified of future challenges sign up for the newsletter (in the blue section at the bottom of the webpage).	Scale up with corporate partners in Europe and beyond: The Investment Readiness programme connects you with multinational corporates and private investors. The programme can help your startup or SME grow in a range of sectors. How Investment Readiness works The Investment Readiness programme has two main activities: Corporate Challenges: Investment Readiness offers you the opportunity to get your solution in front of Eureka's corporate partners. If successful, you will be invited to a meeting with the corporate to discuss future projects or investment with them. Eureka's corporate partners set Corporate Challenges that you can respond to. If you are successful, you could collaborate with the corporate in a pilot project or access investment, depending on the challenge. Missions: They also organise international missions to major investment conferences. Contact form if you have any questions
Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator Deadlines: Calls for projects in the Fast Track scheme are open two times a year.	The Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator is designed to help startups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that have completed, or are about to complete, a Eurostars-3-funded project to continue growing and developing. The scheme enables you to skip the first step (short proposal) and move directly to the second step (full proposal) of the European Innovation Council (EIC) Accelerator. The EIC Accelerator supports startups, SMEs, and small mid-caps to scale up high impact innovations with the potential to create new markets or disrupt existing ones. The programme provides a unique combination of grant and investment funding, along with coaching, mentoring, and access to investors and corporates. Run by the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA), the programme focuses on deep tech innovation and patient capital.

	European Innovation Council National Contact Points (you can filter by country on the left of the page).
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Eureka

The four schemes listed above ([Eurostars](#), [Innowwide](#), [Investment Readiness](#) and [Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator](#)) are part of a bigger programme called [Eureka](#). The other programmes under Eureka are listed below.

Grant Scheme	Key Information
Eureka Clusters Deadlines: Each Eureka Cluster operates its own calls timetable. When a call is open, or opening soon, it will be listed in the Eureka Clusters webpage. To be notified of calls, sign up for the newsletter (in the blue section at the bottom of the webpage).	Eureka Clusters are industry-led communities for research and development. Each cluster is focused on a strategic technology area. There are 5 clusters: • next-generation communications; • low-carbon technologies; • software innovation and digital transition; • advanced manufacturing and production; and • electronic components, systems and applications. There are some health-related projects funded under some of these clusters. How Eureka Clusters support you Eureka Clusters enable you to: • Discuss industry trends and challenges with your peers. • Meet potential partners in multi-national corporations, research organisations, and SMEs to develop project ideas. • Take part in a funded project. How Eureka Clusters work Each Eureka Cluster is managed by an independent organisation on behalf of the network. They run regular calls for projects focussed on their strategic areas. Eureka Clusters can also run joint calls for projects on themes that cross over individual technology areas. Please see the specific call page for more information about who can apply and how to do so. Contact form if you have any questions
Network projects Deadlines: - A general call for projects is permanently open. - Sector, technology, or geographic specific calls for projects in the Network Projects programme are also open several times a year. If a call is open, it will be listed on Network projects webpage.	The Network Projects programme provides access to funding for international research and development projects. It is designed to be flexible, with few limitations on the organisations that can participate in a project. How Network Projects supports you This programme provides access to funding for research and development projects in a range of areas. As well as the general open call for projects, several sector, technology, or geographic specific calls are launched each year. How the Network Projects programme works

To be notified of calls, sign up for the newsletter (in the blue section at the bottom of the webpage).	Project applications can be made throughout the year and do not have to fit into any specific area of research, development or innovation. Projects are assessed by your National Funding Body. There are different types of call. A general call for projects is permanently open. National Funding Bodies also work together to launch specific calls for projects throughout the year. These calls are usually based on a particular theme or area of technology and are also often limited to certain countries. Depending on the details of the call and the country where you are applying from, support might be either as a grant or loan. Contact form if you have any questions
Globalstars Deadlines: For current calls and deadlines, check the Globalstars webpage. To be notified of calls, sign up for the newsletter (in the blue section at the bottom of the webpage).	Globalstars is a funding programme with calls for projects (sometimes thematic) with countries outside of the Eureka network. The programme supports projects between companies in Eureka countries or regions and in leading and emerging markets around the world. How Globalstars supports you Globalstars provides access to funding for research and development projects in a range of areas. As well as funding, Globalstars gives you a unique opportunity to work with organisations in countries and regions like Japan, Uruguay, India, and Taiwan. How Globalstars works Globalstars provides funding to international research and development (R&D) projects. Projects must include at least one organisation from a Eureka country or region participating in the call, and the project consortium must also include at least one other independent organisation from the Globalstars country. Partners in the consortium can include other SMEs, large companies, universities, research institutions, and non-profits. Funding for Globalstars comes from National Funding Bodies in each country or region that is participating in a call. National Funding Bodies decide which organisations can receive funding, which activities can be funded, and how much funding is available. Contact form if you have any questions

PILLAR III - EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

EIT Overview:

The [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) is Europe's largest innovation network.

It has ten 'Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs)' that are Europe-wide networks centred around fighting a specific societal challenge like healthcare issues or digitisation. They are made up of partnerships between:

- Higher education institutions
- Research centres
- Businesses and investors

- Public and non-profit organisations
- Cities, Regions, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
- (and healthcare delivery in the case of the Health KIC)

The ten 'Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) are listed below:

- **EIT Health:** see the 'access our programmes', 'apply for funding' and 'get involved' tabs at the top of their website
- [Climate KIC](#)
- [EIT Culture & Creativity](#)
- [28 Digital](#)
- [EIT Food](#)
- [InnoEnergy](#)
- [EIT Manufacturing](#)
- [EIT Raw Materials](#)
- [EIT Urban Mobility](#)
- [EIT Water](#) (new, starting in 2026)

The EIC KICs launch new calls throughout the 2026 and 2027.

