

WATER4ALL
PARTNERSHIP

Call 2026
“Sustainable Water Management”
(excluding extreme events and circularity)

Information webinar

17 September 2026

Webinar Instructions

- The webinar is recorded and will be available on replay on the Water4All Call website.
- Audio available to Speakers only
- Please ask your questions using the Q&A option!
- FAQ document are published on the Call website

Programme of the webinar

14:00-14:15	Introduction 1. Presentation of the Water4All European Partnership 2. Functioning of the Joint Transnational Call in a European Partnership Speaker: Maja Kolar, AEI/FECYT, Spain
14:15-14:35	Presentation of call topics 3. Topics and scientific content of the call 4. Expectations towards applicants Speaker: Miguel Ángel Gilarranz, scientific collaborator AEI, Spain
14:35-15:00	Presentation of the call process 5. Modalities 6. Call process and eligibility rules Speaker: Simon Frank, Call Secretariat, PTKA, Germany
15:00-15:45	Question and Answer session
15:45-16:00	Wrap-up and Conclusions

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Introduction

Maja Kolar (AEI/FECYT, Spain)

1. Presentation of the Water4All Partnership

Partners



Budget

For the decade : 290 M€, 87.2 M€ from the EC

33 countries

23 EU Member States
10 non EU countries

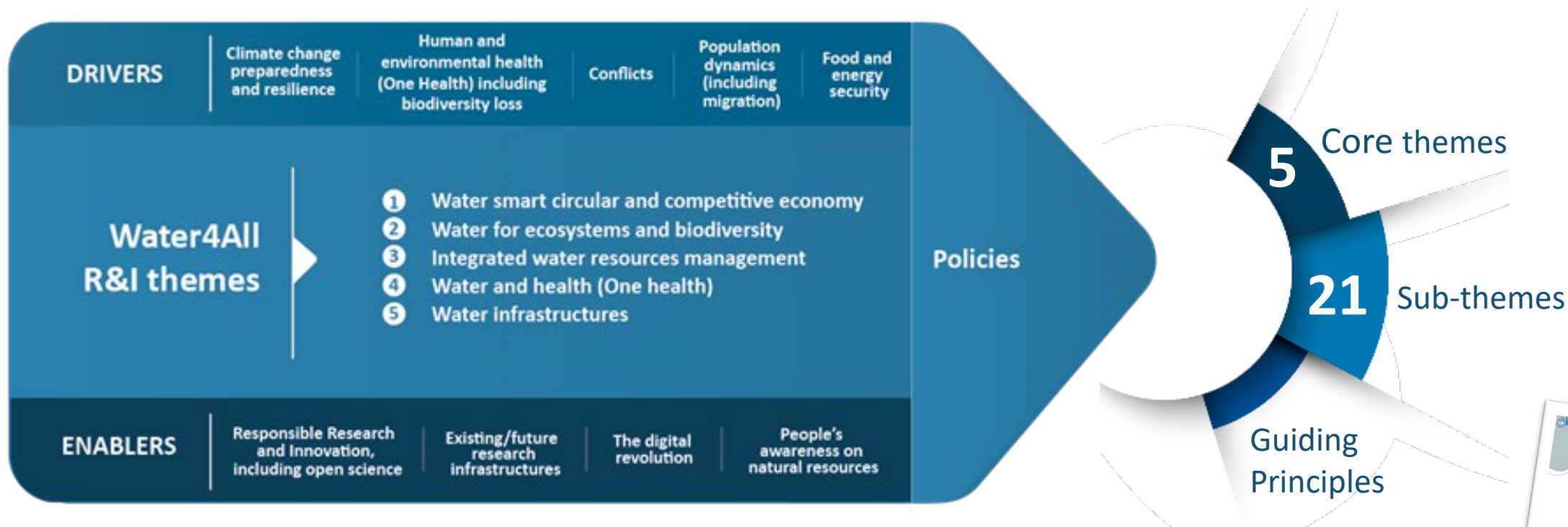


WATER4ALL 5 OPERATIONAL PILLARS



Strategic Research Innovation Agenda

Holistic approach – all fresh-water related domains, from source to sea



Updated version May 2026



6 ANNUAL JOINT TRANSNATIONAL CALLS (2022-2028)

1

2022

27 projects
27 M€

**Management of water resources:
resilience, adaptation & mitigation
to hydroclimatic extreme events
and management tools**



