CCG INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

Weekly Funding Insight
Week Commencing 14th April 2025

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New Opportunities

Call Title:	**Entries open for National Bio Entrepreneurship Competition (India)**
Programme:	**Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms**
Objective:	Applicants are now invited to apply for the National Bio Entrepreneurship Competition, a nationwide competition to attract, identify and nurture bio-entrepreneurs working on novel and scalable business ideas with significant societal impact. Applicants compete for attractive cash prizes and investment opportunities.
Eligible Activities:	Focus Areas The National Bio Entrepreneurship Competition is inviting path breaking, revolutionary, and scalable business ideas in the life sciences domain spanning: Agri Tech & Mol Bio: including conventional plant breeding, tissue culture and micro-propagation, molecular breeding or marker assisted selection, genetic engineering and GM crops, molecular diagnostic Tools, soil Health and AI & ML in Agricutlture: Animal Health including diagnostics, therapeutics, nutrition, and other sub-domains related to veterinary applications and other related sub-domains Healthcare: including Diagnostics, Drug Discovery & Development of vaccines, therapeutics, biologics and plant based therapeutics, CRO/CMO/CRAMS, Maternal & Child Nutrition AMR: including Tb/Malaria, Rare and Neglected Diseases & other Infectious Diseases Digital Health: including AI & ML, imaging, wearables, healthcare IT and other related sub domains Medical Devices Environment: including Clean and renewable energy, biofuels, clean air, and other related sub-domains. Water & Sanitation including water treatment, solid waste treatment, sustainability and other related sub-domains Industrial Biotechnology: including enzymes, fermentation based products for non-pharma purposes, bioplastics, and other related sub-domains. Food & Nutraceuticals, including dietary supplements, and other related sub-domains.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria Eligibility for Student Teams: Students currently in a graduate, post graduate or PhD program. Students will apply as a team of maximum four members, should identify one member as the team leader. Team Leader should be the main/primary applicant. All student team members should have valid student ID. All applicants and team members should be citizens of India. If students have already formed a company, the company should not be more than 2 years old at the time of applying Idea should be a Deep tech Life Science based idea Eligibility for Companies/Individuals: Start-ups, MSMEs and other large companies can apply Individuals can be post doc, faculty, scientist, working professionals and aspiring entrepreneurs For companies, the company should be registered in India and majority ownership should be Indian Individual Applicants should be citizens of India Idea should be a Deep tech Life Science based idea.

Total Budget:	$2,000,000
Deadline:	05/05/2025
More information and official documents:	https://nationalbioentrepreneurship.in/events/nbec2025?id=About&title=event-ABOUT-PROGRAM

Call Title:	Democracy and Human Rights Program in Philippines
Programme:	European Commission (EC)
Objective:	The European Commission (EC) is seeking proposals for the Democracy and Human Rights Program to support and strengthen civil society organisations and community-based organisations working on critical democracy and human rights issues in the Philippines. Objectives The specific objective(s) of this call for proposals are: To support human rights defenders working to stop impunity and achieving access to justice for victims of human rights violations including populations impacted by the war on drugs To contribute to the protection of the rights of urban poor populations in Metro Manila and nearby cities, especially its most vulnerable sub-groups To support civil society capacity in monitoring and advocating for the ratification and implementation of international conventions related to labour and human rights, environmental and climate protection, and good governance.
Eligible Activities:	Priorities The priority(ies) of this call for proposals are: Lot 1: Supporting human rights defenders advocating for access to justice Filipino activists or human rights defenders (HRDs) are protected under the Bill of Rights of the Philippine Constitution, in particular right to free speech, right to organise and redress, and right of movement. The internationally-guaranteed bill of rights also protects human rights defenders from harassment and undue pressure from state and non-state actors. HRDs are active in different issues of national or local scope such as defence of the environment, labour rights, indigenous communities' rights, child rights and socio-economic issues. In the past years, HRDs became active in calling out authorities' abuses in the conduct of the War on Drugs in which thousands, mostly from poor communities, have been killed in police operations and vigilante killings. HRDs themselves have expressed that they have been victims of various forms of harassment, including red-tagging and, legal harassment, extra-judicial killings and forced disappearance. Lot 2: Protecting the rights of urban poor and vulnerable groups This Lot will contribute to the efforts to protect the rights of urban poor and community-based organisations, especially its vulnerable sub-groups (women, children, persons with disabilities) from the impacts of evictions induced by state or non-state entities. The specific objective is to support civil society actions working for the urban poor to address and prevent violations of the rights of the urban poor anchored on existing laws, and ensure their equitable access to basic services and legal assistance.

	Lot 3: Supporting civil society capacity in monitoring and advocating for the ratification and implementation of international conventions related to labour and human rights, environmental and climate protection, and good governance The objective of this Lot is to support the strengthening of civil society in monitoring and advocating for the Philippines' ratification and implementation of international conventions. Cross Cutting Priority Issues This call has the following four crosscutting priority issues: Promoting Gender equality and intersectionality/social inclusion through Gender/Social Transformative approaches, based on sound analysis of the root causes (gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI)–assessment, specific analysis, etc.), challenging harmful gender norms, promoting meaningful representation, and using SMART6, gender and age-disaggregated indicators and those that address intersectionality. Following Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) encompassing all human rights, whether civil, political, economic, social or cultural. Specific mentions of the use of the HRBA principles at different moments of the action cycle will be an asset. Embraces elements of inclusivity of sectoral issues on disability, rights of minorities and indigenous peoples, youth and promotion of sexual and reproductive health. Ensuring knowledge creation and replicability: the action should have a "multiplier effect", i.e. a possibility for replication and extension of the outcomes. To ensure replicability and extension, the action should have a robust monitoring system, adequate documentation, and demonstrate the 'multiplier effect'. Actions selected under this call must demonstrate strong coordination and coherence with other implementing partners on the sector or geographic area.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must: be a legal person and be non-profit-making and be a specific type of organisation such as non-governmental organisation and be effectively established in a Member State of the European Union or an eligible county as stipulated in the basic act NDICI-GE. Due to the legal status of international organisations, the obligation of effective establishment in the referred countries does not apply to international organisations, where the latter are eligible, and be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the coapplicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary. The lead applicant may act individually or with co-applicant(s). However, where the lead applicant is not established in the Philippines, it must act with co-applicant(s) established in the Philippines.
Total Budget: €2,130,000	
Deadline: 22/05/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/online-services/#/

