

CCG INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

Weekly Funding Insight
Week Commencing 17th November 2025



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New Opportunities

Call Title:	CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS TO FOSTER COLLABORATION
Programme:	UN Women
Objective:	The lead women's CSO will leverage its extensive knowledge and experience to inform the development of strategies and solutions, raise awareness of the general public about TF VAW through advocacy and outreach, and engage in capacity-building activities to enhance ability of other CSOs service providers to support survivors and advocate for systemic change.
Eligible Activities:	By fostering collaboration and sharing their expertise, the CSO will contribute significantly to creating a safer and more inclusive digital environment for women and girls. The tech company should support the women's CSO in organizing subregional hackathons/ideathons focused on developing innovative digital solutions to prevent and combat technology-facilitated violence against women (TF VAW). Specifically, the tech company will: Provide technical expertise and mentorship during hackathons to help participants shape viable and impactful ideas. Support the development and testing of the best solution emerging from the hackathons, ensuring it is user-friendly, secure, and effective. Collaborate with the CSO to align the digital solution with survivor-centred approaches and advocacy goals. Ensure technical quality and scalability of the final product and provide feedback for further refinement. Actions must take place in Western Balkans.
Eligible Applicants:	Organisations must have demonstrated experience in gender equality and women's rights advocacy, including a track record of successful initiatives and campaigns; and in-depth understanding of technology-facilitated violence against women (TF VAW) and relevant normative frameworks, including international conventions and local legislation.
Total Budget:	\$215,000
Deadline:	01/12/2025
More information and official documents:	https://eca.unwomen.org/en/programme-implementation/2025/10/unw-eca-ro-cfp-2025-6

Call Title:	AI FOR FINANCIAL RESILIENCE
Programme:	Mercy Corps Ventures
Objective:	MCV's AI for Financial Resilience initiative leverages AI, blockchain, and emerging technologies to close financial service gaps for unbanked, underbanked, and climate-vulnerable populations in emerging markets, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Asia. The initiative pilots and scales solutions such as AI-driven insurance, parametric credit, savings via bond tokenization, and anticipatory cash transfers and remittances, aiming to improve financial access, economic resilience, and trust in digital finance.

Eligible Activities:	They are looking for innovative financial products for unbanked and underbanked people in emerging markets. This can range from using AI to drive financial literacy through education and training to increasing access to insurance, savings, credit, and emergency payments using AI- and blockchain-powered digital financial products. Primary beneficiaries: Unbanked and underbanked populations, with a strong emphasis on low-income individuals, women, immigrants, and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Actions can take place worldwide. Geographic focus: Emerging markets, with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible are startups.
Total Budget: \$100,000	
Deadline: 01/12/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://www.mercycorpsventures.com/blog/call-for-proposals-ai-for-financial-resilience

Call Title:	NINTH CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR STEG PHD RESEARCH GRANTS
Programme: STEG	
Objective:	STEG invites applications to the ninth call for proposals for PhD Research Grants. Applicants must be currently enrolled in a PhD programme to be eligible for this call and will require a letter of support from their PhD supervisor sent no later than two weeks after the deadline to the STEG Team at steg@cepr.org.
Eligible Activities:	Research may focus on broad systemic patterns and processes of structural transformation and growth for low- and middle-income countries, in a comparative sense across time or space, or more narrowly defined topics related to one or more of the following six research themes: Data, measurement, and conceptual framing; Firms, frictions and spillovers, and industrial policy; Labour, home production, and structural transformation at the level of households; Agricultural productivity and sectoral gaps; Trade and spatial frictions; The Role of the Public Sector Please note that an important criterion for funding of proposals is the relevance to policy in low-income countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Proposals focused on middle- and/or high-income countries need to make a clear case for the relevance of the research to policy in specific low-income countries.
Eligible Applicants:	They welcome applications to our SRG calls from researchers all over the world.

