



## Developments and thinking on Horizon Europe Funding for Cluster 6 'Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment'

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### NI Successes from first Horizon Europe Calls

The Horizon Dashboard proposal data in October showed 172 eligible proposals with 33 of these retained for funding (19% success rate). The statistics for Cluster 6 are even more impressive with 31 proposals overall and 11 successes (35% success rate).

Seven proposals from Northern Ireland were successful in the initial 2021 Cluster 6 calls under Horizon Europe and four proposals applicants have successful in the 2022 calls evaluated to date. While the Association Agreement between the UK and EU remains unsigned successful applicants sign grant agreements with UKRI under the UK Government Guarantee enabling collaboration.

### Update on UK Participation in Horizon Europe

**Continue to apply to Horizon Europe:** The message from BEIS and Innovate is that UK organisations should continue to develop partnerships and applications for collaborative proposals under Horizon Europe.

**Advice for Applicants:** UK is a candidate **Associated Country** (AC) and you should continue to apply as a full **beneficiary partner** with a Euro budget in any Horizon Europe proposal while UK still has AC status. Do not allow your organisation to be added as an **associated partner** and without a Euro budget in a proposal while UK is still seeking AC status, unless you are not seeking any funding for the project.



Successful UK Horizon Europe applicants will receive funding from UKRI regardless of the outcome of the UK's efforts to associate with Horizon Europe. This applies to all Horizon Europe competitions with a final deadline date on or before 31 December 2022, where the delay to UK association to the programme may prevent them from signing grant agreements.

**Information on UK funding for Horizon Europe is available [here](#).**

**Successful applicants:** If you have been successful in winning Horizon Europe funding and are unable to sign the grant agreement, do check the guidelines on [this page](#). Please do not hesitate to contact NICP Elaine Groom (details at end) or one of the other NICPs for help if you are uncertain.

**Funding for Third Country Participation:** If the UK does not associate to Horizon Europe, funding will be available for UK applicants to participate in funding opportunities as 'third country' applicants. This will come into effect at the point the UK is unable to associate. Further information on how to apply will be provided if the UK is unable to associate.

In July 2022 the UK Government published details on plans to transition to a new R&D programme should delays around UK Association continue. Details on these Transitional Measures can be found [HERE](#).

For a full breakdown on how the UK will transition to a new R&D programme if unable to associate to Horizon Europe, Copernicus and Euratom please visit [Supporting UK R&D and collaborative research beyond European programmes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)"

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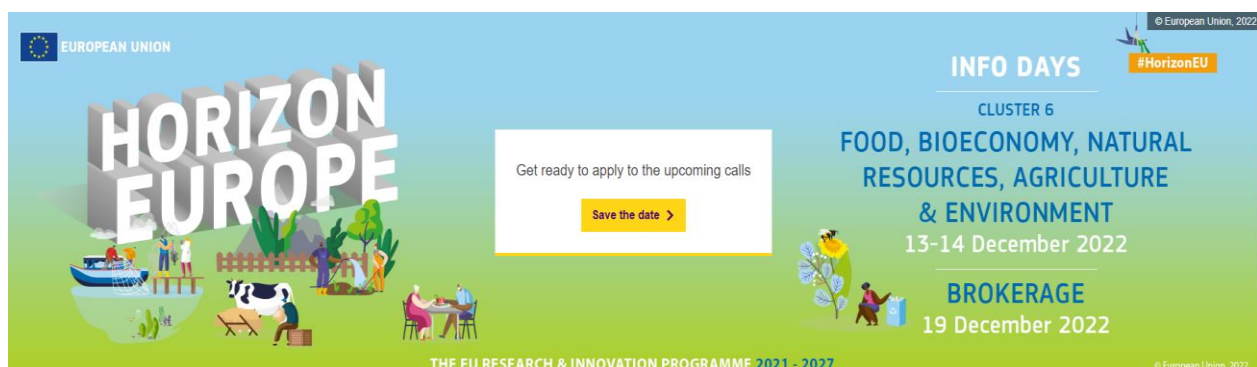
## Forthcoming Calls: Cluster 6 'Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment'

