

CLIENT ALERT

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HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME

This newsletter provides a selection of the latest calls and its requirements around the **Horizon Europe Programme**. The aim is to provide periodic updates and synthetize relevant information on the open calls regarding the fields addressed by this programme.

Horizon Europe Programme is the EU's research and innovation programme for 2021-2027 with a budget of €95,5 billion. The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting, and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. It supports creating and better dispersing of excellent knowledge and technologies.

Transport

CO-DESIGNED SMART SYSTEMS AND SERVICES FOR USER-CENTRED SHARED ZERO-EMISSION MOBILITY OF PEOPLE AND FREIGHT IN URBAN AREAS (2ZERO, CCAM AND CITIES' MISSION)

Deadline: 27 April 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time (*Opening date: 10 January 2023*)

Description: Urban mobility is a key sector that cities need to address for accelerating their transition to climate neutrality: citizens, logistics and delivery stakeholders, urban planners, transport operators as well as technology providers should jointly exploit the combined potentials of electric, automated and connected vehicles as well as integrated and shared people mobility and freight transport in their planning and actions. This requires a mutual understanding and alignment of the opportunities of technical solutions from the CCAM and 2Zero partnerships and of needs identified by users and cities striving for the Mission target of climate neutrality. Proposals should include co-designed innovative passenger mobility and freight transport concepts which are agreed between technology providers and cities, in cooperation with end users, citizens and other stakeholders (for example visitors) to optimise the performance, ease of use and to maximise uptake. They should then be tested and demonstrated in real environments and use cases before being replicated. They should complement current public transport and freight transport services as well as active mobility and micro mobility, also with modular and interoperable last mile choices, while being scalable for the roll out, adaptability and co-implementation for different types of cities. At the same time, they should help to identify new challenges, e.g. regarding flexibility, privacy and resilience, in order to set requirements for the further improvement of technologies. For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Innovation Actions (*duration not indicated*).

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Project budget: EUR 50 Million

Eligible criteria:

- Several non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).
- If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#) and the [Call Document](#) (page 90 onwards)

EGNSS APPLICATIONS FOR SMART MOBILITY

Deadline: 2 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Development of EGNSS based accuracy, safety-and liability-critical applications in long lead time market segments such as aviation, maritime, rail, road transportation and multi modal domains.
- EGNSS response to the increasing mobility demands and emerging transport solutions, such as those enabled by autonomous or unmanned platforms, supporting new policies aimed to incentivise green and sustainable transportation of goods and people.
- The action aims at fostering the EGNSS market uptake in transport. Applications should demonstrate the advantage of Galileo and EGNOS specific features and differentiators for their use in smart and green mobility, and should contribute to a resource efficient, safe, climate and environmentally friendly transport, that will be for the benefit of citizens, the economy and society.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Innovation Actions (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 9.500.000

Eligible criteria:

- Several non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).

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- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).

Specific requirements:

- The Business Plan shall be submitted as a part of Part B of the proposal. It should be based on a template provided by the European Commission and available in the submission service.
- Applicants must have stable and sufficient resources to successfully implement the projects.
- Project results are expected to improve reliability of system components, advanced and automated functions for data analysis, diagnosis and fault detection, forecasting and model-predictive control frameworks, ancillary services for the stability of the network; maintenance planning and/or reporting.

5G COVERAGE ALONG TRANSPORT CORRIDORS - WORKS

Deadline: 23 February 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: This topic targets actions that support investments in challenging areas, where market forces alone will not deliver 5G services with the needed quality of service. The focus is on providing such connectivity along key European transport paths including, but not limited to, the indicative list of 5G corridors in part V of the Annex to the CEF Regulation. The priority of this call will be to support investment in cross-border sections involving two or more Member States, with a co-funding rate of 50%.

In case of co-funding by national funds (i.e., Cohesion Funds and the Recovery and Resilience Facility - RRF), State aid rules within the meaning of Article 107(1) TFEU apply (see section 10 of the Work Programme for details).

Applicants may apply for grants for works, including studies, related to project costs covering the following categories:

- Deployment of passive network elements including civil works, e.g. ducts, dark fiber, 5G radio stations, masts and pylons.
- Deployment and installation of active network elements, e.g. antennae, storage and computing capabilities such as network controllers, routers, switches, exchanges, edge MEC/node etc.
- Deployment and installation of specific track side devices (e.g. road, rail) for CAM use cases, such as sensors, cameras etc. for traffic monitoring purposes, including connected road-side units.
- Preparatory works, including network planning.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: CEF-INFRA CEF Infrastructure Projects (*duration not indicated*).

