News of the Week - 03 |2025

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1. INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

» UPDATE: IAM4EU Partnership - Advanced Materials Partnership

IAM-I General Assembly on the 31st of January 2025

- IAM-I association is **now created and its boards selected** on the 31st of January 2025.

- IAM-I has around 238 members, out of which 6 are from PT (INESCTEC, CENTI, PIEP, DTX CoLAb, INL, BESTHealth4you).

- INESC-TEC has been elected one of the members of the Association Delegation which is the board that interacts with the EC to define funding priorities for the calls.

- IST needs to take a decision on its association to this partnership, as explained in the IAM4EU partnership briefing, sent back in December and available here.

» Reminder

Meeting with ETN Global, feb 4th, 14:00 @IST-ID

» Reminder

next Wednesday, feb 5th, 10:00 @ IST-ID

Pre-Award Network Meeting

Agenda

10:00 Information, all

10:30 Internal Repository Structure, Sandra Justo

11:00 Break

11:30 Pre-Award area in the IST-ID website, Sandra Justo

12:00 Workshops planned, Sofia Martins and Mariana Santa-Marta

12:30 Next Pre-Award Meeting

2. POLICY NEWS

» **RM Comp**: The European Competence Framework for Research Managers (source: CARDEA and RM ROADMAP)

Tool to assess and develop research managers' transferable skills and foster career development, developed by two projects funded by the European Union, CARDEA and RM ROADMAP, in close consultation with the European Commission and relevant stakeholders.

Find the Competence Framework in Resources HERE

For more information, including How to Use RM Comp, check HERE

» Poland's EU presidency: **Security at the top of the agenda** (source: EU Parliament)

Presenting Poland's priorities, Prime Minister Donald Tusk underlined security as a key priority for Europe as war still rages on its borders, the US goes through political change and disinformation online poses new challenges. He stressed that spending up to 5% of GDP on security and defence is necessary, and warned Europe needs to arm itself to survive:

"Do not ask America what they can do for our security, ask yourselves what we can do for our security."

A majority of MEPs supported the Polish presidency's call to prioritize security. They highlighted the need for increased military spending, the development of a strong defence industry, and enhanced cooperation with NATO and other non-EU countries.

Many MEPs pushed for continuing the EU's efforts to reduce its reliance on Russian energy sources while ensuring citizens have access to affordable energy.

» [CESAER](#) President [Orla Feely](#) shared some **key considerations for FP10** in the European Parliament (source: CESAER)

1. FP10 must **simplify radically** and act decisively by taking bold steps and **embracing risk to drive innovation**, while not forgetting about the importance of **fundamental research**.

2. FP10 should focus on attracting and retaining talent by focusing on **retaining early-career researchers and attracting key senior experts,** leveraging MSCA and ERC as beacons of excellence. Attracting and retaining R&I talent for Europe will be crucial to ensure that our ecosystem changes into becoming more innovation-driven.

3. **[Industry-university collaboration is key for a successful FP10 and we need more of it](#)**. We must integrate skills and talent development across all programs, exploring diverse models like industrial PhDs.

» The **New European Bauhaus (NEB) receives a €120M budget and its own dedicated work programme** (source: Science Business)

This initiative, combining sustainability, innovation, and art, is now a standalone funding facility under Horizon Europe. With its increased budget, the EU built environment initiative aims to allocate more resources for research and drive projects that support the EUGreenDeal by promoting sustainable and inclusive design.

💡 Highlights:

☑ Focus on green innovation and cultural transformation

☑ Strengthening links between science, creativity, and sustainability

☑ Supporting projects aligned with climate neutrality goals

» An EU Competitiveness Compass to regain competitiveness and secure sustainable prosperity (source: European Commission)

The European Commission has presented the Competitiveness Compass, the first major initiative of this mandate providing a strategic and clear framework to steer the Commission's work. The Compass sets a path for Europe to become the place where future technologies, services, and clean products are invented, manufactured, and put on the market, while being the first continent to become climate neutral. (source: European Commission)

It is composed by 3 transformation imperatives:

- Bridging the innovation gap,

- Joint roadmap for decarbonization and competitiveness, and

- Increase economic security and reduce dependencies

And five horizontal factors necessary to support competitiveness in all sectors:

- Simplification

- Elimination of obstacles to the Single Market

- Funding

- Competences and quality jobs and,

- Better coordination

3. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & UPCOMING CALLS

» Cascade Funding Calls / Financial Support for Third Parties (FSTP)

Cascade funding is a mechanism that organizes the distribution of funds into several stages or levels. In the Horizon Europe context, funds are channeled through a main entity that manages the funding and are then distributed to final beneficiaries through specific calls for proposals:

* allows project beneficiaries to award grants to third-party recipients i.e. entities or persons that are not partners in the consortium.