The Cluster 6 work programme for 2023-2024 is in the final stage of preparation. It will again feature the calls or 'Destinations' that were introduced in 2021 (**Biodiversity, Farm-to-fork, Circular Bioeconomy, Zero Pollution, Climate, Communities and Governance**). A budget of just under € 1.8 billion is estimated for the work programme, excluding the contribution to Missions and other actions, with 98 topics in 2023 and 80 in 2024. An indicative timeline for development suggests publication in late November/early December. **The 2023 calls are expected to open on 22 December 2022, with deadlines in February and March 2023.**

If you would like to discuss how your interests and ideas might fit into the forthcoming calls, and explore the next steps to take, please do get in touch and arrange a time to discuss them with NICP Elaine Groom (contact details below).

### Info Days and Brokerage event

The Research Executive Agency (REA) and the National Contact Points have sent out a **HOLD the DATE** alert for **Info Days on 13 and 14 December** and a **brokerage event on 19 December**. Details will be updated here: [REA Cluster 6 page](#).



The banner features the European Union logo and the text 'EUROPEAN UNION' in the top left. The main title 'HORIZON EUROPE' is displayed in large, 3D block letters. Below it, a central white box contains the text 'Get ready to apply to the upcoming calls' and a yellow button labeled 'Save the date >'. To the right, the text 'INFO DAYS' is followed by the hashtag '#HorizonEU'. Below this, it specifies 'CLUSTER 6' and 'FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT' with dates '13-14 December 2022'. Further down, it lists 'BROKERAGE' on '19 December 2022'. The bottom of the banner includes the text 'THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME 2021 - 2027' and a small copyright notice '© European Union, 2022'.

## Horizon Europe Clusters – UK Webinar Series

Innovate UK and UK National Contact Points will provide an overview of the Horizon Europe Clusters under Pillar 2: Global Challenges & European Industrial Competitiveness.

- 1 December 2022, 10am-12pm GMT - Cluster 5: Climate, Energy & Mobility
- 2 December 2022, 10am-12pm GMT - Cluster 1: Health
- **6 December 2022, 10-12pm GMT - Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment**
- 7 December 2022, 10am-12pm GMT - Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- 8 December 2022, 10am-12pm GMT - Cluster 4: Digital, Industry & Space
- 15 December 2022, 10am-12pm GMT - Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society

The UK National Contact Points will present detailed information for the 2023/2024 Work Programme of each Cluster. [Register Now](#)

## NCP Support Network

**CARE4BIO** is the new Network of **National Contact Points** for Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment who will support Cluster 6 applicants to increase participation. Support will take the form of yearly brokerage events, training dedicated to applicants and awareness raising events. CARE4BIO will also share relevant information regarding Cluster 6, including news and program updates, on its [website](#) and social media via [LinkedIn](#) and [twitter](#).



## Forthcoming Call: Missions

Publication of the 2023 Call for Missions is expected in December and the call will open on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 with the main deadline on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Topics under 3 of the missions are of relevance to Cluster 6 areas:

- Demonstration of climate resilience solutions in support of the implementation of the **Adaptation to Climate Change Mission**: 3 topics (Innovation Actions) targeting the agriculture and/or forestry sector, mainstreaming nature-based solutions and health risks due to the effects of climate change.
- Actions for the implementation of the **Mission Restore our ocean and waters by 2030**: 11 topics targeting cross-cutting issues or specific to various ocean basins
- Research and Innovation and other actions to support the implementation of **Mission A Soil Deal for Europe**: 9 topics (Research and Innovation Actions; Innovation Actions; Coordination and Support Actions)
- Joint Mission Calls: 3 topics – joint between 2 or 3 missions.