Call Title:	THRIVE Global Impact Challenge 2025

Programme:	SVG Ventures
Objective:	Applications are now open for the THRIVE Global Impact Challenge, a worldwide search for trailblazing startups with solutions that will revolutionize agriculture. Aligned with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Impact Challenge is focused on six key themes, each driving innovation to build a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable future for agriculture and food systems.
Eligible Activities:	Themes The THRIVE Global Impact Challenge is on a mission to discover the most innovative startups tackling the biggest challenges in agri-food systems. This year, they're seeking groundbreaking solutions across six key themes driving transformation in the agrifood industry: Regenerative Agriculture Soil Health Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration Climate Resilience and Adaptation Sustainable farming practices Novel fertilizers & application Nutrient use efficiency tracking Artificial Intelligence & Automation AI-powered farm management platforms Robotics and automation AI-driven crop health diagnostics Supply chain optimization Data-driven decision making Vertical and urban farming technologies Animal Health & Nutrition Precision Nutrition Disease Prevention and Management Sustainability in Livestock Systems Animal Welfare and Behavior Monitoring Genetic and Breeding Innovations Clean Energy & Climate Tech Renewable Energy in Agriculture Energy Storage and Grid Solutions for Farms Electrification of Agricultural Equipment Carbon Capture and Climate-Smart Agriculture Biofuels and Green Inputs for Agriculture Energy efficiency in ammonia and nitrogen fertilizer production Water & Waste Management Water Conservation and Efficient Irrigation Waste Reduction and Recycling in Agriculture Nutrient Runoff and Water Pollution Control Circular Water Systems and Reuse Organic Waste Conversion and Bioenergy Production Post Harvest & FoodTech Future crops and novel ingredients Lab-grown and plant-based meats Sustainable packaging and food preservation AI-driven and advanced processing tech

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	Supply chain & food quality solutions for post-harvest
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria To be considered for the Global Impact Challenge, applicants must meet the following criteria, demonstrating their potential to deliver innovative, scalable solutions that address critical challenges in agriculture and food systems. Seed to Series A Applicants should be early-stage startups or entrepreneurs at the seed to Series A stage. they welcome innovative ideas and solutions that have the potential for growth and scalability. Global Applicants they invite applications from around the world. Entrepreneurs and startups from any country or region are encouraged to apply, as they value diverse perspectives and global collaboration. Alignment with Summit Themes Applicants should demonstrate a clear alignment with one or more of the above summit themes. Solutions should address the specific challenges within these areas and offer innovative approaches for positive impact. Proven Climate & Environmental Impact Includes showcasing tangible outcomes, data-driven results, or successful implementation of solutions that have positively influenced sustainability, carbon reduction, biodiversity, or other environmental aspects. While not mandatory, they highly value applicants who can demonstrate a proven impact on climate and the environment.
Total Budget:	$1,000,000
Deadline:	25/05/2025
More information and official documents:	https://thriveagrifood.com/thrive-global-impact-challenge-2025/

Call Title:	**Open Call for NGI Mobifree Consortium**
Programme:	**European Commission (EC)**
Objective:	Mobifree is a consortium funded by the European Commission to further develop free and open source mobile platforms, applications and framework. Their goal is to help mobile technology evolve to a more healthy state, provide people with concrete new tools and more reliable infrastructure, in order to provide better security and allow users more agency and choice. But this is a vast domain, with many more challenges than what any preconceived effort could tackle by itself. Mobifree is a pilot programme designed to push beyond the status quo of mobile software, and create a virtuous cycle of innovation through free and open source software, libre hardware and open standards. It has brought together a number of the "movers and shakers" of the open mobile ecosystem, in order to deliver a comprehensive development effort and advance a number of important free and open source technologies. Objective

	The key objective is to deliver potential break-through contributions to the open internet. All scientific outcomes must be published as open access, and any software and hardware must be published under a recognised open source license in its entirety.
Eligible Activities:	Eligible Projects Project proposals are written in English and: • should be in line with the NGI vision and the sub-granting call applied for • should have research and development as their primary objective • should satisfy any other hard eligibility criteria specific to the sub-granting call, such as having a clear European Dimension. Eligible Activities The following types of activities qualify for financial support, provided they are cost effective and have a clear link to the topics directly relevant to Mobifree and the objectives set out in the call: • scientific research • design and development of free and open source software and open hardware • validation or constructive inquiry into existing or novel technical solutions • software engineering aimed at adapting to new usage areas or improving software quality • formal security proofs, security audits, setup and design of software testing and continuous integration • documentation for researchers, developers and end users, including educational materials • standardisation activities, including membership fees of standards bodies • understanding user requirements and improving usability/inclusive design • necessary measures in support of (broad)er deployability, e.g. packaging • participation in technical, developer and community events like hackathons, IETF, W3C, RIPE meetings, FOSDEM, etc. (admission fee, travel and subsistence costs) • other activities that are relevant to adhering to robust software development and deployment practices • project management • out-of-pocket costs for infrastructure essential to achieving the above.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria Given equal proposals, inhabitants of the EU and countries associated to Horizon Europe are given priority, however if the project is of exceptional quality and the proposer holds unique technical expertise proposals from outside of those geographic areas can be eligible as well.
Total Budget:	€4,466,666
Deadline:	01/06/2025
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/competitive-calls-cs/10465

Call Title:	**FAPESP Grant for International Researchers**

Programme:	**São Paulo Research Foundation**
Objective:	The São Paulo Research Foundation is pleased to invite applications for its Investigator Grant for International Researchers to boost the scientific and technological leadership of São Paulo in multiple areas of knowledge.
Eligible Activities:	FAPESP wants to recruit up to twenty researchers who demonstrate exceptional expertise in their respective fields. This call is open for researchers of all nationalities necessarily working and living abroad for at least 2 years who wish to establish or start a research career at research institutions located in the State of São Paulo. It seeks to stimulate the creation of opportunities, under internationally competitive conditions, for researchers with exceptional research backgrounds. Areas of Research Aviation, Biodiversity, Bioenergy, Bovines, Cancer, Citri culture, Climate Change, COVID-19, Diabetes, Drugs, Ecosystems, Graphene, Green Chemistry, Internet of Things, Obesity, Quality of Life, Social Inequality, Sustainability, Virus, Water Resources, Yellow Fever, Zika virus, Dengue, Chikungunya and other arboviruses.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria Applicants must be working and living abroad for at least 2 years in research institutions, sponsored by international sources (postdoc, research fellow, and/or permanent positions); Applicants must demonstrate exceptional expertise and leadership in their respective fields, which should be evidenced through their scientific trajectory. Evaluation Criteria An evaluation committee will judge the submitted proposals considering the following criteria: Originality, innovation and impact; Project importance and contribution to scientific knowledge; Suitability of investigators' scientific background to the project. Application Requirements Although collaborations with established groups at specific topics are allowed and encouraged, a competitive proposal must have a clear and independent line of research. Research project must be written in English.
Total Budget: €500,000	
Deadline: 03/06/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://fapesp.br/17470/call-for-proposals-fapesp-grant-for-international-researchers

	The European Capital of Innovation Award (iCapital)
Programme:	**European Commission (EC)**
Objective:	The European Commission is seeking applications for its European Capital of Innovation Award to recognize city administrators who are courageous enough to open up their governance practices to experimentation, to boost innovation by all means, to be a role model for other cities, and to push the boundaries of technology for the benefit of their citizens.