* starts from an ongoing project on which these beneficiaries can be added during the course of the project.

The current list is HERE

» EIT RawMaterials - Call for RIS Projects (Capacity Building and Innovation)

Call 2025 | Deadline: 28th February 2025

EIT RawMaterials has launched a new call for innovation projects that promote sustainable solutions in the raw materials value chain. Submissions are open until February 28th, with several cut-off dates throughout the year, allowing greater flexibility for candidates.

The program is aimed at startups, SMEs, researchers and academic institutions eligible for funding under Horizon Europe. Participants will benefit from access to strategic mentoring, funding networks and international collaboration opportunities.   Projects should focus on areas such as responsible sourcing, development of sustainable materials and promotion of circular economies, aligned with the objectives of carbon neutrality and environmental sustainability.

Find out more about the call HERE

» Partnership Africa-Europe on Sustainable Energy

Call 2025 | Deadline: 27th March 2025

Long-Term Joint EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership on Sustainable Energy (LEAP-SE) program co-funded by the European Commission (EC) under Horizon Europe aims at developing a long-term **partnership between Europe and Africa on Research and Innovation (R&I) on sustainable energy.**

The range of activities recommended for collaboration under LEAP-SE will focus on 7 identified multi-annual roadmaps presented in the Call and also on the LEAP-RE thematic priorities:

- Assessment of Renewable Energy Sources and integration of RES in sustainable energy scenarios;

- End-of-life and second-life management and environmental impact of RE components;

- Smart stand-alone systems;

- Smart grid (different scales) for off grid application;

- Processes and appliances for productive uses (agriculture, mobility and industry);

- Innovative solutions for priority domestic uses (clean cooking and cold chain);

- Production and utilization of Green Hydrogen.

The LEAP-SE Joint Call 2025 will **fund basic research, applied research and experimental development projects** that are 12-36 months long. However, applicants should be aware that each funding agency participating to the Call will apply its own rules and regulations regarding eligibility and criteria (nationality, thematic, nature of project, TRL, rate of subsidy, etc.).

» **Clean Hy-dro-gen Partnership**

Call 2025 | Deadline: 23 April 2025

With a total budget of €184.5 million, the Clean Hydrogen 2025 call aims to accelerate innovation across critical areas of the hydrogen value chain and reflects the continued commitment towards advancing clean hydrogen technologies for climate neutrality and competitiveness in Europe.

[Call for proposals 2025 – Open](#)

5. UPCOMING EVENTS & SAVE THE DATE

» [Register](#) **for this event |2025 EIT Food | 10 feb, 11:30 GMT | online**

Opportunities for Researchers and Technology Developers Creating a Fully Transparent, Resilient, and Fair Food System with the Support of EIT Food Seedbed Incubator

For researchers and technology developers contributing to the transformation of global food systems, EITFoodHive is promoting an online session to present how the EIT Food Seedbed Incubator can empower their ideas, by connecting with potential tools, network, and expertise to make a lasting impact.

What to expect:

- Insights into how the Seedbed Incubator supports innovators in customer discovery and market validation.

- Access to funding, mentorship, and training to scale your ideas.

- Inspiring success stories from researchers and developers driving change in the AgriFood sector.

- Practical guidance on leveraging the program's resources to achieve your goals.

» Inscrições [AQUI](#) | Clean Hydrogen JU 2025 | 12 fev, 14:00

Infoday Nacional Clean Hydrogen JU 2025: Oportunidades de Financiamento no Setor do Hidrogénio - Rua Carlos Alves, n. 7 (Instalações ANI Lisboa, Campus Lispolis)

A ANI promove, no próximo dia 12 de fevereiro, um Infoday dedicado ao concurso de 2025 da [Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (JU)](#). Este evento dará a conhecer as oportunidades de financiamento europeu para projetos de investigação e inovação na área do hidrogénio, abordando as regras de participação, condições do concurso e os processos de submissão e avaliação.

