

ANNEX B - NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS AND NATIONAL/REGIONAL REGULATIONS

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	FUNDING ORGANISATION (COUNTRY)	CHANGES MADE
V1	14/09/26	N/A	N/A

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.1	BELGIUM – BELSPO.....	3
1.2	BELGIUM – F.R.S. – FNRS	6
1.3	BELGIUM (Flanders) – FWO	9
1.4	BRAZIL – CONFAP	14
1.5	BULGARIA - MES	18
1.6	CROATIA – HRZZ.....	20
1.7	DENMARK- IFD	22
1.8	ESTONIA – ETAG.....	24
1.9	ESTONIA – REM	30
1.10	FAROE ISLANDS – RCFI.....	34
1.11	FRANCE – ANR	36
1.12	GEORGIA – SRNSFG	40

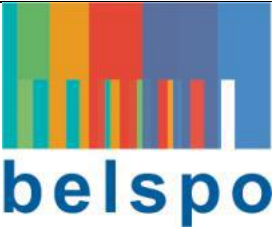
2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.13	GERMANY – BMFTR/PtJ	43
1.14	GREECE-GSRI	46
1.15	IRELAND - MI	52
1.16	IRELAND – Research Ireland	55
1.17	ITALY-MUR	58
1.18	LATVIA – LZP	62
1.19	LITHUANIA – LMT	66
1.20	MALTA – XJENZA Malta	68
1.21	MONTENEGRO-MESI	71
1.22	NORWAY – RCN	74
1.23	POLAND – NCBR	79
1.24	ROMANIA – ANC	86
1.25	SLOVAKIA – SCS TI	89
1.26	SLOVENIA – MIZM	91
1.27	SPAIN – AEI	99
1.28	SPAIN – CDTI	106
1.29	SWEDEN – SNSA	109
1.30	KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS (NL) – NWO, IenW, LVVN	111
1.31	TUNISIA – MESRS	119
1.32	TÜRKİYE – TÜBİTAK	122
1.33	Ukraine – MESU	125

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.1 BELGIUM – BELSPO

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: http://www.belspo.be/	
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:
	Koen Lefever	koen.lefever@belspo.be +32 2 238 35 51
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	350,000 €	
Funded priority area (s)		Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches
		Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting
		Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences (RBINS)	
Eligible Applicants	Applicants affiliated to an eligible institution.	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Costs	Staff: Staff devoted to the implementation of the project; this is, recruited personnel and/or (non-)statutory personnel made (partially) available to the project and to be implemented on the project budget. A contractual researcher financed through other funding - full-time or part-time - cannot claim BELSPO staff budget for that part already funded. Partners must claim full staff costs, including end-of-year bonus, holiday pay and any employer's intervention in salary costs, as well as any other compensation or allowance due by law and secondary to the salary itself and tax-free scholarships. BELSPO prefers staff to be hired under a labour contract. The total number of tax-free scholarships per project is limited to max. 50% of the number of staff financed by BELSPO within said project. In any case, there shall not be more than 2 tax-free scholarships/project. Tax-free scholarships refer to a grant subject to tax exemption under the tax laws. Specific operating costs: this includes operating costs specific to the execution of the project tasks, such as costs for project analyses, maintenance and repair of equipment purchased by the project, use of specific IT facilities and software, costs for surveys, open data publications, organisation of workshops and events, etc.... Overheads: Institutions' general overheads that cover, in one lump sum, administration, telephone, postal, maintenance, heating, lighting, electricity, rent, machine depreciation, office material, equipment maintenance and repair costs, laboratory consumables and insurance costs. The total amount of this item is set as 15% of the total staff and operating costs. Equipment: Purchase and installation of scientific and technical apparatus and instruments, including specialized computer hardware (not PC or laptop, those go into “overheads”). Equipment needs to be purchased in the first half of the project. Subcontracting: Expenses incurred by a third party to carry out tasks or provide services that require special scientific or technical competences outside the institution's normal area of activity. The amount may not exceed 25% of the total budget allocated to the Belgian partner concerned.
Additional eligibility criteria	Partners must be involved in the research and innovation activities of the project.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Relevant documents	-
Additional Information	-
Useful Links	-

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.2 BELGIUM – F.R.S. – FNRS

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/		 LA LIBERTÉ DE CHERCHER
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Florence Quist Joël Groeneveld		international@frs-fnrs.be +32 2 504 9351 +32 2 504 9270
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	300,000 €		300.000
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	Universities, public research organisations All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations (see Annex 1)		

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Applicants	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations
Eligible Costs	▶ Personnel costs ▶ Small equipment ▶ Operational costs ▶ Subcontracting All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations. Please note that personnel costs (Article III.6) have an annual average cap of 80,000 euros for this call. For “overhead” costs: ▶ Operating expenses: up to 1% within the granted budget. This percentage should be included in the requested operating budget. ▶ Personnel: up to 2% outside of the granted budget. This percentage will be paid upon reimbursement of expenses to institutions by the F.R.S.-FNRS. Please check the Practical guide on costs for any other questions.
Additional eligibility criteria	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations
Relevant documents	-
Additional Information	Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding must provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application on e-space <u>within 5 working days after the general deadline of the SBEP call to be eligible</u> . Please select the “PINT-MULTI” funding instrument when creating the administrative application. Proposals invited to the second stage will be able to complete the pre-proposal form and provide information for the full proposal upon validation by the F.R.S.-FNRS.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Useful Links

<https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/calendrier-des-appels>

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.3 BELGIUM (Flanders) – FWO

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: www.fwo.be		The Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) 
National Contact Points (NCPs)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Toon Monbaliu (FO) Kristien Peeters (SBO)		europa@fwo.be +32 (0)2 550 15 70 +32 (0)2 550 15 95
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	700,000 €		350.000
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	The FWO integrates two of its national/regional funding channels within this multilateral framework. The choice of the FWO funding channel depends on the <u>type of project</u> the researchers from Flanders wish to undertake (i.e. more fundamental in nature (FO) vs. strong emphasis on valorization potential (SBO)). The scope and the eligibility of institutions and its researchers can be verified in the relevant chosen funding channel documents and regulations, which can be consulted on the FWO website: ▶ FWO Research Projects (FO) ▶ Strategic Basic Research (SBO) Or by contacting the FWO contact points mentioned above.
Eligible Applicants	See ‘Eligible Institutions’ above.
Eligible Costs	The FWO foresees a budget of 700.000 EUR in total, which guarantees at least two projects. The respective funding channel regulations apply (see links to national rules above: ‘Eligible Institutions’ section), unless specified otherwise, and both are capped at max. 350.000 EUR per project/consortium (incl. overhead, for which the calculation method diverges per funding channel - see explanation below). For the overhead calculation, and even though the overhead rates differ, the fundamental (FO) and strategic research projects (SBO) use the same approach. More specifically, a structural overhead rate should be applied on the project costs, with an overhead rate of 6% for ‘FO projects’, and a 17% overhead rate for ‘SBO projects’. Some practical examples: ○ <i>FO: the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 12.000 EUR (6% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 212.000 EUR. This <u>total requested cost</u> may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.</i> ○ <i>SBO: the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 34.000 EUR (17% of 200.000 EUR) and the total</i>

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	<i>requested cost is 234.000 EUR. This <u>total requested cost</u> may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.</i> The overhead cost <u>should</u> be mentioned in the SBEP budget tables, but it <u>should not</u> be inserted in the national/regional FWO pre-registration form on the FWO E-loket (see below under ‘Additional eligibility criteria’).
Additional eligibility criteria	i) Submission of the proposal at the national level A mandatory administrative application on the pre-proposal submission deadline, via the personal FWO e-loket of the PI from Flanders, is an essential part of the application process. ○ <u>For fundamental research projects (FO)</u> select the application type: ‘Research projects – European programme fundamental research’. ○ <u>For strategic basis research projects (SBO)</u> select the application type: ‘Research projects – European programme strategic basic research’. In case the consortium includes more than one partner requesting funding from FWO, a <u>single online form</u> should be submitted by the main PI (promotor(-spokesperson)) itself, containing all relevant information for the different FWO applicants. The deadline to submit this administrative application to the FWO is identical to the deadline of the joint transnational call (pre-proposal stage). Failure to comply with these requirements can lead to ineligibility. To ensure the eligibility of the proposal, it is recommended to consult the FWO administration (NCPs) at least one week in advance. ii) Participation in this call does not interfere with the ‘national’ FWO calls and is consequently not taken into account for calculating the max. available number of new applications and running projects combined. However, researchers can only participate within 2 different international projects/consortia in this call, and only once as coordinator.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	iii) Projects aiming at the development of a spin-off company are not eligible in this context. This potential ‘route’ should not be mentioned in the FWO pre-registration form, as such. iv) The project duration is limited to 36 months, which implies the funding has to be budgeted and spent accordingly. An automatic prolongation and using positive (financial) balances after the end date is not applicable in this framework. As such article 28 of the FWO Research Projects and article 14 of the Strategic Basic Research (SBO) regulations do not apply here. v) The PI, for each of the participating institutions applying for FWO funds, must hold an appointment that fully covers the duration of the research project. vi) Linked to the above, when it comes to the FWO research project regulations (FO): article 10, §7 is not applicable in this call. I.e. supervisors (-spokespersons), or coordinators/consortium partners in this context, who are granted emeritus status during the calendar year of submission of the project application or during the duration of the project execution, are not eligible.
Relevant documents	The FWO integrates two of its national/regional funding channels within this multilateral framework. The choice of the FWO funding channel depends on the <u>type of project</u> the researchers from Flanders wish to undertake (i.e. more fundamental in nature (FO) vs. strong emphasis on valorization potential (SBO)). The scope and the eligibility of institutions and its researchers can be verified in the relevant chosen funding channel documents and regulations, which can be consulted on the FWO website: ➤ FWO Research Projects (FO) ➤ Strategic Basic Research (SBO) Or by contacting the FWO contact points mentioned above.
Additional Information	See ‘Eligible Institutions’ above.
Useful Links	The FWO foresees a budget of 700.000 EUR in total, which guarantees at least two projects. The respective funding channel regulations apply (see links to national rules above: ‘Eligible Institutions’ section), unless specified otherwise, and both are capped at max. 350.000 EUR per project/consortium (incl. overhead, for which the calculation method diverges per funding channel - see explanation below).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

For the **overhead calculation**, and even though the overhead rates differ, the fundamental (FO) and strategic research projects (SBO) use the same approach. More specifically, a structural overhead rate should be applied on the project costs, with an overhead rate of **6% for ‘FO projects’**, and a **17% overhead rate for ‘SBO projects’**. Some practical examples:

- ▶ *FO: the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 12.000 EUR (6% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 212.000 EUR. This **total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.***
- ▶ *SBO: the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 34.000 EUR (17% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 234.000 EUR. This **total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.***

The overhead cost should be mentioned in the SBEP budget tables, but it should not be inserted in the national/regional FWO pre-registration form on the [FWO E-loket](#) (see below under ‘Additional eligibility criteria’).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.4 BRAZIL – CONFAP

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: CONFAP – Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies <i>Largo da Matriz 45-52, 9500-094 Ponta Delgada</i> <i>Centro Empresarial Norte - Setor de Rádio e TV Norte Quadra 701, Conjunto C, Ala B, Sala 213 - Asa Norte, 70719-903, Brasília - DF, Brazil</i> <i>Website: confap.org.br</i>	
Regional Contact Point (RCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:
	Flávia Cerqueira	internacional.confap@gmail.com
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	1,372,050 €	Detailed for each participating State Funding Agency - FAP in item below: “Additional Info”, indicating within the maximum budget, the maximum number of projects which may be supported (if applicable). Applicants must verify with the funding agency involved, the maximum amount, also in local currency.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy				
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches				
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in marine production and harvesting				
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses				
Eligible Institutions	Eligible Institutions Public or private (non-profit) Higher Education and Research Institutions, Scientific Institutions, Technology and Innovation Institutions, eligible for the involved funding agencies - FAPs.					
Eligible Applicants	Applicants must have a doctoral or equivalent degree, and be linked to a Research Institution located in Brazilian States participating in the call and have scientific or technological production evaluated by Curriculum (Lattes Curriculum).					
Eligible Costs	As a general rule, Brazilian Funding Agencies finance scholarships, mobility and grants, related to scientific, technological and innovation projects.					
Additional eligibility criteria	Applicants must necessarily comply to the specific eligibility rules and financing modalities, which shall be defined and informed by the participating FAPs					
Relevant documents	Specific Guidelines may be published by the participating FAPs.					
Additional Information	Brazilian applicants may be supported by the State Funding Agencies - FAPs, participating to the call, listed below. Applicants based in the States participating to the call should firstly consult their respective FAPs. Details on the Brazilian State Funding Agencies supporting the call, including amount of total funding, maximum number of projects (when defined) and contact points in each FAP are detailed below:					
	Nº	FAP	State	Budget	Max. no. of projects within the max.	Contact

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

					allocated budget	
	1	Fundação Araucária	Paraná	90.000,00	1	internacional.confap@fundacaoaraucaria.org.br
	2	FACEPE	Pernambuco	20.000,00	1	international@facepe.br
	3	FAPEAL	Alagoas	30.000,00	1	pesquisafapeal@gmail.com
	4	FAPERGS	Rio Grande do Sul	50.000,00	Not Defined	dec@fapergs.rs.gov.br
	5	FAPERJ	Rio de Janeiro	250.050,00	3	central.atendimento@faperj.br
	6	FAPES	Espírito Santo	75.000,00	1	global4@fapes.es.gov.br
	7	FAPESP	São Paulo	800.000,00	Not Defined	TBC
	8	FAPESPA	Pará	37.000,00	1	assessoriainternacional@fapespa.pa.gov.br
	9	FAPESQ	Paraíba	20.000,00	1	programas-projetos@fapesq.rpp.br
Useful Links	CONFAP website: https://confap.org.br/pt/editais					
	Links to FAPs websites – for more details on eligibility rules: • Fundação Araucária: http://www.fappr.pr.gov.br • FACEPE: http://www.facepe.br • FAPEAL: http://fapeal.br • FAPERGS: https://fapergs.rs.gov.br • FAPERJ: https://www.faperj.br/					

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	• FAPES: www.fapes.es.gov.br • FAPESP: https://fapesp.br/ • FAPESPA: https://www.fapespa.pa.gov.br • FAPESQ: http://fapesq.rpp.br
--	--

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.5 BULGARIA - MES

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: <i>Ministry of Education and Science</i> https://www.mon.bg/en/homepage/		Managing organisation National Science Fund https://bnsf.bg/wps/portal/fond-izsledvaniq/fund (BG only)
	Name: Kalin Mutavchiev		Email and Phone: Ministry of Education and Science 2A, Kniaz Dondukov Blvd., 1000 Sofia Tel. + 359 2 92 17 691; + 359 878 461 653 Email: k.mutavchiev@mon.bg
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project. If there are no project proposals in one of the priority areas the funding will be granted to the second best (high score evaluation) project proposal in another priority area, subject to Managing organization decision.
	250,000 €		The intended funding amount is 50,000 € per project
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	Scientific and research institutions and higher education institutions
Eligible Applicants	Principle Investigators, project coordinators, research team leaders representing the scientific and research institutions and higher education institutions;
Eligible Costs	Salaries, equipment, consumables or other project-related costs, external services and overhead (depending on partner e.g. enterprise or public organisation)
Additional eligibility criteria	Partners such as research organisations, higher education institutions and associated partners - NGOs and SMEs
Relevant documents	The announcement of the call/opportunity, with all relevant information and guides will be published on the websites of the Bulgarian National Science Fund (Managing) and the Ministry of Education and Science (Funding).
Additional Information	-
Useful Links	-

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.6 CROATIA – HRZZ

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Croatian Science Foundation <i><u>HRZZ – Croatian Science Foundation</u></i>		
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:	
	Tanja Lukanovic Iva Spoljar Saric	E-mail: tanja@hrzz.hr E-mail: iva@hrzz.hr	
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	300,000 €		
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	Private and public higher education institutions and research institutes.		