	The award will raise the profile of the cities that have developed and implemented innovative policies; established frameworks that boost breakthrough innovation; enhanced the city attractiveness towards investors, industry, enterprises and talents; helped to open up connections and strengthen links with other cities, promoting the replication of best practices in the innovation field; enhanced citizens' involvement in the decision-making process; and supported cities resilience.
Eligible Activities:	Objectives The traditional city innovation ecosystem is opening to new models of innovation engaging citizens, ensuring their involvement in the decision-making process, and reinforcing democracy and rights. An increasing number of cities are acting as test beds for innovation and run people-driven initiatives to find solutions to societal challenges, such as climate change, digitalisation, sustainable growth or social cohesion, including through new endeavours such as nature-based solutions and EU Missions. The public domain is particularly challenged with finding effective ways to ensure the mainstreaming of these practices into the ordinary urban development process. Successful practices are particularly crucial to enhance the city's capacity to attract and retain new resources, funds and talents to stimulate the growth of breakthrough innovations. The New European Innovation Agenda sets out a vision for harnessing the power of innovation to drive economic growth, social progress, and contribute to the green and digital transition in Europe. The agenda emphasizes the need for strategic investments in key technologies, including deep tech, and for strengthening and better connecting innovation ecosystems through stronger collaboration between regions, to close the innovation divide.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria The candidate cities must be located in one of the EU Member States or Associated Countries to Horizon Europe. For the category of European Capital of Innovation, the candidate city must have a minimum population of 250000 inhabitants. In countries where there are no such cities, the city coming closest to 250000 inhabitants is eligible to apply for the European Capital of Innovation category, provided that it has a minimum population of 50000 inhabitants and that the city is not applying at the same time for the European Rising Innovative City category. Ineligibility Criteria Legal entities with separate legal personality from cities, even if founded and funded by the cities, are not eligible to apply. Winners of former European Capital of Innovation Awards editions, as well as runners-up of the edition 2024 are not eligible. This does not apply to previous finalist cities. Applicants that have already received an EU or Euratom prize cannot receive a second prize for the same activities. Evaluation Criteria Experimenting Escalating Ecosystem building Expanding City innovative vision Citizens' rights

Total Budget:	€1,200,000
Deadline:	18/06/2025
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-EIC-2025-PRIZE-2-01

Call Title:	**Wellcome Career Development Award Scheme**
Programme:	**Wellcome Trust**
Objective:	The Wellcome Trust is thrilled to seek applications for its Career Development Award Scheme to provide funding for mid-career researchers from any discipline who have the potential to be international research leaders. They will develop their research capabilities, drive innovative programmes of work and deliver significant shifts in understanding related to human life, health and wellbeing.
Eligible Activities:	Expected Outcomes During the award, they expect you to: develop your research capabilities and leadership skills support others to undertake research responsibly and promote a positive and inclusive culture start training the next generation of researchers and develop their research skills and careers. By the end of the award, you should have achieved international standing in your area of research. You should also have the skills and experience to apply for permanent positions at research organisations.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria You can apply for a Wellcome Career Development Award if you are a mid-career researcher and you are ready to lead a substantial and innovative research programme. You must aim to make a key contribution to your field by: generating significant shifts in understanding and/or developing methodologies, conceptual frameworks, tools or techniques that could benefit health-related research. To be eligible, you will already be driving your own research: You must have: completed one or two substantial periods of research after your initial research training made important contributions to your area of research. The administering organisation must be in one of the following: UK Republic of Ireland a low or middle-income country (apart from India and mainland China). It can be a: higher education institution research institute non-academic healthcare organisation not-for-profit organisation. Ineligibility Criteria You are not eligible to apply if:

	you hold, have held, or have accepted an offer for an equivalent award at this career stage (an exception to this is that their current Wellcome grantholders at an equivalent stage can apply to this scheme) you have made an application to this scheme and you are waiting for a decision. You cannot apply to carry out activities that involve the transfer of grant funds into mainland China.
Total Budget:	£500,000
Deadline:	24/07/2025
More information and official documents:	https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/career-development-awards

Call Title:	**Sectoral digital skills academies: Virtual Worlds Skills Academy DIGITAL-2025-SKILLS-08-VIRTUAL-WORLDS-ACADEMY-STEP**
Programme:	**Digital Europe**
Objective:	Expected Outcome: Deliverables Comprehensive academic curricula designed across different levels and for different target groups, implemented at European level (curricula encompass complete academic programmes or consist of smaller modules to be injected into larger programmes). Modular short-term training curricula for sector specialists designed and piloted trough relevant training courses at regional or local levels, including targeted training for SMEs and public sector. Partnerships and collaboration frameworks established between academia, industry (including SMEs) and research institutions to facilitate and promote the large-scale European-wide roll-out of the academic programmes and short-term trainings. Facilitated joint (practical) educational initiatives and events with industry and research institutions, such as on-the-job experiences in companies' premises, and laboratories, mentorship schemes, internship programmes, summer schools, bootcamps, visits to facilities, career days. Support, integration, and visibility schemes implemented, with particular attention aimed at the participation of female students and female professionals in education and training activities, as well as talented young people from disadvantaged backgrounds and people with disabilities. Training initiatives addressing teaching staff, such as "Teach-the-teacher" training modules targeted at university, VET and secondary-education teachers. Different communication and awareness-raising activities carried out, e.g. through social media, including career orientation activities or "technology deep dive sessions" targeted at secondary education students and the general public. A dedicated landing page integrated in the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform, where all activities, events and initiatives of the academy are disseminated. Reports on the impact of the academies' activities, based on a KPI assessment scheme, and recommendations for policy and investments. Additional deliverables specific to individual academies' activities.

