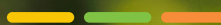




Funding opportunities under Horizon Europe

Calls 2024



Funded by
the European Union

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Colophon

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Horizon Europe funding for agriculture, forestry and rural areas

Horizon Europe is the European Union's largest source of public funding for research and innovation (R&I). It has a budget of €95.5 billion, of which around €9 billion is dedicated to Cluster 6 on 'Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment' for 2021-2027.

Through Cluster 6, Horizon Europe aims to address and anticipate issues faced by farmers, foresters and rural communities. It also funds R&I projects that develop new knowledge and innovative solutions together with researchers, practitioners, advisors and other stakeholders, sharing knowledge and producing results that are ready to be put into practice.



Find out more about **Horizon Europe Cluster 6** and all the calls.

Horizon Europe works across different themes to boost research and innovation. Through its networking activities, the 'Innovation and knowledge exchange I EIP-AGRI' strand of the EU CAP Network builds bridges between Horizon Europe and CAP-funded innovative projects, such as Operational Groups. This synergy boosts innovation to help farmers, foresters and rural communities with the transition to sustainable agricultural and food production systems.

This brochure highlights funding opportunities worth more than €250 million for agriculture, forestry and rural areas in Cluster 6 and other parts of the Horizon Europe Work Programme. It helps you find your way through the different calls for 2024.



Please be aware that only the officially published Work Programme text, budget and deadlines should be taken as a reference for any proposal preparation.

All applicants should consult the **Participant Portal** to find the latest version.



The Cluster 6 Work Programme at a glance

Horizon Europe's Cluster 6 Work Programme provides funding opportunities for research and innovation in order to strengthen and balance environmental, social and economic goals, and to set economic activities on a path towards sustainability, while meeting the EU's climate objectives.

Research and innovation under Cluster 6 support the development of a low-carbon, resource-efficient circular economy and a sustainable bioeconomy.

R&I is also critically important to develop and scale up knowledge, good practices, technological and social innovations, policies and governance, which enable transitions towards competitive and sustainable farming systems, forest management and rural communities.

Overall, research and innovation activities under Cluster 6 contribute to the targets and objectives of the **European Green Deal**, related notably to the **Farm to Fork Strategy**, the **EU Biodiversity Strategy** and the **EU Forest Strategy** for 2030, the **European Climate Pact**, the **EU Soil Strategy for 2030**, the **Long-term Vision for Rural Areas**, the **Organic Action Plan**, and the **Sustainable Development Goals**.



Multi-actor approach - science and practice co-creating solutions

The Horizon Europe Work Programme includes many topics that require a multi-actor approach (MAA). In such projects, the people who will benefit from the project results need to be involved from the start: from developing the idea and preparing the proposal to implementing activities and sharing, demonstrating and disseminating the results. This should lead to demand-driven, reliable, innovative solutions that are more likely to be applied in practice on a wider scale.



Where applicable, MAA projects are strongly recommended to connect with EIP-AGRI Operational Groups.

→ **Browse the Operational Groups database** for an overview.



Find out more about Horizon Europe and the **multi-actor approach**.

“Within the multi-actor approach, success is about making sure that academic and non-academic organisations find each other and collaborate as equal partners to ensure that their focus is on meeting the real needs of farmers and other end users.”

SUSANNE VON MÜNCHHAUSEN

Horizon Europe multi-actor project **PREMIERE**



Throughout their life cycle, MAA projects must share findings and practical recommendations through short practice abstracts. These are shared at EU level **following the EIP-AGRI common format**.

Thematic networks compiling knowledge ready for practice

Thematic networks (TN) are a particular type of multi-actor project. They collect existing knowledge and best practices on a specific area in which farmers, foresters and rural communities have insufficient knowledge.

Thematic networks translate the solutions collected into easily understandable materials and make them available beyond the lifespan of the project.



More on Horizon Europe **thematic networks**.



Stronger AKIS through advisory networks

Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS), in which advisors play a central role, are key in speeding up innovation and the uptake of research results in practice.

Advisory Networks (AN) are multi-actor projects that connect advisors across the EU to help them stay up to date with cutting-edge knowledge and share experiences on how to tackle challenges and seize opportunities for farms, forests and rural areas.

The 2024 Horizon Europe calls offer opportunities to develop advisory networks on **forestry** and **sustainable livestock systems**.










Advisory networks **COREnet** and **EU4Advice** were launched through previous calls. AdvisoryNetPEST*, STRATUS* and OrganicAdviceNetwork* are in the pipeline for 2023.







* Grant agreement in preparation (September 2023)

Cluster 6 destinations

The Cluster 6 Work Programme is divided into seven different 'destinations':

730 M€
2024

DESTINATIONS	
	Biodiversity and ecosystem services (BIODIV)
	Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption (FARM2FORK)
	Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors (CircBio)
	Clean environment and zero pollution (ZEROPOLLUTION)
	Land, ocean and water for climate action (CLIMATE)
	Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities (COMMUNITIES)
	Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal (GOVERNANCE)





THEMATIC AREAS	
	Organics
	Forestry
	Agrobiodiversity
	Climate-smart agriculture
	AKIS
	Rural



Biodiversity and ecosystem services

The 'Biodiversity and ecosystem services' destination will help develop practices in agriculture and forestry that support the sustainable use of biodiversity and a wide range of ecosystem services. Topics in this destination aim to preserve and restore biodiversity and essential ecosystems while ensuring resilient primary production through, for example, crop breeding, crop diversification and biodiversity friendly practices in agroecosystems.



