ICER - Pro

Call Example

HORIZON EUROPE CALL TEXT
Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space
Destination: Human Adaptation and Sustainable Expansion Beyond Earth

Co-funded by the European Union

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HORIZON EUROPE CALL TEXT (IMAGINARY)
Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space
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Topic: HORIZON-SPACE-EDU-2219
Advanced Skills, Education and Innovation Ecosystems for Sustainable Terraforming

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Type of Action
Research and Innovation Action (RIA) / Coordination and Support Action (CSA) hybrid (cross-sectoral education, piloting, and ecosystems)

Expected EU Contribution per Project
EUR 3.00 – 5.00 million

Indicative Budget
EUR 20 million

TRL Range
Activities spanning TRL 3–6 (knowledge integration, methodology development, pilot validation in operational environments)

Expected Outcome
Projects funded under this topic should contribute to all of the following:

- Strengthened capacity of SMEs and industrial stakeholders to **adopt sustainable terraforming technologies and processes**
- Development and validation of **innovative, interdisciplinary education and training models** addressing complex planetary engineering challenges
- Establishment of **cross-sectoral cooperation frameworks** between education providers (VET and higher education), research organisations, and industry
- Increased availability of **open-access, scalable learning resources** supporting advanced skills in terraforming and planetary sustainability
- Improved alignment between **skills supply and rapidly evolving interplanetary labour market needs**

Scope

Human expansion beyond Earth and the ecological restoration of planetary environments require **new forms of knowledge integration, skills development, and cross-sectoral collaboration**.

Proposals should address the **systemic gap between technological innovation and workforce readiness** in the emerging field of terraforming and planetary sustainability.

To this end, projects are expected to:

1. Develop cross-sectoral synergy frameworks

- Identify shared priorities between **education, industry, and research stakeholders**
- Map critical skills gaps and emerging competence needs in terraforming-related fields
- Establish structured collaboration mechanisms ensuring long-term knowledge exchange

2. Design and pilot innovative education and training solutions

- Develop **new pedagogical approaches and methodologies** tailored to highly interdisciplinary and future-oriented domains
- Create **modular, flexible, and scalable learning formats**, including intensive courses
- Pilot and validate training solutions with both:
    - Industry professionals
    - Learners in vocational and higher education

3. Strengthen SME and ecosystem capacity

- Support SMEs in accessing and applying cutting-edge knowledge related to terraforming and sustainability technologies
- Facilitate **hands-on training and skills acquisition** through collaboration with education providers
- Ensure inclusiveness and accessibility of training opportunities across regions

4. Enhance knowledge transfer and long-term adoption

- Produce **open-access learning materials and methodologies**
- Train educators, trainers, and industry mentors to apply developed approaches

- Promote uptake through **networks, associations, and dissemination activities**

Expected Impact
Proposals should demonstrate credible pathways towards:

- **Improved resilience and sustainability** of planetary ecosystems through better-trained professionals
- **Reduction of fragmentation** between education systems and industrial innovation ecosystems
- Creation of a **sustainable interplanetary skills ecosystem** supporting future labour markets
- Long-term **institutionalisation of new curricula and methodologies** in VET and higher education
- Measurable improvement in **SME innovation capacity and workforce competence**

Cross-cutting Priorities
Proposals are expected to integrate:

- **Sustainability and environmental responsibility**
- **Digital and technological innovation**
- **Inclusion, accessibility, and lifelong learning**
- **Open science and open educational resources**

Conditions and Consortium Requirements

- Consortia should include:
    - Higher education institutions
    - Vocational education and training (VET) providers
    - SMEs and large industry actors
    - (where relevant) research and innovation organisations
- Strong emphasis on **interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral collaboration**
- Participation of **end-users (industry stakeholders)** in co-creation and validation is mandatory

Evaluation Criteria (summary)

- **Excellence**: Quality of interdisciplinary approach, innovation in education and training methodologies
- **Impact**: Contribution to skills development, SME capacity, and long-term ecosystem effects
- **Implementation**: Coherence of work plan, stakeholder engagement, and feasibility of piloting and scaling

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