### Additional resources (Soil Mission):

- Soil strategy for 2030 - [New EU Soil Strategy for 2030](#); [Staff Working Document](#); [Factsheet](#)
- Commission's [Long-term vision for rural areas](#)

## Forthcoming Call: Circular Bio-Based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU)

CBE JU has prepared a first draft of its Annual Work Plan for 2023, based on members' and commission's priorities. This is currently confidential to members. Publication is expected in March/April with the call opening in June and a deadline in September 2023. If your interests fall under this area, please do get in touch with NICP Elaine Groom (details below) to discuss a possible fit of your ideas to call topics.

There are several articles published which highlight some of the projects already funded and issues addressed by topics in the forthcoming call. These include:

- [Biomass availability, ecological limits and biorefineries;](#)
- [Sustainable fertiliser development and supply;](#)

The Bio Industries Consortium (BIC), the private part of CBE JU, has 240 Industry Members (large companies and SMEs) and more than 200 Associate Members (educational and research institutes, European associations, technology platforms, public institutions, regional organisations and private banks). BIC is a forum for exchange of ideas and networking with industry for collaboration in proposals. Further information can be found on the [Membership page](#). The [Irish BioEconomy Foundation is a member of BIC](#) and is able to represent members as an association, therefore membership of IBF may be a valuable alternative.

### **Additional resources:**

- Circular Economy Package [Action Plan](#)
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## **Other Open Calls**

### **Innovation Fund: Third call for large-scale projects supporting REPowerEU**

The Innovation Fund is a European call separate from Horizon Europe and UK is not eligible, but the **call documents specifically mention NI** - “Geographic location (target countries): Proposals must relate to activities taking place in EU Member States, Norway or Iceland. **Projects may also be located in Northern Ireland** on the condition that the project concerns the generation, transmission, distribution or supply of electricity.”

- [Link to the 4 call topics](#) – call deadline 16 March 2023.
- [Link to infodays](#) (29 November 2022) register by 28 November

To discuss if your ideas fit for this call please get in touch with [Energy NICP Laura FitzMaurice](#) or Conall McGinley, [NCP-Energy@iuk.ukri.org](mailto:NCP-Energy@iuk.ukri.org) Horizon Europe UK National Contact Point for Energy and Global Innovation Lead for Energy at Innovate UK.

### **Info Session: MSCA Staff Exchanges 7 December 2022 – Save the date**

The second call of the Horizon Europe Staff Exchanges action is open for new proposal applications until 8 March 2023 ([Funding & tender opportunities portal](#)). MSCA-SE offers unique opportunities for public/private organisations and their staff in terms of R&I, transferable skills and competences, as well as intersectoral/international exposure. In the online info session, the European Research Executive Agency and European Commission staff together will provide some key insights on how to apply, consortium composition and funding availability with testimonials from successful beneficiaries. The info session will be in English. Information with links and agenda have not yet been posted on [the call page](#).

See also recordings from UK Research Office (UKRO) events for MSCA Staff Exchanges 2022:

- [Session 1: Overview and Eligibility Rules](#)
- [Session 2: Practical Considerations](#)
- [Session 3: Participation of the Non-academic Sector in MSCA Staff Exchanges](#)

### **Cascading funding (Funding managed by on-going projects)**

Opportunities for cascading funding (calls issued by projects) can be found [here on the Funding and Tenders Portal](#). Calls that are currently open and relevant to the Cluster 6 area include:

- EIT Food Innovation Call for Proposals 2023
- European Open Science Cloud “EOSC Future” – RDA Open Call External Expert Evaluators
- EIT Food Public Engagement Proof of Concepts Call for Proposals

## ERA-Net call: Open & Re-usable Research Data & Software

The [ORD Call under the CHIST-ERA](#) tackles the challenge of open research data and software from the perspective of their possible reuse. The objective is to create the conditions for research in any domain based on open or shared data and software. The call addresses any research domain: Within, at the interface or outside ICT.

