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HORIZONT EUROPE

Missions

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Statement: Climate and health crises need to be tackled in new and innovative ways.

Possible innovative approach:

EU Missions: a new way of working across policy areas, fields of expertise and science. Engaging with companies, local communities and the innovation community.

- EU Missions rooted in research and innovation, aiming to address societal challenges and reconnect citizens with the EU
- Directly support priorities such as the European Green Deal, Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the New European Bauhaus.
- Five missions: Climate, Cancer, Cities, Oceans, Soil



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CLIMATE



CANCER



CITIES



OCEANS



SOIL

EU missions - How to make them deliver



Missions are a novel instrument in Horizon Europe.

For their successful implementation they will work in synergy and coordination with other missions, parts of Horizon Europe, in particular with European Partnerships and Clusters, as well as with other EU funding instruments and policies.

Furthermore, they will need to be implemented in close synergy with funding, programmes and strategies both at Member State / Associated Country and regional level, as well as with civil society and the private sector.



Five mission areas have been included in the Horizon Europe Regulation. Mission boards, comprised of external experts with a wide variety of backgrounds, have been established to advise the Commission on possible missions within the scope of these areas. On the basis of reports from the five mission boards, the Commission has identified the following titles for missions in the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan, subject to further refinement:

- Adaptation to Climate Change;
- Cancer;
- Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities;
- Ocean, Seas and Waters;
- Soil Health and Food.



The objective of the **Mission Adaptation to Climate Change** is to support at least 150 European regions and communities to become climate resilient by 2030.

Actions:

- mission Implementation Platform will be established to support and coordinate the implementation of the mission and assist participating regions;
- The Horizon Europe programme will invest **EUR 368.36 million** in the period 2021-23 to support the implementation of the mission;
- The mission will start with 60 – 100 regions and implement first actions between 2021 and 2023;
- Afterwards, the mission will sustain development of innovative climate resilience solutions and their implementation on the ground with another 50 – 100 regions.



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The intended goal of the **Mission on Cancer** is to improve the lives of more than 3 million people by 2030, through prevention, cure and for those affected by cancer including their families, to live longer and better. The objectives include: Understand; Prevent what is preventable; Optimise diagnostics and treatment; Support quality of life; Ensure equitable access in all afore mentioned areas. The Mission will address all cancers including poorly understood cancers in men and women, cancers in children, adolescents/young adults and the elderly, cancers in socio-economically vulnerable people, living in either cities, rural or remote areas, across all Member States and Associated countries.

Actions:

- The Horizon Europe programme will provide **EUR 378.2 million** in the period 2021-23 to support the implementation of the mission;
- Set up the EU platform UNderstanding CANcer.eu (UNCAN.eu) and the European Cancer Patient Digital Centre, and support a network of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures.



The **Mission Restore our Ocean, seas and waters by 2030** will provide a systemic approach for the restoration, protection and preservation of our ocean, seas and waters. The objective of this Mission is to restore, protect and preserve the health of our ocean, seas and waters by 2030. The Mission is designed to deliver on the European Union's 2030 quantified and measurable targets for protecting and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity, for zero pollution, and for decarbonisation and net greenhouse gas emissions reduction towards climate-neutrality, within the EU's ocean, seas and waters. The Mission will support many Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): in particular restoring our ocean and waters related actions will directly contribute to SDG 14 - Life below water and SDG 6 - Clean water and sanitation, as well as to SDG13 - Climate action.



Actions

- The Horizon Europe programme will provide EUR 344.16 million in the period 2021-23 to support the implementation of the mission, with other funding including from the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, Invest EU and other programmes e.g. EU Space Program
- Launch 'lighthouses' in major sea and river basins to pilot, demonstrate and deploy solutions to achieve the mission objectives;
- Conclude lighthouse implementation charters to ensure governance and political commitment;
- Establish EU-wide 'Blue Parks' to provide new restoration and conservation opportunities, as well as expand networks of marine protected areas;
- Put in place a digital ocean and water knowledge system which includes preparation of the Digital Twin Ocean, an action contributing to the activities of the Destination Earth Initiative, and improved environmental monitoring of the ocean health, supporting effective water management;
- Connect, mobilize and empower European citizens and local communities to take action for the restoration of the ocean and waters in a more inclusive way.



