Horizon Europe Cluster 6

Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Work Programme 2026-2027

Focus on the 2027 Cluster 6 calls and on the “Nature” calls

CZ Info Day – 19 November 2026

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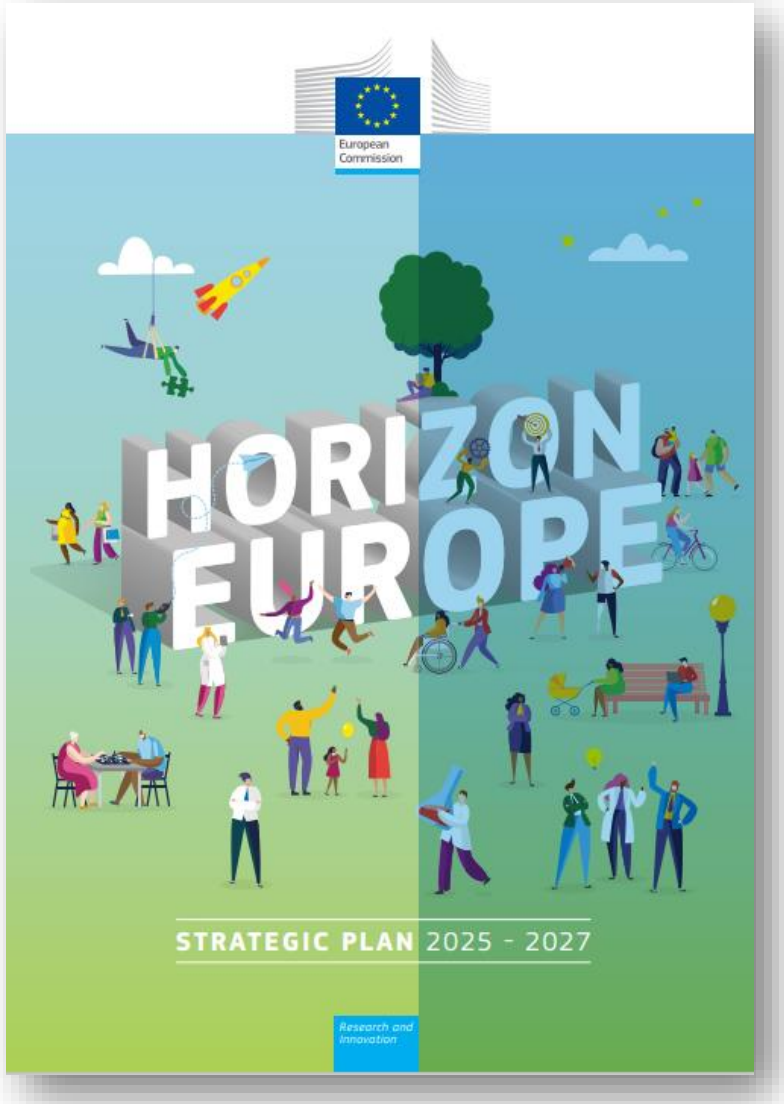
CL6 WP 2026-2027: general overview

Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025 - 2027



- ❑ Adopted on 20 March 2024 and presented at the R&I Days.

- ❑ Sets out 3 key strategic orientations:

  - ✓ Green transition
  - ✓ Digital transition
  - ✓ A more resilient, competitive, inclusive and democratic Europe

- ❑ Raises the ambition on **biodiversity**:

  - ✓ Target of **10%** of Horizon Europe's total budget 2025-2027 being dedicated to biodiversity-related topics.

  - ✓ This new commitment complements existing targets for **climate** expenditure (35% over the lifetime of Horizon Europe) and main **digital** activities (€13 billion over the same period).