- Information Webinars are planned on October 3 and November 28.
- United Kingdom **Contact Point for the call (UKRI):** [Rachel.Lamb@epsrc.ukri.org](mailto:Rachel.Lamb@epsrc.ukri.org).
- **Deadline 14 December 2022.**

## European Partnerships – Future Funding Calls

European partnerships are initiatives where the EU, and national authorities or the private sector jointly commit to support the development and implementation of a programme of research and innovation activities. “Co-Funded partnerships” will be the most familiar type. These initiate transnational calls for funding. If you have ever heard of or applied to an **ERA-Net funding** call, this would have been initiated by a partnership of funders across Europe and beyond (e.g. BBSRC, DEFRA in UK, or EPA, DAFM, etc. in Ireland, with others). The successful projects are funded locally for each partner but coordinated at EU level. Horizon Europe planning has streamlined the number and type of partnerships and they are funded through dedicated topics under Horizon Europe calls. There are eight partnerships that fall under Cluster 6. These are well advanced and can be found in **Table 1** below. Many are building on previous ERA-Nets or JPIs. Some have commenced; others have submitted a plan and will apply, as a consortium of national funding bodies, for funding under the 2023 calls.

**Why mention these now?** Each of the candidate or operational partnerships will have done a scoping exercise, developing a **STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AGENDA (SRIA)** which sets out priorities for future funding of research. Each SRIA will therefore form the basis of future transnational calls for proposals. Do become familiar with those that are relevant to your research interests and discuss potential strategy and ideas with colleagues to prepare for future collaborations and calls.

**Table 1. List of Operational and Candidate Partnerships under Cluster 6**

Title	Current Stage	Further Information
<b>Co-Funded Partnerships; Transnational calls will be run by Partnerships (national/regional funding)</b>		
Agroecology living labs and research infrastructures Partnership (AELLRI)	Candidate Partnership; Topic in 2023 WP; Budget €150m Draft SRIA <a href="#">here</a> (consultation closed)	<a href="#">Dedicated Commission Agroecology Page</a> <a href="#">SCAR Agroecology SWG</a>
European Partnership for Animal Health and Welfare (PAHW)	Candidate Partnership; Topic in 2023 WP; Budget €180m SRIA under preparation	<a href="#">Final Partnership Proposal</a>
European Partnership for Agriculture of Data	Candidate Partnership; Topic in 2023 WP; Budget €100m SRIA under preparation	<a href="#">Final Partnership Proposal</a>
European Biodiversity Partnership (Biodiversa +)	Operational; Total estimated budget €800m; Topic in 2023 WP; Budget €120m SRIA <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="https://www.biodiversa.org/2">https://www.biodiversa.org/2</a>



Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP)	Launch expected late 2022; Total estimated budget €490m Draft SRIA <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="https://www.jpi-oceans.eu/en/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership">https://www.jpi-oceans.eu/en/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership</a>
Sustainable Food Systems for People, Planet & Climate Partnership	Candidate Partnership; Topic in 2023 WP; Budget €175m Draft SRIA <a href="#">here</a> currently open for <b>PUBLIC CONSULTATION</b> - <b>Deadline 19 Dec 2022</b> (noon)	<a href="https://scar-europe.org/food-main-actions/food-systems-partnership">https://scar-europe.org/food-main-actions/food-systems-partnership</a>
Water security for the planet (Water4All)	Operational; Total estimated budget €420m; Topic in 2023 WP; Budget €126m SRIA <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="https://water4all-partnership.eu/">https://water4all-partnership.eu/</a>
<b>Institutionalised (public-private) Partnership: EU as partner; calls via Horizon Europe</b>		
Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU)	Operational; Total estimated budget €2bn SRIA <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="https://www.cbe.europa.eu/">https://www.cbe.europa.eu/</a>

Other partnerships of interest:

- One Health AMR Candidate Partnership (Cluster 1) - [JPIAMR Website \(One Health AMR\)](#)
- European Partnership for the Assessment of Risk from Chemicals (PARC) (Cluster 1) - [PARC Website](#)
- Cluster 4 Partnerships (including “AI, Data & Robotics”) – [Commission Cluster 4 Partnerships page](#)
- Cluster 5 Partnerships (including “Clean Energy Transition” and “Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future (DUT)”) – [Commission Cluster 5 Partnerships page](#)

### Water4All Partnership

Water4All partnership started in 2022 funded by Horizon Europe to concentrate research and innovation on water in Europe and beyond and working with the Water JPI (Joint Programming Initiative). Water4All’s Vision is to “boost the systemic transformations and changes across the entire research – water innovation pipeline, fostering the matchmaking between problem owners and solution providers for ensuring water security for all in the long term”.



**Water4All RD&I’s themes, drivers and enablers:**



Water4All will launch a series of annual Joint Transnational Calls (JTCs) pooling national financial resources through the participation of ministries, authorities and funding organisations. UK (EPSRC-UKRI) is one of the funding partners participating. The calls aim at strengthening the water RD&I collaboration and

producing and sharing top class water-related knowledge and data. The topics for the calls will be drawn from the water challenges identified in the Water4All [Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda](#) (SRIA).

A current activity of the Water JPI is **mapping at national and regional levels water-related Living Labs** – more information [here](#). These will also be important for the Agroecology living labs and research infrastructures Partnership (AELLRI).

### Additional Resources

- There is a useful summary of the **water challenges in Horizon Europe** [here](#)
- Mapping of Water RDI (Research Development and Innovation) in Europe has been undertaken as part of the Coordination and Support Action WatEUr
  - [Overview](#)
  - [Details of methodology and information per country](#)
  - [Report](#)

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## Addressing call requirements in Horizon Europe applications

The Commission thinking across Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe has changed considerably and in consequence new requirements or ‘novelties’ have been introduced. These can present a challenge for both experienced applicants and newcomers alike - ignore them at your peril.

At the **#RiDaysEU 2022** in September the Commission ran a workshop [Recipe for success: Tips and tricks to writing your Horizon Europe proposal](#). The recording can be watched on YouTube. In particular they drew attention to the need to demonstrate the potential impact of proposals and address aspects like **Open Science, the gender dimension, the 'Do no significant harm' principle, and dissemination, exploitation and communication**.

## Lump Sum Funding for Horizon Europe Projects

Following a pilot under Horizon 2020, lump sum funding has now been rolled out for many topics. The Commission presentation on how they will operate and what to take account of in preparing proposals was presented in an info day in October. The recording can be accessed on this page: [Lump Sum Funding in Horizon Europe: How does it work? How to write a proposal?](#)

Lump Sum is a simplification in which project partners are paid for successfully completed outputs, but without the need for a detailed claim and expense-based reimbursement. This will reduce the administrative burden of grant management for SMEs, smaller institutions and newcomers in particular. The key messages for those developing proposals are:

- Standard Horizon Europe proposal template. Address expected impacts and outcomes as in any Horizon proposal.
- No change in project design, except that work packages with a long duration may be split along the reporting periods. In this way, the relevant activities can be paid at the end of the reporting period.
- A detailed breakdown of cost estimates is needed to define and justify the lump sum. The estimates must be an approximation of your actual costs and meet the eligibility criteria of Horizon Europe.

**Lump Sum Topics in Cluster 6:** in the 2023-2024 draft, 56 of the 188 topics are lump sum topics. Once published on the Funding & Tenders Portal, lump sum topics will be listed [on this page](#).

A publication “[Lump sum grants in Horizon Europe: Why do we need them and how do they work in practice?](#)” can also be downloaded from the Commission site.

### Integration of Social Sciences and Humanities

Making use of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines in projects can aid the take up and acceptance of the solutions developed. This is one of the areas that is poorly addressed in proposals. In Approx. 70 of the 188 forthcoming topics under Cluster 6 2023-2024 are badged as SSH topics and the call text includes a requirement to integrate SSH researchers in the consortium.