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Project budget: EUR 25 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#).
- The page limit of the application is 70 pages.

Data

COPERNICUS DOWNSTREAM APPLICATIONS AND THE EUROPEAN DATA ECONOMY

Deadline: 2 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Europe needs to strengthen its position as provider of products and services based on data, enabling new market opportunities. The EU is promoting the use and uptake of Copernicus, a leading European data provider, as a driver of innovation for the European Data Economy.
- Actions under this Topic will contribute to increase the integration and uptake of Copernicus into the economy, and/or to solve societal challenges.
- The integration of Copernicus data assets with data contributed by other vertical domains into sizeable and scalable applications enabled by modern ICT technologies will greatly enhance Copernicus downstream market. Likewise, many vertical domains (such as, for example, agriculture, food security, health, energy, natural resources, environmental monitoring, insurances, tourism, security, among others) will benefit from the use of Copernicus.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Innovation Action (duration not indicated).

Project budget: EUR 2 – 3 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

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Specific requirements:

- Applicants are required to present initial qualifying items of their business plan in the proposal, which will then have to be fully developed as part of the project's exploitation plan.
- To achieve the objectives described above, the project are required to adopt state-of-the-art ICT technologies (such as, for example, Big Data and AI technologies in their wider declinations), and make use of existing European data infrastructures, such as Copernicus DIAS platforms, European open data portals, and industrial data platforms.

INTEGRATION OF DATA LIFE CYCLE, ARCHITECTURES AND STANDARDS FOR COMPLEX DATA CYCLES AND/OR HUMAN FACTORS, LANGUAGE (AI, DATA AND ROBOTICS PARTNERSHIP) (RIA)

Deadline: 29 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: Proposals should address the entire data life cycle from data generation/collection to the final use and disposal/deletion of data (especially when required by applicable legislation, for example the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)[3]. Proposals should build on existing and emerging standards, models and architectures and complement/expand them as necessary in view of interoperability of systems and portability of data, especially between sectors, between private and public sectors and between different communities/constituencies of actors, including consideration of cybersecurity issues and analysing the use and re-use potential, especially in view of use of data across sectors. Envisaged architectures and systems should enable correct allocation and enforcement of data-related rights, obligations, and responsibilities across the life cycle. Proposals should address relevant human language issues at all stages of data life cycle, addressing the social and cultural factors as necessary. Systems and approaches should be able to process human-generated and human-related data (e.g., speech, text, images) and put data into context (including cultural, linguistic, and social context). Likewise, the seamless integration of "human in the loop" (whenever full automation is not possible/desirable) should be considered and implemented where applicable. To achieve this, proposals should consider multidisciplinary research and involve all necessary competences in the consortium. For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Actions (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 45.000.000

Eligible criteria:

- A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#). See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).
- Eligibility conditions in [General Annex B](#)
- If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).

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Specific requirements:

- Applicants must have stable and sufficient resources to successfully implement the projects.
- Specific topics to be assessed are described in the [Call document](#) (page 180 onwards).

COGNITIVE COMPUTING CONTINUUM: INTELLIGENCE AND AUTOMATION FOR MORE EFFICIENT DATA PROCESSING (AI, DATA AND ROBOTICS PARTNERSHIP) (RIA)

Deadline: 29 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time

Description: Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Enhanced openness and open strategic autonomy in the evolving data and AI-economies across the computing continuum including adapted system integration at the edge and at device level, validation of key sectors and nurturing European value chains to accelerate and steer the digital and green transitions.
- Paving the way to strategic industrial cooperation in data processing required to support future hyper-distributed applications by building open platforms, underpinning an emerging industrial open edge ecosystem critical to establishing a mature European supply chain.
- Establishment of adaptive hybrid computing, cognitive clouds, and edge intelligence beyond today's investments on data infrastructure.
- Better international collaboration with trusted partner regions, guaranteeing a minimum level of interoperability, portability thereby fostering competition in the Cloud/Edge services market for the European cloud/edge and software industry and facilitate European access to foreign markets.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Action (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 28 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#).