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Applicants	Eligible applicants are higher education institutions and research institutes .
Eligible Costs	Eligible costs according to the national rules outlines in the Guidelines for Applicants to the Calls of the Croatian Science Foundation in 2025. These include: 1. Research costs, 2. Equipment costs, 3. Dissemination, training and collaboration costs, 4. Open Access publication costs, 5. Indirect costs and 6. Salary costs for senior assistants employed on the project.
Additional eligibility criteria	Eligible applicants are: ▪ Higher education institutions ▪ Scientific institutes ▪ Other research-oriented institutions that employ at least five PhD holders under employment contracts lasting more than one year.
Relevant documents	Instructions for applicants to the Croatian Science Foundation's 2025 calls for proposals
Additional Information	/
Useful Links	https://hrzz.hr/wp-content/uploads/Upute-za-prijavitelje-na-natjecaje-Hrvatske-zaklade-za-znanost-u-2025.pdf https://hrzz.hr/programi/medunarodna-suradnja/

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.7 DENMARK- IFD

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: https://innovationsfonden.dk		
	Name: Mathias Holm Tveen		Email and Phone: Mathias.holm.tveen@innofond.dk , +45 6190 5073
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €) 2.000.000 €		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner The maximum funding amount per Danish partner in international projects is 300,000 €. The maximum funding amount per project for all Danish partners, if the project has two or more Danish partners, is 500,000 €. The minimum funding amount is 50,000 € per partner
	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

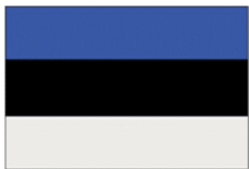
2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	Registered legal Danish entities are eligible for investments from IFD. Foreign entities not funded by their national authorities can be subcontractors to Danish partners after approval by IFD.
Eligible Applicants	IFD can fund all types of Danish partners actively participating in the projects.
Eligible Costs	Salaries, equipment other project-related costs, external services and overhead (depending on partner e.g. enterprise or public organisation)
Additional eligibility criteria	After the central application deadline IFD will, via our national e-grant platform, invite the Danish applicants to upload mandatory documentation to e-grant. Applicants are not required to submit documentation to IFD beforehand. The invitation is sent up to 2-4 weeks after the application deadline. Please contact IFD, if you do not receive this invitation. Non-public organisations will be requested to upload a “No undertaking in difficulty declaration” and a ‘Financial and legal declaration”. In addition, SME’s will be required to upload an “SME declaration”. If requesting de minimis funding, then a “de minimis aid compliance form” is required. All templates are available at IFD’s website
Relevant documents	Declarations can be found HERE
Additional Information	
Useful Links	IFD Guidelines

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.8 ESTONIA – ETAG

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: <i>www.etag.ee</i>		 Estonian Research Council
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:	
	Katrin Saar	Katrin.saar@etag.ee (+372) 5333 5625	
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner	
	300,000 €	100 000 € if project partner 300 000 € if coordinator	
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
		Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
		Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	The following eligibility criteria address Estonian applicants in European partnership calls for transnational research projects. Each project is carried out by a consortium that consists of research institutions (partners) from different countries. Each partner in a funded project will be funded by their national Funding Organisation. It is mandatory for all Estonian applicants to follow both the general and the national eligibility criteria of the call by the submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, by the preproposal deadline). Please note that if one of the partners is not eligible, the entire proposal		

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	might be considered ineligible. In case of a positive funding decision the Host Institution, the Principal Investigator and the Funding Organisation will enter into a trilateral agreement. The Host Institution may be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia and has an Estonian bank account. Restrictions to eligible institutions and applicants may however be stated in the general call conditions which also apply to Estonian participants. The Host Institution (the final recipient) is the institution to which the grant will be allocated. After the submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, after the preproposal deadline) and upon the notice from the Funding Organisation, the Host Institution must confirm to the Funding Organisation in writing that the Estonian sub-project can be carried out on their premises in Estonia and that they will employ the Principal Investigator during the sub-project, should the project receive funding. If the Host Institution is an undertaking, the State aid and de minimis aid regulations must be taken into account.
Eligible Applicants	The Principal Investigator (PI) is a researcher who acts as the Estonian team leader in the project proposal. He/she will be responsible for how the grant is used and how the Estonian part in the project is executed. The PI must be clearly identified in the proposal. The Principal Investigator: - must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, by the preproposal deadline); - must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded by the submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, by the preproposal deadline) at the latest; - must have published at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to the proposal submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, prior to the preproposal deadline). Patents are equalled with publications specified under Clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS Clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications specified in Clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or fewer. If the applicant has been on maternity, paternity, or parental leave, in compulsory military service, or if there have been other exceptional circumstances (e.g., serious illness), they can request the publication period requirement to be extended by the relevant period of time.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	If the Principal Investigator has received the PhD degree outside Estonia, its correspondence to an Estonian doctoral degree must be recognised by either the Estonian ENIC-NARIC Centre or the Host Institution in accordance with the Regulation of the Government of the Republic of April 6, 2006, No. 89 "Evaluation and academic recognition of documents proving foreign education and the name of the qualification awarded in the foreign education system terms and conditions of use". The Funding Organisation may ask for a relevant Evaluation Report If several Estonian institutions participate in a proposal, all institutions must have a Principal Investigator who meets the national eligibility requirements.
Eligible Costs	Budget If several Estonian institutions are applying in one proposal, the total requested budget can be still max 100.000 € per proposal or 300 000 € per proposal in case if one Estonian institution is the coordinator. The budget contains costs directly related to the implementation of the project (direct costs) and indirect (overhead) costs. The direct costs must be used to carry out the project and be separately identifiable. Direct costs: - Personnel costs are monthly salaries (along with all state taxes, contributions, and compensations arising from law) of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution. - Other direct costs are: - travel costs that may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel Insurance. If the project is funded from the European Regional Development Fund (Mobilitas 3.0) resources, travel costs are eligible only for travels abroad; - consumables and minor equipment directly and fully related to the project; - publication and dissemination of project results; - organising meetings, seminars or conferences (e.g room rent, catering, equipment rental and related costs); - fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events directly and fully related to the project; - patent costs;

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, postage costs etc.) and are directly and fully related to the project. Indirect costs (overhead) are costs that cannot be identified as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action and/or should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution related to the management of the grant. Office consumables and costs for equipment and services intended for general use (e.g., phone bills, copy service, printer) should be covered from the indirect costs. Indirect costs are <u>15% of the personnel costs</u> of the Estonian sub-project. Subcontracting costs are direct costs. Subcontracting costs should cover only additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs of the Estonian sub-project. Double funding of activities is not acceptable (i.e. the same cost item may not be reimbursed from different funding sources).
Additional eligibility criteria	If several Estonian institutions participate in one proposal, the sum of their requested budgets may not exceed the maximum contribution per proposal of the respective national Funding Organisation indicated in the call documents. Exclusion from the scope of the ERDF (Mobilitas 3.0) funding Following the restrictions laid down in Article 7 of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council No 2021/1058 of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund research and other activities related to fossil fuels and their use, as well as other activities not eligible as per Article 7 of the Regulation, cannot be funded from the European Regional Development Fund (Mobilitas 3.0) resources. State Aid If the Host Institution is an undertaking, EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding. An undertaking is any entity, be it a natural or a legal person, engaged in an economic activity (i.e. activity consisting in offering goods and services on a market), regardless of its legal status and the way in which it is financed.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	The criteria defined in Clauses 18–24 of Communication from the European Commission – Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2022/C 414/01) form the basis for determining whether the activities carried out are economic activities and whether the Host Institution is an undertaking that is considered to be a State aid recipient when it receives funding. If the institution applies for State aid or de minimis aid, it must fill in the State aid form upon request by the Funding Organisation after the submission deadline. In case of two-stage application, the State aid form must be filled in after the notification of getting to the full proposal stage.
Relevant documents	https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel - EN_marts2026-2.pdf https://etag.ee/en/cooperation/horizon-europe/partnerships/era-nets-and-partnerships/
Additional Information	It is mandatory for all Estonian applicants to follow both the general and the national eligibility criteria of the call. Please note that if one of the partners is not eligible, the entire proposal might be considered ineligible. Grant Agreement If a positive funding decision is made, the Funding Organisation enters into a grant agreement with the Host Institution and Principal Investigator. Information on the transnational project must be entered into ETIS once the agreement has been signed. The Consortium Agreement should be signed six months after the grant agreement has been signed at the latest. If one year has elapsed and the CA has not been signed, the next instalment of funding will not be paid out. Research Involving Human Subjects or Animal Testing If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Funding Organisation by the start of the relevant activities. Nagoya Protocol By applying for funding by the Funding Organisation, the applicants commit to consider the relevance of the Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration, if applicable.
Useful Links	https://etag.ee/valiskoostoo/euroopa-horisont/partnerlused/partnerluste-ja-era-net-uhiskonkurssidega-seotud-toetused/

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.9 ESTONIA – REM

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Ministry of Regional Affairs and Agriculture <i>www.agri.ee</i>		 REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA MINISTRY OF REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND AGRICULTURE
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Maarja Malm		maarja.malm@agri.ee +372 5670 2945
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	100,000 €		100,000 €
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
		Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
		Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	1. Project Participants 1.1. The Host Institution may be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia and has an Estonian bank account. Restrictions to eligible institutions and applicants may however be stated in the general call conditions which also apply to Estonian participants. The Host Institution (the final recipient) is the institution to which the grant will be allocated. After the submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, after the preproposal deadline) and upon the notice from the Funding Organisation, the Host Institution must confirm to the Funding		

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Organisation in writing that the Estonian sub-project can be carried out on their premises in Estonia and that they will employ the Principal Investigator during the sub-project, should the project receive funding. If the Host Institution is an undertaking, the State aid and de minimis aid regulations must be taken into account.
Eligible Applicants	1.2 The Principal Investigator (PI) is a researcher who acts as the Estonian team leader in the project proposal. He/she will be responsible for how the grant is used and how the Estonian part in the project is executed. The PI must be clearly identified in the proposal. The Principal Investigator: 1.2.1 must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, by the preproposal deadline); 1.2.2 must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded by the submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, by the preproposal deadline) at the latest; 1.2.3 must have published at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to the proposal submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, prior to the preproposal deadline). Patents are equalled with publications specified under Clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS Clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications specified in Clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or fewer. If the applicant has been on maternity, paternity, or parental leave, in compulsory military service, or if there have been other exceptional circumstances (e.g., serious illness), they can request the publication period requirement to be extended by the relevant period of time. If the Principal Investigator has received the PhD degree outside Estonia, its correspondence to an Estonian doctoral degree must be recognised by either the Estonian ENIC-NARIC Centre or the Host Institution in accordance with the Regulation of the Government of the Republic of April 6, 2006, No. 89 "Evaluation and academic recognition of documents proving foreign education and the name of the qualification awarded in the foreign education system terms and conditions of use". The Funding Organisation may ask for a relevant Evaluation Report. If several Estonian institutions participate in a proposal, all institutions must have a Principal Investigator who meets the national eligibility requirements.
Eligible Costs	2. Budget

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	2.1. The budget contains costs directly related to the implementation of the project (direct costs) and indirect (overhead) costs. The direct costs must be used to carry out the project and be separately identifiable. 2.2. Direct costs: 2.2.1. Personnel costs are monthly salaries (along with all state taxes, contributions, and compensations arising from law) of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution. 2.2.2. Other direct costs are: - travel costs that may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel Insurance. If the project is funded from the European Regional Development Fund (Mobilitas 3.0) resources, travel costs are eligible only for travels abroad; - consumables and minor equipment directly and fully related to the project; - publication and dissemination of project results; - organising meetings, seminars or conferences (e.g room rent, catering, equipment rental and related costs); - fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events directly and fully related to the project; - patent costs; - all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, postage costs etc.) and are directly and fully related to the project. 2.3. Indirect costs (overhead) are costs that cannot be identified as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action and/or should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution related to the management of the grant. Office consumables and costs for equipment and services intended for general use (e.g., phone bills, copy service, printer) should be covered from the indirect costs. Indirect costs are 15% of the personnel costs of the Estonian sub-project. 2.4. Subcontracting costs are direct costs. Subcontracting costs should cover only additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs of the Estonian sub-project. 2.5. Double funding of activities is not acceptable (i.e. the same cost item may not be reimbursed from different funding sources).
--	--

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

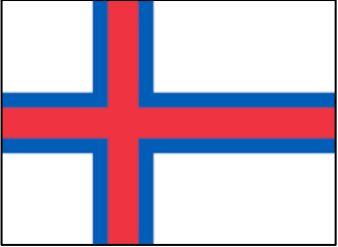
	2.6. If several Estonian institutions participate in one proposal, the sum of their requested budgets may not exceed the maximum contribution per proposal of the respective national Funding Organisation indicated in the call documents.
Additional eligibility criteria	3. Exclusion from the scope of the ERDF (Mobilitas 3.0) funding Following the restrictions laid down in Article 7 of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council No 2021/1058 of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund³ research and other activities related to fossil fuels and their use, as well as other activities not eligible as per Article 7 of the Regulation, cannot be funded from the European Regional Development Fund (Mobilitas 3.0) resources. 4. State Aid If the Host Institution is an undertaking, EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding. An undertaking is any entity, be it a natural or a legal person, engaged in an economic activity (i.e. activity consisting in offering goods and services on a market), regardless of its legal status and the way in which it is financed. The criteria defined in Clauses 18–24 of Communication from the European Commission – Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2022/C 414/014) form the basis for determining whether the activities carried out are economic activities and whether the Host Institution is an undertaking that is considered to be a State aid recipient when it receives funding. If the institution applies for State aid or de minimis aid, it must fill in the State aid form upon request by the Funding Organisation after the submission deadline. In case of two-stage application, the State aid form must be filled in after the notification of getting to the full proposal stage. 5. Grant Agreement If a positive funding decision is made, the Funding Organisation enters into a grant agreement with the Host Institution and Principal Investigator. Information on the transnational project must be entered into ETIS once the agreement has been signed. The Consortium Agreement should be signed six months after the grant agreement has been signed at the latest. If one year has elapsed and the CA has not been signed, the next instalment of funding will not be paid out. 6. Research Involving Human Subjects or Animal Testing If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Funding Organisation by the start of the relevant activities. 7. Nagoya Protocol