5

2026

**Sustainable water management
Knowledge Hub
Early Career Researcher**

6

2027

**Water for ecosystems and
biodiversity**

+ 2027/2028

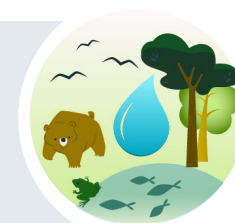
Demo call

2

2023

23 projects
24 M€

**Aquatic Ecosystem Services
Knowledge Hub
Early Career Researcher**



3

2024

27 projects
29 M€

**Water for Circular Economy
Early Career Researcher**



4

2025

35.6 M€
available

**Water and Health
Knowledge Hub
Early Career Researcher**



**DOWNLOAD
THE BOOKLETS OF THE
FUNDED PROJECTS!**



ADDITIONAL SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Identification of research gaps, needs
- ◆ International cooperation
- ◆ Training and capacity buildings, PhD Schemes
- ◆ Observatories and R&I infrastructures
- ◆ Support to SMEs (EU incubator, transfer...)
- ◆ Water-oriented Living Labs - WoLLs
- ◆ Platform of solutions for water management (including ecosystem restoration)
- ◆ Open data, open science with a transdisciplinary approach (knowledge hub, open database)



MAY 2

IAHR conference - Lisbon

As part of the review process of its strategic agenda, Water4All holds a stakeholder consultative workshop on...



APRIL 23

Joint Transnational Call 2022 Booklet

Today, the kick-off of the 27 projects of the Joint Transnational Call 2022 has started in Madrid, Spain...



APRIL 19

Water4All boosting EU Water Resilience - May 30

Session: Water4All Green Week Partner Event 2024 A session in the frame of the Green Water Week Partner Event...

For more information

Water4All@anr.fr

www.water4all-partnership.eu



www.linkedin.com/company/water4all-partnership/



@water4all-eu.bsky.social



WATCH THE PRESENTATION VIDEO!

2. Functioning of the Joint Transnational Call in a European Partnership

How does the Joint Transnational Call work?

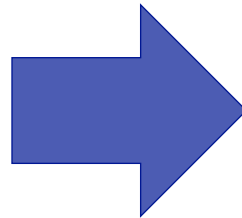
Funding Organisation #1
Funding Organisation #2
Funding Organisation #3

...

Funding Organisation #N



Co-funding from the
European Commission
(EC)



One joint Call

With one single joint (international) scientific evaluation
Plus international and national/regional eligibility checks

NO NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC EVALUATION

- One or several ranking list(s) per modality or topics
- Funding of the best-ranked projects
- Each country/regions funds their research teams (national contribution + EC co-funding distributed to funding organisations eligible for EC funding)

NO NATIONAL PRE- OR POST- SELECTION

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Presentation of the call topics

Miguel Angel Gilarranz (scientific collaborator AEI, Spain)

3. Presentation of Call topics

Context and Objectives of the JTC 2026

From Water4All's vision:

- **Ensuring water security**
- Supporting **Systemic transformations** across the research and innovation pipeline
- Strengthening connection between **problem owners and solution providers**

From JTC2026 announcement:

- **Address major water management challenges:** integrated management of water resources, river basins, groundwater, infrastructures, monitoring systems and governance
- **Water resilience, and water-positive solutions**
- Develop knowledge, tools, methods and governance approaches that **support more sustainable, resilient, and equitable water management**
- **Promote integrated approaches** across the entire water cycle, from catchments to groundwater and from source to sea
- **Impact-oriented** solutions connecting science, practice and policy; ensuring **scalability and transferability** across regions and socio-economic contexts
- **Support Early Career Researchers**

Topic 1: Integrated Monitoring and Assessment for Sustainable Water Management

1.1 Advanced Monitoring Technologies and Data Interoperability

1.2 Data Integration, Analysis, and Modelling

1.3 Assessment Frameworks, Decision Support, and Socio-Economic Dimensions

Topic 2: Nature-Based Approaches for Resilient Water Management at Hydrological and Hydrogeological System Scale

