



## European Green Deal Call: €1 billion investment to boost the green and digital transition

Brussels, 17 September 2020

The European Commission has decided today to launch a €1 billion call for research and innovation projects that respond to the climate crisis and help protect Europe's unique ecosystems and biodiversity. The Horizon 2020-funded [European Green Deal Call](#), which will open tomorrow for registration, will spur Europe's recovery from the coronavirus crisis by turning green challenges into innovation opportunities.

Mariya **Gabriel**, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth said: "*The €1 billion European Green Deal call is the last and biggest call under Horizon 2020. With innovation at its heart, this investment will accelerate a just and sustainable transition to a climate-neutral Europe by 2050. As we do not want anyone left behind in this systemic transformation, we call for specific actions to engage with citizens in novel ways and improve societal relevance and impact.*"

This Green Deal Call differs in important aspects from previous [Horizon 2020 calls](#). Given the urgency of the challenges it addresses, it aims for clear, discernible results in the short to medium-term, but with a perspective of long-term change. There are fewer, but more targeted, larger and visible actions, with a focus on rapid scalability, dissemination and uptake.

The projects funded under this call are expected to deliver results with tangible benefits in ten areas:

**Eight thematic areas** reflecting the key work streams of the European Green Deal:

1. Increasing climate ambition
2. Clean, affordable and secure energy
3. Industry for a clean and circular economy
4. Energy and resource efficient buildings
5. Sustainable and smart mobility
6. Farm to fork
7. Biodiversity and ecosystems
8. Zero-pollution, toxic-free environments

**And two horizontal areas - strengthening knowledge and empowering citizens**, which offer a longer-term perspective in achieving the transformations set out in the European Green Deal.

The €1 billion investment will continue building Europe's knowledge systems and infrastructures. The call includes opportunities for international cooperation in addressing the needs of less-developed nations, particularly in Africa, in the context of the [Paris Agreement](#) as well as the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).

The deadline for submissions is 26 January 2021, with selected projects expected to start in autumn 2021.

A Horizon 2020 Green Deal Call Info Day & Brokerage event will take place as part of the virtual [European Research & Innovation Days](#) that will take place from 22-24 September 2020.

### Background

The [European Green Deal](#) is the European Commission's blueprint and roadmap to make Europe the first climate neutral continent by 2050, with a sustainable economy that leaves no one behind.

To reach this 2050 goal, action will be required by all sectors of our economy, including:

- investing in environmentally-friendly technologies;
- supporting industry to innovate;

- rolling out cleaner, cheaper and healthier forms of private and public transport;
- decarbonising the energy sector;
- ensuring buildings are more energy efficient;
- working with international partners to improve global environmental standards.

### **For More Information**

[Factsheet: Horizon 2020 European Green Deal call](#)

[Tenders and funding portal](#)

[Research and innovation for the European Green Deal](#)

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