Other useful EIT links:

- [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) website including [current opportunities](#) and [newsletters and newsletter signup](#)
- [EIT National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)

Example EIT Calls (not exhaustive, and the EIT will also launch new calls throughout 2026 and 2027)

Grant Scheme	Key Information
EIT Health: <u>Innovation Uptake Call</u> Deadline: 16 September 2026 Webinar: 15 July 2026 Q&A Session: 1 September 2026	This call focuses on mature digital, data-driven and AI-powered healthcare solutions ready to scale across European markets . Selected projects will receive funding to accelerate market entry, generate real-world evidence, strengthen market access, and support the adoption of clinically validated innovations across healthcare systems. The total call budget is €5.2 million with approximately eight projects, requesting up to €650,000 each, expected to be funded.
EIT Health: <u>Transformative Healthcare Instrument 2026</u> Deadline: 16 September 2026 Webinar: 15 July 2026 Q&A Session: 2 September 2026	This call aims to accelerate the growth of healthcare startups . It offers €300,000- €500,000 in funding to support high-potential European startups developing innovative solutions in biotech, medtech, digital health, AI, and biomarkers or diagnostics . The programme is designed to help companies advance product development, strengthen commercialisation strategies, and prepare for their next stage of fundraising while addressing unmet clinical needs across Europe.
EIT Health: <u>Biotech Certified Innovation Path</u> Deadline: 16 September 2026 Webinar: 15 July 2026 Q&A Session: 3 September 2026	EIT Health invites organisations from industry, education and research to submit proposals for the development of a new EIT Label-certified Biotech pathway within the Certified Innovation Path (CIP) portfolio, complementing the existing Health Data, Digital Medical Devices and High Value Care pathways. Funded projects will design and deliver personalised learning courses for graduates and professionals across the health biotechnology value

	chain. The pathway will equip participants with the innovation, entrepreneurship and biotech expertise needed to translate scientific advances into scalable, market-ready healthcare solutions across Europe.
EIT Health: <u>Entrepreneurship & Innovation</u> <u>Micro-Credentials Call</u> Deadline: 16 September 2026 Webinar: 15 July 2026 Q&A Session: 4 September 2026	Help shape the next generation of healthcare innovators and entrepreneurs. EIT Health is inviting consortia to apply for funding to develop a new EIT Label-certified micro-credentials programme for advanced Master's students and PhD candidates in life sciences, medical technologies, biotechnology, and related fields. The programme will provide flexible, practice-oriented learning focused on entrepreneurship, innovation, and project management in healthcare. Delivered by EIT Health, it will combine online learning, masterclasses, mentorship, and industry engagement to equip participants with the skills needed to turn scientific knowledge into real-world healthcare impact.
EIT 28 Digital: <u>Co-Creation Accelerator 2026-2027</u> Deadlines: There will be two cut-off dates - 8 September 2026 and a date (yet tbc) in Spring 2027 Webinar: 16 July 2026	The Co-Creation Accelerator is designed to bring together startups and industry partners to co-develop solutions addressing real-world challenges. It is a challenge-driven, execution-focused four-month program aiming to develop early-stage solutions (TRL 4-5 and above) in collaboration with industry partners. The maximum funding available is €250,000.

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA (WIDERA)

WIDERA - OVERVIEW

This part of Horizon Europe has two components:

- [Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence](#) actions under Horizon Europe, contribute to building research and innovation capacity for countries lagging behind. It aims to strengthen their potential for successful participation in transnational research and innovation processes, promote networking and access to excellence.
- [Reforming and enhancing the European Research and Innovation system](#), where policy reforms at national level are mutually reinforced and complemented through the development of EU-level policy initiatives, research, networking, partnering, coordination, data collection and monitoring and evaluation.

The [2026-2027 WIDERA Work Programme](#) refers to “Widening Countries” which are defined on page 6 as:

- Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and all Associated Countries with equivalent characteristics in terms of R&I performance (Albania, Armenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Kosovo
- , Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, and once associated Morocco and Egypt)

- as well as the Outermost Regions (defined in Article 349 on page 149 of the [Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union \(TFEU\)](#) as Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Réunion, Saint-Barthélemy, Saint-Martin, the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands.

There are call topics in WIDERA that are open to all areas and/or relate to health. Whilst we have done our best to include call topics related to health with deadlines Sept-Dec 2026 in our sections on each destination below, please see the [2026-2027 WIDERA Work Programme](#) for full information on the funding opportunities available. The WIDERA Work Programme also has prizes for the '[EU Award for Gender Equality Champions](#)'.

There are also calls with deadlines in 2027 in the 2026-2027 Work Programme, we have not included these in this document.

The [2026-2027 WIDERA Work Programme](#) is the last Work Programme under the current Horizon Europe Programme (2021-2027).

Useful WIDERA links:

- European Commission website on [Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence](#) and [newsletter](#)
- European Commission website on [Reforming and enhancing the European Research and Innovation system](#) and [newsletter](#)
- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Work Programme for Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area](#) (WIDERA)
- European Commission [Infoday on the 2026-2027 WIDERA Work Programme](#)
- [WIDERA National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) offer free training, help, support and advice (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage)
- The [NCP_WIDERA.NET project](#) (also see [this website](#)) aims to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of WIDERA National Contact Points in low-performing Member States (MS) and Associated Countries (AC).