A North-South event for Cluster 6, with a focus on integration of SSH, was developed by Queen's University Belfast, Invest NI, DAERA (AFBI), DAFM, the Irish Research Council and InterTradeIreland. You will find the recording, slides and Q&A files on the Enterprise Ireland page: [Social Sciences and Humanities webinar \(Cluster 6\) in the areas of Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture, and environment - Horizon Europe](#). A few pitching presentations are also available on the event [YouTube channel](#) (with the event recording under 'playlist'), and the public profiles of those who registered for the brokerage event, along with supporting information can be viewed on the [event page](#).

### Other Opportunities

#### New COST Actions

Fifteen of the new COST Actions approved in the last year are relevant to the agriculture, food or environmental sectors. They cover a wide range of core disciplines from agriculture and economics to veterinary sciences. Recently funded Cost Actions relevant to Cluster 6 areas are listed in Table 2 below.



#### What are COST Actions?

The COST programme (Cooperation in Science and Technology) ([www.cost.eu](http://www.cost.eu)) is an EU programme supporting the development of bottom-up interdisciplinary networks lasting for four years. COST actions are open to all researchers and innovators at all levels of experience. It is a network-driven programme that enables younger researchers to connect with European researchers within their specific fields of interest

They are different to many other EU funded projects because **it is possible to join and participate in a research network even once it has started running**. Actions provide opportunities to get involved in their activities through training schools, short-term scientific missions, workshops, conferences, etc. Opportunities are created by individual Actions and promoted via their websites and social media channels.

COST Actions focus on emerging complex topics that require input and thinking from across Europe. They often act as a pre-portal to other funding instruments. Follow-up proposals from COST Actions have a 37% success rate.

#### How can I participate?

- Read the Project Description MoU
- Inform the Main Proposer/Chair of your interest (via email)
- Apply to join your Working Groups of interest
- Please note, Management Committee nominations are carried out through the COST National Contact Points (for UK this is: Mr Herbee Thomas, +44 (0) 207 215 8356; [cost@beis.gov.uk](mailto:cost@beis.gov.uk))



Table 2. List of recently approved COST Actions relevant to Cluster 6.

COST Action Title	COST Action Number / link
European Swine Influenza Network (ESFLU)	<a href="#">CA21132</a>
Faites Vos Jeux! Moving high-resolution in cellulo structural biological of infectious processes from the roulette table to the chess board	<a href="#">IG17121</a>
One Health drugs against parasitic vector borne diseases in Europe and beyond (OneHealthdrugs)	<a href="#">CA21111</a>
LIFT: Lifting farm animal lives – laying the foundations for positive animal welfare (LIFT)	<a href="#">CA21124</a>
Joint effects of CLimate Extremes and Atmospheric depositioN on European FORESTS (CLEANFOREST)	<a href="#">CA21138</a>
Implementation of Circular Economy in the Built Environment (CircularB)	<a href="#">CA21103</a>
European Network for Innovative Woody Plant Cloning (COPYTREE)	<a href="#">CA21157</a>
Reducing acrylamide exposure of consumers by a cereals supply-chain approach targeting asparagine (ACRYRED)	<a href="#">CA21149</a>
Text, functional and other high-dimensional data in econometrics: New models, methods, applications (HiTEc)	<a href="#">CA21163</a>
Fundamentals and applications of purple bacteria biotechnology for resource recovery from waste (PURPLEGAIN)	<a href="#">CA21146</a>
Techno-economic analysis of carbon mitigation technologies (TrANsMIT)	<a href="#">CA21127</a>
European Network for diagnosis and treatment of antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections (EURESTOP)	<a href="#">CA21145</a>
Enhancing Small-Medium Islands resilience by securing the sustainability of Ecosystem Services (SMILES)	<a href="#">CA21158</a>
Towards zero Pesticide AGRiculture : European Network for sustainability (TOP-AGRI-Network)	<a href="#">CA21134</a>
A European forum for revitalisation of marginalised mountain areas (MARGISTAR)	<a href="#">CA21125</a>