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From Expected Impacts to Destinations

Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-2027	Cluster 6 Work Programmes (2021-2027)
Impact 27 Fostering mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in areas and sectors covered by CL6	• **Destination 5:** Land, oceans and water for climate action
Impact 28 Putting biodiversity on a path to recovery, and protecting and restoring ecosystems and their services	• **Destination 1:** Biodiversity and ecosystem services
Impact 29 Achieving healthy soils and forests, clean air, fresh and marine water, whilst ensuring water resilience and the transition to a clean, competitive and circular economy and sustainable bioeconomy	• **Destination 3:** Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors • **Destination 4:** Clean environment and zero pollution
Impact 30 Ensuring healthy food and nutrition security by making agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and food systems sustainable, resilient, inclusive and within planetary boundaries	• **Destination 2:** Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption
Impact 31 Sustainably developing rural, urban and coastal areas	• **Destination 6:** Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities
Impact 32 Developing innovative governance models and tools enabling sustainability and resilience	• **Destination 7:** Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal

Commission priorities 2024-2029

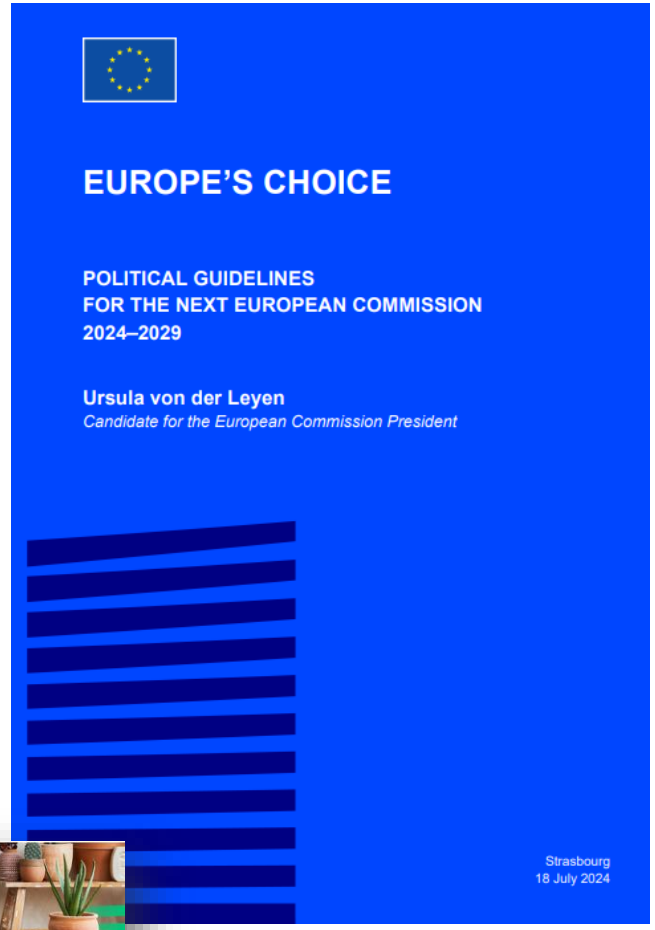
- Cluster 6 Work Programmes (2025 and 2026/2027) are expected to contribute to the **new political priorities**:

Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model

Protecting our democracy, upholding our values



- And to support the objectives of **new policy initiatives** such as



Main features and novelties in WP 26-27

- **Simplification:** fewer topics and higher average funding per topic and project, extensive use of lump sums, shorter proposal templates…
- **Novel approaches:** open topics, horizontal calls.
- More focus on **strategic autonomy**.
- CL6 main contributor to **biodiversity investments**.

WP 2027: overview of the calls

European Commission

2027 calls overview

Cluster 6 Call 01 - **single stage (2027)** - HORIZON-CL6-2027-01



Destination 1

Biodiversity and ecosystem services



Destination 3

Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors



Destination 4

Clean environment and zero pollution

- ❑ Opening date: **20 April 2027**
- ❑ Deadline: **22 September 2027**
- ❑ Budget: **262 million EUR**
- ❑ Topics: **23**

European Commission

2027 calls overview

Cluster 6 Call 01 - **two-stage (2027)** - HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-two-stage



Destination 3

Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors

- ❑ Opening date: **04 February 2027**
- ❑ Deadline 1st stage evaluation: **08 April 2027**
- ❑ Deadline 2nd stage evaluation: **16 September 2027**
- ❑ Budget: **28 million EUR**
- ❑ Topics: **2**