A participação é gratuita, mas sujeita a inscrição obrigatória. O número de participantes é limitado.

Consulte a [AGENDA](#) do evento

» Unite! Seed Fund 2025 Matchmaking Events! 🔔

The Unite! Alliance is thrilled to announce the launch of the Unite! Seed Fund 2025, designed to support innovative and collaborative projects across our member universities. Whether you're a student, researcher, or professor, this fund offers exciting opportunities to develop joint initiatives across at least three Unite! universities (or two for student proposals).

- Matchmaking Event for Teaching and Learning

📅 February 12, 2025 ⏰ 14:00 - 16:00 CET

Deadline for Registration: Sunday, 9 February 2025

- Matchmaking Event for Researchers and PhDs

📅 February 14, 2025 ⏰ 13:00 - 15:00 CET

Deadline for Registration: Tuesday, 11 February 2025

These events are a great opportunity to connect with potential partners and make international contacts in key areas like **sustainable energy, AI, health, Industry 4.0, entrepreneurship, engineering biology & biotechnology, space, cybersecurity, and sustainable cities & water.**

» 2nd Edition of European Ocean Days | 3rd –7th March | Brussels

Registration is still open for the **Annual European Ocean Days 3-7 March Brussels**. Each day is packed with interesting events and inspiring speakers and discussions around ocean issues.

The European Ocean Days will cover, on separate days during the week, the **EU Mission Ocean and Waters**, **fisheries and ocean science, blue innovation and investment opportunities**, **marine knowledge**, **ocean literacy**, and many other topics.

The 2025 edition of the European Ocean Days is a **key component of the preparation of the European Ocean Pact,** a single reference framework for all EU ocean-related policies.

Join for:

- Young Voices for the Ocean, with first Youth Policy Dialogue with the Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans, C Kadis, on Monday 3rd March 2025

- Mission Restore Our Ocean and Waters Forum on Tuesday 4th March 2025 alongside with Mission-related events during the week.

- Fisheries and Oceans Dialogues on the European Oceans Pact, on Wednesday 5th March 2025 (morning)

- BlueInvest Day on Wednesday 5th (afternoon) and Thursday 6th of March 2025

- Marine Knowledge for the Ocean Pact on Friday 7th of March (morning)

- Fisheries and Ocean Science Seminar on Friday 7th of March (afternoon)

» **Training opportunities for Research Managers -** RM ROADMAP

Some upcoming free of charge courses:

17 February 2025 - "How to submit your Horizon Europe proposal right", online, FREE

18 February 2025 - "European Partnerships in the draft Horizon Europe Work Programmes for 2025", online, FREE

19 February 2025 - "Actual cost grant budgeting", online, FREE

20 February 2025 - "Impactful Communication and Dissemination in Section 2.2", online, FREE

21 February 2025 - "Gender dimension in your Horizon Europe proposal", online, FREE

6. RESOURCES

» Webinar on Open Science Requirement in Horizon Europe

Enhance your understanding of **compliance requirements, OpenAccess mandates, and effective strategies for managing research data** in HE projects.

This session provides valuable insights into the Open Science Requirements and offer a platform to address any questions you may have. It also gives a preview of the main tools and services OpenAIRE provides to help project coordinators and research support staff with the requirements' compliance.

Learn about:

- Mandatory and recommended Open Science requirements in HE.

- Compliance with the HE Open Access to publications mandate.

- Managing and sharing Research Data in HE projects.

- Delivering Data Management Plans, reporting publications and datasets in HE.

- OpenAIRE tools and services to support HE projects.

RECORDING AVAILABLE

Documents

» On the topic of - **Hydrogen**

- The [European hydrogen policy landscape report](#) is here, and it's packed with enriched data and fresh insights to keep you ahead in the energy transition journey. This year's edition is an extensive update of last year's report, providing a deeper look at the evolving hydrogen ecosystem.

- **Info Day on Clean Hydrogen Partnership – Call 2025** The recording, event slides, and Call 2025 documents are available online! Whether you're looking to revisit key insights or catch up on what you missed, everything is compiled for easy access:
    - [Event Recording](#)
    - [Event Slides](#)
    - [Call 2025 Documents](#)