

**TP Organics & EU funding opportunities for
your research**

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LiveSeeding webinar

Entrepreneurship in the organic seeds and breeding sector

11 March 2026

Presentation outline

- » What is TP Organics?
- » Introduction to **Horizon Europe** (FP9; 2021-2027)
- » Types of projects relevant for SMEs
- » Potential roles of SMEs in Horizon Europe
- » Benefits of Horizon Europe for SMEs and bottlenecks
- » **WP2026-2027 calls** relevant for SMEs & tips for applying
- » *Become a member of TP Organics!*

What is TP Organics

- » **European Technology Platform for Research & Innovation into Organics and Agroecology**
- » **160 member organisations** from the whole value chain
- » **Mission:** *shape research & innovation for organic and agroecological approaches that contribute to sustainable and resilient food and farming systems*

TP Organics Members



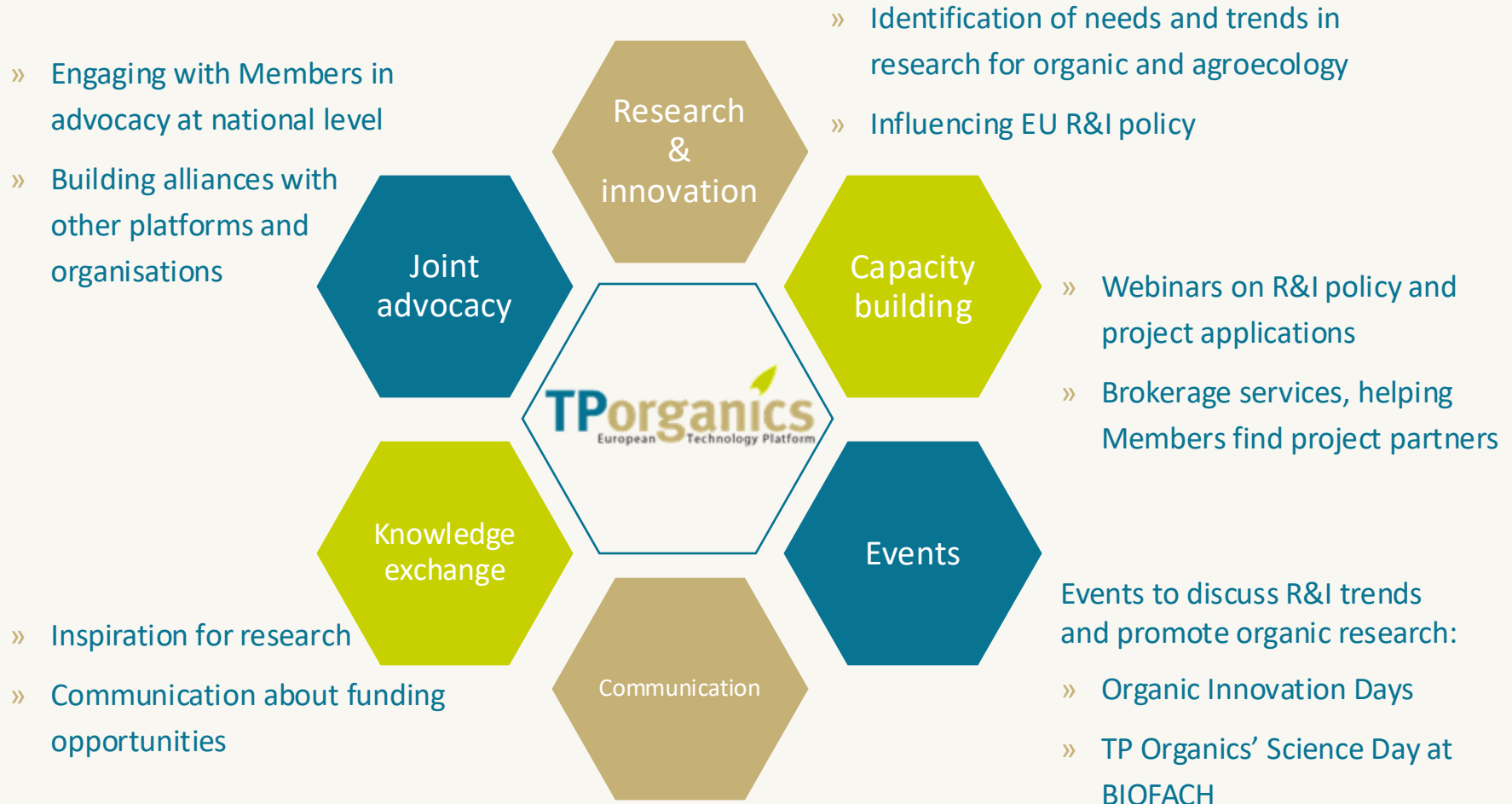
36 umbrella organisations

49 enterprise members

9 NTPs

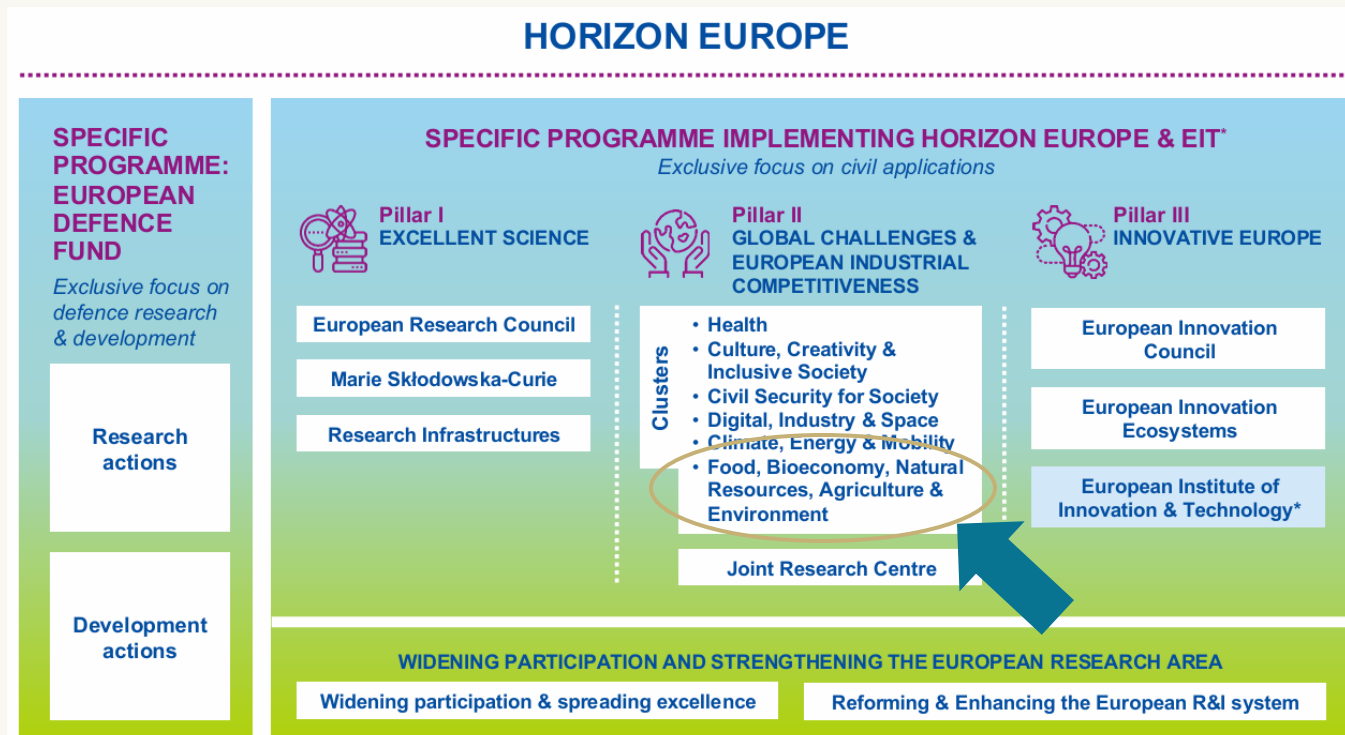
66 national organisations

Activities of TP Organics



Introduction to Horizon Europe

- » Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of €93.5 billion.
- » Cluster 6, **Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment**, is part of pillar 2, with a budget of €8.8 billion.



EU Research & Innovation partnerships

» New approach to **European R&I partnerships** in Horizon Europe:

New generation of objective-driven and more ambitious partnerships in support of agreed EU policy objectives

Key Features

- **Strategic orientation**
- **Systemic approach**
- **Simple architecture and toolbox**
- **Common set of criteria for the life-cycle**

CO-PROGRAMMED