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Green

URBAN GREENING AND RE-NATURING FOR URBAN REGENERATION, RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE NEUTRALITY

Deadline: 27 April 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time. (*Opening date: 10 January 2023*)

Description: Cities are at the forefront of tackling climate change and pollution and managing impacts through mitigation and adaptation measures. However, while in the last decade local and regional authorities gained a better understanding of the inter-related climate challenges and urgencies of their territories, less has been undertaken to effectively implement and assess climate mitigation and adaptation specific approaches and, in consequence, to adopt them into the local urban/regional policies, strategies and planning documentations, such as municipal/regional master planning, Urban Agendas, Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP), Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP), Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP), smart specialisation strategies etc. To meet the objectives of the European Green Deal, the Paris and Glasgow agreement and the UN (United Nations) Sustainable Development Goals, cities in close cooperation with their surrounding region, should engage in decisive actions to tackle the climate change, biodiversity and pollution imperatives and enhance their climate resilience. For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Innovation Actions (36 months)

Project budget: EUR 40 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Regarding admissibility conditions and related requirements, part B of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes applies.
- A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).
- If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).

Specific requirements:

- Each action must include pilot demonstrations in at least four cities situated each in different Member States or Associated Countries to demonstrate how urban planning and design can be optimally deployed to develop and implement greening and re-naturing solutions for regeneration, repurposing and rehabilitation purposes whilst enhancing their overall urban climate neutrality and resilience.
- For further information, please refer to the [Call Document](#) (page 146 onwards).

DISCOVERING THE SUBSOIL

Deadline: 20 September 2023 15:00:00 Brussels time. (*Opening date: 17 January 2023*)

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Description: The term “subsoil” refers to the horizons immediately below the topsoil. In the past, this layer has often been neglected as most land management practices (e.g. tillage, cover crops, forestry) are focused on the topsoil. Our understanding of subsoil issues (e.g. compaction and its persistence) in semi-natural environments (e.g. heathlands, peatlands, natural grassland) is even less developed than for agricultural and forestry subsoils. Spatial datasets on soils at both national and EU-scale have also mostly focused on topsoils. The subsoil can have a large impact on soil's potential for productivity and the supply of ecosystem services. It is estimated, for example, that plants extract between 10 and 80% of their nutrient and water requirements from the subsoil. Carbon sequestered in subsoils generally contributes to more than half of the total stocks within a soil profile. In contrast to topsoil, organic matter stored in subsoil horizons is characterised by high mean residence times. Conversely, subsoil degradation (e.g. through compaction, pollution, salinization) may limit root penetration, reduce nutrient uptake and result in plants becoming increasingly susceptible to stress such as from pests and diseases or drought and floods. Reduced water infiltration in subsoils limits plant growth, while increasing surface water runoff and the risk of soil erosion. Timber-related activities in forests, for example, can also cause considerable soil compaction leading to a decrease in productivity of forests due to increased surface water runoff and erosion. Activities under this topic should improve our understanding and knowledge of the links between the subsoil and ecosystem services, and they should promote practices that enhance the health status of subsoils in agriculture, forestry and urban areas, as well as in sites of nature conservation and sensitive landscapes. For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Actions (36 months)

Project budget: EUR 12 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Regarding admissibility conditions and related requirements, part A of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes applies.

Specific requirements:

- The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply: The Joint Research Centre (JRC) may participate as member of the consortium selected for funding. The following additional eligibility criteria apply: Proposals must apply the multi-actor approach. See definition of the multi-actor approach in the introduction to this Mission

RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES FOR CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS FROM EOL PRODUCTS (IA)

Deadline: 20 April 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time

Description: Projects outcomes will enable the expected impacts of the destination by increasing access to secondary raw materials, in particular critical raw materials for EU industrial value chains and strategic sectors which will alleviate critical raw materials dependency.

Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

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- Develop raw materials recycling and re-use of components and/or products from end-of-life products technologies and urban mines, including efficient sorting technologies for separation and recycling and the sustainable embedment of the process regarding energy, resource and water efficiency.
- Improve responsible supply of raw materials to Europe in line with the EU principles for sustainable raw materials, which are a non-regulatory set of principles based on the EU acquis. They set out requirements for sustainable raw materials and extraction and processing in Europe in terms of social, environmental and economic performance.
- Demonstrate contribution to EU climate neutrality objectives.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Actions (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 28 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Legal entities established in Russia, Belarus, or in non-government-controlled territories of Ukraine **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.: - EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs)).