Total Budget:	€100,000
Deadline:	01/12/2025
More information and official documents:	https://steg.cepr.org/call-for-proposals/ninth-call-proposals-steg-phd-research-grants

Call Title:	Human Rights Advocates Grant Program
Programme:	Institute for the Study of Human Rights
Objective:	The Human Rights Advocates Program offers a unique opportunity for grassroots human rights defenders to strengthen their advocacy skills while engaging with a global community of practitioners.
Eligible Activities:	The program welcomes individuals who are actively working to advance rights in areas such as gender-based and domestic violence, minority and LGBTQI+ rights, labour and migrant rights, health justice, environmental justice, disability rights, social inclusion and corporate accountability. It is specifically designed for professionals like lawyers, journalists, doctors, teachers, social workers and community organizers who are directly involved in human rights work through nongovernmental organizations. Applicants are selected based on their demonstrated experience, commitment to human rights and capacity to engage in rigorous graduate-level study. Those who hold full-time student status or work as government officials are not considered, while individuals balancing employment with ongoing advocacy work are preferred. The program prioritizes practitioners working at the grassroots level, ensuring that those closest to affected communities have access to international training and exposure. Applicants from high-income countries may only be considered if they represent marginalized groups, and fluency in English is a mandatory requirement. Preference is also given to advocates who have not previously had the chance to study or travel abroad. A key component of the application is institutional endorsement. Advocates must provide proof that their organization supports their participation and agrees to reintegrate them into their work upon completion of the program. Only one application per organization is allowed, and submitting multiple applications results in automatic disqualification for all candidates from that institution. It is therefore the applicant's responsibility to ensure they are the sole representative seeking admission.
Eligible Applicants:	The program encourages anyone who believes they meet the requirements to apply, emphasizing that eligibility can only be fully assessed after reviewing a complete application. Applicants are advised to clearly demonstrate how they fulfil the criteria through their answers in the application process. This opportunity offers a transformative platform for committed activists to expand their impact and return to their communities equipped with enhanced knowledge, networks and tools for change.
Total Budget:	€N/A
Deadline:	01/12/2025
More information and official documents:	https://www.humanrightscolumbia.org/hrap/admissions-information

Call Title: Open Call for JournalismAI Innovation Challenge	
Programme: JournalismAI	
Objective:	The JournalismAI, a global initiative based at LSE in partnership with the Google News Initiative, has opened its Innovation Challenge programme designed for small and medium-sized news publishers exploring the potential of artificial intelligence. This programme offers news organisations the opportunity to design and test innovative AI applications while participating in a collaborative learning network that is shaping the future of journalism worldwide.
Eligible Activities:	The challenge focuses on ideas that use artificial intelligence to deepen audience insights, strengthen business models, and support long-term organisational resilience. It does not fund reporting projects, storytelling initiatives, fact-checking tools, or newsgathering technologies. Instead, eligible concepts must leverage AI specifically to support audience intelligence, business innovation, and revenue-generation strategies. Over a nine-month period, selected teams will design, implement, and measure the impact of their AI solution, supported by expert mentorship and peer learning. Grants will be awarded as follows: eight ideas will receive US \$50,000 each, and four ideas will receive US \$100,000 each. This allows both early exploratory projects and more advanced proposals to benefit from targeted support. Participating publishers must also commit to openly sharing business insights, collaborating with fellow grantees, tracking their progress, and submitting a final impact report. Through this shared learning approach, the initiative aims to accelerate responsible AI adoption across the global news ecosystem, building stronger, more sustainable journalism for the future.
Eligible Applicants:	A series of strict eligibility criteria apply. Government-owned entities or those affiliated with political parties are not eligible. Applicants must have a verifiable digital presence—such as a journalism-focused website—and must have been fully operational with recent content for at least 12 months prior to applying. Only small and medium-sized news publishers with 10–200 staff who are already exploring AI technologies may apply, and they must be able to implement and evaluate their project within the nine-month grant period. Importantly, this programme is open only to publishers whose primary focus is news, and organisations that previously received funding from the first JournalismAI Innovation Challenge are not eligible.
Total Budget: €100,000	
Deadline: 03/12/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://www.journalismai.info/programmes/innovation

Call Title: TRANSITION PROMOTION PROGRAM PROJECTS FOR 2026	
Programme: Embassy of the Czech Republic in Philippines	
Objective:	The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Manila has opened a call for proposals for Transition Promotion Program (TRANS) projects to be implemented in the Philippines, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau and Nauru in 2026.