ACRONYM HORIZON-CL6-2024-	TOPIC	TOPIC BUDGET Expected grant size (M€)
Biodiversity and ecosystem services		
<u>BIODIV-01-6</u> RIA MAA 	Promoting pollinator friendly farming systems	6 6
<u>BIODIV-01-7</u> RIA 	Reintroduction of landscape features in intensive agricultural areas	5 5
<u>BIODIV-01-8</u> RIA MAA 	Conservation and protection of carbon-rich and biodiversity-rich forest ecosystems	12 6
> Deadline: 22 February 2024		
<u>BIODIV-02-3-two-stage</u> RIA MAA 	Promoting minor crops in farming systems	10 5
> Deadline 1st stage: 22 February 2024 > Deadline 2nd stage: 17 September 2024		






RIA > Research and Innovation Action
CSA > Coordination and Support Action
IA > Innovation Action

From farm to fork

This destination serves to speed up the transition to more resilient and sustainable agricultural and food systems. It will empower farmers through nature-based, technological, digital and social innovations, and by promoting approaches such as organic farming. This will strengthen climate resilience and reduce dependence on pesticides and antimicrobials. It will also assist in providing consumers with safe, nutritious and healthy food from farm to fork.





164 M€
2024

ACRONYM HORIZON-CL6-2024-	TOPIC	TOPIC BUDGET Expected grant size (M€)
Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption		
<u>FARM2FORK-01-1</u> RIA MAA	Agro-pastoral / outdoor livestock systems and wildlife management	5 5
<u>FARM2FORK-01-10</u> RIA MAA 	EU-AU cooperation on agroforestry management for climate change adaptation and mitigation	18 6
<u>FARM2FORK-01-11</u> RIA MAA 	EU-African Union - towards climate-neutral, social just fair trade food systems	9 4.5
<u>FARM2FORK-01-8</u> RIA MAA 	Preventing and reducing food waste to reduce environmental impacts and to help reach 2030 climate targets	9 4.5
> Deadline: 22 February 2024		
<u>FARM2FORK-02-1-two-stage</u> IA MAA 	Increasing the availability and use of non-contentious inputs in organic farming	12 6
<u>FARM2FORK-02-2-two-stage</u> IA MAA 	Sustainable organic food innovation labs: reinforcing the entire value chain	11 5.5
<u>FARM2FORK-02-3-two-stage</u> IA MAA	Tools to increase the effectiveness of EU import controls for plant health	8 4
<u>FARM2FORK-02-4-two-stage</u> RIA MAA	Tackling outbreaks of plant pests	13 6.5
> Deadline 1st stage: 22 February 2024 > Deadline 2nd stage: 17 September 2024		



Developing a sustainable bioeconomy and a clean environment

Improving knowledge and innovative technologies is key in developing the circular use of natural resources and unlocking the potential of a sustainable bioeconomy. By reducing emissions and waste, and by limiting our dependence on non-renewable resources, we can prevent pollution, ensure competitiveness in primary production, forestry and sustainable bio-based systems, and contribute to healthy soils, fresh air and water, and a clean environment.

ACRONYM HORIZON-CL6-2024-	TOPIC	 TOPIC BUDGET Expected grant size (M€)
Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors		
CircBio-02-6-two-stage IA MAA 	From silos to diversity - small-scale bio-based demonstration pilots	15 5
> Deadline 1 st stage: 22 February 2024 > Deadline 2 nd stage: 17 September 2024		




ACRONYM HORIZON-CL6-2024-	TOPIC	 TOPIC BUDGET Expected grant size (M€)
Clean environment and zero pollution		
ZEROPOLLUTION-01-3 RIA MAA	Environmental impacts of food systems	7 7
> Deadline: 22 February 2024		



Land, ocean and water for climate action

Research and innovation under this destination will better equip farmers and foresters to make a significant contribution to climate-neutrality, and become more resilient and adapted to climate change.

75 M€
2024

ACRONYM HORIZON-CL6-2024-	TOPIC	TOPIC BUDGET Expected grant size (M€)
Land, ocean and water for climate action		
<u>CLIMATE-01-1</u> IA MAA	Improving irrigation practices and technologies in agriculture	10 5
<u>CLIMATE-01-2</u> RIA MAA	 Socio-economic, climate and environmental aspects of paludiculture	5 5
<u>CLIMATE-01-3</u> IA MAA	 Paludiculture: large-scale demonstrations	20 10
<u>CLIMATE-01-5</u> RIA MAA	 Climate-smart use of wood in the construction sector to support the New European Bauhaus	14 7

> Deadline: **22 February 2024**

Paludiculture is the productive land use of wet and rewetted peatlands. It preserves peat soils while minimising CO₂ emissions and providing a variety of ecosystem services.