2.1 Nature-Based Approaches and Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) for Sustainable Groundwater Management

2.2 River-Basin Restoration to Enhance Water Resilience at Catchment Scale

2.3 Economic Valuation and Stakeholder Engagement models for Nature-Based Groundwater and River-Basin Management

Topic 3: Smart, Secure and Adaptive Water Infrastructures for Sustainable Water Management

3.1. Digital and Risk-informed Water Infrastructures

3.2. Modernisation and Adaptive Asset Management of Ageing Infrastructures

3.3. Integrated and Hybrid Infrastructures for Basin-scale Management

Topic 4: Resilient Water Systems Through Systemic Change, Policy Coherence and Inclusive Governance

4.1 Systemic Approaches for Social, Economic and Environmental Resilience

4.2 Policy Coherence and Inclusive Governance for All

Scope of the Call and context for the topics

- Consult the JTC 2026 Call Announcement and Water4All SRIA
- Prepare proposals clearly addressing the topics and their broader context
- Evaluators will assess proposals against the same context and description of topics

Selected notes from Call Announcement

- **Extreme events and circularity not covered** by the JTC 2026
- **Proposals must address at least one of the four main call topics,**
 - but are **not required to cover all subtopics** within a topic
- **Interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral approaches is encouraged**, integrating several topics where relevant
 -  Consult national annexes, some FPOs (countries) don't fund all the topics
- **Incorporation of cross-cutting dimensions is welcome**, considering (e.g.) climate change, socio-economic aspects, digitalisation and innovation uptake
- **Build on existing knowledge**, avoid duplication of previous projects funded by Water4All, Horizon Europe, Water JPI, Biodiversa+, PRIMA and related programmes.

4. Expectations towards applicants

Proposals are expected to:

- **Address systemic water challenges**
Beyond isolated or narrowly focused case studies
- **Deliver actionable outcomes**
Tools, policies, strategies and operational solutions
- **Engage stakeholders and end users**
Throughout the project lifecycle
- **Apply multidisciplinary approaches**
To tackle complex and interconnected challenges, where needed
- **Demonstrate long-term impact**
With scalable and transferable solutions

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Presentation of the call process

Maja Kolar (AEI, Spain)

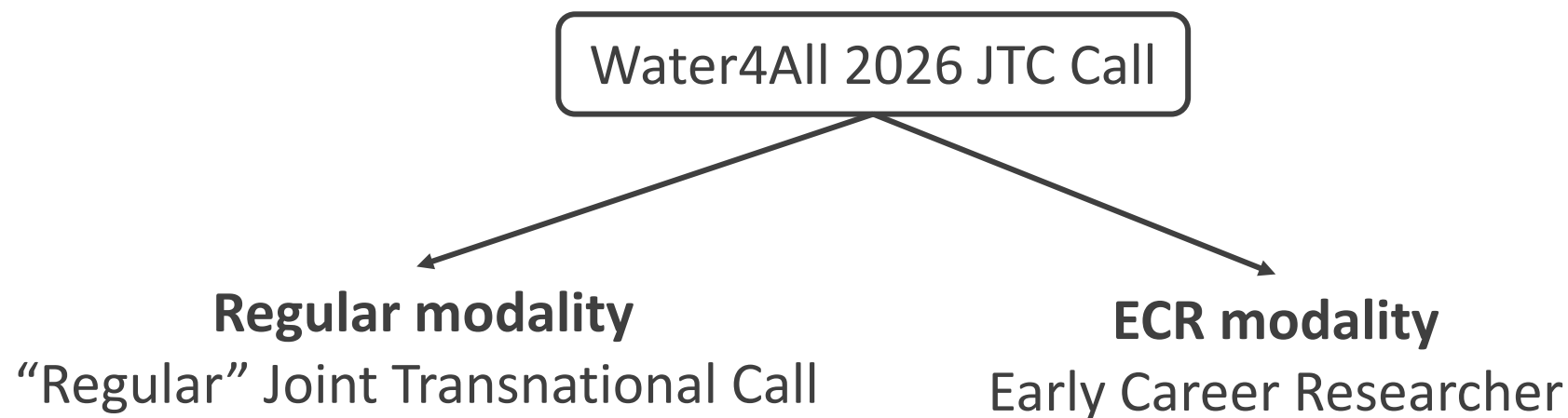
5. Call Modalities

Call modalities

A **Coordinator** has the possibility to apply under the ECR modality, if he/she:

- obtained their PhD less than 10 years prior to the call launch (08.09.2026)
- FPO is supporting this modality (see national regulations)

When creating the proposal, the Coordinator chooses between:



- Consortium Coordinator who meet the ECR criteria may decide whether they wish to participate in the Regular modality or in the ECR modality
- Participation in both modalities is incompatible

Early Career Researcher (ECR) modality



- **Only the coordinator** needs to comply with this criteria (Principal Investigators of other consortium partners or the team members do not need to be ECRs)
- The **FPO funding the coordinator must** participate in the ECR modality
- FPOs funding the partners in the ECR Consortium do not have to participate in the ECR modality (unless the national rules state otherwise)



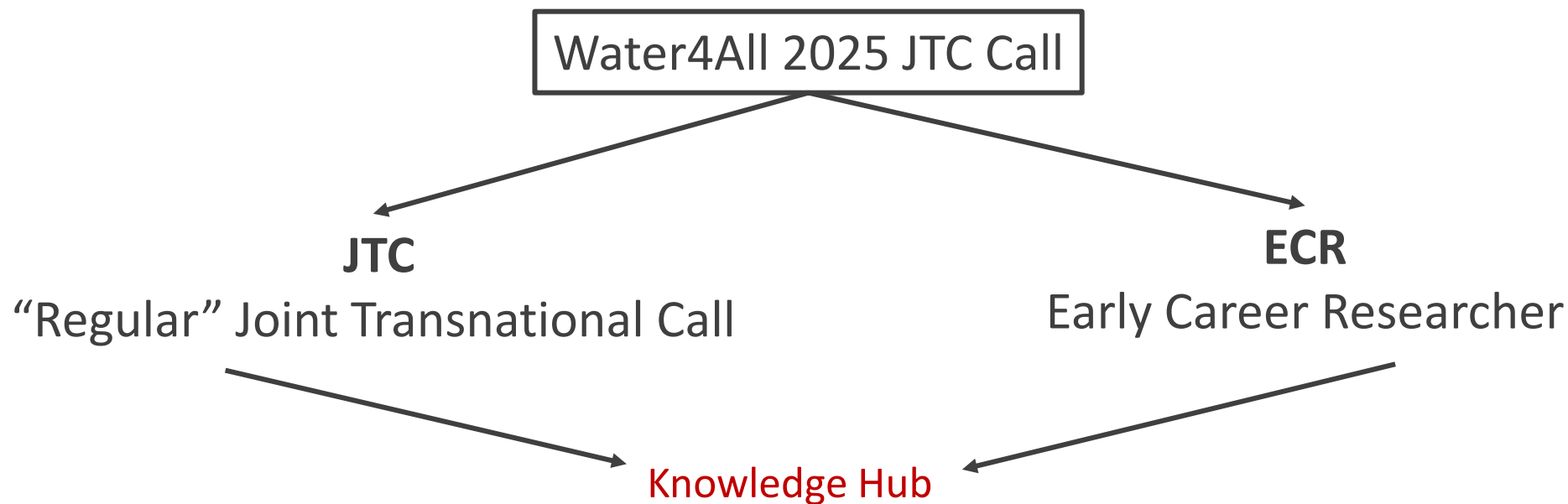
- **Commonality with the Regular modality:**
 1. All other **General eligibility criteria are the same** (e.g. consortium composition)
 2. Same thematic framework (**same topics**)
 3. Same proposal **structure**
 4. Evaluation and ranking of the proposals (same **evaluation criteria**)



- However, in their final funding decisions, **in case of equal ranking** FPOs will **prioritize the projects submitted under the ECR modality whenever possible**

Water4All Knowledge Hub (KH)

The Water4All KH: a networking platform for experts with the aim to translate and transfer the JTC and ECR projects' outcomes into **applicable recommendations to support evidence-based decision-making processes for targeted stakeholders and policymakers**



- Researchers participating in **both the regular JTC and the ECR** modality should include a **project ambassador related to the activities of the KH in the communication and dissemination WP (2PM)**
- Duration of KH is equal to the duration of projects funded (i.e. 36 months).

