

Horizon Europe

Framework programme for research and innovation 2021–2027

For updated and complete information
refer to the original topic text on the
Funding and Tenders portal.

Support

Sweden

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[Vinnova's Planning grant for international proposals](#)

Closing dates: 14 May and 10 September 2025

European Commission

[Prepublication of the work programme](#)

[Info-day 20-21 May 2025](#)

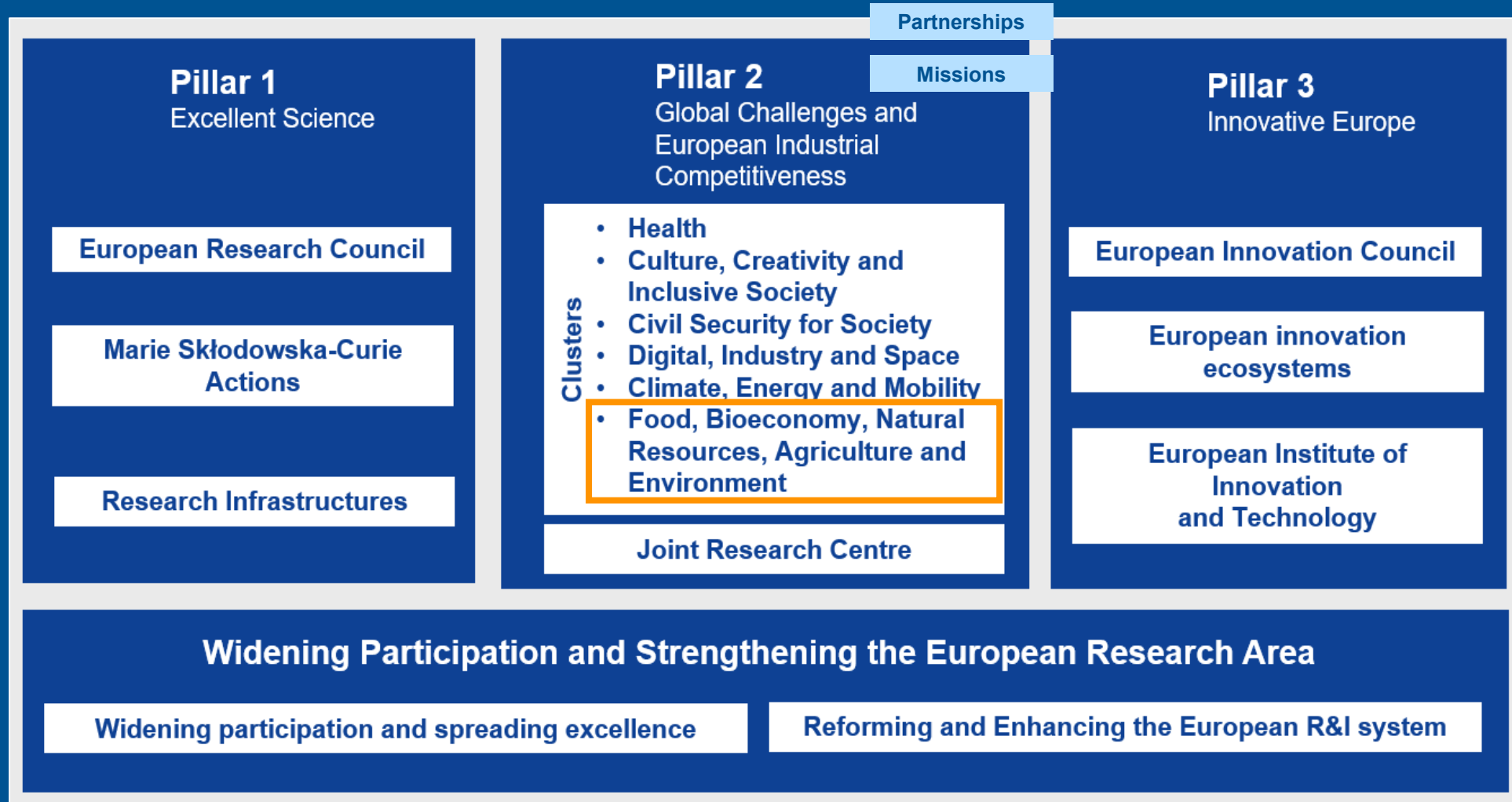
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The Horizon framework
programme is a
POLITICAL INSTRUMENT
where research and
innovation are needed to
achieve political priorities



Horizon Europe



Multi-actor approach

- A measure to enhance uptake of innovation into widespread practice
- applicability, accessibility and acceptability of results
- ensure genuine and sufficient involvement of a targeted array of actors in co-creation, along the value chain
- such as farmers, other land managers, local communities, NGOs, advisors, manufacturers, industry (incl. SMEs), policy-makers, etc.
- effective knowledge, co-creation and exchange among all project participants and engaged groups
- diverse practice-oriented dissemination materials

Agenda

9:00 – 9:45 Biodiversity and ecosystem services

10:00 – 10:45 Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption

11:00 – 11:45 Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors

Break

12:30 – 13:15 Clean environment and zero pollution

13:30 – 14:15 Land, ocean and water for climate action

14:30 – 15:15 Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities

15:30 – 16:30 Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal



Overview

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-XX

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-XX-two-stage

- 12 topics
- 10 single stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 17 Sept 2025
- 2 two-stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 1st stage 4 Sept 2025, 2nd stage 18 Feb 2026
- Total budget: 127 (147) MEUR

Impacts:

- **Protect healthy ecosystems and to restore degraded ones** ensuring the provision of ecosystem services, including for adaptation and/or mitigation to climate change
- **Policymakers and all relevant sectors of society are aware and well informed** and fully grasp opportunities of biodiversity protection and restoration. Society is on a path of transformative change
- Farmers, foresters, and land managers **test and implement biodiversity-friendly practices while safeguarding food security** and the long-term sustainability of farming and forestry
- **reducing the pressure on biodiversity** and to ensuring sustainable development worldwide

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-01: Additional activities for the European Biodiversity Partnership: Biodiversa+

The third instalment of the partnership

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-02: Strengthening the capacity of citizen science in biodiversity observation

CSA, indicative budget 4 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum

- Network activities to promote and better integrate citizen science into taxonomic research and biodiversity observation for the resolution of ecological challenges and climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Identification of frameworks for harmonisation and coordination of existing initiatives (citizen science protocols for data collection, validation, storage and sharing, as well as interoperability, multi-lingualism)
- Development of strategies, guidelines, resources and outreach activities
- expected to collaborate with the projects under
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-03: Strengthening taxonomic approaches for biodiversity; and
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-04: Large-scale in situ biodiversity observations for better understanding of biodiversity state, drivers of its decline and impacts of policies

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-03: Strengthening taxonomic approaches for biodiversity

RIA, indicative budget 24 MEUR, 2 projects (1 in area A, 1 in area B!)

Specificities: Beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties (max. 60 000 EUR/ party; max. 30% of budget)

- fill gaps in taxonomic expertise, establish, pilot and test novel taxonomic approaches, develop strategies for capacity building in taxonomy (training, tools, guidelines)
- Online catalogue of taxonomic databases (FAIR data!)
- Establish a EU network of taxonomy and genomics experts and biodiversity genomics facilities
- ensure representative coverage of biodiversity across terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems
- Area A: long-term monitoring
- Area B: widen participation and access, enhance uptake

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-04: Large-scale in situ biodiversity observations for better understanding of biodiversity state, drivers of its decline and impacts of policies

RIA, indicative budget 22 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: Beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties (max. 30% of the budget, max. 60 000 EUR/ third party)

- High-quality data from in situ biodiversity observations for informed policy making
- prepare harmonised or standardised frameworks for biodiversity observations, define methodology for applying specific data quality checks
- undertake systematic large-scale in situ observations of biodiversity (comprehensive coverage of the territory of EU Member States)
- Data expected to be fit for modelling
- Use of AI can be considered
- Expected collaboration with projects selected under HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-05: Assessing and modelling ecosystems

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-05: Assessing and modelling ecosystems' dynamic processes to guide restoration activities and to improve models used for climate

RIA, indicative budget 18 MEUR, 3 projects

Specificities: Lump sum

- Developing modelling tools to guide restoration activities
- Ensure that restoration is reflected in climate and land-use modelling
- Environmental status, quantity and quality of habitats in relation to species' needs
- Address data gaps with direct observation, if needed
- Address either terrestrial or marine ecosystems
- Cooperation with projects under HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-04 and HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-06: Assessing and modelling socio-economic impacts of nature restoration.