Eligible Activities:	Objective: Virtual worlds blend physical and digital worlds in real-time for a variety of purposes such as designing new prototypes, virtualising entire cities or for different types of simulations. Virtual worlds are a fast-evolving technology, gaining ground in more and more areas of our lives. The recently adopted "EU initiative on Web 4.0 and virtual worlds: a head start in the next technological transition"1 presents all the various opportunities virtual worlds can bring to many industrial and societal sectors and citizens in their daily lives. The Virtual Worlds Skills Academy will reinforce the talent pool needed to achieve the aspirations of the EU to pioneer the development of the various building blocks of virtual worlds, such as extended reality, 3D graphics, content creation, computer vision, AI, interactive media, modelling and industrial applications (digital twins), digital identity, data privacy and big data. Scope: Virtual worlds require a highly interdisciplinary approach, bringing together various technologies and disciplines. In order to generate high-level expertise, one focus of the academy will be to cover education and trainings that encompass all necessary technological blocks of virtual worlds (such as extended reality, blockchain, AI, data, edge computing, high-performance computing, 3D graphics, interactive media, content creation, computer vision, modelling and industrial applications (digital twins), digital identity, data privacy and big data) as well as creative designs and/or other related disciplines (law, ethics, design, etc.). In addition, the academy will offer training for sector specialists (e.g. in the automotive industry, healthcare, education, cultural and creative sectors and industries) to equip them with the necessary knowledge to deploy virtual worlds in their sectors and realise its benefits. Furthermore, the Virtual Worlds Academy will also develop training for the basic understanding of virtual worlds technologies to empower citizens and raise awareness of the opportunities and risks of virtual worlds in daily life.
Eligible Applicants:	EU-27 + associated countries
Total Budget:	€10,000,000
Deadline:	02/09/2025
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/DIGITAL-2025-SKILLS-08-VIRTUAL-WORLDS-ACADEMY-STEP

Call Title:	**Request for Proposals: Smart Airports, Airports as Multimodal Nodes and Passenger Experience**
Programme:	**European Commission (EC)**
Objective:	The European Commission is accepting proposals for the Smart Airports, Airports as Multimodal Nodes and Passenger Experience topic.
Eligible Activities:	Scope The following list of R&I needs is proposed as an illustration of the potential project content, but it is not meant as prescriptive. Proposals may include other research elements beyond the proposed research elements below if they are justified by their

contribution to achieve the expected outcomes of the topic and are fully aligned with the development priorities defined in the European ATM Master Plan.

Collaborative management at regional airports supported by Centralised Lite airport operations centre (APOC)

The Airport operations centre (APOC) concept was originally developed for large airports during previous SESAR phases, based on a platform/operational structure which collaboratively and pro-actively manages airport operations performance. Although regional airports do not generally experience operational constraints in such scale as those occurring at large ones, they do experience issues which underperform their operations. The lack of communication and information shared amongst the stakeholders causes unforeseen deterioration of the airport performance with potential knock-on effect onto the ATM network.

The research area aims at developing a Centralised Lite APOC, aiming at the improvement of inbound, turnaround and outbound predictability based on enhanced local collaborative environment and connectivity with ATM network. The approach is simple, cost-efficient, algorithm-oriented and focusses on use of NM digital services provided to airports. Airport and network information is exchanged thereby forming the basis for improved situational awareness whilst supporting pre-tactical and tactical decision-making. Research shall consider the work performed under solution PJ.04-W2-28.2 "Collaborative management at regional airports supported by Centralised Lite APOC". Note that there is on-going work by projects RACINE and PEACOCK.

AOP and performance monitoring for a group of airports

This research element addresses the development of a single AOP to address the needs of a group of airports with similar operational needs that are too small to have their own AOP. This AOP combines information from each individual airports to meet collaboratively agreed joint targets for the group of airports, but taking into consideration individual airport needs and situation. The coordination among airports should always align and never compete with the overall airport-network view. Research also addresses the collaborative process for the definition of performance targets agreed for any set of airports that decide to gather under such a common AOP. The wider neighbouring community will participate in this process. The benefit of joint target setting will be the ability to set more challenging targets for a group of airports than would be possible for a single airport, thus providing improved service to the airspace users over a range of KPA. The overall performance of the group of airports will be monitored against the shared performance targets. The performance of one single airport or the group of airports will be provided, suitably filtered to all the stakeholders (wide access to airport performance). When a group of airports (too small to have their own AOP) with similar operational needs have decided to gather under a single AOP, there is a need to set and monitor the performance targets to further enable performance optimisation.

Airport integration into the user-driven prioritisation process (UDPP)

The research element covers the integration of UDPP with airport driven local DCB process to support airports, airspace users, NM and ANSPs to anticipate, understand and manage arrivals related disruptive events at airports' level in planning phase, aiming at reducing impact and knock-on effects. The potential benefits include a better management of disruptions speeding up of the recovery to normal operations. Research may include the allocation of target times for arrival flights (TTA) combined with the user driven prioritization process (UDPP) into the overall reconciliation process, also in case of multiple constraints.

Airport environmental performance management

Management of airport operations often necessitates a trade-off between different performance criteria (e.g., flight delay, environmental sustainability, resource availability, etc.). Research is focused on airport environmental performance management with the aim of integrating environmental considerations into the overall airport operations management process, bringing the question of environmental performance into the decision-making process.

Research includes the development of airport performance dashboard/cockpit to ensure an appropriate airport environmental performance monitoring. The introduction of an environmental dashboard in the airport operations plan (AOP) supports monitoring the airport environmental performance from the mid-term/short-term planning phase (D-1) thus improving collaborative decision-making process in the APOC. This dashboard should consider a series of environmental indicators in the daily operation of an airport in the execution phase, triggering and influencing operational decisions. The environmental indicators comprise those used in the performance plans but could also include additional local indicators if needed. The monitoring of the airport environmental performance can trigger the implementation of potential solutions to reduce the airport impact on noise and emissions at and near the airport. Research shall consider the work performed by SESAR solution PJ.04-W2-29.3 "environmental performance management".

Smart airports

Smart airports, with landside and groundside fully integrated into the ATM network, will be based around connectivity and other technologies to improve operations and the passenger experience. Research objectives include:

The integration of airport and network planning and the timely exchange of surface transport network, airport and ATM network information will bring common situational awareness and improved mobility planning activities, notably arrival and departure predictability for both airports and the network. Research may also address the integration of vertiports into airport operations and surface transport network.

Information-sharing and collaborative decision making will allow the inclusion of outputs from landside processes (passenger and baggage) to be used to improve the accuracy and predictability of airside operations.

Business intelligence and machine learning will help airport stakeholders collaborate to align process and resource capacity with predicted demand in both planning phase (allocation of resources) and execution phase (dynamic adjustment of the plan based on anticipated impact on punctuality of flights and passenger experience).

As future solutions will be virtualized and distributed, smart airports should leverage the collaboration power also to enhance the cybersecurity posture to prevent, protect and increase the cyber-resilience from attacks to the infrastructure.

