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Horizon Europe Cluster 5 "Climate, Energy and Mobility" Call 01-2026; Deadline Proposal: 20.01.2026

The overarching driver for this cluster is to accelerate the twin green and digital transitions and associated transformation of our economy, industry and society with a view to achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050, and to increase the competitiveness of the European economies. This encompasses the transition to greenhouse gas neutrality of the energy and mobility sectors by 2050 at the latest (as well as that of other sectors not covered by this cluster), while boosting their competitiveness, resilience, and utility for citizens and society. Europe has been at the forefront of climate science and is committed to keep delivering the knowledge for enabling efficient pathways and just transitions to climate neutrality.

Activities in this work programme will contribute to all Key Strategic Orientations (KSOs) of the Strategic Plan:
- The green transition: Horizon Europe R&I activities must support Europe to become the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050 and to tackle biodiversity loss and pollution. At least 35% of Horizon Europe's resources are committed to be spent on climate action and 10% for 2025-2027 on biodiversity action.
- The digital transition: Research to support the digital transition is key to Europe's competitiveness and open strategic autonomy, and to setting human-centred standards. It is also key to achieving the green transition. In 2021-2027, it is agreed to invest at least EUR 13 billion from Horizon Europe in core digital technologies.
- A more resilient, competitive, inclusive and democratic Europe: Europe's democratic

values and principles need a strong foundation so they can be promoted globally. Horizon Europe research activities will help reinforce this foundation. This includes research on civil security, on a fair and environmentally friendly economic model, on health and wellbeing and on democratic participation.
Open strategic autonomy and securing Europe's capacity in developing and deploying critical technologies are overarching drivers that apply across all three key strategic orientations.

With a view to be more effective in achieving impact, proposals are expected to synergise with other relevant initiatives funded at EU level, including the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). The innovation ecosystems created and nurtured by the EIT KICs (e.g., EIT Climate-KIC, EIT InnoEnergy, EIT Raw Materials) can in particular contribute to building communities or platforms for coordination and support actions, by sharing knowledge or disseminating the exploitation of the project results. Where relevant, and without prejudice to the direct participation of the EIT KICs in the R&I activities under this cluster, proposals are encouraged to explore other forms and means of service provisions that are complementary to the activities of the EIT KICs. Collaboration with other innovation communities that can support the project implementation and impact is also encouraged. Any such cooperation should be based on adequate intellectual property management strategies.

This work programme pilots the integration of a Societal Readiness approach through eight pilot topics and a Coordinating and Support Action (CSA) for monitoring and evaluation: HORIZON-CL5-2026-01-D2-09). This approach is based on Responsible Research and Innovation processes, with a strong focus on interdisciplinarity and knowledge integration. The integration of a Societal Readiness approach into R&I processes aims to address different societal needs and concerns, thereby increasing the potential for societal uptake.

According to the intervention logic of this work programme, Destination 1 fosters climate science and thus helps to identify effective and efficient pathways and responses to climate change. Destination 2 supports different cross-cutting technologies and solutions for climate, energy and mobility applications. Destination 3 and 4 focus mainly on energy issues –Destination 3 on making energy supply more sustainable, secure and competitive; Destination 4 on reducing energy demand of buildings and industry and enabling their more active role in a smart energy system. Destination 5 and 6 improve the performance of transport modes and mobility solutions – Destination 5 increases the competitiveness and climate/environmental performance of different transport modes; Destination 6 advances mobility services and solutions at system level for passengers and goods.

Open topics:
- D2-01: Development of sustainable and design-to-cost batteries with (energy-)efficient manufacturing processes and based on advanced and safer materials (Batt4EU Partnership)
- D2-04: Integrating advanced materials, cell design and manufacturing development for high-performance batteries aimed at mobility (Batt4EU Partnership)

- D2-05: Accelerated multi-physical and virtual testing for battery aging, reliability, and safety evaluation (Batt4EU Partnership)
- D2-09: Monitoring and Evaluation of the Societal Readiness Pilot
- D5-17: Real time monitoring of regulated and non-regulated emissions from all types of vessels and other port activities in order to enforce emission limits in waterfront cities
- D6-03: Next-generation environment perception for real world CCAM operations: Error-free and secure technologies to improve energy-efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and circularity (CCAM Partnership)
- D6-04: Integration of human driving behaviour in the validation of CCAM systems (CCAM Partnership)
- D6-05: Approaches, verification and training for Edge-AI building blocks for CCAM Systems (CCAM Partnership)
- D6-06: Federated CCAM data exchange platform (CCAM Partnership)
- D6-07: Innovative construction and maintenance, with the use of new materials and techniques, for resilient and sustainable transport infrastructure
- D6-08: Accelerating freight transport and logistics digital innovation
- D6-09: Reliable data and practices to measure and calculate transport emissions in multimodal transport chains
- D6-10: Integrating inland waterway transport in smart shipping and multimodal logistics chains
- D6-13: Safety of Cyclists, Pedestrians and Users of Micromobility Devices
- D6-14: Predicting and avoiding road crashes based on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data
- D6-15: Icing in the context of sustainable aviation

