HORIZON EUROPE · WORK PROGRAMME 2026-2027 · AMENDMENT

What changed when the Commission amended the 2026-27 work programme

The Commission re-issued all 15 parts of the Horizon Europe 2026-2027 work programme on 29 September 2026. This guide compares each part, topic by topic, with the version adopted in December 2025: new and cancelled topics, moved deadlines, budget shifts and changed eligibility rules.

Original: **C(2025) 8493 of 11 Dec 2025** Re-issued: **29 Sep 2026**, all 15 parts

Prepared by **Plenty Nexus** · www.plentynexus.com Status of this guide: **1 Oct 2026**

Independent analysis, not an official Commission document

+507.81
EUR million net across the 13 parts with a budget table, mostly in 2027.

+485.95
EUR million for Horizontal Activities: a nature-positive call and Bridging Actions 2027, net of a 1.50 cut to AI in Science.

+212.78
EUR million more for MSCA (70.00 in 2026, 142.78 in 2027), of which 212.50 for Doctoral Networks and Postdoctoral Fellowships.

−133.20
EUR million from Cluster 4 in 2026, mostly quantum grants removed after the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking's mandate was extended to quantum.

17 Feb 2027
New deadline for the main Health 2027 calls, 55 days earlier than 13 Apr.

The amendment in five moves

MOVE	WHERE	SCALE
Two new horizontal calls. "Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society" (10 topics, most closing 14 Jan 2027) and "Bridging Actions 2027" (13 topics, plus three grants totalling EUR 57 million to EMBL, CRG and SIB for life-science databases). AI in Science gains one small topic.	Horizontal Activities	23 new topics, +1 in AI in Science
More 2027 Innovation Actions exclude entities controlled from China. The General Annexes extend the list of critical technology areas from 4 to 10, and topics in Clusters 3 to 6, the Missions, the NEB, the nature-positive call and the Clean Industrial Deal call adopt the restriction. In 15 topics that limit participation and accept guarantees (13 of them in Cluster 4), China-controlled entities may no longer submit guarantees. One Cluster 5 topic (`D5-16`) loses the restriction.	General Annexes, many 2027 calls	Cluster 5 alone: 20 more Innovation Actions, EUR 393.90 million
Money moves out. Six quantum follow-on grants (EUR 119 million) are removed from Cluster 4 after Council Regulation (EU) 2026/150 extended the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking's mandate to quantum, and three quantum topics from a call that closed in April 2026 are cancelled. The Cities Mission pre-commercial procurement (EUR 26.82 million) is deleted; separately, the Cities Mission now contributes EUR 25 million to an EIC Accelerator Challenge. A EUR 50 million InvestEU blending action in Cluster 5 is deleted.	Cluster 4, Missions, Cluster 5	4 topics gone
Dates move. Health 2027 closes 17 Feb 2027 (stage 2 and the September call on 16 Sep); the Cancer Mission closes 16 Sep 2027; MSCA Staff Exchanges closes 13 Apr 2027; the Galileo and Copernicus preparedness topic `HORIZON-2027-EUSPA-SPACE-51` slips a year, to 22 Feb 2028. The Cluster 4 INDUSTRY calls and the AI in Science 2027 call now open on 13 Oct 2026, with unchanged deadlines.	Health, Missions, MSCA, Cluster 4, Horizontal Activities	25 upcoming deadlines moved

MOVE	WHERE	SCALE
Relaunches and replacements. Startup and Scaleup Hubs return as one EUR 40 million call (closes 5 Jan 2027), replacing the cancelled 2026 pilot and Startup Europe 2027. The NEB transport-corridors topic is cancelled; a different topic, on enabling environments for the construction sector and linked to the NEB Academy, takes most of its money. Two space non-dependence topics and a CO2-transport support action move to later calls under new codes.	EIE, NEB, Cluster 4, Cluster 5	`3 cancelled, 3 renumbered`

What applicants should check now

The changes most likely to affect a proposal in preparation, with links to the part where the detail sits.

EARLIER DEADLINE

Health 2027 now closes 17 Feb 2027, almost eight weeks earlier. The single-stage call `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01` (10 topics) and stage 1 of `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-two-stage` (4 topics) open on 29 Oct 2026 instead of 10 Feb 2027 and close on 17 Feb instead of 13 Apr 2027.

Stage 2 of the two-stage call and the `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03` call now close on 16 Sep 2027 instead of 22 Sep. The pandemic-preparedness partnership call `HORIZON-HLTH-2026-03` still closes on 13 Apr 2027. Health details

ELIGIBILITY

Screen partners for control from China in 2027 Innovation Actions. The General Annexes extend the "restriction on control in innovation actions in critical technology areas" from 4 to 10 technology areas, and many 2027 topics now apply it: 20 more Innovation Actions in Cluster 5 (24 in all), 6 more in Cluster 6, 5 in the Missions, both 2027 Clean Industrial Deal topics and an NEB topic, among others.

The restriction targets entities established in the EU, Associated Countries or other eligible countries, including subsidiaries, that are controlled from China; entities established in China are already excluded from all Innovation Actions. Separately, in 15 topics that limit participation and accept guarantees (13 of them in Cluster 4), China-controlled entities can no longer submit guarantees. Many 2027 topics also drop the separate clause that barred high-risk telecom suppliers. Read the eligibility box of each topic. General Annexes details

SHORT WINDOWS

Several new calls close within four months. Startup and Scaleup Hubs, EUR 40 million for 2 networks: 6 Oct 2026 to 5 Jan 2027. Missions cross-cutting topic `HORIZON-MISS-2026-07-CROSS-04` for local authorities: 6 Oct 2026 to 13 Jan 2027. Eight nature-positive topics: 13 Oct 2026 to 14 Jan 2027. Bridging follow-on topic `HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-02-05`: 20 Oct 2026 to 28 Jan 2027.

Consortia for these have to be built over the holiday period. EIE details · Missions details · Horizontal Activities details

GONE OR MOVED

Cancelled or deleted: the Cities Mission pre-commercial procurement `HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-05` (deleted), the NEB transport-corridors topic `HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03` and Startup Europe 2027 `HORIZON-EIE-2027-01-CONNECT-01` (cancelled). Also cancelled after their calls had closed: the 2026 Startup and Scaleup Hubs pilot `HORIZON-EIE-2026-02-CONNECT-01` and three Cluster 4 quantum topics from the April 2026 call.

Moved: the two space non-dependence topics go to a new call closing 20 Jan 2028 (as `HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-07-83/84`, each expecting 2 projects of EUR 3–4 million, with an indicative budget shown as EUR 0.00 million); the CO2-transport support action goes to the September 2027 call (as `HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D3-31`); and `HORIZON-2027-EUSPA-SPACE-51` moves to a February 2028 deadline. Cluster 4 details · NEB details

NEW DOOR

Follow-on money for finished projects. `HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-02-05` funds consortia of at most 6 partners, up to EUR 2.5 million per project, to take the results of a *completed* multi-beneficiary Cluster 1–6 RIA, IA or PCP managed by the Commission or an executive agency towards deployment, with a fast-track grant within 6 months and thresholds of 4/4/4.

`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-06-02` pays knowledge intermediaries (technology transfer offices, clusters, incubators) to run open calls that valorise Horizon results. Horizontal Activities details

AWARD RULES

Widening and MSCA rules change for 2027. ERA Chairs and ERA Research Managers guarantee a grant to the top-ranked proposal per coordinator country, if it passes the thresholds. In the Excellence Hubs call, already open since 2 Sep 2026 and closing 4 Mar 2027, the text now states explicitly that each ecosystem must sit entirely in one Widening country.

MSCA Doctoral Networks and Postdoctoral Fellowships get more money, the MSCA Green Charter no longer counts as a tie-break factor in 2027, and Staff Exchanges 2027 closes on 13 Apr 2027. Widening details · MSCA details

The Funding & Tenders Portal has only partly caught up

On 1 October 2026 the portal's listings already showed all 10 nature-positive and 13 Bridging topics with the amended deadlines, but still showed pre-amendment data for the topics below. The work programme is the adopted text; check each topic page before submitting.

TOPICS	AMENDED WORK PROGRAMME	PORTAL LISTING ON 1 OCT 2026
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-*` (10) and stage 1 of `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-*` (4)	Deadline **17 Feb 2027**, opens 29 Oct 2026	13 Apr 2027
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-*` (3)	16 Sep 2027	22 Sep 2027
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL-08`	Retitled "Towards the next generation of frontier Artificial Intelligence models for healthcare"	Old title, "Towards Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) for healthcare"
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-02-CANCER-01` to `-06`	16 Sep 2027	21 Sep 2027
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-SE-01-01`	13 Apr 2027	15 Apr 2027

TOPICS	AMENDED WORK PROGRAMME	PORTAL LISTING ON 1 OCT 2026
`HORIZON-EIE-2027-01-CONNECT-01`, `HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03`	Cancelled	Listed as forthcoming
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-05`	Deleted	Listed as forthcoming
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-83`, `-84`, `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-31`	Moved to `SPACE-07-83/84` (20 Jan 2028) and `CL5-2027-05-D3-31` (15 Sep 2027)	Listed under the old codes and dates
`HORIZON-EIE-2027-02-CONNECT-01`, `HORIZON-MISS-2026-07-CROSS-04`, `HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-04`, `HORIZON-CL4-2027-01-MAT-PROD-50`, `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-33`, `HORIZON-RAISE-2027-01-04`	New	Not listed yet

Budget by part

Each part's "Estimated total budget", EUR million. The General Introduction and General Annexes have no budget table. Line items are rounded in the work programme and may not add to the printed totals by up to 0.02.

PART	2026 DEC	2026 SEP	Δ	2027 DEC	2027 SEP	Δ
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions	1,196.86	1,266.86	+70.00	1,181.63	1,324.41	+142.78
Research Infrastructures	311.20	311.20	0.00	406.70	405.70	−1.00
Cluster 1 · Health	610.99	611.09	+0.10	722.59	722.59	0.00
Cluster 2 · Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society	360.30	360.60	+0.30	337.40	339.10	+1.70
Cluster 3 · Civil Security for Society	190.13	191.63	+1.50	203.62	203.62	0.00
Cluster 4 · Digital, Industry and Space	1,138.97	1,005.77	−133.20	1,102.55	1,106.40	+3.85
Cluster 5 · Climate, Energy and Mobility	1,187.72	1,136.67	−51.05	865.24	873.82	+8.58
Cluster 6 · Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment	676.40	676.70	+0.30	630.85	631.85	+1.00
European Innovation Ecosystems	29.00	29.00	0.00	36.10	38.10	+2.00
Widening Participation and the European Research Area	485.03	485.03	0.00	469.94	469.94	0.00
EU Missions	619.43	619.43	0.00	643.33	618.33	−25.00
New European Bauhaus Facility	106.07	106.07	0.00	108.93	108.93	0.00
Horizontal Activities	332.80	459.25	+126.45	297.00	656.50	+359.50
All parts with a budget table	**7,244.90**	**7,259.30**	**+14.40**	**7,005.88**	**7,499.29**	**+493.41**

Part by part

The headline of each part is shown; open "Full change list" for budgets, new and removed topics, changed conditions, what it means for applicants, and open questions.

Annex I FRAMING

General Introduction

Rewritten around the two new horizontal calls and a Choose Europe package of almost EUR 1.15 billion.

The introduction is rewritten to present the two new horizontal calls added by the amendment: **'Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society'** (around EUR 230 million, 11 actions; EUR 227.45 million in the Horizontal Activities budget table) and **'Bridging Actions 2027'** (EUR 260 million, 16 actions). It also documents an **MSCA Choose Europe boost of EUR 70 million (2026) + EUR 141.5 million (2027)** and puts the total Choose Europe for Science package at **almost EUR 1.15 billion**. All the headline spending shares are restated: climate, biodiversity, digital and AI. Most of the other edits only change future tense ("will") to present tense.

Budget

The General Introduction has no budget table. Its headline figures, old → new:

FIGURE	DEC 2025	SEP 2026	DELTA
Total WP investment	over EUR 14 billion	over EUR 14 billion	unchanged
R&I in support of the Clean Industrial Deal call	EUR 540 million	EUR 540 million	unchanged
AI in Science horizontal call	around EUR 90 million	around EUR 90 million	unchanged
AI in science elsewhere in the WP	at least EUR 775 million	at least EUR 867 million	+92
NEW: Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society	–	around EUR 230 million, 11 actions	new
NEW: Bridging Actions 2027	–	EUR 260 million, 16 actions	new
Valorisation topics (market, societal and policy uptake)	over EUR 870 million	over EUR 1 billion	about +130
Critical raw materials topics	EUR 634 million	EUR 634 million	unchanged
Climate action (Pillar II + RI + WIDERA + EIE + Missions + NEB + Horizontal)	over EUR 4 903 million = 46.3%	over EUR 5 095 million = 47.1%	+192
Biodiversity (same parts)	EUR 1 661 million = 15.7%	EUR 1 893 million = 17.5%	+232
Climate contribution of Missions + NEB + Horizontal	EUR 1 395 million = 68.7%	EUR 1 370 million = 68.3%	−25
Climate contribution per cluster (C1 176, C2 64, C3 96, C4 437, C5 1 644, C6 778; EUR million)	as listed	identical	unchanged (see Open questions)
Digital transition (same parts)	35.8% = EUR 3 780 million; 33% of all HE	35.5% = EUR 3 700 million; 33.1% of all HE	−80
AI-related topics 2026-2027	EUR 2 023 million	EUR 2 060 million	+37
Climate floor (all of HE)	at least 35%	at least 35%	unchanged

Choose Europe for Science, old → new:

COMPONENT	DEC 2025	SEP 2026
First support package (May 2025)	EUR 500 million ("announced in May 2025")	EUR 500 million, "adopted on 5 May 2025", supporting the MSCA Choose Europe pilot and ERC+ grants
MSCA long-term fellowships (COFUND-02)	about EUR 50 million	about EUR 50 million
NEW: MSCA Choose Europe boost for PF and DN	–	EUR 70 million (2026) + EUR 141.5 million (2027)

COMPONENT	DEC 2025	SEP 2026
Research infrastructures	"nearly EUR 50 million in the Research Infrastructures part"	"about EUR 80 million"; no longer attributed to the RI part only
ERA Chairs	EUR 240 million	EUR 240 million
NEW: Bridging Actions 2027	–	EUR 57 million life sciences + EUR 7.5 million research and technology infrastructures
Total	not stated	"almost EUR 1.15 billion" (500 + 50 + 211.5 + 80 + 240 + 57 + 7.5 = 1 146)

New

New text sections and statements (the introduction contains no topics):

- **Scope list.** "Horizontal activities" now reads: horizontal calls for R&I in support of the Clean Industrial Deal, on AI in science, on biodiversity, and bridging actions towards the next Framework Programme, Horizon Europe 2028-2034.
- **New section 'Transformative changes towards a nature-positive economy and society'.**
  - The call was introduced by the 2026 amendment. The 10% biodiversity spending target in the strategic plan 2025-2027 "has not yet been fully achieved" by earlier work programmes, and this call "ensures the target is met".
  - Around EUR 230 million for 11 actions:
    1. a stronger Global Ocean Observing System, linked to the European Ocean Pact and EU OceanEye
    2. biodiversity benefits and impacts of the clean and digital transitions
    3. systemic approaches to transformative change
    4. drivers of the decline of invertebrates
    5. effects of PFAS on biodiversity and ecosystem services
    6. living labs for ecosystem restoration
    7. networking to scale up restoration living labs
    8. wildlife trafficking and invasive alien species
    9. cost-effective biodiversity monitoring
    10. biodiversity-health interface (One Health)
    11. support to IPBES
  - Linked policies: Nature Restoration Regulation, Biodiversity Strategy 2030, 8th Environment Action Programme, Vision for Fisheries and Aquaculture 2040, CAP, Bioeconomy Strategy, Clean Industrial Deal, Water Resilience Strategy and the Integrated Wildfire Risk Management Communication.
- **New section 'Bridging actions'.**
  - The 'Bridging Actions 2027' call prepares the transition to Horizon Europe 2028-2034 and tight links with the future **European Competitiveness Fund (ECF)**. It introduces the "innovation to investment journey" and funds "fit-for-deployment" projects through open, technology-driven topics.
  - EUR 260 million for 16 actions. They cover:
    - skills
    - knowledge valorisation through innovation ecosystems
    - deployment of climate preparedness and resilience solutions
    - critical research data, knowledge repositories and scientific services for the life sciences
    - the innovation-to-investment journey
    - access to RI services for industry needs
    - research and technology infrastructures as assets for talent to Choose Europe
    - climate projections and data records

    - an EU AI Media Platform
    - monitoring of Solar Radiation Modification
    - Autonomous Drive Ambition Cities
    - next-generation AI-driven digital platforms for the energy system
    - advanced scaling frameworks for high-performance AI models
- **MSCA boost.** EUR 70 million in 2026 and EUR 141.5 million in 2027 for Postdoctoral Fellowships and Doctoral Networks. The MSCA budget tables add EUR 70.00 and 142.50 million to the two actions (see the MSCA part).
- **Valorisation.** The Bridging Actions call adds topics on the innovation-to-investment journey, for example SME access to the latest knowledge.
- **New startups paragraph.** Startups benefit beyond the EIE part, because the streamlined Pillar II approach eases their participation alongside industry, RIs and public end-users. It also mentions continued use of innovation procurement.
- **New NEB paragraph.** The NEB Facility now also contributes to the **New European Bauhaus Academy**, which acts as infrastructure for knowledge valorisation, innovation and skills ("New European Bauhaus - from vision to implementation"). A separate added sentence says the NEB continues to connect sustainability, aesthetics and inclusion.
- **New sentence:** "A multidisciplinary approach and the integration of social sciences and humanities (SSH) remain a key element."
- **New footnote on financial support to third parties:** "In the implementation of cascade grants, the Commission will take into account the related recommendations of the European Court of Auditors."

Removed, cancelled or moved

None. The introduction has no topics. Removed wording:

- In the Choose Europe paragraph, the MSCA EUR 50 million no longer mentions "offer relocation incentives". It went from "improve long-term fellowships, ensure postdoctoral career stability and offer relocation incentives" to "improve long-term fellowships and career stability".
- The sentence "The Choose Europe for Science initiative aligns closely with broader EU goals ...".

Changed topics

None. The General Introduction contains no topics.

Changed non-topic text

- **Simplification statistics** (all compared with WP 2023-2024; all slightly weaker, consistent with topics being added): WP length –30% (was –33%), number of topics –33% (was –35%), single-project topics –45% (was –50%). Unchanged: 50% of call budget in lump sums, and **41 two-stage topics**.
- **Framing.** The WP now also addresses "environmental" challenges. The listed priorities add "the restoration and protection of biodiversity and the preparation towards ... Horizon Europe 2028-2034".
- **Cluster 1.** Expanded description covering:
    - non-communicable, rare and infectious diseases, disabilities, AMR and pandemic preparedness
    - the **second phase of the co-funded European Partnerships for Pandemic Preparedness and Rare Diseases**
    - clinical research, novel methodologies, advanced therapies, and novel vaccines and antivirals
    - "burden of disease **and disability**"
- **Cluster 2.** Values now "at the core of" contemporary challenges. Technological progress is to be balanced with its societal impact "to achieve a just transition".
- **Cluster 3.** "people's right to safety" becomes "safety **and security**".

- **Cluster 6.** Adds the **Fertiliser action plan** to the supported policies, and "fair" to the circular/nature-positive economy goals.
- **Terminology.** "green" becomes "clean" transition in the EIE paragraph and the global-Europe paragraph.
- **Biodiversity target.** New sentence: the nature-positive horizontal call "allocates European Union budget to achieve the 10% target for biodiversity relevant spending across Horizon Europe for 2026-27".
- **Tense.** "will ..." becomes present tense throughout. This is editorial and not substantive.

What it means for applicants

- Two new horizontal calls exist: about EUR 230 million for biodiversity and EUR 260 million for Bridging Actions 2027. Look in the Horizontal Activities part, not the clusters, for biodiversity, PFAS, invertebrates, restoration living labs and fit-for-deployment topics. The IPBES contribution and the life-science database grants are not open to applicants.
- MSCA PF and DN get a stated EUR 211.5 million extra over 2026-27 (EUR 212.50 million in the MSCA budget tables), so more of these proposals can be funded. Details are in the MSCA part.
- Bridging Actions 2027 is the first explicit test of the future ECF "innovation to investment journey". Market-readiness and investor-pipeline arguments become more important there.
- The headline simplification numbers are slightly less favourable: more topics and more single-project topics than claimed in December 2025.

Open questions

- The per-cluster climate contributions are **identical** in both versions even though the totals changed. With the clusters plus Missions/NEB/Horizontal summing to 4 590 (old) and 4 565 (new), the residual for RI/WIDERA/EIE would rise from about 313 to about 530 million. The cluster figures were probably not updated, so the internal consistency cannot be confirmed.
- The Choose Europe RI contribution rises from "nearly EUR 50 million" (RI part) to "about EUR 80 million". However, the RI part's own budget fell slightly (see Research Infrastructures). The extra about EUR 30 million is presumably counted elsewhere, for example in Bridging Actions RI topics, but the text does not say so. If so, the 1 146 total may count the Bridging EUR 7.5 million twice.
- Implied budget base for the climate/biodiversity shares: 5 095/0.471 ≈ EUR 10.8 billion (old ≈ 10.6 billion). The digital share implies a lower base (≈ 10.4 billion), so the shares may not use a common denominator.
- The "41 two-stage topics" count was not updated. The new horizontal calls add no two-stage topics: all nature-positive and Bridging calls are single-stage.
- The climate share of Missions, NEB and Horizontal Activities (68.3% = EUR 1 370 million) implies a base of about EUR 2 006 million, far below these parts' budgets after the amendment (EUR 2 568.51 million). The share does not appear to reflect the EUR 486 million added to Horizontal Activities.

Annex II MODERATE

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Choose Europe boost for Doctoral Networks and Postdoctoral Fellowships; 2027 conditions revised.

2026 **+70.00** 2027 **+142.78** EUR million, part total

The amendment adds the **Choose Europe boost** to the MSCA budget:

- 2026: +EUR 35.00 million each for the DN and PF calls (+70.00 in total).
- 2027: the DN and PF calls rise by +71.37 and +71.13 (+142.50), including a stated Choose Europe boost of EUR 70.75 million each (141.5); the other 2027 calls rise by +0.27 in total.

The MSCA total grows from EUR 1 196.86 / 1 181.63 million (2026 / 2027) to **EUR 1 266.86 / 1 324.41 million**.

The specific conditions are revised **for the 2027 calls only**. A new footnote says 2026 calls stay under C(2025) 8493. The 2027 changes are:

- One Impact sub-criterion is deleted for DN, PF and SE.
- The MSCA Green Charter is removed as a tie-break factor in DN, PF, SE and COFUND.
- Legal entities established in China are excluded from Staff Exchanges 2027 projects that concern one of the 10 critical technology areas.
- The Choose Europe for Science (COFUND-02) rules change: the per-beneficiary cap doubles to EUR 10 million, while implementing partners must now be established in EU Member States or Associated Countries.

Budget

Budget table, EUR million (all from budget line 01.020102):

CALL / ACTION	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ
`HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01` / `-2027-DN-01`	593.03	628.03	**+35.00**	574.62	645.99	**+71.37**
`HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01` / `-2027-PF-01`	399.05	434.05	**+35.00**	388.57	459.70	**+71.13**
– of which PF European Fellowships	339.19	368.94	+29.75	330.28	390.74	+60.46
– of which PF Global Fellowships	59.86	65.11	+5.25	58.29	68.95	+10.66
`HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01` / `-2027-SE-01`	97.92	97.92	0	95.04	95.15	+0.11
`HORIZON-MSCA-2026-COFUND-01` / `-2027-COFUND-01`	105.46	105.46	0	51.25	51.32	+0.07
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-02` (Choose Europe for Science)	–	–	–	51.25	51.32	+0.07
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-CITIZENS-01`	–	–	–	15.71	15.73	+0.02
Other actions: grants under FR Art. 198(e)	0.40	0.40	0	4.20	4.20	0
Other actions: public procurement	0.50	0.50	0	0.50	0.50	0
Other actions: expert contract action	0.50	0.50	0	0.50	0.50	0
Estimated total budget	**1196.86**	**1266.86**	**+70.00**	**1181.63**	**1324.41**	**+142.78**

Two-year total: 2 378.49 → 2 591.27 (**+212.78**).

Notes:

- The PF European/Global split stays at about 85/15 in every year.

- Percentage increases: DN 2026 +5.9%, PF 2026 +8.8%, DN 2027 +12.4%, PF 2027 +18.3%.
- Euratom co-funding of PF: the indicative annual Euratom contribution stated in the **PF 2027** topic falls from **EUR 1 million to EUR 0.8 million**. PF 2026 is unchanged at EUR 1 million.