Specific requirements:

- To increase EU resilience in raw materials supply chains and thus reduce the serious risk to the Union's strategic assets, economic and societal interests, autonomy and security associated with the current EU reliance on a few third countries for critical raw materials, by increasing sustainable and responsible sourcing of primary and secondary raw materials necessary to enable the green and digital transition and in alignment with the Communication (2020) 474 on Critical Raw Materials Resilience, participation in this topic is limited to legal entities established in Member States, associated countries, OECD countries, African Union Member States*, MERCOSUR, CARIFORUM, Andean Community and countries with which the EU has concluded strategic partnerships on raw materials. The choice of these countries was made taking into consideration the development of strategic international partnerships on raw materials and avoidance of reinforcing existing over-dependencies, as well as the importance of involving partners committed to pursuing open trade in such materials. Proposals including legal entities which are not established in the countries that fall under the criteria above will be ineligible.
- Any activity aimed at deploying subliminal techniques beyond a person's consciousness, exploiting any of the vulnerabilities of a specific group of persons and at using emotion recognition systems will be ineligible. *"African Union member states" includes countries whose membership has been temporarily suspended.
- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#)

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INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE AND DECARBONISED EXTRACTION (RIA)

Deadline: 20 April 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: Actions should develop new sustainable concepts and technological solutions, including alternative approaches, for mining of complex or difficult to access mineral deposits, including mining wastes and abandoned mining sites, particularly addressing the challenges of accessibility, industrial viability, safety, and environmental impacts, including water use and GHG intensity of extraction. Actions should be driven by industry and raw materials users. The actions should duly justify the relevance of all targeted minerals and metals. Priority are the EU critical raw materials. Sea mining is excluded from this topic. Actions should envisage clustering activities with other relevant selected projects for cross-projects co-operation, consultations and joint activities on cross-cutting issues and share of results as well as participating in joint meetings and communication events. To this end proposals should foresee a dedicated work package and/or task, and earmark the appropriate resources accordingly. In this topic the integration of the gender dimension (sex and/or gender analysis) in research and innovation content is not a mandatory requirement, however, should you consider it to be of relevance for your specific proposal, you are strongly encouraged to do it. For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Actions (duration not indicated).

Project budget: EUR 25 million.

Eligible criteria:

- To increase EU resilience in raw materials supply chains and thus reduce the serious risk to the Union's strategic assets, economic and societal interests, autonomy and security associated with the current EU reliance on a few third countries for critical raw materials, by increasing sustainable and responsible sourcing of primary and secondary raw materials necessary to enable the green and digital transition and in alignment with the Communication (2020) 474 on Critical Raw Materials Resilience, participation in this topic is limited to legal Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2023-2024 Digital, Industry and Space Part 7 - Page 112 of 479 entities established in Member States, associated countries, OECD countries, African Union Member States*, MERCOSUR, CARIFORUM, Andean Community and countries with which the EU has concluded strategic partnerships on raw materials. The choice of these countries was made taking into consideration the development of strategic international partnerships on raw materials and avoidance of reinforcing existing over-dependencies, as well as the importance of involving partners committed to pursuing open trade in such materials. Proposals including legal entities which are not established in the countries that fall under the criteria above will be ineligible. Any activity aimed at deploying subliminal techniques beyond a person's consciousness, exploiting any of the vulnerabilities of a specific group of persons and at using emotion recognition systems will be ineligible. **"African Union member states" includes countries whose membership has been temporarily suspended.*

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#). The following exceptions apply: Eligible costs will

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take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025).

CRITICAL TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE THE LIFETIME, EFFICIENT DECOMMISSIONING AND INCREASE THE CIRCULARITY OF OFFSHORE AND ONSHORE WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS

Deadline: 5 September 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time (opening date: 4 May 2023)

Description: Project results are expected to contribute to at least two of the following expected outcomes:

- Improved overall lifetime, reliability, recyclability, sustainability, operability and maintainability of onshore and offshore wind turbines and foundations/substructures.
- Enhanced overall sustainability of wind energy systems based on mainstreamed Life Cycle Analysis addressing social, economic, and environmental aspects, as well as improved circularity.
- Mainstreamed affordable high life-cycle performance, life extension, more efficient decommissioning, and improved circularity of wind turbine components.
- Potential new markets in wind turbines recycling and/or re-purposing.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Actions (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 12 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Several non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).
- The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply:
 - If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#).
- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Call Document](#), from page 209.