WIDERA - DETAILS

Destination: Widening participation and spreading excellence

Grant Scheme	Key Information
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01-WIDENING-01: Teaming Synergies CSA. Deadline: 24 Sept 2026	Expected Outcome: "The Synergy action for Teaming Centres of Excellence (CoE) responds to the need to ensure the sustainability of CoE funded under the Teaming calls. The establishment of CoE in Widening countries, supported by a significant investment in Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, (...) to fully capitalise on this investment and enhance the sustainability and international competitiveness of these CoE, it is essential to facilitate stronger collaboration and strategic joint initiatives." The expected outcomes are applicable to a wide range of research fields including health and life sciences. They include "resource sharing, and collective research and innovation capacity" and "promotion of multidisciplinary and transnational cooperation", "structured engagement with industry, policymakers, and society" Scope: "...collaboration among Teaming Centres of Excellence, both existing ones and those resulting from ongoing or future calls, in view of supporting their efforts towards sustainability and increased impact at the regional, national and European level."

	"1. Strategic Clustering for thematic collaboration... 2. Pilot implementation of thematic clusters: interdisciplinary research collaborations, ... or entrepreneurship-focused activities.... 6. Teaming conference: Establish the conference as an internationally recognized event, ... promoting industry-academia collaborations, attracting international talents ... 7. Entrepreneurship and tech transfer support"
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03-WIDENING-01: Hop-on facility RIA. Deadline: 24 Sept 2026	"The Hop-on Facility opens the opportunity for new participants from widening countries to join ongoing Research and Innovation Action (RIA) projects under Horizon Europe Pillar 2 or the European Innovation Council (EIC) Pathfinder projects, for projects that have not yet any partner from a widening country. Eligibility Conditions: Include that the "The proposal must include only: • One legal entity, as a beneficiary, established in a Widening country • One legal entity which is the coordinator of an 'eligible already funded action" Scope: "Applications must demonstrate the R&I added value of the new beneficiary....and its R&I role and complementarity in the existing project."
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-04-WIDENING-01: Research Management Facility CSA. Deadline: 24 Sept 2026 Research Management Facility website	Expected Outcome: 'The Research Management Facility aims at providing institutions in Widening countries that want to establish or upgrade their research management capacities with tailored support. The Research Management Facility also advises on an implementation strategy to introduce changes in the institutional set-up, in line with the ERA priorities. However, the action does not provide support for the implementation of the strategy." Scope: "This action aims at creating a research management facility to provide support services including trainings to research institutions and their staff in Widening countries that want to establish or upgrade existing capacities and competencies in research management."
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05-WIDENING-01 ERA Fellowships Postdoctoral Fellowships - European Fellowships. Deadline: 9 Sep 2026 ERA Fellowships website Infoday	This action builds on the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action (MSCA) Postdoctoral Fellowships action. The target group is host organisations located in Widening Countries. Fellowships are open to researchers of any nationality who wish to engage in R&I projects by either coming to the EU from any country in the world or moving within the EU to a Widening Country. For admissibility, procedure and legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreement see exceptions and specific conditions for MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European Fellowships in the MSCA Work Programme. Expected Outcome: Expected Outcome: "For supported ERA Fellows: - Increased set of research and transferable skills and competences...

	- New mind-sets and approaches to R&I work forged through international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary experience - Enhanced networking and communication capacities with scientific peers, as well as with the general public, that will increase and broaden the research and innovation impact" Scope: "Fellowships should be provided to excellent researchers, undertaking cross-border mobility. Applications must be made jointly by the researcher together with a legal entity in the academic or non-academic sector located in a Widening country."
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Prizes

Prizes	Health aspects
EU Award for Gender Equality Champions Also see pages 105-108 of the 2026-2027 WIDERA Work Programme Prize. Deadlines: 29 September 2026 + 2027 deadline tbc	The EU Award for Gender Equality Champions is here to - complement and boost the eligibility criterion requirement for higher education and research organisations applying to Horizon Europe to have in place a Gender Equality Plan (GEP) - incentivize gender equality plans and policies within the new European Research Area (ERA) policy agenda - support the transformation agenda for universities set in the new ERA, and in line with the new European Strategy for Universities

HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES - OVERVIEW

Horizontal activities are cross-cutting research and innovation actions that span multiple Horizon Europe clusters, pillars, or policy areas.

There are call topics in [2026-2027 Horizontal Activities Work Programme](#) that relate to health. Whilst we have done our best to include call topics related to health with deadlines Sept-Dec 2026 in our sections on each destination below, please see the Work Programme for full information on the funding opportunities available.

Useful Horizontal Activities links:

- [Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Horizontal Activities Work Programme](#)

HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES - DETAILS

Destination: RAISE Doctoral Networks for AI in Science

Grant Scheme	Key Information
HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-03: RAISE Doctoral Networks for AI in Science (RAISE pilot): MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026 MSCA Doctoral Networks.	Scope: "Doctoral candidates are to either develop or significantly participate in the development of innovative AI systems, models, tools or methodologies for their scientific domain. These systems, models, tools or methodologies must substantially innovate the way in which scientific information is analysed and enable a scientific contribution that furthers the state of the art in the discipline of the doctoral research."

Deadline: 24 November 2026	The scope of this call is limited to AI (artificial intelligence) in science. “In order to apply for the RAISE Doctoral Networks call, applicants must submit their proposal to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) Doctoral Networks 2026. At proposal stage, applicants will be able to declare their interest in being considered for the RAISE Doctoral Networks and, if so, they should demonstrate that their proposal falls within the scope of the RAISE call.” The types of networks that fall within the scope of the RAISE call are: • Standard MSCA Doctoral Networks • MSCA Doctoral Network - Industrial Doctorates: train PhD candidates who wish to develop their skills and step outside academia, in particular in industry and business. Individual participants must be enrolled in a doctoral programme and jointly supervised by the academic and non-academic partners. • MSCA Doctoral Network - Joint Doctorates: provide a highly integrated type of international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in doctoral training leading to a joint doctoral degree or multiple doctoral degrees awarded by the participating institutions. PhD candidates must be enrolled in a joint programme and be jointly supervised. In order to apply for the RAISE Doctoral Networks call, applicants must submit their proposal to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) Doctoral Networks 2026. At proposal stage, applicants will be able to declare their interest in being considered for the RAISE Doctoral Networks and, if so, they should demonstrate that their proposal falls within the scope of the RAISE call.
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HORIZON EUROPE PARTNERSHIPS

HORIZON EUROPE PARTNERSHIPS - OVERVIEW

[European Partnerships in Horizon Europe](#) bring the European Commission and private and/or public partners together to address some of Europe’s most pressing challenges through concerted research and innovation initiatives.