Eligible Activities:	In accordance with the Concept of the Czech Republic's human rights and transition promotion policy, the TRANS Programme focuses on the following thematic priorities: (1) supporting civil society, including human rights defenders; (2) promoting the freedom of expression and information, including the freedom of the media; (3) promoting an equal and full political and public participation; (4) supporting institution-building in the area of the rule of law; (5) promoting equality and non-discrimination; (6) promoting human rights in employment and in the environmental context. Actions must take place in Philippines, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, Nauru.
Eligible Applicants:	The project implementer is a local entity in the country (in this case, Philippines, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, Nauru).
Total Budget: €100,000	
Deadline: 08/12/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://mzv.gov.cz/manila/en/call_for_proposals_transition_promotion.html

Call Title:	ACCELERATING DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE, EXCEPTIONALLY LOW-COST MATERNAL AND CHILD NUTRIENT INGREDIENTS AND PRODUCTS
Programme: Grand Challenges	
Objective:	High input costs, complex production processes, and limited manufacturing capacity in LMICs keep the price of essential nutrient ingredients and products prohibitively high. As a result, millions of women and children cannot access proven, lifesaving interventions. At the same time, there is a clear opportunity: innovations across the entire product lifecycle – raw material sourcing, ingredient formulation, manufacturing methods, and packaging – can dramatically lower costs while maintaining quality.
Eligible Activities:	Advances in biotechnology, materials science, food technology, and other industries provide models that could be adapted to nutrition. They are not seeking incremental improvements. This call is for transformative, bold solutions that can reduce costs by at least 50% compared to current baselines, while maintaining or improving safety, efficacy, and user acceptability. They want to support the development and validation of scalable, sustainable strategies that make high-quality nutrient ingredients and products affordable for LMIC health systems and ensure equitable access for every mother and child. The Fund is open to applications for funding from across the globe.

Eligible Applicants:	This initiative is open globally to nonprofit organizations, for-profit companies, international organizations, government agencies, and academic institutions.
Total Budget:	\$500,000
Deadline:	16/12/2025
More information and official documents:	https://gcgh.grandchallenges.org/challenge/accelerating-development-innovative-exceptionally-low-cost-maternal-and-child-nutrient

Call Title:	SMALL – SCALE INITIATIVES PROGRAM (PPI)
Programme:	SMALL – SCALE INITIATIVES PROGRAM (PPI)
Objective:	The Small – Scale Initiatives Program (PPI) aims to strengthen the contribution of civil society in Sub-Saharan African countries to biodiversity conservation, while improving the living conditions of local communities, by funding concrete, community-level field projects. The PPI is currently in its seventh phase, which runs from 2025 to 2030. This new phase aims to support the implementation of approximately 80 projects in 26 countries across Central and West Africa through eight calls for proposals. This first call for proposals, intended for partners that have never previously received support from the PPI, opens today and will enable the funding and implementation of 13 nature conservation projects led by African civil society organizations.
Eligible Activities:	The funded themes include biodiversity conservation, particularly the following sub-areas (non-exhaustive list): • The creation or improvement of the management of protected and “conserved” areas ; • The conservation of threatened species (according to the IUCN Red List); • The restoration of ecosystems; • The sustainable use of natural resources and fair sharing of conservation benefits; • Anti-poaching initiatives; • The improvement of human–wildlife coexistence. A total of 23 countries in West and Central Africa are eligible (the full list is available in the PPI7 Rules & Criteria).
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible recipients for this call for proposals are African civil society organizations.
Total Budget:	€100,000
Deadline:	18/12/2025
More information and official documents:	https://www.programmeppi.org/en/aap/