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2027 calls overview

Cluster 6 Call 02 – **single stage (2027)** - HORIZON-CL6-2027-02



Destination 2

Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption



Destination 5

Land, ocean and water for climate action



Destination 6

Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities

- Opening date: **20 April 2027**
- Deadline: **23 September 2027**
- Budget: **183 million EUR**
- Topics: **15**

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2027 calls overview

Cluster 6 Call 02 - **two-stage (2027)** - HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-two-stage



Destination 2

Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption



Destination 5

Land, ocean and water for climate action

- Opening date: **04 February 2027**
- Deadline 1st stage evaluation: **08 April 2027**
- Deadline 2nd stage evaluation: **14 September 2027**
- Budget: **35 million EUR**
- Topics: **3**

European Commission

2027 calls overview

Cluster 6 Call 03 - **single stage (2027)** - HORIZON-CL6-2027-03



Destination 7

Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal

- Opening date: **04 February 2027**
- Deadline: **11 May 2027**
- Budget: **49 million EUR**
- Topics: **7**

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

European Commission

WP 2027: overview of the Destinations

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BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES



Consolidating biodiversity knowledge for nature and society

2 topics



Restoring ecosystems for resilient society and economy

2 topics



Transformative change towards a nature positive economy

3 topics



Biodiversity friendly practices in agriculture

2 topics

European Commission

BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-01- **BIODIV**

	Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Consolidating biodiversity knowledge for nature and society	Integrating Remote Sensing and in-situ observations of Biodiversity, towards a fully interoperable observation and data framework	RIA	2	€ 10.000.000
	Science-policy support to the implementation of EU and global biodiversity policies and strategies	CSA	1	€ 7.000.000
Restoring ecosystems for resilient society and economy	Technical innovation to protect ecosystems and to scale up their restoration	IA	2	€ 14.000.000
	Living Labs for the eradication and/or management of invasive alien species	RIA	3	€ 24.000.000

BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-01- **BIODIV**

	Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Transformative change towards a nature positive economy	Accelerating the transition to a nature positive economy: Integrating biodiversity into the private sector	RIA	2	€ 14.000.000
	Living labs driving transformative change via knowledge integration and inclusive governance	RIA	2	€ 14.000.000
	Health of ecosystems and wild species, predictions and impacts on human health, in the face of existing and emerging stressors, from a One Health approach	RIA	2	€ 14.000.000
Biodiversity friendly practices in agriculture	Fostering common farmland birds and mammals for resilient food production systems	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000
	Enhancing the competitiveness of organic crop breeding: focus on intercropping adapted varieties	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000

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FAIR, HEALTHY AND ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY FOOD SYSTEMS FROM PRIMARY PRODUCTION TO CONSUMPTION



Enabling sustainable farming systems

6 topics



Enabling sustainable fisheries and aquaculture

1 topic



Transforming food systems for health, sustainability and inclusion

2 topics



Targeted international cooperation

2 topics

European Commission

FAIR, HEALTHY AND ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY FOOD SYSTEMS FROM PRIMARY PRODUCTION TO CONSUMPTION

Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-02, Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-two-stage – **FARM2FORK**

Enabling sustainable farming systems

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Increasing the resilience of agriculture in water and nutrient-scarce environments through digital innovations	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000
Increasing mitigation of GHG emissions and feed efficiency through feed additives	IA	2	€ 12.000.000
Microbiome for terrestrial livestock sustainability and health within a One Health approach	RIA	2	€ 11.800.000
Improving understanding of the contribution of the organic farming sector to sustainability	CSA	1	€ 6.000.000
Enhancing farmer's profitability and resilience through innovations for diversified crops and value chains	IA	2	€ 12.000.000
Strengthening plant health: addressing emerging plant pest risks **(two-stage)**	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000

European Commission

FAIR, HEALTHY AND ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY FOOD SYSTEMS FROM PRIMARY PRODUCTION TO CONSUMPTION

Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-02, Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-two-stage – **FARM2FORK**

	Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Enabling sustainable fisheries and aquaculture	Unleashing the potential of sustainable small-scale aquatic food production and recreational fisheries for prosperous local communities	IA	2	€ 10.000.000
Transforming food systems for health, sustainability and inclusion	Towards commercialization of foodsystems microbiome solutions	IA	2	€ 15.500.000
	AI-powered foodome characterization	IA	1	€ 7.800.000
Targeted international cooperation	African Union – European Union Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA)	CSA	1	€ 6.750.000
	Optimising the water-nutrient-energy nexus for sustainable and climate smart agriculture in Africa (FNSSA) **(two-stage)**	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000
Enabling sustainable farming systems	Strengthening plant health: addressing emerging plant pest risks **(two-stage)**	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000

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Circular Economy and Bioeconomy Sectors



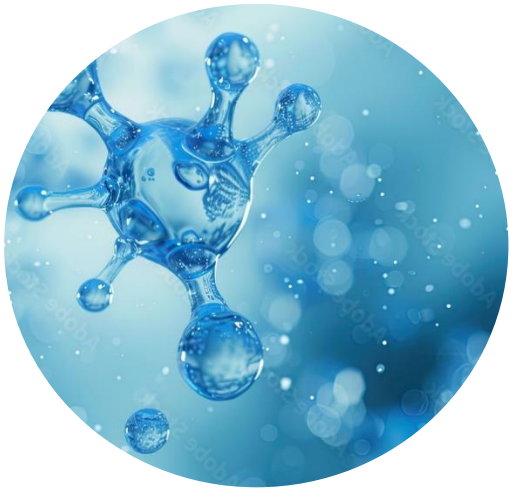
Enabling a circular economy transition

7 topics



Innovating for sustainable bio-based systems, biotechnology and the bioeconomy

4 topics



Safeguarding and sustainably innovating the multiple functions of EU forests

1 topics

European Commission

CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND BIOECONOMY SECTORS

Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-01, Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-two-stage - **CIRCBIO**

Enabling a circular economy transition

Topic title	ToA	N. Projects	Topic Budget
Enhancing ecodesign and circularity of consumer electronics	IA	2	€ 10.000.000
Enhancing ecodesign and circularity of construction products	IA	2	€ 10.000.000
Developing novel recycling technologies for complex plastic materials applying biotech solutions	RIA	2	€ 10.000.000
Capacity building for extending product lifecycles through repair and refurbishment	RIA	2	€ 9.000.000
Innovative circular solutions for end-of-life footwear through collection, sorting and recycling	RIA	2	€ 9.000.000
Deploying circular systemic solutions through living labs in cities and regions (Circular Cities and Regions Initiative topic) **(two-stage)**	IA	2	€ 10.000.000
Open topic: Using the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative to strengthen urban manufacturing in support of the Clean Industrial Deal **(two-stage)**	IA	3	€ 18.000.000

CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND BIOECONOMY SECTORS

Call HORIZON-CL6-01-2027-01 - **CIRCBIO**

Innovating for sustainable bio-based systems, biotechnology and the bioeconomy

Safeguarding and sustainably innovating the multiple functions of EU forests

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Towards a Europe of Bioeconomy Places	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000
Improving biomass flows for a sustainable and circular bioeconomy	IA	2	€ 14.000.000
Biotechnology application for CCU	IA	2	€ 12.000.000
Increasing the circularity of bio-based sector: upcycling and recycling for higher value and environmental benefits	IA	2	€ 12.000.000
Strengthening forest research for the support of Ukraine	RIA	1	€ 6.000.000

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CLEAN ENVIRONMENT AND ZERO POLLUTION

Call HORIZON-CL6-2026-01 - **ZEROPOLLUTION**



4 topics

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic budget
Replacing hazardous substances in biocidal products	RIA	3	€ 12.000.000
Developing effective air quality planning strategies through innovative multi-scale modelling	RIA	2	€ 9.800.000
Improve the capacity to monitor andreduce air pollution from agriculture	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000
Europe-wide environmental benchmarking system of the industrial bioeconomy sectors	CSA	1	€ 3.000.000

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LAND, OCEAN AND WATERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-02, Call HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-two-stage **- CLIMATE**



5 topics

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Governance, sustainable development and international politics of a future ice-free Arctic	RIA	2	€ 16.000.000
Strengthening evidence-based policies for the resilience of European agriculture and forestry and related supply chains against crises and systemic risks	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000
Carbon farming innovation and scale-up	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000
Unlocking a safe operating space for Antarctica and the Southern Ocean	RIA	2	€ 22.000.000
Open topic: Innovative solutions for the European Water Resilience Strategy **(two-stage)**	IA	2	€ 11.000.000