Where the EUR 70 million (2026) and EUR 141.5 million (2027) Choose Europe boost shows up:

- **MSCA introduction.** A new "Choose Europe for Science" paragraph: "an additional Choose Europe boost of 70 million EUR and 141.5 million EUR is allocated to the MSCA budget in 2026 and 2027 respectively", strengthening PF and DN.
- **2026.** The boost appears only in the budget tables: DN-01 +35.00 and PF-01 +35.00, which is exactly 70.00. The 2026 topic texts carry no Choose Europe paragraph.
- **2027.** New paragraphs in `HORIZON-MSCA-2027-DN-01-01` and `HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01-01` each state "an additional Choose Europe boost of 70.75 million EUR is allocated" (2 × 70.75 = 141.5). The actual call increases are +71.37 (DN) and +71.13 (PF), +142.50 in total. A further +0.27 is spread over SE, COFUND-01, COFUND-02 and Citizens (see Open questions).
- **Not boosted:** COFUND-01, COFUND-02 (Choose Europe), SE and Citizens get only rounding-size increases in 2027 (+0.07, +0.07, +0.11, +0.02) and nothing in 2026.
- **Number of fellowships:** the WP gives none ("Not relevant" in all call tables). Unit rates are unchanged. A rough own estimate is in "What it means".

New

No new topics or calls. New text elements:

- **"Choose Europe for Science" paragraphs:** one in the MSCA introduction (70 / 141.5), one in DN 2027 (70.75) and one in PF 2027 (70.75).
- **New footnote on "Specific conditions for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions":** "These specific conditions apply to the 2027 calls, for specific conditions applying to 2026 calls, see European Commission Decision C(2025) 8493 of 11 December 2025."
- **New eligibility condition in Staff Exchanges (section 3.3.1):** "In line with Article 22(6) of the HE Regulation, legal entities established in China are not eligible to participate in MSCA Staff Exchanges, if the proposed project concerns one or more of the 10 critical technology areas identified in the Annex to the Commission Recommendation (EU) 2023/2113 of 3 October 2023."
  - Eligibility is verified at grant preparation.
  - The rationale cites EU-China STI policy, the economic security strategy, undesired IP transfer and civil-military fusion, with new footnotes.
- **Cross-reference** in the MSCA introduction: the 'Horizontal Activities' part also includes topics relevant to MSCA. Bridging Actions 2027 includes "research and technology infrastructures as strategic assets for talent to Choose Europe".
- **Table 1 retitled:** "Country correction coefficients (CCC) for Doctoral Networks, Postdoctoral Fellowships **and Choose Europe for Science** living allowances". The coefficient values are unchanged, and Choose Europe already referred to Table 1.

Removed, cancelled or moved

No topic was removed, cancelled or moved.

- `HORIZON-MSCA-2027-SE-01` (Staff Exchanges 2027): deadline **15 Apr 2027 → 13 Apr 2027**. Opening is unchanged at 15 Dec 2026.

All other openings and deadlines are unchanged:

CALL	OPENING	DEADLINE
DN 2026	28 May 2026	24 Nov 2026
DN 2027	26 May 2027	23 Nov 2027
PF 2026	09 Apr 2026	09 Sep 2026
PF 2027	07 Apr 2027	08 Sep 2027
SE 2026	16 Dec 2025	16 Apr 2026
COFUND 2026	16 Dec 2025	08 Apr 2026
COFUND-01 2027 and COFUND-02 2027	08 Dec 2026	06 Apr 2027
Citizens 2027	09 Mar 2027	08 Jun 2027

Changed topics

TOPIC	CHANGE
`HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01-01`	Budget 593.03 → 628.03 (+35.00). The text is unchanged and the 2026 (old) specific conditions apply.
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-DN-01-01`	Budget 574.62 → 645.99 (+71.37). New Choose Europe paragraph (70.75 boost).
`HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01-01`	Budget 399.05 → 434.05 (EF 339.19 → 368.94; GF 59.86 → 65.11). The call already closed on 09 Sep 2026, so the extra money funds more of the proposals already submitted.
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-PF-01-01`	Budget 388.57 → 459.70 (EF 330.28 → 390.74; GF 58.29 → 68.95). New Choose Europe paragraph (70.75 boost). Euratom contribution EUR 1 million → **EUR 0.8 million**.
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-SE-01-01`	Budget 95.04 → 95.15. Deadline 15 Apr → **13 Apr 2027**. New China / critical-technology exclusion (see Changed non-topic text, SE eligibility).
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-01-01`	Budget 51.25 → 51.32.
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-02-01` (MSCA Choose Europe for Science 2027)	Budget 51.25 → 51.32. Substantive changes to its specific conditions (section 5) are listed below.
`HORIZON-MSCA-2027-CITIZENS-01-01`	Budget 15.71 → 15.73. Still a CSA at EUR 0.10 to 0.35 million per project, 50 projects.

Changed non-topic text

These are the **specific conditions for MSCA**. Per the new footnote they apply to the **2027 calls only**.

- **Award criteria, Impact column: one sub-criterion deleted.** "The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts" is removed from the DN (1.4), PF (2.4) and SE (3.4) tables. Weightings are unchanged (50/30/20).
  - DN Impact keeps: career perspectives and employability, contribution to structuring doctoral training, and the D&E/communication measures.
  - PF Impact keeps: career perspectives and employability, and D&E/communication measures.
  - SE Impact keeps: career perspectives of staff members, D&E/communication measures, and new and lasting collaborations / transfer of knowledge.
- **Tie-break procedure.** "environmental considerations in line with the MSCA Green Charter" is deleted from the list of further prioritisation factors in **four actions** (DN, PF, SE and COFUND). The Choose Europe for Science tie-break rule never mentioned it. The general encouragement to apply the Green Charter principles remains in the introduction.
- **SE eligibility (3.3.1).** New exclusion of legal entities established in China if the project concerns one of the 10 critical technology areas of Recommendation (EU) 2023/2113. Eligibility is checked at grant preparation.
- **Choose Europe for Science (section 5), applicable to `HORIZON-MSCA-2027-COFUND-02`:**
  - **EU contribution cap per beneficiary: EUR 5 million → EUR 10 million** for this call. If successful applications exceed the cap, the applicant must choose which to implement. This is now aligned with COFUND's existing EUR 10 million per beneficiary per call.

- Co-funding wording: "Complementary funds ... can be funded through other sources" becomes "The implementation of the project can be co-funded through other sources including EU programmes, such as the Cohesion policy funds, provided that double funding is avoided."
- **Vacancy notice.** Old: the monthly gross remuneration for both phases, "as well as the costs or compulsory deductions under national legislation, such as employer and employee social security contributions and direct taxes, must be clearly communicated". New: "The monthly gross salary (net salary + employee's taxes and contributions) ... should be clearly communicated". This is a lighter obligation ("should" instead of "must", and employer costs no longer required).
- **Implementing partners** must now be established in **an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country**. Old: "one of the countries eligible for funding listed in the General Annexes", which included low- and middle-income third countries.
- **Deleted researcher condition:** "Researchers must be nationals or long-term residents of an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country in case the main part of the activities is carried out in a country other than an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country". This is now moot because all hosts must be in a Member State or Associated Country.
- **Award criteria (5.4), Impact column:**
  - "advancing regional/national **specialisation** strategies" becomes "regional/national strategies".
  - "Strengthening human resources good practices at institutional, regional, national, or international level, **in particular through aligning the practices of participating organisations with the principles set out by the EU for human resources development in research and innovation**" becomes "... level **as appropriate to the scale of the hosting institutions**".
- Unchanged: mobility rule, minimum of 3 researchers, 48-60-month fellowships with a 24-month beneficiary-funded phase, 30-page limit, threshold 3 and 70% funding line.

- **Unit contributions.** Living, mobility, family, RTN, management and COFUND rates are unchanged in all tables.
- **Other actions.** Descriptions are unchanged.

What it means for applicants

- **DN 2026 (open until 24 Nov 2026)** now has EUR 628.03 million (+35). **PF 2026** (closed 9 Sep 2026) has +35, so more of the already-submitted proposals will be funded. **DN 2027 and PF 2027** budgets rise by 12.4% and 18.3%, the largest MSCA increase in this WP.
- Rough estimate (ours, not in the WP), using unchanged unit rates:
  - PF: about EUR 0.22-0.23 million per 24-month European Fellowship, so the +EUR 106 million to PF over both years is roughly **460-480 extra fellowships** if all were funded at the European Fellowship rate (Global Fellowships cost more).
  - DN: about EUR 3 million per typical network, so the +EUR 106 million to DN is roughly **35 extra networks**.
- **2027 proposals (DN, PF, SE):** reviewers will no longer score "magnitude and importance of the contribution to scientific, societal and economic impacts" as a separate aspect. Focus the Impact section on career and employability, D&E/communication, and (DN) structuring doctoral training or (SE) lasting collaborations.
- **SE 2027:** the deadline moves 2 days earlier, to **13 Apr 2027**. Chinese partners are excluded if the project touches any of the 10 critical technology areas (semiconductors, AI, quantum, biotech, connectivity/navigation/digital, sensing, space, energy, robotics, advanced materials/manufacturing). The check happens at grant preparation, so screen consortia early.
- **Choose Europe COFUND-02 (deadline 6 Apr 2027):**
  - Large institutions can now request up to EUR 10 million.
  - All implementing partners must be in a Member State or Associated Country.
  - The vacancy notice only needs to state the gross salary.
  - The HR good-practice criterion is now scaled to the host's size.

- **2026 calls** (DN 2026 is still open) keep the December 2025 specific conditions, including the deleted Impact sub-criterion and the Green Charter tie-breaker.

Open questions

- The 2027 DN and PF increases (+71.37 and +71.13) exceed the stated 70.75 boost each by +0.62 and +0.38. Other 2027 calls also rise slightly (+0.27 in total). The WP gives no reason. It may be extra associated-country or other external assigned revenue, but this is unconfirmed. Note too that the Euratom PF contribution falls by 0.2 in 2027.
- The new footnote limits the new specific conditions to 2027 calls. Whether the 2026 PF evaluation (closed call) uses old criteria is implied, not stated.
- The SE China exclusion sits in the specific conditions, so it applies to SE 2027 only. The text does not say whether it also covers associated partners; "not eligible to participate" suggests any capacity.
- Fellowship and network counts above are back-of-envelope estimates, not WP figures.

Annex III MINOR

Research Infrastructures

Small 2027 trims; research infrastructures may now receive cascade funding in two access topics.

2026 `0.00` 2027 `−1.00` EUR million, part total

This is a light-touch amendment. The 2027 call loses EUR 1.15 million:

- `HORIZON-INFRA-2027-DEV-01-01` : −1.00
- `HORIZON-INFRA-2027-DEV-01-03` : −0.15

Other changes:

- A new **EUR 0.15 million grant to an identified beneficiary** (Greece) funds a conference marking 25 years of ESFRI.
- Two 2027 access topics now allow **RIs inside the consortium to receive financial support to third parties**.
- "third countries" is clarified to "**non-associated** third countries" in the access rules, including the 20% cap on user teams working in non-associated third countries.
- The GÉANT Specific Grant Agreement gets a **70-page limit**.

Budget

Budget table, EUR million (budget line 01.020103):

LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ
`HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01`	294.90	294.90	0	–	–	–
`HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01`	–	–	–	339.50	338.35	**−1.15**
Grants under FR Art. 198(e)	0.40	0.40	0	5.60	5.75	**+0.15**
Specific grant agreement (GÉANT FPA)	–	–	–	60.00	60.00	0
Expert contract action	0.40	0.40	0	0.60	0.60	0
Public procurement	15.50	15.50	0	1.00	1.00	0
Estimated total budget	**311.20**	**311.20**	0	**406.70**	**405.70**	**−1.00**

Topic-level detail (2027 call):

TOPIC	OLD	NEW	EXPECTED EU CONTRIBUTION PER PROJECT	NUMBER OF PROJECTS
`HORIZON-INFRA-2027-DEV-01-01` Preparatory phase of new ESFRI RI projects (CSA)	30.00	**29.00**	1.50 to 3.50 (unchanged)	9 (unchanged)
`HORIZON-INFRA-2027-DEV-01-03` Consolidation of the RI landscape - individual support for evolution, long-term sustainability and emerging needs (RIA)	29.50	**29.35**	3.00 to 4.50 (unchanged)	8 (unchanged)

The sum of topic budgets is 634.40 → 633.25. The −0.15 on DEV-01-03 matches the new +0.15 conference grant. The −1.00 on DEV-01-01 leaves the RI part.

New

- **Other action (grant to identified beneficiary): "Conference on European Research Infrastructures under the Greek Presidency: 25 years of ESFRI"**

- Type: grant under FR Art. 198(e) and HE Regulation Art. 24(3)(b), as a coordination and support action, paid as a **lump sum**.
- Beneficiary: "Designated ministry or legal entity of Greece".
- Evaluation committee: fully composed of EU-institution representatives.
- Timetable: Q2 2027. The conference itself is planned in Greece in H2 2027.
- Indicative budget: **EUR 0.15 million** from the 2027 budget.
- Themes: ESFRI's achievements and impact over 25 years; ESFRI as catalyst for aligning national and EU RI priorities and funding; driver of consolidation; and governance model of the infrastructure ecosystem.
- Not open to applicants.

- **Cross-reference** in the introduction: "the 'Horizontal Activities' work programme part also includes topics relevant to the areas covered in this work programme part". Per the General Introduction, Bridging Actions 2027 includes access to RI services addressing industry needs, and research and technology infrastructures as strategic assets for talent to Choose Europe (EUR 7.5 million).

Removed, cancelled or moved

None. No topic was added, removed, cancelled or renumbered (22 topics in both versions). Call dates are unchanged:

- `HORIZON-INFRA-2026-01`: 10 Mar 2026 – 16 Jun 2026
- `HORIZON-INFRA-2027-01`: 09 Mar 2027 – 15 Jun 2027

Changed topics

TOPIC	SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE
`HORIZON-INFRA-2027-DEV-01-01`	Budget EUR 30.00 → **29.00** million. Same range (1.50-3.50) and same 9 projects.
`HORIZON-INFRA-2027-DEV-01-03`	Budget EUR 29.50 → **29.35** million. Same range (3.00-4.50) and same 8 projects.
`HORIZON-INFRA-2027-SERV-01-01` (Access to RIs: large-scale pilots for more integrated scheme across (sub)domains)	(1) **New FSTP condition:** "Research infrastructures which are beneficiaries/affiliated entities of the consortia awarded may exceptionally also be recipients of financial support to third parties". Proposals must explain how those entities are kept out of drafting and selecting the FSTP calls, with conflict-of-interest, equal-treatment (including an independent and fair complaints procedure) and confidentiality measures. FSTP is still grants only, with a maximum of EUR 300 000 per third party. (2) Access open to "**non-associated** third countries' researchers". RIs from "**non-associated** third countries" may be beneficiaries or affiliated entities if they offer complementary or more advanced services.
`HORIZON-INFRA-2027-SERV-01-02` (Access to RI services to enable R&I addressing EU priorities and emerging challenges)	Same "**non-associated** third countries" clarification for researchers' access and for involving third-country RIs.
`HORIZON-INFRA-2027-SERV-01-03` (Connecting RIs and a wider user community across the ERA through access to advanced RI services)	Same **new FSTP condition** as SERV-01-01. FSTP is still grants only, with a maximum of EUR 100 000 per third party.

No changes to TRL, type of action, lump sum vs actual costs, consortium rules or expected outcomes in any topic.

Changed non-topic text

- **"Specific features for Research Infrastructures", transnational access rules.** Old: "User teams where all or the majority of users work in third countries can be supported as long as the cumulative access provided to them is below 20% of the total amount of units of access". New: "... work in **non-associated** third countries ...", with the same change in the exceptional higher-percentage clause. Users from Associated Countries (for example UK, CH, NO, KR, CA) therefore clearly fall outside the 20% cap.

- **INFRATECH destination, expected impact:** "technical components or material for which Europe is strongly dependent on **non-associated** third countries" (was "third countries").
- **SGA to the FPA for Research and Education Networks (GÉANT, EUR 60.00 million, Q1 2027):** new admissibility exception, "**The page limit of the application is 70 pages.**" Before, no exception was stated, so the General Annex A default (40 pages for a full application) applied.
- **New other action:** the ESFRI 25-year conference, EUR 0.15 million (see New).

What it means for applicants

- **2027 INFRADEV applicants** (ESFRI preparatory phase, individual RI support) compete for slightly less money (–EUR 1.15 million) with unchanged project numbers. Expect marginally tighter funding in DEV-01-01.
- **SERV-01-01 / SERV-01-03 consortia** can now design FSTP schemes in which their own member RIs may win sub-grants. They must build in firewalled call drafting and selection, conflict-of-interest rules, a complaints procedure and confidentiality.
- **Access providers:** the 20% ceiling now explicitly counts only user teams based in **non-associated** third countries. Teams from Associated Countries do not eat into it.
- **GÉANT SGA:** 70-page proposal allowed. The ESFRI conference grant goes to a Greek designated entity, not via a call.

Open questions

- The –EUR 1.00 million cut in `HORIZON-INFRA-2027-DEV-01-01` is not explained in this part. It may have moved to the Horizontal Bridging Actions RI topics; the WP does not say.
- The General Introduction raises the RI contribution to Choose Europe from "nearly EUR 50 million" to "about EUR 80 million". Nothing in this part's budget or text changed to explain that.
- Whether the old SGA (GÉANT) was really bound by the 40-page default is an inference; the old text simply gave no exception.
- The conference timetable says "Q2 2027" while the event is planned in H2 2027. This is consistent (grant before the event) but worth noting.

Annex IV MAJOR

Cluster 1 · Health

2027 main calls now open 29 Oct 2026 and close 17 Feb 2027, eight weeks earlier.

2026 **+0.10** 2027 **0.00** EUR million, part total

No topic was added, removed or re-budgeted. The big change is timing: the two main 2027 calls (`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01` single-stage and `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-two-stage`) now open on **29 Oct 2026** and close on **17 Feb 2027**. Before, they opened on 10 Feb 2027 and closed on 13 Apr 2027, so the deadline is eight weeks earlier. The September 2027 deadlines also move from 22 Sep to **16 Sep 2027**. Other changes:

- `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL-08` is retitled and stripped of all "AGI" framing. It now flags SSH, and its guarantee carve-out targets China-controlled entities.
- Three small new non-call actions are added (EEA, JRC, WHO). They are paid for mostly by cutting procurement.
- CEPI gets an emergency derogation for its financial support to third parties (FSTP).
- The hPSC registry grant moves to a new legal basis (Art. 198(f)) and no longer names Charité as beneficiary.

Budget

Figures are in EUR million, taken from the part's budget table. The calls' budgets are unchanged.

BUDGET LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ 2026	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ 2027
`HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01`	471.60	471.60	0.00	—	—	—
`HORIZON-HLTH-2026-02` (partnerships)	48.70	48.70	0.00	42.60	42.60	0.00
`HORIZON-HLTH-2026-03` (partnerships)	30.00	30.00	0.00	33.00	33.00	0.00
`HORIZON-HLTH-2026-04`	9.80	9.80	0.00	—	—	—
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01`	—	—	—	331.60	331.60	0.00
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-two-stage`	—	—	—	186.60	186.60	0.00
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03`	—	—	—	81.50	81.50	0.00
Grants to identified beneficiaries, FR Art. 198(e) (CEPI, Presidency events; hPSC registry in old)	39.90	39.90	0.00	36.17	34.70	**−1.47**
Grants without call, FR "Article 198" line (198(b) emergency mobilisation; plus hPSC registry under 198(f) in new)	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.90	2.37	**+1.47**
Expert contract actions	2.04	2.04	0.00	2.04	2.04	0.00
Public procurement ("Studies, conferences, events and outreach activities")	1.01	0.41	**−0.60**	1.00	0.65	**−0.35**
Subscription action (HFSPO)	7.04	7.04	0.00	7.18	7.18	0.00
Service Level Agreement (EEA) — *new*	—	0.50	**+0.50**	—	0.00	0.00
JRC technical/scientific services (administrative agreement) — *new*	—	0.10	**+0.10**	—	0.20	**+0.20**
Indirectly managed action (WHO) — *new*	—	0.10	**+0.10**	—	0.15	**+0.15**
Estimated total budget	**610.99**	**611.09**	**+0.10**	**722.59**	**722.59**	**0.00**

- The hPSC registry grant (EUR 1.47 million, 2027) moves from the 198(e) line to the 198 line, so the two-year total is unchanged.

- The new actions cost EUR 0.70 million in 2026 and EUR 0.35 million in 2027. Procurement cuts of EUR 0.60 million and EUR 0.35 million pay for most of this. Net change: +EUR 0.10 million in 2026 and zero in 2027.

New

No new topics or calls. Three new "other actions" were added. None of them is open to applicants.

#	ACTION	TYPE / IMPLEMENTER	BUDGET	TIMETABLE	GIST
6	Valorising and boosting the science for policy link of climate-health research and innovation outcomes	Service Level Agreement with the European Environment Agency (EEA), FR Art. 59.2	EUR 0.50 million (2026)	Fourth Quarter of 2026	A pilot study run through the European Climate and Health Observatory. It tests thematic platforms in three roles: structured interaction with EU-funded climate-health research, a sounding board for stakeholder needs, and a dissemination channel. It ends with a lessons-learned analysis for research-valorisation frameworks.
7	Measuring the impact of the Life Sciences Strategy through ecosystem monitoring	JRC administrative agreement/SLA (FR Art. 59 and 21.2(g)(iii))	EUR 0.10 million (2026) + EUR 0.20 million (2027)	Fourth Quarter of 2026	A JRC dashboard, updated every year, with baseline macroeconomic indicators and KPIs. It tracks progress towards the 2030 ambition of the "Strategy for European Life Sciences", with EU trends and, where possible, breakdowns by Member State and subsector.
8	Connecting key actors in the climate change space to identify barriers and foster uptake and implementation of actionable climate-health research and innovation outcomes	Indirectly managed action with the World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva	EUR 0.10 million (2026) + EUR 0.15 million (2027)	First Semester of 2027	Uses WHO multi-stakeholder networks and policy forums to connect health authorities with evidence providers. It assesses barriers and recommends ways to increase uptake of climate-health R&I.

Removed, cancelled or moved

None. All 38 topics keep their IDs, calls, types of action and budgets. `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL-08` is retitled but keeps its ID (see Changed topics).

Changed topics

A. Call dates (affects every topic in these calls; no topic budgets changed)

CALL	OPENING OLD → NEW	DEADLINE OLD → NEW	TOPICS AFFECTED
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01` (single stage 2027/1, EUR 341.60 million in the call table)	10 Feb 2027 → **29 Oct 2026**	13 Apr 2027 → **17 Feb 2027**	`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-STAYHLTH-01` (RIA, 39.30); `-ENVHLTH-02` (RIA, 45.00); `-ENVHLTH-MISSCLIMA-03` (PCP, 20.00); `-DISEASE-05` (RIA, 44.20); `-DISEASE-06` (RIA, 37.30); `-DISEASE-07` (RIA, 37.30); `-DISEASE-08` (RIA, 44.20); `-DISEASE-10` (RIA, 11.80); `-CARE-02` (RIA, 38.00); `-IND-01` (RIA, 24.50)
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-two-stage` (EUR 186.60 million)	10 Feb 2027 → **29 Oct 2026**	Stage 1: 13 Apr 2027 → **17 Feb 2027**; Stage 2: 22 Sep 2027 → **16 Sep 2027**	`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-DISEASE-01-two-stage` (RIA, 63.80); `-DISEASE-14-two-stage` (RIA, 39.30); `-TOOL-01-two-stage` (RIA, 44.20); `-IND-02-two-stage` (IA, 39.30)
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03` (single stage 2027/2, EUR 81.50 million)	03 Jun 2027 (unchanged)	22 Sep 2027 → **16 Sep 2027**	`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL-02` (RIA, 39.30); `-TOOL-04` (RIA, 39.30); `-TOOL-08` (CSA, 2.90)

`HORIZON-HLTH-2026-03` (partnerships 2026/2: opens 10 Feb 2027, deadline 13 Apr 2027) is **not** moved. The 2026 calls are unchanged.

B. Topic-specific changes

TOPIC	WHAT CHANGED
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL-08` (CSA, EUR 2.90 million, 1 project, lump sum)	**Title:** "Towards Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) for healthcare" → "**Towards the next generation of frontier Artificial Intelligence models for healthcare**". **Scope/outcomes:** every AGI reference is removed. The roadmap outcome no longer says "towards AGI for healthcare", the community-building activity drops "towards AGI for healthcare", and the sentence saying frontier models will "make strides towards AGI… comparable to that of humans" is deleted. The four required activities are unchanged: community building, roadmap, datasets, and preparatory work on frontier models. **New SSH flag:** "This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise". **Eligibility:** participation stays limited to entities established in Member States and Associated Countries. The rule that controlled entities need positively assessed guarantees also stays. What changes is who is barred from submitting guarantees: before, it was high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment (or entities they own or control); now it is "**Entities established in an eligible country, but which are directly or indirectly controlled by China or by a legal entity established in China**". The line "Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks" is **deleted**.
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-IND-02-two-stage` (IA, EUR 39.30 million, EUR 5.00–7.00 million per project, 6 projects)	"Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks" is **deleted**. The existing "restriction on control in innovation actions in critical technology areas" stays: entities controlled by China or by a legal entity established in China are not eligible. US entities remain eligible for funding. `-IND-01` keeps the clause.
`HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-DISEASE-14-two-stage` (clinical trials for neurodegenerative diseases, RIA, EUR 39.30 million, around EUR 10.00 million per project, 4 projects)	Projects should now liaise with "the co-funded European Partnership for Brain Health" without the qualifier "future… once launched", meaning the partnership now exists. A footnote adds the partnership's CORDIS ID (101259512) and website. No change to conditions.