Based on Memoranda of Understanding/contractual arrangements; implemented independently by the partners and by Horizon Europe

CO-FUNDED

Based on a joint programme agreed and implemented by partners; commitment of partners for financial and in-kind contributions

INSTITUTIONALISED

Based on long-term dimension and need for high integration; partnerships based on Art 185/187 of TFEU and the EIT legal acts for 2021-2027

» **AGROECOLOGY** partnership: *European Partnership on accelerating farming systems transition through agroecology Living Labs and Research Infrastructures*

- » funded by Horizon Europe, unites the European Commission and 111 partners across 31 Member States, Associated Countries, and Third Countries
- » Duration: 2024-2033

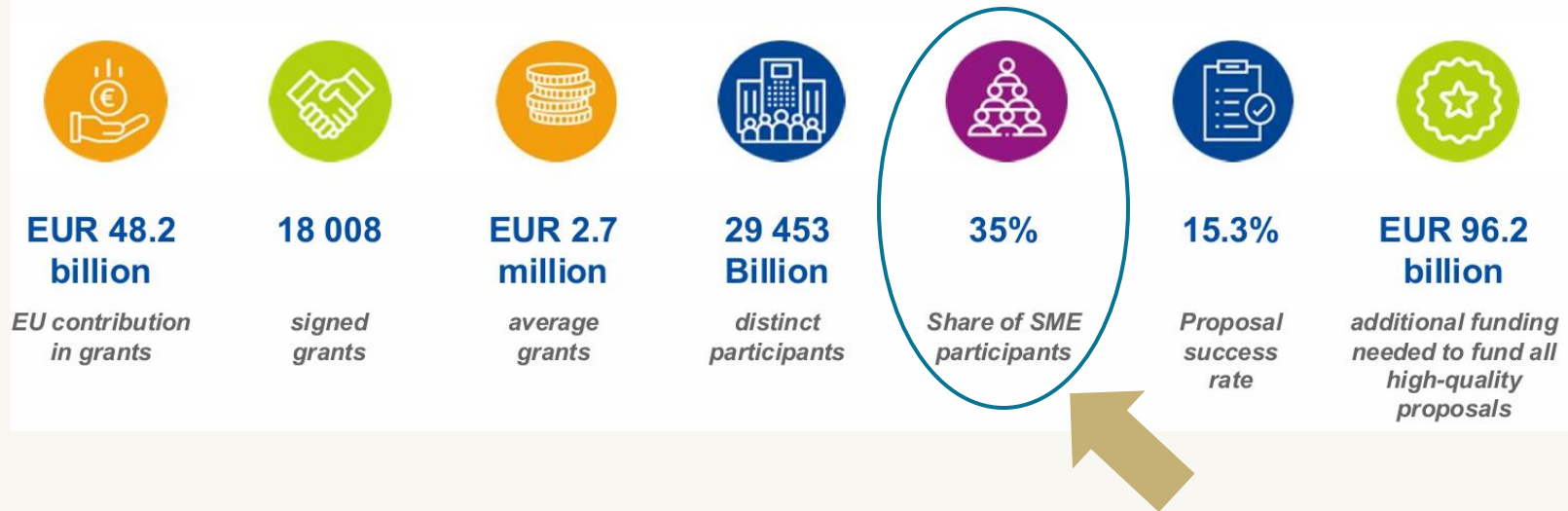
» **Read more:** [Home - AGROECOLOGY Partnership](#) → find research calls