Projects funded under topic **HORIZON-CL6-2024-CLIMATE-01-2** ('Socioeconomic, climate and environmental aspects of paludiculture') and topic **HORIZON-CL6-2024-CLIMATE-01-3** ('Paludiculture: large-scale demonstrations') will be expected to collaborate.



Resilient communities and innovative governance models

These destinations will contribute to new business models and digital, social and community-led innovations for climate-neutral, sustainable and thriving rural communities. Synergies with living labs, smart villages or EIP-AGRI Operational Groups will be supported.







Digital and data technologies will empower and connect farmers, enabling resilience and sustainability. Thematic and advisory networks will strengthen the AKIS at EU level, bridging the gap between science and practice.

ACRONYM HORIZON-CL6-2024-	TOPIC	TOPIC BUDGET Expected grant size (M€)
Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities		
COMMUNITIES-01-2 	Societal perceptions and benefits of rural life and jobs: will COVID 19 generate a long-lasting shift?	6 6
COMMUNITIES-02-1-two-stage IA MAA 	Innovating for climate-neutral rural communities by 2050	10 5
COMMUNITIES-02-2-two-stage RIA MAA 	New sustainable business and production models for farmers and rural communities	12 6
> Deadline 1 st stage: 22 February 2024 > Deadline 2 nd stage: 17 September 2024		





133.5 M€
2024

ACRONYM HORIZON-CL6-2024-	TOPIC	TOPIC BUDGET Expected grant size (M€)
Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal		
GOVERNANCE-01-11 CSA MAA/TN 	Biodiversity thematic networks to compile and share knowledge ready for practice	3 3
GOVERNANCE-01-12 CSA MAA/AN 	Developing EU advisory networks on forestry	4 4
GOVERNANCE-01-13 CSA MAA/AN 	Developing EU advisory networks on sustainable livestock systems	4 4
GOVERNANCE-01-7 RIA MAA	Enhancing working conditions and strengthening the work force through digital and data technologies - the potential of robotics and augmented reality in agriculture	15 7.5
GOVERNANCE-01-8 CSA MAA/TN 	Broaden EIP Operational Group outcomes across borders by means of thematic networks to compile and share knowledge ready for practice	4 2
GOVERNANCE-01-9 CSA MAA/TN 	Thematic networks to compile and share knowledge ready for practice	6 3
GOVERNANCE-01-10 CSA MAA/TN 	Organic farming thematic networks to compile and share knowledge ready for practice	4 4
› Deadline: 28 February 2024		

Horizon Europe has launched several EU-wide thematic networks that share best practices from EIP-AGRI Operational Groups across borders, for a wider uptake of innovative results. Examples include **CLIMED-FRUIT**, **Oper8** and **GOFORESTS**.





More Horizon Europe funding opportunities

EU Mission Soil: 100 living labs and lighthouses leading the transition towards healthy soils

Horizon Europe funds EU Missions to deliver practical solutions to some of our greatest challenges.

The EU Mission entitled 'A Soil Deal for Europe' aims to establish a network of 100 living labs and lighthouses in rural and urban areas to lead the transition to healthy soils by 2030. This network will address key soil health challenges by co-creating knowledge, testing solutions and demonstrating their value in real-life conditions.

The Mission Soil provides funding to create and operate living labs, with the first ones due to start in 2024. Farmers, foresters and other land managers are encouraged to participate in living labs. The Mission also contributes to advancing soil monitoring and increasing societal awareness about the importance of soil health.



- **Sign the Mission Soil Manifesto** to become part of a community that shares knowledge and best practices, and cares for soil.
- Keep an eye on the **Mission Soil website** for info and updates, to learn about interesting soil projects - such as **NATI0ONS** - and the Mission Soil newsletter, and to see what's coming up in 2024.

Find more funding for innovation

- Does your start-up or SME have a game-changing idea, product, technology or business model? Explore **calls from the European Innovation Council (EIC)** to help you bring your innovations to the market.
- The European Institute of Innovation and Technology Food (EIT-Food) supports innovative projects that help speed up the **transition to sustainable agriculture and food systems**. **Find all open calls.**
- The Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU) funds projects that develop innovative solutions for a competitive and sustainable European bioeconomy. **See all open calls.**



#HorizonEU


Helping you get started

You can find all information on the Horizon Europe calls, the application procedure, application forms and finding partners in the European Commission's **Funding and tenders portal**.



- Contact your **National Contact Point** or the **Horizon Europe Helpdesk & Support Services** for guidance, practical info, manuals and assistance on all aspects of Horizon Europe.
- **Get more tips and tricks** to write a successful project proposal in the EU CAP Network factsheet.
- Keep an eye on the **Horizon Europe Infodays 2024 for Cluster 6** and the EU CAP Network Brokerage event entitled '**Accelerating the innovation process through Horizon Europe multi-actor projects**'.


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