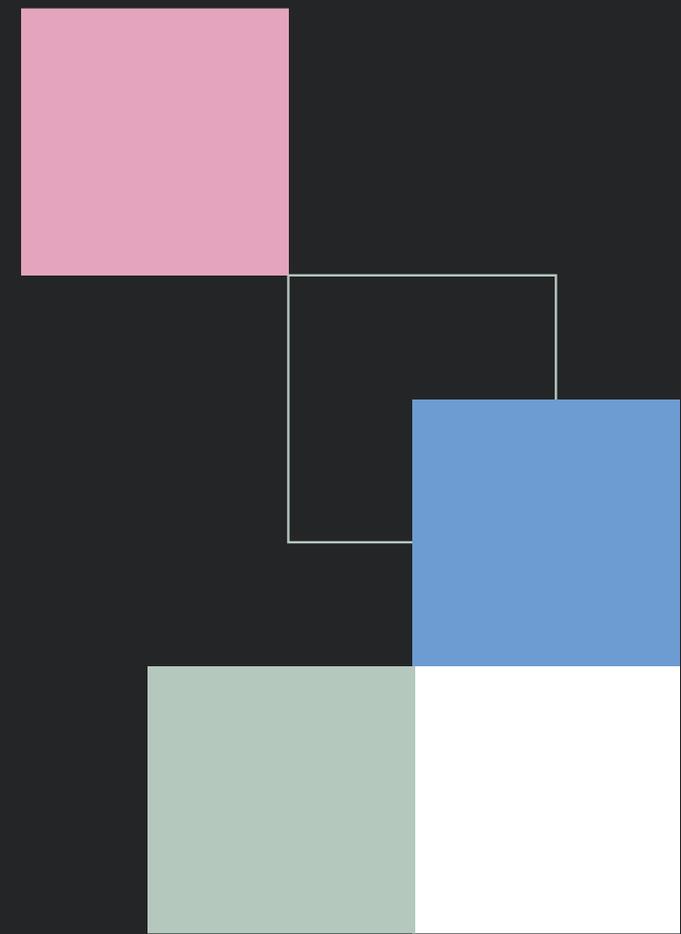


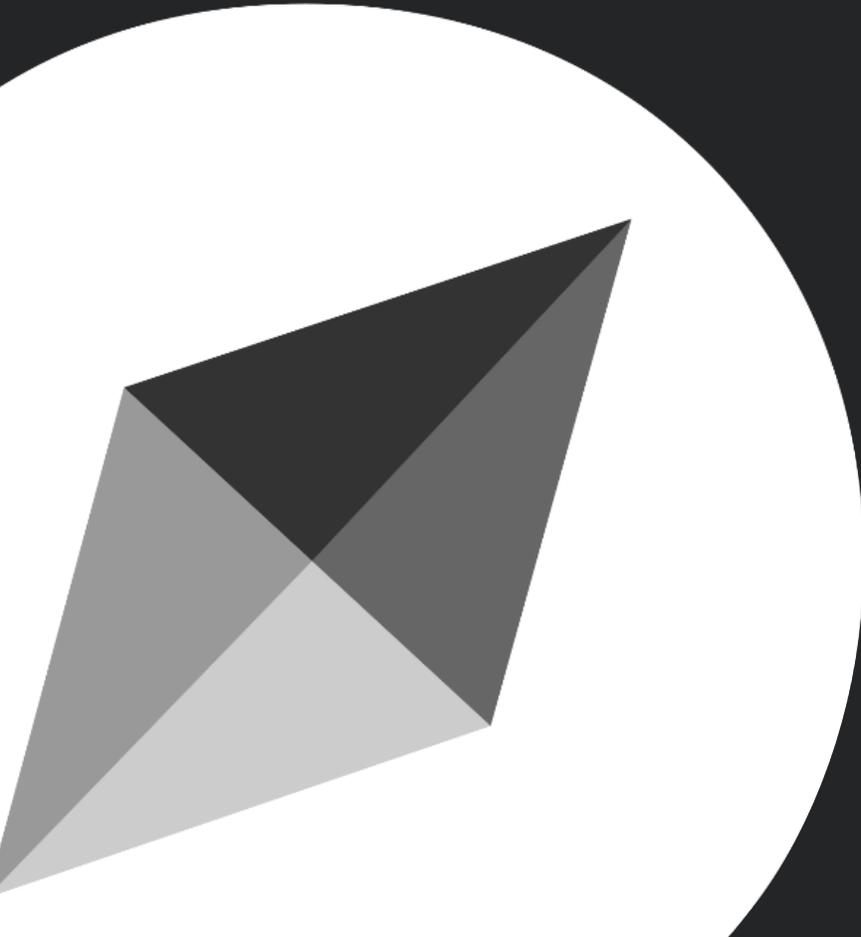
CASCADE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Virginia Vasilakou
EU Project Manager – Sploro

sploro.eu



About Sploro



SPLORO™ is an innovation consultancy firm. Our mission is to make innovation understandable and reachable for any organisation through consulting services and digital technologies