These 2027 topics **keep** "Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks": `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01-STAYHLTH-01`, `-ENVHLTH-MISSCLIMA-03`, `-CARE-02`, `-IND-01`; `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-02-DISEASE-01-two-stage`, `-DISEASE-14-two-stage`, `-TOOL-01-two-stage`; and `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03-TOOL-04`. The 2026 topics are untouched.

Changed non-topic text

- **Introduction — clinical studies (applies across the part):** a new paragraph says "Applicants are encouraged to consider the latest innovations and advances in the clinical trial design and research methods in order to evaluate promising interventions allowing shorter development timings". It also encourages applicants to follow WHO guidance on best practices for clinical trials, with a new footnote linking the WHO publication.
- **Introduction — policy framing:** the EU Cardiovascular Health (CVH) plan is now described as "presented by the Commission on 16th of December 2025, as part of an overall health package" (before: "the future… plan"). The footnote now points to the NCD/health package document.
- **Introduction:** new sentence: "Please note that the 'Horizontal Activities' Work Programme part also includes topics relevant to the areas covered in this Work Programme part."
- **CEPI contributions** (other action 1, CEPI 2026, EUR 39.30 million, Q4 2026; other action 4, CEPI 2027, EUR 34.40 million, Q4 2027; amounts and the 70% funding rate unchanged). Both actions gain two additions:
  - CEPI may "consider One Health approaches", given the risks of animal-to-human and human-to-human transmission.
  - An **FSTP derogation**: if a serious cross-border threat to health emerges (Regulation (EU) 2022/2371) and the granting authority agrees in advance, CEPI may shorten submission windows, publish calls "through equivalent means to the Funding and Tenders Portal" provided dissemination is wide, and/or give FSTP to targeted entities. The proposal must set out the conditions for any such derogation.
- **hPSC registry grant** (other action 6, EUR 1.47 million from 2027, amount unchanged):
  - Title: "European registry for human pluripotent stem cell lines" → "**Maintaining** the European registry…".
  - Legal basis: Art. 198(e) FR + Art. 24(3)(b) Horizon Europe Regulation → **Art. 198(f) FR**. "Specific Type of Action: Coordination and support action" is now listed separately.

    - Beneficiary: no longer named. Before: "Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin". Now: "A Higher or Secondary Education Establishment or Research Organisation responsible for the European registry for hPSC lines".
    - Timetable: Fourth Quarter of 2027 → **First Quarter of 2027**.
    - Scope: the registry is to be maintained and updated and "should be open access". It now covers hPSC lines "derived in Europe and their use in EU funded projects under Horizon Europe" (before: "derived in Europe and beyond"), and should be maintained over the long term.
    - Outcomes now: the public has access to the database, and researchers avoid duplicated effort.
- **Public procurement** (other action 4, "Studies, conferences, events and outreach activities"): EUR 1.01 → 0.41 million (2026) and EUR 1.00 → 0.65 million (2027).
- **New other actions 6–8:** see New. The table of contents changes only mirror these edits.
- **Footnotes:** only reference updates (WHO clinical-trial guidance publication, Regulation (EU) 2022/2371, Brain Health partnership CORDIS ID, CVH/NCD package link). Nothing substantive.
- Not substantive: the cover now reads "Annex IV" instead of the decision reference, and the JRC-platforms sentence shows footnote-marker artefacts.

What it means for applicants

- **The 2027 health deadline is now 17 Feb 2027, almost eight weeks (55 days) earlier.** This covers all ten topics in `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01` and stage 1 of all four `-two-stage` topics. The calls open on 29 Oct 2026, so consortia need to form this autumn rather than in early 2027.
- Second-stage proposals for the two-stage call, and all proposals for `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-03` (bio-printing, Virtual Human Twins, frontier-AI CSA), are due **16 Sep 2027**, six days earlier than before.
- For `-TOOL-08`, rewrite any "AGI" pitch as "next-generation frontier AI models for healthcare" and **include real SSH expertise**, which is now flagged. Participation is still limited to Member State and Associated Country entities, and China-controlled entities can no longer use the guarantee route.
- For `-IND-02-two-stage` (point-of-care diagnostics IA), the separate 5G "high-risk supplier" clause is gone, but the China-control exclusion still applies. The deletion matters only for high-risk telecom suppliers that are not controlled from China, which are no longer barred.
- Vaccine developers who rely on CEPI sub-grants should expect faster, possibly targeted CEPI calls if a serious cross-border threat to health emerges and the granting authority agrees in advance. Clinical-trial proposals should show modern, faster trial designs and alignment with WHO best practice. This is an encouragement, not an eligibility rule.

Open questions

- The budget-table label "Grant awarded without a call for proposals according to Financial Regulation Article 198" does not name the sub-paragraph. The sums indicate that it now holds both the 198(b) public-health-emergency reserve (0.90/0.90) and the 198(f) hPSC registry (1.47 in 2027): 0.90 + 1.47 = 2.37, and 36.17 − 1.47 = 34.70.
- The reading that Art. 198(f) covers bodies with specific technical competence or specialisation comes from the Financial Regulation, not from the WP text.
- The `HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01` call table gives an overall indicative budget of 341.60 while the budget table shows 331.60. This gap exists in both versions and is not a change; it matches the EUR 10.00 million contribution to this call shown in the Cluster 5 budget table.
- Where a China-control exclusion applies, dropping the 5G clause still opens the topic to high-risk telecom suppliers that are not controlled from China. The WP does not explain the change.

Annex V MINOR

Cluster 2 · Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society

No change to calls, dates or topic budgets; a new OECD action outside the calls.

2026 **+0.30** 2027 **+1.70** EUR million, part total

For applicants, almost nothing changes. No topic, call date, topic budget or eligibility condition is altered. The edits to 13 topics are typo fixes, corrected cross-references and updated policy references. The money moves are both outside the calls:

- A new **EUR 2.00 million indirectly managed action with the OECD** (Observatory of Public Sector Innovation) from the 2027 budget.
- The Lithuanian Presidency event grant moves from the 2027 to the 2026 budget.

Budget

Figures are in EUR million, taken from the part's budget table.

BUDGET LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ 2026	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ 2027
`HORIZON-CL2-2026-01`	298.50	298.50	0.00	—	0.00	0.00
`HORIZON-CL2-2026-02`	60.00	60.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00
`HORIZON-CL2-2027-01`	—	0.00	0.00	277.00	277.00	0.00
`HORIZON-CL2-2027-02-TWO-STAGE`	—	0.00	0.00	58.00	58.00	0.00
Grants to identified beneficiaries, FR Art. 198(e) (two Presidency events)	—	0.30	**+0.30**	0.60	0.30	**−0.30**
Public procurement	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Expert contract action	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.80	0.80	0.00
Indirectly managed action (OECD OPSI) — *new*	—	0.00	0.00	—	2.00	**+2.00**
Estimated total budget	**360.30**	**360.60**	**+0.30**	**337.40**	**339.10**	**+1.70**

The new table also prints explicit 0.00 cells; that is layout only. The Lithuanian Presidency grant (EUR 0.30 million) moves from 2027 to 2026. The only new money is EUR 2.00 million in 2027, for the OECD action.

New

No new topics or calls. One new non-call action, not open to applicants:

ACTION	TYPE / IMPLEMENTER	BUDGET	TIMETABLE	GIST
Observatory of Public Sector Innovation (OPSI) — Accelerating Public Sector Innovation through Evidence-Based Policymaking and Organisational Capacity Building (new sub-heading "Indirectly managed actions")	Indirectly managed action; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Paris	EUR 2.00 million from the 2027 budget	Not stated	Four outcomes: roll out and develop the Gov2Gov Innovation Incubator; indicators to measure public sector innovation, leading to a future "Government Innovation Dashboard"; analysis of organisational conditions that foster innovation; and an OPSI report on innovative policymaking (anticipatory governance, experimentation, systems approaches). The scope has six strands: scaling innovation, measuring impact, empowering civil servants, agile policymaking, cross-sector ecosystems and capacity building.

Removed, cancelled or moved

None. All 54 topics keep their IDs, calls, budgets and conditions.

- Moved in time only: the Presidency event (Lithuania) grant is now funded from the **2026** budget instead of 2027, and its timetable changes from "First semester 2027" to "End 2026 - First semester 2027". See Changed non-topic text.

Changed topics

None of these changes touches budget, contribution per project, number of projects, dates, eligibility, type of action, lump sum or restrictions.

TOPIC(S)	CHANGE	SUBSTANTIVE?
`HORIZON-CL2-2027-02-DEMOCRACY-09-two-stage` (Open topic on reinvigorating and shielding European democracy, RIA, EUR 22.00 million, EUR 2.00–3.70 million per project)	Scope framing updated: the European Democracy Shield communication "was adopted in November 2025". The Commission "has also adopted" a Civil Society Strategy, the LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy 2026-2030, the Anti-Racism Strategy 2026-2030, the Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030 and the Roadmap for Women's Rights. Before, these were "preparing" or "announced". A Communication to enhance the disability-rights Strategy 2021-2030 has also been launched.	Framing only. Proposals should cite the adopted instruments.
`HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-08` (intangible cultural heritage)	Cross-reference corrected: projects should link to the topic `HORIZON-CL2-2025-02-HERITAGE-02-two-stage`. The old text gave the invalid ID "HORIZON-CL2-2025-HERITAGE-02".	Editorial (corrected ID)
`HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-07` (persons with disabilities)	Cross-reference ID corrected: "TRANSFO-9" → `HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-09`.	Editorial
`HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-HERITAGE-04`	"contribute to improve" → "contribute to improving". A colon is added in the reference to `HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-HERITAGE-09`, and "arts and culture - based" becomes "arts and culture-based".	Editorial
`HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMOCRACY-04`, `-DEMOCRACY-06`, `-DEMOCRACY-07`, `-HERITAGE-03`, `-HERITAGE-05`, `-HERITAGE-06`, `-TRANSFO-02`, `-TRANSFO-03`, `-TRANSFO-06`	Typos and punctuation: double commas, "policy makers" → "policymakers", "eg" → "e.g.", a stray "]", "..", question-mark and preposition fixes.	No

The calls are unchanged:

- `HORIZON-CL2-2027-01`: opens 13 May 2027, deadline 23 Sep 2027.
- `HORIZON-CL2-2027-02-TWO-STAGE`: opens 02 Mar 2027, deadlines 04 May 2027 and 30 Sep 2027.

"Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks" is **kept** in every topic that had it, unlike Clusters 1 and 3. In 2027 those topics are `-DEMOCRACY-04`, `-DEMOCRACY-06`, `-HERITAGE-02`, `-HERITAGE-06`, `-TRANSFO-04` and `-TRANSFO-05`.

Changed non-topic text

- **Introduction / before the 2026 calls:** new note: "Please note that the 'Horizontal Activities' work programme part also includes topics relevant to the areas covered in this work programme part".
- **Destination "Innovative Research on Social and Economic Transformations":** the Union of Equality policy list is updated:
  - The "enhanced" Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030.
  - The Roadmap for Women's Rights, plus the Gender Equality Strategy **2026-2030** (was 2020-2025).
  - The Anti-Racism Strategy **2026-2030** (was the EU Anti-racism Action Plan 2020-2025).
  - The LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy **2026-2030** (was 2020-2025).
- **Other action, grants to identified beneficiaries, no. 1 — Presidency event (Lithuania): "Re-thinking EU's competitiveness: How do cultural and creative industries contribute?"** The beneficiary is still the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, under Art. 198(e), for EUR 0.30 million. Timetable "First semester 2027" → "**End 2026 - First semester 2027**"; budget now "from the **2026** budget" (was 2027).

- The Presidency event (Greece) is unchanged: EUR 0.30 million from 2027, second semester 2027.
- **New OECD OPSI action** (see New).
- **Footnotes:** reference links updated for the new strategies and the AI Act, and a duplicated "EU Neighbourhood" footnote is removed. Nothing substantive.
- Not substantive: the cover now reads "Annex V", and table-of-contents page numbers shifted.

What it means for applicants

- **Nothing to re-plan for Cluster 2 calls.** All 2027 dates, budgets, per-project amounts, project counts and conditions are identical to December 2025.
- In `HORIZON-CL2-2027-02-DEMOCRACY-09-two-stage` and the Social and Economic Transformations topics, refer to the **adopted** instruments: the Democracy Shield communication (November 2025) and the 2026-2030 Gender Equality, Anti-Racism and LGBTIQ+ strategies, the Roadmap for Women's Rights, and the enhanced disability strategy. Do not describe them as forthcoming.
- In `-HERITAGE-08`, the projects to build on are those funded under `HORIZON-CL2-2025-02-HERITAGE-02-two-stage`.
- Cluster 2 topics keep the 5G "high-risk supplier" clause. Unlike Clusters 1 and 3, consortium-screening rules here are unchanged.
- The OECD OPSI action is direct funding, not a call. It may matter as a complementarity reference for public-sector-innovation and governance proposals.

Open questions

- The OPSI action gives no indicative timetable.

Annex VI MINOR

Cluster 3 · Civil Security for Society

Topic dates and budgets unchanged; 5G clause dropped from eight 2027 IAs, China-control exclusion added to DRS-01.

2026 **+1.50** 2027 **0.00** EUR million, part total

No topic, call date, topic budget or project count changes in either call: the open 2026 call (deadline 05 Nov 2026) and the 2027 call (05 May 2027 → 04 Nov 2027). Two eligibility edits matter for applicants:

- **Eight 2027 innovation actions drop "Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks".** They keep the China-control exclusion.
- **`HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-DRS-01` gains the China-control exclusion.**

Two JRC administrative arrangements are added outside the calls: a counter-drone testing programme and cybersecurity policy support. They raise the 2026 total by EUR 1.50 million.

Budget

Figures are in EUR million, taken from the part's budget table.

BUDGET LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ 2026	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ 2027
`HORIZON-CL3-2026-01`	131.00	131.00	0.00	—	—	—
`HORIZON-CL3-2027-01`	—	—	—	129.50	129.50	0.00
Expert contract action	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.80	0.80	0.00
Public procurement ("Workshops, conferences, experts, communication activities, studies and innovation uptake promotion")	2.13	2.00	**−0.13**	1.52	1.40	**−0.12**
Indirectly managed action (ECCC, cybersecurity)	56.20	56.20	0.00	71.80	71.80	0.00
JRC technical/scientific services, administrative agreement — *new*	—	1.63	**+1.63**	—	0.12	**+0.12**
Estimated total budget	**190.13**	**191.63**	**+1.50**	**203.62**	**203.62**	**0.00**

- The counter-drone JRC action (EUR 0.13 million in 2026 and EUR 0.12 million in 2027) is paid for exactly by the procurement cut.
- The cybersecurity JRC action (EUR 1.50 million, 2026) is net new money.

New

No new topics or calls. Two new non-call actions, neither open to applicants:

#	ACTION	TYPE / IMPLEMENTER	BUDGET	TIMETABLE	GIST
5	JRC support to the EU civil security research	JRC administrative agreement/SLA (FR Art. 59 and 21.2(g)(iii))	EUR 0.13 million (2026) + EUR 0.12 million (2027) from Horizon Europe. The total indicative budget is EUR 1.9 million, of which EUR 1.65 million comes from the Internal Security Fund (ISF).	4th quarter of 2026 and 3rd quarter of 2027	Supports the JRC counter-drone Living Lab and a future EU counter-drone centre of excellence in a testing and validation programme for counter-drone measures. The programme should "inter alia support the take-up of EU civil security research results".

#	ACTION	TYPE / IMPLEMENTER	BUDGET	TIMETABLE	GIST
6	JRC support to EU cybersecurity research and innovation policies and priorities	JRC administrative agreement/SLA	EUR 1.50 million (2026)	4th quarter of 2026 and 1st quarter of 2027	Ad hoc JRC services: cybersecurity technology and trend analysis, risk assessments, and support for strategic actions and for operations managed by the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC).

Removed, cancelled or moved

None. All 38 topics keep their IDs, calls, budgets and types of action.

Changed topics

TOPIC(S)	CHANGE
`HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-FCT-01` (IA, EUR 7.83 million, around EUR 7.833 million, 1 project) `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-FCT-02` (IA, 6.00; around 3.00; 2) `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-FCT-04` (IA, 9.00; around 4.50; 2) `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-INFRA-01` (IA, 12.00; around 6.00; 2) `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-INFRA-02` (IA, 7.67; around 3.835; 2) `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-DRS-03` (IA, 9.00; around 3.00; 3) `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-DRS-04` (IA, 8.00; around 4.00; 2) `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-SSRI-01` (IA, 4.50; around 1.50; 3)	The eligibility line "**Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks**" is **deleted**. Each topic keeps the "restriction on control in innovation actions in critical technology areas" (General Annex B): entities established in an eligible country but controlled directly or indirectly by China or by a legal entity established in China are not eligible. TRL, practitioner requirements, lump sum and security-sensitivity provisions are unchanged.
`HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-DRS-01` (open topic on advanced CBRN-E protective gear and smart equipment for disaster responders; IA, EUR 7.67 million, around EUR 3.835 million, 2 projects, TRL 7-8, lump sum, security-sensitive)	**New eligibility restriction:** under the "restriction on control in innovation actions in critical technology areas", entities in an eligible country that are controlled directly or indirectly by China or by a legal entity established in China "are not eligible to participate in the action". In the old text the heading "The following exceptions apply:" had nothing under it. The other requirements are unchanged: at least 2 Training Centres in Member States or Associated Countries, and at least 2 practitioners involved in CBRN-E training, validation and testing from at least 2 Member States or Associated Countries.

For context:

- These 2027 topics **keep** the communication-networks clause: `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-BM-01`, `-BM-02`, `-BM-03` and `-DRS-02` (RIAs), `-SSRI-02` (CSA) and `-SSRI-03` (PCP).
- `-FCT-03` (RIA) and `-FCT-05` (IA) carry neither clause, before or after.
- All 2026-call topics are unchanged.

Changed non-topic text

- **Before the Calls section:** new note: "Please note that the 'Horizontal Activities' work programme part also includes topics relevant to the areas covered in this work programme part".
- **Destination "Better protect the EU and its citizens against Crime and Terrorism":** stray quotation marks removed around the Strategic Plan quote. Editorial only.
- **Other action 2 (public procurement):** EUR 2.13 → 2.00 million (2026) and EUR 1.52 → 1.40 million (2027). Content unchanged: Security Research Event, workshops, cybersecurity conferences, studies, innovation uptake.
- **New other actions 5 and 6 (JRC):** see New.
- The ECCC indirectly managed actions (3: EUR 56.20 million in 2026; 4: EUR 71.80 million in 2027) are unchanged, including the topics described inside them.

- **Footnotes:** no changes.
- Not substantive: the cover now reads "Annex VI".

What it means for applicants

- **Calendar and money are untouched.** Proposals for the 2026 call (deadline 05 Nov 2026) and the 2027 call (opens 05 May 2027, deadline 04 Nov 2027) face the same topics, budgets, per-project amounts and project counts.
- **For the eight 2027 IAs listed above**, the separate 5G "high-risk supplier" clause no longer applies at topic level. The binding test is now the China-control exclusion, so check every partner's ownership chain, including EU subsidiaries of Chinese groups.
- **`-DRS-01` is the one real tightening.** China-controlled entities, such as an EU-based PPE or sensor maker with a Chinese parent, can no longer participate. Re-screen consortia being built for this topic.
- The RIA, CSA and PCP topics in the 2027 call (`-BM-01/02/03`, `-DRS-02`, `-SSRI-02`, `-SSRI-03`) still carry the communication-networks clause.
- The new JRC counter-drone testing and validation programme, run with the ISF, may become a route to validate or take up counter-drone results from security projects. It is not open for applications.

Open questions

- `HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-FCT-05` (IA, EUR 8.00 million) also has an empty "The following exceptions apply:" heading, just as `-DRS-01` had, and it was **not** given the China-control restriction. This could be deliberate or an oversight; the WP gives no reason.
- Where a China-control exclusion applies, dropping the 5G clause still opens the topic to high-risk telecom suppliers that are not controlled from China. The WP does not explain the change; the General Annexes define both restrictions.
- The WP does not say where the extra EUR 1.50 million for JRC cybersecurity support in 2026 comes from. The ECCC amounts are unchanged.

Annex VII MAJOR

Cluster 4 · Digital, Industry and Space

Quantum grants removed as the EuroHPC JU takes on quantum (three topics cancelled); in 13 restricted 2027 topics China-controlled entities can no longer offer guarantees.

2026 **−133.20** 2027 **+3.85** EUR million, part total

Most of the money that moves comes from **quantum leaving Cluster 4**. Council Regulation (EU) 2026/150 extended the EuroHPC JU mandate to cover quantum technologies. As a result:

- six quantum Specific Grant Agreements (**EUR 119.00 million**, 2026) are removed;
- three 2026 quantum topics are **CANCELLED** (EUR 13.00 million): `HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-11`, `-12` and `-18`.

Changes for 2027 applicants:

- **Entities controlled by China can no longer offer guarantees.** This applies to every 2027 topic that uses the "participation restricted + guarantees" clause. Before, only high-risk telecom suppliers were barred from offering guarantees.
- The **INDUSTRY 2027 calls open three weeks later**.
- Partial randomisation is piloted on **two topics**.
- The two "space non-dependence" topics move to a new call, `HORIZON-CL4-2027-07`, with a deadline of **20 Jan 2028**. They are rescaled from token projects to projects of EUR 3–4 million, **but no budget is entered yet**.

Budget

Budget table, EUR million (budget line 01.020240). "–" means no amount in that column.

LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-01`	319.60	318.60	**−1.00**	–	–	–
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-02-two-stage`	–	–	–	98.00	98.00	0
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-01`	–	–	–	224.00	224.70	**+0.70**
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-two-stage`	–	–	–	82.50	82.50	0
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-06` (FTRI)	–	–	–	35.00	33.60	**−1.40**
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-03` (SPACE)	90.97	90.97	0	–	–	–
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-03` (SPACE)	–	–	–	66.16	68.12	**+1.96**
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-07` (SPACE, **new**)	–	–	–	–	*(blank)*	–
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-04` (DIGITAL)	221.80	208.80	**−13.00**	–	–	–
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-04` (DIGITAL)	–	–	–	272.00	272.00	0
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-05`	85.50	85.50	0	–	–	–
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-05`	–	–	–	25.00	25.00	0
Contribution to `HORIZON-CL5-2026-10`	15.00	15.00	0	–	–	–
Contribution to `HORIZON-CL5-2027-04-Two-Stage`	–	–	–	10.00	10.00	0
Public procurement	28.75	30.55	**+1.80**	7.28	7.40	**+0.12**
Subscription action	0.05	0.05	0	0.05	0.05	0
Expert contract action	5.95	5.95	0	5.83	5.83	0
Grants under FR Art. 198(e)	1.35	1.35	0	1.35	1.50	**+0.15**

LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ
Grants under FR Art. 198	–	–	–	52.00	52.00	0
JRC technical/scientific services	2.90	2.90	0	–	3.30	**+3.30**
Indirectly managed action	248.10	246.10	**−2.00**	223.38	222.40	**−0.98**
Specific grant agreement (quantum FPAs)	119.00	–	**−119.00**	–	–	–
Estimated total budget	**1138.97**	**1005.77**	**−133.20**	**1102.55**	**1106.40**	**+3.85**

How the deltas reconcile:

- **`2026-01` (−1.00):** `MAT-PROD-48` goes from 5.00 to 4.00.
- **`2027-01` (+0.70):** `MAT-PROD-49` goes from 5.00 to 4.70 (−0.30), and the new `MAT-PROD-50` adds +1.00.
- **`2027-06` (−1.40):** `MAT-PROD-62` goes from 15.00 to 13.60.
- **`2027-03` (+1.96):** `SPACE-03-21` goes from 0.98 to 3.92 (+2.94). `SPACE-03-83` and `-84` leave (−0.49 each).
- **`2026-04` (−13.00):** three topics are cancelled: −2.00, −1.00 and −10.00.
- **Procurement 2026 (+1.80):** the CRMA strategic-projects support moves in (+2.00, see below). The collaborative-licensing study is dropped (−0.20). The new space-skills action has no amount.
- **Procurement 2027 (+0.12):** the Space Act/cybersecurity action is dropped (−0.98). Two new actions are added: the TTO peer-learning pilot (+0.50) and the advanced-materials validation study (+0.60).
- **Art. 198(e) 2027 (+0.15):** the metrology Presidency conference is new.
- **JRC 2027 (+3.30):** RAISE gets 2.50 and advanced-materials value chains get 0.80.
- **Indirectly managed (−2.00 in 2026, −0.98 in 2027):** the CRMA action moves out of the EIT line (−2.00 in 2026). The EUSPA.1 amount is now blank (−0.98 in 2027).

