Calls relevant to waste-to-resource, organic waste, composting & soil improvers

(Cluster 6 & Mission Soil)

Training #1: Access to public fundings and grants – List of relevant links and resources for national and regional funding

Published in February 2026

Disclaimer: The information provided in this glossary are the most up to date at the time of publication of Training #1. Please note that European Commission portals, programs, and guidance documents are subject to periodic updates and revisions. Users are strongly advised to always verify the latest information directly on the official websites of the European Commission and other relevant funding bodies before preparing or submitting any proposal.

Co-funded by the European Union

Co-funded by the European Union (Grant n°.101113011) Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or REA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Horizon Cluster 6

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CircBio-09

Title: **Balancing food security, bioeconomy, climate and biodiversity objectives to unlock sustainable value chains**
Programme / Destination: Horizon Europe – Cluster 6, destination: *Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors*
Type of action: Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Budget: **€12 million total** (indicative: **2 projects × €6 million**)
Timeline:

- **Opening:** 17 April 2026
- **Deadline:** 17 September 2026

Why it is relevant: This call explicitly targets **sustainable and circular bio-based value chains**, making it highly relevant for:

- organic waste valorization
- composting and nutrient recycling
- production and use of soil improvers
- circular solutions connecting agriculture, waste management and bioeconomy actors

Projects can address the transformation of organic residues into value-added bio-based products, including compost and soil improvers, while balancing environmental and economic objectives.

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CircBio-05

Title: Understanding biomass flows in Europe
Programme / Destination: Horizon Europe – Cluster 6, destination: *Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors*
Type of action: Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Budget: €6 million total (indicative: 2 projects × €3 million)
Timeline:
· Opening: 17 April 2026
· Deadline: 17 September 2026
Why it is relevant: This call focuses on improving the understanding of biomass flows across Europe, including underutilised and unused biomass resources. It is relevant for:
· mapping organic waste and bio-waste streams
· identifying losses and inefficiencies in biomass valorisation
· supporting planning and optimisation of composting and soil improver value chains
· informing regional, national and EU bioeconomy strategies
Projects are expected to generate data, tools and evidence to better match biomass supply and demand, creating the basis for more effective waste-to-resource and circular bioeconomy solutions.

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CircBio-06

Title: Bioeconomy policy support hub for Member States, regions and sectors
Programme / Destination: Horizon Europe – Cluster 6, destination: *Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors*
Type of action: Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
Budget: €3 million total (indicative: 1 project × €3 million)
Timeline:
· Opening: 17 April 2026
· Deadline: 17 September 2026
Why it is relevant: This call supports policy coordination and capacity building for the bioeconomy. It is relevant for:
· development of policy frameworks for bio-waste and organic waste valorisation
· support to regions and Member States on composting and soil improver strategies
· addressing regulatory barriers such as end-of-waste criteria
· improving coherence between waste, bioeconomy and circular economy policies
The action targets public authorities, networks and stakeholders involved in shaping enabling conditions for waste-to-resource solutions.

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-05

Title: **Boosting circularity and diversification strategies of terrestrial livestock production systems**
Programme / Destination: Horizon Europe – Cluster 6, destination: *Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems (Farm2Fork)*
Type of action: Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Budget: **€12 million total** (indicative: **2 projects × €6 million**)
Timeline:

1. **Opening:** 14 January 2026
2. **Deadline:** 14 April 2026

Why it is relevant: The call promotes **circular approaches in livestock systems**, which may include:

- manure and organic waste treatment
- composting and soil amendment strategies
- nutrient recovery and reuse at farm or territorial level

It is particularly suitable for projects linking **livestock residues** with **soil fertility improvement** and reduced reliance on mineral fertilisers.

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03

Title: **Developing managed aquifer recharge techniques (MAR) in a rural context**
Programme / Destination: Horizon Europe – Cluster 6, Destination: *Clean environment and zero pollution*
Type of action: Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Budget: **€12 million total**, indicative: **2 projects × €6 million**
Timeline

- **Opening:** 17 April 2026
- **Deadline:** 17 September 2026

Why it is relevant: While water-focused, the call addresses **nutrient management and pollution reduction**. Compost and soil improvers can be integrated as tools to reduce nutrient leaching or measures supporting soil-water interactions and environmental protection

Source

EU CAP Network – *Funding opportunities under Horizon Europe – Calls 2026*, p.7

Mission Soil – Living Labs for soil health

HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL-01 (two-stage)

Title: **Living labs to enhance soil health in Alpine and Atlantic biogeographical regions**
Programme: Horizon Europe – EU Mission *"A Soil Deal for Europe"*
Type of action: Research and Innovation Action (RIA), two-stage
Budget: **€24 million total** (indicative: **2 projects × €12 million)**
Timeline:

- **Stage 1 opening:** 12 February 2026
- **Stage 1 deadline:** 14 April 2026
- **Stage 2 deadline:** 15 September 2026

Why it is relevant: This call supports **large-scale Living Labs** to test and demonstrate solutions for soil health. Compost and soil improvers can be:

- tested in real farming conditions
- assessed for impacts on soil organic matter, nutrients and resilience
- co-developed with farmers and local stakeholders

HORIZON-MISS-2026-05-SOIL-02 (two-stage)

Title: **Living labs to enhance soil health in managed forests and natural/semi-natural lands**
Programme: Horizon Europe – EU Mission *"A Soil Deal for Europe"*
Type of action: Research and Innovation Action (RIA), two-stage
Budget: **€24 million total** (Indicative: **2 projects × €12 million**)
Timeline

- **Stage 1 opening:** 12 February 2026
- **Stage 1 deadline:** 14 April 2026
- **Stage 2 deadline:** 15 September 2026

Why it is relevant: Although not agriculture-only, this call is relevant for:

- compost and organic amendments used in land restoration
- nutrient cycling in forestry and natural systems
- demonstration of soil improvers in non-agricultural contexts

Where to find the official call texts
All calls are published on the **EU Funding & Tenders Portal**, where applicants can download:

- full topic descriptions
- eligibility conditions
- proposal templates
- evaluation criteria

Portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal
Primary source documents

- Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027 9. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment (European Commission Decision C(2025) 8493 of 11 December 2025)
- Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027 - 12. Missions (European Commission Decision C (2025) 8493 of 11 December 2025)