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RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE, HEALTHY AND GREEN RURAL, COASTAL AND URBAN COMMUNITIES

Call HORIZON-CL6-2026-02 (single stage)



2 topics

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Strengthening rural communities' resilience to shocks	RIA	3	€ 15.000.000
Empowering local urban food systems entrepreneurship and innovation	IA	2	€ 12.000.000

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INNOVATIVE GOVERNANCE, ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS AND DIGITAL SOLUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE GREEN DEAL



Innovating with governance models and supporting policies

3 topics



Digital and data technologies as key enablers

1 topic



Strengthening agricultural knowledge and innovation systems

3 topics

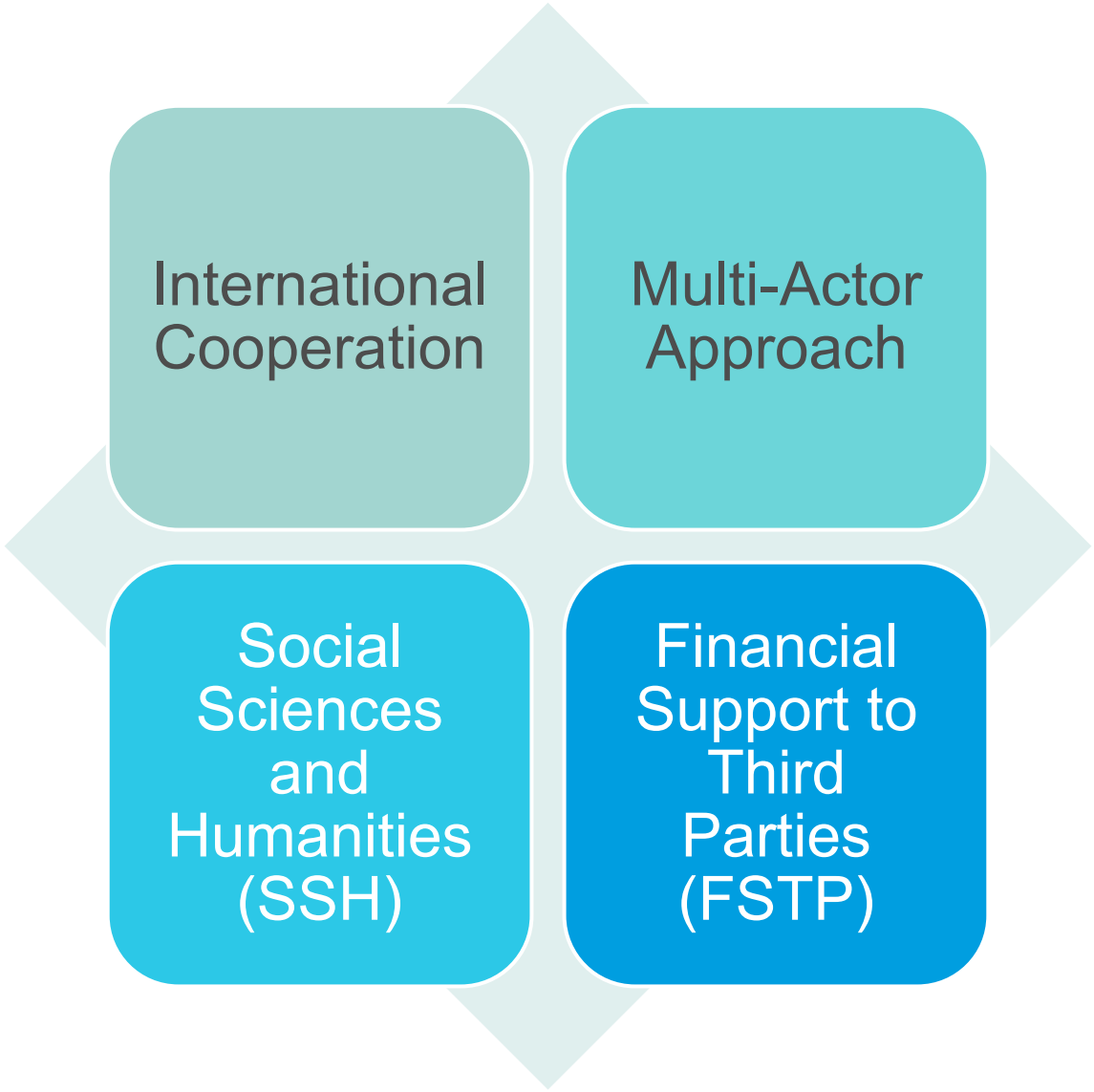
European Commission

INNOVATIVE GOVERNANCE, ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS AND DIGITAL SOLUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE GREEN DEAL

Call HORIZON-CL6-2026-03 - **GOVERNANCE**

	Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic budget
Innovating with governance models and supporting policies	Strengthening the resilience of European farmers through improved capacity in coping with risks and crises	RIA	2	€ 12.000.000