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	By applying for funding by the Funding Organisation, the applicants commit to consider the relevance of the Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration, if applicable.
Relevant documents	National Eligibility Criteria for grant applications in partnership calls for transnational research Projects (https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel_-EN_marts2026-2.pdf)
Additional Information	It is mandatory for all Estonian applicants to follow both the general and the national eligibility criteria of the call. Please note that if one of the partners is not eligible, the entire proposal might be considered ineligible.
Useful Links	https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel_-EN_marts2026-2.pdf

1.10 FAROE ISLANDS – RCFI

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: <i>Research Council Faroe Islands</i>	
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:
	Maria Húsgarð Adviser	maria@gransking.fo +298 567802

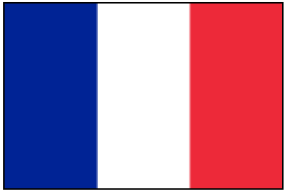
2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	135,000 €		50,000 € – 135,000 €
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	The Host Institution could be any legal entity that is registered and located in the Faroe Islands.		
Eligible Applicants	The Host Institution (the final recipient) is the applicant to which the grant will be allocated.		
Eligible Costs	Personnel costs, expenses, indirect costs and overhead.		
Additional eligibility criteria	The Research Council Faroe Islands may grant funding up to 2/3 of the total cost for the Faroese project partners.		
Relevant documents	National Terms of Reference		
Additional Information	Before submitting an application, partners from the Faroe Islands are required to consult with the Research Council Faroe Islands.		
Useful Links	Gransking.fo		

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.11 FRANCE – ANR

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) https://anr.fr/	
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:
	Beverley Ray	SBEP-CallsFR@agencerecherche.fr ;
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	2,000,000 €	The maximum amount that can be requested from ANR <u>by each proposal</u> with French applicant(s) is: 350.000 € (if Coordinating Partner is requesting funding from ANR and eligible for funding by ANR) 300.000 € (for standard French Partners) The minimum amount per beneficiary is 15 000€. If there are several French partners requesting funds from ANR, the total requested funding from ANR (300 000 €, extended to 350 000 € if the coordinating partner is requesting funding to ANR) must be split among them.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

		For calculation of overheads, please check the ANR Funding Regulations (at ‘actual costs’ version) for at: https://anr.fr/fr/rf/
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	ANR may fund research organisations and undertakings, as defined by the EC regulation on State aid for research, development and innovation (see the ANR Funding regulations for further reference). Only research organisations that have their primary establishment in France may be funded. As for undertakings, ANR may fund those that have their real head office in an EU member State and an establishment (primary or secondary) in France. In this call, to be eligible, the consotium must include at least one french institution participating in the public research service. Companies in difficulties are excluded from ANR subventions. Partners, whether legal entities or natural persons, who are subject to sanction(s) imposed by the institutions of the European Union are excluded from this call. The ANR will declare ineligible any Partners requesting funding from the Agency who are, within the submitted project, associated with Partners subject to a sanction measure. As of the publication date, these exclusions concern in particular Partners from the following countries: Russia and Belarus; as well as Partners located in Ukrainian territories not under the control of the Ukrainian government. This list is not exhaustive and may evolve should new sanctions be adopted by the European Union. See more information on the eligibility of institutions on the ANR Funding Regulations https://anr.fr/fr/rf/.	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Applicants	See above
Eligible Costs	Please check the ANR Funding Regulations at: https://anr.fr/fr/rf/ .
Additional eligibility criteria	Additional eligibility criteria: To be eligible, a proposal must not be deemed similar to another proposal still undergoing evaluation in another ANR call, or already funded. Depending on the consortium composition, a Consortium Agreement may be mandatory for ANR at the funding stage for successful applications. Please refer to the ANR funding regulations (at ‘actual costs’ version) for more details: https://anr.fr/fr/rf/ In keeping with the national <i>PPST</i> policy (Protection of the scientific and technological national potential) applicants to ANR should consult their local “FSD” (security and defence officer, where available) on their project before applying. Applications to ANR may be forwarded to the HFSD of the French Ministry of research and higher education for screening. A negative appraisal by the HFSD may cause ANR to reject the proposal.
Relevant documents	-
Additional Information	If applicable, Declarations of Due Diligence for the funded projects (Nagoya Protocol) must be transmitted to ANR in due time. Financial reports or closure certificate must be communicated to ANR according to the provisions of the ANR Funding regulations. The above-mentioned terms and conditions are only summarized translations of those entailed in the ANR Funding regulations and in the Appendix “<i>Modalités pour les Partenaires sollicitant une aide de l’ANR</i>”. In case of inconsistencies, the terms of the ANR Funding Regulations (at actual costs) and the Appendix shall prevail. Please refer to these documents for more details.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

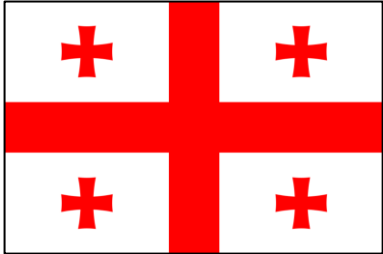
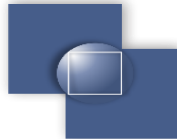
Useful Links

Please check the ANR Funding Regulations at: <https://anr.fr/fr/rf/>.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.12 GEORGIA – SRNSFG

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia https://rustaveli.org.ge/eng		 შოთა რუსთაველის საერთაშორისო ეროვნული სამეცნიერო ფონდი SHOTA RUSTAVELI NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OF GEORGIA
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Tinatin Kuchukhidze		Email: t.kuchukhidze@rustaveli.org.ge Tel.: +995 32 2 200 220 (ext. 4033)
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	10,000 €		The funding contribution could be considered to be grown further. A maximum one georgian partner is considered to be funded.
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	1. Leading organization - A legal entity under public law established in accordance with the legislation of Georgia, a non-profit (non-commercial) legal entity(research institutes, centers, higher education		

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	institutes) the purpose of which is to conduct scientific research, as well as a higher educational institution. The leading organization provides the project manager and other key personnel with the material and technical base envisaged by the project, carries out project implementation reporting in accordance with the forms and rules approved by the granting organization. 2.Co-participating organization- together with the leading organization, will provide the project's key and supporting personnel with the material and technical base envisaged by the project.
Eligible Applicants	As a key personnel – a group of Georgian reserchers, holding a doctorate, master's degree or equivalent academic degree, a doctoral, master's or residency students.
Eligible Costs	a)Granting of the key personnel; b) Remuneration of the support personnel; c) Business travel; d) Goods and services; e) Non-financial assets; f) indirect costs.
Additional eligibility criteria	The key personnel should consiste of minimum one young sientist.
Relevant documents	
Additional Information	In addition to the project proposal , which shall be submitted at European level, the regional participants from Georgia are requested to submit all required documentations to Georgian Mnagment Unified Sysytem www.gmus.rustaveli.org.ge following the same deadline established for the pre-proposal phase submission as defined in the transnational call. All dubmitted applications should pass through the eligibility check.
Useful Links	https://rustaveli.org.ge/eng

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.13 GERMANY – BMFTR/PtJ

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: German Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR)		 Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Julia Getzlaff		Email: ptj-sbep@ptj.de Phone: +49 381 20356 292
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	1,500,000 €		A maximum of two German partners per project will be funded. Maximum funding per awarded project partner: EUR 250,000. Maximum funding per awarded project (for the maximum of two project partners together): EUR 350,000. The distribution of funds between the two partners is left up to them.
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	Proposals may be submitted by Germany-based universities, non-university research institutes, civil society organisations, public authorities, municipalities, commercial companies.
Eligible Applicants	For information regarding the EU's standard definition of SMEs, please visit https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/smes/sme-definition_en Research institutions, which receive joint basic funding from the Federal Government and the Länder, can only be granted project funding supplementary to their basic funding for additional expenditure under certain preconditions.
Eligible Costs	- Personnel costs (Personalausgaben / -kosten) - Operational costs (Verwaltungsausgaben / -kosten) - Indirect costs Subcontracting (Vergabe von Aufträgen) - Travel costs (Dienstreisen) - Investment costs (investive Maßnahmen) Projektpauschale: Universities should consider 20% lump sum (“Projektpauschale”) already in the preparation of the proposal. Applicants are strongly advised to consult the BMBF guidelines on eligible costs (Richtlinien für Zuwendungsanträge AZA/AZK)
Additional eligibility criteria	Only two German partners in a consortium are eligible. The prerequisite for two German partners in a consortium is that at least one partner can be classified as company. If there is no German company in the consortium, only one German partner per consortium can participate - either as a coordinator or partner.
Relevant documents	Enterprises have to submit following documents to the national funding agency by the pre-proposal submission deadline: - Preliminary annual financial statements for 2025 - Management Accounts for August 2026 (betriebswirtschaftliche Auswertung, 08/2026) We further recommend, that applicants regard the BMFTR strategy “Research for Sustainability” (FONA) Strategy and the BMFTR funding priority “Costal, Marine and Polar Research for Sustainability (MARE:N)”.
Additional Information	No submission of preproposals (Projektskizzen) at the national level. Submission of proposals (Projektanträge) via the national application system easy-online (applicants selected for submission of a proposal will be informed about the link for submission).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Useful Links

<https://www.fona.de/de/themen/meeres-und-polarforschung.php>
<https://www.ptj.de/projektfoerderung/mare-n>

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.14 GREECE-GSRI

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	c GSRI (General Secretariat for Research & Innovation) Ministry of Development https://gsri.gov.gr/en/	
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:
	Georgia Anousaki	g.anousaki@gsrt.gr Tel.: +30 2131300128
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	1,000,000 €	Upper limit of the total public funding will be 200.000 € per project (including indirect costs). Please note that this amount can be increased to 250.000 € <u>per project</u> if Greek partner assumes the project coordination. The maximum state aid intensity will be calculated according to the provisions of the European state aid rules and regulations in force (type of research activity, size of the participating enterprise, collaborative research).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	GSRI potentially supports all private and public legal entities legally operating in Greece (not natural persons) namely: a) Research and knowledge-dissemination organizations (e.g. Higher-education Institutions or Research Centers/Institutes) b) Undertakings (a private and/or public sector unit, regardless of its legal status or size, engaged in eco-nomic activity) c) Other entities that will be considered as Research and knowledge-dissemination organizations, if respective requirements are met, or undertakings GSRI does not support individuals and individual enterprises. The following categories of undertakings are also not eligible: • An “undertaking in difficulty” (according to art.2 of Reg. (EU) 651/2014, as amended by Reg.(EU) 2021/1237 & Reg.(EU) 2023/1315). • An undertaking which is subject to an outstanding recovery order following a previous Commission decision declaring an aid illegal and incompatible with the internal market. <i>* Large enterprises are eligible for funding only if they cooperate with an SME.</i>	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Applicants	Applicants may submit, if they are enterprises, up to two (2) proposals from the same enterprise in the current call, and for Public research Institutes and Universities up to (2) proposals at the level of the same Laboratory or School or Institute or Department. TRL3-(8) in compliance with the (COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, page 3, article 13) Applicants must be involved in research and innovation activities.
Eligible Costs	In compliance with the Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 [in particular according to article 25 (c) and 25 (d)] declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, as amended by Regulation (EU) 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021, the eligible costs of research and development projects shall be allocated to a specific category of research and development and shall be the following: (a) personnel costs: researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the project. (b) costs of instruments and equipment to the extent and for the period used for the project. Where such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the project, as calculated on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles, are considered as eligible. (c) costs of contractual research, knowledge and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at arm's length conditions, as well as costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the project. (d) additional general costs and other operating expenses, including costs of materials, supplies, travel expenses, organization of meetings, dissemination/publicity costs, audit costs, incurred directly as a result of the project implementation. (e) indirect costs = flat rate of 25% of direct costs (except subcontracting costs). Indirect costs are eligible for all legal entities and include costs that do not incur directly as a result of the project implementation (e.g. administrative and management costs, utility costs)

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Additional eligibility criteria

A. GSRI potentially supports the following types of RTD, namely: industrial research, experimental development, according to the provisions of Art. 25 of Commission Regulation (EU) 651/2014, as amended by Regulation (EU) 2021/1237 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty).

B. Aid intensity

Public research Institutes and Universities: the aid intensity can reach 100% for performing non-economic activities in accordance with point 19, article 2.1.1 of the «Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation» (2014/C 198/01).