Adoption of novel passenger processing solutions able to offer a seamless passenger experience within and among airports.

Considering ATM to be an integrated part of an intermodal transport system, research may include the development of potential solutions to share data between transport modes (e.g., ATM – rail) and to better collaborate to optimise the performance of both the overall transport system and the door-to-door journey. This includes the development of an integrated transport network performance cockpit and the definition of an integrated transport network crisis management process. Note that there is on-going work under project Travel-Wise on these topics.

Integration of IFR RPAS in airport and CTR operations

Research addresses the development of solutions for a safe and efficient integration of remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS) in controlled airspace into the existing air traffic control (ATC) procedures and infrastructures within airports under instrument

flight rules (IFR), which are dominated by crewed aviation. To the maximum extent possible, RPAS will have to comply with the existing rules and regulations. The solution includes the identification of specific requirements of remotely piloted operations compared to the crewed operations, and the development (if needed) of technological enablers that could be required for their integration in the airport environment.
Expected Outcomes
To significantly advance the following development actions:
IR-4-07 Smart airports, airports as multimodal nodes and passenger experience.
IR-4-03 Cyber-resilience and cyber-security capabilities enabling the next generation of airport platforms.

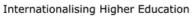| **Eligible Applicants:**	Eligibility Criteria Entities eligible to participate: Entities eligible to participate Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from non associated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not), provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met, along with any other conditions laid down in the specific call/topic. A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality . Entities eligible for funding : To become a beneficiary, legal entities must be eligible for funding. To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries: the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States: Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curaçao (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR). countries associated to Horizon Europe; Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.
Total Budget:	€6,000,000
Deadline:	16/09/2025
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-SESAR-2025-DES-IR-02-WA4-2

Call Title:	**Call for Proposals: Enhanced CNS Capabilities**

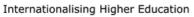| Programme:	European Commission (EC)
Objective:	The European Commission is seeking proposals for the Enhanced CNS Capabilities topic.
Eligible Activities:	Scope The following list of R&I needs is proposed as an illustration of the potential project content, but it is not meant as prescriptive. Proposals may include other research elements beyond the proposed research elements below if they are justified by their contribution to achieve the expected outcomes of the topic and are fully aligned with the development priorities defined in the European ATM Master Plan. CNS as a service Research shall address potential solutions for the provision of communication, navigation, and surveillance functionalities as a cloud-based or subscription-based service (CNSaaS) by an independent organisation. CNSaaS aims at offering these critical functionalities to aviation stakeholders, such as airlines, aircraft operators, and air navigation service providers, as a service model. Research results shall enable the decoupling of CNS service provision from the physical location of the infrastructure as outlined in the target architecture defined in the European ATM Master Plan. The scope covers the identification of possible CNS technologies and functions that could be provided as a CNS as a service and the development of relevant business models that could provide these CNS services including the assessment of technical requirements, such as spectrum management and efficiency, redundancy, flexibility of equipage of avionics and cyber security. Note that there is on-going work under project CNS-DSP. Research shall also consider the guidance material on CNS service assessment produced by PJ.14-W2-76 in SESAR 2020. This includes the development of CNS infrastructure monitoring services. New air/ground technologies for the integration of high-altitude pseudo satellites (HAPS), hypersonic and supersonic vehicles and space launches. Higher airspace operations (HAO) represent one of the most profound changes to the aviation ecosystem for many years. The number of space operations, high-altitude pseudo-satellites (HAPS), supersonic and hypersonic vehicles is set to steadily increase in the years ahead. This research area aims at developing new (or adapting exiting) air / ground CNS capabilities to ensure the safe and efficient integration of hypersonic and supersonic vehiclesinto ATM. Satellite based multilateration (MLAT) Nowadays, surveillance tracking systems rely on self-reported positions of aircraft, which are derived from GNSS satellites, which can be affected by interferences caused by different causes (e.g., spoofing, jamming, etc.). This research element covers the development of a complementary, resilient, space-based surveillance infrastructure, which uses a low earth orbit (LEO) satellite constellation to track aircraft by determining their exact position based on multilateration (MLAT) (i.e., using different times of arrivals of radio frequency (RF) signals). By independently verifying the location of an aircraft through geolocation satellite based MLAT technology, the proposed solution shall be able to track a plane in real time from take-off to landing Research shall address the end-to-end validation of the proposed solution including both satellite (space segment and space network) and ground ATM components and determine and validate both functional and non-functional (i.e., performance) requirements. It is acknowledged that performing an end-to-end TRL6 validation with LEO constellation may be challenging; therefore, the proposals shall consider, as a preliminary step, the maturity of the different segments (space segment, space

network, ground segment) separately, and clearly identify the risks to achieve TRL6. Also, research shall cover the description of future operations and service definition.

Use of ADS-B phase overlay

The objective is to develop applications that take advantage of the ADS-B phase overlay, for example:

Secure ADS-B: Currently, there are no means to know if a single ADS-B message is valid or not, or if the sender is real or fake. For verification, surveillance systems correlate several messages and sources, what requires efforts and infrastructure. Research shall aim at completing the R&I work on this use case, to increase the security of ADS-B introducing authentication through the data capacity provided by phase overlay. The research should investigate how secure ADS-B might allow the rationalization of the surveillance infrastructure, especially Mode S. Note that there is on-going work on this use case (to "anonymize" the ADS-B messages) under project MITRANO.

Applications of ADS-B phase overlay that allow a reduction in the congestion of the 1030/1090 MHz frequency, which can lead to situations where the system performance does not comply with the safety required for specific separation applications, what leads to restrictions to access the airspace, potentially inducing delays and flight cancellation.

Collaborative cyber security framework for CNS

Current aeronautical cyber security standards, recommended methodologies, and state of the art, responses to cybersecurity-threats and processes are based on some key assumptions:

Aircraft is managing its own security and certification is managed at aircraft level only.

Security solutions often rely on a binary trusted/untrusted security model.

Security working groups and technical standards covering different aspects of the whole architecture work as silos.

Those assumptions may not be sufficient to provide effective and long-term defence against cyber security attacks to automated aeronautical CNS environment.

Research shall aim at defining and validating a global security collaboration framework based on uses cases across CNS domains, considering the end-to-end chain to address cybersecurity at global level. Research shall consider the network level cybersecurity when network is not aviation specific: what kind of cybersecurity requirements need to be put in the service provider, including addressing common points of failure.

Research shall address potential solutions to mitigate radio frequency interference based on different techniques (e.g., filtering out jamming signals, etc.) or evaluating solutions employed in non-aviation applications, dynamic jamming/spoofing information sharing and the potential application of AI in this field. Research shall focus on developing aircraftinstalled active radio antennas capable of adapting itself to the attack and mitigating the impact of radio jamming attacks. Military requirements shall be addressed. This research element also covers the monitoring and mitigation of the potential cybersecurity risks that may be introduced with the new entrants (e.g., HAO).