	Improving analytical capacity for sustainable competitiveness of the agricultural sector	RIA	1	€ 6.000.000
	International dimension of the circular bio-based economy: seeking win-win opportunities	CSA	1	€ 3.000.000
Digital and data technologies as key enablers	AI supporting informed advice for farmers and foresters to improve competitiveness and sustainability	IA	2	€ 11.800.000
Strengthening agricultural knowledge and innovation systems (AKIS)	Increasing knowledge flows to practice within AKIS via EU thematic knowledge hubs	CSA	2	€ 7.000.000
	Fostering generational renewal in agriculture via EU advisory network	CSA	1	€ 4.500.000
	Strengthening strategic advice and synergies between EU and national Research and Innovation agendas and investments	CSA	1	€ 4.750.000

Key cross-cutting aspects in Cluster 6



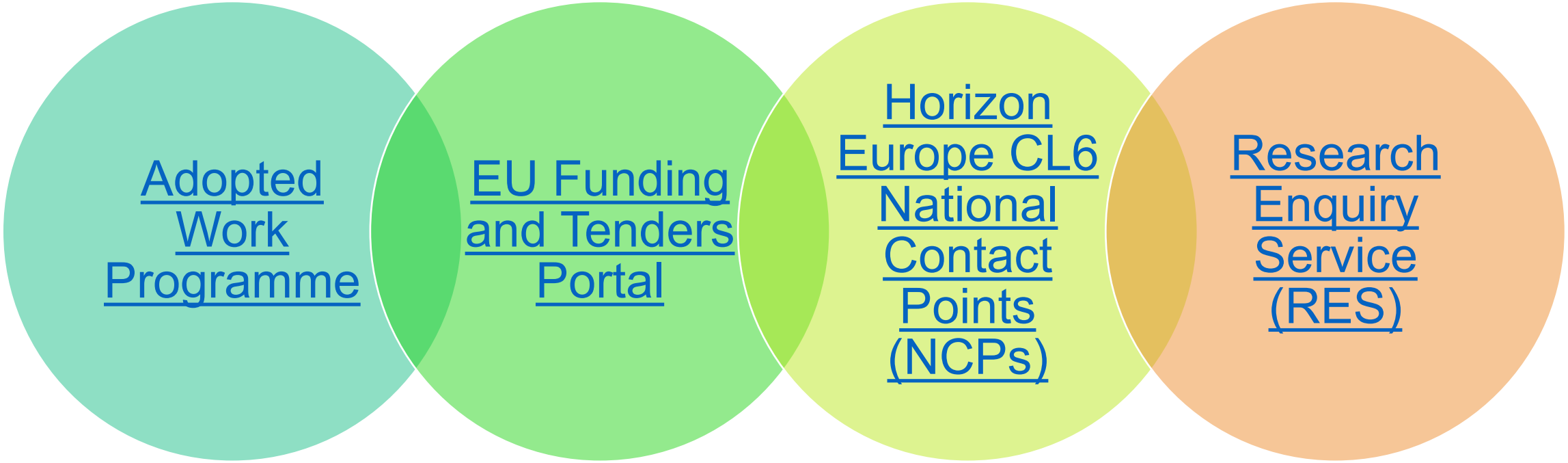
- **International cooperation** encouraged or required in several topics (Africa, Mediterranean, Latin America and Caribbean, support to Ukraine, etc.)
- **Multi-actor approach** encouraged or required by 27 topics (49% of all Work Programme)
- **SSH integration** sought after in 21 topics (38% of all Work Programme)
- **FSTP** applied in various topics, also to attract SMEs and start-ups