The **Mission 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030** will provide a strong and direct support to cities that will commit to climate neutrality and enable them to roll out their climate action plans and achieve climate neutrality by 2030, in synergy with significant progress towards zero pollution. In turn, the cities benefitting from these actions (100) will act as experimentation and innovation hubs for other cities to become climate-neutral by 2050.

Climate neutrality for cities is associated with important co-benefits and urban qualities such as reduced air and noise pollution, improved health and well-being, reduced urban environmental footprints, enhanced urban greening and improved water management.



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Actions

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- The Horizon Europe program will invest **EUR 359.29 million** in the period 2021-23 to support the implementation of the mission;
- A Mission Platform will provide technical, regulatory, and financial assistance to cities (2021);
- Cities will prepare, sign and implement Climate City Contracts, co-created with citizens and local stakeholders and signed by their Mayor or political representative.
 - 2021: Call for Expression of Interest
 - 2022: Selection of cities and preparation of first Climate City Contracts;
- A portfolio of R&I projects will be launched (2023);
- A Global Knowledge Exchange Centre will facilitate knowledge exchange between cities inside and outside Europe (2023);
- A mission label will give visibility and create funding and financing opportunities, e.g. in cooperation with the European Investment Bank Group;
- A network with national, local and regional authorities will help increase preparedness for the transition towards climate neutrality of cities in their respective countries.



There is no life without soils. If soils are healthy and sustainably managed, they provide food, clean water, habitats for biodiversity and other important services while contributing to climate resilience. The **Mission Soil health and food** wants to support Europe's path to sustainable soil management as part of the wider green transition in urban and rural areas. The mission's goal: 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030 for food, people, nature and climate. To reach its goal and objectives, the Mission foresees actions across territories (rural and urban areas including across borders) and sectors. It will therefore have wide-reaching impact on practices in agriculture, forestry, the food sector and other industries (e.g. biobased and waste) as well as on land use planning in rural and urban areas. The mission also aims to tap into the expertise from international partners and contribute to soil health globally.



Actions

- The Horizon Europe programme will invest **EUR 320 million** in the period 2021-2023 to support the implementation of the mission;
- Launch of the first wave of living labs in regions all over Europe (2023-2024);
- Establish a coordination platform to oversee the network of 100 living labs and lighthouses;
- Support targeted networks for engagement with regions and regional stakeholders, businesses and citizens (2023 – 2027);
- Launch a campaign on soil health by the European Innovation Partnership on Agriculture (EIP-AGRI) with a focus on the farming and forestry sectors.
- Set-up an international research consortium on soil carbon sequestration.



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Support the deployment of lighthouse demonstrators for the New European Bauhaus initiative in the context of Horizon Europe missions

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-MISS-2021-NEB-01-01

Deadline: 25 January 2022

Budget: 25 000 000 EUR

Preparing the ground for healthy soils: building capacities for engagement, outreach and knowledge

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-MISS-2021-SOIL-01-01

Deadline: 20 October 2021

Budget: 5 000 000 EUR



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Preparing UNCAN.eu, a European initiative to understand cancer

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-MISS-2021-UNCAN-01-01

Deadline: 20 October 2021

Budget: 3 000 000 EUR

The new call for expressions of interest for **Mission Board members**, which is planned to be launched in autumn 2021. Each Mission Board consists of up to 15 experts coming from fields like innovation, business, science, farming, civil society, communications and media. The new Mission Boards will play a vital role in advising on the implementation of the Missions, building on the work of the first phase Mission Boards.



How to get involved

Commission needs broad participation from the public to make sure Missions are relevant and make a real difference.

For example, Missions will involve people in online discussions and polls on social media such as the Conference on the Future of Europe (<https://futureu.europa.eu/?locale=en>), and citizen events and specialised conferences to discuss the focus of Missions.

Commission invites you to follow its social media to stay up-to-date and find opportunities to participate as Missions evolve over the coming years.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/missions-horizon-europe_en



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Thank you for your attention!