Cost-effective biodiversity monitoring for EU policies

Horizon Europe

OPEN

Code
HORIZON-NATURE-2027-02-05

Scope
International - Europe

Curator
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FINANCIAL DETAILS

Support type
Non-Refundable

Maximum Funding Rate
100%

Budget
16M€

Eligible Project Value
Up to 6M€

Bonuses & Majorations

- Proposals covering underrepresented areas (A, B, or C) may be prioritized for balanced portfolio
- Synergies and collaboration with ongoing EU biodiversity monitoring projects encouraged

Funding is provided as a lump sum grant under Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Actions. The EU contribution per project ranges from 5.000.000 to 6.000.000 EUR, with an overall topic budget of 16.000.000 EUR. Three grants are expected to be awarded. Eligible costs are covered as a lump sum, simplifying financial management for beneficiaries.

DATES & DEADLINES

Opening Date
October 13, 2026

Deadline
January 14, 2027 at 05:00 PM (71 days left)

OBJECTIVES

This call aims to develop and operationalise cost-effective biodiversity monitoring schemes that support the implementation of key EU environmental legislation, including the Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR), the Soil Monitoring Law (SML), and the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). The objective is to provide policymakers and competent authorities with more precise, efficient, and user-friendly tools for monitoring biodiversity, thereby simplifying policy implementation and enhancing ecosystem protection and restoration. Proposals must address one of three areas: A) Nature Restoration Regulation (EU Pollinators Monitoring Scheme), B) Soil Biodiversity for the Soil Monitoring Law, or C) Water Framework

Directive. Eligible applicants are consortia of legal entities from EU Member States and associated countries, including research organisations, universities, public authorities, and private sector actors with relevant expertise.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

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

ELIGIBILITY

Application Mode
Consortium / Copromotion

Company Typologies

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

Action Types

- Develop scalable biodiversity monitoring approaches integrating advanced technologies and methods
- Demonstrate and pilot biodiversity monitoring schemes for EU legislation (NRR, SML, WFD)
- Develop and test automated and real-time monitoring frameworks using AI
- Advance and integrate genomic techniques for species identification and quantification
- Complete and expand DNA libraries for pollinators, soil organisms, and aquatic species
- Collaborate with European biodiversity initiatives and infrastructures (e.g., EBOCC, eLTER)
- Ensure data produced is FAIR and explore FAIR-by-design workflows
- Participate in joint networking, dissemination, and policy activities with other funded projects
- Research and Innovation Action

EU PROGRAMME DETAILS

Call ID
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Cluster
Horizontal Activities

Destination
Transformative change towards a nature-positive economy and society

Submission Mode
single-stage

EU Contribution
€5,000,000.00 to €6,000,000.00 per project

Expected Projects
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-NATURE-2027-02-05

Grantavia page
https://grantavia.com/en/incentives/cost-effective-biodiversity-monitoring-for-eu-policies

Schedule a meeting
https://calendly.com/filipa-silva-epsa/reuniao