There are three types of partnership:

- **Institutionalised Partnerships** (which run calls for proposals that are not in the main Horizon Europe Work Programmes)
- **Co-funded Partnerships** (which can run calls for proposals, but please note that calls for proposals run by co-funded partnerships are not in the main Horizon Europe Work Programmes)
- **Co-programmed Partnerships** (which run calls for proposals which are in the main Horizon Europe Work Programmes). The European Partnership portfolio as of 13 Feb 2025 is shown in the [diagram](#) below, which is taken from the [European Commission website on Partnerships](#).

PILLAR II - Global challenges & European industrial competitiveness

CLUSTER 1: Health	CLUSTER 2: Culture, Creativity, Inclusive Societies	CLUSTER 4: Digital, Industry & Space	CLUSTER 5: Climate, Energy & Mobility
Innovative Health Initiative	Resilient Cultural Heritage*	Chips (formerly KDT)	Clean Hydrogen
Global Health Partnership	Social Transformations and Resilience*	Smart Networks & Services	Clean Aviation
Transformation of health systems		High Performance Computing	Single European Sky ATM Research 3
Chemicals risk assessment		European Metrology (Art. 185)	Europe's Rail
ERA for Health		AI-Data-Robotics	Connected and Automated Mobility
Rare diseases		Photonics	Batt4EU
One-Health Anti Microbial Resistance		Made in Europe	Zero-emission waterborne transport
Personalised Medicine		Clean steel – low-carbon steelmaking	Zero-emission road transport
Pandemic Preparedness		Processes4Planet	Built4People
Brain Health*		Global competitive space systems	Solar Photovoltaics*
		Innovative Materials for EU*	Clean Energy Transition
		Virtual Worlds*	Driving Urban Transitions
		Textiles of the Future*	
		Raw Materials for the Green and Digital Transition*	

■ Institutionalised partnerships (Art 185/7)
■ EIT KICs
■ Co-programmed
■ Co-funded

* Under preparation



PILLAR III - Innovative Europe

CLUSTER 6: Food, Bio-economy, Agriculture, Env...	EUROPEAN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS
Circular Bio-based Europe	Innovative SMEs
R&I in the Mediterranean Area (Art. 185)	EIT
Biodiversa+	InnoEnergy
Climate Neutral, Sustainable & Productive Blue Economy	Climate
Water4All	Digital
Animal Health & Welfare	Food
Accelerating Farming Systems Transitions	Health
Agriculture of Data	Raw Materials
Safe and Sustainable Food System	Manufacturing
Forests and Forestry for sustainable Future*	Urban Mobility
	Cultural and Creative Industries
	Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystem*

CROSS-PILLARS I AND II

European Open Science Cloud

Please note that if you are interested in applying to a call for proposals being run by a partnership, you will need to check the call documents for the eligibility rules. **Institutionalised and Co-funded Partnerships (i.e. all the partnerships in the Health Cluster) do not use standard Horizon Europe eligibility rules. The eligibility rules for each partnership can also change call by call, so please always read the guidance and call documents for the specific call that you are interested in to find out which countries and which types of organisation are eligible for funding.**

In the **Health Cluster** there are 10 partnerships, each of which has a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA). Each of the Health partnerships is explained in the next section below, and each Health partnership (apart from PARC) run calls for proposals.

The co-funded partnerships in the other Pillar II clusters are not covered in detail in this document.

However, most partnerships have a website where you can find out more, and you can also contact your [National Contact Point \(NCP\)](#) if you have questions. (Tip: Use the filters on the left of the NCP website to select the NCP that you would like to contact). Additionally, please have a look at our [HNN3.0 call calendar](#), which includes the open calls for co-funded partnerships in the health area.

Pillar III Partnerships:

- The [Innovative SMEs partnership](#) is covered in the [EIE section](#) of this document, and further information is also available on their website.
- The [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) is briefly covered in the [EIT section](#) of this document, and further information is also available on their website.

HORIZON EUROPE HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS - DETAILS

Innovative Health Initiative (IHI)

The **Innovative Health Initiative (IHI)** is the [successor to the Innovative Medicines Initiative \(IMI\)](#) but broadened to include prevention, diagnostics, treatment and disease management including Pharma, Biotech, MedTech, Vaccines, Radiological, Electromedical and the Healthcare IT Industry.

The IHI has a total budget of €2.4 billion (for calls for proposals between 2021 and 2027). It is a partnership between the European Union represented by the European Commission and the Healthcare industry associations:

- COCIR (medical imaging, radiotherapy, health ICT and electromedical industries)
- EFPIA, including Vaccines Europe (pharmaceutical and vaccine industries)
- EuropaBio (biotechnology industry)
- MedTech Europe (medical technology industry)

IHI calls for proposals nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

Most IHI calls are challenge driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done. **However, occasionally the IHI has launched calls which are 'applicant driven' and more open in scope.**

The IHI **funds collaborative research and innovation projects**. Any organisations from [EU Member States](#) or [Horizon Europe Associated Countries](#) can apply that are involved in healthcare or medical research including universities, research institutes, healthcare-related industries, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), patient organisations, and regulators among others. For information on the eligibility of large companies, see the IHI call documents.