EU Missions

- » *“A **mission** is a portfolio of actions across disciplines intended to achieve a bold and inspirational and measurable goal within a set timeframe, with impact for society and policy making as well as relevance for a significant part of the European population and wide range of European citizens.”*
- » 5 Mission areas under Horizon Europe, including soil health and food: Mission **“A Soil Deal for Europe”**
- » **Read more:** [EU Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe](#)
- » [Funding and Tenders Portal](#): Explore funding opportunities and open calls related to the mission

Implementation of Horizon Europe

Key Figures April 2021 – July 2025



Types of actions funded by Horizon Europe relevant for SMEs

- **Innovation Action (IA)**
 - Activities directly aiming at producing plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services
 - 70% funding of all activities and participants, except non-profit (100%)
- **Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)**
 - Accompanying measures, e.g., standardisation, dissemination, awareness-raising and communication, networking, coordination or support services, policy dialogues, mutual learning exercises and studies
 - 100% funding of all activities and participants

Funding opportunities by the European Innovation Council

- **EIC Transition:** funding programme under Horizon Europe targeting innovation activities that goes beyond the lab, i.e., market-readiness grants for preparing to enter the market
- **EIC Pre-Accelerator:** call to develop the technology, business, and investment readiness in widening countries
- **EIC-Accelerator:** funding programme under HEU that offers support to start-ups and SMEs to scale up business
- **Read more:** https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities_en
- Possibility for **cascade funding** / “Financial Support for Third Parties”
 - EC mechanism to distribute public funding in order to assist beneficiaries such as start-ups, scale-ups and SMEs in the uptake or development of digital innovation
- Check [opencalls.fund](#), an online platform developed by our member [reframe.food](#)

Benefits of Horizon Europe for SMEs & bottlenecks

» HEU offers SMEs significant **benefits**:

- » Access to funding for R&I, to testing and pilot facilities for SMEs and start-ups and to networks
- » Support for innovative solutions, case studies and training programmes
- » Participation in collaborative projects
- » Visibility

» However, SMEs may also face **challenges** :

- » Need for strategic planning
- » Complexity of the application process
- » Requirement to form consortia with other organisations

» **Read more:** [2024_07_sme-participation-in-horizon-europe.pdf](#)

Multi-actor approach

- The number of multi-actor proposals funded has steadily increased over the years: in recent calls, up to 40% of call topics in Cluster 6 have required the MAA, making it a significant factor for both project eligibility and success within these calls for proposals.
- Check the **PREMIERE online multi-actor academy**, a free online learning space with various learning materials: <https://premiere-multiactor.eu/academy/>

Cluster 6 destinations

- *Destination 1* – Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- *Destination 2* – Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption
- *Destination 3* – Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors
- *Destination 4* – Clean environment and zero pollution
- *Destination 5* – Land, oceans and water for climate action
- *Destination 6* – Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities
- *Destination 7* – Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 1

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-08: Fostering common farmland birds and mammals for resilient food production systems

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- land managers, farmers, conservation organizations, researchers, policymakers, and agribusinesses are equipped with the knowledge and tools to implement practices that enhance habitats for farmland birds and mammals, thereby improving pest control, supporting pollination, and strengthening agricultural resilience;
- challenges, measures, and needs of land managers, farmers and conservation organizations are known and supported via appropriate incentives to facilitate the wide adoption of bird- and mammal-friendly practices. Land managers, farmers, foresters, agri-businesses (including SMEs), and policy makers gain access to practical knowledge of clear demonstrations of benefits and trade-offs associated with biologically diversifying their agroecosystem;