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-06: Assessing and modelling socio-economic impacts of nature restoration

RIA, indicative budget 16 MEUR, 3 projects

Specificities: Lump sum

- Sector-specific assessments to measure the comprehensive economic, social and cultural impacts and benefits of nature restoration
- Develop and validate modelling approaches
- Improve the understanding of the possibilities and limitations of tools for socio-economic assessments of nature restoration
- Short, medium, and long-term socio-economic impacts, benefits and costs, of nature restoration
- Traceability of costs and benefits directly to the intervention
- Science-based prediction tools for policy-making, funding and implementing nature restoration
- HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-05 and HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-10: Supporting the implementation of nature restoration measures for sustainable farming systems

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-10: Supporting the implementation of nature restoration measures for sustainable farming systems

RIA, indicative budget 11 MEUR, 2 projects, Lump sum

Specificities: JRC may participate, multi-actor approach, SSH

- Quantify costs and benefits of restoration measures on farm productivity, evaluate the impact of taking action versus non-action
- Generate evidence to support and improve incentive schemes
- considering all types and sizes of farming systems (conventional, organic, agroecological, etc.)
- Synergies between nature restoration/conservation and food security (production and availability) as well as potential trade-offs are scientifically demonstrated to farmers, land managers, advisors and policymakers
- increase practical, ready to use knowledge and tools, and promote freely accessible dissemination and open capacity building channels
- Cooperation with HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-06 and Biodiversa+

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-07: Integrated and coordinated approaches for coral reefs and associated ecosystems (mangroves and seagrass beds) conservation, restoration, and climate mitigation and adaptation

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: + Least Developed Country and/or Small Island Developing State, SSH

- improved understanding of the functional ecology where shallow coral, mangroves, and seagrasses coexist in order to design and inform effective management and restoration measures
- Management and restoration measures to support coral reefs and associated ecosystems, mangroves & seagrass beds for their (climate) resilience, co-evolutionary processes and adaptation potentials
- Develop management and restoration guidelines beyond local objectives
- Develop cost effective, accessible and lasting monitoring
- Develop training materials, capacity building and empowerment tools, the access to data and scientific expertise to local actors for the development of ad hoc localised management measures
- support natural capital valuation for cost/benefit analysis

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-08: Strengthening pathways to alternative socio-economic models for continuous improvement of biodiversity

RIA, indicative budget 14 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, could include the use of generative AI tools, SSH

- New knowledge to develop and accelerate towards best available alternative socio-economic models that support biodiversity restoration and protection (valuation, legislative, governance, education and financing)
- integrate biodiversity efforts into economic activities: analyse existing models, barriers and solutions, identify gaps, capacity building (infrastructure and knowledge) for adoption
- Develop and pilot strategies and co-design pathways using collaborative and participatory approaches to scale-up the implementation of alternative socio-economic model

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-09: Understanding the perceptions of and improving communication on the biodiversity crisis and nature restoration benefits to sustain citizen engagement and democratic governance

RIA, indicative budget 6 MEUR, 2 projects, lump sum

Specificities: multi-actor approach, JRC may participate, SSH, + legally competent authorities

- Research to better understand civil society's plurality of perceptions and understanding of the biodiversity crisis, its underlying conflicts and links with climate change, identifying key concerns and perspectives (nature and culture, historical /natural heritage, effects of experiences in nature on environmental attitudes and behaviour, etc.)
- Pilot citizen engagement on ecosystem protection and restoration, with the participation of public authorities who have the legal competence to implement the results of citizen deliberation
- Develop approaches for each identified group to enhance the communication and dissemination of knowledge regarding the biodiversity crisis

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-01-two-stage: Living labs co-creating innovative solutions for forests and freshwater ecosystems restoration

RIA, indicative budget 14 MEUR, 2 projects, lump sum

Specificities: multi-actor approach

- Set up at least three living labs in three different MS/AC to work together on ecosystem restoration, covering forests and freshwater ecosystems
- co-design, co-development, and co-implementation of locally adapted innovative solutions (local cultural, socio-economic and environmental context and heritage)
- practical solutions with the potential to be scaled up, to ecosystem restoration, while considering relevant drivers of biodiversity loss, in particular climate change and invasive alien species, and related pressures
- demonstration of the economic viability of the proposed innovative solutions for the end-users and appropriate business models and actions, including co-funding schemes
- Dissemination to facilitate wide uptake by practitioners

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-02-two-stage: Breeding for resilience: enhancing multi-stress tolerance in crops

RIA, indicative budget 14 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: Blind evaluation; beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties (max 60 000 EUR/ third party)

- enhancing crop tolerance to combinations of multiple abiotic and biotic stresses
- provide insight into the range of mechanisms and traits that underpin crop responses to multiple stresses, whether occurring simultaneously or sequentially
- multiple "omics" data sources, high-throughput phenotyping, computational modelling and artificial intelligence, to evaluate (e.g. greenhouses, experimental fields, production fields)
- Develop location-specific breeding strategies and agroecological practices, incorporating models and artificial intelligence approaches for prediction of cropping systems output, under multiple stress conditions
- Deliver robust methodologies for benchmarking and communicating the performance of crop varieties
- All farming systems in scope, selected crop(s) should be clearly justified

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Overview

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-FARM2FORK-XX

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-FARM2FORK-XX-two-stage

- 22 topics
- 17 single stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 16 Sept 2025
- 5 two-stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 1st stage 4 Sept 2025, 2nd stage 18 Feb 2026
- Total budget: 190 (295) MEUR

Impacts:

- **Agri-food systems contribute to the EU strategic autonomy** by fostering food and nutrition security practices and safeguarding long-term sustainability with multi-disciplinary approaches **including One Health**
- The agricultural primary sector is **enabled to manage sustainable, efficient, profitable, circular, low greenhouse gas-emitting farming systems** contributing to climate-neutrality and climate-resilience.
- Sustainable and resource efficient farming practices contribute to **ecosystems' health**, and their related ecosystem services, while **minimising pollution, and restoring and protecting biodiversity**.
- Includes aquaculture and fishing, a just transition and empowered societies

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-01: Additional activities for the European partnership on accelerating farming systems transition - agroecology living labs and research infrastructures

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-02: Additional activities for the European partnership on animal health and welfare

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-15: Additional activities of the European partnership on sustainable food systems for people, planet and climate

Continued support to partnerships

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-03: Overcoming the barriers for scaling up circular water management in agriculture

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, multi-actor approach, AKIS, SSH

- Increased resilience of farming systems to water scarcity, scale up alternative water sources
- Test different strategies and technologies for irrigation or for other agricultural purposes (including drinking water for livestock), using alternative water sources in a real-life context
- Evaluate the long-term impact on soil health, incl. soil microbiome, crop productivity and quality, food and feed safety, freshwater resources, ecosystems
- Identify and test different business models regarding financial viability and long-term economic sustainability
- Identify societal, behavioural and regulatory challenges still hampering upscaling
- Develop, test and make recommendations for improved and targeted incentives and policies at regional, national and European
- Awareness raising, training, demonstrations and advice to farmers

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-04: Enhancing plant protein production to bolster the resilience of agricultural systems and EU self-sufficiency in plant protein used as feed

RIA, indicative budget 11 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, multi-actor approach, lump sum

- Increasing the EU' plant protein autonomy, decrease of environmental and climate footprints, promoting locally produced protein crops, contribute to the sustainable development of EU rural areas
- biodiversity-friendly management, climate and pest resilient crops and N-fixing crops
- Compliant with the new Regulation on deforestation-free products
- Identify gaps, needs, barriers and enablers, and create a roadmap for taking up and scaling up sustainable protein crops intended for feed use in the EU, from production to processing and trade levels.
- Assess social, economic and environmental impacts and trade-offs for up- and downstream actors
- Generate capacity building material, trainings and information tools for farmers, advisors and extension services, including a visualization tailored to different geographical regions and pedoclimatic zones in the EU
- Collaboration among others with HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-06: Improving grassland management in European livestock farming systems

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-06: Improving grassland management in European livestock farming systems

RIA, indicative budget 16 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, multi-actor approach

- Develop and operationalise methodologies to measure, monitor, benchmark and assess the performance of grassland farming systems: delivery of ecosystem services, biodiversity restoration, reducing emissions of greenhouse gas and air pollutants, and social aspects such as profitability and co-benefits
- Develop new knowledge, innovative solutions, practices, and manageable strategies for creating, maintaining and restoring grasslands systems that are productive, cost-effective, sustainable, environmentally sound, and resilient to a changing climate
- Develop farm- and landscape level decision tools and strategies to support farmers
- Activities to engage in knowledge sharing, provide policy recommendations and a cost-benefit analysis
- Proposals should include a dedicated task, appropriate resources and a plan on how they will collaborate with other projects funded under this topic, as well as plan for collaboration with HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-04, HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-04, Agroecology, etc.