Real topic-level change: the call "Overall indicative budget" lines, including `HORIZON-CL4-2027-EUSPA-SPACE`, go from **1,521.51 to 1,507.79**. That is **−13.72**:

ITEM	Δ
Three cancellations	−13.00
`MAT-PROD-48`	−1.00
`MAT-PROD-49`	−0.30
`MAT-PROD-50` (new)	+1.00
`MAT-PROD-62`	−1.40
`SPACE-03-21`	+2.94
`SPACE-03-83` + `-84`	−0.98
`EUSPA-SPACE-51`	−0.98
SPACE-07 topics (no budget entered)	0
Total	**−13.72**

New

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET	EU CONTRIBUTION PER PROJECT	PROJECTS	OPENING → DEADLINE	GIST
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-01-MAT-PROD-50`	European network for upscaling venture builders' roles in research performing organisations (CSA)	CSA, **lump sum**	EUR 1.00 million	around EUR 1.00 million	1	Call `HORIZON-CL4-2027-01`: 13 Oct 2026 → 02 Feb 2027	EU network that helps universities, RTOs and technology infrastructures set up or upscale venture-builder roles, share resources and skills, and take a gender-sensitive approach. Sits under "Technology infrastructure, knowledge valorisation and support for scaleups and startups".
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-07-83`	Space critical EEE components for EU non-dependence	RIA	**EUR 0.00 million** (blank in call table)	EUR 3.00–4.00 million	2	**New call `HORIZON-CL4-2027-07`: 07 Oct 2027 → 20 Jan 2028**	Replaces `HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-83` with the same scope. Matures critical space EEE components on a trusted, preferably all-EU supply chain. TRL 6. Open only to entities in MS, Norway and Iceland. 80-page limit. Portfolio rule per development area. Security-sensitive.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-07-84`	Space critical equipment for EU non-dependence	RIA	**EUR 0.00 million** (blank)	EUR 3.00–4.00 million	2	Same new call: 07 Oct 2027 → 20 Jan 2028	Replaces `HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-84` with the same scope, for critical space equipment instead of components. Same conditions as –83.

The new call `HORIZON-CL4-2027-07` (SPACE) contains only these two topics. Its "Overall indicative budget" cell and its line in the budget table are empty.

New "other actions" (not calls for proposals):

ACTION	FORM	BUDGET	TIMING
Peer-to-peer learning pilot for capacity building of Technology Transfer Offices: matchmaking, secondments and visits between TTOs across MS/AC	Public procurement	EUR 0.50 million (2027)	–
Study to develop guidelines for streamlining the validation of advanced materials: sector guidelines for energy, mobility, construction and electronics, aimed at startups and SMEs	Public procurement	EUR 0.60 million (2027)	Q1 2027
Boosting Space through Skills development: up/reskilling plus EDI in the space sector, via a HaDEA framework contract. Replaces the Space Act/cybersecurity action	Public procurement	**amount left blank** ("EUR million from the 2026 budget")	Q3 2026
JRC support to AI in Science policies, with a focus on RAISE: pilot AI infrastructure (~85%) and policy support (~15%), 24 months	JRC SLA	EUR 2.50 million (2027)	Q4 2026
JRC support for monitoring the resilience of advanced materials value chains, 36 months	JRC SLA	EUR 0.80 million (2027)	Q4 2026
Presidency event: High-level Conference on Metrology (Lithuanian Presidency 2027). Identified beneficiary: FTMC, Vilnius	Grant under FR Art. 198(e)	EUR 0.15 million (2027)	–

Removed, cancelled or moved

ID / ACTION	WHAT HAPPENED	WHERE IT WENT
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-11` Grand Challenge on Quantum Sensors for Inertial Navigation (CSA, EUR 2.00 million, around 0.50 per project, 3 projects)	**CANCELLED** (budget now 0.00)	Quantum moved to EuroHPC JU under Council Reg. (EU) 2026/150 of 16 Jan 2026. The call closed on 15 Apr 2026.
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-12` Standards for Quantum Technologies (CSA, EUR 1.00 million, 1 project)	**CANCELLED**	Same reason
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-18` Large-Scale Photonic Quantum Computing Platform Technologies (RIA, EUR 10.00 million, 1 project)	**CANCELLED**	Same reason
Six quantum SGAs under existing FPAs: Millenion (20.00), OpenSuperQPlus (20.00), PASQuanS2 (20.00), QSNP (24.00), Qu-Test (20.00), Qu-Pilot (15.00). Total **EUR 119.00 million**, 2026	**Removed** from the WP	EuroHPC JU, same Regulation. The Quantum Top-Up to InvestEU (Grand Challenge Phase 2, EUR 100.00 million in 2026 + EUR 28.00 million in 2027) stays.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-83` (RIA, EUR 0.49 million, 0.25–0.30 per project, 1 project; call `2027-03`, 09 Mar 2027 → 02 Sep 2027)	Removed from `2027-03`	**Moved to** `HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-07-83` (call `2027-07`, 07 Oct 2027 → 20 Jan 2028). Now 3.00–4.00 per project and 2 projects, with budget 0.00 / blank.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-84` (same figures as –83)	Removed from `2027-03`	**Moved to** `HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-07-84`, same changes
Procurement "Study on the societal benefits in the use of collaborative licensing models for intellectual assets management" (EUR 0.20 million, 2026)	Deleted	Industry items 4.2–4.9 renumbered to 4.1–4.8
Procurement "Boosting Space through support to the Space Act and cybersecurity" (EUR 0.98 million, 2027)	Deleted	Replaced in the same slot by "Boosting Space through Skills development". The topic-list sub-heading "Heading 12" pointing to it is also removed.
"Support to implementation of Strategic Projects under the Critical Raw Materials Act" (EUR 2.00 million, 2026)	Moved	It was an indirectly managed action with the EIT. It is now **public procurement** (Industry 4.11, Q4 2026), same amount.

Changed topics

Restrictions and eligibility

TOPIC(S)	CHANGE
All 2027 topics with "participation limited to [MS/AC/...] + guarantees": `HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-08`, `-DATA-03`; `HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-11`, `-04`, `-05`; `HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-12`, `-21`, `-33`, `-34`, `-71`. Also the new `SPACE-07-83/-84`, and the Art. 198 SST grants "SST Sensors and Processing" and "Consolidate commercial SST capabilities on sensors"	**Old:** high-risk suppliers of mobile network equipment (or entities they own or control) cannot submit guarantees. **New:** "Entities established in an eligible country, but which are directly or indirectly controlled by China or by a legal entity established in China cannot submit guarantees." In practice, Chinese-controlled entities are **excluded**. The 2026 topics (calls already closed) keep the old wording.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-01-MAT-PROD-02` Advanced manufacturing for key products (IA, Made in Europe)	**New eligibility exception:** the "restriction on control in innovation actions in critical technology areas" (General Annex B) now applies. Entities controlled by China or by a Chinese legal entity are **not eligible**. Its 2026 twin `MAT-PROD-01` does not have this restriction.

Budget, size and evaluation

TOPIC(S)	CHANGE
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-09` Energy efficiency and sustainability of AI data processing in data centres (IA, EUR 39.00 million)	**Redesigned portfolio.** Contribution per project goes from around EUR 10.00 million to **EUR 9.00–10.00 million**. Projects go from 3 to **4** (the old scope text already said four). The dedicated fourth "open pilot demonstration site" project and the balanced-portfolio award rule (≥3 projects on outcomes 1–3 plus 1 demo-site project) are removed. Instead, proposals address "**one or more**" of the six development areas, and **every action should establish open pilot demonstration sites**. The "Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks" line is deleted. The restriction on control (China) stays. The granting authority's right to object to transfers or exclusive licences, which was a sentence in the scope, is now a formal General Annex G exception (Annex 5).

TOPIC(S)	CHANGE
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-01-MAT-PROD-49` "Proof of market" (IA)	Budget goes from EUR 5.00 to **4.70 million**. Projects go from 25 to **24**, at around EUR 0.20 million each. **Page limit cut to 10 pages. Partial randomisation:** the best-scored proposals up to about EUR 2.35 million (minimum EUR 1.55 million) are funded on score. Proposals that follow within a 0.5-point score spread, up to twice the remaining budget, are ranked at random. The evaluation committee partly consists of EU-institution staff.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-DIGITAL-EMERGING-52-two-stage` Human/AI collaboration for the workforce of the future (RIA, EUR 30.00 million)	**Partial randomisation at stage 1** (blind stage-1 evaluation was already in place). Proposals up to about EUR 45.00 million (minimum EUR 30.00 million) go to stage 2 on score. Proposals within a 0.5-point spread up to EUR 90.00 million are ranked at random.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-MAT-PROD-32-two-stage` Efficient energy input from renewable sources... (EUR 52.50 million)	**Type of Action changes from RIA to IA**, matching the "(IA)" already in its title. Effects: 70% funding rate for for-profit entities, and Impact weighted 1.5 in the ranking. "CO2 emissions" becomes "GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions" in the scope.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-01-MAT-PROD-62` Fast Track to Innovation, Chemical Industry Action Plan (RIA)	Budget goes from EUR 15.00 to **13.60 million**. Still 6 projects, up to EUR 2.50 million each.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-21` ISOS4I Pilot Mission integrated ground test and USI solutions (RIA, lump sum)	Budget goes from EUR 0.98 to **3.92 million**. Contribution goes from 0.80–1.00 to **3.50–3.92 million**. Still 1 project. **Scope adds** a virtual testbed (System-of-Systems simulation) next to the TRL 6 integrated ground test. The servicing interfaces must include the USI solutions and the refuelling interfaces from `HORIZON-CL4-2026-SPACE-03-86`. The rule that beneficiaries must include the ISOS Pilot Mission CSA beneficiaries is unchanged (only moved in the text).
`HORIZON-2027-EUSPA-SPACE-51` Galileo and Copernicus contribution to the EU Preparedness Union Strategy (IA, call `HORIZON-CL4-2027-EUSPA-SPACE`)	**Postponed one year.** Opening moves from 14 Oct 2026 to **21 Oct 2027**, and the deadline from 17 Feb 2027 to **22 Feb 2028**. Contribution goes from 0.80–1.00 to **2.00–2.50 million**. Projects go from 1 to **3**. Topic and call budget go from 0.98 to **"EUR 0 million"**, and the EUSPA.1 indirectly managed amount is left blank. Topic text otherwise unchanged.
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-48` "Proof of market" (IA; call closed 21 Apr 2026)	Budget goes from EUR 5.00 to **4.00 million**. Projects go from 25 to **20**.
`HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-44` Management talent for Technology Infrastructures (CSA; call closed)	Contribution corrected from around EUR 3.00 to **around 2.50 million**, now matching the unchanged 2.50 budget and 1 project.

Scope and award rules

TOPIC(S)	CHANGE
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-33` (Space Partnership, RIA)	Proposals must address **at least one** of the listed areas. Projects must **report results to the 'Globally Competitive Space Systems' (GCSS) partnership** for its KPI monitoring.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-SPACE-03-34` (Space Partnership, IA)	**New portfolio rule:** at least the highest-ranked proposal in each of the three areas is funded, provided it passes thresholds. Ranking uses the main area declared in the proposal. Projects must also report to GCSS.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-04` Apply AI Challenge-Driven AI Innovation Booster (RIA)	Portfolio rule reworded to "the highest-ranked proposal within each of healthcare, advanced manufacturing and in-vehicle autonomous driving", in the same sense as before. Each proposal must now **clearly state which sector** it addresses. "Domains" becomes "sectors".
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-08` Demand-side 3C pilot demonstrators (IA)	Open-source frameworks are to be made available to the "**Open Euro Stack** Support for Scale" instead of the "Open Internet Stack Support for Scale".
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-HUMAN-02` Virtual Worlds and Web 4.0 ecosystem (CSA)	Changes from "review and, if necessary, update the SRIA" to "**the delivery of a revised and updated SRIA**" for Virtual Worlds. The update is now a firm output.
`HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-10` Horizon scanning and foresight (CSA)	Participants should "**identify**" rather than "develop" innovative ideas together. A minor narrowing.

Editorial changes only, not substantive:

- **Page-limit wording.** "The page limit in part B of the General Annexes is exceptionally extended by 3 pages" becomes "the page limit is exceptionally extended by 3 pages". This applies to the 2027 topics `MAT-PROD-22`,

`-02`, `-03`, `-06`, `-08`, `-16`, `MAT-PROD-32-two-stage` and `DIGITAL-EMERGING-52-two-stage`.

- **Ownership-transfer sentence.** A duplicate scope sentence (notify DG CNECT/HaDEA before ownership transfer or exclusive licensing) is deleted from `DIGITAL-EMERGING-06`, `-10`, `HUMAN-01`, `-02` and `-07`. The formal Annex 5 objection right stays in each topic's conditions.
- **`SPACE-03-71`.** It loses the trailing pointer to "Heading 12" (Space Act and cybersecurity).

Changed non-topic text

- **Call dates:**
  - `HORIZON-CL4-2026-03` (SPACE 2026): deadline **03 Sep 2026 → 16 Sep 2026**. The call has already closed, so this records the extension.
  - `HORIZON-CL4-2027-01` (INDUSTRY), `HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-two-stage` and `HORIZON-CL4-2027-06` (INDUSTRY-FTRI): opening **22 Sep 2026 → 13 Oct 2026**. Deadlines are unchanged: 02 Feb 2027, and 02 Sep 2027 for stage 2.
  - `HORIZON-CL4-2027-EUSPA-SPACE`: opening 14 Oct 2026 → **21 Oct 2027**; deadline 17 Feb 2027 → **22 Feb 2028**.
  - New call `HORIZON-CL4-2027-07` (SPACE): 07 Oct 2027 → 20 Jan 2028.
- **Introduction:**
  - New paragraph announcing a **partial randomisation pilot** for two topics in this part. These are `MAT-PROD-49` and `DIGITAL-EMERGING-52-two-stage`. The stated aim is to cope with rising proposal numbers and near-identical scores.
  - New pointer: the "Horizontal Activities" WP part also contains topics relevant to Cluster 4.
- **Destination "Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies":** the sentence on a long-term quantum strategy (quantum computing, sensing, communication, new infrastructures and standardisation) is deleted.
- **Other actions:**
  - The six quantum SGAs are replaced by a notice that they were removed in view of Reg. (EU) 2026/150.
  - New procurement, JRC and Art. 198(e) actions, as listed under "New".
  - CRMA support moves from indirectly managed action to procurement.
  - The collaborative-licensing study and the Space Act/cybersecurity procurement are deleted.
  - "Project monitoring and use of individual experts (space)" now also covers **relevant PPPA actions**.
  - JRC actions are relabelled "Provision of technical/scientific services by the JRC – SLA in the form of administrative agreement".
  - The SST Art. 198 grants switch to the China-control guarantee bar.

What it means for applicants

- **If your consortium includes a subsidiary of a Chinese group**, check every 2027 Cluster 4 topic before building on it:
  - In the 13 2027 topics that limit participation and accept guarantees (in DIGITAL 2027-04, SPACE 2027-03 and the new SPACE 2027-07 call), China-controlled entities can no longer submit guarantees.
  - `MAT-PROD-02` (INDUSTRY, 02 Feb 2027) now excludes them outright.
- **INDUSTRY 2027 calls open on 13 Oct 2026, not 22 Sep 2026; deadlines are unchanged.** In those calls:
  - `MAT-PROD-32-two-stage` is now an **IA**: 70% funding for companies, and Impact counts 1.5× in the ranking. Re-plan budgets and impact sections.
  - `MAT-PROD-49` is down to **10 pages and a partly random ranking**.
  - There is a new **EUR 1 million lump-sum CSA** on venture builders in RPOs (`MAT-PROD-50`).
- **No more Cluster 4 quantum topics or FPA follow-ups.** The three 2026 quantum topics are cancelled even though their call closed on 15 Apr 2026, and the six FPA follow-ups are removed, because Council Regulation (EU)

2026/150 extended the **EuroHPC JU** mandate to quantum. The EUR 128 million Quantum Top-Up to InvestEU and the Quantum Space Gravimetry topic (`SPACE-03-71`, EUR 29.20 million) stay in Cluster 4. Quantum applicants should watch the EuroHPC JU work programme.

- **Space:**
  - The EEE-components and critical-equipment non-dependence topics are now **realistic projects (2 × EUR 3–4 million each)**. Their deadline is **20 Jan 2028** instead of 2 Sep 2027, and they are open only to MS, Norway and Iceland.
  - **No budget is entered yet** for these topics, nor for the EUSPA Preparedness topic, which is postponed to Feb 2028 with 3 projects of EUR 2.00–2.50 million.
  - `SPACE-03-21` quadruples, but consortia must still include the beneficiaries of the ISOS Pilot Mission CSA.
- **DATA-09 (AI data centres):** you can now bid on any one or more of the six development areas. Each project should run its own open pilot demonstration site; there is no single "demo-site" project any more. Four projects of EUR 9–10 million are expected to be funded.

Open questions

- **Blank budgets:**
  - `HORIZON-CL4-2027-07` (SPACE-07-83/-84) shows "EUR 0.00 million" and an empty budget-table line.
  - `HORIZON-2027-EUSPA-SPACE-51` shows "EUR 0 million", and EUSPA.1 is left blank.
  - The "Boosting Space through Skills development" procurement is left blank.
  - None of these blanks is explained in body text or footnotes. They imply roughly EUR 12–16 million (SPACE-07) and EUR 6–7.5 million (EUSPA-51) still to be funded. Presumably that will come in a later amendment or a later budget year, but the WP does not say so.
- **Proposals already submitted** to the cancelled `2026-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-11/-12/-18` (deadline 15 Apr 2026): the WP does not say what happens to them, or whether EuroHPC JU will re-run the topics.
- **Retroactive changes to closed 2026 calls:** `MAT-PROD-48` (5.00 → 4.00, 25 → 20 projects), `MAT-PROD-44` (contribution corrected) and the SPACE 2026 deadline (03 → 16 Sep 2026) probably formalise decisions already taken during evaluation or on the portal. The motive is not stated.
- **Leftover reference:** the Space destination introduction still describes "Heading 12: Boosting Space through support to the Space Act and cybersecurity". Its only action (the procurement) has been deleted.
- **Open Euro Stack naming:** `DATA-08` now refers to "Open Euro Stack Support for Scale", while the 2026 topic `HORIZON-CL4-2026-04-DATA-03` keeps the title "Open Internet Stack Support for Scale (CSA)". The referenced initiative appears to have been renamed; this is not confirmed.

Annex VIII MODERATE

Cluster 5 · Climate, Energy and Mobility

20 more Innovation Actions (EUR 393.90 million) now exclude China-controlled entities, 24 in all; CO2-transport CSA moved to Sep 2027.

2026 **−51.05** 2027 **+8.58** EUR million, part total

The amendment barely touches call money (+EUR 0.38 million in 2027), but it changes the eligibility rules for most 2027 Innovation Actions. **20 IA topics in the 2027 calls (about EUR 394 million) now carry the "restriction on control in innovation actions in critical technology areas"**, which excludes China-controlled entities. One topic, `HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-16`, loses that restriction. The CO2 transport and storage CSA moves from the March 2027 call to the September 2027 call (renumbered `HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D3-31`), and a new EUR 0.38 million geothermal SET Plan CSA (`HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-33`) takes its slot. Under Other actions, the **EUR 50.00 million InvestEU blending contribution (2026) is deleted**, and six smaller actions are added (a seventh, the JRC road-safety analysis, moves in from procurement).

Budget

Budget table at the end of the part (EUR million). Rows not listed here are identical in both versions: every 2026 call, 2027-01, 2027-03, 2027-04-Two-Stage, 2027-06, 2027-07, the EUR 10.00 million contribution to HORIZON-HLTH-2027-01, expert contracts, the SLA line, the Art. 195(e) grant and the prize.

LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ 2026	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ 2027
HORIZON-CL5-2027-02 (BATTERIES and ENERGY)	–	–	–	227.60	222.98	−4.62
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05 (BATTERIES and ENERGY)	–	–	–	95.30	100.30	+5.00
Public procurement	10.50	9.00	−1.50	3.30	7.80	+4.50
Indirectly managed action	66.65	17.00	−49.65	0.05	2.05	+2.00
Subscription action	2.70	2.80	+0.10	2.70	2.90	+0.20
JRC technical/scientific services (renamed "- SLA in the form of administrative agreement")	13.32	13.32	0	4.88	5.88	+1.00
NEW line: Grant without call, FR Art. 198(e)	–	–	–	–	0.50	+0.50
Calls subtotal	1090.40	1090.40	0	846.00	846.38	+0.38
Other actions subtotal	97.32	46.27	−51.05	19.24	27.44	+8.20
Estimated total budget	**1187.72**	**1136.67**	**−51.05**	**865.24**	**873.82**	**+8.58**

Two-year total: EUR 2 052.96 million → EUR 2 010.49 million (**−42.47**). The sum of topic budgets goes from 1 951.40 to 1 951.78 (+0.38).

How the deltas reconcile (all checked against the action texts):

- **2027-02, −4.62:** `D3-31` (5.00) moves out and `D3-33` (0.38) comes in.
- **2027-05, +5.00:** `D3-31` arrives.
- **Procurement 2026, −1.50:** the grid supply chains study (−0.50) is deleted, and road safety analysis (−1.00) leaves procurement.
- **Procurement 2027, +4.50:** UVAR digitisation +1.00, dissemination and information activities +0.10 (0.50 → 0.60), AIDRES 2 +0.40, GenAI permitting portal +3.00.

- **Indirectly managed 2026, −49.65:** the InvestEU blending operation (−50.00) is deleted and the IEA contribution agreement on AI and energy (+0.35) is added.
- **Indirectly managed 2027, +2.00:** Climate Science Fellowships (UNESCO/ICTP).
- **Subscriptions:** IRENA goes from 0.60 to 0.70 in both years. The CEM voluntary contribution goes from 0.12 to 0.22 in 2027, adding an "Energy Efficiency initiative (100.000 EUR)".
- **JRC 2027, +1.00:** road safety analysis moves here from procurement (now 2027 budget, Q1 2027).
- **Art. 198(e), +0.50 (2027):** support to the IPCC WGIII Technical Support Unit (RIFS/GFZ, Potsdam).

New

Topics

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET	EU CONTRIBUTION / PROJECT	PROJECTS	CALL, OPENING → DEADLINE	GIST
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-33`	Support to the SET Plan stakeholders' groups in geothermal energy	CSA, lump sum	EUR 0.38 million	around EUR 0.38 million	1 (the granting authority can fund a maximum of one)	HORIZON-CL5-2027-02 BATTERIES and ENERGY, 03 Dec 2026 → 31 Mar 2027	Runs the geothermal ETIP and the SET Plan Implementation Working Group: R&I roadmaps and agendas, market and funding-needs analyses, feeding SETIS, the SET Plan progress report and CETO, tracking progress against NZIA/CRMA/RED targets, and a finance and sustainability plan so the fora can continue without EU funding. Indicative duration 1.5 years. Destination 3.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D3-31`	Support to the implementation of an EU policy framework for CO2 transport and storage infrastructure	CSA, lump sum	EUR 5.00 million	around EUR 5.00 million	1	HORIZON-CL5-2027-05 BATTERIES and ENERGY, 05 May 2027 → 15 Sep 2027	Not new content. It is the former `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-31`, text identical (see next section).

Other actions (not calls for proposals)

ACTION	FORM	BUDGET	TIMING	GIST
Urban Vehicle Access and Traffic Management Innovation (Procurement 4)	Public procurement	EUR 1.00 million (2027)	Q1 2027	Scale the piloted UVARBox (2020-2022) to an EU-wide, interoperable system: LEZ/ZEZ rules digitised in DATEX II via National Access Points and shown on "Your Europe". Initially covers the 431 TEN-T urban nodes.
AIDRES 2 - Advancing Industrial Decarbonisation (Procurement 11)	Public procurement	EUR 0.40 million (2027)	Q1 2027	Update the AIDRES database and pathways. Sectors expand beyond steel, cement, glass, chemicals, fertiliser and refineries to e.g. pulp and paper, aluminium, ceramics, food and textiles. Includes geo-mapped industrial energy demand.
Pilot digital permitting portal with GenAI tools (Procurement 14)	Public procurement	EUR 3.00 million (2027)	Q3 2027	Pilot national single digital permitting portal for renewables, storage and grids (linked to the Grids Package proposal to amend RED Art. 16), with knowledge sharing among authorities and possible open-sourcing.
Contribution Agreement with the IEA on the nexus of AI and energy in the EU (IMA 5)	Indirectly managed (OECD/IEA)	EUR 0.35 million (2026)	Q4 2026	EU data-centre electricity demand scenarios, implications for grids and security of supply, data-centre flexibility. Includes 2 technical and 1 policy convening.

ACTION	FORM	BUDGET	TIMING	GIST
Climate Science Fellowships for Early Career Researchers from low- and middle-income countries (IMA 6)	Listed as indirectly managed (UNESCO, administered by ICTP)	EUR 2.00 million (2027)	Q1 2027	At least 20 LMIC early-career researchers placed in European climate-science teams (Destination 1 topics, IPCC/UNFCCC relevance). Paid through FSTP grants of at most EUR 60 000 per fellow, with at least 75% of the EU contribution going to FSTP. Fellows must come from LMICs automatically eligible for Horizon Europe funding and be hosted in MS/AC.
Support to the preparation of the Working Group III contribution to IPCC AR7 (Grant to identified beneficiary 2)	Grant, FR Art. 198(e), CSA	EUR 0.50 million (2027)	not stated	Funds a senior science officer at RIFS (GFZ, Potsdam) for the WGIII Technical Support Unit after the US withdrawal.
Road safety analysis supporting road safety management (JRC 16)	JRC administrative agreement	EUR 1.00 million (2027)	Q1 2027	Moved, not new: previously Procurement 10, EUR 1.00 million from 2026, Q3 2026. Text unchanged.