The IHI will launch various funding calls in 2026 and 2027. Please check the IHI website for the latest information on [open calls](#) and [future calls](#).

Useful IHI links:

- [Innovative Health Initiative \(IHI\)](#) website, including [open calls](#), [future calls](#), [events](#) and [newsletter](#).
- [IHI Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)
- If you have any questions about the IHI, you can contact the IHI directly (infodesk@ihi.europa.eu) or can contact your [Cluster 1 National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage).

Call	Health aspects
IHI Call 13 RIAs. First Stage Deadline: 8 October 2026 Infodays. Q&A from infodays.	Call topics: • A network to boost the next wave of European innovations in healthcare • An AI foundation toxicology model and framework to support waiving a second species in drug safety studies • Decode the immuno-science of age-related immune-mediated diseases

Global Health EDCTP3 (European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership)

The **Global Health EDCTP3 (European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership)** is a unique European and African partnership working to improve health through research and development. Backed by the European Union and over 45 countries, it focuses on infectious diseases that continue to harm millions across sub-Saharan Africa. It has an expected budget of €1.84 billion (2021 to 2027) which consists of €890 million from the EU/Horizon Europe, €550 million from the [EDCTP Association](#) and €400 million from third parties.

The Global Health EDCTP3 vision is to reduce the individual, social, and economic burden of poverty-related infectious diseases, including neglected, emerging and re-emerging diseases, in sub-Saharan Africa. Their Mission is to reduce mortality and morbidity in sub-Saharan Africa by supporting global collaborative research, capacity strengthening, and speeding up the development, evaluation, and implementation of innovative solutions to prevent, detect, treat and monitor infectious diseases.

Global Health EDCTP3 calls for proposals nearly always require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

Global Health EDCTP3 calls are challenge driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

It funds clinical trials and studies, train researchers, and strengthen the African clinical research ecosystem, ensuring that solutions are developed where they are most needed and global health security is increased.

Information on the countries eligible for funding is available in the Global Health EDCTP3 call documents.

Global Health EDCTP3 also funds prizes and tenders.

The Global Health EDCTP3 2026 calls are in the [Global Health EDCTP3 Work Programme 2026](#). The remaining call deadlines are listed below. In late 2026/early 2027 Global Health EDCTP3 will publish its 2027 Work Programme, which will be their last Work Programme under the current Horizon Europe Programme.

Useful Global Health EDCTP3 links:

- [Global Health EDCTP3 website](#) including [what it funds](#), [calls for proposals](#), [a networking platform](#), [prizes](#), [calls for tender](#), [newsletter signup](#) and [events](#)
- [Global Health EDCTP3 Work Programme 2026](#)
- [Global Health EDCTP3 Info Day 2026](#) (recording and presentations) and [Q&A](#)
- [Global Health EDCTP3 Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)
- If you have any questions about the Global Health EDCTP3 you can contact them directly via a [form on their website](#) or by emailing applicants@global-health-edctp3.europa.eu, or you can contact your [Cluster 1 National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) (you can filter the NCPs by country at the left of the webpage).

Call Topics and Prizes	Health aspects
HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2026-03-SERP-01: Training networks for sustained capacity building related to ethics, regulatory and Pharmacovigilance CSA. Deadline: 2 September 2026	For further information on the Training networks for sustained capacity building related to ethics, regulatory and Pharmacovigilance call topic, see page 87 of the Global Health EDCTP3 Work Programme 2026 .

HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2026-03-DIGIT-02: Enhancing Integrated Research and Healthcare in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) Through Digital Innovation and Artificial Intelligence in SSA CSA. Deadline: 2 September 2026	For further information on the Enhancing Integrated Research and Healthcare in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) Through Digital Innovation and Artificial Intelligence in SSA call topic, see page 92 of the Global Health EDCTP3 Work Programme 2026.
EDCTP Prizes Deadline: 2 September 2026.	The EDCTP Prizes recognise outstanding individuals and research teams from Africa and Europe who have made significant achievements in their research field. Additionally, the awardees will have made major contributions to strengthening clinical research capacity in Africa and supporting South-South and North-South networking. Further information is available on the Prizes page of the Global Health EDCTP3 website.

Transforming Health and Care Systems (THCS) Partnership

The [Transforming Health and Care Systems \(THCS\) Partnership](#) supports coordinated national and regional research and innovation programmes along with capacity building, networking, dissemination and other key activities to support health and care systems transformation.

The THCS Partnership's core activity is to fund research and innovation projects through joint transnational calls involving many Research and Innovation Funding Organisations on common priorities and topics.

THCS Partnership calls for proposals normally require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

THCS calls are normally challenge-driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

Information about countries and types of organisations eligible for funding is available in the call documents. The eligibility rules for each partnership call can change call by call, so please always read the guidance and call documents for the specific call that you are interested in to find out which countries and which types of organisation are eligible for funding.

As of July 2026 there are no open calls for proposals, but there will be further calls announced over the coming years (along with Infodays and a partners search tool), so please check the THCS Partnership website for the latest [funding opportunities](#) and [sign up for the THCS newsletter](#) to stay up to date.

Useful THCS links:

- [Transforming Health and Care Systems \(THCS\) website](#), including [funding opportunities](#) and a [newsletter signup page](#)
- [THCS Partnership Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)
- If you have any questions about the THCS partnership you can contact them at info@thcspartnership.eu
- When calls for proposals are launched, the call documents will list eligible countries and will provide a contact for each country. There is usually an infoday and partnering system.

European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC)

The [European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals](#) does not hold any calls for proposals. Further information is available on the PARC website, and you can also [sign up for the PARC newsletters](#) to stay up-to-date.

European Research Area for Health (ERA4Health) Partnership

The [European Research Area for Health \(ERA4Health\) Partnership](#) increases European transnational collaborative research funding by creating a funding body for joint programming in priority areas addressing European public health needs.