We have over 30 years of accumulated experience in the innovation industry. This experience enables us to find innovative solutions to our clients' needs and help them manage their R&D projects more effectively.

About Sploro



INNOVATION CONSULTING

We deliver digital solutions and innovation services to get ideas funded.



CASCADE FUNDING

We design and manage digital-first cascade funding programmes that connect innovators with opportunity.



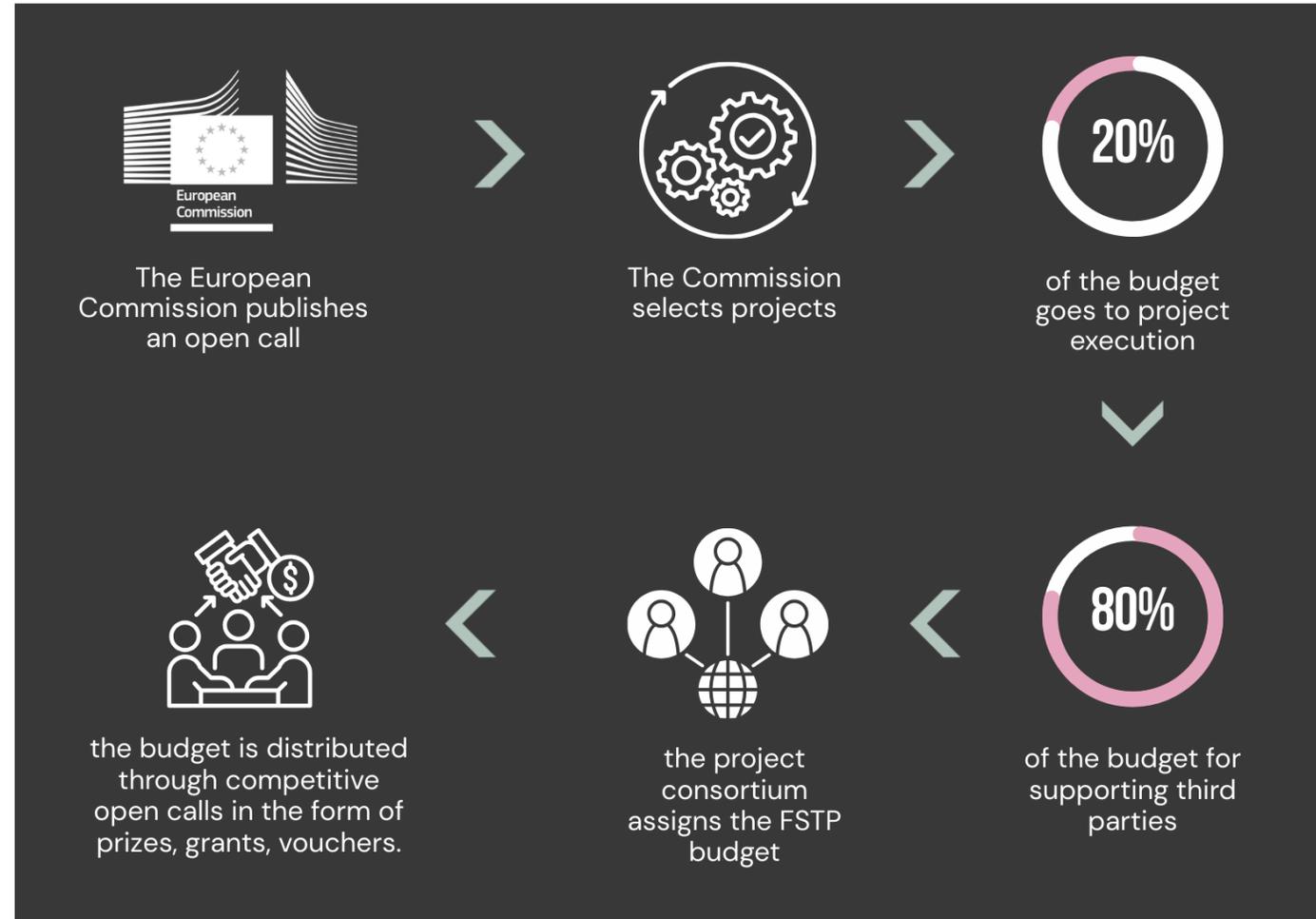
EU GRANTS & PROJECT LIFECYCLE SUPPORT

We simplify international funding and project support through smart digital tools — from proposal to project success.