6. Call process & Eligibility rules

Participating countries and rules for participation

**32 Funding
Performing
Organisations**
(FPOs) from **30
countries**

34 M€ national
commitments from
FPOs and EC co-
funding

Applicants must comply with:

1. the general (international) eligibility criteria defined in the Call text
2. the national eligibility criteria defined by the FPOs in the national regulations
 - FPOs may have defined:
 - Maximum allowed budget per partner and/or project
 - Possibility to participate or not in the ECR modality
 - Call topics which are funded
 - Other national criteria

Participating countries/FPOs and budgets (1)

	Country	Funding Partner Organisation	Acronym	JTC (yes/no)	ECR (yes/no)	National budget	Expected number of projects to be funded by the FPO
1	Austria	Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung	FWF	Yes	No	800.000,00	2
2	Belgium	Fonds Voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen	FWO	Yes	Yes	700.000,00	2-3
3	Belgium	Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique	F.R.S.-FNRS	Yes	Yes	300.000,00	1-2
4	Brazil	Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies	CONFAP	Yes	Yes	1.756.050,00	-
5	Czechia	Technology Agency of the Czech Republic	TA CR	Yes	No	500.000,00	3
6	Denmark	Innovation Fund Denmark	IFD	Yes	Yes	1.000.000,00	3-5
7	Estonia	Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur	ETAg	Yes	No	300.000,00	1-2
8	Finland	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	MMM	Yes	Yes	600.000,00	2
9	France	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	ANR	Yes	Yes	1.500.000,00	5-6
10	Germany	Bundesministerium für Forschung, Technologie und Raumfahrt	BMFTR	Yes	Yes	1.600.000,00	6-8
11	Greece	General Secretariat of Research & Innovation	GSRI	Yes	No	1.000.000,00	5-6
12	Hungary	Nemzeti Kutatási, Fejlesztési és Innovációs Hivatal	NKFIH	Yes	No	330.000,00	1-2
13	Ireland	Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland	EPA	Yes	Yes	578.000,00	3
14	Israel	Ministry of Energy	MoE	Yes	No	220.000,00	1
15	Latvia	Latvijas Zinātnes padome	LZP	Yes	Yes	570.000,00	1-2
16	Lithuania	Lietuvos mokslo taryba	LMT	Yes	Yes	300.000,00	2
17	Luxembourg	Luxembourg National Research Fund	FNR	Yes	No	350.000,00	1

Participating countries/FPOs and budgets (2)

	Country	Funding Partner Organisation	Acronym	JTC (yes/no)	ECR (yes/no)	National budget	Expected number of projects to be funded by the FPO
18	Malta	Ministry for Environment, Energy and Enterprise	MEER	Yes	No	400.000,00	1-2
19	Moldova	National Agency for Research and Development	NARD	Yes	Yes	100.000,00	1-2
20	Netherlands	Dutch Research Council	NWO	Yes	No	2.000.000,00	4-5
21	Norway	The Research Council of Norway	RCN	Yes	Yes	1.250.000,00	3-5
22	Poland	Narodowe Centrum Badań i Rozwoju	NCBR	Yes	No	1.500.000,00	4-6
23	Romania	The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding	UEFISCDI	Yes	No	1.000.000,00	5
24	Slovak Republic	Slovak Academy of Sciences	SAS	Yes	Yes	240.000,00	2
25	Slovak Republic	Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information	CVTI SR	Yes	Yes	800.000,00	2-3
26	South Africa	Department of Science and Innovation	DSTI	Yes	Yes	400.000,00	2-3
27	Spain	Agencia Estatal de Investigación	AEI	Yes	Yes	1.500.000,00	8-10
28	Spain	Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology	CDTI	Yes	No	400.000,00	2-3
29	Sweden	The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning	FORMAS	Yes	Yes	1.800.000,00	6-8
30	Tunisia	The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research	MHESR	Yes	No	700.000,00	7
31	Türkiye	Türkiye Bilimsel Ve Teknolojik Arastirma Kurumu	TUBITAK	Yes	No	500.000,00	2-3
32	United Kingdom	UK Research and Innovation	UKRI	Yes	No	1.735.657,00	5-7