Maximum aid intensity for undertakings is calculated according to paragraphs 5,6,7 of article 25 of Reg. (EU) 651/2014, as amended by Reg.(EU) 2021/1237 & Reg.(EU) 2023/1315 (table 1) : (a) 50% of the eligible costs for industrial research; (b) 25% of the eligible costs for experimental development. The aid intensities for industrial research and experimental development may be increased up to a maximum aid intensity of 70% of the eligible costs as follows:

(a) by 10 percentage points for medium-sized enterprises and by 20 percentage points for small enterprises;

(b) by 15 percentage points if one of the following conditions is fulfilled:

(i) the project involves effective collaboration:

— between undertakings among which at least one is an SME, or is carried out in at least two Member States, or in a Member State and in a Contracting Party of the EEA Agreement, and no single undertaking bears more than 70 % of the eligible costs, or

— between an undertaking and one or more research and knowledge-dissemination organisations, where the latter bear at least 10 % of the eligible costs and have the right to publish their own research results;

(ii) the results of the project are widely disseminated through conferences, publication, open access repositories, or free or open source software.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Table 1: Funding rates-maximum funding percentages

		Industrial/ Applied Research	Experimental development/ innovation
Large Enterprises		50-65%	25-40%
Medium Enterprises		60-70%	35-50%
Small Enterprises		70%	45-60%
Universities, public research organisations		100%	100%
Public authorities with R&D activities		100%	100%
Associations without economic activities, NGOs	Large	50-65%	25-40%
	Medium	60-70%	35-50%
	Small	70%	45-60%

- A. With regard to clinical organizations in particular, in order to be eligible, they have to carry out research as one of their main objectives, according to the law or their statutes.
- B. Upper limit of the total public funding will be 200.000 € per project (including indirect costs). This amount can be increased to 250.000 € per project if the Greek partner assumes the European project coordination. The maximum state aid intensity will be calculated according to the provisions of the European state aid rules and regulations in force (type of research activity, size of the participating enterprise, collaborative research etc).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	C. With regard to the evaluation of the projects, at national level, only eligibility check is conducted and not a full peer review at pre-proposal and full proposal stages. We rely on the evaluation made by the independent reviewers and the Peer Review Panel (PRP). A national procedure will follow for the approved for funding at the transnational level proposals only. For more information please contact the NCP. Duration of the projects: The duration of a funded project is 24- 36 months. A possible extension of the duration under conditions can be accepted maximum up to the 1/3 of the initial duration taking into account the starting date without modifying the scientific or increasing the financial part of the project and the prerequisites of the current Programme (e.g. 31/12/2029, closing date for financing the projects in national level).
Relevant documents	
Additional Information	At national level, only eligibility check is conducted and not a full peer review at pre-proposal and full proposal stages. We rely on the evaluation made by the Call Evaluation Committee and external reviewers.
Useful Links	• General Secretariat for Research and Innovation • COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 651/2014 • COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2021/1237 COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2023/1315

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.15 IRELAND - MI

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

		Funding organisation: Marine Institute https://www.marine.ie/	
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Veronica Cunningham		Veronica.Cunningham@marine.ie +353 91 387532 or +353 91 387200
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	900,000 €		• 90,000 Euro min per partner • 300,000 Euro max per partner • Rates apply for funding of 36 months • Limit two Irish partners per project
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions		Legal entities in the Republic of Ireland with the appropriate scientific and technical qualifications and expertise can be funded as partners in a joint proposal.	
Eligible Applicants		The eligible partners are Higher Education Institutions, Other Public Research Performing Organisations (RPOs). Industry and Private RPOs in the Republic of Ireland with a CRO registration number.	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Costs	Personnel costs (permanent/temporary) • Eligible staff costs include gross salary and employer’s PRSI (pay-related social insurance) and employer’s pension costs (max 20% of gross salary). Temporary or contract research staff are eligible for Higher Education Institutions and Other Public RPOs, but staff costs for permanent staff are not. • Both temporary and permanent staff costs are eligible for Industry/Private RPO partners. • Master’s and PhD student costs (current rates – student stipend €25,000 per annum and college fees €6,000 per annum). • Master’s and PhD must be registered, on a full-time basis, for a higher degree at an eligible Higher Education Institution. Research costs (travel, consumables, etc.) • Project-related travel and consumables are allowable costs e.g. travel and subsistence for project fieldwork and meetings, workshops, conferences, laboratory supplies, computer supplies, software, etc. Equipment • The purchase and installation of small-scale scientific equipment and instruments for the project is allowable. Depreciated cost reimbursed with be either 36 or 60 months. • The purchase of a personal computer/laptop is eligible at a maximum cost of €2,000 per researcher and must be used solely for carrying out the project work. Overheads • Maximum overheads allowed are 30% of all costs excluding Equipment and Subcontracting. Subcontracting • Subcontracting to a third party for specialist resources/skills is allowable, subject to normal procurement guidelines. Subcontracting costs are limited to 20% maximum (e.g. €60,000 if requesting total grant-aid funding of €300,000). The maximum Grant-Aid reimbursement for Industry is 50% for Large Scale Enterprises and 75% for Small-Medium Sized Enterprises of eligible costs. Grant-Aid reimbursement for Higher Education Institutions and Other Public RPOs is up to 100% of eligible costs.
Additional eligibility criteria	Projects with Irish partners should address requirements under national strategies and policies (see below).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Irish project partners will be required to sign a Grant Agreement with the Marine Institute, if their proposal is successful under this call. This is in addition to the Consortium Agreement. Projects that receive funding from the Marine Institute are required to submit progress and final reports pursuant to their Grant Agreement with the Marine Institute. Projects that receive funding from the Marine Institute are required to follow Open Access/Research guidelines. Marine Institute researchers may participate as partners in proposals, but not as co-ordinators.
Relevant documents	The Marine Institute manages the <i>National Marine Research Programme</i>, which provides funding to the Irish marine sector through competitive calls. Funding is provided for marine research that addresses national strategic priorities as stated Ocean Knowledge 2030, Climate Action Plan for Ireland, Food Vision 2030 and Impact 2030.
Additional Information	Applicants must contact their National Contact Point (details above) prior to submission of any application under this call.
Useful Links	Further details published on the Marine Institute website at: https://www.marine.ie/site-area/research-funding/research-funding/current-funding-opportunities Email queries can also be sent to: funding@marine.ie

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.16 IRELAND – Research Ireland

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

		Funding organisation: Research Ireland www.researchireland.ie	 Taighde Éireann Research Ireland
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Emma McGrath Maria Nash		Emma.mcgrath@researchireland.ie Maria.nash@researchireland.ie
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	600,000 €		Partner: €330,00 direct costs Coordinator: €405,000 direct costs
Funded priority area (s)		Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions		Only an academic partner/coordinator based in an eligible Irish Host Research body may apply for Research Ireland funding. Please refer to Research Ireland’s Policies and Guidance for the list of eligible Research Performing Organisations: Eligible Research Bodies	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Applicants	The Irish-based applicant must: hold a PhD or equivalent qualification for at least 3 years by the pre-proposal deadline. The official date is defined as the day, month and year that the degree was conferred i.e., the month and year printed on the official PhD certificate. AND be a member of the academic staff of an eligible Research Body (permanent or with an active contract that covers the period of the grant) OR be a contract researcher with a contract that covers the period of the grant, who is recognised by the eligible Research Body as an independent investigator and will have an independent office and research space for which he/she will be fully responsible for at least the duration of the Research Ireland grant OR be an individual who will be recognised by the eligible Research Body upon receipt of the grant as an academic staff or as a contract researcher as defined above. The applicant does not necessarily need to be employed by the Research Body at the time of the application submission. AND be an author on at least three international peer-reviewed articles. Only original research publications, and not review articles or other secondary research literature, are acceptable. Please refer to the Research Ireland call webpage for more information on eligibility criteria. Please note that Research Ireland may contact applicants directly to confirm eligibility post submission.
Eligible Costs	Funding is provided for up to 100% of eligible costs: 1. Salary-related costs for research personnel. Please use current Research Ireland Team Member Salary Scales. The applicant cannot request their own salary. 2. Small equipment costs 3. Travel costs with consideration for Research Ireland’s Guidance for Sustainable Travel Policy 4. Direct running costs (materials and consumables) 5. Dissemination and knowledge exchange costs

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	6. Subcontracting costs are considered an eligible budget category however strong justification for subcontracting must be provided and pre-approved directly with Research Ireland in advance of proposal submission. A maximum of €330,000 direct costs can be requested for a project partner, and €405,000 direct costs for a project coordinator. 7. Overheads should be calculated as 30% of the direct costs, but excluding therefrom the cost of all equipment identified in the proposal. The maximum total award, including overhead contribution, will be €430,000, for a partner and €530,000 for applicants who take on the role of coordinator. Unless otherwise stated, all rules regarding eligible costs listed above and ineligible costs apply as defined within Research Ireland’s grant budget policy
Additional eligibility criteria	Only one partner within the proposal may request funding from Research Ireland. An individual applicant may only submit one project proposal to Research Ireland. Applicants must notify Research Ireland of their intention to submit a proposal via the national contact points listed above in advance of the submission deadline.
Relevant documents	Please review Research Ireland’s grant policies and guidance for further information
Additional Information	State Aid: Applicants are advised that funding awarded by Research Ireland under the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Programme will be subject to, and must comply with, State aid rules and the conditions of the EU Commission General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER). Funding will be awarded to successful applicants under Article 25, in respect of aid for research and development projects. For further details please consult: Taighde Éireann Research Ireland Research and Innovation Scheme 2021-2026
Useful Links	Following call launch, please visit Research Ireland’s dedicated call webpage at Funding - Research Ireland

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.17 ITALY-MUR

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: www.ricercainternazionale.mur.gov.it		
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Mrs Yasmine Iollo Mrs Sonia Angiolin		yasmine.iollo@est.mur.gov.it sonia.angiolin@est.mur.gov.it
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	3 000 000 €		Maximum funding per project: International projects coordinated by an Italian entity: 500.000 euro; Projects not coordinated by an Italian entity: 350.000 euro
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	The following entities are eligible, providing that they have stable organization in Italy: - enterprises, including foundations and non-economic entities (included registered NGOs), - universities, - research institutions and research organizations in accordance with EU Reg. n. 651/2014 of the European Commission - June 17, 2014. - Public administrations Any participant, in order to be eligible, must comply with the eligibility criteria listed in the “Avviso integrativo nazionale”.
Eligible Applicants	-
Eligible Costs	All activities classifiable as Basic Research, Industrial research and Experimental development are eligible for funding. Furthermore, Basic and Industrial research activities altogether must be predominant with respect to Experimental development activities (i.e. altogether, the cost of Basic and Industrial research activities must be greater than the cost of the Experimental development activities). All costs incurred during the lifetime of the project under the following categories are eligible: A) Personnel, B) Consulting and equivalent services (subcontracting) C.1) Travel and subsistence C.2) Equipment C.3) Other goods and Services E) Indirect Costs/Overheads (“Spese generali”) calculated at 15% flat rate of all direct costs excluding cost category B) Consulting and equivalent services [E) = 15% of A) + C.1) + C.2) + C.3]. Value added tax (VAT) actually and definitively incurred by the beneficiaries is an eligible expense only if it is not recoverable. Funding rates

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	The amount of funding which can be granted to each beneficiary is calculated multiplying the eligible costs for the funding rate listed hereafter: - Basic research: 70% - Industrial Research: 70% Experimental Development: 25%
Additional eligibility criteria	Legal/administrative/financial conditions Applicants shall: • not be defaulting with regard to other funding received by the Ministry of University and Research; • not have requested/got any other funding for the same project; • be compliant to the Italian law "D.Lgs. n 159 del 6/09/2011 e successive modificazioni ed integrazioni"; • not be subject to bankruptcy proceedings as of art. 5, comma 4, letter b) of DM 1314/2021 or must not be a company in difficulty according to the definition under number 18) of article 2 "Definitions" of Regulation (EU) no. 651/2014; • be in compliance with the obligations laid down in the contributory and social security regulations (DURC); Applicants shall demonstrate their viability and financial soundness regarding their own contribution to the project. For any private entity, if the following financial criteria, calculated using the data reported in the last approved balance sheet, are not fulfilled, the applicant can be funded only if a bank guarantee is provided: a) $CN > (CP - I)/2$ Where: • CN = net assets (Capitale netto) • CP = sum of the costs of all the projects for which public funding has been requested by the participant during the year • I = sum of the contributions received, approved or requested for the same projects b) $OF/F < 8\%$ Where:

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	• OF = financial charges (Oneri finanziari) • F = turnover (Fatturato)
Relevant documents	The admission for funding is subject to the adoption of the necessary accounting and administrative measures for the allocation of the resources. Funded participants will be requested to submit financial and scientific reports to MIUR. The criteria and provisions provided herewith are intended only for informative purposes. The complete list of criteria and provisions legally valid, which must be respected by all the Italian participants, is included in the “Avviso integrativo nazionale”, to be published on the dedicated web page on MUR website: http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/era/european-partnership-2021-27/sbep.aspx Applicable laws and rules: (http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/evidenza/normativa-prog-internazionali.aspx): - DL n. 83/2012 Misure urgenti per la crescita del Paese; - DM n. 1573 del 09/09/2024 - Nuovo sistema di concessione delle agevolazioni del MUR alle attività di ricerca - Avviso Integrativo nazionale Information available at: http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/era/european-partnership-2021-27/sbep.aspx
Additional Information	In addition to the project proposal, which shall be submitted at European level, the Italian participants are requested to submit to MUR, for the pre-proposal phase, a national integrative application signed by the legal representative person or a person delegated for this task, through the national web platform, available at the following link: https://banditransnazionali.mur.gov.it This national integrative application must be submitted by the same deadline established for the pre-proposal phase submission as defined in the international call. Any participant who does not submit its national integrative application by the deadline of the pre-proposal phase will be considered not eligible for funding.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Useful Links	-
--------------	---

1.18 LATVIA – LZP

	Funding Organisation: Latvian Council of Science https://www.lzp.gov.lv/lv		Name of the funding organisation  Latvijas Zinātnes padome
	Name: Aiga Salmiņa Lāsma Brenča		Email and Phone: aiga.salmina@lzp.gov.lv lasma.brenca@lzp.gov.lv
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €) 600,000€		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner Max 300 000 per partner not exceeding Max 100.00 per year
	✓	Funded priority area (s) Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	1) Research institutions registered in the Latvian Registry of Scientific Institutions, e.g. - Research Institutes - Universities and must have the status of Research and knowledge dissemination organization (Regulation EC 651/2014) 2) Business enterprises entered into the Latvian Commercial registry as companies, assumed they are eligible to do the specific research and have specific capacity and resources to do the research in Latvia and have their main activity in Latvia. Limitations of EU legislation apply (R651/2014) together with financial reporting requirements, in this case this is state aid. Two previous statements with sworn auditor’s approval should be provided and they must reflect the correspondence to the regulation as well as evidence of previous scientific activity and presence of capacity. Any other type of participant is not covered by LZZ funding mandate	
Eligible Applicants	Latvian beneficiaries are institutions as defined in previous point. The research group is represented by a leading researcher (PI) from the respective research institution who is mandated to participate in the application.	
Eligible Costs	Personnel costs incl. taxes; Consumables; Subcontracts (up to 25% of direct costs), needs	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	detailed justification, includes all external services, project core activities cannot be subcontracted; Equipment (only depreciation costs during project directly attributable to project tasks); Travels (according to travel plan); Indirect costs (up to 25% of direct costs excluding subcontracting).
Additional eligibility criteria	TRL9 is not funded
Relevant documents	Support is provided according to Provisions Nr 259, 26.05.2015 of the Latvian Cabinet of Ministers https://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas- At the contract phase - https://www.lzp.gov.lv/lv/atbalsts-starptautiskas-programmas-projektiem To receive funding by LZP, Consortium agreement duly signed should be presented. Annual financial and scientific reporting is mandatory. Enterprises shall provide audited statements of 2 previous closed financial periods on request. Final audit according to the LZP regulations
Additional Information	Support is provided according to Provisions Nr 259, 26.05.2015 of the Latvian Cabinet of Ministers https://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-dalibai-starptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas-petniecibas-un-tehnologiju-joma These provisions should be respected without exceptions. The maximum rates should respect the Provisions. The requirements in the provisions to specific applicant groups must be respected. LZP cannot fund implementation support, nor training activities. LZP is funding only research

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Useful Links

www.lzp.gov.lv
--

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.19 LITHUANIA – LMT

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: LMT <i>https://lmt.lrv.lt</i>		 Lietuvos mokslo taryba
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Viktoras Mongirdas		viktoras.mongirdas@lmt.lt +370 676 19613
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	300,000 €		up to € 150 000 for partner up to € 200 000 for coordinator
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	Eligible implementing institution – Lithuanian research and higher education institution which is included in the Register of Education and Research institutions		
Eligible Applicants	The Project Leader or the Principal investigator (PI) must have completed a doctoral degree and have corresponding qualifications.		