What is Cascade Funding?

Cascade funding is an instrument of the European Commission to distribute public funds to SMEs, startups and/or mid-caps, in the **adoption or development of digital technologies**.

- SIMPLER PROCESSES
- HIGHER SUCCESS RATES
- TECHNOLOGY-ORIENTED
- FREE SUPPORT SERVICES
- SHORTER PROJECTS
- NON-REFUNDABLE FINANCING
- FREE FROM FINANCIAL REPORTING
- EQUITY FREE FUNDING



Want to Learn More?

cascadefunding.eu

Be informed:

- Thematic monthly online webinars
- Email alerts when a call opens

We can help you with your project submission: cascadefunding@sploro.eu

The screenshot shows the website interface for 'Calls for proposals'. At the top, there are three filter buttons: 'Calls for proposals' (highlighted in blue), 'Calls for evaluators', and 'Calls for mentors'. Below these are four filter dropdowns: 'Technology' (Any option), 'Domain' (Any option), 'Type of beneficiary' (Any option), and 'Closes' (dd/mm/yyyy). The main content area displays three call listings:

- YouRban - Open call 3: for event organizers and performers managers**
SUMMARY: Seeks European performers' managers to organise and enhance a 10-day Barcelona event in April-May 2026 through engaging artistic performances that showcase YouRban technologies and expand project.
- AquaLoops4Med Open Call**
SUMMARY: Support innovative solutions for sustainable and circular water management in the agrifood sector. Applicants established in Catalonia (Spain), Basilicata (Italy), Thessaly (Greece), or Attica (Greece).
CLOSES: 27/02/2026
- SEACURE - Open Call for Associated Regions**
SUMMARY: Aims to empower regions in the Mediterranean basin and beyond to manage nutrient pollution by implementing and scaling innovative solutions, fostering regional innovation ecosystems, and enhancing societal awareness.

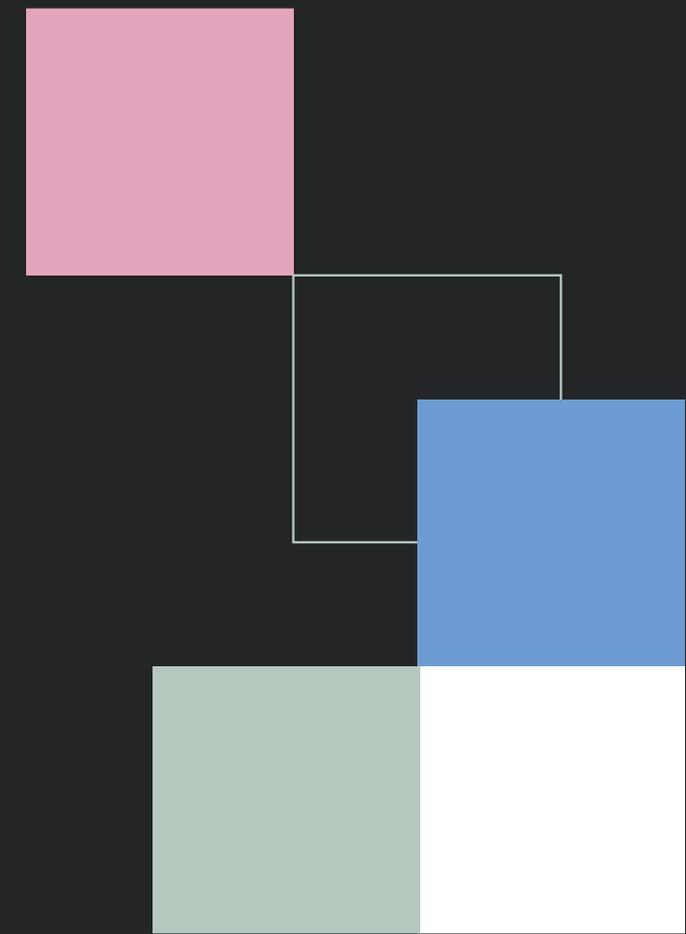


Funded by
the European Union

Open Horizons

Funding Women-Led Startups

HORIZON-EIE-2024-CONNECT-01-02



Open Horizons is **more** than just funding

It connects leading corporations with high potential,
women-led **digital** and **deep tech** startups

€1.2 million in funding

3 open calls → 39 women-led startups selected.