Removed, cancelled or moved

ITEM	OLD	NEW
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-31` CO2 transport and storage policy-framework CSA (EUR 5.00 million, around EUR 5.00 million, 1 project, lump sum)	Call HORIZON-CL5-2027-02, opening 03 Dec 2026, deadline **31 Mar 2027**	**Moved and renumbered** to `HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D3-31`, call HORIZON-CL5-2027-05, opening **05 May 2027**, deadline **15 Sep 2027**. Conditions, expected outcome and scope are word-for-word identical.
Contribution to InvestEU blending operation under the Green Transition product (EIB). Covered renewable H2, SAF, LDES, DAC and steel/cement decarbonisation at TRL 6-8.	Indirectly managed action 2, **EUR 50.00 million** from 2026, Q1 2026 (the 2026 instalment of the EUR 200 million 2022-2026 EIB/Breakthrough Energy Catalyst partnership)	**Deleted**
Study on electricity grids technologies supply chains	Procurement 4, EUR 0.50 million from 2026, Q1 2026	**Deleted**
Road safety analysis supporting road safety management	Procurement 10, EUR 1.00 million from 2026, Q3 2026	Moved to JRC services (item 16), EUR 1.00 million from 2027, Q1 2027

No topic is marked cancelled.

Changed topics

A. China-control restriction added. New eligibility exception: "entities established in an eligible country but which are directly or indirectly controlled by China or by a legal entity established in China are not eligible to participate in the action" (General Annex B, critical technology areas). It is newly added to 20 IA topics, worth EUR 393.90 million in total (24 Innovation Actions in the 2027 calls now carry it):

CALL (OPENING → DEADLINE)	TOPICS (TOPIC BUDGET, EUR MILLION)
HORIZON-CL5-2027-02 (03 Dec 2026 → 31 Mar 2027)	`HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D2-05` recycling processes, BATT4EU (18.80); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D2-06` Li-ion/Na-ion cell production, BATT4EU (37.80); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-07` concentrated solar thermal for industry (12.00); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-10` Renewable Energy Valleys in Africa (9.00); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-15` PV production technologies, EUPI-PV (36.00); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-30` Direct Air Capture (16.00)
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03 (15 Dec 2026 → 14 Apr 2027)	`HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-03` data-driven circular e-mobility, 2ZERO (24.00); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-04` zero-emission coaches/buses, 2ZERO (13.50); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-05` MCS-compatible HDV powertrain, 2ZERO (16.00); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-14` onboard renewables on ships –55% fuel, ZEWT (6.50); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-18` electric operation and battery durability, ZEWT (20.00)
HORIZON-CL5-2027-05 (05 May 2027 → 15 Sep 2027)	`HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D2-08` long-duration battery storage demo, BATT4EU (18.80); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-05` on-site robotics for renovation/construction (20.25); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-06` waste heat from IT rooms/edge data centres (15.75); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-09` industrial waste heat to power (13.50)

CALL (OPENING → DEADLINE)	TOPICS (TOPIC BUDGET, EUR MILLION)
HORIZON-CL5-2027-07 (04 Aug 2027 → 01 Dec 2027)	`HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-11` hydropower refurbishment (17.00); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-16` tandem PV industrial processes, EUPI-PV (28.50); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-17` PV-based electrification, EUPI-PV (18.00); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-27` retrofitting infrastructures with energy storage (22.50); `HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-32` industrial CCUS clusters, Societal Readiness pilot (30.00)

Before the amendment, 5 of the 29 IA topics in the 2027 calls carried this restriction. Now 24 do. The five without it are `D3-09`, `D5-06`, `D5-16`, `D4-07` and `D6-08`. No 2026 topic changed.

B. Other topic-level changes

TOPIC(S)	CHANGE
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-16` Autonomous vessels in short sea shipping and inland waterways (IA, EUR 15.00 million, around EUR 7.50 million, TRL 7)	**China-control restriction removed** and the "restrictions for the protection of European communication networks" (5G high-risk-supplier exclusion) removed as well. Only the Copernicus/Galileo condition is left. The degree-3/degree-4 automation definitions moved from footnotes into the body text; their content is unchanged.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-11`, `HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-05`, `HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-14`	The communication-networks restriction is **replaced** by the China-control restriction.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-25` (TSO control rooms, EUR 28.50 million), `HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-26` (ADMS distribution grids, EUR 28.50 million)	Communication-networks restriction **removed**. The China-control restriction, already present, stays.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-08` Co-funding SET Plan renewable fuel value chains (COFUND, EUR 30.00 million)	The admissibility exception "page limit for proposals is increased to 60 pages" is **deleted**. The General Annex A default for Programme Co-fund (65 pages) therefore applies.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-32` Delivery of industrial CCUS clusters - Societal Readiness pilot (IA, actual costs)	New admissibility exception: page limit **extended by two pages to 42** for Societal Readiness. China-control restriction added (see A).
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-06-D6-08` Enhancing Mobility for All ... - Societal Readiness pilot (IA, lump sum, EUR 21.00 million; call 03 Jun 2027 → 07 Oct 2027)	New admissibility exception: page limit **extended by two pages to 47**.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-13` Next generation scenarios (RIA, EUR 24.00 million, around EUR 4.00 million; call 17 Nov 2026 → 04 Mar 2027)	**JRC may join** the selected consortium as a zero-funded beneficiary or associated partner, but takes no part in preparing the proposal. New text says the JRC could contribute scientific advice, analytical expertise and data.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-20` Airport operations, air quality and noise (RIA, EUR 7.00 million, around EUR 3.50 million)	**JRC may join** on the same terms. Proposals may consider involving FAIRMODE (the JRC-led air quality modelling forum) and the JRC SHERPA model.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-03` Data-driven circular economy for e-mobility (IA, EUR 24.00 million, EUR 5.00-7.00 million per project)	Scope sentence deleted: "The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 7 million for Area A and 5 million for Area B". Totals and the at-least-two-per-area award rule are unchanged. New overarching expected outcome: improved circularity of **end-of-first-life** representative EV components (power electronic converters, motor rotors/stators, battery-system thermal management) and, if relevant, EVCI, through standardised product data, design strategies and business models.
`HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D4-09` Industrial excess/waste heat to power	Scope now stresses cost: the expected outcome adds "thereby reducing their energy costs", the text mentions mitigating electricity "consumption and cost", and standardised components must also be "cost-competitive".

Edits with no effect for applicants:

- `HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-11`: the "at least 30% of beneficiaries from African Union member states" rule was printed twice. One copy was removed and the requirement stands.
- `D3-17`: a heading moved.

Changed non-topic text

- **Calls (both closed before the amendment):** HORIZON-CL5-2026-05 MOBILITY deadline 14 Apr 2026 → **16 Apr 2026**. HORIZON-CL5-2026-07 CLIMATE deadline 15 Apr 2026 → **21 Apr 2026**. The first-stage deadlines of the matching two-stage calls (2026-06: 14 Apr 2026; 2026-08: 15 Apr 2026) are unchanged. No 2027 opening or deadline moved.
- **Call 2027-02 topic list:** `D3-31` out, `D3-33` in, overall budget 227.60 → 222.98. **Call 2027-05:** `D3-31` added under Destination 3, overall budget 95.30 → 100.30.
- **Introduction, Societal Readiness section:** the approach is now said to apply to **three topics** in WP 2026-2027, "in continuation to the pilot initiated in Cluster 5 work programme 2025". The old text wrongly referred to WP 2025. Proposals must use the **RRI guiding questions** (previously "Societal Readiness guiding questions"). The paragraph on evaluation was deleted; it had said Societal Readiness is scored under "Methodology" within Excellence. RRI definitions now point to the paragraph below instead of the Programme Guide.
- **New cross-reference** before the calls: the 'Horizontal Activities' WP part also has topics relevant to Cluster 5.
- JRC cooperation sentence now reads "...innovation policies including:". Editorial only.
- **Other actions, modified:**
  - "Boosting competitive advantage of clean energy technologies with European project results" (Procurement 6): scope widened from "Cluster 5 destination 3 projects" to Cluster 5 clean energy projects **plus relevant Horizon 2020 projects**. Timetable Q2 → **Q3 2026**. EUR 0.60 million (2026) unchanged.
  - Dissemination and information activities: 2027 budget EUR 0.50 → **0.60 million**.
  - IRENA subscription: EUR 0.60 → **0.70 million** per year.
  - CEM voluntary contribution: adds the Energy Efficiency initiative (EUR 100 000). 2027 budget 0.12 → **0.22**.
  - JRC "critical raw materials" action: the deep dives are no longer fixed on grids and hydrogen. They are now "two key technology areas ... that complement existing deep dives already carried out by the JRC".
  - All JRC actions are now implemented "following Article 59 and Article 21.2.(g).(iii) of the Financial Regulation, in the form of an Administrative Agreement/Service Level Agreement". This is a formal change only.
  - Other actions are renumbered.

What it means for applicants

- **Screen ownership now for any 2027 Cluster 5 Innovation Action.** For 20 more topics (EUR 393.90 million, across the 2027-02, 2027-03, 2027-05 and 2027-07 calls), partners directly or indirectly controlled by China or a Chinese entity are ineligible. This includes EU-registered subsidiaries. Battery (BATT4EU), PV (EUPI-PV), 2ZERO/ZEWT, waste-heat and CCUS consortia are hit hardest. Autonomous vessels (`D5-16`) goes the other way and no longer carries either restriction.
- **The CO2 transport and storage CSA gets almost six more months.** It is now `HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D3-31` , opening 05 May 2027 with a deadline of 15 Sep 2027 (was 31 Mar 2027). Content and EUR 5.00 million are unchanged, so update any planning that used the old ID.
- **A small, single-winner geothermal CSA opens in the 2027-02 call** (`D3-33` , EUR 0.38 million, deadline 31 Mar 2027). In practice it suits the existing geothermal ETIP and SET Plan IWG community.
- **Page limits:** the SET Plan renewable-fuels co-fund (`D3-08`) loses its 60-page cap, so the 65-page co-fund default applies. The two 2027 Societal Readiness pilots get +2 pages (`D3-32` : 42; `D6-08` : 47) and must use the RRI guiding questions.
- **Non-grant opportunities:** the EUR 50 million InvestEU blending window for 2026 is gone. Consultancies can look at the new tenders (EUR 3.00 million GenAI permitting portal, UVAR LEZ/ZEZ digitisation, AIDRES 2). ICTP will run a fellowship call (up to EUR 60 000 per fellow) for LMIC early-career researchers hosted by European climate-science teams. Open 2026 calls (2026-10, deadline 08 Oct 2026; 2026-11, deadline 01 Dec 2026) are untouched.

Open questions

- **`D5-16` losing both restrictions** is odd: "robotics and autonomous systems" is one of the critical technology areas the restriction covers. The adopted text says so, but this could be a drafting slip. Check the Portal topic page before relying on it.
- **Climate Science Fellowships** sit under "Indirectly managed actions", name UNESCO as the legal entity and are budgeted in the IMA line (2027: 0.05 + 2.00 = 2.05). The same text says the grant "will be awarded without a call for proposals according to Article 198(e)" and administered by ICTP. The form of funding is internally inconsistent; the budget figure is not affected.
- **Portal not yet aligned (1 Oct 2026).** The Funding & Tenders Portal still lists `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-31` with a 31 Mar 2027 deadline and has no `HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-33` or `HORIZON-CL5-2027-05-D3-31`. The portal already shows the 16 Apr / 21 Apr 2026 deadlines, so the 2026 deadline edits only regularise dates that were already applied.
- That `D3-08` now has **65 pages** is an inference from General Annex A ("Programme co-fund … 65 pages"). The topic text just drops the exception.
- The "three topics" in the Societal Readiness section are taken to be `HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-22` (closed), `D3-32` and `D6-08`, because these are the only titles carrying "Societal Readiness pilot". The WP does not list them.
- The IPCC WGIII grant gives no indicative timetable.

Annex IX MINOR

Cluster 6 · Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

No call changes; six more 2027 Innovation Actions exclude China-controlled entities.

2026 **+0.30** 2027 **+1.00** EUR million, part total

A light-touch amendment. No topic is added, removed or re-budgeted, and every call budget, opening and deadline is unchanged. The substantive edits are eligibility conditions in 2027 topics:

- **6 more Innovation Actions (EUR 76.30 million) now exclude China-controlled entities.**
- The JRC may now join one more consortium (`ZEROPOLLUTION-03`).
- African Union entities are now explicitly allowed as beneficiaries in the AU-EU FNSSA CSA; they were already exceptionally eligible for funding.

Under Other actions, +EUR 0.30 million (2026) and +EUR 1.00 million (2027) are added, a new JRC action supports the AgRI 2040 framework, and the EEA in-situ data action changes from a Service Level Agreement to a Contribution Agreement.

Budget

Budget table at the end of the part (EUR million). All 12 call lines are identical in both versions:

CALL	2026	2027
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01	210.00	–
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02	166.40	–
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03	96.50	16.00
HORIZON-CL6-2026-04	23.00	37.00
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-two-stage	105.00	–
HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-two-stage	25.50	–
HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-two-stage	12.00	–
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01	–	261.80
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02	–	182.85
HORIZON-CL6-2027-03	–	49.05
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-two-stage	–	28.00
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-two-stage	–	35.00

The calls subtotal stays at EUR 638.40 million (2026) and EUR 609.70 million (2027).

Other actions:

LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ 2026	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ 2027
Grant without call, FR Art. 198(e)	0.15	0.15	0	1.30	1.30	0
Public procurement	18.10	18.40	+0.30	1.60	1.60	0
Expert contract action	4.15	4.15	0	5.15	5.15	0
Subscription action	1.60	1.60	0	1.60	1.60	0
JRC technical/scientific services (renamed "- SLA in the form of administrative agreement")	8.00	8.00	0	6.00	7.00	+1.00

LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ 2026	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ 2027
Service Level Agreement	–	–	–	2.00	**line deleted**	−2.00
Indirectly managed action	1.50	1.50	0.00	1.50	2.50	+1.00
Other actions subtotal	38.00	38.30	+0.30	21.15	22.15	+1.00
Estimated total budget	**676.40**	**676.70**	**+0.30**	**630.85**	**631.85**	**+1.00**

Two-year total: EUR 1307.25 million → EUR 1308.55 million (**+1.30**). Topic budgets sum to EUR 1 248.10 million in both versions.

How the deltas reconcile:

- **Procurement 2026, +0.30:** "Studies, conferences, events and outreach activities" goes from EUR 1.10 to 1.40 million.
- **JRC 2027, +1.00:** new action 7, "Innovation journey opportunities in agriculture, forestry and rural areas".
- **SLA −2.00 / IMA +2.00:** the EEA in-situ Earth Observation action (EUR 2.00 million, 2027) is reclassified from a Service Level Agreement to an indirectly managed Contribution Agreement.

New

No new topics or calls.

New other action:

ACTION	FORM	BUDGET	TIMING	GIST
Innovation journey opportunities in agriculture, forestry and rural areas (JRC 7)	JRC administrative agreement	EUR 1.00 million (2027)	2027 to 2030 (three years)	Supports the planned **AgRI 2040** framework, which follows from the Vision for Agriculture and Food and the Life Sciences Strategy. The JRC will monitor emerging innovations in agriculture, forestry and rural areas, analyse lab-to-field gaps, and publish dashboards, foresight analyses and visualisation tools for researchers, SMEs, farmers, foresters and policymakers.

Removed, cancelled or moved

- No topics removed, cancelled or moved between calls.
- The "Service Level Agreement with the European Environment Agency (EEA) on integration of in-situ Earth Observation data" is not removed. It becomes Indirectly managed action 4, **Contribution Agreement** with the EEA, with the same EUR 2.00 million from 2027, timing "as of first quarter of 2027" and 2027-2029 scope. One wording change: in situ data is now explored "for advancing research on the links" between climate change, biodiversity loss and air pollution (was "for enhancing the links").

Changed topics

A. China-control restriction added. New eligibility exception: "entities established in an eligible country but which are directly or indirectly controlled by China or by a legal entity established in China are not eligible to participate in the action" (General Annex B, critical technology areas). It now covers 6 more IA topics, EUR 76.30 million in total:

TOPIC	CALL (OPENING → DEADLINE)	TYPE, BUDGET, EU CONTRIBUTION/PROJECT, TRL
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-08` Biotechnology application for CCU	HORIZON-CL6-2027-01 (20 Apr 2027 → 22 Sep 2027)	IA, EUR 12.00 million, around EUR 6.00 million, TRL 6-7

TOPIC	CALL (OPENING → DEADLINE)	TYPE, BUDGET, EU CONTRIBUTION/PROJECT, TRL
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-02-two-stage` Open topic: Using the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative to strengthen urban manufacturing in support of the Clean Industrial Deal	HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-two-stage (04 Feb 2027 → 08 Apr 2027 / 16 Sep 2027)	IA, EUR 18.00 million, around EUR 6.00 million, TRL 6-8
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-02` Increasing mitigation of GHG emissions and feed efficiency through feed additives	HORIZON-CL6-2027-02 (20 Apr 2027 → 23 Sep 2027)	IA, EUR 12.00 million, around EUR 6.00 million, TRL 7
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-07` Towards commercialization of food systems microbiome solutions	HORIZON-CL6-2027-02 (20 Apr 2027 → 23 Sep 2027)	IA, EUR 15.50 million, EUR 7.00-8.00 million, TRL 5 → 7-8
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-08` AI-powered foodome characterization	HORIZON-CL6-2027-02 (20 Apr 2027 → 23 Sep 2027)	IA, EUR 7.80 million, around EUR 7.80 million, TRL 5 → 7. The China restriction **replaces** "Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks".
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-CLIMATE-01-two-stage` Open topic: Innovative solutions for the European Water Resilience Strategy	HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-two-stage (04 Feb 2027 → 08 Apr 2027 / 14 Sep 2027)	IA, EUR 11.00 million, around EUR 5.50 million

Before the amendment, 1 of the 16 IA topics in the 2027 calls carried the restriction. Now 7 do. No 2026 topic changed.

B. Other topic-level changes

TOPIC	CHANGE
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-04` AI supporting informed advice for farmers and foresters (IA, EUR 11.80 million, EUR 5.00-6.00 million; call opens 04 Feb, closes 11 May 2027, unchanged)	**Communication-networks restriction removed** (5G high-risk-supplier exclusion). The China-control restriction, already present, stays. The scope now asks for links to the European Partnership of Agriculture of Data directly, instead of "project that may follow from the topic HORIZON-CL6-2024-GOVERNANCE-02-01".
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-09` AU-EU Partnership on FNSSA (CSA, EUR 6.75 million, around EUR 6.75 million; call 20 Apr 2027 → 23 Sep 2027)	New eligibility exception: "If eligible for funding, legal entities established in African Union Member States may exceptionally participate in this Coordination and support action as a **beneficiary or affiliated entity**." General Annex B otherwise limits CSA beneficiaries to MS/AC entities. The existing clause making AU entities eligible for funding is kept.
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03` Improve the capacity to monitor and reduce air pollution from agriculture (RIA, EUR 12.00 million, around EUR 6.00 million; call 20 Apr 2027 → 22 Sep 2027)	**JRC may join** the selected consortium as a zero-funded beneficiary or associated partner, but takes no part in preparing the proposal. Scope adds that the JRC could link project outcomes to its tools, databases and methods for estimating farm-to-sector agricultural air pollutant emissions.
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-02` Improving analytical capacity for sustainable competitiveness of the agricultural sector (RIA, EUR 6.00 million)	Scope adds "The Joint Research Centre (JRC) may participate as member of the consortium selected for funding". The formal JRC clause was already in the conditions. "Projects" is dropped from the list of EU-funded studies/initiatives to build synergies with.
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-02` Science-policy support to EU and global biodiversity policies (CSA, EUR 7.00 million)	New requirement: "Proposal aspects addressing the Science Service should build upon the foundations and outcomes of the **BioAgora** project". The FSTP example now reads "IPBES deliverables on various topics, for instance on pollinators".
`HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-01` Strengthening the resilience of European farmers (RIA, EUR 12.00 million)	Synergies are now asked with "EU-funded studies (e.g., fi-compass studies), initiatives and processes". "Projects" is dropped. Minor.

Edits with no effect for applicants:

- `BIODIV-04` , `BIODIV-08` , `FARM2FORK-05` , `CIRCBIO-04` , `CLIMATE-02` : spelling and punctuation only.
- `CIRCBIO-05` : drops "and the stakeholders involved" from the aim.

Changed non-topic text

- **Calls:** no opening, deadline or budget changed. In HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-two-stage and HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-two-stage the "(First Stage)/(Second Stage)" labels were dropped from the deadline line. The dates are

unchanged.

- **Introduction:** a new cross-reference says the 'Horizontal Activities' WP part also has topics relevant to Cluster 6. Typo fixes ("8th Environment Action Programme", "2030 and").
- **Other actions, modified:**
  - **Presidency event (IT)** (Palermo; Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca; EUR 0.15 million, 2027, Q3 2027) and **Presidency event (LV)** (Riga; Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia; EUR 0.15 million, 2027, Q4 2027) get new "Specific conditions": the grant may start from the application submission date, subcontracting is not limited to part of the action, and the evaluation committee is made up entirely of EU-institution representatives.
  - **Support to the IPOS Secretariat** (Art. 198(e) grant to the Ocean Sustainability Foundation, EUR 1.00 million, 2027, unchanged): rewritten for the post-launch phase (IPOS launched at UNOC3 in 2025; 24-month operational testing led by OSF). Horizon Europe money (2027) now targets consolidating and scaling IPOS work programmes, after EMFAF funds the testing in 2026. Outcomes add support to States on BBNJ, the Kunming-Montreal GBF, SDG 14 and the Paris Agreement. Two outcomes are dropped: establishing IPOS as a Decade Collaborative Centre, and preparing BBNJ entry into force.
  - **"Green Transition Support Office" renamed "Green Transition Support Services"** (Procurement 3, EUR 3.00 million, 2026, as of Q4 2026, unchanged). Instead of a single office, "one or more specific contracts" under existing framework contracts or new calls for tender will cover studies, analytical reports, events and outreach.
  - **Studies, conferences, events and outreach activities** (Procurement 1): 2026 budget EUR 1.10 → **1.40 million**.
  - **JRC 6, "Technical and scientific support to drive food systems transformation"** (EUR 1.00 million, 2027): refocused on implementation and monitoring under Food 2030 **and the new Strategic R&I Agenda for food systems, "Food 2040"**. The explicit mention of the Vision for Agriculture and Food and the Biotech Act in that bullet is dropped. Duration "From 2027 to 2031 (four years)" → **"From 2027 to 2030 (three years)"**.
  - All JRC actions are now implemented "following Article 59 and Article 21.2.(g).(iii) of the Financial Regulation, in the form of an Administrative Agreement/Service Level Agreement". This is a formal change only.

What it means for applicants

- **Check partner ownership for the 2027 IAs listed above.** Feed additives, microbiome commercialisation, AI foodome, biotech for CCU, and the two open two-stage topics (urban manufacturing; water resilience) now exclude entities controlled by China or a Chinese legal entity, including EU-registered subsidiaries. The two two-stage topics have their first stage on **08 Apr 2027**, so check this at consortium-building stage.
- **AU-EU FNSSA CSA (`FARM2FORK-09`):** African partners can now clearly be full beneficiaries or affiliated entities, not just associated partners. Build the consortium accordingly.
- **The JRC can be a (zero-funded) consortium member** in `ZEROPOLLUTION-03` and is mentioned in `GOVERNANCE-02`. Treat it as an asset for emissions-inventory and modelling work, but do not count it as a funded partner.
- **`BIODIV-02` applicants** should show explicitly how the Science Service part builds on BioAgora's outcomes.
- Otherwise nothing changes for planning: all 2026 and 2027 Cluster 6 budgets, per-project amounts and deadlines are as adopted in December 2025.

Open questions

- **FARM2FORK-09:** reading the new sentence as opening beneficiary status is an inference. The old text already declared AU entities "exceptionally eligible for Union funding", which arguably already overrode the General Annex B CSA rule. The new clause may only be a clarification.
- **GOVERNANCE-04:** removing the communication-networks restriction from an AI-advisory IA is confirmed in the text, but no reason is given.
- Whether the EEA action's switch from SLA to Contribution Agreement changes anything beyond the legal instrument (for example, how much the EEA may subcontract or pass on) cannot be determined from the WP text.

Annex X MODERATE

European Innovation Ecosystems

Startup and Scaleup Hubs relaunched as a EUR 40 million call closing 5 Jan 2027; two topics cancelled.

2026 `0.00` 2027 `+2.00` EUR million, part total

The European Startup and Scaleup Hubs (ESSH) pilot is **re-launched, doubled and re-designed** as `HORIZON-EIE-2027-02-CONNECT-01`:

- new call `HORIZON-EIE-2027-02`: opens **06 Oct 2026**, deadline **05 Jan 2027**;
- **EUR 40.00 million** for **2** networks of about EUR 20.00 million each;
- explicit **50% funding rate**.

Two topics are **CANCELLED** "in view of the addition of" the new topic:

- the original 2026 ESSH pilot `HORIZON-EIE-2026-02-CONNECT-01` (EUR 20.00 million; its call had already closed on 10 Mar 2026);
- the 2027 Startup Europe topic `HORIZON-EIE-2027-01-CONNECT-01` (EUR 18.00 million).

Net effect: the EIE total rises by **EUR 2.00 million** (2027).