Submission of Proposal Deadline: 20 January 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time

Further information:
https://www.euro-access.eu/en/programs/148/Horizon-Europe-Cluster-5-Climate-Energy-and-Mobility#subtable5

ERA4Health Multi-country Investigator-Initiated Clinical Trials in Cardiovascular, Autoimmune and Metabolic diseases; Deadline Pre-Proposal: 27.01.2026

The Partnership "Fostering a European Research Area for Health" (ERA4Health) aims at establishing a flexible and effective coordination between funding organisations in the European Research Area (ERA) for Health and Well-being. This Partnership brings the opportunity to increase European transnational collaborative research funding by creating a funding body for joint programming in priority areas addressing European Public Health needs.

The focus of the multi-country Investigator-Initiated Clinical Studies is cardiovascular, metabolic or autoimmune disorders as primary causes of illness. Proposals may focus on a single cardiovascular, metabolic or autoimmune disease, or they may explore these conditions in combination with comorbidities.

The aims of the call are:
- to support randomised interventional multi-country Investigator-Initiated Clinical Studies that are designed as pragmatic comparative-effectiveness studies and/or drug repurposing studies. The clinical trial design should be appropriate to answer the research question, and its selection shall be fully justified in the proposal. To exclude clinical studies with direct commercial purposes, the protocol and study design must be described in a very clear and transparent manner.
- to encourage and enable transnational collaboration between clinical/public health research teams (from hospital/ public health, healthcare settings and other healthcare organisations) that conduct multi-country IICS, either comparative-effectiveness or drug repurposing studies.

Any IICS must clearly demonstrate the potential health, economic, and/or policy impacts, as well as the added value of transnational collaboration.

The individual partners of the joint applications should be complementary in their expertise, and the proposed work should pursue a high implementation potential for the benefit of end-users/patients/citizens. Furthermore, additional aspects need to be considered in the application:
- The design of the clinical study must be appropriate to answer the research question (population, sample collection,

statistical power, statistical analysis, interpretation, relevant models for hypothesis validation) must be well justified and should be part of the proposal.
- Strategies for recruitment, retention, assessment, and analysis must be included. The clinical study design and objectives should take into consideration the population that would be needed to reach the objective of the study.
- Gender equality as well as inclusiveness of the diversity of the population in the recruitment.
- Involvement of patient/patients' representatives and other relevant users in the co-creation and implementation of the tasks

Beyond the research topics, the requirements and recommendations should be considered (check the call text for further information).

The duration of the clinical studies will be 48 months.

There will be a two-step submission and evaluation procedure for joint applications with the deadline for pre-proposal submissions being on 27th January, 2026.

Further information:
https://era4health.eu/calls/trials4health2026.php

UNAM-DFG Mexican-German Joint Call for Proposals; Deadline Proposal: 25.02.2026

Fourth Joint Call for Mexican-German Research Projects in all Fields of Research, including Social Sciences and the Humanities

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) are pleased to announce the fourth call for proposals to fund joint German-Mexican research projects in all fields of research (including social sciences and the humanities). This initiative aims to bring together relevant and competitive researchers from Germany and from UNAM to design and carry out jointly organised research projects of outstanding scientific quality.

Proposals for joint German-Mexican projects have to be submitted in parallel by the researchers in Germany and at UNAM to their respective funding organisation according to the organisations' respective format and regulations.

Key Information for Eligible Researchers:
- Deadline for submission of proposals at UNAM and the DFG: 25 February 2026.
- Researchers may apply for a funding period of up to three years.
- The DFG and UNAM use their standard programmes for proposals within this initiative:
- DFG: Research Grants ("Sachbeihilfe")
- UNAM: PAPIIT
- Principal investigators (PIs) at UNAM submit their documents to UNAM, PIs based in Germany to the DFG.
- All documents must be written in English.
- Funding of the joint research projects is contingent upon positive assessment by both funding organisations. Unilateral funding of only one part of a project is not possible.

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Further information:
https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2025/ifw-25-90

DFG German-Israeli Project Cooperation; Deadline Proposal: 15.03.2026

On the basis of an agreement with the German Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR) the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) has taken over and continues the Programme of German-Israeli Project Cooperation. The BMFTR continues providing the funds, while the DFG has all scientific and administrative responsibility.

Participating institutions in Israel are invited to submit proposals which may come from all fields of science and research. Proposals shall be so designed as to be carried out in close cooperation between the Israeli and the German project partners. They must contain a description of the joint work plan for both, the Israeli and the German side. The quality of the research work and the strength of the scientific cooperation including the exchange of scientists, in particular early career researchers (PhDs/Postdocs), are the main criteria for the review and selection. Principal investigators on both sides need to have adequate working conditions over the full period of the project.

