

TRANSDISCIPLINARY

RESEARCH PROGRAMME



An Introduction

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Transdisciplinary Research



A collaborative space where **knowledge, methods and experience** from multiple disciplines are integrated to address problems in their **real-world context**, not in isolation

Who is involved

Academia

Policy Actors

Industry

Civil Society

Working together – not in sequence, but simultaneously

How it works

1 Define the problem jointly

All actors shape the question from the outset

2 Combine methods & disciplines

Science, policy, practice and lived experience

3 Co-create integrated solutions

With citizens, government, industry & NGOs

Solutions are stronger because they are built **with** – not just **for** – those who will implement, use and benefit from them

The Quadruple Helix Consortium



Every TRP consortium must include one entity from each of the four categories below.

Consortium Partner	What they bring
1. Research & Knowledge Dissemination Organisation	Scientific rigour, methodology and evidence base
2. Private Sector Private for Profit entities	Market perspective, commercial viability & operational capacity
3. Public Entity Ministries, authorities, local govt	Policy levers, regulatory authority & public infrastructure
4. Societal Organisation NGOs, civil society bodies	Citizen voice, community trust & real-world validation

Programme principles

Co-created from day one

Stakeholders shape the problem and solution together – not consulted after the fact

Built for deployment

Partners gain early access to research results, shortening the path from knowledge to market

Citizen-driven

Solutions reflect the needs and aspirations of local communities, not just the priorities of funders

The goal: scientifically excellent work that is **relevant to the market** and **genuinely beneficial to society**

Horizon Europe Missions

Clear, time-bound and measurable objectives – mobilising research, innovation, policy and stakeholders around a shared goal:

accelerating the translation of scientific knowledge into tangible societal impact

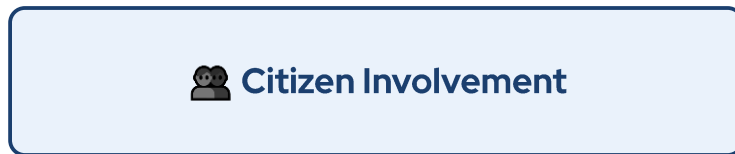


Mission	Goal
Adaptation to Climate Change	Guide at least 150 communities through understanding climate risks, developing preparation pathways and implementing innovative solutions by 2030
Cancer	Improve the lives of more than 3 million people by 2030 through prevention, cure and better quality of life
Climate-neutral & Smart Cities	Deliver 100 climate-neutral and smart cities by 2030, acting as innovation hubs for all European cities to follow by 2050
Soil Deal for Europe	Establish 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030
Restore our Oceans & Waters	Protect and restore the health of Europe's ocean, seas and inland waters by 2030

The TRP is designed to build the **track record and implementation capacity** needed to compete in Horizon Europe Mission calls

From Research to Impact

Building Technical, Administrative and Investment Readiness through co-created, real-world solutions



KEY PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES



Deliverables



Test & Scale

- ▶ A pilot tested in a real environment with documented results
- ▶ A scale-up roadmap with named partners and a realistic funding pathway
- ▶ A replication package which other regions can adopt

Data & Systems

- ▶ A live monitoring dashboard or real-time decision-support tool
- ▶ Interoperable data systems connecting all participating organisations
- ▶ A documented data governance framework

Manage & Connect

- ▶ A joint action plan co-signed by all consortium partners
- ▶ A cooperation model designed to survive beyond the grant
- ▶ A Horizon Europe proposal in preparation – named call, target deadline

Grow & Sustain

- ▶ A commercialisation plan or investment-readiness brief
- ▶ A training programme with measurable capacity outcomes
- ▶ A citizen engagement report showing how communities shaped the solution

Tangible Outcomes



What TRP-funded work looks like on the ground – real things, in real places, used by real people

Adaptation to Climate Change	Flood early warning system piloted with a local council, built on Malta's national climate risk assessment	Real-time coastal erosion monitoring tool	Smart irrigation pilots for farmers in water-stressed agricultural areas
Cancer	Community outreach programme co-designed with NGOs to increase cancer screening uptake among underserved groups	Digital patient navigation tool helping people move through Malta's cancer care pathway	GP and community health worker training on early cancer referral and detection
Climate-neutral & Smart Cities	Neighbourhood decarbonisation plan co-created with a local council and its residents	Real-time urban mobility dashboard showing congestion, EV usage and emissions by zone	Behaviour change pilot working with communities around new electric bus routes
Soil Deal & Agriculture	Malta's first agricultural living lab – a working farm piloting regenerative practices with farmers, researchers and government	Soil health monitoring network	Soil degradation modelling linked to Malta's climate vulnerability assessment
Restore our Oceans & Waters	Coastal ecosystem restoration pilot co-managed by researchers, fishermen and local councils	Real-time water quality monitoring network tracking pollution across Malta's coastal and bathing waters	Circular blue economy demonstrator turning marine waste streams into commercial products

Disclaimer: Information not legally binding!

Evaluation Criteria



Excellence 25%

Project goals & objectives

Novelty vs state of play

Upskilling of
consortium partners

Impact 40%

Alignment with
Mission objectives

Benefits to all stakeholders

Dissemination plan

Implementation 35%

Skills & resources
in the consortium

Work plan &
deliverables coherence

Risks & budget adequacy

Overall pass mark: 65% · The threshold of each criteria must be reached

Long-term Vision

Catalyst

- Activates stakeholders who have never worked together around shared challenges
- Creates conditions the market alone cannot produce
- Generates trust, ownership & new knowledge

Ecosystem Builder

- Builds Malta's collective implementation capacity across five challenge areas
- Partners learn each other's processes, cultures and constraints
- Relationships that outlast the grant



Research
Universities & RKDOs

Industry
Private sector

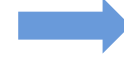
Public Sector
Government entities

Civil Society
NGOs & citizens

Stepping-Stone



Horizon Europe Missions & FP10



European Competitiveness Fund

Malta Vision 2050 Progress measured by quality of life · Citizen-led · Impact-driven

The Scheme in Brief



What you need to know before you apply

KEY DATES

Call Open	8 June 2026
Submission Deadline	6 August 2026, 23:59
Project Start	1 January 2027
Duration	24 months

FUNDING & CONSORTIUM

Maximum Grant	€300,000 per consortium
Aid Intensity	Up to 100% of eligible costs
Partners Required	4 – one from each helix
Min. Share per Partner	20% of total project grant