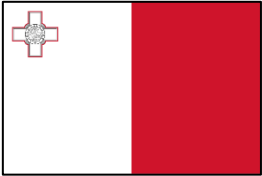
2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Costs	Personal, travel, purchase (assets, services), subcontracting, overheads 20% of eligible costs
Additional eligibility criteria	Time dedicated to the project by the PI (including the project leader) must be at least 20 hours, multiplied by the duration of the project in months.
Relevant documents	No national official paperwork until positive financing decision
Additional Information	Any public or private legal entity can be a partner of the implementing institution, which, together with the implementing institution, creates the conditions for the implementation of the project.
Useful Links	General information https://lmt.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys/mokslo-finansavimas/tarptautinio-bendradarbiavimo-priemones/euopos-partnerystes-era-net-ir-kitos-koordinavimo-veiklos/

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.20 MALTA – XJENZA Malta

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Xjenza Malta https://xjenzamalta.mt/		
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Luca Halasz Margherita Muscat		luca.halasz@gov.mt margherita.muscat.1@gov.mt
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	500,000 €		Minimum: No Limit Maximum: 500,000 €
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	Malta-based applicants that qualify as Eligible Undertakings and have an operating base in Malta can receive funding for Fundamental Research, Industrial Research, and/or Experimental Development projects. Funding is subject to the latest National Rules for Participation (State Aid). Eligible applicants may include: • Companies registered under the Companies Act • Co-operative societies • Professional bodies • NGOs • Non-profit entities, including foundations Public entities and public research or knowledge dissemination organisations based in Malta that do not engage in economic activity (as defined under Article 107 of the TFEU) may also be eligible for funding, under the National Rules for Participation (Non-State Aid).	
Eligible Applicants	Malta-based applicants that qualify as Eligible Undertakings and have an operating base in Malta can receive funding for Fundamental Research, Industrial Research, and/or Experimental Development projects. Funding is subject to the latest National Rules for Participation (State Aid). Eligible applicants may include: • Companies registered under the Companies Act • Co-operative societies • Professional bodies • NGOs • Non-profit entities, including foundations Public entities and public research or knowledge dissemination organisations based in Malta that do not engage in economic activity (as defined under Article 107 of the TFEU) may also be eligible for funding, under the National Rules for Participation (Non-State Aid).	
Eligible Costs	Eligibility for funding and cost coverage depends on the type of Malta-based entity applying and the selected funding route—De Minimis, General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER), or Non-State Aid. Eligible costs may include: • Personnel • Instruments, Specialised Equipment and Research consumables	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	• Travel and subsistence • IP & Knowledge Transfer Activities • Subcontracted Activities • Overheads and Other Operating Expenses For full details on eligible costs and funding rates under each funding modality, please refer to the latest National Rules for Participation available on the Xienza Malta website.
Additional eligibility criteria	Further information can be found in the detailed National Rules accessible from the Xienza Malta website .
Relevant documents	The national application form together with the required annexes can be downloaded from the Xienza Malta resource page and must be sent to eusubmissions.xienzamalta@gov.mt by the deadline specified in the National Rules for participation.
Additional Information	For further information and assistance with partner search, applicants can contact the Call Managers Luca Halasz (luca.halasz@gov.mt) and/or Margherita Muscat (margherita.muscat.1@gov.mt), keeping in copy eusubmissions.xienzamalta@gov.mt. For escalated matters, kindly contact the Senior Executive Ms. Christy Baldacchino (christy.baldacchino.2@gov.mt).
Useful Links	https://xienzamalta.mt/media/open-funding-schemes/

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.21 MONTENEGRO-MESI

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Ministry of Education, Science, and Innovation <u>Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation (https://www.gov.me/mps)</u>		
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Aleksandra Mugoša Anđela Radulović Martina Lukić		<u>aleksandra.mugosa@mpni.gov.me</u> <u>andjela.grujicic@mpni.gov.me</u> <u>martina.lukic@mpni.gov.me</u>
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	100,000 €		Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation will fund between €50,000 and €100,000 per project proposal.
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	1. Licensed scientific research institutions 2. Legal entities – innovation activity entities registered in the Central Business Organisations Register and the Register of Innovation Activities (<i>*Organisation/institution whose project application has been approved must be registered in the Register of Innovation Activities prior to signing the Project Co-financing Agreement with the National Funding Agency – Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation</i>)
Eligible Applicants	1. Licensed scientific research institutions 2. Legal entities – innovation activity entities registered in the Central Business Organisations Register and the Register of Innovation Activities (<i>*Organisation/institution whose project application has been approved must be registered in the Register of Innovation Activities prior to signing the Project Co-financing Agreement with the National Funding Agency – Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation</i>)
Eligible Costs	Funding is provided for up to 100% of eligible costs: 1. Fees for persons employed on innovative project (Project Applicant staff; maximum 25% of total eligible national co-funding share); 2. Material costs (medium-sized or small-sized equipment, raw material, parts, etc.); 3. Development services or development costs (subcontracting); 4. Costs for participation on relevant events (entry fees, transport, per diem, accomodation); and Administrative costs and overheads.
Additional eligibility criteria	A Montenegrin applicant may receive co-funding for maximum one submitted application as coordinator. A Montenegrin applicant may receive co-funding for maximum one submitted application as partner.
Relevant documents	The following documents are relevant for the preparation of the project proposal:

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Montenegrin Smart Specialization Strategy (2019-2024)
	Strategy for Scientific and Research Activities (2024–2028)
Additional Information	According to the type of support allocated for projects, in cases where the beneficiaries are engaged in economic activities, regardless of their legal status and the manner in which they are financed, it will be provided under the <i>de minimis aid</i> regime (state aid of small value). These beneficiaries will be required to act in accordance with the Regulation on the List of State Aid Rules ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 35/2014, 2/2015, 38/2015, 20/2016, 33/2020, 38/2020, 53/2020, 98/2020, 130/2020, 44/2021, 107/2021, and 131/2021, 15/2022, and 52/2022), as well as in accordance with the provisions of the legal acts regulating this area. The total amount of small value aid (<i>de minimis</i>) allocated to a single beneficiary must not cumulatively exceed €300,000 over any three fiscal year period. The completed Statement Form for small value aid must be submitted to the Ministry before signing the Project Co-financing Agreement.
Useful Links	https://www.gov.me/mps/horizont-evropa-eu-okvirni-program-za-istrazivanje-i-inovacije-2021-2027

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.22 NORWAY – RCN

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: The Research Council of Norway (RCN) The Research Council of Norway (forskningsradet.no)		 The Research Council of Norway
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Inderjit Singh Marjara Nikolai Owe (after 17 August 2026)		ism@forskningsradet.no ; +47 98823814 nio@forskningsradet.no ; +47 40239007
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	3,000,000 €		The RCN will fund up to 300,000€ per project proposal. In addition, the RCN may fund up to 30,000€ per project with a project manager (coordinator) from a Norwegian research organisation.
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	Applicants for project funding must be affiliated with an academic institution, company/industry, the public sector or an NGO. See definition and specification here: https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/who-can-apply-for-funding . Sole proprietorships cannot apply for funding from the RCN.	
Eligible Applicants	The Project Leader (PL) or the principal investigator (PI) must have completed a doctoral degree or have corresponding qualifications.	
Eligible Costs	The participation must follow RCN's General Terms and Conditions for Research projects or for R&D Projects. See: Budget (forskingsradet.no). The budget for the Norwegian partners shall follow the RCN cost model and the RCN regulations. <u>Exchange rate:</u> The budget applied for shall be stated in Euro. Conversion from Euro to Norwegian kroner is based on the official exchange rate per deadline for preproposals. The official exchange rate can be found here: InforEuro, the exchange rate of the Euro currency (europa.eu) <u>Private companies/undertakings:</u> If you are a private company/undertaking applying or a private company/ undertaking will be part of your project, please read this section: Applicants that are private companies, is an actor that carries out an economic activity consisting of offering products or services on a given market, must be aware that their funding will be given within the limits set by the State Aid Rules; State aid (forskingsradet.no). State aid awarded by the RCN is granted under the General Block Exemption Regulation for state aid, Article 25: Aid for research and development projects. To ensure that support is awarded in compliance with the state aid rules, the RCN may ask applicants to provide supplementary information. The Project Owner must be able to document that its own institution and all its partners (all recipients of state aid) are eligible to receive state aid. Support from the RCN constitutes state aid when it is awarded to an "undertaking", i.e., an actor that carries out an economic activity consisting of offering products or services on a given market. Support from the Research Council of Norway awarded to research	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	institutions is normally awarded for non-economic activity. When an entity also pursues economic activities ("undertaking"), the financing, the costs and the revenues of those economic activities will be granted under the state aid guidelines and must be entered in separate accounts. The level of state-aid an undertaking can receive is generally based on the size of the undertaking, types of activities they will execute in the research project and types of collaboration within the project. Please see important definitions on actual collaboration, types of activities and undertakings in difficulty under article 25: Articles for state aid from the Research Council of Norway <u>Maximum state aid:</u> • Small companies: maximum 80% (based on the definition of R&I activities and actual collaboration) • Medium-sized companies: maximum 75% (based on the definition of R&I activities and actual collaboration) • Large companies: maximum 65% (based on the definition of R&I activities and actual collaboration) Please note that the state aid applied for by an undertaking can be reduced in dialogue with the RCN based on assessments during eligibility check or revision.
Additional eligibility criteria	Funding from the Research Council of Norway is limited to research and innovation activities aligned with sustainable blue bioeconomy, biotechnology and environmental sustainability, including enabling technologies with a clear and direct application in these areas. For the Research Council of Norway projects that target the seafood industry (fisheries and aquaculture – all species incl. low trophic species), and related infrastructures and value chains are eligible for funding. Projects targeting use of biotechnology relevant for these industries as well as research targeting marine environment and climate are also eligible.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	The following topics are not eligible for funding by the Research Council of Norway under this call: • Energy production, energy systems, and marine energy infrastructure (including offshore renewable energy and energy security) • Exploration, extraction or utilisation of mineral resources from the seabed (including deep sea mining) • Carbon capture and storage or carbon sequestration activities in the marine domain • Development of industrial offshore or marine infrastructure, unless clearly justified as supporting sustainable bioresources, environmental management or ecosystem-based approaches Proposals including such elements may still be considered eligible provided that these activities are not the primary focus of the project and represent a limited part of the overall project, and if the project primarily addresses sustainable blue bioresources, environmental impacts, biotechnology or enabling technologies supporting these domains.
Relevant documents	For more general information about Norwegian conditions for funding, please read: https://www.forskningssradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/funding-from-the-research-council/
Additional Information	Norwegian applicants shall not submit any proposal at the national level before a funding decision is made, and their project is granted funding. Project partners of projects granted funding will have to submit national application forms to The Research Council of Norway after notification. Norwegian project partners will sign a separate contract with the RCN. Norwegian partners that are coordinators of the projects will be asked to also coordinate the Norwegian partners of the projects in dialogue with the RCN (reporting etc.). If there are more than one Norwegian partner but no

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Norwegian coordinator the RCN will ask one of the Norwegian partners to function as a contact point for the Norwegian partners. The participation for Norwegian partners must follow RCNs General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects. Depending on the volume of submitted and eligible projects, up to 25 % additional funding may be allocated to the call to fund additional projects on the ranking list Open access / Open science The Research Council seeks to lead the way in making research as open as possible and as closed as necessary. The Research Council of Norway has stipulated requirements relating to self-archiving and open access to publications and research data produced in connection with R&D projects funded by the Research Council. Read more about The Research Council's Principles for Open Science: https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Adviser-research-policy/open-science/
Useful Links	General information: https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/ Project reporting to the RCN: Project reporting (forskningsradet.no)

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.23 POLAND – NCBR

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: The National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR) https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr		
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Monika Włoszek		monika.wloszek@ncbr.gov.pl +48 22 39 07 180
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	1,000,000 €		300,000 € per project¹
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	

¹ The maximum amount per the project is 300 000 € and it will be allocated to all Polish partners, regardless of their number.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	N/A	
Eligible Applicants	1. Enterprises² - micro, small, medium or large, 2. Research organisations³ (research and knowledge-dissemination organisations), 3. Groups of entities comprising at least two enterprises, 4. Groups of entities comprising of at least one research organisation and at least one enterprise, 5. Group of entities comprising of at least two research organisations.	
Eligible Costs	For research organisations: 1. personnel costs 2. consumables 3. equipment 4. travel 5. other direct costs (i.a. participation to joint activities of the SBEP Initiative)	

² as defined in Annex I to Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (hereinafter referred to as “Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014”);

³ Research organisation - an entity as defined in Article 2(83) of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014, and in Article 37(1) of the Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development (Polish Journal of Laws 2024, item 1170 as amended), in conjunction with Article 7(1)(1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 6a, 6b, 8) Act of 20 July 2018 of the Law on Higher Education and Science (Polish Journal of Laws 2024, item 1571 as amended).;

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	6. subcontracting – used exclusively for the research activity; this cost category shall not exceed 70% of all eligible costs of a project 7. additional overheads – incurred indirectly as a result of the research project. That costs should account 25% of all eligible direct costs and are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above (called x%) and the rest of direct costs for research organizations, excluding subcontracting (6); It means $7 = (1+2+3+4+5) \times 25\%$. Enterprises: 1. personnel costs 2. equipment 3. other direct costs: please refer to cost eligibility guide (przewodnik kwalifikowalności kosztów) for more details 4. subcontracting – used exclusively for the research activity; this cost category shall not exceed 70% of all eligible costs of a project 5. additional overheads – incurred indirectly as a result of the research project. That costs for enterprises include costs related to consumables, travel and participation to joint activities of the SBEP Initiative. Additional overheads costs should account 20% of eligible direct project costs and are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above (called x%) and the rest of direct costs; It means $5 = (1+2+3+4) \times 20\%$. For more details on eligible costs, applicants are advised to check cost eligibility guide (przewodnik kwalifikowalności kosztów) in the call announcement on NCBR webpage: https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr.
--	--