Call Title:	CALL FOR MICRO-INITIATIVES (CMI)
Programme:	BeMed
Objective:	Faced with the undeniable level of plastic pollution in the Mediterranean, urgent action is needed. According to the Mare Plasticum report by the International

	Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), more than 200,000 tonnes of plastic are dumped into the Mediterranean every year. In this context, Beyond Plastic Med (BeMed) is launching its 10th Call for Micro-Initiatives (CMI). This programme aims to provide financial support for concrete field projects to combat plastic pollution in the Mediterranean region.
Eligible Activities:	A micro-initiative is a local project aimed at reducing plastic pollution in a Mediterranean area, supported by a micro-grant. It contributes to reducing the production and use of plastic at source, raising public awareness, improving waste management, collecting scientific data and supporting the implementation of new regulations. These actions are designed to be replicable and to inspire other actors across the Mediterranean basin. Actions must take place in Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Croatia, Egypt, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Monaco, Montenegro, Slovenia, Tunisia, Turkey.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility is limited to NGOs, local authorities, municipalities, companies of less than 20 employees, scientific institutions.
Total Budget: €100,000	
Deadline: 05/01/2026	
More information and official documents:	https://www.beyondplasticmed.org/en/call-for-projects/

Call Title:	MIT CLIMATE & ENERGY PRIZE
Programme:	MIT CLIMATE & ENERGY PRIZE
Objective:	The MIT Climate & Energy Prize competition seeks to move the world closer to net zero carbon emissions by empowering ambitious entrepreneurs to solve the world's most difficult climate-related challenges.
Eligible Activities:	They are the largest and longest-running competition for student-led climate & energy startups in the world. Since its founding in 2007, the MIT Climate & Energy Prize has received more than 1000 applications, offered world-class mentoring to over 315 teams, and granted more than \$3.4M in non-dilutive cash prizes. The Fund is open to applications for funding from across the globe.
Eligible Applicants:	Team eligibility: A team must be comprised of at least two individuals. At least 50% of formal team members must (1) be enrolled as a part-time or full-time student, or (2) be a postdoctoral fellow at a college or university.
Total Budget: €100,000	
Deadline: 11/01/2026	
More information and official documents:	https://cep.mit.edu/

Call Title:	Immersive Design Challenge for Sustainable Innovation
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Programme: Siemens Digital Industries Software	
Objective:	The Immersive Design Challenge invites higher-education students worldwide to apply their creativity to design sustainable solutions using immersive engineering and digital tools. Participants will have the chance to explore sustainable design, learn about immersive engineering, make an impact with their ideas and develop their digital mindset and digital skill set.
Eligible Activities:	Through this challenge students will engage with cutting-edge technology and gain practical experience by integrating sustainable design principles with immersive engineering tools. Teams will submit ideas, develop visualisations or prototypes, and receive mentorship from industry experts as they work toward bringing their concepts into more advanced forms. The experience opens up possibilities to grow a digital skill set, connect with peers and industry, and explore how immersive design can contribute to sustainable innovation.
Eligible Applicants:	Higher-education students worldwide to apply their creativity to design sustainable solutions using immersive engineering and digital tools.
Total Budget: €N/A	
Deadline: 26/01/2026	
More information and official documents:	https://immersive-design-challenge.com/