INDUSTRIAL MANUFACTURING FOR LOWER-COST SOLAR THERMAL COMPONENTS AND SYSTEMS

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Deadline: 5 September 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time (opening date: 4 May 2023)

Description: Support will be given to innovative solutions to manufacture components and/or sub-systems and/or systems for solar thermal applications. The manufacturing solutions should increase the production output and reduce the cost vis-à-vis current production lines. The solutions should integrate quality controls and be flexible enough to adapt to various solar thermal applications. The proposal should assess and optimize the requirements in terms of materials needed to produce the components and/or sub-systems and/or systems. Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
- Reduced consumption of materials.
- Reduced environmental footprint of the European solar thermal manufacturing industry.
- Increased competitiveness of the European solar thermal manufacturing industry.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Actions (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 6 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Several non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).
- For the consortium, in addition to the standard eligibility conditions for consortia, at least two entities established in at least one African Union member state must be part of the consortium.
- The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply:
 - If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#).
- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Call Document](#), from page 191.

URBAN GREENING AND RE-NATURING FOR URBAN REGENERATION, RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE NEUTRALITY

Deadline: 27 April 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time (opening date: 10 January 2023)

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Description: Cities are at the forefront of tackling climate change and pollution and managing impacts through mitigation and adaptation measures. However, while in the last decade local and regional authorities gained a better understanding of the inter-related climate challenges and urgencies of their territories, less has been undertaken to effectively implement and assess climate mitigation and adaptation specific approaches and, in consequence, to adopt them into the local urban/regional policies, strategies and planning documentations, such as municipal/regional master planning, Urban Agendas, Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP), Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP), Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP), smart specialisation strategies etc. To meet the objectives of the European Green Deal, the Paris and Glasgow agreement and the UN (United Nations) Sustainable Development Goals, cities in close cooperation with their surrounding region, should engage in decisive actions to tackle the climate change, biodiversity and pollution imperatives and enhance their climate resilience. For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Innovation Action (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 40 million.

Eligible criteria:

- A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).
- The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply:
 - The Joint Research Centre (JRC) may participate as member of the consortium selected for funding.
 - Each action must include pilot demonstrations in at least four cities situated each in different Member States or Associated Countries to demonstrate how urban planning and design can be optimally deployed to develop and implement greening and renaturing solutions for regeneration, repurposing and rehabilitation purposes whilst enhancing their overall urban climate neutrality and resilience.
 - If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#).
- The page limit of the application is 70 pages.
- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Call Document](#), from page 146.

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EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP ON INNOVATIVE SMES

Deadline: 22 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time (*Opening date: 11 January 2023*)

The objective of this action is to continue to provide support to the European Partnership of Innovative SMEs identified in the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021-2024 and first implemented under the topic HORIZON-EIE-2021-INNOVSMES-01-01: European Partnership on Innovative SMEs, and in particular to fund additional activities (which may also be undertaken by additional partners) in view of its intended scope and duration, and in accordance with Article 24(2) of the Horizon Europe Regulation. The consortium which applied to and received funding under the European Partnership on Innovative SMEs topic of the European Innovation Ecosystems Work Programme 2021-2022 is uniquely placed to submit a proposal to continue the envisioned partnership. Not only did this consortium submit the proposal leading to the identification of the partnership in the Horizon Europe strategic planning 2021-2024, it has also implemented the partnership through co-funded calls in 2021-2022 based on this planning and further to the European Partnership on Innovative SMEs topic. It is also deemed relevant that the same consortium was responsible for carrying out the Horizon 2020 predecessor programme EUROSTARS 2. In this context, the current consortium has particular expertise in relation to the objectives of the Partnership, the activities to be implemented and other relevant aspects of the action. In practice, another consortium could not continue the activities of the Partnership underway without significant disruption to the ongoing activities, if at all. For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Coordination and Support Actions (*36 months*).

Project budget: EUR 71.12 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- The proposal must be submitted by the coordinator of the consortium funded under HORIZON-EIE-2021-INNOVSMES-01-01: European Partnership on Innovative SMEs. This eligibility condition is without prejudice to the possibility to include additional partners.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#).
- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Call document](#).