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Additional eligibility criteria	Research organisations: all types of research may be funded. Basic research must not exceed 10% of value of national requested budget. Other types of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) are not eligible for funding as separate WP/Task.																							
	Enterprises: Only Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental Development will be funded. Other types of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) are not eligible for funding as separate WP/Task.																							
	Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for research organisations. For enterprises, the quota will be determined on a case-by-case basis, taking into account company size and the type of research and development activity, pursuant to Section 2 of the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development.																							
	If an enterprise applies individually at the national level (i.e. there is no Polish group of entities or group of enterprises), the state aid intensity for industrial research and experimental development shall not be increased on the basis of “effective cooperation” between enterprises or between enterprises and research organisations.																							
	<table><tr><th>Type of Activity \ Type of Organization</th><th>Micro/Small Enterprises</th><th>Medium Enterprises</th><th>Large Enterprises</th><th>Research Organizations</th></tr><tr><td>Fundamental/ Basic Research</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td><td>Up to 100%</td></tr><tr><td>Industrial Research</td><td>50+20+5/15/25 (max. 80%)</td><td>50+10+5/15/25 (max. 80%)</td><td>50+5/15/25 (max. 75%)</td><td>Up to 100 %</td></tr><tr><td>Experimental development</td><td>25+20+5/15/25 (max. 70%)</td><td>25+10+5/15/25 (max. 60%)</td><td>25+5/15/25 (max. 50%)</td><td>Up to 100 %</td></tr></table>					Type of Activity \ Type of Organization	Micro/Small Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Large Enterprises	Research Organizations	Fundamental/ Basic Research	n/a	n/a	n/a	Up to 100%	Industrial Research	50+20+5/15/25 (max. 80%)	50+10+5/15/25 (max. 80%)	50+5/15/25 (max. 75%)	Up to 100 %	Experimental development	25+20+5/15/25 (max. 70%)	25+10+5/15/25 (max. 60%)	25+5/15/25 (max. 50%)
Type of Activity \ Type of Organization	Micro/Small Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Large Enterprises	Research Organizations																				
Fundamental/ Basic Research	n/a	n/a	n/a	Up to 100%																				
Industrial Research	50+20+5/15/25 (max. 80%)	50+10+5/15/25 (max. 80%)	50+5/15/25 (max. 75%)	Up to 100 %																				
Experimental development	25+20+5/15/25 (max. 70%)	25+10+5/15/25 (max. 60%)	25+5/15/25 (max. 50%)	Up to 100 %																				
Relevant documents	All proposals must be aligned with national regulations, inter alia:																							

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	• The Act of 20 July 2018 - Law on Higher Education and Science; • The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development; • The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, which is in line with the Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (General Block Exemption Regulation); • The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 17 September 2010 on the detailed mode of performance of tasks of the National Centre for Research and Development.
Additional Information	• Polish applicants shall declare the TRL (TRL: 1-9) of their research in the pre -proposals and full proposals. • Applicant must be established as a legal person⁴ under Polish law and must conduct its business, R&D or any other activity on the territory of the Republic of Poland, confirmed by an entry into the relevant Polish official register⁵ • For enterprises it is strongly advised to state in the Pre-proposal application form the KRS number of the enterprise and the size of the enterprise (micro/small, medium, large). • For a group of entities to participate as an Applicant in the call, it must formally exist on the date the pre-proposal is submitted. This existence must be evidenced by an agreement made by the members - at least conditionally - to create the group of entities (consortium). • In justified cases, the composition of group of Polish entities may be changed before the funding decision is issued by NCBR. Any changes must meet the call's eligibility criteria and be approved in

⁴ Legal person - a legal entity other than a natural person that has the legal capacity to hold and to exercise legal rights and obligations within a given legal system, including capacity to enter into contracts, sue and be sued.

⁵ if applicable. Does not apply to legal persons that are not obliged to register in a relevant Polish official register according to Polish law.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	advance by the international project consortium, the call secretariat, NCBR, and any other funding institutions involved. Changes must also respect the principle of equal treatment of applicants. • After international evaluation of full proposals and the selection of projects to be funded, Polish participants will be invited to submit a National Application Form (NAF) with required attachments. Templates are available at https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/wniosek-krajowy. The NAFs will be examined for the appropriateness of funding requested. The Polish participants are obliged to use the rate of exchange of the European Central Bank dated on the day of opening of the call. • If more than one Polish entity participates in the project, the NAF must be submitted jointly by a consortium (group of entities) comprising Polish entities only. • NCBR may enter into a project contract provided that the participating entity: 1) is not excluded from applying for funding on the basis of: a) Article 207(4) of Act of 27 August 2009 on Public Finance (Polish Journal of Laws 2025, item 1483 as amended); b) Article 12(1)(1) of the Act of 15 June 2012 on the consequences of entrusting work to foreigners staying illegally in the territory of the Republic of Poland (Polish Journal of Laws 2025, item 1567 as amended); c) Article 9(1)(2a) of the Act of 28 October 2002 on the liability of collective entities for acts prohibited under penalty (Polish Journal of Laws 2024, item 1822 as amended); 2) is not an entity subject to an obligation to repay aid because the European Commission has declared such aid unlawful and incompatible with the internal market, 3) is not in arrears with payments of public dues or with social security and health insurance contributions, 4) is not an undertaking in difficulty⁶ within the meaning of EU state aid rules and is not under receivership,
--	--

⁶ The definition of an undertaking in difficulty is set out in Article 2(18) of Regulation (EU) No 651/2014

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	5) is not subject to exclusion from applying for funding due to sanctions. • We encourage applicants to use our "PartFinder" tool (Partner Search Tool), which allows to match science and industry from around the world. The "PartFinder" is available at: https://partfinder.ncbr.gov.pl/
Useful Links	Detailed information about scope, financial rules, national procedure and national regulations is available on the NCBR's homepage: https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/platforma-konkursowa https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/wniosek-krajowy

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.24 ROMANIA – ANC

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding organisation: https://www.mcid.gov.ro/		 MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI ȘI CERCETĂRII
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Domnica Cotet		domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro +40-213023880
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	1.000.000		250.000 max. if the consortium is coordinated by a Romanian applicant 200.000 max. for Romanian partners in the consortium
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	The categories of institutions and units that can benefit from public funding for Horizon Europe projects are those established as components of the national research-development system, in accordance with		

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	the provisions of OG 57/2002, approved by Law 324/2003 with subsequent amendments and additions: educational institutions accredited public and private institutions, national research and development institutes, other public or private research organizations, economic agents (SMEs and large enterprises), local or central public administration units, non-governmental organizations.
Eligible Applicants	The head of the research team from each participating institution has a PhD degree. This condition does not apply if the institution is an enterprise within the meaning of the State Aid legislation. A person in charge of the research team will participate in a single proposal from the trans-national call in this capacity.
Eligible Costs	Staff costs; Logistics expenses - Capital expenditure ; - Expenditure on stocks - supplies and inventory items; - Expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 25% of the funding from the public budget. The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work; Travel expenses; Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs and cost for subcontracting) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 20% of direct costs. The current guidelines for grants on an expenditure-cost basis and for allocations for administrative agreements apply. ANC will avoid double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding) and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded. ANC will fund strategic (basic) research, applied/industrial research, experimental development implemented by research organisations and/or SMEs, according to the national rules and to the State Aid legislation.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Additional eligibility criteria	It is strongly advised to contact ANC before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects/research consortia.
Relevant documents	The framework for this funding action is the National Plan for Research, Development and Innovation 2022-2027, Programme 5.8 European and international cooperation, 5.8.1 Horizon Europe Program
Additional Information	https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/programul-orient-europa-al-comisiei-europene
Useful Links	https://bluepartnership.eu/funding-opportunities

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.25 SLOVAKIA – SCS TI

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

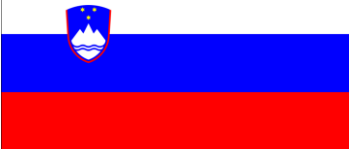
	Funding Organisation: Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (SCSTI) Centrum vedecko-technických informácií SR (CVTI SR) https://www.cvtisr.sk/		
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Erika Jankajová		Erika.jankajova@cvtisr.sk +421 904 859 228
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	800,000 €		The maximum funding amount per Slovak partner in international projects is 400,000 €. The maximum funding amount per project for all Slovak partners, if the project has two or more Slovak partners, is 800,000 €. The minimum funding amount is 100,000 € per partner
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	Legal entities established in the Slovak Republic, such as public or private research and academic institutions, higher education institutions, SMEs, public sector entities, and other relevant organizations actively involved in research, development, and innovation.	
Eligible Applicants	- Private sector entities (entrepreneurial/business sector) - Research institutions (e.g. the Slovak Academy of Sciences and its institutes) - Academic sector (e.g. universities and higher education institutions) - Public administration bodies and organizations established by them, including local and regional government authorities - Non-governmental non-profit organizations - Cluster organizations	
Eligible Costs	- Personnel costs (salaries of researchers, technicians and other support staff employed by the beneficiary, to the extent that they are directly involved in the project, salaries of project management personnel and other essential positions necessary for the implementation and coordination of the project; - Costs of instruments and equipment - Costs for contract research, technical knowledge and patents - Purchased or licensed from external sources under market conditions, as well as costs for consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the project; All expenditures incurred by Slovak project participants must comply with the provisions of the State aid Scheme to Support Partnerships in the Field of Research, Development and Innovation under the Slovak Programme	
Additional eligibility criteria	The proposed project activities must be in line with the priorities defined in the Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation of the Slovak Republic 2021-2027 (SK RIS3 2021+), which serves as the strategic framework for research, development and innovation investment.	
Relevant documents		
Additional Information	All funded Slovak entities must ensure that their proposed activities are in accordance with the national strategic framework, specifically the: Strategy for Financing the ERDF, ESF+, CF, FST, and ENRAF 2021–2027	
Useful Links	SK RIS3 2021+ Strategy for Financing the ERDF, ESF+, CF, FST, and ENRAF 2021–2027	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.26 SLOVENIA – MIZM

	Funding Organisation: Ministry of Education, Science and Youth		 REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND YOUTH
Geographical coverage of the programme (national/regional)	National programme		
Programme title	Programmes of International Scientific Cooperation		
Programme website	https://www.gov.si/zbirke/projekti-in-programi/obzorje-evropa/partnerstva/		
Organisation responsible for the programme	Ministry of Education, Science and Youth		
Programme provider	Ministry of Education, Science and Youth		
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:	
	Lidija Kramar	lidija.kramar@gov.si +386 (0)1 478 46 41	
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner	
	600,000 €	No minimum budget is requested.	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

		max 300,000 € per project (maximum requested budget per year: 100,000 €; the actual amount and dynamics of co-funding shall be defined in the national co-funding contract)
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Estimated number of research partners that can be co-funded	2 research projects with Slovenian applicants.	
Eligible Institutions	“Research organizations”, as defined in the national Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act (ZZrID) are eligible for co-funding. All participating organizations must be registered in the register of the Public Agency for Scientific Research and Innovations of the Republic of Slovenia (<i>Slovenian Current Research Information System, hereinafter: the SICRIS</i>).	
Eligible Applicants	The eligibility of the research leader and other members of the research team: The project activities of each Slovenian partner must be supervised by a research leader who fulfils the conditions for a project leader as defined in paragraph one of Article 63 of the ZzrID. Regarding the definition of internationally comparable research outputs, the criteria for determining the achievement of internationally comparable research results and the period covering internationally comparable research achievements for the management of a research project or programme of 22 May 2024 are available at https://www.arrs.si/sl/akti/kriteriji-vodja-maj24.asp All participating researchers must be registered in the SICRIS and have available research hours. The total funding requested per project for all Slovenian partners within a consortium may not exceed 300,000 € for the entire duration of the project.	
Co-funding rate	100% for research organisations (such as universities, public and private research institutes) whose funded activity is non-commercial in accordance with the provisions of	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation. Wide dissemination of all research results on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis is required. For research organisations whose funded activity is commercial in accordance with the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation, the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27.6.2014) and the national scheme for State aid for research and development (the Programme of collaborative research and development and other projects subject to State aid from the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport 2022-2030, as amended, published at: https://www.gov.si/podrocja/izobrazevanje-znanost-in-sport/znanost/), the maximum co-funding rates shall be as follows:																
	<table><tr><th>Type of research</th><th>Large enterprises</th><th>Medium-sized enterprises</th><th>Small enterprises</th></tr><tr><td>Basic research</td><td>100%</td><td>100%</td><td>100%</td></tr><tr><td>Industrial research</td><td>65%</td><td>75%</td><td>80%</td></tr><tr><td>Experimental development</td><td>40%</td><td>50%</td><td>60%</td></tr></table>	Type of research	Large enterprises	Medium-sized enterprises	Small enterprises	Basic research	100%	100%	100%	Industrial research	65%	75%	80%	Experimental development	40%	50%	60%
Type of research	Large enterprises	Medium-sized enterprises	Small enterprises														
Basic research	100%	100%	100%														
Industrial research	65%	75%	80%														
Experimental development	40%	50%	60%														
Eligible Costs	The ministry will finance all eligible costs of Slovenian applicants in selected transnational projects, in accordance with the Decree on scientific research public funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia. Eligible costs must be directly related to the research carried out and must include all the following categories of direct costs:																

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	• personnel (including social, health, pension, and other contributions in accordance with national legislation); • materials (travel and meeting expenses, consumables, dissemination and knowledge exchange costs and other costs); • depreciation costs. Indirect costs are eligible for up to 25% of direct costs. This call is suitable for implementing Article 64 of the Scientific Research and Innovation Activity Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], Nos 186/21, 40/23, 102/24 and 40/25 (ZZrID)). For more detailed explanations, please refer to the <i>Navodila za prijavitelje in upravičence</i> (Instructions for Applicants and Eligible Persons) (available at: https://www.gov.si/teme/javno-javna-partnerstva-na-podrocju-raziskav-in-inovacij/). In the event of the application of the Rules determining special projects of national importance and the regulatory framework for the determination of salaries for researchers, costs will be planned in accordance with the provisions of this Annex.
Additional eligibility criteria	Eligible type of research and TRL: basic/applied – for Slovenian partner TRL range: 2-6. The type of research conducted by Slovenian researchers must be defined and explained in the project proposal (e.g. in the Comments on budget section). Public expenditure eligibility period: from the financial year 2028, until the end of the financial year 2030.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Project expenditure eligibility period: From the start date of the transnational project, as specified in the National Documentation for the duration of the project, with the prescribed additional 30-day deadline for the payment of invoices related to the project costs. The project expenditure eligibility period starts after the entry into force of the consortium agreement between the selected consortium partners from the date on which the national co-funding contract enters into force. The co-funding contract enters into force on the date of the fulfilment of the suspensive condition, i.e. on the date of the conclusion/signing of the consortium agreement. The consortium agreement shall be deemed to be signed when the last signatory party signs it. If the consortium agreement is not signed at the latest within one year from the date of the start of the project (as specified in the national documentation), the contract between the parties shall not enter into force and therefore no rights and obligations shall arise between them. In this case, the contracting party cannot demand performance from the counterparty as agreed in the above-mentioned contract. As from the date of the entry into force of the contract, the eligible person shall be entitled to the payment of eligible costs and expenses incurred by it as a result of the implementation of the project from the date of the start of the project.
Relevant documents	Legal basis – National regulation: - State Administration Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], Nos 113/05 – official consolidated version, 89/07 – Constitutional Court Decision, 126/07 – ZUP-E, 48/09, 8/10 – ZUP-G, 8/12 – ZVRS-F, 21/12, 47/13, 12/14, 90/14, 51/16, 36/21, 82/21, 189/21, 153/22, 18/23, 83/25 – ZOUL and 979+/26; hereinafter: ZDU-1); - Public Finance Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], Nos 11/11 – official consolidated text, 14/13 – corr., 101/13, 55/15 – ZFisP, 96/15 – ZIPRS1617, 13/18, 195/20 – Constitutional Court Decision, 18/23 – ZDU-10, 76/23, 24/25 – ZfisP-1, 39/25, 85/25 – ZPJS and 112/25, hereinafter: ZJF); - Scientific Research and Innovation Activity Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], Nos 186/21, 40/23 102/24 and 40/25, hereinafter: ZZrID);