Budget

Budget table, EUR million (budget line 01.020302):

LINE	2026 OLD	2026 NEW	Δ	2027 OLD	2027 NEW	Δ
`HORIZON-EIE-2026-02` (now `-CANCELLED`)	20.00	–	**−20.00**	–	–	–
`HORIZON-EIE-2026-03`	5.00	5.00	0	–	–	–
`HORIZON-EIE-2027-01`	–	–	–	34.00	16.00	**−18.00**
`HORIZON-EIE-2027-02` (**new**)	–	20.00	**+20.00**	–	20.00	**+20.00**
Public procurement	3.28	3.28	0	1.68	1.68	0
Expert contract action	0.02	0.02	0	0.02	0.02	0
Subscription action	0.40	0.40	0	0.40	0.40	0
JRC technical/scientific services	0.30	0.30	0	–	–	–
Estimated total budget	**29.00**	**29.00**	0	**36.10**	**38.10**	**+2.00**

How the money moves:

- The EUR 20.00 million of 2026 money from the cancelled 2026 ESSH call is carried into the new call `HORIZON-EIE-2027-02`.
- That call takes another EUR 20.00 million from 2027 money: the EUR 18.00 million freed by cancelling Startup Europe plus EUR 2.00 million fresh.
- Sum of topic budgets: **59.00** → **61.00** (+2.00).

Call-level budgets:

CALL	OLD	NEW
`HORIZON-EIE-2026-02`	20.00	blank / cancelled
`HORIZON-EIE-2027-01`	34.00	**16.00**
`HORIZON-EIE-2027-02`	–	**20.00 (2026) + 20.00 (2027)**

New

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET	EU CONTRIBUTION PER PROJECT	PROJECTS	OPENING → DEADLINE
`HORIZON-EIE-2027-02-CONNECT-01`	European Startup and Scaleup Hubs pilot	Programme Co-fund Action (COFUND)	**EUR 40.00 million** (20.00 from the 2026 budget + 20.00 from 2027)	around EUR 20.00 million	**2**	New call `HORIZON-EIE-2027-02` "Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems (2027.2)": **06 Oct 2026 → 05 Jan 2027**

Gist. The topic funds two pilot networks of around 10–18 deep-tech startup and scaleup hubs, each built on a strong university or RTO. The hubs interconnect their ecosystems so startups get cross-border access to research, talent, corporates, capital and facilities. Project duration is about 2 years. Projects should hold one yearly meeting at the margins of the EIC Summit.

Unchanged from the 2026 topic:

- **Consortium:** at least 10 hubs from at least 10 different MS/AC; 1 hub per country with ≤35 million inhabitants, 2 per country above that; at least 2 hubs in widening countries.
- **Co-funding proof:** a single letter of intent identifying the 50% complementary funding.
- **Restrictions:** communication-network restrictions apply.
- **Financial support to third parties:** grants only, max **EUR 60 000** per third party.

Differences from the cancelled 2026 version:

ELEMENT	2026 TOPIC (CANCELLED)	2027 TOPIC (NEW)
Size	1 network, EUR 20.00 million	**2 networks**, EUR 40.00 million (around 20.00 each)
Funding rate	Not stated. The General Annexes allow 30–70% for COFUND; the 50% complementary-funding letter implied 50%	**"The funding rate is 50% of the eligible costs"**, stated explicitly
Hub representation rule	"A hub must be represented by..."	"A hub **participating as a beneficiary** must be represented by...". This implies hubs may also take part in other roles.
Expected outcomes	"pan-European alliances" of hubs; "mobilise greater ... capital"	"**Interconnect**" hubs; "boost private and public investment in deep tech ventures established within the participating hubs"; explicit inclusion of **women-led startups and scaleups**
Activities	Open ecosystems to non-local startups; share infrastructure; connect startups to EEN, EDIH, EIT KICs; bridge regional gaps	Adds three activities. (1) **Specialised visits and short-term mobility** of researchers, innovators and hub staff between ESSHs. (2) A **highly selective acceleration programme, the "European combinator"**, also **open to non-EU companies**: competitive selection, a few months of structured support, mentoring and Demo Days with investors. (3) **Joint networking events** (meet-ups, pitch days, boot camps, hackathons). The "Champions League of startup hubs" wording is dropped.
Hub selection criteria	"Proven track record"; "strong integration" of a university **and** an RTO; link to the **EIC**	"Substantial experience"; presence of a research/HE institution **or** an RTO "acting as a catalyst"; access also to mentoring, incubators/accelerators, professional services (legal, real estate, accounting) and investment opportunities, opened to other hubs' startups "**on equal conditions**"; strategy to link with **other Horizon Europe programme parts** (not only the EIC) **and to support women-led startups**
KPIs	≥100 newly supported startups "during the project"; **≥50%** of supported startups raise seed/VC by project end; ≥50 newly supported startups supported by a hub outside their ecosystem "during the project"	≥100 newly supported startups **by the end** of the project; **≥20%** of newly supported startups raise seed/VC **outside their local ecosystem within 3 years** of support; ≥50 startups newly supported by a hub outside their local ecosystem by project end

Removed, cancelled or moved

ID	OLD DETAILS	WHAT HAPPENED	REPLACED BY
`HORIZON-EIE-2026-02-CONNECT-01` European Startup and Scaleup Hubs pilot	COFUND, EUR 20.00 million, around 20.00 per project, 1 project. Call `HORIZON-EIE-2026-02` : 11 Dec 2025 → 10 Mar 2026	**CANCELLED**, budget now EUR 0.00 million. The call is renamed `HORIZON-EIE-2026-02-CANCELLED` and its budget cells are blank.	`HORIZON-EIE-2027-02-CONNECT-01` , a re-designed and doubled ESSH pilot ("cancelled in view of the addition of the topic HORIZON-EIE-2027-02-CONNECT-01")
`HORIZON-EIE-2027-01-CONNECT-01` Startup Europe	CSA, lump sum, EUR 18.00 million, around 2.00 per project, 9 projects. At least 50% of beneficiaries from "moderate"/"emerging" innovator countries or regions. Cross-border acceleration of traction-stage digital and deep-tech startups. Call `HORIZON-EIE-2027-01` : 01 Jun 2027 → 15 Sep 2027	**CANCELLED**, budget EUR 0.00 million. Its budget funds the 2027 half of the new ESSH topic.	Same new topic, with the same stated reason. Some Startup-Europe-type elements (cross-border acceleration, women-led startups) reappear in the ESSH scope, but the rule that at least 50% of beneficiaries come from moderate or emerging innovator countries or regions, and the startup-monitoring KPIs, do not.

Changed topics

None. The other topics are unchanged:

- `HORIZON-EIE-2026-03-CONNECT-01` (TTOs, lab to market);
- `HORIZON-EIE-2027-01-CONNECT-02` (experimentation spaces and innovation procurement, PCP);
- `HORIZON-EIE-2027-01-CONNECT-03` (philanthropic organisations).

The two cancelled topics keep their full text, with only the "CANCELLED" flag, a EUR 0.00 million budget and the cancellation sentence added.

Changed non-topic text

- **Call `HORIZON-EIE-2027-01`** (opening 01 Jun 2027, deadline 15 Sep 2027, unchanged) now has two live topics, CONNECT-02 and CONNECT-03. Its overall budget falls from **EUR 34.00 to 16.00 million**.
- **New call `HORIZON-EIE-2027-02`** "Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems (2027.2)": 06 Oct 2026 → 05 Jan 2027. It is the only call with budget split over two years (20.00 + 20.00). Standard General Annexes A–G conditions apply.
- **JRC "other action"** relabelled "Provision of technical/scientific services by the Joint Research Centre – SLA in the form of administrative agreement". Same EUR 0.30 million (2026). Editorial.
- **Introduction and destination text:** no substantive change.

What it means for applicants

- **ESSH is back, bigger, with a short window.** Hub networks have from 06 Oct 2026 to **05 Jan 2027**, about three months over the holidays, to assemble at least 10 hubs from at least 10 countries, including 2 in widening countries. They also need the **single letter of intent for 50% co-funding** at submission.
- **Two networks will be funded instead of one.** This roughly doubles the chances for a well-formed consortium. The WP does not say what happens to proposals submitted to the cancelled 2026 call (closed 10 Mar 2026); the new topic is the open route.
- **Re-write, don't recycle, a 2026 proposal.** The 2027 topic expects:
  - a selective "**European combinator**" acceleration programme open to non-EU startups;
  - **staff and researcher mobility** between hubs;
  - joint startup events;
  - an explicit **women-led startups** strategy;
  - equal-terms access for other hubs' startups.

- **Plan to the new KPIs:** at least 20% of supported startups must raise seed or VC **outside their home ecosystem within 3 years**, replacing the old 50% target.
- **Startup Europe will not run in 2027.** Organisations that planned the EUR 18 million, nine-project Startup Europe CSA (deadline 15 Sep 2027, at least 50% of beneficiaries from moderate or emerging innovator countries or regions) lose that channel. Call `HORIZON-EIE-2027-01` shrinks to EUR 16 million (PCP on experimentation spaces, and philanthropy CSAs), next to the new EUR 40 million hubs call.

Open questions

- The 2026 ESSH call **had already closed** when it was cancelled. The Funding & Tenders Portal shows `HORIZON-EIE-2026-02-CONNECT-01` as closed with deadline 10 Mar 2026. The WP does not say whether proposals were received or evaluated, or why the call was cancelled rather than funded. It gives only "in view of the addition of" the 2027 topic.
- The EIE call-overview introduction still says "Proposals are invited against the following **three** calls", although four calls are now listed, one of them cancelled. This is probably an un-updated sentence.
- The 2027-02 topic is funded half from the **2026** budget even though its call opens in Oct 2026 and closes in Jan 2027. The budget table shows this split, but the WP does not explain the commitment timing.

Annex XI MODERATE

Widening Participation and the European Research Area

Budgets and call dates unchanged; new award and eligibility rules in seven 2027 items.

2026 `0.00` 2027 `0.00` EUR million, part total

The amendment leaves every WIDERA call budget, call date and topic list unchanged: 23 topics before and after, EUR 485.03 million (2026) and EUR 469.94 million (2027). It changes the rules inside seven 2027 items:

- the EIC Pre-accelerator (larger per-project grant, entry TRL tightened, Western Balkans reserve list);
- ERA Chairs and ERA Research Managers (a new rule guaranteeing a grant to the top-ranked proposal per coordinator country);
- ERA Fellowships (longer secondments allowed);
- Excellence Hubs (each ecosystem must sit in one Widening country);
- Talent ecosystems ERA-02 (smaller grants, more projects, five thematic areas);
- one procurement, the Gender Equality Competence Facility, which moves earlier.

Egypt is now listed as an associated Widening country.

Budget

The budget table is identical in the old and new texts. Every call and "Other actions" row is unchanged.

LINE	2026 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	2027 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	DELTA
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-01 (Teaming Synergies)	7.00 → 7.00	-	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02 (Twinning)	223.00 → 223.00	41.50 → 41.50	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-03 (Hop-On)	30.00 → 30.00	-	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-04 (Research Management Facility)	7.00 → 7.00	-	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05 (ERA Fellowships 2026)	8.00 → 8.00	-	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-06 (ERA)	52.00 → 52.00	-	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01 (EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening)	-	40.00 → 40.00	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02 (ERA Chairs + Research Managers)	-	240.00 → 240.00	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03 (ERA Fellowships 2027)	-	8.00 → 8.00	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04 (Excellence Hubs)	15.00 → 15.00	85.00 → 85.00	0
HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05 (ERA)	-	42.00 → 42.00	0
Other actions: Prize	0.40	0.40	0
Other actions: grants without call (FR Art. 198(e))	12.90	0.25	0
Other actions: public procurement	8.26	11.60	0
Other actions: expert contracts	1.48	1.19	0
Other actions: specific grant agreement	120.00	-	0
Estimated total	**485.03 → 485.03**	**469.94 → 469.94**	**0.00**

Inside the HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05 call, the only budget-related change is within `HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-02` : same EUR 29.00 million, but the expected contribution per project and the number of projects change (see below).

New

None. No topic or call was added or removed.

The only new funding element is a provision, not a topic. In `HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01`, proposals that specifically target Western Balkans beneficiaries (SMEs established in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia or Serbia) "may be selected from the reserve list, in the order of ranking, for indicatively up to EUR 10 million of Union contribution", with Horizon Europe rules applying. See Open questions on where this money comes from.

Removed, cancelled or moved

None.

Changed topics

TOPIC	CALL / DATES (UNCHANGED)	WHAT CHANGED (OLD → NEW)
`HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01-WIDENING-01` EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening (CSA, mono-beneficiary SME in a Widening country, EUR 40.00 million, EUR 0.50-1.00 million per project, 60 projects, lump sum, 70% funding rate)	Opens 05 May 2027, deadline 18 Nov 2027	**Grant size:** the scope text said "between EUR 300.000 and max EUR 500.000" as a lump sum for up to 2 years. It now says "between EUR 500.000 and max EUR 1.000.000". The conditions box already said EUR 0.50-1.00 million, so this removes an internal contradiction rather than changing the budget. **Entry TRL:** "have developed technology validated in the lab (at least TRL 4)" → "have completed all elements of TRL 3 (Experimental proof of concept) and therefore the technology is currently at TRL 4 (Technology validated in lab)". **Exit TRL:** "tested and validated in a laboratory and other relevant environment" → "at least been validated in a relevant environment (e.g. at least completed all aspects of TRL 5)". **New "Other conditions":** Western Balkans reserve-list funding, indicatively up to EUR 10 million.
`HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-01` ERA Chairs (CSA, EUR 175.00 million, 1.50-2.50 per project, 80 projects)	Opens 06 Apr 2027, deadline 14 Sep 2027	**New "Evaluation and award procedure":** for geographic balance, grants go in ranking order, plus "at least also to each application that is highest ranked per country based on where the coordinator is established", provided all thresholds are met. **Eligible costs re-worded:** salaries, recruitment, travel and administrative expenses "related to the ERA Chair holder and research team"; consumables and equipment still capped at 10% of the EU contribution.
`HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-02-WIDENING-02` ERA Research Managers (CSA, EUR 65.00 million, 1.50-2.50 per project, 30 projects)	Same call	**Same new per-country award rule** as ERA Chairs. **Eligibility letter:** the head-of-institution commitment letter must now confirm support such as "overseeing institutional and structural reforms, streamlining administrative processes, and facilitating collaboration". It previously listed access to research facilities, supervision of researchers, teaching duties and freedom to apply for funding. **Cost coverage narrowed:** the grant covers "the salaries of newly recruited research management team members" (previously "salaries" generally). **Prior-links cap:** the 50% cap now applies to "newly recruited team members" (previously "the team"). The rest is editorial (typos, a duplicated sentence removed, "ERA chair holder" corrected to "ERA Research Manager" in the transition-phase sentence).
`HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-03-WIDENING-01` ERA Fellowships (EUR 8.00 million, 50 fellowships)	Opens 07 Apr 2027, deadline 08 Sep 2027	**Secondment cap:** "cannot exceed one third of the standard fellowship duration" → "cannot exceed half of the requested duration of the action (excluding from the duration of the action any additional period for a non-academic placement)". The 2026 ERA Fellowships topic (`HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-05-WIDENING-01`) keeps the one-third rule.
`HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-04-WIDENING-01` Excellence Hubs (CSA, EUR 15.00 million 2026 + EUR 85.00 million 2027, 1.50-4.50 per project, 30 projects)	**Already open since 02 Sep 2026**; deadline 04 Mar 2027	**Eligibility tightened:** "Each Widening country R&I ecosystem must comprise four different categories of actors" → "Each R&I ecosystem must be entirely based in a single Widening country and must comprise four different categories of actors...". Cross-border ecosystems are therefore no longer possible. The minimum of two ecosystems from two different Widening countries is unchanged. **Scope:** the R&I component "should be in balance with the other proposed activities and not constitute the dominant part" (previously only "should not constitute the dominant part").

TOPIC	CALL / DATES (UNCHANGED)	WHAT CHANGED (OLD → NEW)
`HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-05-ERA-02` Pillar II: Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers (CSA, EUR 29.00 million)	Opens 08 Dec 2026, deadline 11 Mar 2027	**Per project:** "between EUR 2.00 and 4.00 million" → "around EUR 2.00 million". **Number of projects:** 12 → 15. **Five mandatory thematic areas:** each proposal must pick one and state its precise scope: Area 1 Clean Transition (energy and transport); Area 2 Health; Area 3 Biotech, agriculture and bioeconomy; Area 4 Digital and AI technologies; Area 5 Space. The old free choice ("e.g. AI, health, digital, climate, clean tech, energy, deep tech, automotive, defence, space… or comprehensive") is deleted. **New procedure exception:** at least the highest-ranked proposal in each thematic area is funded if it passes all thresholds. **Consortium:** talent ecosystems are now "cohesive and interdependent systems" with a "balanced composition" of education and training providers and employers. Partners are framed as "research performing public (including higher education institutions) and private organisations, in particular industrial actors and research-intensive businesses". Associated partners and cooperation with organisations outside the consortium are encouraged. **Content:** curricula must include the latest research findings. The sentence about a large pool of researchers benefiting from Charter-based working conditions is dropped, but the HR Excellence in Research Award / Charter commitment remains. **New mandatory linkage:** activities "should demonstrate how actions will build on, connect to, make use of, promote and… help improve" the ERA Talent Platform initiatives (EURAXESS, RESAVER, ReICO, ResearchComp, RM Comp). They must also cooperate in a structured way with the pilots funded under HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-03.

Changed non-topic text

- **Widening countries (introduction):** Egypt moves from "once associated Morocco and Egypt" into the list of Associated Countries eligible to host coordinators of widening actions. Only Morocco remains "once associated". Kosovo now carries the standard asterisk footnote, which is editorial.
- **Other actions, public procurement "Gender Equality Competence Facility - Framework Contract":** the period moves from 2028-2031 to 2027-2030, and the indicative timetable from Q3 2027 to Q2 2027. The scope widens from GEPs to "GEPs and other gender equality policies" and "inclusive gender equality". The estimated budget is unchanged at EUR 6 million.
- Cover line and table-of-contents page numbers only (editorial).

What it means for applicants

- **EIC Pre-accelerator - Widening (opens 05 May 2027):** plan for a lump sum of EUR 0.5-1.0 million, not EUR 0.3-0.5 million. You must show the technology is at TRL 4, with TRL 3 fully completed, at application; a technology already well beyond TRL 4 risks being out of scope. Western Balkans SMEs have an extra reserve-list route, indicatively up to EUR 10 million.
- **Excellence Hubs (already open, deadline 04 Mar 2027):** the text now states explicitly that each ecosystem must be based in a single Widening country, so check any cross-border set-up (non-Widening entities may still join where justified). Keep the R&I work package proportionate to the other activities.
- **ERA Chairs and ERA Research Managers (deadline 14 Sep 2027):** the top-ranked proposal from each coordinator country is now funded if it passes the thresholds. This helps coordinators from countries that submit few proposals. For Research Managers, budget salaries only for newly recruited management staff, and adapt the head-of-institution letter to the new wording.
- **Talent ecosystems ERA-02 (deadline 11 Mar 2027):** expect about EUR 2 million and 15 grants, one guaranteed per thematic area. Proposals should address one of the five areas; the earlier defence and "comprehensive" options are no longer listed. Build in industry or research-intensive businesses and an explicit link to EURAXESS, RESAVER, ReICO, ResearchComp and RM Comp.
- **ERA Fellowships 2027:** secondments can now run up to half of the action duration.

Open questions

- The Western Balkans "up to EUR 10 million" is not reflected in the WIDERA budget table (HORIZON-WIDERA-2027-01 stays at EUR 40.00 million), and the text does not name the source. It is presumably outside the Horizon Europe budget (for example a Western Balkans instrument), but this is not stated.

- Pre-accelerator entry TRL: "currently at TRL 4" could be read as an upper bound as well as a minimum. The old text was explicitly "at least TRL 4". The WP does not say whether higher-TRL applicants are excluded.
- ERA Research Managers: the new eligible-costs sentence refers to "administrative expenses related to the ERA Chair holder and research team". This looks like a copy from the ERA Chairs topic, and the intended reference for Research Managers is unclear.

Annex XII MODERATE

EU Missions

Cities Mission PCP deleted; separately, EUR 25 million goes to an EIC Accelerator Challenge; one small new topic.

2026 `0.00` 2027 `−25.00` EUR million, part total

The amendment does three main things to the Missions part:

- **Removes the Cities Mission PCP topic** `HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-05` (EUR 26.82 million). Separately, the Cities Mission now contributes EUR 25 million to an EIC Accelerator Challenge in the EIC Work Programme 2027. The WP does not link the two, but the 2027 total falls by exactly EUR 25 million.
- **Adds a small cross-cutting call** `HORIZON-MISS-2026-07` with one topic, `HORIZON-MISS-2026-07-CROSS-04` (EUR 3.62 million). It is backed by a JRC support action.
- **Changes conditions in several 2027 topics:** the China-control restriction is added to five Innovation Actions; the Cancer 2027 call deadline moves five days earlier; Soil two-stage award and FSTP rules change.

The 2026 total is unchanged; the 2027 total falls by EUR 25.00 million.

Budget

LINE	2026 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	2027 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	DELTA (EUR M)
HORIZON-MISS-2026-1 / −02 / −03 / −04 / −05 / −05-two-stage / −06	82.19 / 124.19 / 115.30 / 85.50 / 33.00 / 48.00 / 20.00 (unchanged)	-	0
HORIZON-MISS-2026-07 (new, Cross-cutting activities)	**- → 3.62**	-	**+3.62**
HORIZON-MISS-2027-01 / −02 / −03	-	84.32 / 115.32 / 100.40 (unchanged)	0
HORIZON-MISS-2027-04 (Cities)	-	**92.32 → 65.50**	**-26.82**
HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-two-stage / −06 / −07	-	94.80 / 24.00 / 68.50 (unchanged)	0
Other: Public procurement	**5.99 → 1.99**	15.88 → 15.88	−4.00
Other: Indirectly managed action	26.62 → 26.62	**19.00 → 20.42**	+1.42
Other: Grant without call (FR Art. 198)	8.14 → 8.14	**19.90 → 20.00**	+0.10
Other: Specific grant agreement	60.00 → 60.00	6.36 → 6.36	0
Other: JRC technical/scientific services (now "SLA in the form of administrative agreement")	**2.50 → 2.88**	**0.50 → 0.80**	+0.38 / +0.30
Other: Prize	6.00 → 6.00	-	0
Other: Expert contract action	2.02 → 2.02	2.02 → 2.02	0
Estimated total budget	**619.43 → 619.43**	**643.33 → 618.33**	**0.00 / −25.00**

How the figures reconcile:

- **2026:** +3.62 (CROSS-04) +0.38 (JRC support to CROSS-04) −4.00 (procurement "Strengthening EU Missions as a policy instrument" deleted) = 0.
- **2027:** −26.82 (CIT-05 deleted) +1.42 (EIB advisory top-up for Mission cities) +0.10 (new ICLEI grant) +0.30 (JRC Cities services) = −25.00. This equals the EUR 25 million the Cities Mission now contributes to the EIC; the WP

does not state the link.

- **Sum of topic budgets:** 1 087.84 → 1 064.64 (−23.20 = −26.82 + 3.62).

New

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET	PER PROJECT	NO.	OPENING → DEADLINE	TRL	SPECIAL CONDITIONS	GIST
`HORIZON-MISS-2026-07-CROSS-04` (call HORIZON-MISS-2026-07 "Cross-cutting activities", destination "General cross-cutting activities", 2026 budget)	Demonstrating place-based experimentation and innovation spaces as enabling environments for scaling EU Missions	IA	EUR 3.62 million	EUR 1.00-1.50 million	3	06 Oct 2026 → 13 Jan 2027	Not stated	Consortia "should be led by local authorities established in countries, regions and interregional partnerships" (EU and associated countries). Copernicus/Galileo clause if satellite data are used. No lump sum, FSTP or China clause stated. The projects will receive JRC support.	Territories co-design and test governance, regulatory (including sandboxes), blended-finance and procurement models that let proven Mission solutions scale, rather than funding technologies. Projects may cover one or several of the five Missions. Framed as the bridge to the Missions' 2026-2030 scaling phase and the next MFF.

New "Other actions":

- **Cross-cutting, JRC: "Support to the demonstration of place-based experimentation and innovation spaces as enabling environments for scaling EU Missions".** Methodological support, scaling-potential assessment and policy lessons for the CROSS-04 projects, under an Administrative Agreement/SLA. Q3 2026, **EUR 0.38 million** (2026 budget). The cross-cutting section introduction gains two paragraphs announcing this action.
- **Cities, item 7: "Supporting urban collaboration for local climate resilience".** A grant without a call (FR Art. 198(f)), lump sum, to **ICLEI European Secretariat GmbH (Freiburg)**. It funds a scoping phase pairing 5-8 city-sport-organisation duos (a workshop of about 30 participants) to align sport organisations' emission cuts with city climate strategies. Q1 2027, **EUR 0.10 million** (2027 budget).
- **Cities Mission destination text:** a new **"Accelerator Challenge: Deep tech supporting the transition to climate-neutral and smart cities"**, run with the European Innovation Council. It is "located in the Work Programme 2027 part of the European Innovation Council (Cities Mission contribution of EUR 25 million … for a total budget to EUR 50 million)". The EIC is added to the list of joint partners.

