

Closing the learning gap: uncovering causes and effective policy interventions for declining youth skills in mathematics, reading, and science

Horizon Europe

● PENDING

Code

HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-06

Scope

International

Location

Europe

Curator

Marlene Faria

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Support type

Non-Refundable

Maximum Funding Rate

100%

Budget

12M€

Eligible Project Value

Up to 4M€

DATES & DEADLINES

Publication Date

October 19, 2026

Opening Date

May 13, 2027

Fase única

September 23, 2027 at 05:00 PM GMT+2

DESCRIPTION

Objectives

This topic aims to identify the structural causes behind the decline in young people's mathematics, reading and science skills in Europe, as observed in international assessments such as the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). The decline affects both lower-performing and higher-performing students and has developed over approximately the last 15 years, extending beyond the short-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Projects should generate robust evidence on the factors influencing educational performance and identify effective policies and programmes to close learning gaps. The results should support the objectives of

the Union of Skills and assist policymakers, education authorities, schools and educators in improving foundational skills and reducing inequalities in educational outcomes.

Funding

Funding is provided under a Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Action (RIA) through a lump sum grant . The topic has an indicative budget of €12 million , with approximately three projects expected to be funded. The expected EU contribution ranges between €3 million and €4 million per project , although proposals requesting different amounts may be considered where appropriately justified.

As an RIA, projects may receive funding of up to 100% of eligible costs for all beneficiary types , including for-profit entities.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Personnel Costs
- Travel costs
- Equipment costs
- Other goods, works and services costs
- Subcontracting
- Indirect Costs

ELIGIBILITY

Application Mode

Consortium / Copromotion

Action Types

Research and Innovation Action

Eligible Sectors

- Education & Training
- Culture & Creative
- Social Economy

Company Typologies

- Micro
- SME
- Small Mid-Cap
- Mid-Cap
- Large
- Private non-profit entities
- Public entities

EU PROGRAMME DETAILS

Call ID	Cluster
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-06	2. Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
Destination	Submission Mode
D3. Innovative Research on Social and Economic Transformations	Single-stage
EU Contribution	Expected Projects
Around €3,000,000.00 to €4,000,000.00 per project	3
Funding Rate Rule	
Up to 100% of eligible costs for Research and Innovation Actions (RIA)	

OFFICIAL LINKS

Official Regulation

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-06?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=relevance&keywords=HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-TRANSFO-06&isExactMatch=true&status=31094501,31094502,31094503>

Grantavia page

<https://grantavia.com/en/incentives/closing-the-learning-gap-uncovering-causes-and-effective-policy-interventions-for-declining-youth-skills-in-mathematics-reading-and-science>

Schedule a meeting

<https://calendly.com/sandra-cardoso-epsa/reuniao>