Call Title:	Strengthening NCPs of the Digital Europe Programme
Programme: European Commission (EC)	
Objective:	The European Commission aims to strengthen the coordination, capacity, and effectiveness of National Contact Points to enhance awareness, participation, and impact of the Digital Europe Programme. The focus areas are Improved and professionalised NCP services across Europe, Effective and efficient access to Digital Europe Programme calls, Adapted services to the different Specific Objectives of the programme including matchmaking activities online and in-situ meetings as appropriate and dissemination of information regarding security and ownership control rules in the Digital Europe Programme, Better participation of new applicants in the programme, Raising the average quality of proposals submitted, Dissemination and exploitation of results promotion of the use of the digital capacities and services emerging from the programme and creation of synergies with complementary dissemination and communication initiatives including from other programmes, Optimal trans-national co-operation and exchange of best practices amongst NCPs of the programme, Possibility for DEP NCPs one per participating country to take part in annual meetings among the network and with the European Commission organised as hybrid events with importance given to physical presence and supported by a dedicated budget for travel and organisation, Strengthened outreach through improved tools platforms or communication channels as needed to support the visibility of the programme and engagement of stakeholders.

Eligible Activities:	This action aims to support the coordination and capacity-building of National Contact Points by strengthening their ability to deliver high-quality guidance, enhance cooperation, and expand awareness of Digital Europe Programme opportunities. It helps ensure that NCPs across Europe can support applicants effectively, aligning with the programme's ambitions to boost digital transformation across all eligible countries. The initiative also reinforces inclusiveness and broad geographical coverage, ensuring equitable access to information and support. The project budget allocated for this action is EUR 1,800,000 per project. The project will encourage transnational cooperation among NCPs to promote best practices, improve the quality of applicant support, and foster cross-border engagement. It will also support the organisation of activities such as stakeholder info days, communication efforts, and dissemination of programme outcomes. A strong emphasis is placed on helping less experienced NCPs gain expertise quickly through peer learning and knowledge exchange. The scope of this action includes the development of frameworks that enhance the visibility, reach, and impact of the Digital Europe Programme, ensuring that new applicants are better equipped to participate. It will strengthen the competence of NCPs and work towards creating synergies with existing European networks wherever relevant, further improving the support landscape for digital innovation initiatives.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible participants must be legal entities, either public or private, established in eligible countries including EU Member States, overseas countries and territories, EEA countries, and those associated with the Digital Europe Programme. All entities must be registered in the Participant Register and validated by the Central Validation Service, providing documentation of their legal status and origin as part of the process.
Total Budget: €1,800,000	
Deadline: 03/03/2026	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/DIGITAL-2026-SUPPORT-09-NCP-NETWORK

Call Title:	Call for Applications: European Advanced Digital Skills Competitions Initiative
Programme:	European Commission (EC)
Objective:	The European Advanced Digital Skills Competitions Initiative has been launched to engage young people across Europe in cutting-edge digital technologies through challenge-driven competitions that promote creativity, research, and skills development. The focus areas include well defined, up to date and relevant challenges that will serve as the challenges for the European Advanced Digital Skills Competitions, competitions rule book for participants and jury, competitions implementation roadmap, implementation and roll-out of the six competitions, and sustainability plans for the proposed competitions after the end of the project.

Eligible Activities:	This initiative aims to position the European Advanced Digital Skills Competitions as catalysts that inspire young Europeans to explore advanced digital fields while contributing to solutions for societal and industrial challenges. Each competition will revolve around a highly relevant challenge developed by leading research institutes and industry partners, ensuring alignment with real-world technological needs. Close collaboration with Sectoral digital skills academies and related initiatives will ensure support and engagement from the broader digital skills ecosystem. The competitions will be hosted within the EU and will feature student teams competing across six digital domains linked to the Sectoral digital skills academies, the Destination Earth initiative, and an additional theme chosen by the consortium. These competitions are intended to stimulate innovation, deepen student expertise, and provide a measurable way to track progress toward ambitious technological goals. Funding available for this initiative amounts to EUR 7,000,000. The project scope includes developing challenges in Quantum, GenAI, Chips, Virtual Worlds, Destination Earth, and one additional area. Each challenge must address a significant societal, technological, or industrial issue, encourage broad student participation, and support the development of applied research and project-based skills. Prize structures, local tournaments, and major events will also be designed to enhance engagement and visibility. The project will work in close cooperation with the Sectoral digital skills academies, the Destination Earth Initiative, industrial communities, and the European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies to ensure strong dissemination, communication, and ecosystem alignment.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible applicants include legal entities, both public and private, established in EU Member States, overseas countries and territories, and eligible non-EU associated countries. All beneficiaries must register in the Participant Register and complete validation through the Central Validation Service, submitting documentation confirming legal status and origin
Total Budget: €7,000,000	
Deadline: 03/03/2026	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/DIGITAL-2026-SKILLS-09-COMPETITIONS