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-05: Developing innovative phytosanitary measures for plant health - focus on systems approach for pest risk management

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, multi-actor approach, lump sum, financial support to third parties (max. 10% of the budget and max. 60 000 EUR/party), SSH

- Develop innovative climate and environmental-friendly measures for a highly efficacious pest risk management to be implemented across the value chain, design and evaluate protocols
- Evaluate risk reduction, cost-effectiveness, scalability, and sustainability
- Assess the combined effect of all measures and their interactions across the value chain
- Support capacity building and training of the stakeholders within the value chain, enabling the large-scale adoption

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-07: Fostering animal breeding and genetics for climate change adaptation and mitigation, improved robustness and resilience

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, international cooperation encouraged, lump sum

- Proposals should address all following activities and cover various terrestrial livestock farming systems/approaches, one of which should be organic farming.
- Genotype-environment interactions on the whole animal lifespans to renew breeding goals for lower greenhouse gas emissions and climate-change related challenges (incl. use of omics and meta-omics data)
- Develop tools/systems/methods to measure genotype-environment interaction and traits of interest
- Validate and integrate into indexes used to benchmark farm performance
- Demonstrate in an operational environment breeding programs and management practices for improving robustness, lifetime efficiency and resilience, contribution to climate change mitigation efforts and adaptation
- while considering trade-offs including with animal health and welfare and demonstrating gender-responsive strategies where relevant
- while maintaining genetic diversity

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-08: Exploring the potential of controlled environment agriculture (CEA)

RIA, indicative budget 6 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum, financial support to third parties (max. 30% of the budget and max. 60 000 EUR/party), SME involvement

- greenhouses, vertical farms, grow rooms, building-integrated agriculture, hydroponics, aquaponics, aeroponics, etc., where technological advancements enable precise regulation of growing conditions
- Assess state-of-the-art technologies and innovations, evaluating their effectiveness, resource efficiency (including energy and water demands), as well as environmental footprint
- Analyse socio- economic feasibility and viability of implementing CEA systems at different scales
- Cost-effectiveness compared to conventional agriculture
- Assess crop varieties currently grown in CEA systems, identifying gaps, opportunities and challenges for novel crop varieties, provide strategies for expansion
- examining emerging trends, investigating technological innovations (IoT, artificial intelligence, robotics, biotechnologies, etc.), and their implications for sustainable food production and the farming profession therein

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-09: Strengthening the EU crop breeding research and innovation ecosystem for competitive, resilient, and sustainable agriculture

CSA, indicative budget 3 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum

- Mapping of the relevant plant breeding needs of farmers, breeders, industry and society, and related activities within the EU
- Evaluate the infrastructure available, incl. demonstration facilities, identify gaps and opportunities to support cutting-edge research and breeding activities
- Map how current funding sources and financial models (EU, regional, and national) are mobilised to support R&I in plant breeding public and private sectors
- Establish a structured framework for an EU-wide network
- Develop a strategic R&I roadmap that outlines priorities for plant breeding research and innovation at the EU level
- Particular attention should be paid to minor, underutilised and permanent crops

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-10: Diversifying aquaculture production with emphasis on low-trophic species

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: collaboration with European research infrastructures and with accredited laboratories is encouraged, SSH

- new and improved technologies to enhance competitiveness and profitability of the sector
- reduced environmental impact of the sector, becoming resilient and climate-adaptive, contributing to climate change mitigation
- includes all possible edible aquatic organisms with preference for low-trophic species which, in the frame of this topic, are photosynthetic or herbivorous or un-fed species
- preference for fish farming that relies on feed ingredients low in fish meal and oil and/or produced in geographic vicinity to the farm, as well as feed ingredients derived from circular practices, such as wastes or by-products
- Research could include aspects of feeding, breeding but also health and welfare issues as well as economic issues and issues of consumers' acceptance.
- Regulatory aspects and legal barriers regarding the approval of novel feed ingredients or the licencing of new aquaculture farms should also be considered.

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-11: Towards modern, integrated, and effective fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) systems

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate,

- Small scale fisheries, recreational fisheries and long-distance fisheries, i.e. EU fleets operating beyond EU waters
- Improve data collection (incl. position and catch data), while reducing the costs of data collection and analysis
- advance fisheries monitoring, surveillance, control and enforcement technologies to fight illegal, unreported and unregulated practices
- effective and, where possible, real-time tools for monitoring fishing operations, target and bycatch species, sensitive species and for comparing and matching logbook and/or landing declaration data with data collected and reported by observers on board
- standardisation and harmonisation of data collection, procedures and quality control, as well as data sharing
- business models that encourage and enhance adoption
- 4 case studies required, others can be added: European Seas, EU Outermost Regions, recreational fisheries in EU waters, EU long-distance fisheries in the Indian Ocean or the Pacific Ocean.

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-12: Nutrition and Mental Health

RIA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, lump sum, SSH

- Establish specific food groups, beverages, macro and micronutrients needed in a daily diet to prevent the development of mental health disorders
- and explore the need to characterise and supplement a healthy diet
- diet-gut microbiome-host-health interplay to elucidate some molecular mechanisms and the causal relationship between changes in the gut microbiome and some mental health disorders, can incl. biomarkers
- provide recommendations and develop specific communication materials for prevention campaigns
- provide recommendations on how established deficiencies or excess intake of macro and micronutrients could be addressed
- age groups and vulnerable groups

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-13: Raising citizen awareness on alternative proteins derived from biotechnology

CSA, indicative budget 1 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: multi-actor approach, lump sum, SSH

- empower citizens to make informed decisions regarding alternative proteins sources derived from biotechnology and increase the awareness of the impact of such dietary shift (sustainability and health-related impacts)
- Establish a collaborative science-based information programme for citizens by launching a survey on citizens consumption patterns and dietary choices
- Collection and dissemination of data on the perception, behaviours and understanding of citizens of alternative protein sources derived from different biotechnological applications
- Provide recommendations for updating and improving educational curricula in schools and in other educational institutes
- collaboration with international partners, in particular with those established in the United States, is encouraged

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-14: Nutrients produced by microorganisms utilising primarily CO₂ from the air, with the support of biotechnology

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 project

Specificities: multi-actor approach

- Supporting application of the precision fermentation through genetically engineered microorganisms
- EU strategic autonomy and leadership in delivering innovative nutrient production processes through business models for food applications in industrial plants and SMEs
- Establish an open space database or platform for companies to create their own business models for precision fermentation using genetically engineered microorganisms
- Analyse and provide the costs and investments needed for the use of the biotechnology for scaling up production of proteins through the use of genetically engineered microorganisms that capture CO₂
- Establish business models for industry and for in-situ application, considering also gases other than CO₂
- collaboration with international partners, in particular with those established in the United States, is encouraged
- Collaboration with Regional Innovation Valleys for the bioeconomy and food systems (RIV4BFS)

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-01-two-stage: Emerging and future risks to plant health

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: blind evaluation, multi-actor approach, lump sum, beneficiary may provide financial support to third parties (max. 20% of budget; max. 60 000 EUR/ party)