Removed, cancelled or moved

ID	WHAT IT WAS	WHAT HAPPENED
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-05`	"Boosting the transformation towards climate-neutral cities, the net-zero economy and open strategic autonomy through Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP)". PCP, EUR 26.82 million, EUR 7.00-12.00 million per project, 3 projects, call HORIZON-MISS-2027-04 (09 Feb 2027 → 07 Oct 2027). FSTP up to EUR 200 000 per third party; buyers' groups of at least 3 of the 112 Mission cities, with the lead procurer a Mission city.	**Deleted outright** (not marked CANCELLED). The bullet "Innovative procurement for reducing greenhouse gas emissions" is also removed from the Cities destination text. The funding is redirected: EUR 25 million to the EIC Accelerator Challenge in the EIC WP 2027, and the remaining EUR 1.82 million to the EIB advisory top-up (+1.42), ICLEI (+0.10) and JRC (+0.30).

ID	WHAT IT WAS	WHAT HAPPENED
Other action "Public Procurements - 1. Strengthening EU Missions as a policy instrument"	EUR 4.00 million, Q1 2026: communication, dissemination and citizen engagement on the Missions (follow-up to WP25 HORIZON-MISS-2025-PP-02)	**Deleted**. The money moves to CROSS-04 (3.62) and its JRC support (0.38).

Changed topics

TOPIC(S)	CALL / DEADLINE	SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE
All topics in HORIZON-MISS-2027-02 (Cancer, `-CANCER-01` to `-CANCER-06`)	Opens 10 Feb 2027	**Deadline 21 Sep 2027 → 16 Sep 2027** (five days earlier).
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-02-CANCER-02` Clinical research by Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures for common cancers (IA, EUR 20.00 million)	16 Sep 2027	The "less developed comprehensive cancer infrastructure" country among the four targeted countries may now be "EU Member States **or Associated Countries**" (previously EU Member States only). Editorial fix: "European Research Development Fund" → "European Regional Development Fund".
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-02-CANCER-05` PCP of affordable solutions for healthcare systems in cancer technologies, devices or medicines (PCP, EUR 26.00 million, EUR 8.00-10.00 million per project)	16 Sep 2027	**Raised thresholds removed:** the topic-specific thresholds of 4 per criterion (Excellence, Impact, Implementation) and 12 cumulative are deleted, so the standard General Annex D thresholds apply (3 per criterion, 10 overall). **PCP framework made explicit:** a new eligibility exception says the General Annex H conditions for PCP/PPI apply, and the legal set-up adds "The specific conditions are described in General Annex H. PCP procurement costs are eligible."
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-01` Innovative microgrids (IA); `HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-03` Inclusive and climate-resilient multimodal passenger hubs (IA); `HORIZON-MISS-2027-04-CIT-CCRI-04` Advancing circular logistics solutions in cities (IA); `HORIZON-MISS-2027-07-CLIMA-CIT-CCRI-02` Innovative wastewater management, treatment and valorisation (IA, EUR 28.50 million); `HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-05-two-stage` Innovative biotechnologies to restore soil health (IA, EUR 12.80 million)	CIT: 09 Feb → 07 Oct 2027; CLIMA-CIT: 09 Feb → 22 Sep 2027; Soil: 04 Feb 2027 → 08 Apr / 14 Sep 2027	**New China-control restriction:** "entities established in an eligible country but which are directly or indirectly controlled by China or by a legal entity established in China are not eligible to participate". This follows General Annex B's "restriction on control in innovation actions in critical technology areas", which the amended General Annex B extends from 4 to 10 critical technology areas. In CIT-03 and CIT-CCRI-04 it **replaces** the line "Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks", which is deleted.
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-01-two-stage` Living labs to enhance soil health in Continental, Black Sea, Pannonian and Steppic regions (RIA, EUR 24.00 million, around EUR 12.00 million, 2 projects)	Two-stage, 08 Apr 2027 / 14 Sep 2027	**Award rule:** previously only the highest-ranked proposal focused on the Black Sea, Pannonian and Steppic regions was guaranteed funding. Now "the highest ranked within each of the two main focus areas" is guaranteed: Continental, and Black Sea/Pannonian/Steppic. **Scope:** new living labs must complement the existing Mission Soil Living Lab network in all cases (previously only "if building on existing processes").
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-02-two-stage` Living labs for co-creating solutions to reduce eutrophication from agriculture (RIA, EUR 24.00 million)	Same	Same "must complement the existing network" change (no longer conditional).
`HORIZON-MISS-2027-05-SOIL-03-two-stage` Agroforestry for soil health at landscape level	Same	**FSTP:** may now be given only through calls; the option "or, if duly justified, without a call for proposals" is deleted. The maximum stays at EUR 60 000 per third party. The scope now names target small actors (farmers, SMEs, consumers, NGOs) and lists example eligible FSTP activities: site management, agroforestry practices, data collection and sampling, research and co-creation, training, knowledge exchange, demonstration, small-scale equipment.

Edits with no effect for applicants:

- Two-stage call deadlines lost their "(First Stage)/(Second Stage)" labels; the dates are identical.

Changed non-topic text

- **Cities Mission destination:** the EIC is added as a joint-activity partner; the "Innovative procurement for reducing greenhouse gas emissions" bullet is removed; the "Accelerator Challenge" bullet (EUR 25 million to the EIC WP 2027, EUR 50 million in total) is added.
- **Cities "Other actions":**
  - item 5 "Financial advisory services and technical assistance to Mission cities" (EIB, InvestEU Advisory Hub/ELENA top-up): EUR 19.00 million → **EUR 20.42 million** (2027);
  - item 6 "Scientific and technical services to the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission" (JRC): EUR 0.50 million → **EUR 0.80 million** (2027), now implemented as an Administrative Agreement/SLA;
  - new item 7 (ICLEI, EUR 0.10 million).
- **Soil "Other actions" item 2** (JRC support for an EU soil monitoring framework): relabelled "SLA in the form of administrative agreement"; still EUR 2.50 million (2026).
- **Cross-cutting activities introduction:** new paragraphs on the JRC-supported action for scaling governance, financing and regulatory models.
- **Public procurement** "Strengthening EU Missions as a policy instrument" (EUR 4.00 million): deleted.

What it means for applicants

- **Cities Mission:** there is no 2027 Missions PCP for climate-neutral cities any more. Buyer groups that planned for CIT-05 should look at the EIC Accelerator Challenge "Deep tech supporting the transition to climate-neutral and smart cities" in the EIC WP 2027 (EUR 50 million). That challenge targets deep-tech companies, not procurers.
- **Local and regional authorities** have a new, quick opportunity: `HORIZON-MISS-2026-07-CROSS-04` (3 grants of EUR 1.0-1.5 million, deadline **13 Jan 2027**), led by a local authority, to test governance, finance and regulatory models for scaling Mission solutions.
- **Cancer 2027 applicants:** the deadline is now **16 Sep 2027**. The Cancer PCP topic (CANCER-05) now has the normal 3/3/3 (10) thresholds, which is easier than the old 4/4/4 (12), and the PCP rules of General Annex H apply explicitly.
- **Innovation Actions in CIT-01, CIT-03, CIT-CCRI-04, CLIMA-CIT-CCRI-02 and SOIL-05:** check partners' ownership. Entities controlled from China (including EU-registered subsidiaries) are now ineligible.
- **Soil 2027 two-stage:** one Continental-focused and one Black Sea/Pannonian/Steppic-focused living-lab project are now each guaranteed if above threshold (SOIL-01). Agroforestry (SOIL-03) cascade funding must go through open calls.

Open questions

- The EUR 25 million EIC Accelerator Challenge sits in the EIC Work Programme 2027, which is not among the 15 parts examined. Its terms are set out there, not in these parts.
- `HORIZON-MISS-2026-07-CROSS-04` states no TRL, no lump sum and no China-control clause, although it is an Innovation Action. It is unclear whether this is deliberate (the topic funds governance models, not technology).
- The "(First Stage)/(Second Stage)" labels dropped from the two-stage deadlines look editorial; the dates are unchanged and the topics are still "-two-stage".
- The 2026 Soil two-stage call (HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-two-stage) closed on 15 Sep 2026, before adoption. Its topics show no textual change.

Annex XIII MODERATE

New European Bauhaus Facility

REGEN-03 (transport corridors) cancelled; a different topic, REGEN-04 on circular construction, is linked to the NEB Academy; 2026 call untouched.

2026 `0.00` 2027 `0.00` EUR million, part total

The amendment brings the NEB Facility into line with the Commission's plan to make the **New European Bauhaus Academy** a core NEB structure. It does this in three steps:

- **Cancels** `HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03` (railway and motorway corridors, EUR 11.00 million).
- **Replaces it** with `HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-04` (enabling environments for sustainable and circular construction, EUR 9.00 million), whose projects are "an integral part of the NEB Academy".
- **Uses the EUR 2.00 million difference** for a new procurement, "The NEB Academy Coordination and Support Center".

It also adds the China-control restriction to `HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-01`. The annual totals are unchanged.

Budget

LINE	2026 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	2027 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	DELTA (EUR M)
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01	101.10 → 101.10	-	0
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01	-	**93.76 → 91.76**	**-2.00**
HORIZON-NEB-2027-02 (joint NEB-Soil call)	-	15.00 → 15.00	0
Other: Expert contract action	0.16 → 0.16	0.17 → 0.17	0
Other: Grant without call (FR Art. 198)	2.40 → 2.40	-	0
Other: Public procurement	2.41 → 2.41	**- → 2.00**	**+2.00**
Estimated total budget	**106.07 → 106.07**	**108.93 → 108.93**	**0.00**

The sum of topic budgets goes from 209.86 to 207.86 (REGEN-03 –11.00, REGEN-04 +9.00).

New

New topic

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET	PER PROJECT	NO.	OPENING → DEADLINE	TRL	SPECIAL CONDITIONS	GIST
`HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-04` (call HORIZON-NEB-2027-01 "Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability", destination "Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment")	Enabling environments for a sustainable and circular construction sector	IA	EUR 9.00 million	Around EUR 4.50 million	2	05 May 2027 → 01 Dec 2027 (unchanged call dates)	Achieve TRL 6-8 by the end of the project; "may start at any TRL"	**Lump sum.** No FSTP, unlike the REGEN-03 topic it replaces. No extra eligibility exceptions and no China-control clause. Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of the budget to engaging with the **NEB Academy** and the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact'. Proposals are expected to develop and demonstrate at least one enabling environment supporting **at least two companies, including at least one start-up**. This is a scope expectation, not an eligibility criterion.	Develop and demonstrate enabling environments for NEB-aligned construction innovations: physical spaces (living labs, testbeds), supportive frameworks (regulatory sandboxes, innovation deals), or both. They should be place-based, co-designed with end-users and span the whole value chain. They feed structured feedback loops on skills and regulation into the three pillars of the NEB Academy. Linked to the NEB Communication and proposed Council Recommendation, the Clean Industrial Deal, the European Strategy for Housing Construction, the Affordable Housing Plan, the Innovation Act and the future Circular Economy Act.

New other action: where the NEB Academy appears

The NEB Academy is written into the NEB part in two places only: the new topic REGEN-04 above, and **Other actions item 5, "The NEB Academy Coordination and Support Center"**:

- **Form:** public procurement.
- **Timing and budget:** Q4 2026, **EUR 2.00 million from the 2027 budget**.
- **Purpose:** support the "coherent development, effective functioning, and recognition" of the NEB Academy in its next phase. In particular it should strengthen the Academy's capacity to turn R&I knowledge (especially from the NEB Facility's projects) into operational formats, skills development and faster innovation uptake. The aim is an "integrated learning system" across its three pillars: capacity building and skills development; knowledge and research; innovation and business development.

The NEB part's introduction itself is unchanged. The framing sentence ("With the 2026 amendment… the New European Bauhaus Facility also contributes to the implementation of the New European Bauhaus Academy…") appears only in the General Introduction.

Removed, cancelled or moved

ID	WHAT IT WAS	WHAT HAPPENED
`HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03`	"Revitalising neighbourhoods around existing railway and motorway corridors". IA, EUR 11.00 million, around EUR 5.50 million per project, 2 projects, TRL 6-8, FSTP up to EUR 100 000 per third party. Same call, 05 May 2027 → 01 Dec 2027.	**CANCELLED.** It stays in the text as `HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03-CANCELLED` with budget "EUR 0.00 million" and 0 projects; its outcome and scope text is kept but no longer funded. Its money goes to REGEN-04 (EUR 9.00 million) and the NEB Academy CSC procurement (EUR 2.00 million).

Changed topics

TOPIC	CALL / DATES	SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE
`HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-01` Mass customisation of offsite manufactured modular construction components to transform the existing built environment (IA, EUR 10.00 million, around EUR 5.00 million per project, 2 projects, lump sum)	HORIZON-NEB-2027-01, 05 May 2027 → 01 Dec 2027	**New eligibility exception:** entities established in an eligible country but "directly or indirectly controlled by China or by a legal entity established in China are not eligible to participate". This follows the General Annex B restriction on control in Innovation Actions, whose list of critical technology areas the amended General Annexes extend from 4 to 10. The new list includes "advanced materials, manufacturing and recycling technologies".

No other topic changed. In particular, the HORIZON-NEB-2027-02 joint NEB-Soil topic `HORIZON-NEB-2027-02-NEB-SOIL-01` is unchanged.

Changed non-topic text

- **Call HORIZON-NEB-2027-01 overview:** REGEN-03 shown as CANCELLED (0.00, 0 projects) and REGEN-04 inserted (IA, 9.00, around 4.50, 2). The overall indicative budget goes from 93.76 to **91.76**.
- **Other actions:** new item 5, "The NEB Academy Coordination and Support Center" (EUR 2.00 million, 2027 budget, Q4 2026).
- Budget table updated as above. The cover line and table of contents are editorial.

What it means for applicants

- **Corridor revitalisation ideas** (rail and motorway corridors) no longer have a dedicated NEB 2027 topic. Re-target them to other NEB 2027 topics or to Missions or Cluster 5 calls.
- **REGEN-04 suits construction-innovation intermediaries:** testbeds, living labs, regulatory sandbox operators, clusters and public authorities that host start-ups and companies. Each project is expected to support at least two companies, one of them a start-up. It is a lump sum with no cascade funding; the WP does not say how supported companies take part. Proposals are expected to allocate 0.8% of the budget to the NEB Academy and the NEB hub.
- **Lower budget:** REGEN-04 offers about EUR 4.5 million per project instead of EUR 5.5 million under REGEN-03, still for 2 projects.
- **BUSINESS-01 (modular construction) consortia** must exclude China-controlled entities, including EU-registered subsidiaries.
- **The NEB Academy Coordination and Support Center** is a service contract (procurement), not a grant. Organisations interested in running it should watch EU tenders from Q4 2026.

Open questions

- REGEN-04 says the enabling environments support companies but does not provide FSTP, and it has no explicit eligibility rule on start-up participation. The text does not say whether the supported start-up must be a beneficiary.
- REGEN-04 is an Innovation Action in the construction and advanced-materials space, yet unlike BUSINESS-01 it carries no China-control clause. This may be an inconsistency or a deliberate choice; the WP does not explain.

Annex XIV MAJOR

Horizontal Activities

Two new calls: nature-positive economy (EUR 227.45 million) and Bridging Actions 2027 (EUR 260 million).

2026 **+126.45** 2027 **+359.50** EUR million, part total

The amendment turns Horizontal Activities from a 39-page part with three calls (Clean Industrial Deal, AI in Science, RAISE Doctoral Networks) into a 162-page part. It adds two new horizontal calls:

- **"Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society"** (`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-0x`): 10 topics worth EUR 219.45 million, plus an EUR 8.00 million IPBES contribution. That makes 11 actions and EUR 227.45 million (the General Introduction says "around EUR 230 million"). It exists to meet the 10% biodiversity-spending target.
- **"Bridging Actions 2027"** (`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-0x`): 13 topics worth EUR 203.00 million, plus three grants to identified beneficiaries (EMBL, CRG, SIB) totalling EUR 57.00 million (19.00 + 30.00 + 8.00). That makes 16 actions and EUR 260.00 million. It prepares the move to the 2028-2034 framework programme and the European Competitiveness Fund.

In the existing calls:

- RAISE gains a small Data Lab topic (`HORIZON-RAISE-2027-01-04`); its materials topic is cut to EUR 26.50 million and the 2027 RAISE call now opens on 13 Oct 2026.
- The two 2027 Clean Industrial Deal topics gain the China-control restriction.

The part's budget rises by EUR 485.95 million in total.

Budget

LINE	2026 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	2027 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	DELTA (EUR M)
HORIZON-CID-2026-01	275.00 → 275.00	-	0
HORIZON-CID-2027-01	-	265.00 → 265.00	0
HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01	27.80 → 27.80	-	0
HORIZON-RAISE-2027-01	-	**32.00 → 30.50**	**-1.50**
HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA	30.00 → 30.00	-	0
HORIZON-NATURE-2027-01 (new)	**- → 41.45**	-	+41.45
HORIZON-NATURE-2027-02 (new)	-	**- → 108.00**	+108.00
HORIZON-NATURE-2027-03 (new)	-	**- → 20.00**	+20.00
HORIZON-NATURE-2027-04 (new)	**- → 50.00**	-	+50.00
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01 (new)	-	**- → 55.00**	+55.00
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-02 (new)	-	**- → 32.50**	+32.50
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-03 (new)	-	**- → 30.50**	+30.50
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-04 (new)	**- → 35.00**	-	+35.00
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-05 (new)	-	**- → 30.00**	+30.00
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-06 (new)	-	**- → 20.00**	+20.00
Other: Grant awarded without a call (FR Art. 198(e)) (new: GENCODE, UniProt, Europe PMC)	-	**- → 57.00**	+57.00
Other: Indirectly managed action (new: IPBES)	-	**- → 8.00**	+8.00

LINE	2026 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	2027 OLD → NEW (EUR M)	DELTA (EUR M)
Estimated total budget	**332.80 → 459.25**	**297.00 → 656.50**	**+126.45 / +359.50 (+485.95)**

How the totals break down:

- **Nature-positive:** 219.45 (calls) + 8.00 (IPBES) = 227.45.
- **Bridging:** 203.00 (calls) + 57.00 (identified-beneficiary grants) = 260.00.
- **RAISE:** −1.50 (−2.50 on RAISE-2027-01-01, +1.00 for the new RAISE-2027-01-04).

Some "2027" call IDs are paid from the **2026** budget and open in October 2026: NATURE-2027-01, NATURE-2027-04 and BRIDGING-2027-04.

New

A. Call "Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society" (10 topics)

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET (EUR M)	PER PROJECT (EUR M)	NO.	OPENING → DEADLINE	TRL
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-01-01`	Understanding the nature and the extent of the effects of PFAS on biodiversity and ecosystem services	RIA	11.45	around 5.70	2	13 Oct 2026 → 14 Jan 2027	-
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-01-02`	Better understanding, anticipating and addressing the biodiversity benefits and impacts of the clean and digital industries	RIA	18.00	around 6.00	3	13 Oct 2026 → 14 Jan 2027	-
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-01-03`	Systemic approaches to accelerate transformative change for biodiversity	RIA	12.00	around 4.00	3	13 Oct 2026 → 14 Jan 2027	-
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-02-01`	Assessing direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity decline of invertebrates	RIA	15.00	around 7.50	2	13 Oct 2026 → 14 Jan 2027	-
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-02-02`	Living labs co-creating solutions for the restoration of ecosystems addressing implementation bottlenecks and improving resilience to risks	RIA	60.00	around 10.00	6	13 Oct 2026 → 14 Jan 2027	-
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-02-03`	Networking to scale up living labs for nature restoration solutions and to address bottlenecks to implementation	CSA	4.00	around 4.00	1	13 Oct 2026 → 14 Jan 2027	-
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-02-04`	Innovative solutions to fight wildlife trafficking and to reduce invasion of invasive alien species	IA	13.00	around 13.00	1	13 Oct 2026 → 14 Jan 2027	TRL 6-7 at end; may start at any TRL
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-02-05`	Cost-effective biodiversity monitoring for EU policies	RIA	16.00	5.00 to 6.00	3	13 Oct 2026 → 14 Jan 2027	-
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-03-01`	Advancing interdisciplinary, data-driven research at the biodiversity-health interface under a One Health approach	RIA	20.00	around 20.00	1	03 Jun 2027 → 16 Sep 2027	-

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET (EUR M)	PER PROJECT (EUR M)	NO.	OPENING → DEADLINE	TRL
`HORIZON-NATURE-2027-04-01`	A stronger Global Ocean Observing System to enhance Europe's strategic autonomy, climate resilience and biodiversity conservation	IA	50.00	around 50.00	1	06 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	-

Special conditions and gist for each topic:

- **`-01-01` PFAS**
  - Conditions: lump sum. Strong SSH contribution required. Projects must form a cluster with a dedicated work package. FAIR/EOSC data.
  - Gist: field-based evidence on how PFAS and their breakdown products affect species, ecosystems and ecosystem services, including valuation of lost services, eco-surveillance and indicator species, to feed PFAS and biodiversity policy.
- **`-01-02` clean and digital industries**
  - Conditions: lump sum. At least 3 biogeographical regions. At least 5 industrial activities (NACE division level). Transdisciplinary work with industrial partners. Cooperation with the Clean Industrial Deal call projects. Cluster.
  - Gist: typologies (building on ENCORE), cumulative-impact assessments, cost-benefit analysis and scenarios of biodiversity impacts and dependencies for Clean Industrial Deal sectors, data centres, mining and grids, with tools for due-diligence reporting.
- **`-01-03` systemic and transformative change**
  - Conditions: multi-actor approach (eligibility). Lump sum. Optional FSTP of at most EUR 60 000 per third party and at most 15% of the budget. Cluster.
  - Gist: behavioural-science, SSH and systems research on the indirect drivers of biodiversity loss, piloting governance and decision-making interventions with public and private actors.
- **`-02-01` invertebrates**
  - Conditions: lump sum. Choose Area A (insects) or B (molluscs and crustaceans); at least the top proposal in each area is funded. Cluster.
  - Gist: rank and attribute the drivers of invertebrate decline across terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems, with predictive and early-warning decision tools for Nature Restoration Regulation implementation.
- **`-02-02` restoration living labs**
  - Conditions: multi-actor approach (eligibility). Lump sum. FSTP through calls only, at most EUR 60 000 per third party and at most 30% of the budget. Area A (risk resilience) or B (agriculture and forestry); at least the two top proposals per area are funded. Three new living labs per project with 8-15 sites each, in at least 3 MS/AC "including sites in outermost regions".
  - Gist: co-create and test Nature Restoration Regulation restoration measures. Area A covers free-flowing rivers, floodplains and wildfire prevention; Area B covers biodiversity-friendly farming and forestry, genetic resources and carbon-farming MRV. Includes financing models.
- **`-02-03` living-lab network**
  - Conditions: multi-actor approach (eligibility). Lump sum.
  - Gist: European network of nature-restoration living labs and lighthouses, including the `-02-02` projects. Shares methods, standards and financing knowledge (CRCF, nature credits, carbon-farming "Buyers' Clubs").
- **`-02-04` wildlife trafficking and invasive alien species**
  - Conditions: at least 3 competent authorities (customs, border guards, conservation or environment services) from at least 3 MS/AC as beneficiaries. General Annex H PCP/PPI conditions apply, and PCP subcontracting is possible. EUCI/SEN security provisions may apply. China-control restriction. JRC may join with zero funding.

Copernicus/Galileo clause. Not a lump sum. The granting authority may object to transfers or licensing for 4 years.
    - Gist: tools for law enforcement to detect illegal wildlife trade and invasive species in online and physical trade, with evidence-grade data and training.
- `-02-05` **biodiversity monitoring**
    - Conditions: lump sum. Area A (pollinators, Nature Restoration Regulation), B (soil biodiversity, Soil Monitoring Law) or C (Water Framework Directive); the top proposal per area is funded where the budget allows. Cluster.
    - Gist: cost-effective, AI- and DNA-based monitoring that operationalises legally required monitoring schemes, including completing reference DNA libraries.
- `-03-01` **One Health**
    - Conditions: 70-page limit. At least 7 independent entities in 7 different MS/AC, at least one in a Member State. Thresholds 4/4/4, cumulative 12. ECDC, EFSA, EEA or other agencies may join without funding; JRC may join with zero funding. Not a lump sum. The granting authority may object to transfers for 4 years.
    - Gist: at least six use cases linking biodiversity drivers to human, animal and plant health, data interoperability across EOSC and data spaces, and a One Health proof of concept.
- `-04-01` **Global Ocean Observing System**
    - Conditions: 100-page limit. All international organisations exceptionally eligible for funding. China-control restriction. In-situ data must be shared through EMODnet (eligibility). Evaluation committee partly made up of EU institution representatives. Full capitalised costs for equipment. Not a lump sum. Coordination with ESA FutureEO.
    - Gist: deploy equipment and optimise the global ocean observing system (IOC-UNESCO GOOS, OceanEye), mainly beyond national jurisdiction, to secure Copernicus inputs and biodiversity observations as partners disengage.

New other action in this call: "Contribution of the EU to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)"

- Indirectly managed action, contribution to the IPBES trust fund via UNEP.
- **EUR 8.00 million** from the 2027 budget; indicative timetable "2nd quarter 2028".

New call-level text

- Call introduction and expected impacts.
- A section "Specific conditions for multi-actor projects", applying to topics `-01-03`, `-02-02` and `-02-03`. It includes EIP-AGRI practice abstracts.