The ERA4Health partnership brings together a mix of ministries, national and regional funding agencies, not-for-profit intergovernmental organisations, research institutes and foundations. They launch cross-national joint calls for proposals and carry out other cross-cutting activities.

ERA4Health focuses on tackling diseases and reducing disease burden by addressing:

- The increasing demand for a better quality of life and a better patient care.
- The need to transform public health care systems into more effective, efficient, equitable, accessible, and resilient ones.
- The need to strengthen disease prevention and health promotion.

The main objectives of ERA4Health are to:

- Support relevant medical research including clinical fields and intervention areas (prevention, diagnosis, treatment).
- Improve the utilisation of existing health technologies in clinical practice.
- Build capacity, in particular in conducting Investigator Initiated Clinical Studies at EU scale.
- Implement and advance the practice of responsible research and innovation (RRI) across the breadth of the programme.

ERA4Health calls for proposals normally require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

ERA4Health calls are normally challenge driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done. Until now it has included:

- 1) funding calls on nutrition and lifestyle-related diseases, cardiovascular diseases and nanomedicine
- 2) investigator initiated clinical studies

Information about countries and types of organisations eligible for funding is available in the call documents. The eligibility rules for each partnership calls can change call by call, so please always read the guidance and call documents for the specific call that you are interested in to find out which countries and which types of organisation are eligible for funding.

As of July 2026 there are no open calls for proposals, but there will be further calls announced over the coming years (along with Infodays and matchmaking events), so please check the ERA4Health Partnership website for the latest [funding opportunities](#) and [sign up for the ERA4Health newsletter](#) to stay up-to date.

Useful ERA4Health links:

- [European Research Area for Health \(ERA4Health\) website](#), including [funding opportunities](#) and [newsletter signup](#).
- [ERA4Health Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)

- If you have any questions about the ERA4Health partnership you can email web@era4health.eu, era4health@isciii.es or [contact them via their website](#).
- When calls for proposals are launched, the call documents will list eligible countries and will provide a contact for each country. There is usually an infoday and partnering/matchmaking events.

European Rare Disease Research Alliance (ERDERA) Partnership

The **European Rare Disease Research Alliance (ERDERA)** is the European partnership uniting over 170 public and private organisations across 37 countries around a single goal: turning cutting-edge science into tangible benefits for the thirty million Europeans living with a rare disease.

With an estimated overall budget of €380 million until 2031, ERDERA aims to have a major impact on rare diseases by supporting patient driven research to develop new treatments and diagnostic pathways and harnessing the potential of health and research data, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital technologies.

The European Union contributes around €150 million to this co-funded partnership via Horizon Europe, while the rest of the funding comes from Member States, countries associated to Horizon Europe and in cash and in-kind contributions from public and private partners.

ERDERA's vision is better prevention, better diagnosis and better treatment. ERDERA works towards making Europe a world leader in rare diseases research and innovation, supporting concrete health benefits to rare diseases patients through improved prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

ERDERA calls for proposals normally require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

Most ERDERA calls are normally challenge driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

Information about countries and types of organisations eligible for funding is available in the call documents. The eligibility rules for each partnership call can change call by call, so please always read the guidance and call documents for the specific call that you are interested in to find out which countries and which types of organisation are eligible for funding.

As of July 2026 the **ERDERA Clinical Trials Call (CTC)** is open and further details are provided below. This call is a one-off funding opportunity and is unlikely to be repeated over the coming years.

ERDERA also plans to hold a **Joint Transnational Call for proposals (JTC)** in 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and 2031. The research and innovation areas covered by these calls is yet to be announced. Please check the ERDERA Partnership website for the latest [funding opportunities](#) (along with Infodays and partnering systems/events) and [sign up for the ERDERA newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date.

Useful ERDERA links:

- [European Rare Disease Research Alliance \(ERDERA\) website](#), including [funding opportunities](#), [clinical research network](#), the [data hub](#), [expertise services](#), the [ERDERA accelerator](#), [training and education](#), [newsletter signup](#) and much more.
- [ERDERA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)
- If you have any questions about the ERDERA partnership you can [use the contact form on their website](#).
- When calls for proposals are launched, the call documents will list eligible countries and will provide contact details. There is usually an infoday and partnering/matchmaking events.

Call	Health aspects
ERDERA Joint Transnational Calls	As of July 2026, there are no open Joint Transnational Calls (JTCs) open. Further JTCs are expected in 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and 2031.
ERDERA Networking Support Scheme Deadline: The call is a permanently open call from May 2025 onward, until funds are exhausted which is expected in April 2029. Applications can be submitted at any time but are reviewed in six-monthly collection rounds.	The Networking Support Scheme (NSS) within ERDERA invites the rare disease and rare cancer community to unite across borders, disciplines and sectors. Through this constantly open call, ERDERA supports the organisation of transnational networking events that promote knowledge sharing, research uptake and collaborations among clinicians, researchers, and patients/patient advocacy organizations (PAOs). With funding of up to €30 thousand per networking event, the scheme has been open since May 2025, offering a flexible framework for building the connections essential to meaningful knowledge sharing in rare disease and rare cancers research. Further information is available on the ERDERA website .
ERDERA Clinical Trials Call Expression of Interest deadline: 10th September 2026	ERDERA has opened its Clinical Trial Call (ECTC) to support multinational, GCP-compliant Phase I, Phase I/II and Phase II interventional clinical trials in rare diseases. This call aims to generate robust clinical evidence and, where appropriate, data of regulatory relevance to support future regulatory interactions and subsequent clinical development. It is designed for rare disease trials where patient populations are often small and geographically dispersed, making multinational collaboration essential. Further information is available on the ERDERA website .