- pests exhibiting an altered and higher probability of entry, establishment and spread in a new area that might be the result of changes in their biology or changes in agriculture or forestry pest management practice or rapid spread in new areas
- Enhance understanding of pest(s) biology, introduction pathways, interaction with crop-soil ecosystems and mechanisms of spread, especially considering the challenges posed by climate change, biodiversity crisis, land use, globalization, resistant and/or tolerant traits
- early detection, surveillance, treatment , and (bio)control measures (OneHealth approach!)
- social, economic, and environmental impacts of plant pest(s) on farmers and/or forest owners: develop mitigation strategies
- International cooperation with countries affected or threatened by the same pest(s) is strongly encouraged

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

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: blind evaluation, multi-actor approach, international cooperation, citizen engagement

- Food safety and food fraud
- develop existing knowledge and technological results to reach higher TRLs aligned with user's needs and estimating the potential impact on cost for the consumers
- implementing digital and technological solutions in high TRL's covering existing food safety and/or food fraud gaps
- Close to market solutions
- exploitation plan should include preliminary plans for commercialisation and deployment (feasibility study, business plan) indicating the possible funding sources
- Regulatory: identify existing regulations and give recommendations about which technologies could use sandboxes to foster future commercialization
- include a dedicated task, appropriate resources, and a plan on how they should collaborate with other ongoing and finished projects

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

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: blind evaluation, multi-actor approach, lump sum, SSH, EOSC

- Develop and validate new tools and methods, and/or further test existing methods to measure /estimate food waste at household level, incl. food waste discarded as or with wastewaters
- help distinguish between amounts of avoidable (edible) fraction of food waste and non-avoidable (inedible) food waste
- should be applied across a large enough sample of diverse type of products and target groups (gender, age, socio-economic status, ethnic and/or cultural origins, etc.), across several years and geographically spread
- direct and indirect drivers and root causes of food waste at household level should be thoroughly investigated
- In addition, proposals could explore eco-friendly, low-input and efficient technological solutions to prevent edible food from being discarded in households, e.g. by preventing product degradation

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-16: Developing a joint AU-EU Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) supporting the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-17: Nutrition in emergency situations - Ready-to-use Supplementary Food (RUSF) and Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF)

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-05-**two-stage**: Developing agroecology living labs and lighthouses for climate action under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership

Targeted international cooperation

European Union – African Union

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-16: Developing a joint AU-EU Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) supporting the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, JRC may participate, + 3 independant AU-entities, lump sum

- AKIS: the combined organisation and knowledge flows between persons, organisations and institutions who use and produce knowledge for agriculture and interrelated fields (in SE: [Nyfiken på AKIS? - landsbygdsnätverket.se](https://www.landsbygdsnätverket.se/nyfiken-pa-akis/))
- identify, map and study the main AKIS actors and AKIS structures at different levels (local, national, regional) and their relationships in a set of countries in the African context to support the agroecological transition, in close cooperation with the FNSSA International Research Consortium
- Develop and pilot relevant models and formulate operational recommendations for a joint AU-EU AKIS
- respects and integrates local knowledge and practices alongside technological and scientific expertise, where indigenous insights are enriched by innovative approaches and new technologies through mutual learning

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-17: Nutrition in emergency situations - Ready-to-use Supplementary Food (RUSF) and Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF)

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, JRC may participate, + 3 independant AU-entities, lump sum, beneficiary may provide financial support to third parties (max. 20% of budget; max. 60 000 EUR/ party), SSH

- R&I collaboration between Europe and Africa will help the African countries (health specialists, producers, seed companies, SMEs and food industries) to develop/ scale up the relevant and sustainable local production of RUSF and RUTF or related
- using varieties adapted to local climate and agro-ecological conditions, thereby protecting and restoring biodiversity
- proposals should foresee a space for mentoring and accelerating innovative business concepts, including social innovation and upscaling in view of African or European food business entrepreneurs and start-ups with special consideration of women and the diaspora using cascading funding opportunities

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-05-two-stage: Developing agroecology living labs and lighthouses for climate action under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, multi-actor approach, + 3 independant AU-entities, lump sum, beneficiary may provide financial support to third parties (max. 30% of budget; max. 60 000 EUR/ party)

- Set up living labs and light houses as places for testing and demonstrating agroecological approaches in different pedoclimatic conditions in Africa (e.g. researchers, farmers, advisors, policymakers)
- incl. socio-economic aspects to support sustainability transitions and upscaling
- Practical agroecological solutions to the climatic and biodiversity challenges/opportunities
- Identify sites of high performance in terms of their actions and results on agroecology, that may be converted into lighthouses
- Knowledge exchange
- create synergies with projects under HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-16 (AKIS – FNSSA)

Agenda

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11:00 – 11:45 Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors

Break

12:30 – 13:15 Clean environment and zero pollution

13:30 – 14:15 Land, ocean and water for climate action

14:30 – 15:15 Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities

15:30 – 16:30 Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal



Overview

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-XX

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-XX-two-stage

- 16 topics
- 15 single stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 17 Sept 2025
- 1 two-stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 1st stage 4 Sept 2025, 2nd stage 18 Feb 2026
- Total budget: 140 (150) MEUR

Impacts:

- Innovative circular and bio-based materials, products, processes and value chains are developed for the consumers and industry, replacing unsustainable alternatives
- Novel, innovative circular business and governance models that have a mitigating impact on resource use and greenhouse gas emissions and foster safe and sustainable product design
- environment-friendly industrial products and processes
- circular and bioeconomy sectors within planetary boundaries thanks to innovative, socially fair, climate-neutral, circular, bio-based and nature-based solutions

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-15: European partnership: Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Continued support to partnerships

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-01: Novel circular business models to enable the just transition to a sustainable and circular economy

IA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: SSH

- Proposals should develop and demonstrate at large scale innovative business models to facilitate product reliability/ durability, reusability, reparability, refurbishment, repurpose and remanufacture, including the preparation stage, as well as product-as-a-service business models.
- assess and quantify environmental, social and economic impacts of these novel business models
- analyse the 'pull' factors that shift consumer choices
- circular economy R-strategies (refuse, rethink, reduce, reuse, repair, refurbish, repurpose, remanufacture) as well as upgrade and product-as-a-service business models
- promote regenerative practices aimed at restoring biodiversity, mitigating climate change, and strengthening local communities and social justice, gender equality, diversity and inclusion

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-02: Improving ecodesign of products and development of testing methods for products prioritised under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, lump sum

- Assess how product parameters relevant for circularity can be determined for the given product group and explore potential new parameters with the aim of improving the circularity performance
- Assess products by using the parameters
- Develop, test and validate product-specific testing methods for the determination and verification of product performance in relation to the said specific parameters
- Provide analyses and recommendations for additional mechanisms and incentives to reward design for circularity and product durability
- Map material flows relevant for the given product group and assess the impacts of potential requirements on these flows within and across value chains
- Consumer behavior in relation to the product group

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-03: Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) of policy and market-relevant product groups

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: lump sum

- Review existing knowledge on life cycle analysis and PEF, identify and fill knowledge gaps
- Develop and test PEF category rules for selected product groups
- Perform in-depth full life cycle assessment studies (incl. end-of-life aspects) based on PEF for those products groups to identify, quantify, interpret and communicate environmental impacts
- Ctools which will be made publicly available to enable PEF-compliant assessments and communications among stakeholders, as well as their verification
- Develop and apply methods for product design decisions for a lower environmental footprint
- Develop guidance, training and dissemination strategies and material
- Proposals should focus on at least one of the following product groups: home/interior textiles; final products made of metals, or plastics; detergents; lubricants, paints and varnishes; polymers; selected groups of other chemicals; ICT products.