NEXT GENERATION INTERNET COMMONS POLICY (CSA)

Deadline: 29 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

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- A stronger integration of the Next generation Internet initiative, its vision and ecosystem, with the digital commons policies at national and European level
- A long-term strategy for internet commons which are critical for sovereignty and trust, based on a clear mapping of existing communities of commoners and commons
- A smooth articulation of bottom-up activities of European communities of commoners and top-down policy priorities e.g. for reaching critical mass, for the reuse of commons, and for avoiding overlaps
- A more coherent funding landscape integrating national and European dimensions from public and private sector

While internet commons are critical in our digital life their importance it is not fully reflected at the strategic level with little representation of the communities involved, lack of structure, gap between grass-root commoners and top-down sovereignty policies, fragmented funding landscape. For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Coordination and Support Actions (36 months).

Project budget: EUR 2 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#).

DESIGNING SPACE-BASED DOWNSTREAM APPLICATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Deadline: 2 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: Proposals can target one or more of the three expected outcomes. Proposal can also include the use of other space based or non-spaced based assets and services, with a preference given to those based in the EU and in the international cooperation partners countries applying to these topics. The actions should focus on technical developments of EU-space based applications/solutions, dissemination, awareness-raising, as well as provide opportunities for the creation of business-oriented partnerships of European industry with international partners. By doing so the action should be achieving a critical mass of space based-application success stories, demonstrating the advantages and differentiators of EU space-based solutions and services and making it an attractive option for public authorities, private industries and private investors in Europe and elsewhere.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#)

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Actions (*duration not indicated*).

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Project budget: EUR 5,1 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Due to the scope of this topic, legal entities established in countries that have signed an administrative cooperation arrangement on Copernicus data access and Earth observation data exchange are exceptionally eligible for Union funding. Currently, these countries are: the United States, Australia, Ukraine, Chile, Colombia, Serbia, African Union, India and Brazil. Discussions towards similar cooperation have been started with other countries and regions (including United Nations Agencies and AsiaPacific countries).
- If projects use satellite-based earth observation, positioning, navigation and/or related timing data and services, beneficiaries must make use of Copernicus and/or Galileo/EGNOS (other data and services may additionally be used).
- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes and HE Main Work Programme 2021–2022 – 7. Digital, Industry and Space](#).

MICROELECTRONICS-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR 6G NETWORKS

Deadline: 25 April 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time. (*Opening date: 17 January 2023*)

Description: The expected outcome for this topic is:

- Increased capabilities of European microelectronics industry to provide solutions for communication networks and devices (beyond the today 4% of global markets), in line with the findings of the CoreNect CSA.
- Available solutions for devices at various levels of the device data processing chain, from baseband and mixed-signal processing to RF and Antenna system and considering new spectrum that may be needed for 6G.
- Availability of validated hardware solutions that may be used, especially from a physical layer radio perspective, in the context of the 6G standardisation with strong partnership between the microelectronics and communication industrial actors.
- Availability of open solutions that may support further innovation at any level, from the end devices to core 6G network components.
- Availability of solutions that will offer significant energy reduction for 6G communication systems.

- Availability of detailed technology and subsystem characterisation that can be further leveraged from a full development perspective under the KDT JU, in view of materialising the 6G-IA and AENEAS MoU agreement.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Research and Innovation Actions (duration not indicated).

Project budget: EUR 15 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Call document \(page 19 and 20\)](#).
- The page limit for a full application is **100 pages for RIAs and IAs**.

BACKBONE CONNECTIVITY FOR DIGITAL GLOBAL GATEWAYS-WORKS

Deadline: 23 February 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: This topic will support the deployment of backbone connectivity for routes within Member States (including OCTs), between Member States (including OCTs), and between Member States (including OCTs) and third countries:

(1) where there is a lack of redundancy on a route. This is typically the case of routes which are not served by at least two present or credibly planned backbone infrastructures; or

(2) where existing or credibly planned backbone infrastructure cannot reliably satisfy the demand, considering, if necessary, any increase in the demand linked to ongoing or credibly planned investments in the upgrade of access networks in the territories concerned. The utilisation of existing capacity as well as the expected lifetime of existing backbone networks are among the elements that may be considered to justify such a market failure and the urgency of intervention; or

(3) where despite the presence of a backbone infrastructure providing sufficient capacity and guaranteeing the necessary redundancy, in the absence of credible plans from alternative operators to enter the market, the users in the served territories suffer (or could suffer in the absence of adequate regulatory remedies) from suboptimal services or prices compared to those offered in more competitive but otherwise comparable areas or routes. This could be the case for instance if the

backbone infrastructure or a substantial part of it is in the hands of an operator which according to a competent national regulatory authority has significant market power in the relevant market.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: CEF-INFRA CEF Infrastructure Projects (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 100 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Call document](#).
- The page limit of the application is 70 pages.