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	- Rules on co-funding scientific research activities (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No 69/23); - Rules determining special projects of national importance and the regulatory framework for the determination of salaries for researchers (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No 126/23,106/24, 80/25 and 17/26); - Act Regulating the Implementation of the Budgets of the Republic of Slovenia for 2026 and 2027, ZIPRS2627(Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No 95/25 and 112/25 – ZJF-K); - Budget of the Republic of Slovenia for 2026, DP2026 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No. 104/24 in 95/25) - Budget of the Republic of Slovenia for 2027; (DP2027) (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No. 95/25) - Integrity and Prevention of Corruption Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No 69/11 – official consolidated text, 158/20, 3/22 – ZDeb and 16/23-ZZPri); - Personal Data Protection Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No 163/22, 40/25 – ZinfV-1 and 10/26 – ZP-1L; hereinafter: ZVOP-2); - Trade Secrets Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No 22/19, hereinafter: ZPosS); - Public Procurement Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], Nos 91/15, 14/18, 121/21, 10/22, 74/22 – Constitutional Court Decision, 100/22 – ZNUZSZS, 28/23, 88/23 – ZOPNN-F and 83/25 - ZOUL, hereinafter: ZJN-3); - Resolution on the Slovenian Scientific Research and Innovation Strategy 2030 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No 49/22);
--	---

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	- Decree on scientific research public funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], Nos 35/22, 144/22 79/23 and 16/26); - The criteria for determining the achievement of internationally comparable research results and the period covering internationally comparable research achievements for research project or programme leaders, effective from 22 May 2024 (available at https://www.arrs.si/sl/akti/kriteriji-vodja-maj24.asp) and Amendment of the Criteria for determining the achievement of internationally comparable research results and the period covering internationally comparable research achievements for research project or programme leaders, effective from 24 May 2024 (available at https://www.aris-rs.si/sl/akti/kriteriji-vodja-dop-maj24.asp) - Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2014/C 198/01); - Programme of Collaborative Research and Development Projects and Other Projects Subject to State Aid of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation 2022–2030, No. 440-4/2022/1 of 26 September 2022, as amended and supplemented (Version 2.0) on 20 July 2023, available at: https://www.gov.si/assets/ministrstva/MVZI/Znanost/Strategije-predpisi-in-drugi-dokumenti/Program-sodelovalnih-raziskovalno-razvojnih-projektov-in-drugih-projektov-ki-so-predmet-drzavnih-pomoci-MVZI-2022-2030.pdf - - Decree on the implementation of scientific research work in accordance with the principles of open science (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [<i>Uradni list RS</i>], No 59/23 and 39/25); Open Science Action Plan for the implementation of Action 6.2: Open science to improve the quality, efficiency and responsiveness of research in the framework of the Resolution on the Scientific Research and Innovation Strategy of Slovenia 2030 of 31 May 2023, No 63100-1/2023/5 (available at: https://www.arrs.si/sl/dostop/inc/24/Akcijski_nacrt_odprta%20znanost.pdf).
Additional Information	Applicants must submit the transnational application in accordance with the instructions and deadlines set out in the joint transnational call for tender. The submission of an application at the national level is not foreseen.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	All information necessary to establish the eligibility for the co-funding of Slovenian applicants must be evident from the duly submitted transnational project application. The national contracting procedure will start once the projects are proposed for co-funding at the level of the transnational call for tenders. The national documentation submitted, including evidence of the start date of the transnational project, will be a prerequisite for the signature of the contract at the national level (a draft contract is annexed to the <i>Navodila za prijavitelje in upravičence</i> (Instructions for Applicants and Eligible Persons), available at: https://www.gov.si/teme/javno-javna-partnerstva-na-podrocju-raziskav-in-inovacij/).
Useful Links	All Slovenian applicants are recommended to contact the Slovenian national contact person. All Slovenian applicants should refer to the information published on the call for tenders at the following website: https://www.gov.si/drzavni-organi/ministrstva/ministrstvo-za-izobrazevanje-znanost-in-mladino/javne-objave For more detailed explanations, please refer to the <i>Navodila za prijavitelje in upravičence</i> (Instructions for Applicants and Eligible Persons) (available at: https://www.gov.si/teme/javno-javna-partnerstva-na-podrocju-raziskav-in-inovacij/).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.27 SPAIN – AEI

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: <u>Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)</u>	
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email:
	Abraham Trujillo Quintela	oceans@aei.gob.es
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	1,300,000 €	The <u>following funding limits for direct costs</u> for a three-year project are considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible. • If the consortium is NOT COORDINATED by an AEI-applicant: max. € 140.000 • If the consortium IS COORDINATED by an AEI-applicant: max. € 220.000 • If the consortium IS COORDINATED by an AEI-applicant and there is another AEI-applicant in the

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

proposal, the amount for both Partners is: max. € 260.000

- Additional amount of € 30.000 maximum (direct costs) can be requested per proposal if the work plan includes substantial experimental tasks to be carried out by the AEI applicants and which must be clearly justified in the budget.
- On top of the abovementioned direct cost limits, indirect costs must be added in the application: 25% of direct costs (including the subcontracting costs).

Important:

- only ONE applicant applying for funding to AEI is allowed per proposal
- Two AEI-applicants are allowed in the same proposal only in cases when one of them is acting as Coordinator
- The direct costs (including subcontracting) in the application must be rounded to the thousands.

Example of maximum funding per proposal	CD (€)	CI (25%) (€)	TOTAL (€)
One AEI-applicant	140.000	35.000	175.000

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

			<table><tr><td>One AEI-applicant - coordinator</td><td>220.000</td><td>55.000</td><td>275.000</td></tr><tr><td>Two AEI-applicants – one coordinator</td><td>260.000</td><td>65.000</td><td>325.000</td></tr></table>	One AEI-applicant - coordinator	220.000	55.000	275.000	Two AEI-applicants – one coordinator	260.000	65.000	325.000
	One AEI-applicant - coordinator	220.000	55.000	275.000							
	Two AEI-applicants – one coordinator	260.000	65.000	325.000							
		Additional amount of € 30.000 maximum (direct costs) and the corresponding indirect costs can be requested per proposal if the work plan includes substantial experimental tasks carried out by the AEI applicants. Substantial experimental tasks are those required for the development of observational or experimental research projects. For instance, ecosystem sampling, design and execution of experiments, obtention of new data sets, use of analytical procedures for the quantification of physical, chemical, geological, or biological variables. Tasks in which existing data are used or re-analysed exclusively will not be considered substantial experimental tasks. Those tasks will be considered desk and not experimental research projects.									
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy									
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches									
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting									
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses									
Eligible Institutions	Eligible entities for the AEI funding are: Non-profit research organizations (such as universities, public research institutions, technological centres and other private non-profit institutions performing RDI activities in Spain), which must comply with the requirements established by this transnational call and with the rules on eligibility defined in the corresponding Spanish national funding instrument “ Proyectos de Colaboración ”										

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Internacional - PCI” (see PCI 2025-1 as an example) and the PCI Requirements document. They must have been previously beneficiaries of any of the AEI calls, as stated in the PCI Requirements document. They must ensure contractual relationship with the Principal Investigator (PI) during all the implementation of the project. IMPORTANT and NEW! • <i>Submission of proposals at the AEI:</i> Within one week after the SBEP pre-proposal submission, the Spanish PI must ALSO submit the Spanish proposal to the AEI. The PI must include a copy of the international joint pre-proposal, the SBEP application and the “Declaración responsable del investigador principal” (see Word document on the AEI website). The link to AEI’s application system is: PROYECTOS TRANSNACIONALES 2025 You can also find it, together with the templates for the “Declaración responsable del investigador principal”, in the following link: https://www.aei.gob.es/colaboracion-internacional/convocatorias-internacionales
Eligible Applicants	Principal Investigators (PIs) requesting funding to the AEI must: • Be eligible to the corresponding PCI call (see PCI 2025-1 as an example) and the PCI Requirements document • Demonstrate experience as investigators in projects funded by the different Plan Estatal I+D+i: 2013-2016, 2017-2020, 2021-2023, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant national or international programmes. Incompatibilities: The following must be considered when participating in Different ERA-Nets, European Co-funded Partnerships or other international initiatives:

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	• PIs will not be eligible for funding if they apply (i) in more than one proposal in this transnational joint call, (ii) in more than one proposal in the same PCI call and/or (iii) in PCI calls of consecutive years. • If the same PI submits two or more proposals in this transnational call, they will all be declared ineligible except one, without the possibility of changing the PI. • A PI that has been granted a PCI the previous year will be declared ineligible, without the possibility of changing the PI. • Changes of the PI between the 2 steps of the transnational call are not allowed • PI must remain unchanged between the proposal in this transnational call and the corresponding PCI call should the proposal be recommended for funding Important: In the application form, the applicants should include the PI's full name (with both surnames) and the full name of their institution as stated in the Sistema de Entidades (SISEN).
Eligible Costs	• Research and innovation activities are eligible. Mere dissemination, communication or other similar activities will not be eligible. • Only personnel costs for exclusive dedication to the project are eligible. This must be clearly stated in the contract. The costs of permanent staff linked to the beneficiary entity or members of the research team will not be considered eligible costs. • Direct costs such as current costs, scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination costs and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities. • Indirect costs (25% of all direct costs, <u>including the subcontracting costs</u>). The AEI will avoid double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding) and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Additional eligibility criteria	Centres formed by different Spanish legal entities will be considered as a unique entity, and thus the maximum funding should not exceed the limits per proposal established above (for example, mixed centres). Two centres or institutions belonging to the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) will be treated as two separate partners one from another when one of them is acting as Coordinator of the proposal and their tasks and identity in the project are sufficiently separated and justified. Although private enterprises are not funded by the AEI, the Spanish industrial sector is welcome to participate in the transnational consortia principally obtaining funds from the CDTI participating in this transnational call (see CDTI’s requirements), from other innovation and technological development funding agencies, or using own funds. The final funding will consider the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration, the participation of the industrial sector, and the financial resources available.
Relevant documents	Funding Programme: The framework for this funding action is the Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Técnica e Innovación 2024-2027. On a national level, the Call will be managed by the Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia (STRAN) of the AEI. Funding Instrument: The instrument funding the Spanish groups requesting funding to the AEI is the corresponding Spanish call “Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional” (PCI) (to be published in due time). IMPORTANT: Proposals of projects that foresee the need to request research ship time must consult availability of research vessels and calendar of cruises and meet the requirements published in the COCSABO website

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Projects including research activities within the zone of the Antarctic Treaty should consult the requirements of the Comité Polar Español. Data Protection: By submitting a grant application to the AEI, the applicants consent to communication of the data contained in the application to other public administrations, with the aim of further processing of the data for historical, statistical or scientific purposes, within the framework of the Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on Personal Data Protection and Guarantee of Digital Rights. Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle: The projects granted under this call must comply with the DNSH criteria.
Additional Information	Acknowledgement: Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge the AEI funding: “Project (reference nº XX) funded by Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) through the PCI (year) call”.
Useful Links	As a reference, the applicants are strongly advised to read the call text of the PCI 2025-1 and especially the PCI Requirements document on the national call website as well as check their eligibility with the National Contact Point prior to the submission.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.28 SPAIN – CDTI

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

National Contact Point (NCP)			Funding Organisation: CDTI, E.P.E. https://www.cdti.es/	
	Name: Héctor González		Email: partenariadoshe@cdti.es	
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €) 400,000 €		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner A minimum financeable budget of 150.000 € is mandatory for each Spanish company. A fundable budget of around 200,000 euros is recommended.	
	Funded priority area (s)		✓ Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy ✓ Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches ✓ Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting ✓ Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	For-profit enterprises (large or SMEs) established and carrying out RTDI activities in Spain. Other entities such as Universities, Public Research Institutions, Technological Centres, and other not-for-profit private institutions are not eligible.
Eligible Applicants	For-profit enterprises (large or SMEs) established and carrying out RTDI activities in Spain.
Eligible Costs	• Staff costs related to technical staff directly involved in the R&D project, including management costs associated with the project.. • Instrument and equipment costs. • Communication and dissemination expenses up to 15,000 euros. • Implementation costs e.g., technical knowledge, patents, or consultancy services, intended exclusively for the research project and procured from external sources at market price. • Other costs including goods and services to be used exclusively for the research project e.g.: (national) audit costs max 2.000€ per year/beneficiary, travel costs associated with the implementation of the project, (8.000€ max. for the duration of the project). Overheads (indirect costs as a percentage of personnel costs) are calculated automatically by CDTI’s electronic submission system. CDTI will only fund technology-based activities within industrial research and/or experimental development projects (in accordance with the definitions of the General Block Exemption Regulation, EC Regulation nº651/2014) representing outstanding scientific-technical quality and high innovative potential.
Additional eligibility criteria	Please note that non-technological activities e.g. developing new business models, are excluded from CDTI funding. R&D activities to be financed must belong to TRL 4-7 range and be implemented in Spain.
Relevant documents	<u>Each Spanish company participating in a project and requesting funding from CDTI, must apply via CDTI’s electronic submission system (https://sede.cdti.gob.es).</u> CDTI’s application process consists of completing an online application form which is accompanied by a short technical report written in Spanish. The report must focus on the activities (and associated budget) that the company will assume in the project (please check <i>Type of research funded</i> and <i>Eligible costs</i> sections in this table).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	<u>Deadline to complete CDTI’s application process: The same end date as the first phase international application.</u> <u>Please note that failing to comply with the national application process by the deadline, will deem the company ineligible to participate in the call.</u>
Additional Information	The CDTI will finance a maximum of 70% of the eligible budget through grants.
Useful Links	https://www.cdti.es/partenariados-cofinanciados-pilar-2

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.29 SWEDEN – SNSA

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: https://www.rymdstyrelsen.se/		 Rymdstyrelsen Swedish National Space Agency
	Name: Selima Ben Mustapha		Email and Phone: selima.benmustapha@snsa.se Tel: +46- 724 68 77 73
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	725,000 €		Maximum funding from SNSA is 200.000 € per proposal, or a maximum of 300.000 € per proposal if the Swedish applicant is also the project coordinator (Regardless of how many Swedish partners participate in the project).
Funded priority area (s)		Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
		Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	SNSA Grants for research projects can only be administered by a Swedish university or other research organizations that fulfil the grant administrating organization eligibility requirements of SNSA Other types of entities (SMEs, industries, authorities, public administrations, associations, civil society organisations) are not eligible for funding. However, they can participate as self-funded partners or can be sub-contracted by an eligible institution.
Eligible Applicants	Principal applicants and co-applicants must have completed their PhD degree and be affiliated with a Swedish higher education institution, research institute or government agency with a research assignment that meets the SNSA requirements for administrating organisations.
Eligible Costs	SNSA’ standard eligibility criteria for research projects apply. VAT should not be included in the budget figures.
Additional eligibility criteria	Swedish applicants in a consortium must apply to SNSA under one single project application after they have been invited to step – 2 (full proposal). Project duration is 3 years.
Relevant documents	
Additional Information	Swedish applicants who have submitted a pre-proposal to the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (the international submission platform), will be contacted by SNSA for further information on how to register their full proposals with SNSA, only if they are invited to submit a full-proposal at the second stage. Reports are to be submitted according to the regulations of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership and SNSA. SNSA is funding only priority area (1) Digital Twins of the Oceans (DTO) at regional sub-sea-basin scale. Swedish applicants who are interested to submit a research proposal in the other priority areas should apply for funds to FORMAS.
Useful Links	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.30 KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS (NL) – NWO, IenW, LNVN

