



European Plant Science Organisation
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EPSO Briefing on the EC European Green Deal Call: 6 topics relevant to plant science

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Topics on farm to fork, biodiversity and ecosystem services, zero-pollution and toxic-free environments, wildfire prevention, end-user products and citizen information could be relevant to plant scientists to team up with other disciplines and sectors.

The EPSO briefing on the EU Green Deal Call will help our members navigating this new call which differs in important aspects from previous Horizon 2020 calls. There are fewer, but more targeted, larger and visible actions, with a focus on rapid scalability, dissemination and uptake. These should help pave the way for innovations in the 'Horizon Europe' Research and Innovation programme (2021-2027).

The formal adoption of the European Green Deal call as amendment to the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020, under the pillar Societal Challenges, was **published on 17 September 2020** as update to the "Cross-cutting activities" Work Programme (starting on p. 62). It has a total budget of €983 million.

Deadline for submissions of proposals is 26 January 2021, with selected projects expected to start in autumn 2021.

All calls apply a one stage proposal submission procedure.

The 6 calls possibly relevant to plant scientists are under the following areas:

- Area 1: Increasing climate ambition: cross sectoral challenges
LC-GD-1-1-2020: Preventing and fighting extreme wildfires with the integration and demonstration of innovative means (IA, CSA)

- Area 6: Farm to fork
LC-GD-6-1-2020: Testing and demonstrating systemic innovations in support of the Farm-to-Fork Strategy
 - Subtopic A. Achieving climate neutral farms by reducing GHG emissions and by increasing farm-based carbon sequestration and storage (IA)
 - Subtopic C. Reducing the dependence on hazardous pesticides; reducing the losses of nutrients from fertilisers, towards zero pollution of water, soil and air and ultimately fertiliser use (IA)
 - Subtopic F. Shifting to sustainable healthy diets, sourced from land, inland water and sea, and accessible to all EU citizens, including the most deprived and vulnerable groups (IA)

- Area 7: Biodiversity and ecosystem services
LC-GD-7-1-2020: Restoring biodiversity and ecosystem services (IA)
⇒ *Including across bioeconomy (agriculture, forestry, marine and innovative bio-based sectors)*
- Area 8: Zero-pollution, toxic-free environments
LC-GD-8-1-2020: Innovative, systemic zero-pollution solutions to protect health, environment, and natural resources from persistent and mobile chemicals (RIA)
⇒ *Including (bio)remediation technologies of soil and water*
- Area 9: Strengthening our knowledge in support of the EGD
LC-GD-9-2-2020: Developing end-user products and services for all stakeholders and citizens supporting climate adaptation and mitigation (RIA)
⇒ *EPSO: Could possibly include concept of diverse crops for diverse diets and human health and resilient production*
- Area 10: Empowering citizens for the transition towards a climate neutral, sustainable Europe
LC-GD-10-3-2020: Enabling citizens to act on climate change, for sustainable development and environmental protection through education, citizen science, observation initiatives, and civic engagement (IA)
 - Subtopic 1: through education
 - Subtopic 2: through better monitoring and observing

Read the [full briefing](#) on the EPSO website 'Members only' section

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Sources: EC, EPSO

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About EPSO

EPSO, the European Plant Science Organisation, is an independent academic organisation that represents more than 200 research institutes, departments and universities from 32 countries, mainly from Europe, and 2.700 individuals Personal Members, representing over 26 000 people working in plant science. EPSO's mission is to improve the impact and visibility of plant science in Europe, to provide authoritative source of independent information on plant science including science advice to policy, and to promote training of plant scientists to meet the 21st century challenges in breeding, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, plant ecology and sectors related to plant science. <https://epsoweb.org> | EU Transparency Register Number 38511867304-09