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-04: Development and testing of Extended Producer Responsibility schemes (EPR) within the priority Circular Economy Action Plan value chains

IA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, SSH

- Develop, test and demonstrate operational innovative solutions for large scale uptake and implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes
- Relevant actors across the EU and Associated Countries, including cross-border cooperation
- Assess the economic, environmental and social cost-benefits of the implementation of EPR schemes for the relevant stakeholders, especially for consumer and producers (with a focus on SMEs)
- Develop and test the application of dedicated digital technologies, such as the digital product passport (pre-consumer) and tracking applications (post-consumer)
- Provide policy recommendations

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-05: Consumption patterns and environmental awareness as enablers of transition to circular economy

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate

- Increase awareness of consumers of the importance of their choices, and of available sustainable and circular purchasing and use options, address gaps in awareness
- Social innovation
- Identify the economic, social, behavioural, psychological, technical and legal barriers and levers
- Address relevant aspects of fairness, equality, diversity, inclusion, and gender
- Explore the territorial and geographical dimensions of consumption patterns
- Power imbalances between industry and civil society should be addressed

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-06: Indicators for the transition to sustainable and circular economy

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, lump sum

- Suitable indicators for measuring the progress and level of circularity in local communities, households, or in value chains
- If within a project several separate sets of indicators are developed for different users, these should be compatible and possibly have a common set of core indicators.
- Make available guidance and recommendations for informed policy making and for local public authorities to enhance their possibility to support circularity

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-07: Demonstration, deployment and upscaling of circular systemic solutions in cities and regions (Circular Cities and Regions Initiative)

IA, indicative budget 18 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: + 3 different demonstration and 6 replication cities/ regions, SSH

- Targets public local and regional authorities
- Proposals are expected to implement and demonstrate circular systemic solutions for the deployment and upscaling of the circular economy in cities and regions
- address several (at least two) sectors and value chains (e.g. construction and buildings, transport and mobility, bioeconomy, land use and spatial planning)
- Selection of intervention based on a detailed analysis of the cities' and regions' socio-economic and environmental needs, and local potentials
- facilitate knowledge and experience transfer for further outreach and replication across EU: identify key barriers and enablers and relevant factors for successful replication
- Proposals should define financing strategies and also foresee financing follow-up

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-08: Bioprospecting and optimized production of the terrestrial natural products: new opportunities for bio-based sectors

IA, indicative budget 11 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: there are several linked past and present topics, in CL6, CBE JU and H2020!; DSNH

- more sustainable and more accessible natural bio-based products from terrestrial ecosystems with high value market applications, safe and sustainable by design
- including pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, cosmetics, food/feed additives, agrochemicals, cleaning etc.
- development and/or application of computational tools /methods /technologies, such as AI etc. in the biodiscovery pipeline
- biodiversity preservation through enabling bioproduction routes (biosynthesis, fermentation, culturing) of natural products
- demonstration activities to proof the techno/economic viability of the production
- aquatic bioprospecting: HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-14: Bioprospecting of marine natural products in the -omics & artificial intelligence era
- HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-09: Unleashing the potential and advancing the impact of the digitalization/AI of the bio-based value chains; + several others

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-14: Bioprospecting and optimised production of marine/aquatic natural products in the omics & artificial intelligence era

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: there are several linked past and present topics!

- broadened range of more sustainable and more accessible marine/aquatic natural products with high value applications
- demonstrating advances in the development and/or application related computational tools such as AI etc. in the biodiscovery pipeline
- biodiversity preservation and conservation through enabling bioproduction routes (biosynthesis, fermentation, culturing) of natural products, decrease unsustainable harvesting from the wild
- Potential risks and trade-offs need to be addressed
- Expected to link to Mission Restore our Oceans and Waters

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-09: Unleashing the potential and advancing the impact of the digitalization/Artificial Intelligence of the climate-neutral bio-based value chains

IA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, DNSH, international cooperation encouraged (USA, Japan, South Korea, India), EOSC

- Sustainability, resilience and the strategic autonomy of the European bio-based industry
- more sustainable feedstocks, more productive and efficient industrial processes, operations and products,
- circularity, biodegradability, and better understanding of the carbon removal potential of bio-based systems
- Big data and analytics, automation, prediction, virtual testing, modelling, digital twins, generative AI if delivering on the above
- HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-14; HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-08

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-10: Support to the EU Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Initiative: scoping action

CSA, indicative budget 2 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum, international cooperation encouraged (USA, Japan, South Korea, India), SSH

- Improve uptake of the solutions in the context of the EU biotechnology and biomanufacturing initiative
- STEP (biotechnology as critical technology for European economic security)
- Take stock of the large number of funded actions on biotechnology and biomanufacturing (large number of past topics and initiatives quoted)
- Scientifically robust assessment of the social, economic and environmental benefits and risks of biotechnologies and biomanufacturing
- Development of an EU vision and SRIA to foster biotechnology and biomanufacturing solutions to address EU economic security risks and global challenges like climate change or biodiversity protection
- inform the policy makers on national level, as an input to new or updated national bioeconomy strategies or roadmaps

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-11: Demonstration of reduced energy use and optimised flexible energy supply for industrial bio-based systems

IA, indicative budget 11 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach

- Increase resource efficiency
- Increase resilience against energy provision issues,
- Reduce water consumption
- One or more case-studies of bio-based industrial systems in the EU/AC
- Describe how to improve energy efficiency and flexibility of energy supply, developing and implementing specific energy efficiency technologies
- Analyse implementation of renewable energy sources
- Demonstrate!
- Optimisation by digital tools

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-12: Harmonizing and optimising composting plants performances in Europe

CSA, indicative budget 2 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum, multi-actor approach, international cooperation encouraged

- technical performances of industrial composting plants, with a special focus on compostable packaging, at EU and at global scale
- environmental impacts of composting plants (emission, pollutants incl. microplastics, odours, energy consumption) and the quality and safety of the product
- Define indicators and best practices, at EU and global level
- Issue recommendations for harmonization of EU industrial composting processes and conditions, as well as environmental performance

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-13: Reconstructing areas affected by conflicts: the role of the bio-based solutions

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, lump sum, multi-actor approach, international cooperation

- reconstruction of areas affected by conflict, restoring and 'renaturing' destroyed areas by bio-based innovation (including, i.e. biotechnology, digital solutions, or bio-based construction materials)
- taking into account the circular and cascading use of biomass, local valorisation of underutilised biological residues, using nature-based solutions for their potential for bringing back biodiversity and restoring areas degraded or destroyed by conflicts
- unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression of Russia on Ukraine, and the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza
- Disaster resilience may be included where relevant
- Provide recommendations to policymakers and EU and international relief organisations, to develop any replication actions

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-01-two-stage: Open Topic: Innovative solutions for the sustainable and circular transformation of SMEs

IA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: blind evaluation, cooperation with EEN or other relevant EU initiatives listed

- address common but also new, upcoming, or unforeseen challenges to the green transition of SMEs
- Solutions can be innovative products, processes, services, or also plans and arrangements
- Proposed solutions should be concrete and user-friendly to lower the administrative burden for SMEs
- Demonstrate the feasibility (e.g. economic, technical), environmental performance and utility and transferability
- Analyse the required skills and include skill development activities for current and future employees of the SMEs
- Development of policy recommendations that support the widespread adoption of the validated solution and use of new knowledge
- It is expected that SMEs or SME associations are participating in the consortia
- Engagement of NGOs, small-scale initiatives and suitable industry or industry associations encouraged

Agenda

9:00 – 9:45 Biodiversity and ecosystem services

10:00 – 10:45 Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption

11:00 – 11:45 Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors

Break

12:30 – 13:15 Clean environment and zero pollution

13:30 – 14:15 Land, ocean and water for climate action

14:30 – 15:15 Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities

15:30 – 16:30 Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal



Overview

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-XX

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-XX-two-stage

- 8 topics
- 7 single stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 17 Sept 2025
- 1 two-stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 1st stage 4 Sept 2025, 2nd stage 18 Feb 2026
- Total budget: 208 MEUR

Impacts:

- Enhanced scientific capacity and innovative solutions for detecting and characterising pollution sources, pathways, distribution, and cumulative impacts
- Safe and sustainable by design bio-based and nature-based solutions
- Food systems adopt the zero pollution ambition
- Farmers are empowered to make informed management decisions on water, carbon, nutrients and greenhouse gas balances, preventing and reducing pollution from agriculture

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-01: Innovative and advanced monitoring and modelling systems for revised air quality policies

RIA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: JRC may participate

- Develop or improve cost-effective monitoring and modelling tools, approaches and methods for different types of well-known and emerging air pollutants and pollution sources, incl. real-time monitoring and modelling
- Develop methodologies and recommendations for designing optimal, cost-effective monitoring networks, considering relevant aspects of different spatial locations
- Improve processing and integration of in situ, ground-based remote sensing and satellite observations