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Dutch Research Council (NWO) www.nwo.nl/sbep	 Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Waterstaat  Ministerie van Landbouw, Visserij, Voedselzekerheid en Natuur 
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:
	Daan Blok Peter Spierenburg	sbep@nwo.nl +31 (0)70 349 41 18 +31 (0)30 600 12 91
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Maximum funding per awarded project
	€ 1,400,000	• € 400,000 in case of one national main applicant; • € 600,000 in case of a national main applicant and at least one national co-applicant, both applying for research personnel costs.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions	An application for funding from NWO may consider the following roles: - National main applicant (mandatory): the national applicant who leads the application to NWO and is the foreseen national project leader, in case a project is granted. - National co-applicant (optional): national applicants in addition to the national main applicant with an active role and responsibility in realising the project and requesting funding from NWO. A researcher may only request NWO funding for one project (part of a European consortium) in this Call for proposals, either as national main applicant or national co-applicant within an application for NWO funding. National main applicant To be eligible to submit a proposal, researchers must be employed for an indefinite period* (with the associated employment contract) or have a tenure track agreement at any of the following research organisations: Researchers may submit an application as a national main applicant if they have a tenured position (and therefore a paid position for an indefinite period) or a tenure track agreement at one of the following research organisations: - universities and universities of applied sciences (UAS) as referred to in Article 1.8 paragraph 1 of the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act and universities listed in the Policy Rules for Universities located in the Kingdom of the Netherlands; - university medical centres as described in Article 1.13 paragraph 1 of the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act;	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

- [KNAW institutes](#) and [NWO institutes](#);
- [TO2 institutions](#);
- Netherlands Cancer Institute;
- Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen;
- Naturalis Biodiversity Center;
- Advanced Research Centre for NanoLithography (ARCNL);
- Princess Máxima Center.

Researchers employed at a university of applied sciences and researchers employed at a TO2 institute may also submit as a national main applicant if they have at least a salaried position for a limited period of time

Individuals with a zero-hour or fixed-term employment contract (other than a tenure track appointment) cannot submit a proposal. Applicants with a part-time appointment must ensure adequate supervision of the project and all project members for whom funding is requested.

It may be that the national applicant’s tenure track employment contract ends before the intended completion date of the project for which grant funding is being requested, or that the national applicant’s tenure agreement ends before this date due to their reaching retirement age. In such cases, the (pre)proposal must include a statement from the employer. In this statement, the research organisation in question guarantees that the project and all project members for whom funding is being requested will receive adequate supervision for the full duration of the project. This applies to a national main applicant as well as national co-applicant (see below).

National co-applicant

National co-applicants must be affiliated with a research organisation either 1) eligible as a national main applicant (see above), or 2) with other research organisations as described in Article 1.1, paragraph 4 of the NWO Grant Rules 2024 that comply with the following cumulative conditions.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	The organisation must: - be established in the Netherlands; - be a foundation, organisation or legal entity established and governed by public law (in Dutch: publiekrechtelijke rechtspersoon) (all other legal forms, including private and public limited companies, are excluded); - have as its primary goal the independent conduct of its own fundamental research, industrial research or experimental development or with widely disseminating the results of those activities through teaching, publications or knowledge transfer; - be able to state that the organisation keeps separate accounts regarding economic/non-economic activities and that undertakings with decisive influence on the organisation do not enjoy preferential access to the organisation's results. <u>Note:</u> For organisations that are not eligible as main applicant (see above); prior to the submission of a (pre) proposal and, full proposal, NWO will assess whether the organisation complies with Article 1.1, paragraph 4 of the NWO Grant Rules 2024 and is thus eligible to participate as national co-applicant based on the above conditions. This assessment also helps to ensure NWO's compliance with regulations prohibiting state aid. The organisation of the prospective national co-applicant must provide the following documents no less than 10 working days prior to the submission deadline for pre-proposals (meaning no later than 2 November 2026, 14:00:00 CET) by email to sbep@nwo.nl: - a recent extract from the Chamber of Commerce; - a deed of establishment and/or current articles of association; - the most recently available annual accounts, including an audit report⁷; - a completed Research Organisation Statement, which is available on the funding page of this Call for proposals.
--	--

⁷ No audit report is necessary for organisations not legally required to have their annual accounts audited. However, such organisations must be able to provide proof of exemption from this legal requirement.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Other relevant documents may also be included. NWO may also request additional information if the above documents do not allow for adequate determination of the organisation’s eligibility to act as national co-applicant. If in a full proposal national co-applicants are added to the consortium who are not affiliated with any of the research organisations listed above, these new national co-applicants must be assessed based on the same conditions. Again, the intended national co-applicant’s organisation must submit at least the above-mentioned documents by email no later than 10 working days before the submission deadline (i.e. by 31 May 2027, 14:00:00 CEST) If the intended national co-applicant’s organisation has already been assessed and found to comply with these conditions as part of a different NWO programme, please contact NWO at the above email address well before the applicable deadline to determine whether further assessment is necessary. If the intended national co-applicant’s organisation fails to submit the documents required for assessment on time, NWO will not accept the organisation as national co-applicant. If a research organisation was already assessed and approved as a national co-applicant before submitting the pre-proposal, there is no need to have it assessed again for the submission of the full proposal.
Eligible Applicants	Maximum of 36 months
Eligible Costs	The available budget modules are: 1. Personnel: Salary costs can be claimed for the following positions: <i>1.1 Postdoc:</i> at least 1 position, for at least 12 months, for at least 0.5 fte, according to UNL or UMCNL rates, a benchfee is available; <i>1.2 Non-scientific personnel (NWP):</i> according to UNL or UMCNL rates; <i>1.3 Research leave:</i> max. 10% of the grant amount, according to UNL or UMCNL rates.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	1.4 Personnel at universities of applied sciences, TO2 institutes and other organisations: using the Government Tariff Manual (HOT), Table 2, under 2.2 ‘average total salary cost per salary scale’, column ‘Hourly rate productive hours, excluding VAT’ 2. Materials: For project-specific material costs, up to 25% of the grant amount. Subsequently, up to 50% of the material budget can be used for work by third parties. Engagement of students may be included here according to the usual internship fee or HOT rates⁸. 3. Knowledge utilisation: For activities that promote the use of knowledge from the research, mandatory and at most 20% of the grant amount. 4. Project management: Up to 5% of the grant amount. It is <u>recommended</u> to use the NWO budget template in the pre-proposal stage to confirm eligibility of budget items and correct use of tariffs. For full proposals, it is <u>mandatory</u> to submit the NWO budget form for the funding requested at NWO at the time of the transnational deadline. A detailed “Explanation of budget modules and indexing” can be found on the NWO funding page of this Call for proposals. Do not hesitate to contact the national contact point in case of questions.
Additional eligibility criteria	Please note the following: - An application for NWO funding has one national main applicant, responsible for research and financial management. National co-applicants within an application for NWO funding are allowed. - Researchers employed at a university in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, umc or a research organisation, as referred to in Article 1.1, first paragraph, subparagraphs c to h of the NWO Grant Rules 2024 may not apply for a scientific or post-doc position for themselves. - PhD positions cannot be applied for in this call, due to the maximum project duration of 3 years.

⁸ All activities included in this budget module must fit the European Commission definition of ‘knowledge transfer activities’ in the State aid framework for research and development and innovation (OJ 2022, C 414).

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	Overhead costs are not eligible for NWO funding.
Relevant documents	Available on the NWO SBEP website: www.nwo.nl/sbep: - NWO budget form Explanation of NWO budget modules
Additional Information	The NWO Grant Rules 2024 and the Approval of Funding for Scientific Research are applicable to all applications for NWO funding. Any arrangements made regarding the grant from NWO, for instance in a Consortium Agreement, must comply with the NWO Grant Rules 2024 and the European legislation on state aid. Once proposals are recommended for funding on a transnational level, the consortia will be notified by the SBEP Call Secretariat and subsequently, the national granting process will be initiated by NWO. Under the Dutch General Administrative Law Act, any interested party has the right to lodge an objection to the decision taken by NWO within six weeks of the date of the decision letter. Further information about the objection's procedure can be found on the NWO website: https://www.nwo.nl/en/lodging-an-objection. NWO will, if necessary, apply a one-off indexation of personnel costs when awarding a grant. The current UNL/UMCNL/HOT rate on the national decision date applies. Please refer to the “Explanation of budget modules and indexing” on the NWO funding page, for more information on indexing. As stipulated in the NWO Grant Rules, Article 3.2, paragraph 2, the project cannot start until the conditions set out in the grant award decision regarding the start of the project are met. Please note, these conditions will include a signed Consortium agreement by all partners in the transnational project. Submission of financial and scientific reports at national level is required in accordance with the rules of NWO. Granted consortia will be informed.

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Useful Links

www.nwo.nl/sbep

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.31 TUNISIA – MESRS

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research <i>(www.mes.tn)</i>		  Tunisian Republic Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research Directorate General of Scientific Research
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Ms. Hayet Souai Ms. Saida Rafrafi		souaihayet@gmail.com / +216 71 835 351 coopint2@gmail.com / +216 71 835 351
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	500,000 €		Min 50,000 € /project/partner Max 100,000 €/project/partner
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	
Eligible Institutions	Tunisian public research and higher education institutions: - Institutes or research centers; - Research laboratories based at the universities.		

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Applicants	- Professor - Associate Professor (Maître de Conférences)
Eligible Costs	Eligible costs are those spent directly by the project partner during the duration of the project and used exclusively for achieving the objectives of the project. All expenses must be incurred between the start date and the end date of the project and must be limited to the allocated budget the following expenses would be eligible: – Travel and daily allowances, – Other operating expenses directly related to the project, – Small equipment, logistics and consumables, – Service contracts (for only non-permanent staff), – Organization and participation in the scientific events and meetings. – Publication and filing fees required (scientific publications, filing of patents), – Expenses for carrying out analyzes and processing samples
Additional eligibility criteria	- The Principal Investigator (PI) must be affiliated with a public research laboratory that is part of the partner institution involved in the project.
Relevant documents	
Additional Information	The conditions of execution and financing of the projects upon the completion of the selection process shall be defined in the national grant award agreements, where the PI of the selected

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	project for financing will sign an agreement with the MHESR/General Directorate of Scientific Research.
Useful Links	www.mes.tn

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

1.32 TÜRKİYE – TÜBİTAK

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) (https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en)		 TÜBİTAK
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	ÇAĞLA AKAT KÖSE		sbep@tubitak.gov.tr +90 312 298 1783
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	500,000 €		200.000 EUR per project (excluding Project Incentive Payment and Overhead costs). Per partner; ➤ Higher education institutions, training and research hospitals and public institutions and organisations: 100.000 EUR (excluding Project Incentive Payment and Overhead costs) Private entities: 200.000 EUR
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
	✓	Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses
Eligible Institutions		➤ Higher education institutions, training and research hospitals, public institutions and organizations (including public research centers, metropolitan/city municipalities), SMEs and large companies established in Türkiye are eligible to be supported. ➤ Applications are NOT accepted from foundations; associations and their economic enterprises; cooperatives; unions; sole proprietorships and unincorporated associations. For other details please visit the national call text
Eligible Applicants		➤ The Principal Investigator (PI) and Lead Principal Investigator (LPI) from academia are expected to hold PhD. The LPI/PI from public institutions/organizations and private sector are expected to hold at least BA/BSc degree. PI and researchers (except researchers abroad) must reside within the borders of Turkish Republic. A foreign national can take place in the project providing that she/he is employed at an institution within the borders of Turkish Republic.
Eligible Costs		➤ Personnel Expenses (For Private Sector only) ➤ Scholarship expenses (For universities and public sector only) ➤ Travel Expenses ➤ Tools and Equipment Expenses. ➤ Consumable Expenses. ➤ Service Procurement Expenses (Consultancy and service purchase expenses from national and international project partners are not supported) Project Incentive Premium (PIP) and overhead (For universities and public sector only)
Additional eligibility criteria		TÜBİTAK 1071 International Collaboration Projects Support Program will be implemented. The national call text needs to be followed. Further information will be announced on: https://ufukavrupa.org.tr/tr/ortakliklar/surdurulebilir-mavi-ekonomi-sbep-avrupa-ortakligi
Relevant documents		https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/mevzuat/yonetmelik_iii_2_0.pdf https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/2024-07/ARDEB_Idari_Mali_Esaslar_66YK_islenmis.pdf https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/mevzuat/47_YK_370153.pdf

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Additional Information	
Useful Links	https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en https://ufukavrupa.org.tr/en/partnership/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep

1.33 Ukraine – MESU

National/Regional regulations & regional contact points

	Funding Organisation: Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine https://mon.gov.ua/en		
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:		Email and Phone:
	Hryhorii Mozolevych		hryhorii.mozolevych@mon.gov.ua
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)		Minimum/maximum funding per awarded Project and Partner
	400,000 €		The maximum limit of the project is 130,000 €
Funded priority area (s)	✓	Priority area 1: Transitioning the blue economy sectors for sustainability and strategic autonomy	
	✓	Priority area 2: Managing sea-uses by advancing digital and ecosystem-based approaches	
		Priority area 3: Promoting sustainable blue bioresources through innovation in production and harvesting	
	✓	Priority area 4: Building resilience in coastal communities with infrastructure and businesses	

2026 Fourth SBEP Transnational Co-Funded Call “Building a sustainable and innovative Blue Economy: mastering digital opportunities and fostering resilience”

Eligible Institutions	All Ukrainian research institutions and higher education institutions (HEIs), regardless of their subordination or form of ownership (state, municipal, or private), are eligible to participate as partners or subcontractors, provided their involvement is justified and aligned with the project objectives. Their participation may require prior approval by national authorities.
Eligible Applicants	MESU can fund all types of Ukrainian partners actively participating in the projects.
Eligible Costs	Salaries, equipment other project-related costs, external services and overhead (depending on partner e.g. enterprise or public organisation)
Additional eligibility criteria	After the central application deadline MESU will, via our national e-grant platform (URIS), invite the Ukrainian applicants to upload mandatory documentation to e-grant. All participation requirements, application conditions, and template forms will be made available on the official website of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and in the Ukrainian Research Information System (URIS).
Relevant documents	These are the reference documents https://nrfu.org.ua/contests/current-calls/
Additional Information	
Useful Links	