### [Do you have an idea for a COST Action?](#)

Proposals for new COST Actions can be submitted to the annual Open Call via e-COST. The deadline (cut-off for 2023 is yet to be announced. Check out: <https://www.cost.eu/how-to-apply/>

### **Why apply for a COST Action?**

- Actions receive 600.000 EUR to cover networking activities, training schools and more.
- Spin-off funding: a COST action generates 5.8 million EUR in spin-off funding (on average)
- COST actions act as a pre-portal to other funding opportunities in Horizon Europe

## Conferences, Seminars and Events

### [Bioeconomy meets data](#)

ERRIN Bioeconomy and ICT Working Group Meeting, Wednesday 23 November, 10:00-11:30 CET. This meeting aims to shed light on the use of data in different bioeconomy-related sectors in regions across Europe. The European Commission will present the use of digital tools in R&I activities to enable the transition of industrial circular bio-based systems in the EU; this will be followed by regional case studies. [Details and Registration via ERRIN](#) (European Regions Research and Innovation Network).

**Note:** Northern Ireland is a member via Invest NI; you will need to enter “Invest NI” as the member if registering.

### [Assessing digitalization in food systems](#)

The **SCAR FOOD SYSTEMS SWG** is organising a workshop on **Assessing digitalisation in Food Systems**, which will take place on **25 November from 9.15 to 12.45 CET, online**.

Significant investigation is still needed to understand **how Digitalisation and Artificial intelligence can support the transformation of smart, healthy & sustainable Food Systems**. The workshop will support knowledge exchange and help to identify good practices on the use of Digitalisation and AI integration possibilities, focusing on case studies related to food processing and food consumption. Significantly, the workshop will contribute to feed and improve the current debate on the role of digital platforms and Living Labs in Food Systems innovation. [Register here by 24 November](#)

### [Forthcoming Networking and Brokerage Events](#)

- **Funding circular economy innovation in Europe** One-to-EU meetings - @ECOMONDO 2022 (8 - 11 November 2022). Meetings with Commission Experts – register at <https://ecomondo-2022.b2match.io/>
- **Accelerating resource efficiency, renewable energy and scaling up of circular fertilizer solutions** - 05 Dec. 2022 (+preparatory webinars 17 Nov. and 24 Nov)  
Register at <https://agrifood-matchmaking-event.b2match.io/>

Organised by the European Commission in the context of Food Business and Marketing Practices, this matchmaking event, including its preparatory webinars, will focus on the agri-food ecosystem and in particular on the topics of:

- uptake of resource efficiency technologies,
- deployment of renewable energy and
- scaling-up of innovative circular fertiliser production methods.

More information can be found in the [Agenda](#) and [Webinar](#) sections.

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## **The Northern Ireland Contact Point Network**

The Northern Ireland Contact Point (NICP) network was set up in 2014 to support local applicants applying for European Horizon funding. Details are available on the [network's website](#) which has been updated for Horizon Europe. Services offered by the NICPs include:

- **Guidance** on choosing relevant H2020 topics and types of action
- **Advice** on administrative procedures and contractual issues
- **Training**, assistance and advice on proposal writing, to improve the quality of proposals
- **Signpost** to documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.) and other supports available
- **Assistance** in partner searches

### [NICP Network Bulletin](#)

NICP Horizon Europe Newsletter Issue 2 (November 2022) is now available on the NICP website [here](#). You can sign up with email subscription for the NICP Network Bulletin at <https://horizoneuropeni.com/> and follow us on Twitter @HORIZONEUROPENI

### [NICP Cluster 6 Newsletter](#)

Previous editions of this newsletter are now available for download: <https://horizoneuropeni.com/cluster-6-newsletter-archive/>



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