B. Call "Bridging Actions 2027" (13 topics)

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET (EUR M)	PER PROJECT (EUR M)	NO.	OPENING → DEADLINE	TRL
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-09`	EU AI Media Platform - modular multilingual public-interest infrastructure for European news and audiovisual media (IA) - Apply AI	IA	10.00	around 10.00	1	20 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	start TRL 6, reach TRL 8
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-10`	Autonomous Drive Ambition Cities (IA) - Apply AI	IA	15.00	around 15.00	1	20 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	TRL 8

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET (EUR M)	PER PROJECT (EUR M)	NO.	OPENING → DEADLINE	TRL
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-12`	Large-Scale piloting of next-generation AI-driven digital platforms for a more affordable, secure and sustainable European energy system (IA) - Apply AI	IA	15.00	around 15.00	1	20 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	TRL 7-8
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-13`	EU Frontier AI Initiative: Advanced Scaling Frameworks for High-Performance AI Models (RIA) - Apply AI	RIA	15.00	around 15.00	1	20 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	TRL 4-5
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-02-05`	Advancing promising results from Pillar II collaborative research through the innovation journey	IA	32.50	up to 2.50	13	20 Oct 2026 → **28 Jan 2027**	start TRL 6 (Clusters 3-6)
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-03-04`	Supporting the long-term resilience and European sovereignty of critical research data and knowledge repositories and scientific services for the life sciences	RIA	8.00	around 8.00	1	09 Mar 2027 → 15 Jun 2027	-
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-03-06`	Access to research infrastructure services to enable R&I addressing industry needs in priority areas	RIA	15.00	around 5.00	3	09 Mar 2027 → 15 Jun 2027	-
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-03-07`	Europe's world class research and technology infrastructures as strategic assets for talent to Choose Europe	CSA	7.50	around 1.50	5	09 Mar 2027 → 15 Jun 2027	-
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-04-03`	Bringing innovative climate preparedness and resilience solutions closer to the market	CSA	20.00	around 20.00	1	06 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	(supported solutions at TRL 7)
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-04-08`	Sustainability and resilience of climate projections and related data records for European and global science and policy	CSA	5.00	around 5.00	1	06 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	-
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-04-11`	Detection, monitoring, modelling, and attribution capabilities for Solar Radiation Modification (SRM) activities and assessing their impacts on Earth's climate and ecosystems	RIA	10.00	around 10.00	1	06 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	-
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-05-01`	Skills for innovative SMEs	CSA	30.00	around 30.00	1	01 Dec 2026 → 03 Mar 2027	-
`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-06-02`	Valorising Horizon project results via innovation ecosystems	RIA	20.00	2.50 to 4.00	5	20 Oct 2026 → 16 Feb 2027	-

Call-wide rule: "Legal entities established in China are not eligible to participate in both Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs) and Innovation Actions (IAs) falling under this call."

Special conditions and gist for each topic:

- `-01-09` **EU AI Media Platform**
  - Conditions: subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks. No lump sum stated.
  - Gist: take AI-enabled public-interest media platform pilots (multilingual, multimodal, with provenance by design, open APIs and SDKs) to operational validation for pan-European news distribution from 2028.
- `-01-10` **Autonomous Drive Ambition Cities**
  - Conditions: participation limited to legal entities in Member States, Iceland, Norway and associated countries; entities controlled by a non-eligible country or entity are excluded. One large-scale demonstrator with 5-7 city pilots in at least 5 MS/AC, including at least one cross-border pilot. Mandatory sharing of data and AI models across pilots. Use of EU-CEM. No lump sum stated.
  - Gist: SAE level-4 electric autonomous mobility services in real urban traffic (Apply AI flagship). Cities may be drawn from the ADACities expression of interest of 23 June 2026.
- `-01-12` **AI-driven energy digital platforms**
  - Conditions: same participation limitation as `-01-10`. Pilots in at least 6 MS/AC involving at least 6 energy actors (TSOs, DSOs, retailers, aggregators), at least 8 digital technology providers, at least 4 mobility actors and at least 20 energy communities. Open APIs and open source. Participation in BRIDGE. About 36 months, one project.
  - Gist: a cross-border large-scale pilot of AI-enabled platforms for flexibility, smart charging and grid services.
- `-01-13` **Frontier AI scaling**
  - Conditions: eligibility limited to Member States, Iceland, Norway plus Canada, Israel, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Japan, and countries associated during 2026-27 if listed for this topic. Controlled entities may join only with guarantees approved by their country of establishment; **China-controlled entities cannot submit guarantees**. Link to HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-11, ADRA and GenAI4EU.
  - Gist: research toolsets for predictable scaling of AI models (scaling laws, architecture search, dataset-mixture optimisation, hyperparameter stability) that are hardware-agnostic.
- `-02-05` **Advancing Pillar II results**
  - Conditions: at most 6 independent participants. Must build on results of a completed (not ongoing) multi-beneficiary RIA, IA or PCP from Clusters 1-6, managed by the Commission or an executive agency; state the grant number and acronym. Ownership of or access to the IP is required. China-control restriction. EUCI/SEN provisions may apply. Thresholds 4/4/4, cumulative 12. **Fast Track (FTRI):** evaluation results within 4 months and grant agreement within 6 months. Grants go in ranking order "but at least also to those proposals that are the 2 highest ranked within different Clusters targeted", if they pass all thresholds. STEP Seal for proposals above all thresholds. Lump sum. End users should be represented as beneficiaries. At most 3 years.
  - Gist: a small-consortium "fit-for-deployment" follow-up to bring Pillar II results to real-world validation and market.
- `-03-04` **life-sciences data repositories**
  - Conditions: lump sum. Communication-networks restriction. The granting authority may object to transfers for 4 years.
  - Gist: integrate critical life-science data repositories and services into the EOSC Federation and diversify their funding (e.g. through the Global Biodata Coalition) to remove single points of failure.
- `-03-06` **research-infrastructure access for industry**
  - Conditions: 100-page limit. Access provision mandatory. Include at least one ESFRI Landmark or ERIC as beneficiary (scope). Six areas (biomedical or food; clean energy or mobility; advanced materials for circularity or bioeconomy; accelerators and superconducting magnets; microelectronics; ocean sensing); the top proposal per area is funded where the budget allows. Unit costs for trans-national and virtual access. Extra royalty-free access rights. Communication-networks restriction. JRC may join with zero funding.

    - Gist: free trans-national and virtual access to research-infrastructure services for industry, notably SMEs, start-ups and scale-ups.
- `-03-07` **infrastructures as talent magnets**
    - Conditions: lump sum. **Must include at least one ESFRI Landmark and/or ERIC as beneficiary** (eligibility). If eligible for funding, entities from non-associated third countries may exceptionally participate as beneficiaries. Nine areas; the top proposal per area is funded where the budget allows. Research-security principles apply.
    - Gist: international partnering, training and outreach that markets European research and technology infrastructures to attract global talent (Choose Europe).
- `-04-03` **climate resilience solutions to market**
    - Conditions: FSTP mandatory, up to **EUR 800,000 per third party**, at least **80%** of the EU contribution, at least **25** supported companies. Eligible third parties are private for-profit entities in MS/AC. First cascade call within 12 months. Priority sectors: water, food and agriculture, transport, energy, health, civil security, critical infrastructure. Copernicus/Galileo clause. No lump sum stated.
    - Gist: an EU-level scheme with demand aggregation and buyer matching that brings TRL 7 adaptation and nature-based solutions to market.
- `-04-08` **climate projections and data records**
    - Conditions: lump sum. Low- and middle-income-country entities exceptionally eligible for funding.
    - Gist: secure the Earth System Grid Federation and access to climate projections for IPCC, CMIP and CORDEX amid the disengagement of major partners.
- `-04-11` **Solar Radiation Modification detection**
    - Conditions: extra award criterion on managing conflicts with commercial SRM interests. Evaluation committee partly made up of EU institution representatives. SRM field experiments and technology development are out of scope. Copernicus/Galileo clause.
    - Gist: detection, monitoring, attribution and modelling capability (stratospheric aerosol injection, marine cloud brightening, cirrus cloud thinning) to underpin a multilateral SRM governance and deterrence system and an ecological early-warning system.
- `-05-01` **Skills for innovative SMEs**
    - Conditions: **only beneficiaries of the Enterprise Europe Network (SMP-COSME-2024-EEN) may apply**. At most one project. Lump sum. FSTP mandatory, at least **90%** of the budget, up to **EUR 300 000 per SME** (the EUR 60 000 Financial Regulation ceiling is waived). Award criteria stress the ability to give grants across borders and outreach.
    - Gist: an EEN-run scheme paying innovative SMEs 12-24 months of salary and relocation for a PhD-level researcher recruited from abroad, successor to the "SME innovation associate" pilot.
- `-06-02` **Valorising Horizon results via innovation ecosystems**
    - Conditions: lump sum. FSTP mandatory, up to **EUR 150 000 per third party**, at least **60%** of the requested EU contribution per thematic area. Five areas (A agriculture and food, B clean transition: energy and transport, C health, D bioeconomy, E raw and advanced materials); at least one project per area is funded. The granting authority may object to transfers for 4 years. Copernicus/Galileo clause.
    - Gist: knowledge intermediaries (TTOs, KICs, incubators, clusters) scout Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe results and run open calls funding their validation, prototyping and investor readiness.

New other actions in this call: grants to identified beneficiaries (FR Art. 198(e); CSA; 100% funding; thresholds 4/4/4, cumulative 12; first semester 2027; 2027 budget):

1. "Sustaining Genomic Annotation Excellence for European leadership" (GENCODE): CRG (Barcelona) and EMBL (Heidelberg), **EUR 19.00 million**, up to 7 years.

2. "Sustaining Protein Sequence Database Excellence for European leadership" (UniProt): SIB (Switzerland) and EMBL, **EUR 30.00 million**, up to 7 years.
3. "Strengthening the long-term sustainability of Europe PMC": EMBL, **EUR 8.00 million**, at least 48 months.

These three total EUR 57.50 million; the General Introduction counts them toward Choose Europe for Science.

New call-level text

- The call introduction, structured as knowledge valorisation and data access, research infrastructures and data access, and AI.
- A section "Special features for Research Infrastructures in Bridging Actions" setting the rules for trans-national and virtual access.

C. AI in Science call: new topic and new other action

ID	TITLE	TYPE	BUDGET	PER PROJECT	NO.	OPENING → DEADLINE	TRL
`HORIZON-RAISE-2027-01-04`	Developing a model for a Data Lab for Science linking with EOSC and RAISE (RAISE pilot) (CSA)	CSA	EUR 1.00 million	around EUR 1.00 million	1	13 Oct 2026 → 02 Feb 2027	-

- Conditions: lump sum.
- Gist: map and orchestrate EOSC and Horizon Europe data services into a blueprint, governance and financing model for a "Data Lab for Science" connecting EOSC, RAISE, AI Factories and EuroHPC.

New other action: "Support for AI in Science through access to advanced AI infrastructure"

- Non-financial donation, **EUR 0.00** from the EU budget, Q1 2027.
- Computing access paid for by voluntary philanthropic or private contributions, allocated competitively to beneficiaries of grants under RAISE-associated Horizon Europe topics. They apply through an expression of interest.

Removed, cancelled or moved

None. No topic was removed or cancelled.

Changed topics

TOPIC	CALL / DATES	SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE
`HORIZON-RAISE-2027-01-01` Automated Scientific Discovery (RIA), renamed **"Automated Scientific Discovery - Materials Science"**	Call HORIZON-RAISE-2027-01: **opening 22 Sep 2026 → 13 Oct 2026**; deadline 02 Feb 2027 unchanged	**Budget EUR 29.00 million → EUR 26.50 million**; **per project around EUR 10.00 million → around EUR 9.00 million**; still 3 projects. **Scope narrowed:** previously "an initial focus on materials science", with the option to expand to other clusters' disciplines; now "any aspect of materials science" only. The examples of fertilisers and alternative food proteins are dropped.
`HORIZON-RAISE-2027-01-02` Automated Scientific Discovery - Food (RIA, EUR 3.00 million)	Same call (new opening 13 Oct 2026)	Only the opening date, via the call. The text is unchanged.
`HORIZON-CID-2027-01-01` Decarbonisation of energy intensive industries (IA, EUR 125.00 million, EUR 15.00-25.00 million per project; Processes4Planet and Clean Steel)	HORIZON-CID-2027-01, 12 Jan 2027 → 15 Sep 2027 (unchanged)	**New China-control restriction** (General Annex B "restriction on control in innovation actions in critical technology areas"). **Scope:** "biobased feedstock and processes" added to the alternative clean energy carriers. Integrated multi-area proposals may include "bio-based solutions as a decarbonisation lever for hard-to-abate sectors".
`HORIZON-CID-2027-01-02` Clean Technologies for Climate Action (IA, EUR 140.00 million, EUR 15.00-25.00 million per project)	Same	**New China-control restriction** (same wording).

The 2026 CID and RAISE topics and the RAISE Doctoral Networks (`HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-03`) are unchanged; the latter is unchanged.

Changed non-topic text

- **AI in Science introduction:** adds "the budget of RAISE topics may be increased through additional contributions from foundations or other philanthropic actors". This matches the new non-financial-donation action. The existing call-wide exclusion of China-established entities from AI in Science is unchanged.
- **New call introductions:** Nature-positive (policy framing, expected impacts, multi-actor conditions) and Bridging Actions (framing as the "innovation to investment journey" towards the 2028-2034 framework programme and the European Competitiveness Fund; China-established entities excluded from all RIAs and IAs in the call).
- **New "Other actions" sections:** Bridging (three identified-beneficiary grants), Nature (IPBES) and AI in Science (compute access).
- **Budget table** expanded as above. A table of contents is added for the new material.

What it means for applicants

- **Biodiversity consortia:** EUR 219 million in new grants with **short deadlines**. Eight topics close **14 Jan 2027** (opening 13 Oct 2026); the Ocean Observing topic closes **16 Feb 2027**; One Health opens 03 Jun 2027 and closes 16 Sep 2027. Most are lump-sum RIAs with mandatory clustering and SSH. The biggest single pot is the restoration living labs topic: EUR 60 million, 6 grants of about EUR 10 million, multi-actor, at least 3 MS/AC, FSTP up to 30%.
- **Bridging Actions favour exploitation of existing results:**
  - `-02-05` funds up to EUR 2.5 million for small consortia (at most 6) building on a **completed** Pillar II project, with fast-track granting (contract within 6 months) but 4/4/4 (12) thresholds. It closes 28 Jan 2027.
  - `-06-02` and `-04-03` are cascade schemes that will in turn fund companies and result-owners through open calls (up to EUR 150 000 and EUR 800,000 per third party).
- **Restricted eligibility:**
  - Skills for innovative SMEs (EUR 30 million) is open only to Enterprise Europe Network consortia.
  - Three of the four Apply AI topics restrict participation geographically. Frontier AI (`-01-13`) is open only to Member States, Iceland, Norway, Canada, Israel, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the UK, Switzerland and Japan.
  - Every RIA and IA in the Bridging call excludes entities established in China; several IAs (`-02-05` , NATURE `-02-04` , NATURE `-04-01` , both CID 2027 topics) also exclude China-controlled entities.
- **Research-infrastructure operators:** two topics require an ESFRI Landmark or ERIC: `-03-06` (industry access, 3 grants of about EUR 5 million) and `-03-07` (talent and Choose Europe, 5 grants of about EUR 1.5 million). Both close 15 Jun 2027.
- **RAISE materials applicants:** the call now opens 13 Oct 2026 (deadline 02 Feb 2027 unchanged) with less money per grant (about EUR 9 million). It is strictly materials science.

Open questions

- **Stale topic IDs in the Bridging introduction and one topic.** The introduction uses a different numbering (`HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-01` , `-01-02` , `-01-03` , `-01-04` , `-01-06` , `-01-07` , `-01-08` , "OA1-OA3") than the actual topics (`-05-01` , `-06-02` , `-04-03` , `-03-04` , `-03-06` , `-03-07` , `-04-08`). `-06-02` also cites "HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-03" and "-01-05". Only the last two digits match; rely on the IDs in the call tables.
- **`-02-05` amount.** The call table shows "0.00 to 2.50" per project, while the topic says "Up to EUR 2.50 million". 13 projects x 2.50 = 32.50.
- **AI in Science introduction.** It still says "EUR 100 million for five new topics". There are now six RAISE topics totalling about EUR 88.30 million (the General Introduction says "around EUR 90 million"). The net EUR 1.50

million cut to the RAISE 2027 call is not explained. A new EUR 2.50 million JRC action supporting RAISE appears in the Cluster 4 part, the same amount as the cut to `RAISE-2027-01-01`; the WP does not link them.

- **Placeholders in adopted text.** `-03-06` contains "[ref to be added once published, checking final title]" for the industrial-access charter. NATURE `-02-02` has the typo "Forest Partnershio".
- **Lump sums.** None is stated for `-01-09`, `-01-10`, `-01-12`, `-01-13`, `-04-03`, `-04-11`, NATURE `-02-04`, `-03-01` or `-04-01`, which implies actual-cost grants (unit costs for access in `-03-06`). The text only shows that the lump-sum clause is absent.
- **IPBES timing.** The contribution is booked on the 2027 budget with an indicative timetable of "2nd quarter 2028". This is taken as written.
- **Outermost regions in `-02-02`.** Whether "including sites in outermost regions" is a hard requirement or an example is ambiguous.

Annex XV MODERATE

General Annexes

The China-control restriction can now apply in 10 critical technology areas instead of 4, where a topic invokes it; partial randomisation allowed.

The General Annexes are almost entirely unchanged. Admissibility, page limits, award criteria, thresholds, funding rates, lump sums, FSTP, ethics, security and PCP/PPI all read the same. The substantive edits concern **China and economic security**, **evaluation** and **Hungary**:

1. The restriction on China-controlled entities in Innovation Actions now covers **10 critical technology areas** instead of 4.
2. The new horizontal biodiversity call is added to the list of destinations where **entities established in China may take part in RIAs**.
3. An enabling clause for **'partial randomisation'** selection is added to Annex F.
4. A footnote records the Commission's 23 Sep 2026 **proposal to lift the Hungarian public-interest-trust measures**.
5. A pointer to new **guidance on participation in calls with ownership and control restrictions** is added.

Budget

None. The General Annexes contain no budget table.

New

- **Introduction.** Applicants are now also directed to "**the guidance on Participation in EU calls with ownership and control restrictions**". A new footnote says it "explains the requirements to be fulfilled by the applicants when applying in EU calls with ownership and control restrictions".
- **Annex F (Procedure), new paragraph:** "**Partial randomisation** - Where specified in the conditions of the relevant call or topic evaluation procedure, the topic may be subject to 'partial randomisation' selection, following a specific evaluation procedure deviating from the general conditions described above." It sits next to the existing Blind evaluation paragraph. The Cluster 4 part announces a pilot of this in two topics (see the Cluster 4 part).
- **Annex B, Hungary, new footnote:** "The Commission adopted on 23 September 2026 a proposal to lift the measures (COM/2026/516 Proposal for a Council Implementation Decision concerning a written notification from Hungary with regard to Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 of 15 December 2022). This proposal does not prejudge the adoption by the Council of the Implementing Decision lifting the measures." The ban on legal commitments with Hungarian public interest trusts (Act IX of 2021) remains in force in the main text.

Removed, cancelled or moved

None. Many passages (footnotes on the IERO definition, Financial Regulation articles, Israeli-entities guidelines, the Palestine designation, blended-finance definition, GEP retroactivity, PCP/PPI definitions, the low- and middle-income country list, etc.) only moved between pages; their wording is identical. The low- and middle-income country list and the Associated Countries list (22 countries: Albania … United Kingdom) are unchanged.

Changed topics

None. The General Annexes contain no topics.

Changed non-topic text

Section-by-section check (old Dec 2025 vs new Sep 2026):

SECTION	STATUS	DETAIL
Introduction / reading list	**Changed**	Adds the guidance on ownership and control restrictions (see New).
A - Admissibility (submission, completeness, languages)	No change	–
A - Page limits	**No change**	Still 40 pages (RIA/IA full application); 25 (CSA); 65 (Programme co-fund); with lump sums 45 (RIA/IA) and 28 (CSA); 10 for a first-stage application. Only "re-submit" became "resubmit". Topic-specific exceptions live in the parts (e.g. the new 70-page limit for the GÉANT SGA in the RI part).
B - Entities eligible to participate / for funding	No change	Member States, OCTs, the 22 Associated Countries, and the low- and middle-income country list are identical, as are the UK EIC-fund exception and the negotiating-countries rule.
B - Restrictions on legal entities established in China (Art. 22(6))	**Changed**	Still: no participation in any Innovation Action, and no RIAs unless the destination is listed. **Added to the RIA carve-out list:** "Horizontal Activities o Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society". So entities established in China **are eligible in RIAs of the new biodiversity horizontal call**. The other listed destinations (CL2 x3, CL5 climate sciences, CL6 x6, Missions joint calls / adaptation / ocean / soil, WIDERA x2, NEB x2) are unchanged.
B - MIIT-linked Chinese universities	No change	–
B - Protection of European communication networks (5G)	No change	–
B - Restrictions on participation or control (Art. 22(5))	Wording only	"to guarantee protection" became "to guarantee **the** protection".
B - Restrictions on control in Innovation Actions in critical technology areas (Art. 22(5))	**Changed (scope widened)**	Rationale old: concerns about China-controlled entities "in critical technology areas, particularly those related to artificial intelligence, semiconductors, biotechnologies and quantum technologies". New: "in innovation actions focusing on the development of those technology areas identified as critical for the EU's economic security". Scope old: IAs within the "**four** critical technology areas ... advanced semiconductors, AI, quantum technologies and biotechnologies". New: IAs within the "**ten** critical technology areas" of Recommendation (EU) 2023/2113 of 3 October 2023, namely advanced semiconductors, AI, quantum, biotechnologies, **advanced connectivity, navigation and digital technologies, advanced sensing, space & propulsion, energy, robotics and autonomous systems, advanced materials, manufacturing and recycling technologies**. It still applies only "where stated in the specific call/topic conditions" to entities in Member States, Associated Countries or eligible third countries that are directly or indirectly controlled by China or a Chinese entity.
B - EU restrictive measures	No change	–
B - Hungary public interest trusts	**Footnote added**	Commission proposal of 23 Sep 2026 to lift the measures; the ban remains pending a Council decision.
B - Consortium composition, eligible activities, types of action, definitions (incl. blended finance, public procurers)	No change	Moves only.
B - Ethics	No change	–
B - Security (EU classified / sensitive information)	No change	Dash and bullet glyphs only.
B - Gender Equality Plan	No change	Retroactivity sentence moved only.
B - Financial support to third parties	No change	The conditions are identical: wide publication of calls, Portal publication, calls open for at least 2 months, publication of outcomes, and a European dimension. The General Introduction adds a footnote on taking ECA recommendations into account for cascade grants, but nothing changes in this annex.
C - Financial capacity	No change	–
C - Operational capacity	No change	–
C - Exclusion	No change	Footnote moves only.

SECTION	STATUS	DETAIL
D - Award criteria (RIA/IA, CSA, Co-fund, PCP/PPI, FPA) and two-stage "bold aspects" rule	No change	–
D - Scores, weighting, thresholds	No change	–
E - Documents	No change	–
F - Evaluation procedure, ranking, ties	No change	–
F - Seal of Excellence, STEP Seal, budget flexibility (up to 20%), joint calls, blind evaluation	No change	–
F - Partial randomisation	**New**	See New.
F - Evaluation review procedure	No change	–
G - Legal and financial set-up (starting date, funding rates 100% / 70% / 50%, cost forms, lump sums, reporting, certificates, guarantees, IPR, specific provisions)	No change	–
H - PCP / PPI	No change	Wording identical.

What it means for applicants

- **Innovation Actions:** topics may now exclude China-controlled European entities across **10** critical technology areas, including energy, space, robotics, advanced materials/manufacturing, connectivity/navigation/digital and sensing, not just chips, AI, quantum and biotech. Check each IA topic's specific conditions and your partners' ownership chains early. The new Commission guidance on ownership and control restrictions is the reference.
- **New biodiversity horizontal call:** entities established in China may take part in its RIAs, normally without EU funding; its IAs stay closed to them. The call is on the carve-out list.
- **Partial randomisation** can now be applied where a topic says so (a pilot is announced in two Cluster 4 topics). Proposals of near-equal quality may be ranked partly by lottery.
- **No change to the proposal rules:** page limits, templates, criteria, thresholds, funding rates and lump-sum rules are unchanged. Proposals drafted against the December 2025 annexes stay compliant with these rules, but consortium eligibility should be re-checked against the wider China-control restriction.
- **Hungarian public-interest-trust universities:** still barred from funded roles, though they may take part as associated partners. A Council decision lifting the measures could reopen eligibility; watch the Portal.

Open questions

- The new ownership-and-control guidance is cited by name only; the WP gives no link.

This is an independent analysis, not an official European Commission document. The adopted work programme and the topic pages on the Funding & Tenders Portal are authoritative; check them before applying.

Sources: the amended parts on the Commission's Horizon Europe work programmes page and the Funding & Tenders Portal (for example the General Introduction), which now serves the amended files at the same addresses. The

December 2025 texts come from archived copies of the same official files, unchanged from December 2025 until the amendment.

Method: an automated topic-level comparison of both versions (titles, calls, budgets, contribution per project, type of action, TRL, conditions and text), then a review of every flagged change against the full texts of both versions, followed by independent fact-checks of the result. Formatting-only differences are left out. Figures are in EUR million as printed in the work programme.