The ERDERA Partnership is being funded in two Phases by the European Commission. Phase 1 is currently underway and the ERDERA Partnership Consortium will have to apply to Horizon Europe for funding for Phase 2 by applying to the call HORIZON-HLTH-2026-02-DISEASE-12: [European Partnership on Rare Diseases \(ERDERA\) \(Phase 2\)](#) (See pages 17-18 and 85-90 of the Horizon Europe Health [Work Programme](#) for further details). The deadline for this is 15 Sept 2026.

- This a 'co-fund action' and is not a research and innovation project. It is **unlikely to be suitable for the vast majority of potential applicants** – please speak to your [National Contact Point for Cluster 1](#) to explain why before embarking on developing a proposal.
- The call topic text includes that the "proposal must be submitted by the coordinator of the consortium funded under topic HORIZON-HLTH-2023-DISEASE-07-01: "European Partnership on Rare Diseases". This eligibility condition is without prejudice to the possibility to include additional partners." You can contact the consortium that must submit the proposal at [Contact Us - ERDERA](#).

European Partnership on One Health Antimicrobial Resistance (EUP OHAMR)

The [European Partnership on One Health Antimicrobial Resistance \(EUP OHAMR\)](#) brings together 53 organisations from 30 countries in EU and beyond to address the challenges of antimicrobial resistance across sectors and perspectives. The partnership deploys an integrated One Health approach, recognising that human, animal and plant health are interdependent and interlinked with the environment.

EUP OHAMR's vision is to reduce the burden of antimicrobial resistance. It's Mission is to boost One Health

research and innovation leading to improved surveillance of resistant pathogens, better diagnostics and effective treatment of infections and to prevention measures reducing the use of antimicrobials and the spread of antimicrobial resistance.

EUP OHAMR will run from 2025 to 2035, and has a budget of ~€250 million pooled funding for research and innovation (R&I) projects. EUP OHAMR is cofunded by the EU/Horizon Europe with up to €75 million towards the implementation of the programme and support for R&I projects.

EUP OHAMR calls for proposals normally require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

EUP OHAMR calls are normally challenge driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

Information about countries and types of organisations eligible for funding is available in the call documents. The eligibility rules for each partnership call can change call by call, so please always read the guidance and call documents for the specific call that you are interested in to find out which countries and which types of organisation are eligible for funding.

As of July 2026 there are no open calls for proposals, but there will be further calls announced over the coming years (along with Infodays and matchmaking events), so please check the EUP OHAMR Partnership website for the latest [calls](#) and [sign up for their newsletter](#) to stay up to date. The calls for proposals are normally announced during World AMR awareness week in November.

Useful EUP OHAMR links:

- [European Partnership on One Health Antimicrobial Resistance \(EUP OHAMR\) website](#), including [funding opportunities](#), and [newsletter signup](#).
- [EUP OHAMR Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)
- If you have any questions about the EUP OHAMR partnership you can contact them using the [contact details at the bottom of their website](#).
- When calls for proposals are launched, the call documents will list eligible countries and will provide a contact for each country. There is usually an infoday and partnering/matchmaking events.

European Partnership for Personalised Medicine (EP PerMed)

The vision of the [European Partnership for Personalised Medicine \(EP PerMed\)](#) is to improve health outcomes within sustainable healthcare systems through research, development, innovation and implementation of personalised medicine approaches for the benefit of patients, citizens, and society.

EP PerMed is worth €341 million of which €101 million comes from Horizon Europe.

EP PerMed Joint Transnational Calls for proposals normally require a consortium of organisations in different countries. EP PerMed also holds various other types of calls.

EP PerMed Joint Transnational Calls are normally challenge driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

Information about countries and types of organisations eligible for funding is available in the call documents. The eligibility rules for each partnership call can change call by call, so please always read the guidance and call documents for the specific call that you are interested in to find out which countries and which types of organisation are eligible for funding.

As of July 2026 there are no open calls for proposals, but there will be further calls announced over the

coming years (along with Infodays and matchmaking events), so please check the EP PerMed Partnership website for the latest [calls](#) and [sign up for their newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date.

Useful EP PerMed links:

- [European Partnership for Personalised Medicine \(EP PerMed\) website](#), including [open and future calls](#), and [newsletter signup](#).
- [EP PerMed Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)
- If you have any questions about the EP PerMed partnership you can contact them using the [contact details at the bottom left of their website](#).
- When calls for proposals are launched, the call documents will list eligible countries and will provide a contact for each country. There is usually an infoday and partnering/matchmaking tools.

European Partnership for Pandemic Preparedness (BE READY)

The [European Partnership for Pandemic Preparedness \(BE READY\)](#) brings together 74 organisations across 24 countries and is expected to run from 2026 to 2035. The first phase of BE READY has a budget of €118 million, of which €57 million comes from Horizon Europe.

BE READY aims to strengthen the European Partnership for Pandemic Preparedness. Specifically, it will create a research landscape that offers health and socio-economic benefits. Additionally, through Joint Transnational Calls, the project will tackle key gaps in pandemic preparedness, spanning basic research, diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccines, and public health measures. The project will also establish an agile 'ever-warm' research ecosystem, including a network of clinical research sites across the EU, ready to respond quickly to emerging health threats.

BE READY calls for proposals normally require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

BE READY calls are normally challenge driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

Information about countries and types of organisations eligible for funding is available in the call documents. The eligibility rules for each partnership call can change call by call, so please always read the guidance and call documents for the specific call that you are interested in to find out which countries and which types of organisation are eligible for funding.

As of July 2026 there are no open calls for proposals, but there will be further calls announced over the coming years (along with Infodays and partnering systems), so please check the BE READY Partnership website for the latest [calls](#) and [check their news webpage](#) to stay up-to-date.