Budget	12M EUR
EU contribution	6M EUR
Projects funded	2

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 1

Horizon-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-09: Enhancing the competitiveness of organic crop breeding: focus on intercropping adapted varieties

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- the efficiency and competitiveness of the organic crop breeding sector are boosted by providing organic breeders with a comprehensive toolbox to develop varieties specifically adapted to intercropping and suitable for organic production;
- an improved understanding of key target traits for developing varieties adapted to intercropping farming systems is available to researchers and breeders, benefiting all agricultural systems;
- the foundation for the development of future crop varieties that enhance benefits derived by intercropping, such as improved pest/weed management, increased nutrient and water use efficiency, improved pollination, improved soil fertility, reduced soil erosion and nutrient leaching, and enhanced productivity, is established.

Budget	12M EUR
EU contribution	6M EUR
Projects funded	2

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 2

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-01: Increasing the resilience of agriculture in water and nutrient-scarce environments through digital innovations

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- farmers have increased access to digital tools and advice to improve their resilience to water and nutrient scarcity;
- farmers are better prepared for the Green Transition and EU's new plan for sustainable prosperity and competitiveness;
- European dependency on mineral fertilisers is reduced while water, air and soil pollution are decreasing

Budget	12M EUR
EU contribution	6M EUR
Projects funded	2

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 2

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-04: Improving understanding of the contribution of organic farming to sustainability

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- improved and increased data collection on the environmental, economic and social impacts of the EU organic sector, from farm to consumer levels, leading to improved understanding of the overall impact of the organic sector on sustainability;
- improved capacities of organic supply chains and organic value chain actors, including farmers, to collect and provide data on organic production to fulfil reporting requirements;
- increased cooperation between public and private data providers in the organic sector across the EU

Budget	6M EUR
EU contribution	6M EUR
Projects funded	1

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 2

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-05: Enhancing farmers profitability and resilience through innovations for diversified crops and value chains

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- farmers are able to transition to diversified, resilient and innovative cropping systems, increasing their sustainability, competitiveness and promoting biodiversity conservation as well as climate adaptation and mitigation;
- profitability of farming is boosted through the adoption of diversified cropping systems and the development of local value chains as well as through the valorization of crops by-products;
- awareness and knowledge/data exchange among actors on the benefits of diversified cropping systems for farmers and for downstream value chains across Europe is increased.

Budget	12M EUR
EU contribution	6M EUR
Projects funded	2

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 2

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-07: Towards commercialization of food systems microbiome solutions

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- identified barriers and opportunities for scaling up innovative products and technologies that leverage and/or support the microbiome for resilient, competitive and sustainable organic, circular and conventional food systems.
- improved in-situ testing of innovative microbiome solutions related to organic and conventional food systems to promote their access on the EU market.

Budget	15.5M EUR
EU contribution	7-8M EUR
Projects funded	2

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 2

HORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-01-two-stage: Strengthening plant health: addressing emerging plant pest risks

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- improved understanding of key drivers of plant pest emergence, including the influence of climate change, ecosystem degradation and globalisation;
- cost-effective and environmentally friendly preventive and/or curative measures for managing the targeted plant pest(s) are identified, validated, and made available to farmers and forest owners for effective pest management;
- robust scientific support is delivered to strengthen decision-making processes.