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-02: Environmental impacts from the production of agricultural crops for bio-based industrial systems

CSA, indicative budget 2 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum, multi-actor approach, international cooperation (Latin America, Caribbean)

- Bio-based industries and stakeholders along the supply chain improve their knowledge of the environmental impacts on air/water/soil quality, biodiversity and climate from the production of primary biological resources for industrial bio-based systems
- Identify the types of primary agricultural crops currently produced for bio-based products within the scope of this topic at EU and Associated Countries scale
- collect data on volumes, geographical distribution, type of land used, pedo-climatic zones, cultivation systems and agronomic practices of the identified primary agricultural crops (inside and outside of the EU)
- Analyse the environmental impact and trade-offs

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03: Environmental biotechnology applications in service of remediation of polluted ecosystems

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, lump sum, multi-actor approach, citizen science is encouraged, SSH

- Set of case-studies of degraded soil, sediment and water affected by pollution and contaminants in MS/AC (could include cases where degradation is exacerbated by climate change, biodiversity loss, natural or anthropogenic events)
- Develop bio-based solutions for the environmental remediation of the degraded soil, sediment and water in the selected case-studies by biotechnology applications and integrated with NBS
- Develop of models enabled by digital innovation, including based on artificial intelligence, for the optimization of remediation approaches
- Deliver the overall environmental, economic, social and safety risk assessment for the developed solutions
- Integration with past topics required

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-04: Towards a comprehensive European strategy to assess and monitor aquatic litter including plastic and microplastic pollution

RIA, indicative budget 6 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: JRC may participate, lump sum, large number of related initiatives, international cooperation encouraged

- enhance data acquisition, quality assurance and effective use of available data from source-to-sea incl. lake, riverine, groundwater, coastline, sea surface and seabed monitoring of plastic litter
- making use of diverse data sources (incl. data collected by citizen science initiatives) and new technologies for quantitative knowledge on pollution sources, pathways, spatial distribution and accumulation zones
- design harmonised methods for detecting, identifying, classifying, and quantifying pollution in realistic conditions
- Implement optimised, validated, harmonised and cost-effective monitoring strategies for freshwater, coastal and marine environments and collaborative data collection across borders, at sufficient scale

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-05: EU-India cooperation on cumulative impacts of marine pollution on marine organisms and ecosystems

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: + 1 independant legal entity in India (associated partner), lump sum

- Develop new analytical tools, methods and sensors for the screening, detection, identification and monitoring of different pollutants in the marine environment
- E.g. persistent organic pollutants, pharmaceuticals, PFAS, heavy metals and micro- and nano plastics, microbiological contaminants, pesticides, fertilisers, nutrients
- Advance assessments of the risks in real conditions, accumulation, exposure (incl. low-level) and ecotoxicological effects on marine organisms
- Analyse the cumulative impacts of a combination of different pollutants, their degradation pathways, and their interplay with climate change
- Assess bioaccumulation and biomagnification processes in the marine food chain incl. human health
- Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Government of India has made the required co-funding available for associated partners in selected projects

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-06: Provide digital solutions tailored to small and medium-sized farms to monitor and sustainably manage agricultural inputs and natural resources

IA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: multi-actor approach, beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties (50-65% of budget, max. 60 000 EUR/party), SSH

- Small- and medium-sized farmers are empowered with innovative digital and data-driven solutions tailored to their specific needs, allowing for the sustainable management of water, nutrients, other inputs and natural resources
- Reduction of the digital divide between farms with differing capacities and characteristics
- structured catalogue of relevant previous R&I results,, e.g. new sensors, software, databases, applications, methodologies, algorithms, etc. (non-exhaustive list) for management natural resources and agricultural inputs
- Identify barriers and enablers for their translation into practical and commercial tools for small- and medium-sized farmers, and for the uptake by these end-users
- Set up a central brokerage and support service point, establish a network R&I providers, set up a community of practice across MS/AC
- Develop and test prototypes in operational environments

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-07: Reducing pollution from the food and drink industries

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach

- Develop analytical methods to measure and map pollutants coming from food, drink and milk industries
- Propose monitoring/tracking methods for pollutants coming from food and drink industries, focusing on less-known and emerging pollutants specific for food and drink industries
- Identify the most effective methods/best available technologies to reduce food-system-related pollution in soil, water and air
- Develop activities for empowering consumers

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-01-two-stage: Substances of concern and emerging pollutants from bio-based industries and products: mapping and replacement

IA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: blind evaluation, citizen science is encouraged, SSH, multi-actor approach

- Track presence of substances of very high concern and of concern, emerging pollutants and substances which are persistent /bio-accumulate in ecosystems emitted from a selection of bio-based materials and products, incl. end-of-life release, and from industrial systems
- Evaluate exposure, incl. gender dimension and vulnerable groups
- full risk assessment of the substances emitted from the selected bio-based materials and products, incl. ecosystems and biodiversity loss
- Identify and improve a set of bio-based safe and sustainable by design and circular solutions, to replace hazardous substances and to increase the resources efficiency
- Recommendations and best practices to replace substances of concern

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Overview

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CLIMATE-XX

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CLIMATE-XX-two-stage

- 6 topics
- 5 single stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 16 Sept 2025
- 1 two-stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 1st stage 4 Sept 2025, 2nd stage 18 Feb 2026
- Total budget: 71,5 (94,5) MEUR

Impacts:

- **better understood short-, medium- and long-term ocean health and integrity** at different emission scenarios
- **medium and longer-term risks and opportunities for agriculture and forestry from climate change**, in particular from shifting climatic zones, are better understood and managed
- **GHG emissions** in the agriculture, forestry and land-use sectors are further reduced, while monitoring, reporting and verification of the emissions is improved
- **adaptation and mitigation of water systems** in the context of climate change

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-05: Additional activities for the European Partnership Water Security for the Planet (Water4All)

Continued support to the partnership

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-01: The ocean-climate-biodiversity nexus and marine carbon dioxide removal (mCDR)

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: All international organisations are exceptionally eligible for funding, portfolio of A and B, lump sum, SSH, strong collaboration between A and B expected

Option A: Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement (OAE): biogeochemical and physiological responses and impacts on marine ecosystems

- elucidate efficacy, effectiveness, feasibility, Energy Return on Energy Invested (EROEI), environmental and ecological risk, co-benefits, cost effectiveness, externalities, trade-offs, and competing interests, weighing the impact on reducing climate change against its negative environmental effects
- Conduct an assessment and evaluation of short, medium and long term impacts on ocean biogeochemistry, ecosystems, food webs, etc. and the rate and severity of the local impacts
- Numerical modelling should be used to assess the scale of the consequences under various scenarios
- Field experiments are out of scope

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-01: The ocean-climate-biodiversity nexus and marine carbon dioxide removal (mCDR)

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: All international organisations are exceptionally eligible for funding, portfolio of A and B, lump sum, SSH, strong collaboration between A and B expected

Option B: Monitoring the global ocean for safe, verifiable and sustainable potential marine carbon dioxide removal

- Establish capabilities towards realistic, long-term, sustainable, rigorous, standardized monitoring of potential marine carbon dioxide removal and sequestration
- Advance empirical approaches and new data for data-based ocean modelling and develop ocean simulation capabilities
- Develop the monitoring capability for quantifying the effectiveness and durability of carbon sequestration,, and identify environmental and ecological short-, medium- and long-term impacts

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-02: The ocean-climate-biodiversity-people nexus: uncovering safe operating space for safeguarding the integrity and health of the global ocean

RIA, indicative budget 19,5 MEUR, 3 projects

Specificities: All international organisations are exceptionally eligible for funding, portfolio of A, B and C, SSH, strong collaboration between A, B and C expected

- Further improved understanding of the limits to ocean integrity at different emission scenarios; ocean changes and near term (~2030), mid-term (2050–2060) and long-term (after ~2060) climate actions
- Further advanced science regarding ocean existing and emerging threats and the associated risks and impacts for the next 5–10 years; 10-20 ys; 50-100 ys and more; and uncovering possible response measures

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-02: The ocean-climate-biodiversity-people nexus: uncovering safe operating space for safeguarding the integrity and health of the global ocean