Combined airborne and ground dual-frequency multi-constellation (DFMC) ground-based augmentation system (GBAS) GAST-E approach service

Develop DFMC GBAS (GBAS GAST-E) to maximise the benefits of this technology, including for CAT II/III operations, to allow for more robust operations, including at high and low latitudes with tougher ionospheric conditions. This element also addresses increased resilience to radio frequency interference on a single band and increased resilience to singleconstellation outages or failures.

Ground-based Alternative – Position, Navigation and Timing (A-PNT)

Global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) including Galileo and the European geostationary navigation overlay service (EGNOS), are usually considered as suitable

	technologies for providing position, navigation, and timing (PNT) information as required. However, GNSS can be subject to local (e.g., interference, spoofing, jamming) or global (ionospheric issues, system fault) outages, and it also presents service limitations in those areas where there is limited sky visibility.
	With the objective of having a back-up solution for GNSS as the source of PNT in the situations above, several potential technological solutions have been or are being developed to provide alternate position navigation and timing (A-PNT). The proposed solution aims therefore at enhancing service resilience (e.g., to RFI), availability, and continuity. This requires the support of industry standards to ensure the required interoperability. The proposed solutions should investigate how their developments fit into the larger cross-domain European complementary PNT (C-PNT) framework. The notion of C-PNT aims at building a larger European PNT ecosystem to mitigate the risk of PNT service interruption, which includes GNSS and several complementary emerging alternative systems.
	Research shall address the different options for time synchronisation (in particular during GNSS outages). On this point, there is on-going work performed by MIAR SESAR solution 0336 "LDACS-NAV solution & Modular Integration of A-PNT technologies solution".
	Expected Outcomes
	To significantly advance the following development actions:
	IR-3-01 Next generation ATC platform: addresses the next generation ATC platform, fully leveraging aircraft capabilities. This includes supporting a data-sharing service delivery model, resilient integrated CNS/MET as a service, traffic synchronisation, etc., accommodating the specific needs of the military, innovative air mobility (IAM), higher airspace operations (HAO), and U-space, etc.
	IR-3-09 CNS capabilities to increase ATM system robustness (e.g., satellite-based multilateration (MLAT)), GBAS dual frequency/multi constellation leveraging Galileo and providing robust protection against jamming and spoofing).
	This includes advancing the capabilities of the following systems:
	CNS systems: improved navigation and surveillance systems.
	ATS systems: ability of core ATS platforms for en-route and TMA operations to leverage CNS data as a service.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria
	Entities eligible to participate:
	Entities eligible to participate Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from non associated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not), provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met, along with any other conditions laid down in the specific call/topic.
	A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality .
	Entities eligible for funding :
	To become a beneficiary, legal entities must be eligible for funding. To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries:
	the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions:

	Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States: Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curaçao (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR). countries associated to Horizon Europe; Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.
Total Budget: €20,000,000	
Deadline: 16/09/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-SESAR-2025-DES-IR-02-WA3-2

Call Title:	**Increased Automation Assistance for the Pilot for ATM Tasks**
Programme:	**European Commission (EC)**
Objective:	The European Commission is seeking proposals for the Increased Automation Assistance for the Pilot for ATM Tasks topic.
Eligible Activities:	Scope The following list of R&I needs is proposed as an illustration of the potential project content, but it is not meant as prescriptive. Proposals may include other research elements beyond the proposed research elements below if they are justified by their contribution to achieve the expected outcomes of the topic and are fully aligned with the development priorities defined in the European ATM Master Plan. Single pilot operations (SiPO) In single pilot operations (SiPO) there will only be one pilot onboard at any given time during flight, also during critical phases of flight such as take-off and landing. Research shall address the impacts on air/ground procedures to be followed by the different actors (air traffic ATCOs, pilots, and ground operators of the airline flight operations centres) needed to manage the normal, abnormal, and emergency situations of SiPO that are related to ATM, with the needed safety and the acceptable efficiency in all phases of flight. Research shall also address the development of the required airborne avionics forsupporting SiPO that are related to ATM tasks (e.g., flight management system, surveillance function, autonomous navigation system for all phases of flight, etc.). These systems will require advanced automation and assistance in the flight deck with the objective of discharging the pilot from routine tasks in ATM, including navigation, allowing them to focus on the most critical tasks (i.e., safety of operations). The research should aim at minimising the impacts on ATC operators, on their tools (ATC ground systems) and on the ATC-cockpit communications means. Artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance flight crew capabilities

Research aims at investigating how AI can support pilots in complex and critical situations, when workload may be high and/or the time to react very limited and thus improve safety. The pilot can cooperate and collaborate with the automation on board allowing efficient teaming with the automation.

For these situations, research should focus, for example, on how to exploit high levels of automation to perform non-critical ATM tasks for pilots and how the HMI should work during such operations, so the pilot can focus on essential tasks (e.g., during taxi-out, descend, approach and landing). The tasks needed to successfully execute the mission can be dynamically allocated between human pilot and automation onboard.

In addition, AIpowered applications could support the pilots in situations where workload is low e.g., engaging pilot's attention and alert the pilot in case something unexpected happens. The scope includes all pilot tasks related to ATM, including navigation and taxi on the airport surface. An area of particular focus is the management of high pilot workload situations during the descent, approach, and landing; the objective is to free pilot resources to allow the use of CPDLC with push-to-load in the TMA. Research may address the development of algorithms (that are certifiable) based on reinforcement learning to help the pilot make decisions (e.g., decisions considering the impact of system failures on performance, weather, wind at alternate, range, etc.).

Advanced on-board systems and procedures in support of highly automated ATM operations

Research aims at developing on-board avionics and procedures, including flight crew digital assistants for fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, in support of highly automated ATM applications. Higher level of automation defined in the ATM master plan is enabled by teaming of human pilot with digital assistants and providing human oversight to the flight

Flight-deck support for ATS B2 CPDLC v2/v4 on the airport surface.