Call Title:	Apply for Collaboration Platform for the European Connected and Autonomous Vehicle of the Future
Programme:	European Commission (EC)
Objective:	The European Commission is seeking grant applications for collaboration platform for the European connected and autonomous vehicle of the future.
Eligible Activities:	The focus areas include Strategic roadmap for digital technology developments for automotive, including software, hardware, AI models and solutions and autonomous driving technologies, across different projects and initiatives; Definition of agreement on high-level architectures and interfaces for software, hardware, AI models and solutions and autonomous driving technologies;

	Nurturing of a dynamic ecosystem of contributors and participants adopting the initiative's outcomes; Operational digital platform(s) supporting joint developments under the initiative; Definition and implementation of processes, agreements and roles ensuring a clear pipeline for building blocks from relevant projects funded at EU and national level towards integration by companies in series production, leveraging organisations like ECLIPSE SDV, COVESA, or alike; Establishment of a sustainable organisational and governance structure. Through the announced European Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Alliance (ECAVA), the initiative will support the establishment of a software platform for software-defined vehicles, the development of in-vehicle computing architecture for SDVs, innovative AI solutions for the automotive industry, creation of a large-scale distributed pilot facility, and the acceleration of the transition towards autonomous driving. The action will build on industry-driven collaboration, supporting common standards and interfaces, and coordinating software, hardware, AI and autonomous driving technologies across projects and initiatives. Funding for this action is budgeted at EUR 3,500,000. The project will focus on setting up a collaborative digital platform to support efficient common development and promote broad uptake of outcomes. It will steer and coordinate relevant projects, define long-term strategic roadmaps, support open-source building blocks, and consolidate existing coordination mechanisms. By managing joint developments and facilitating integration into series production vehicles, the initiative seeks to lay the foundation for a sustainable industry-driven ecosystem.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible participants include legal entities, either public or private bodies, established in one of the eligible countries, which encompass EU Member States, overseas countries and territories (OCTs), and non-EU countries such as listed EEA countries and countries associated with the Digital Europe Programme.
Total Budget: €3,500,000	
Deadline: 03/03/2026	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/DIGITAL-2026-AI-09-AUTOMOTIVE

Call Title:	Grants for Accelerating the Deployment of AI-Driven Medical Imaging Solutions in Healthcare
Programme: European Commission (EC)	
Objective:	The European Commission is advancing the integration of artificial intelligence in healthcare through a targeted initiative that supports the deployment and validation of AI-driven medical imaging solutions to improve patient outcomes and research efficiency.
Eligible Activities:	Accelerate the uptake of EU AI-driven solutions that are ready to be deployed in healthcare settings for patient care and for research purposes. This will facilitate the paradigm shift in the digital transformation of healthcare towards personalised medical solutions. Facilitate the deployment of EU cutting-edge AI-driven solutions in medical imaging, combined with other health data, for increased efficiency and better patient outcomes, leveraging the Cancer Image Europe platform. Further develop the data, testing and validation services and user tools of Cancer Image