General eligibility rules - Consortium Composition

AT LEAST 3 ELIGIBLE PARTNERS

- Requirement: funding request from participating FPOs



AT LEAST 3 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

MAX 7 ELIGIBLE PARTNERS

(incl. max. 1 self-funded partner)

- A self-funded partner cannot coordinate a project
- Between step 1 and Step 2 the limit of 7 may be increased to eight partners per consortium if at least one partner from an undersubscribed FPOs is included

- In addition, part of the eligible Partners, **at least two must be from different EU Member States or Associated Countries (AC)** participating in the call [List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe](#)
- Other countries in the Water4All Call: Brazil

General eligibility rules - Consortium Composition

The maximum number of partners from the same country within the consortium must comply with national/regional regulations

A consortium including organisations from France, Spain and Brazil (Non EU member BUT participating in the Call)

Eligible

- ✓ 2 different EU MS and AC (France and Spain) & Partners from 3 different countries participating in the call (Brazil)

A consortium including organisations from France, Spain and Cyprus (as self-funded partner)

Not Eligible

- 2 different EU MS and AC (France and Spain) & Partners from 3 different countries participating in the call (Cyprus is not participating in the call)
-

Other general eligibility rules

Consortium Coordinator (Principal Investigator - PI)

- a **Consortium Coordinator** can only participate in **one proposal of this call**
- cannot participate in any other proposal, neither as a Consortium Coordinator nor as PI of a partner
- The **Consortium Coordinator must be eligible** for funding by a FPO of this call.

Partner

In **roles other than that of a Coordinator**, the applicants can **participate in several proposals**, as long as this is in line with their funding organisation's eligibility rules

Workload distribution

- No partner (including self-funded partner) shall have more than 50% of PMs.
- Partners from the same country shall not have, altogether, more than 50 % of PM

Proposal Language
English

Project duration
3 years

Self-funded partners and eligibility of international research institutions



Institutions from countries **not participating in the Call** may join consortia only as partners (**not a coordinator**).



Max 1 self-funded partner per consortium allowed



Prove their willingness to self-fund their own activities or the willingness of other partners to fund their activities by sending a **letter of intent / commitment** together with the **full proposal**



Participation will be **at the institutions' own expense**



International institutions need to investigate their respective national eligibility guidelines if they are eligible to participate as funded partners and make sure they would be able to fulfil the duties of funded projects (i.e. signature of consortium agreement)



The Joint Research Centre (JRC) can participate in a proposal as a self-funded partner

Funding organisations' financial rules and eligibility criteria

Each National /
Regional Funding
Organisation funds its
own national / regional
team



**!! Applicants must
comply with their
funding organisations'
eligibility criteria and
rules !!**

(e.g. eligible budget
items)



Applicants are strongly
advised to approach
their respective Funding
organisation Contact
Point to make sure they
respect all the eligibility
criteria and rules !!

Consult the [Funding Organisations' Contact Points](#) and [National Regulations](#) **in the call documents to download** on the JTC 2026 dedicated [webpage](#)

Changes allowed between pre & full proposals

!! The information given in the pre-proposals is binding !!

No major changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed

For administrative details: a limited number of changes may be allowed provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the Funding Partner Organisations (FPO). Participants shall contact the call secretariat via e-mail and their NCP.

- **Minor change of budget** if allowed by the relevant FPO
- **No changes of coordinator** (P.I. Principal Investigator in charge) will be allowed, except in case of force majeure. A request of **change of coordinator must be submitted to the Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline for submitting full proposals** and it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

Changes in the consortium composition

A limited number of changes in the consortium composition are allowed: maximum 2 changes of Project Partners in proposals with more than 5 partners; maximum 1 change of project partner in proposals with 5 or less partners. A request for change must be submitted to the Call Secretariat at least one week before the deadline for submitting full proposals and is subject to approval by all Funding Organisations involved in the proposal. ,

WHAT IS CONSIDERED AS A CHANGE?