This solution covers the development of the flight-deck (HMI, potentially including digital assistants, and avionics, including extension of push-to-load capabilities if needed), in support of the enhanced use of CPDLC on the airport surface. This includes an enhancement of the DTAXI capabilities to allow the use of CPDLC to uplink taxi clearances when the aircraft is already taxiing, as well as for the uplink of a revised departure route at any point after the aircraft has left the gate until shortly before take-off. The new departure route could be a SID (i.e., one of the published departure routes from the airport) or a custom-made departure route (e.g., a published SID but with vertical constraints aimed at facilitating a better climb profile). This increased flexibility will make it possible to uplink departure routes shortly before take-off with vertical constraints to ensure separation with other aircraft so that aircraft fly more efficient vertical profiles. This applies in particular to the tactical uplink shortly before take-off of departure routes, potentially with vertical constraints. EFB applications supporting the implementation of ATS-B2 clearances and/or the downlink of ADS-C data are also in scope. Note that the load of CPDLC clearances into FMS is not expected to go through the EFB but directly through direct connection between the CPDLC box and the FMS; EFB applications may be used to support the flight crew managing the clearances received via CPDLC (e.g., performance analysis, presentation, etc.).

Automation of QNH transmission between ground system and aircraft

The exchange of QNH information and the corresponding checks performed by ATS and the flight crew remain manual, increasing the workload for human operators. Moreover, the transmission of incorrect altimeter setting (QNH) between the ground system and the aircraft can lead to serious safety incidents. Research aims at

	developing solutions for the complete automation of QNH transmission and checks between ground equipment and avionics without human intervention.
	Expected Outcomes
	To significantly advance the following development actions:
	IR-5-01 Single pilot operations (SiPO). This includes new sensors and aircraft architectures for the evolution towards SiPO/highly automated operations.
	IR-5-02 Increased automation assistance for the pilot for ATM tasks. This includes improved flight-deck HMI and procedures for CPDLC, voice-less technology, etc.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria
	Entities eligible to participate:
	Entities eligible to participate Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from non associated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not), provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met, along with any other conditions laid down in the specific call/topic.
	A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality .
	Entities eligible for funding :
	To become a beneficiary, legal entities must be eligible for funding. To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries:
	the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions:
	Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.
	the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States:
	Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curaçao (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR).
	countries associated to Horizon Europe;
	Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Total Budget:	€30,000,000
Deadline:	16/09/2025
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-SESAR-2025-DES-IR-02-WA5-1

Call Title:	**Scaling-Up Nutritional Proteins from Alternative Sources**
Programme:	**European Commission (EC)**
Objective:	The European Commission is accepting proposals for the Scaling-Up Nutritional Proteins from Alternative Sources topic.

Eligible Activities:	Scope The overarching challenge of ensuring sufficient sustainable availability of proteins for human and animal nutrition is far from being solved. The shift towards sustainably sourced alternative proteins can contribute to building food system resilience. If the proteins are sourced locally, this can also reduce dependency on protein imports as highlighted in the European Protein Strategy. Many alternative protein sources already exist and increasing R&I efforts is needed to boost their uptake as a key nutritional food ingredient, while ensuring safety and acceptability to consumers/end-users. Previous R&I projects, dealing with alternative proteins, have been mainly focused on studying new production technologies, providing relevant contribution to developing new knowledge. There is still the need to foster innovation by scaling-up processes enabling to respond to end-user needs, decreasing production costs and improving circularity. Proposals under this topic should: Demonstrate innovative processes for the extraction and/or production of proteins for application as nutritional food, starting from alternative sources. The scope covers proteins from plants, invertebrates, microorganisms, fungi, aquatic biomass, fermentation of bio-based feedstock (including biogenic gaseous carbon). Proposals should target nutritional proteins for food; the co-production of other bio-based product(s) including feed is also in scope via the cascading approach. Pure proteins, protein-rich mixtures and protein-enriched ingredients are in scope. Address efficient and cost-effective downstream separation and purification processes (when applicable), to meet the targeted quality and stability for final applications. Demonstrate nutritional adequacy of the targeted product(s) and their effect on food formulation(s) according to established testing procedures. Additional properties (e.g., prevention of intolerances/allergies, improved digestibility, etc…) are also in scope depending on the application. Address resource efficiency and circularity aspects to increase economic and socio-environmental added value. When pursuing circular models, ensure that neither pathogens nor contaminants are injected back in the loop, to ensure no negative toxicological effects. In addition to the specific requirements applicable for the type of action, as described in section 2.2.3.1 of the CBE JU Annual Work Programme 2025, proposals under this topic should: Test the safety of developed proteins and formulations through toxicological tests, in line with EU regulatory requirements and EFSA guidelines. Moreover, identify potential regulatory gaps and provide recommendations to overcome potential bottlenecks. Include a task on consumer awareness and acceptance: involve end-users (including consumers) starting from the early stages to assess market acceptance of the novel proteins and incorporate insights in product development. Ensure complementarities with past and ongoing R&I projects addressing similar challenges, including projects funded under Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe and by the BBI JU/CBE JU. Expected Outcomes Successful proposals will contribute to the implementation of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy and its action plan, the EU Industrial strategy, the Circular Economy Action Plan, Europe's food security and Farm2Fork strategy ambition as well as the Food 2030 pathways as well as the EU Initiative on Biotech and Biomanufacturing. Projects results are expected to contribute to the following expected outcomes: Increased availability of sustainably sourced nutritional proteins. Increased resilience of food systems via diversification of protein sources.

	Contribution to the sustainability of food systems in terms of resource consumption within planetary boundaries (land use, water use, energy consumption, nitrogen cycle, other nutrients).
	Improved consumers' awareness and acceptance of proteins from alternative sources, contributing to sustainable healthy diets.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria
	Entities eligible to participate:
	Entities eligible to participate Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from non associated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not), provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met, along with any other conditions laid down in the specific call/topic.
	A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality .
	Entities eligible for funding :
	To become a beneficiary, legal entities must be eligible for funding. To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries:
	the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions:
	Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.
	the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States:
	Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curaçao (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR).
	countries associated to Horizon Europe;
	Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.
Total Budget: €14,000,000	
Deadline: 18/09/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-03

Call Title:	SSbD Bio-based solutions to replace Hazardous Conventional Chemicals for Textiles Production
Programme:	**European Commission (EC)**
Objective:	The European Commission is requesting proposals for SSbD bio-based solutions to replace hazardous conventional chemicals for textiles production.
	The European Commission strategy for sustainable and circular textiles announced actions along the textiles value chain to increase circularity and sustainability. The

