Empowering local urban food systems entrepreneurship and innovation

Horizon Europe

PENDING

Code
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES-02

Scope
International

Location
Europe

Curator
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FINANCIAL DETAILS

Support type
Non-Refundable

Maximum Funding Rate
100%

Budget
12M€

Eligible Project Value
Up to 6M€

DATES & DEADLINES

Publication Date
December 12, 2025

Opening Date
April 20, 2027

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

DESCRIPTION

Objectives

This call aims to empower local urban food systems by fostering entrepreneurship and innovation, with a focus on accelerating the growth of innovation-led urban food start-ups and strengthening business development services. The objective is to create interconnected, competitive urban food innovation ecosystems across Europe that enhance the resilience, inclusiveness, and well-being of urban communities through socially innovative and climate-smart approaches. The call supports the European Green Deal, the EU's climate ambitions, and the Food 2030 R&I initiative. Eligible applicants include consortia involving local and regional authorities, urban planners, SMEs and start-ups, food entrepreneurs, research and innovation actors, educational institutions, civil society organisations, and citizens. Proposals must implement a multi-actor approach and integrate social sciences and humanities, as well as gender and other social dimensions.

Funding

The support is provided as a non-refundable grant in the form of a lump sum. The funding rate is up to 70% of eligible costs for Innovation Actions, and up to 100% for non-profit legal entities. The total budget for the topic is €12 million, with an expected grant size of €6 million per project. Two grants are expected to be awarded under this call.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

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

BONUSES & MAJORATIONS

- Up to 100% funding rate for non-profit legal entities
- Integration of gender and intersectional social categories
- Effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)
- Multi-actor approach involving local authorities, SMEs, research, education, civil society

ELIGIBILITY

Application Mode
Consortium / Copromotion

Eligible Sectors

- Agro-Food
- Culture & Creative
- ICT & Software
- Health & Life Sciences
- Other

Company Typologies

- Micro
- SME
- Small Mid-Cap
- Mid-Cap
- Large

- Private non-profit entities
- Public entities

Action Types

- Develop and pilot local food innovation incubators, accelerators, and hubs
- Provide targeted business development services for urban food start-ups
- Integrate tailored mentorship programs for urban food entrepreneurs
- Facilitate participatory co-creation of sustainable business models
- Connect and scale urban food innovation ecosystems across Europe
- Accelerate market uptake and replication of urban food solutions
- Measure impact on sustainability using relevant indicators
- Leverage existing R&I initiatives for business model development
- Implement multi-actor approach involving diverse stakeholders
- Innovation Action

EU PROGRAMME DETAILS

Call ID
HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES-02

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

Destination
D6. Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities

Submission Mode
single-stage

EU Contribution
€6,000,000.00 per project

Expected Projects
2

Funding Rate Rule
Up to 70% of eligible costs for Innovation Actions (IA); up to 100% for non-profit legal entities

OFFICIAL LINKS

Official Regulation
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-COMMUNITIES-02

Grantavia page
https://grantavia.com/en/incentives/empowering-local-urban-food-systems-entrepreneurship-and-innovation

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