Mark your calendars



- The **event** will be hybrid (Brussels, Charlemagne building and online)
- It will be followed by an **in presence brokerage** event organised by CARE4BIO on **15 January**
- Registration will open in **early November**
- Cluster 6 Horizon Europe NCP Portal

How to get more insights on Cluster 6?



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Horizontal activities: Transformative Change towards a Nature-Positive Economy and Society (« Nature Call »)

Transformative Change towards a Nature-Positive Economy and Society: rationale

- **Biodiversity crisis and its consequences**
- EU Commitment: **10% biodiversity spending target** in HE WP 2026-2027
- Policy context:
  - **EU biodiversity strategy for 2030,**
  - **EU Nature Restoration Regulation,**
  - Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)
- IPBES (Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services) **business and biodiversity assessment**

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Transformative Change towards a Nature-Positive Economy and Society: overview

Part	Opening	Deadline	Budget	Content
« Destination »: Cross-cutting activities (2026-27)				Narrative and expected impacts
Call HORIZON-NATURE-2027-01	13/10/2026	**14/01/2027**	€ 41.45 million	3 topics
Call HORIZON-NATURE-2027-02	13/10/2026	**14/01/2027**	€ 108 million	5 topics
Call HORIZON-NATURE-2027-03	03/06/2027	**16/09/2027**	€ 20 million	1 topic
Call HORIZON-NATURE-2027-04	06/10/2026	**16/02/2027**	€ 50 million	1 topic

TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE TOWARDS A NATURE-POSITIVE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

Call HORIZON-**NATURE**-2027-01

DDL:
14/01/2027

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Understanding the nature and the extent of the effects of PFAS on biodiversity and ecosystem services	RIA	2	€ 11.400.000
Better understanding, anticipating and addressing the biodiversity benefits and impacts of the clean and digital industries	RIA	3	€ 18.000.000
Systemic approaches to accelerate transformative change for biodiversity	RIA	3	€ 12.000.000

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TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE TOWARDS A NATURE-POSITIVE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

Call HORIZON-**NATURE**-2027-02

DDL:
14/01/2027

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Assessing direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity decline of invertebrates	RIA	2	€ 15.000.000
Living labs co-creating solutions for the restoration of ecosystems addressing implementation bottlenecks and improving resilience to risks	RIA	6	€ 60.000.000
Networking to scale up living labs for nature restoration solutions and to address bottlenecks to implementation	CSA	1	€ 4.000.000
Innovative solutions to fight wildlife trafficking and to reduce invasion of invasive alien species	IA	1	€ 13.000.000
Cost-effective biodiversity monitoring for EU policies	RIA	3	€ 16.000.000

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TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE TOWARDS A NATURE-POSITIVE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

Call HORIZON-**NATURE**-2027-03

DDL:
16/09/2027

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
Advancing interdisciplinary, data-driven research at the biodiversity-health interface under a One Health approach	RIA	1	€ 20.000.000

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TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE TOWARDS A NATURE-POSITIVE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

Call HORIZON-**NATURE**-2027-04

DDL:
16/02/2027

Topic title	ToA	N. project	Topic Budget
A stronger Global Ocean Observing System to enhance Europe's strategic autonomy, climate resilience and biodiversity conservation	IA	1	€ 50.000.000

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Recorded events



Horizon Europe info day: Horizontal Activities Nature and Bridging calls

- **16 October 2026** – online at 09:30 (GMT+02:00)
- dedicated to the **NATURE** and **BRIDGING** calls under the **Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026–2027**
- Recordings are available & Presentations can be downloaded.



Info | Horizon Europe online Matchmaking - Nature Call

- Online **networking and matchmaking opportunities** to find partners who share the same topics of interest

Thank you



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