Startups receive up to €55,000 equity-free funding & support in **corporate engagement, investment readiness, and scaling opportunities.**

Piloting programme

A two-stage, performance-based scheme

Inception Stage (1 month)
Piloting Stage (5 months)

Startups co-develop and validate their solution with a corporate partner based on KPIs and deliverables

Cohorts

Inception Stage

Piloting Stage

1st Open Call

06 - 07/2025



7 startups



5 startups

2nd Open Call

20/11/2025 - 29/01/2026



17 startups



6 startups

3rd Open Call

02/03/2026 - 19/05/2026



16 startups



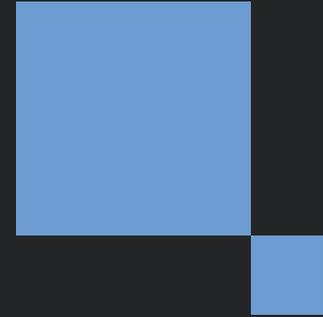
7 startups

Domains

AI
Cybersecurity
Next Gen Internet
Blockchain
Advanced
Computing
Fintech



Internet of Things
Metaverse
Energy
Greentech
Agritech
Retailtech



Project partners



Coordinator:

PEDAL Consulting (SK)

Partners:

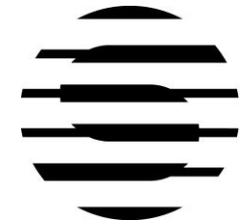
SPLORO (ES), INNOVX (RO), MIGROS (TR)

Associated partners:

Stahl, Repsol, Siemens

Corporate partners (OC3)

SIEMENS

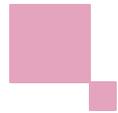
 **Stahl**


EY

MIGROS

*not all corporate partners are published, due to confidentiality

Categories of challenges (OC3)



Industrial AI &
Manufacturing



Retail & Logistics
Optimisation



Advanced Materials &
Circular Economy



FinTech, RegTech &
International Expansion



Data Analytics & Market
Forecasting



HR Tech & Enterprise
Automation

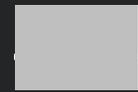
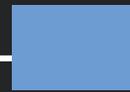
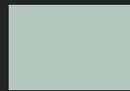
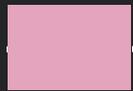
Key dates OC3

02 Mar

18 Mar

16 Apr

19 May



3rd Open Call
opens

Info Day #1
10:00 CET

Info Day #2
16:00 CEST

Deadline!

Eligibility criteria

Women should own more than 25% of the shares

Holding a top management position

Founded or co-founded by a woman

Digital and/or 'deep-tech'



Application complete, and in English

Established between 6 months and 6 years

Autonomous SME with:
Employees < 250
Annual turnover < €50M or
balance sheet < €43M

Having raised < €1M in equity

No conflict of interest, no double funding of proposed activities

Eligibility criteria

Be located in one of the eligible countries:

EU Member State:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden



Horizon Europe Associated Country:

Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, UK

Evaluation criteria



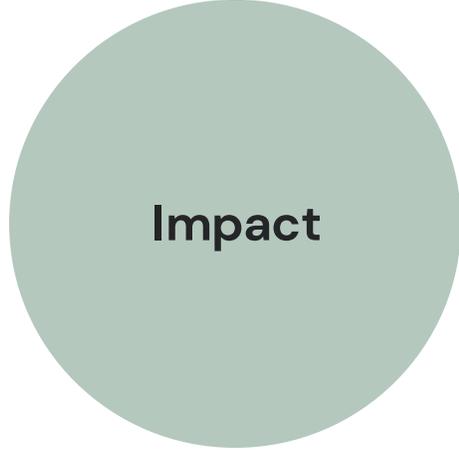
Excellence

- Challenge alignment
- Degree of innovation
- Feasibility, technical approach, expected impact
- Open Science practices



Implementation

- Team composition & expertise
- Clarity in the activity plan
- Gantt chart
- Risk management



Impact

- Relevance & innovation
- Implementation readiness and market entry potential
- Green, digital, social transitions
- IPR

Inception stage

Up to 16 startups
Duration: 1 month
September 2026

Focuses on planning and preparation, with an initial payment for successful planning.