Budget	12M EUR
EU contribution	6M EUR
Projects funded	2

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 7

HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-01: Strengthening the resilience of European farmers through improved capacity in coping with risks and crises

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- the capacity of farmers and other agri-food supply chain operators to prevent, prepare for, cope with and manage diverse risks and crises and their impacts, in an integrated way, is improved;
- policymakers benefit from evidence and better understanding on how to enable more effective strategies for prevention and management of diverse risks and crises affecting farmers;
- knowledge and solutions to improve the resilience of farming systems are available and accessible to farmers and other agri-food supply chain operators through active and effective dissemination and engagement activities

Budget	12M EUR
EU contribution	6M EUR
Projects funded	2

Calls relevant for organic – Destination 7

HORIZON-CL6-2027-03-GOVERNANCE-02: Improving analytical capacity for sustainable competitiveness of the agricultural sector

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- farmers and other decision makers of the agri-food supply chains have a better understanding of the determinants of competitiveness, and the interactions with the sustainability dimensions (economic, social, environmental);
- farmers, policy makers and other decision makers of the agri-food supply chains benefit from improved collection and access to data and analytical tools, enabling better informed decisions conciliating competitiveness, sustainability and resilience objectives;
- policy makers are better equipped to develop evidence-based policies.

Budget	6M EUR
EU contribution	6M EUR
Projects funded	1

How to apply

- » [Horizon Europe the EU's funding programme for research and innovation](#)

Funding opportunities



Calls for proposal
Open and upcoming calls for proposal
under Horizon Europe.

[Find opportunities >](#)

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[How to apply](#)

Learn how to propose a project, and how the project selection process works.

[Who is eligible](#)

Learn more about the types of opportunities available through this programme, and who can apply.

Tips for preparing a proposal

» **Build your consortium early**

Most Horizon Europe collaborative grants require a consortium of at least three independent legal entities from three different EU member states or associated countries. Partner selection is one of the most critical factors in proposal success. Seek complementary expertise, genuine geographic and disciplinary diversity, and partners with relevant track records.

» **Write to the evaluation criteria**

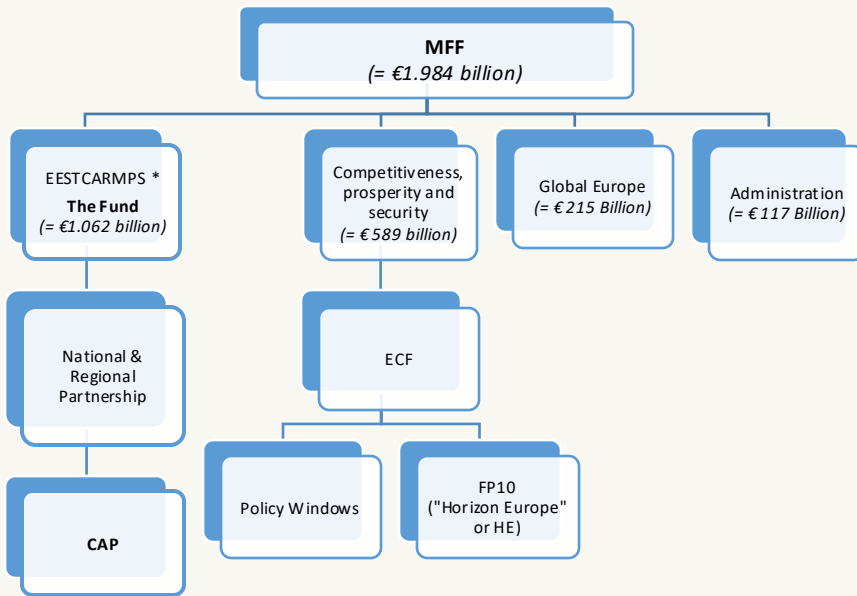
All Horizon Europe proposals are evaluated against three standard criteria: Excellence, Impact, and Implementation. Each criterion is scored from 0 to 5, with 3 as the passing threshold per criterion. Most calls require a minimum total score of 10 or 12. The Impact section, covering pathways to market and societal benefit, is consistently the weakest section in failing proposals.