	European consumption of textiles has the fourth highest impact on climate change and the environment, after the food sector, housing and mobility.
Eligible Activities:	Scope Proposals under this topic should: Demonstrate SSbD bio-based alternatives to hazardous conventional chemicals used in the production of textiles. Bio-based solutions applicable to bio-based and/or fossil-based textiles production are both in scope. Chemicals in scope for replacement include both those that are currently only used in production processes and those that are included in the end-product(s). SSbD bio-based solutions in scope are: chemicals (organic and/or inorganic compounds) and/or processing routes, removing the need for chemical-to-chemical substitution. Ensure compatibility of the innovative chemicals and/or processes with textile manufacturing equipment and practices. Test the impact of the alternative bio-based chemical(s) and/or process on the end-product(s), based on available standards. The action can target garments, technical textiles or other products (e.g., footwear, non-woven textiles) towards improving the production of bio-based and/or fossil-based textiles. More specifically, assess their technical performance (depending on end application), human health safety and environmental impact against relevant benchmarks, considering production, use and end of life (EoL). Specify all the different and applicable EoL scenarios considered (e.g., recycling, remanufacturing etc.).
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from no associated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not), provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met, along with any other conditions laid down in the specific call/topic. A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality. Entities eligible for funding: To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries: the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States: Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curaçao (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR). Countries associated to Horizon Europe; Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Total Budget:	€14,000,000
Deadline:	18/09/2025
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-02

Call Title:	Bio-Based and Biodegradable Delivery Systems for Fertilising Products to Reduce Microplastics Pollution & Promote Soil Health
Programme:	**European Commission (EC)**
Objective:	The European Commission is seeking proposals for the Bio-Based and Biodegradable Delivery Systems for Fertilising Products to Reduce Microplastics Pollution & Promote Soil Health topic.
Eligible Activities:	Scope The presence of microplastics in soil has been reported to alter soil organic matter content, pH, electrical conductivity and organic carbon storage. It is estimated that 8 000 tonnes of polymers are used annually in the EU in polymer coated fertilisers (PCF). PCF can be used as additives to improve physical properties of fertilisers or to produce slow/controlled release fertilisers (SRF/CRF). CRFs help synchronise nutrients release according to crop needs, increasing efficiency and reducing losses to the environment. Non-biodegradable plastics accumulate in the ecosystem, can be assimilated by animals and can be ultimately consumed as food by humans. Each year around 42 000 tonnes of microplastics end up in the environment. Polymer coated fertilisers have been identified by FAO as high priority in terms of risk of microplastic release. Bio-based biodegradable polymers may be an alternative to conventional non-biodegradable plastics. However, more research is needed to develop such biodegradable delivery systems and validate them while assessing improvements associated to microplastics release prevention. Proposals under this topic should: Develop circular and sustainable production processes for novel bio-based and biodegradable delivery system(s) for fertilising products. In addition, assess the applicability/adaptability of the delivery system(s) to additional possible agricultural inputs such as pesticides and seeds. Validate the delivery system(s) for fertilising products (lab-scale and/or small-scale field trials), ensuring agronomic efficiency, safety, scalability and sustainability with similar or improved properties compared to conventional systems. Assess the long-term effect and biodegradability of delivery system(s) when applied in natural soil conditions, applying standard tests, methods and protocols. Biodegradability-related aspects should also be monitored and assessed in fresh, estuarine or marine water (considering the risk of dispersion in water). In addition to the specific requirements applicable for the type of action, as described in section 2.2.3.1 of the CBE JU Annual Work Programme 2025, proposals under this topic should: Include a task to apply the safe-and-sustainable-by-design (SSbD) framework, developed by the European Commission considering the delivery systems and their decomposition products (including microplastics), and taking into account different

	farming systems (including organic agriculture). Under this context, projects are expected to also contribute with and develop recommendations that can advance further the application of the SSbD framework. Expected Outcomes Successful proposals will contribute to the implementation of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy and the updated EU Industrial strategy. Moreover, successful proposals will deliver significant contribution to the R&I Missions 'A Soil Deal for Europe', in particular objectives 'Reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration', as well as Mission "Restore their Ocean and Waters by 2030" in particular 'Prevent and eliminate pollution of their oceans, seas and waters' (including microplastics). In addition, there is an expected contribution on the delegated act introducing biodegradability criteria for polymers (such as coating agents) in the context EU fertilising products regulation.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria Entities eligible to participate: Entities eligible to participate Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from nonassociated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not), provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met, along with any other conditions laid down in the specific call/topic. A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality . Entities eligible for funding : To become a beneficiary, legal entities must be eligible for funding. To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries: the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States: Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curação (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR). countries associated to Horizon Europe; Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.
Total Budget:	€7,000,000
Deadline:	18/09/2025
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-RIA-02

Call Title:	Interledger NextGen Higher Education Grant

Programme:	Interledger Foundation
Objective:	The Interledger Foundation is pleased to announce its Interledger NextGen Higher Education Grant to advances research, curriculum development, and hands-on training, equipping students and educators with expertise in open-payment technologies and inclusive digital finance while exploring emerging fintech career pathways. The Interledger Foundation is currently welcoming Letters of Intent (LOIs) from diverse higher education institutions ready to establish or expand programs that provide real-world experience in open-source practices, open-payment technologies, and inclusive digital financial systems. Aims Enable Faculty Initiatives: Implement forward-thinking programs that promote digital financial literacy and inclusion. Increase Student Engagement: Enhance student interaction with open-payment technologies and digital financial inclusion, with a focus on the Interledger Protocol. Showcase Career Pathways: Highlight careers in open payments, open-source development, sustainable development, and fintech.
Eligible Activities:	Eligible Projects Highlight new open-source technologies (Interledger Protocol & Rafiki) and intend to integrate them into the course curriculum by designing a project for students to complete using this technology. This could also take the shape of: Revamping, developing, and delivering a curriculum with an essential focus on digital financial inclusion and how technology through open payments can foster access to underserved and unbanked communities. Technological exploration which includes incorporating and/or prototyping a solution enabled by Interledger Protocol or Rafiki. This can be in the form of Hackathons or the development of a demo software solution. Provide career guidance and placement opportunities to connect students with emerging careers in open-source technology, whether through internships, fellowships, etc. This focus should be on exploring means to build students' skills in the following areas: entrepreneurship, social impact, marketing & communications, fintech policy & regulations, research, etc.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria This grant is open to registered, accredited institutions including public and private two to four-year institutions, colleges, institutional systems or consortia of institutions, and university-affiliated research centers and laboratories. Applying universities must align the proposed initiative with their undergraduate or graduate departments in any of the following areas: computer science, information technology, business, sustainable development, or related fields. All eligible applicants must: Be a registered, accredited tertiary institution. Applicants must be 18 years or older. Applicants must have read and agreed to the ILF Participation Guidelines. Applicants should be a member of faculty/staff for the proposed institution. Applicants must also: Support The Interledger Foundation's compliance with relevant U.S. laws, rules, and regulations. Have no conflicts of interest.

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Total Budget:	$100,000
Deadline:	03/10/2025
More information and official documents:	https://interledger.org/education

Link to Previous Funding Newsletters

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

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