No direct submission by researchers from either Israel or Germany can be accepted. The procedure is carried out in two stages: The first stage takes place in Israel. The research authorities of the eight institutions are responsible
- for the selection among pre-proposals which they solicit and receive through an internal procedure
- and for the formal correctness of the 16 proposals which are selected for submission to the DFG.

The second stage takes place in Germany. DFG organises a review of the 16 full proposals and submits the result to a committee of experts which formulates a recommendation to the main financial committee for decision.

The financial plan must state the institutional resources available to the project on both sides and identify the additional needs. The total budget requested for the Israeli and the German partners may amount to a total of €1,655,000 for a maximum duration of five years.

Funding may include running costs (staff, materials, travel) and instrumentation. The equipment must be advanced and highly specialised and specifically needed for the conduct of the project and not of a general kind for basic needs of the institute. If a project comprises several groups on both or either sides a financial plan has to be drawn up for each group individually. In each project the share between the Israeli and the German partners can be freely negotiated. Industrial partners participate at their own expense.

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Further information:
https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2025/ifw-25-87

DFG Optimization of Thermochemical Energy Conversion Processes for the Flexible Utilization of Hydrogen-Based Renewable Fuels Using Additive Manufacturing; Deadline Proposal: 31.03.2026

The Senate of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) established the Priority Programme "A contribution to the realization of the energy transition: Optimization of thermochemical energy conversion processes for the flexible utilization of hydrogen-based renewable fuels using additive manufacturing".

This Priority Programme takes a novel interdisciplinary approach linking the core competences of combustion science and additive manufacturing (AM). The hypothesis of the program is that only a comprehensive understanding of combustion fundamentals as well as the integration of modern 3D manufacturing processes through simulation-based design can enable the simultaneous improvement of flexibility, efficiency and emissions in thermochemical energy conversion processes.

For structuring the relevant research fields, it is important to establish the necessary interrelationships among combustion science and AM, but also to address fundamental questions within the individual disciplines. For thermochemical energy conversion, the relevant processes occur on length and time scales spanning several orders of magnitude that require careful consideration of laboratory and system scales. For AM, burner design (e.g. topology optimisation), sensor integration and materials are important.

AM can make an important contribution in all areas of combustion to be investigated. On the laboratory scale, specially developed burners can be manufactured for experimental investigation, e.g. of flame dynamics, which enable more in-depth knowledge through sensor integration or built-in gas sampling channels. In addition, AM can be used to transfer knowledge from the laboratory scale to the system scale to facilitate the development of fuel-flexible and scalable industrial burners and gas turbines. For this, fundamental issues must be solved. Examples include digital materials with locally manipulable properties (e.g. shape memory effects), thin-walled structures (e.g. channel geometries with locally changeable cross-sections), tailored surface roughness, multi-physical topology optimisation, component-integrated and/or printed sensor technology, and the use of high-temperature-resistant materials in AM.

The overarching aims of the Priority Programme are to develop the domain-specific knowledge and methods, to create an interdisciplinary research field between combustion science and manufacturing, and to demonstrate the approach both computationally and experimentally. The specific goals of the Priority Programme include the advancement of methods, since the design of highly complex AM-manufactured burner concepts and appropriately adapted operating strategies requires an integrated process combining predictive simulation, AM and experimental analysis.

The purpose of the Priority Programme is to connect different disciplines. Hence, there should be preference for collaborative proposals in which complementary expertise is directly linked. To support the necessary interdisciplinary approach, it is desirable that a project consists of three parts and includes one experimental and one theory/simulation/modelling subproject from the combustion field, and additionally one AM subproject.

The programme is designed to run for six years.

Proposals must be written in English and submitted to the DFG by 31 March 2026. Proposals are to be submitted solely via the elan portal, the DFG's electronic proposal processing system, in order to ensure proposal-related data is recorded and documents are securely transmitted.

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Further information:
https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2025/ifw-25-80

Other EU Academic Network of Saxony-Anhalt (nEUtzwerk)

The universities in the state of Saxony-Anhalt founded the "EU Academic Network of Saxony-Anhalt" at the beginning of 2011 in order to support researchers at all universities in the acquisition and use of EU funding for research and innovation by providing information, application advice and project management. By strengthening and networking the administrative and advisory skills of the universities, the aim is to increase the acquisition of EU funding for research and innovation and technology transfer.

You may contact the EU Academic Network of Saxony-Anhalt via the information provided online:
https://www.euhochschulnetz-sachsen-anhalt.de/eu_hsnetz/en/

Other Contact Research Funding Advisory Service at Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg

If you have any questions about funding opportunities, specific calls for proposals, help with submitting applications and project support, please contact the Research Funding Advisory Service/EU University Network at Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg.

Information about current event, funding structures and contact details online at:
https://www.ovgu.de/en/ContactResearchFundingAdvice.html
https://www.euhochschulnetz-sachsen-anhalt.de/en/