» **Impact section is most often the deciding factor**

In competitive calls at the 12% success rate, most proposals that fail above the threshold do so because evaluators find the Impact section vague. Describe specific beneficiaries, quantify the problem addressed, and map a credible pathway from research outputs to real- world adoption.

» ***Read more:* [Horizon Europe 2026-2027: The Complete Guide to EUR 14 Billion in EU Research Funding | GrantsFinder](#)**

EU's new Horizon Europe (FP10)



The new Multiannual Financial Framework

- » Horizon Europe remains independent > but linked to the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF)
- » Budget proposed: increase from € 99 to 175 billion
- » Pillar 2 remains biggest envelope but lowest increase of all
- » Governance Pillar II – Competitiveness will be under ECF (through the Policy Windows)
- » Missions will continue until 2030

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TPorganics
Shaping Research & Innovation

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TP Organics is the European Technology Platform (ETP) for Research & Innovation into Organics and Agroecology

It integrates views of the organic sector and civil society to represent a broad perspective on research and development priorities that can leverage organic food and farming's potential to address contemporary

Benefits for Members

- » **Get informed:** early member-only updates on R&I calls and news
- » Influence EU research & innovation policy
- » Increase your visibility
- » Expand your network

Follow us on LinkedIn and join our group!

TP Organics
368 followers
3w •

Register now: TP Organics Brokerage Event on [AGROECOLOGY Partnership 2nd co-funded call!](#)

When: Monday, 13 January
Time: 14:00-16:00 (CET)
Where: Online

We're thrilled to invite our members to the first event of 2025: TP Organics Brokerage Event on [AGROECOLOGY Partnership 2nd Co-funded Call](#). This is a great opportunity to make the call, connect, and find potential partners.

Check your inbox for the event details. Registration Deadline: Thursday, 11 January 2025.
The event is free for Members. Once registered, you'll soon receive a calendar invite before the event.

Learn more about the co-funded call here: <https://lnkd.in/gXFf6DjG>

Let's drive the future of agroecology together! 🌱
[#Agroecology](#) [#TPOrganics](#) [#ResearchandInnovation](#) [#StrongerTogether](#) [#MakingEuropeMoreOrganic](#) [#AgroecologyPartnership](#)

RESEARCH & INNOVATION FOR ORGANICS AND AGROECOLOGY

Organic research & innovation projects
Private Listed

139 members
Including Eduardo Cuoco and 43 other connections

Invite connections

Show all →

TP Organics Brokerage Event
AGROECOLOGY PARTNERSHIP 2nd CO-FUNDED CALL
13 JANUARY 2025
Free for TP Organics & IFOAM Organics Europe members

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Organic Innovation Days

Organic House

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European Technology Platform uniting the whole value chain to shape [#research](#) & [#innovation](#) for [#organic](#) food & farming and [#agroecology](#)

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Pinned

TP Organics @tporganics.bsky.social · 20d

Read our [#pressrelease](#) and new [#positionpaper](#) on the European Competitiveness Fund and [#HorizonEurope](#) (2028–2034), calling for stronger and more coherent investment in agriculture and sustainable food systems as core pillars of EU [#competitiveness](#).

Press release: tporganics.eu/press-releas...

Press Release

Save the date: Organic Innovation Days 2026



TP Organics annual event on organic research & innovation

#TPOrganics
#OrganicInnovationDays
#OID2026

3-4 NOVEMBER 2026

Organic Innovation Days

Organic House
Rue Marie-Thérèse 11, Brussels

TPorganics
Shaping Research & Innovation



Thank you for your attention!

For more info about
TP Organics please visit:
www.tporganics.eu



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TPorganics
Shaping Research & Innovation

New Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda

- » Preparing for the next EU R&I Framework Programme
 - » FP10 or “Horizon Europe” – main funding instrument for R&I
 - » Will run from 2028 until 2034
- » The new SRIA:
 - » ...defines the R&I needs of the organic and agroecological sector
 - » ...outlines R&I needs for the transition of the European food and farming system