RIA, indicative budget 19,5 MEUR, 3 projects

Specificities: All international organisations are exceptionally eligible for funding, portfolio of A, B and C, SSH, strong collaboration between A, B and C expected

Option A: Ocean integrity at different emission scenarios: extreme events, slow onset events, cascading and tipping elements and ocean inertia

- advance the science on ocean tipping elements at different GHG emission scenarios, lag times, opportunities and impacts, including risk of irreversible changes and under various overshoot pathways

Option B: Ocean integrity and health: current and emerging anthropogenic threats

- Exploratory research into short-, medium- and long-term impacts on ocean health and marine biodiversity arising from existing and emerging anthropogenic threats
- support improved risk assessment and management actions that can contribute to mitigate the impacts

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-02: The ocean-climate-biodiversity-people nexus: uncovering safe operating space for safeguarding the integrity and health of the global ocean

RIA, indicative budget 19,5 MEUR, 3 projects

Specificities: All international organisations are exceptionally eligible for funding, portfolio of A, B and C, SSH, strong collaboration between A, B and C expected

C. Ocean integrity and health: Ocean Acidification (OA), Planetary Boundaries and SDG14.3.1

- trends, variability, drivers, and impacts of ocean acidification, in a context of multiple ocean stressors
- fill gaps in space and time for ocean CO₂ and ancillary physical and biogeochemical observations, particularly for the Arctic and the Southern Ocean
- more direct measurements of the atmospheric deposition of iron, phosphorus, and other trace metals to the ocean
- models, forecasts, and predictions as tools to facilitate management and design decision-support tools for climate adaptation strategies
- develop innovative tools to monitor and mitigate changing ocean chemistry locally, incl. risk analysis

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-03: Understanding and managing medium and longer-term challenges and opportunities for agriculture stemming from shifting climatic zones and changing agroecological environments

RIA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, lump sum, SSH

- develop, test and validate dynamic models of the impacts of climate change incl. possible tipping points, on agriculture
- geo-distribution of cropping systems, currently grown or grown in future in the EU, incl. permanent crops, grasslands and land uses for livestock
- propose indicators for sustainability, productivity and resilience, and assess production uncertainties, incorporating climate change projections
- Provide tools for decision-making and business strategies for evidence-based agricultural land use and management, based on climate change trends and quantitative projections

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-04: Monitoring, reporting, verification and mitigation of non-CO2 greenhouse gas emissions and related air pollutants from agriculture

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, lump sum, international cooperation encouraged (China, FAB)

- methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O), incl. indirect sources of N₂O (soil nitrification/denitrification, ammonia volatilisation, nitrogen leaching)
- analysis, field experiments, and demonstration activities
- assess and improve the accuracy, effectiveness, efficiency and user-friendliness of monitoring, reporting and verification tools for CH₄ and N₂O
- improve knowledge on mitigation measures for agricultural non-CO₂ GHG emissions
- training and outreach activities: build capacity among farmers, farm advisors and other relevant actors for widespread implementation

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-01-two-stage: Strengthening the resilience of water systems and water sector to climate and global socio-economic change impacts

IA, indicative budget 18 MEUR, 3 projects

Specificities: blind evaluation, JRC may participate, SSH

- Compare and demonstrate the potential of available state of the art tools to forecast the availability of water resources at the regional and local scale (JRC!)
- Demonstrations should take place in diverse European regions on a suitable scale
- global water cycle, with integrated management of blue and green water and sectoral water demands
- Consider water allocation tools for different uses integrating the quality needed for each use, as well as tools for resilient urban planning and water infrastructure management allowing among others run-off control
- Develop appropriate climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and tools
- Review the current economic foundation of water management, pricing and trade in the context of climate change

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Overview

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-COMMUNITIES-XX

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-COMMUNITIES-XX-two-stage

- 4 topics
- 4 single stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 16 Sept 2025
- no two-stage
- Total budget: 37 MEUR

Impacts:

- rural, coastal and urban communities are empowered to become sustainable and resilient
- rural communities are prepared to manage demographic trends and to mitigate their social, economic and environmental impacts
- urban and peri-urban communities can access affordable, healthier, nutritious and environmental-friendly food, as well as from enhanced local and regional governance and public services
- ocean knowledge, data, tools, training and skills support evidence-based decisions to respond to climate change with socially acceptable measures

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-COMMUNITIES-01: Adapting to and mitigating demographic trends in rural areas through evidence-based planning and innovative solutions

RIA, indicative budget 13 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties (max. 60 000 EUR/party), SSH

- advance the understanding of the causes and social, economic and environmental impacts of demographic trends
- focus on how to support rural communities through evidence-based strategies
- find innovative solutions to mitigate and adapt to a changing population in rural areas
- test, develop and pilot innovative sustainable solutions that improve the well-being of rural communities based on their needs (co-creation, may be FSTP)
- Particular attention should be paid to rural areas that are highly exposed to climate change effects
- Consideration of gender and other social categories and their intersections, must be ensured.

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-COMMUNITIES-02: Exploring and improving access to housing in rural areas and developing the houses and villages of the future

RIA, indicative budget 6 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: multi-actor approach, lump sum; collaboration with NEB and EU rural observatory, SSH

- Analyse the real estate and rental markets (including short-term and long-term rentals) in rural areas and evaluate housing quality and housing poverty
- considering also financial aspects such as access to finance and price affordability, as well as social aspects such as gender, age, ethnicity, or disability
- showcase best practise to recover and reuse buildings when socially, economically and environmentally sustainable
- provide recommendations to policy makers on how to regulate the real estate and rental markets and to promote sustainable, nearly-zero emitting housing renovation or construction for accessible, inclusive and affordable housing
- run participatory processes involving rural stakeholders to design sustainable houses and villages of the future, paying particular attention to affordability and replicability

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-COMMUNITIES-03: Innovative solutions for resilient and climate-adapted coastal communities in the Atlantic

IA, indicative budget 6 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: multi-actor approach, legal entities established in Brazil are exceptionally eligible for funding, + 3 legal entities established in either Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Ghana, Iceland, Morocco, Norway, Senegal, South Africa, UK, USA

- Understand coastal resilience in Atlantic coastal communities (challenges, concerns, current strategies for adaptation to climate change, traditional environmental knowledge, specific needs)
- building and testing a comprehensive toolbox of scientific outputs and traditional knowledge addressing the identified needs
- Pilot and test in living labs
- Develop an interface (digital platform) for knowledge, support and activities in living labs, enabling communities to choose a tailor-made mix of coastal resilience solutions uniquely responding to their needs
- Integration with Mission Ocean and Waters and Mission Adaptation to Climate Change, amongst others

HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-COMMUNITIES-04: Creating urban co-creation spaces for driving sustainable food system transformation

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, lump sum, SSH, inclusion of widening countries and international cooperation encouraged

- create living labs and co-creation spaces that actively engage all parts of society to enhance skills and capacity building toward healthy, affordable and environment- and climate-friendly diets;
- promote and establish sustainable / regenerative community gardens and indoor and open field small-scale urban agriculture for skills building and network creation
- enhance participation of vulnerable groups in the living labs and community gardens
- involve local and regional governance mechanisms to enable structural change, implement participatory and inclusive processes and stimulate dialogues
- share best practices from other areas/cities not covered by the proposals, connect living labs and build networks, also from previous EU funded projects, for joint learning and best practice exchange
- Collaboration with HORIZON-CL6-2022-GOVERNANCE-01-01: Mobilisation of society to transform food systems for co-benefit, among others

Agenda

9:00 – 9:45 Biodiversity and ecosystem services

10:00 – 10:45 Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption

11:00 – 11:45 Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors

Break

12:30 – 13:15 Clean environment and zero pollution

13:30 – 14:15 Land, ocean and water for climate action

14:30 – 15:15 Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities

15:30 – 16:30 Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal



Overview

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-GOVERNANCE-XX

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-GOVERNANCE-XX-two-stage

- 14 topics
- 14 single stage: opening 6 May 2025, closing 24 Sept 2025
- no two-stage
- Total budget: 129,4 MEUR

Impacts:

- **Effective, evidence-based policy mixes and multi-level governance** enable a just sustainable transition for all
- **competitiveness, sustainability and resilience of the economy are increased** by more accessible and interoperable environmental observations as well as data technologies
- productivity is boosted and **transformative changes required by the European Green Deal are facilitated**, leaving no one behind, thanks to enhanced digitalisation and flows of existing and new knowledge, solutions and skills among actors and communities

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-01: Improving analytical capacity and understanding of the bargaining power and interactions of farmers with the operators of the value chains

RIA, indicative budget 13 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties (max. 60 000 EUR/party), SSH

- provide an analytical framework and tools capturing the complexity and heterogeneity of EU value chain structures
- Adaptable between cases and sectors
- model production costs, price formation, price transmission, risk, cost and economic value distributions, and profit margins along selected value chains and characterise sources of market failures and occurrence of unfair trading practices
- explore existing and/or new policy and business solutions and tools to reinforce farmers bargaining power in value chains, identify good practices for their successful implementation and uptake
- Coordination between farmers
- Tools to increase market transparency and the accessibility and use of information

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-02: Upscaling innovative payments to support farmers in the delivery of agri-environment-climate public goods

IA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: multi-actor approach, JRC may participate, beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties (max. 10 of budget, max. 60 000 EUR/party), SSH

- develop, test, pilot and evaluate payment for environmental services schemes in real-life conditions considering a diversity of farming contexts
- special focus on mobilising private funding (e.g., value chain approaches, market-based instruments, crowdfunding, bottom-up approaches, etc.)
- assessing the social and economic implications of the schemes with the perspective of long-term implementation and financial viability, ensuring just and fair remuneration of farmers for these services
- develop and apply robust and cost-effective monitoring of the environmental services provided by farmers
- identify barriers and enablers for the implementation and upscaling of payment for environmental services schemes
- Capacity building, training and upskilling

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-03: Boosting the attractiveness of agriculture and the connection between the farming community and society

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: lump sum

- improve understanding of the socio-economic and other factors and conditions influencing attractiveness of farming as an economic activity and profession, and how farmers see and project themselves in the future of farming, in diverse regions of Europe
- assess the perception of and communication on farming across society at large according to different societal and financial actors
- map existing agricultural education and training programmes across Europe and provide recommendations on how they can be designed to appeal to a diverse range of individuals
- improve societal perception of farming through the mobilisation of and cooperation between cultural and creative industries (CCIs);
- propose new solutions for improving the attractiveness of farming sector and the connection between the farming community and society

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-04: Operationalisation of bioeconomy sustainability principles

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, multi-actor approach, lump sum, international cooperation is encouraged

- develop sustainability assessment of bio-based and food value chains (land and aquatic) and their related value webs to increase transparency for businesses and consumers
- analyse the performance of bioeconomy innovation ecosystems with regard to social, economic, and environmental sustainability, and demonstrate their long-term feasibility
- Demonstrate the applicability of bioeconomy sustainability principles in regional case studies (RIV)

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-06: Strengthening and connecting bioeconomy networks

CSA, indicative budget 4,4 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum

- establish and develop a multilingual EU-wide platform for networking and engagement on the bioeconomy, that brings together EU practitioners, researchers, investors, policy makers and education providers
- In support of international research and innovation bioeconomy networks and initiatives, foster international research collaboration and Science-to-Policy interfaces
- develop communication strategies and tools, and organise information events about bioeconomy deployment
- collaborate with bioeconomy education institutes for improved skills development initiatives and networks to develop and deploy innovative interactive bioeconomy education material (formal and informal education)
- engage and train investors on the European bioeconomy to foster investment in bioeconomy sectors

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-07: Strengthening the European Research Area by enhancing the bioeconomy research and innovation ecosystem in BIOEAST countries

CSA, indicative budget 4 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum

- Engage ministries, research funders, and managers as well as thematic networks, to mobilise resources
- Widening action for the deployment of bioeconomy

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-08: Effective environmental observing systems and associated governance

RIA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: lump sum, portfolio of projects in area A and B, SSH, international cooperation encouraged

Area A: monitoring global anthropogenic and natural greenhouse gas emissions and sinks, in support of the Paris Agreement

Area B: ozone depleting substances and F-Gases, in support of the Montreal Protocol

- exploit digital technologies (e.g. AI, digital twins, IoT) and science to develop innovative, generic, quantitative, cost-effective and user-friendly tools to optimize orbital and non-orbital observing systems and their combinations from a performance and investment point of view,
- identify technical, as well as socio-economic, cultural, geo-political, or other barriers on usability, accessibility, effectivity, interoperability and exploitation of environmental observing systems and propose solutions
- well identified user groups

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-09: Delivering Earth Intelligence to accelerate the green and digital transition

IA, indicative budget 15 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: lump sum

- responding to the new [GEO](#) post-2025 strategy and is aimed at combining and advancing existing European Earth observation services and solutions, that were prototyped under relevant Horizon, Copernicus, and other EU and national projects
- scaling them up with end-users and customers towards wide adoption
- project should develop, test, demonstrate and customise 2 to 3 integrated solutions, with a clear path towards operationalisation
- Focus areas: Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security; Water Resilience; Ecosystems and Biodiversity; Carbon Management; Disaster Resilience
- leverage European infrastructures, the European digital ecosystem and where relevant integrate various remote sensing platforms such as satellites, manned and unmanned aviation
- Outreach and training

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-10: Improving and integrating polar observation systems in response to user requirements at local, regional, and international level

RIA, indicative budget 16 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, portfolio of projects in area A and B

Area A: 'Arctic Ocean and coastal regions'

Area B: 'Antarctic shelves and Southern Ocean'

- improved and long-term coordination, governance, sustainability, and resilience of international environmental observing systems relevant for polar regions (climate, biodiversity)
- improving marine and cryospheric observing systems, in particular the non-space-based components
- enhanced usability, accessibility, effectiveness, interoperability, and exploitation of environmental observing and data systems (incl. prediction models and digital twins), harmonisation
- support to sustainable management of the polar regions and to decision-making processes for civil society, local or national authorities and stake- and right-holders, as well as EU and international organisations
- support to EU policy

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-11: Enhancing sustainability and resilience of agriculture, forestry and rural development through digital twins

RIA, indicative budget 12 MEUR, 2 projects

Specificities: JRC may participate, multi-actor approach, lump sum, SSH, gender dimension

- design, prototype and test the use of digital twins to improve sustainability and resilience of rural areas and related key sectors
- develop a detailed 3D, remotely accessible, web-based map of the villages, freely accessible to local authorities, researchers, private companies and other relevant actors to monitor key parameters, test ideas and explore development co-beneficial, sustainable opportunities
- assess the potential of the investigated digital technologies in promoting forms of collaborative, open and citizen-centric governance
- Recommendations, capacity building and training
- Relevant geographical coverage (pedoclimatic zones, types of villages and farming systems)

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-12: Increasing knowledge flows to practice within Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) via thematic networks

CSA, indicative budget 3 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum, multi-actor approach, complement EU CAP network, social diversity

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-13: Strengthening knowledge and skills of advisors and integrating them within Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) via an EU advisory network

CSA, indicative budget 10 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: lump sum, multi-actor approach, using the countries' AKIS structures, min. 7 years,

Beneficiary may provide financial support to third parties (max. 60 000 EUR/ party), financial viability long-term

- In SE: [AKIS och EIP-Agri - Landsbygdsnätverket \(landsbygdsnätverket.se\)](https://landsbygdsnätverket.se)
- Information sharing and translation into practice

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-14: Preparing farmers, their workforce and advisors to the future of agriculture by providing the relevant knowledge, skills and competences at the right time and place

RIA, indicative budget 8 MEUR, 1 project

Specificities: multi-actor approach, lump sum, SSH

- develop, improve and apply methodology to assess and foresee what knowledge, skills and competences farmers, their workforce and advisors currently have and need/will need in the future to improve competitiveness, sustainability and resilience
- explore how they should acquire knowledge, skills and competences
- Best practice from life-long learning initiatives in agriculture in the EU and beyond
- Link with AKIS (in SE: [AKIS och EIP-Agri - Landsbygdsnätverket \(landsbygdsnätverket.se\)](https://landsbygdsnätverket.se))
- Cooperation with HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-13