The BE READY partnership is being funded in two Phases by the European Commission. Phase 1 is currently underway and the BE READY Partnership Consortium will have to apply to Horizon Europe for funding for Phase 2 by applying to the call HORIZON-HLTH-2026-02-DISEASE-12: [European Partnership on Rare Diseases \(ERDERA\) \(Phase 2\)](#) (See pages 18-19 and 90-96 of the Horizon Europe Health [Work Programme](#) for further details. The deadline for this is 13 April 2027.

- This a 'co-fund action' and is not a research and innovation project. It is **unlikely to be suitable for the vast majority of potential applicants** – please speak to your [National Contact Point for Cluster 1](#) to explain why before embarking on developing a proposal.
- The call topic text includes that the "The proposal must be submitted by the coordinator of the consortium funded under topic HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-12-01: 'European Partnership for Pandemic Preparedness'. This eligibility condition is without prejudice to the possibility to include

additional partners.” You can contact the consortium that must submit the proposal using the [contact details on their website](#).

Useful BE READY links:

- [European Partnership for Pandemic Preparedness \(BE READY\) website](#), including [Joint Transnational Calls](#), and [news](#).
- [BE READY Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)
- If you have any questions about the BE READY partnership you can contact them using the [contact details on their website](#).
- When calls for proposals are launched, the call documents will list eligible countries and will normally provide a contact for each country. There may also be infoday and partnering events.

European Partnership for Brain Health (EP BrainHealth)

The [European Partnership for Brain Health \(EP BrainHealth\)](#) is a major initiative involving 64 participants from 36 countries across Europe and beyond, co-funded by the European Commission.

Launched in January 2026, EP BrainHealth is a ten-year partnership with a total planned budget of approximately €500 million. It is one of the largest collaborative efforts in brain research worldwide, and brings together 53 organisations from 30 countries in EU and beyond to address the challenges of antimicrobial resistance across sectors and perspectives. The partnership deploys an integrated One Health approach, recognising that human, animal and plant health are interdependent and interlinked with the environment.

The partnership shares a common vision of improving brain health for everyone, using scientific knowledge to promote brain health throughout lifetime. It aims to prevent and treat brain diseases, as well as improve the wellbeing of people living with neurological and mental health conditions in Europe and globally.

The partnership will strengthen transnational collaboration as well as increase and better align investments in brain-related research and innovation. Its mission is to promote the translation of research findings into tailored solutions for prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care accessible to all.

EP BrainHealth plans to launch two Joint Transnational Calls for proposals (JTCs) each year between 2026 and 2032. EP BrainHealth also plans to launch various other types of funding opportunities.

EP BrainHealth Joint Transnational Calls (JTCs) normally require a consortium of organisations in different countries.

EP BrainHealth Joint Transnational Calls (JTCs) are normally challenge driven where the call specifies the research and innovation project to be done.

Information about countries and types of organisations eligible for funding is available in the call documents. The eligibility rules for each partnership call can change call by call, so please always read the guidance and call documents for the specific call that you are interested in to find out which countries and which types of organisation are eligible for funding.

As of July 2026 there are no open calls for proposals, but there will be further calls announced over the coming years (along with Infodays and matchmaking events), so please check the EP BrainHealth website for the latest [calls](#) and [sign up for their newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date.

Useful EP BrainHealth links:

- [European Partnership for Brain Health \(EP BrainHealth\)](#), including [calls](#), [resources](#), [events](#), [news](#) and [newsletter signup](#).
- [EP BrainHealth Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)
- If you have any questions about EP BrainHealth you can [contact them](#).
- When calls for proposals are launched, the call documents will list eligible countries and will provide a contact for each country. There is usually an infoday and partnering/matchmaking events.

COST

[COST \(European Cooperation in Science and Technology\)](#) is a funding organisation for **research and innovation networks**.

A COST Action is an interdisciplinary research network that brings researchers and innovators together to investigate **a topic of their choice** for 4 years. COST Actions are typically made up of researchers from academia, SMEs, public institutions, and other relevant organisations or interested parties.

Open to **all science and technology fields**, including new and emerging fields; COST Actions offer an inclusive, pan-European environment for individuals of all levels of seniority to grow their professional research networks and boost their careers.

COST Actions:

- Are "bottom up" multidisciplinary and disciplinary research networks in research fields **proposed by researchers themselves**. This maximises scientific freedom to initiate and develop groundbreaking topics with global networks of researchers, SMEs and other entities.
- Do not fund research, but instead fund the **networking, training, leadership and dissemination activities** that are the engine room for talented researchers including younger researchers involved in international research collaboration.

You can participate in an existing COST action or apply to set up a new COST action. Further information about both options is available on the [COST website](#).

Search the [COST Actions website](#) for COST actions that are running (i.e. 4 years' worth of Actions including Cost Innovator Grants) – as June 2027 this included 361 actions including health topics and 131 including medical topics.

The true value of COST is in **acting as a pump priming mechanism for EU/global R&I collaboration** in the following ways:

- (i) **launching young scientists' international careers** in all fields
- (ii) previous COST participants see **a 38% higher success rate in subsequent Horizon Europe grant applications**
- (iii) **the bureaucratic threshold is lower for COST** than large Horizon Europe consortia projects but the experience gained from COST is beneficial when applying for larger Horizon Europe projects
- (iv) **it is a training ground to develop key soft skills for scientists in international collaboration** i.e. leading people in a consortium, collaborative decision making, and driving global projects.

OTHER EU PROGRAMMES

The [HNN 3.0 website](#) has information on some other EU Programmes:



- EU4Health
- Euratom
- Digital Europe

We (HNN 3.0 and NFP4Health) have also prepared a [factsheet comparing Horizon Europe, the EU4Health Programme, and the Digital Europe Programme](#).