	Europe platform in alignment with the legal and technical framework of the European Health Data Space, also towards supporting the development and uptake of EU cutting-edge multi-modal AI-based solutions in medical imaging (including Deep learning and Generative AI solutions) for healthcare. Conduct multi-centre validation studies of promising medical imaging-based and multi-modal AI solutions for screening, early detection, diagnosis and care, generating evidence for clinical utility and cost effectiveness of tested solutions. By building on, extending and leveraging the Cancer Image Europe platform, this action is expected to accelerate the uptake of AI-driven solutions in medical imaging, including Machine Learning and Generative AI, and facilitate their deployment in clinical environments. The initiative emphasizes upskilling healthcare professionals, fostering evidence generation, and ensuring active engagement of patients in the digital transformation of medical practice. The total indicative budget for this action is EUR 14,400,000. The action also aims to upgrade the Cancer Image Europe platform by deploying advanced tools, application programming interfaces (APIs), and interfaces that enable high-quality data services for platform users. These tools will enhance data quality assessment, security, access, and analysis, while supporting AI developers in meeting regulatory compliance under frameworks such as the European Health Data Space Regulation. Furthermore, the initiative will ensure that datasets federated in the Cancer Image Europe platform meet EHDS standards through metadata descriptions using Health DCAT-AP and adherence to the data quality and utility label standards defined by the EHDS Regulation. These measures will create a robust foundation for reliable and interoperable data sharing across healthcare and research domains. The action also promotes synergy and cross-fertilisation with other European health data infrastructures, including HealthData@EU, 1+Million Genomes, the Intensive Care Unit data infrastructure, the European Virtual Human Twins Initiative, and the UNCAN.eu platform. Collaboration with EU-funded projects such as BigPicture and ongoing AI-related initiatives under the Health Data Access Bodies, the SHAIPEd project, and the TEF-Health project will further strengthen data integration and multi-modal AI application across the European health ecosystem. New data services and user tools for the Cancer Image Europe platform covering data curation, inclusion by data providers, data quality assurance and compliance checks, and risk/security management in alignment with agreed standards, procedures and requirements, including the framework of the European Health Data Space. Multi-centre validation of AI-driven solutions in the field of medical imaging, including evidence generation for clinical utility and cost efficiency. Deployment of multi-modal, cutting-edge AI-driven solutions in the field of medical imaging in healthcare and research settings, leveraging different types of data such as imaging modalities, genomics, laboratory results, and real-world data while building on the achievements of the Cancer Image Europe platform. Training and upskilling of medical imaging personnel and healthcare professionals for the deployed technology and its continued use.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible participants must be legal entities, either public or private bodies, established in one of the eligible countries. These include EU Member States, including overseas countries and territories (OCTs), as well as non-EU countries (except for topics with restrictions), such as listed EEA countries and countries associated with the Digital Europe Programme. Beneficiaries and affiliated entities



	are required to register in the Participant Register before submitting their proposals and will need to be validated by the Central Validation Service (REA Validation). For validation purposes, applicants must upload documents demonstrating their legal status and origin.
Total Budget: €14,400,000	
Deadline: 03/03/2026	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/DIGITAL-2026-AI-09-SOLUTIONS-CANCER-STEP