Funded with **10.000€**

Activities

- Virtual kick-off
- BMC training
- 1:1 onboarding with matched corporate
- Evaluation interview

Deliverables

- **D1.1:** Business Model Canvas tailored to your use case
- **D1.2:** 5-month Pilot Plan outlining key activities, milestones, and KPIs

Piloting Stage

Up to 7 startups
Duration: 5 months
October 2026

Focuses on executing the pilot project, with payments based on progress and successful completion.

Funded with **45.000€**

-> €20,000 after mid-term review (M4)

-> €20,000 upon pilot completion (M6)

-> €5,000 granted for participation in Final Demo Day (M6)

Activities

- Ongoing KPI monitoring
- Pilot implementation
- Participation in the Final Demo Day

Deliverables

- **D2.1 Mid-term Report:** progress against KPIs
- **D2.2 Final Report:** full pilot results, challenges, and impact

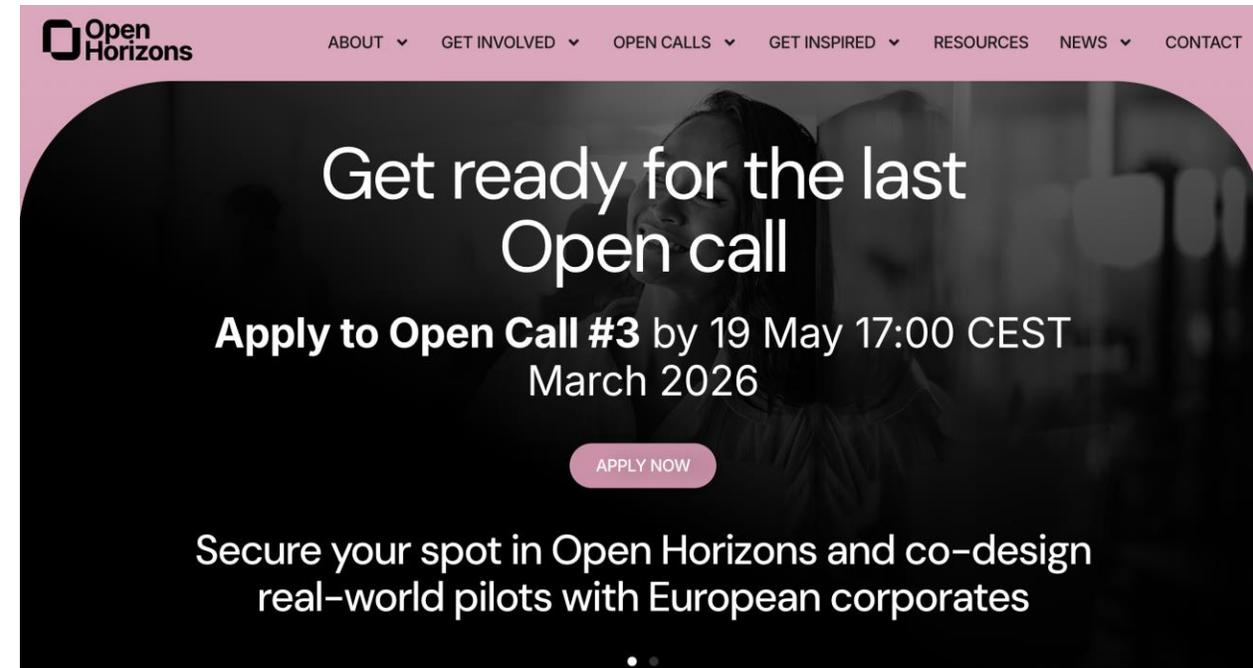
Apply now!

Application & Information:

openhorizonsproject.eu

Helpdesk: oh@sploro.eu

Deadline: 19/05/2026, 5 pm CEST



The screenshot shows the Open Horizons website banner. At the top left is the Open Horizons logo. To its right is a navigation menu with the following items: ABOUT, GET INVOLVED, OPEN CALLS, GET INSPIRED, RESOURCES, NEWS, and CONTACT. The main content area features a dark background with a blurred image of a person. The text on the banner reads: "Get ready for the last Open call", "Apply to Open Call #3 by 19 May 17:00 CEST March 2026", and "Secure your spot in Open Horizons and co-design real-world pilots with European corporates". A pink button labeled "APPLY NOW" is positioned below the deadline text.

Thank you.

 openhorizonsproject.eu

 oh@sploro.eu

 [LinkedIn](#)