- **Addition, removal or replacement of a Partner** (incl. self-financed partners).
- Please note that the maximum number of changes applies to **“Partner”, i.e., the independent legal entity** participating in the Transnational RD&I project

In terms of procedure: The eligibility of new research Partners must be confirmed before the full proposal submission deadline. Changes must be asked first to the NCP, who needs to check the eligibility and agree with the change.

Submission procedure

Step 1

Mandatory submission of pre-proposals through the Electronic platform submission system (EPSS) under the Regular modality or ECR modality

Eligibility Check
by CS and FPO

Evaluation by independent evaluation panel
(Minimum threshold, i.e., 3 out of 5 in each criterion)

Step 2

Applicants invited to step 2 have to submit a full proposal via EPSS

Eligibility Check
by CS and FPO

Evaluation by independent evaluation panel
(Minimum threshold, 3 out of 5 in each criterion;
Overall threshold on the final score is 10/15)

Selection

Negotiation

Contract Agreement, Consortium
Agreement

Evaluation - Step 1

1. Excellence
2. Impact
3. Implementation

Evaluation
Step 2

Timeline

**!! Do not wait until the
last minute to submit !!**



Resources available online

Water4All website dedicated section « Joints Calls / Open Calls»

<https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/joint-activities/water4all-2026-joint-transnational-call>

CALL DOCUMENTS available for download

- Call Announcement (call text)
- Annex A - NCPs and matrix of topics and modalities
- Annex B - (Only for applicants of organisations that are also involved in Water4All)
- National Regulations
- Preproposal Template
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

➤ Link to the **Online Submission Tool**

➤ **Partnering Tool** (If you are looking for a partner or for a project to join)

➤ **Coming Soon:** Webinar recording and master presentation

IMPORTANT: check the website regularly, as there may be updates on the call, including the national regulations!

Call Topics	+
Documents to Download	×
Note: You may need to primarily empty your browser (cache) to obtain the last versions of the documents.	
Water4All 2026 JTC Call Announcement (V2 10.09.2026)	Download
Annex A - NCPs and matrix of topics and modalities	Download
Annex B - List of Water4All beneficiaries that may apply to the 2026 JTC	Download
National/Regional Regulations (V2.0. 10.09.2026)	Download
Pre-Proposal Template	Download
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)	Download
Eligibility Criteria	+
Additional Modalities for Early Career Researchers	+

Partnering Tool

Use of the **Water4All Partnering Tool**

You simply have to fill in a Partner / Project Search form on the Partnering Tool:

<https://proposals.etag.ee/water4all/2026/partner-search>

Your form will be visible on the platform and you may be contacted by other applicants

- ❖ Have a look at the forms submitted through a user-friendly search function:
search for partners or projects to join on the platform according to different criteria:
country, call topic, keywords

Partner / project search

If you are looking for a partner or for a project to join.

The partner search pages can be used without having a user account.

Continue

Filter entries by:

Those looking for: **a partner** **a project to join** **display both**

Private or public organisation(s): **private** **public** **display both**

Country: -- choose country --

Expertise topic: -- choose topic --

Keyword: -- choose keyword --

Description:

Apply filter

Submission Platform



Water4All Electronic platform submission system (EPSS)

<https://proposals.etag.ee/water4all/2026>

[Home](#) > [Water4All 2026](#) > applicant's desktop

My project proposals

Please note that the PI of a partner can act as a Consortium Coordinator only in one proposal.

Proposal No	Acronym	Title of the proposal
Water4All2026-329	TEST-PTKA	Testproposal Projektträger Karlsruhe

Pre-proposal Water4All2026-329

Create new project proposal

Water4All EPSS General Data Protection Policy ⓘ Please visit <https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/> ⓘ for more information. Water4All EPSS technical help desk email is epss.water4all@g.etag.ee

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EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP

CONTACTS

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Dr. Anne Petzold & Dr. Simon Frank
water4all.call@ptka.kit.edu

Technical Help desk email (EPSS)
epss.water4all@g.etag.ee



Questions

Conclusion

Thank you for your attention

Water4All@agencerecherche.fr
www.water4all-partnership.eu



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