Call Title:	CFAs: European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies
Programme:	European Commission (EC)
Objective:	The European Commission is advancing its commitment to strengthen Europe's digital workforce through the establishment of the European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies, an umbrella initiative designed to coordinate and enhance collaboration among key sectoral initiatives.
Eligible Activities:	The Commission has set ambitious targets in the Digital Decade Policy Programme of reaching 20 million ICT professionals employed in Europe, while promoting access of women to this field, by 2030. Effective collaboration among stakeholders in advanced digital skills is crucial for this investment to bear fruit and to reach the Digital Decade target. An umbrella action at European level, the European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies, will spearhead this effort by federating existing sectoral initiatives (e.g. the Cybersecurity Skills Academy and the EuroHPC Virtual Training Academy), the newly created sectoral digital skills academies (see topic 4.1 of the DEP Work Programme 2025-2027) and other EU-funded projects focusing on advanced digital skills (notably the DIGITAL-funded higher (specialised) education programmes), fostering synergies with related initiatives like the Digital Largescale Partnership under the New Pact for Skills and the European Digital Education Hub. It will leverage platforms such as the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform to create a cohesive ecosystem. ELEVATE's vision is to empower stakeholders through coordination, capacity building, communication, and market analysis, driving collective achievement in advanced digital skills. A special emphasis of the League will be on the development and piloting of a mechanism to provide a seal of quality/accreditation of excellence for training modules offered by existing or upcoming sectoral academies and initiatives. The total available budget for this initiative is EUR 7,200,000. Initiatives such as the Cybersecurity Skills Academy and the four academies under the DEP Work Programme 2025-2027 tackle the shortage of ICT specialists in specific areas, highlighting critical issues. The League aims to enhance coordination and collaboration among sectoral initiatives and projects, fostering synergies and a collective approach to minimize fragmentation risks. The European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies will be structured around four pillars. Coordination and collaboration among sectoral academies, sectoral initiatives, and individual projects in advanced digital skills will aim to pool resources and expertise. Using the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform, this effort will lead to improved sharing of information and best practices, enhanced

	stakeholder collaboration, unified advocacy for systemic improvements, and strengthened networking and community building. Capacity building activities will complement the training offer of the sectoral academies and initiatives through cross-sectoral mentoring programmes. The League will help develop a framework for certifying modular learning credentials and support implementation in alignment with the Council Recommendation on a European approach to micro-credentials. Collaboration with the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform will provide access to diverse learning materials, matchmaking tools, and connections with the Data Space for Skills to promote community engagement and practical use cases. Communication and awareness efforts will boost the visibility and credibility of ICT career paths and promote European advanced digital skills competitions. Cooperation with Member States and industry will further enhance public engagement in advanced digital skills. Market analysis and impact assessment will leverage the League's extensive network to provide deeper insights into education and training offers, their alignment with labour market needs, and gaps not covered by other studies. A seal of quality/accreditation of excellence developed and piloted by the European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies for training modules offered by existing or upcoming sectoral academies and initiatives; Capacity building activities such as cross-sectoral mentoring programmes; Collaboration established with the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform and learning resources and material provided to the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform catalogue/repository by adding resources/material in the area of advanced digital skills developed by the sectoral academies/initiatives and other EU-funded projects in the area of advanced digital skills (notably the DEP-funded specialised education programmes); A sustainable multi-stakeholder governance structure, fully aligned to the existing and upcoming sectoral academies/initiatives and other initiatives funded by the EU; Networking activities and events to enhance stakeholder collaboration and strengthen community building by creating a community of practice in the area of advanced digital skills and by sharing best practices; Communication, dissemination and outreach activities carried out supporting the four pillars of activities described under scope; Detailed market analyses and impact assessments, providing further insights into the existing education and training offers and related gaps in the area of advanced digital skills (not sufficiently covered by other studies) and foresight studies provided in close collaboration with the selected proposal of the call DIGITAL-2023-SKILLS-05-SPECIAL-PROGEDU - Advanced digital skills analysis and the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible participants must be legal entities, either public or private bodies, established in one of the eligible countries. These include EU Member States, including overseas countries and territories (OCTs), as well as non-EU countries (except for topics with restrictions), such as listed EEA countries and countries associated with the Digital Europe Programme. Beneficiaries and affiliated entities are required to register in the Participant Register before submitting their proposals and will need to be validated by the Central Validation Service (REA Validation). For validation purposes, applicants must upload documents demonstrating their legal status and origin. Eligible applicants include public or private legal entities established in EU Member States, including overseas

	countries and territories, and non-EU countries associated with the Digital Europe Programme.
Total Budget: €7,200,000	
Deadline: 03/03/2026	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/DIGITAL-2026-SKILLS-09-LEAGUE-OF-ACADEMIES

Link to Previous Funding Newsletters

<https://www.consultcormack.com/funding-newsletter>

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