

58 topics, 691 M EUR,
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Horizon Europe Cluster 6 WP2026

Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Brokerage event

Artificial intelligence in Horizon Europe calls: an interdisciplinary challenge

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AI in HE Cluster 6 “Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment”

Introduction:

“To ensure that projects results will not lead to negative consequences for the environment and the climate, R&I actions in Cluster 6 are designed in compliance with the ‘Do no significant harm’ (DNSH) principle. Where relevant, proposals should benefit from the use of advanced digital technologies, such as artificial intelligence, to accelerate and maximise the impact of policies on environmental protection and climate change, as stated in the European Green Deal”.

Topic examples, with strong AI-related elements in scope:

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-06: Advanced innovative solutions for improved competitiveness and sustainability in controlled environment agriculture (CEA)

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-05: Understanding biomass flows in Europe

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-07: Advancing the European bio-based innovation enabled by biotechnology and biomanufacturing concepts

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-10: Bio-based innovation in society: supporting the sustainable way of living

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-11: Harnessing the unique properties of marine organisms to deliver sustainable blue bio-based products

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-CLIMATE-02: Towards the water infrastructures of the future

HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE-08: Boosting data availability and AI solutions in food for consumers and food service professionals

SSH in HE Cluster 6 “Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment”

Introduction:

“Research on a societal and political framework is necessary to achieve the transformation expected and R&I investments under Cluster 6 will therefore emphasise the essential role played by the **social sciences and humanities (SSH)** for accelerating the **fair green transition as well as gender aspects, citizens and societal engagement** and inter- and trans-disciplinary and systems approaches. R&I will build on existing research infrastructures.”

Topic examples, with strong **SSH-related** elements in scope:

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-08: Advancing basic knowledge and developing tools for sustainable management of key migratory fish species

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-02-two-stage: Open topic: Boosting organic farming for a competitive, sustainable and resilient farming sector

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-07: Advancing the European bio-based innovation enabled by biotechnology and biomanufacturing concepts

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-09: Balancing food security, bioeconomy, climate and biodiversity objectives to unlock sustainable value chains

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-10: Bio-based innovation in society: supporting the sustainable way of living

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-02: Bioremediation of Ukraine’s ecosystems contaminated by conflicts

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-CLIMATE-01: Towards more effective, fair and coherent policies for climate change mitigation and adaptation in agriculture and forestry

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-COMMUNITIES-01: Boosting sustainable competitiveness in rural areas through innovation

HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE-02: Improving analytical capacity and understanding of social drivers in agriculture to better assess social sustainability in the sector

HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE-08: Boosting data availability and AI solutions in food for consumers and food service professionals

Advancing the European bio-based innovation enabled by biotechnology and biomanufacturing concepts

Opening: 17 Apr 2026

Deadline: 17 Sep 2026



CONTEXT

- EU competitiveness/innovation capacity in biotechnology and biomanufacturing, environmental sustainability
- Relevant to, i.e. **Bioeconomy Strategy**, EC communication on 'Building the future with nature: **Boosting Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing in the EU**', the **Life Sciences Strategy**, etc



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Innovation in **biotechnology, life sciences and/or biomanufacturing concepts**, preparing future deployment of **bio-based and bio-inspired processes, products and materials...**
- Improved **environmental sustainability...** with positive and quantifiable impact on **climate and biodiversity, and circularity** of the European bioeconomy...



SCOPE

- Development of selected key technologies ... e.g. **synthetic/molecular biology, gene editing, metabolic engineering, microbiome, and/or biofoundry approaches**, covering **all applications** aiming at clean growth and environmental solutions;
- **Integration of digital technologies (AI)**, convergence of **biotech and life sciences** with **Nature-based Solutions**, develop recommendations



PLEASE NOTE

- Advancing towards **validation at a pilot-scale is encouraged**, to enable future exploitation.
- The applications in **health biotechnology, and biofuel / bioenergy area are excluded**
- **SME focus, newcomers**
- **SSH relevant, inclusiveness (NGOs, consumer organisations)**



- stakeholder involvement and acceptance, advancing scale-up and future market uptake
- enhancing societal impact of the related research activities

Useful links

[Bioeconomy Strategy - Environment - European Commission](#)

[Strategy for European Life Sciences - Research and innovation](#)

[22-23 January 2026: Horizon Europe info days - Research and innovation - European Commission \(recordings available\)](#)

[Horizon Europe - Strategic plan - Research and innovation - European Commission](#)

[Work Programme 2026-2027 - Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment - Research and innovation](#)

Thank you