PUBLIC SECTOR AS GALILEO AND/OR COPERNICUS USER

Deadline: 2 March 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Stimulate the public sector in Europe to use space downstream products, involving SMEs and midcaps.
- Support to public stakeholders through specific funding tools, to develop, via pre-commercial procurement (PCP) innovative EGNSS and/or Copernicus based solutions
- Encourage the public sector to be the “first customer” for innovative space-based applications and contribute to speeding up the modernisation of the public sector.
- Enable public procurers to collectively implement PCPs to close the gap between supply and demand for innovative solutions that require e.g. precise location (from EGNOS/Galileo), spatial data and earth monitoring capabilities (from Copernicus).
- Bring radical improvements to the quality and efficiency of public services by encouraging the development, validation, and certification (when applicable) of breakthrough space-based solutions
- Prepare Galileo and/or Copernicus-based solutions for an integrated approach to support national public authorities to concretely uptake Galileo and/or Copernicus products and use them within their mandate and regulatory tasks and specifically helping them integrating Galileo and/or Copernicus in their regulatory systems, operational procedures, and decision-making.

- Decrease of the prices of EGNSS and Copernicus based products/services, a smart use of the procurement budget to remove supplier lock-in and obtain more open, standardized solutions, shorter time-to-market facilitating the access of SMEs and midcaps to the procurement market and increased exploitation of IPRs and R&D results.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: Pre-commercial Procurement (12 months)

Project budget: EUR 2.6 – 5.2 million

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 General Annexes](#).

5G FOR SMART COMMUNITIES - WORKS

Deadline: 23 February 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Description: The aim of this call is to support the early deployment of 5G-based systems that enable use cases for certain socio-economic drivers (SEDs). Within the context of this call, the targeted SEDs are public authorities exercising public powers and public or private entities entrusted with the operation of services of general interest (SGIs) or services of general economic interest (SGEIs).

For guidance on whether a service is of general interest or general economic interest, please consult the Call document.

Projects funded under this call are expected to:

- Deploy 5G infrastructures capable of delivering leading-edge connectivity with characteristics (such as Gigabit performance, high-user-density, ubiquitous coverage, capacity to connect IoT devices, low latency and reliability) that are capable of supporting innovative ways of improving the provision of public services and SGIs or SGEIs;
- Where necessary, bundle the deployed 5G networks with a cloud-to-edge middleware stack capable of supporting the data-intensive use cases and applications required by the involved SEDs.

The call aims to support 5G best practices beacons in different sectors that can serve as templates for possible replication with other resources, national or EU, or under other programmes (in particular RRF).

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These projects are indirectly expected to demonstrate the potential capabilities and benefits of 5G networks and therefore stimulate the wider and faster deployment and take up of 5G across Europe. Projects will also contribute to provide the foundation for the development of “lead markets” for 5G and cloud-to-edge systems, eventually relying on technologies and standards developed under other EU programmes, in particular the Digital Europe Programme and Horizon Europe.

For further information, please refer to this [link](#).

Type of action and duration: CEF-INFRA CEF Infrastructure Projects (*duration not indicated*).

Project budget: EUR 3 million.

Eligible criteria:

- Legal entities (public or private bodies). Natural persons, international organisations, entities without legal personality and EU bodies **are not eligible**.
- Be established in one of the eligible countries (EU MS or EEA countries).

Specific requirements:

- For further information on the specific requirements, please refer to the [Call document](#).
- The page limit of the application is 70 pages.

Due to the large number of open calls for the Horizon programme, Grimaldi has selected the most important ones although remains at your disposal should you have any question or interest in other open calls. In the event you wish to consult the current open calls or the forthcoming ones, we invite you to check the [website on EU Funding and Tenders](#).

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