WIRE HORIZON MISSION PILOTS 2025

Call for Proposals

**INTRODUCTION**

**What is the call about?**

WIRE by FilmEU brings together eight European higher education institutions to collaborate around the common objective of jointly promoting artistic research, innovation and educational activities in the multidisciplinary field of Film and Media Arts and, through this collaboration, consolidate the central role of Europe as a world leader in the creative fields.

WIRE by FilmEU aims to implement the framework conditions for building excellence in research and innovation. The core of WIRE is where research activities through seed funding are carried out, ensuring that FilmEU’s artistic and practice-based agenda is transferred and assimilated by the new partners coming from widening countries or less-research-intensive HEIs now joining the Alliance in the context of the ongoing enlargement. We want to foster the emergence of new research pilots that integrate researchers from the new partners and support the integration of young researchers.

The WIRE pilots will test an innovative interdisciplinary agenda that promotes the use of artistic research to address the five Horizon Missions in Horizon pilot projects. This year, the FilmEU Alliance calls for proposals for new pilots to work on the initiative for "Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities."

In 2025, the FilmEU Alliance will select **two pilots** awarded with seed funding and involving groupings of its staff and students across the participating institutions (all institutions, including new members, ensuring full engagement across the knowledge square).

**Why this Horizon Mission?**

By adopting the Horizon Mission ‘Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities’, WIRE by FilmEU calls for interdisciplinary pilot research proposals that address the pressing need for urban climate neutrality through creative and critical approaches to sustainability challenges.

As the global community faces the effects of climate change, achieving climate neutrality has become a vital goal. We seek artistic research projects that explore creative methodologies, leveraging artistic perspectives to enhance scientific understanding, engage diverse audiences, and inspire actionable change. Proposals should promote climate-neutral technologies, energy efficiency, sustainable transport, and circular economy practices while incorporating artistic practices to visualise, interpret, and communicate complex climate data and solutions.

What if art held the key to unlocking new dimensions in the fight against climate change? WIRE Horizon pilots are expected to harness the transformative power of artistic research to craft new narratives and engaging experiences for a sustainable, climate-neutral future in urban environments.

**What is a seed funding?**

Seed funding refers to the **initial capital** provided to start a new cluster. It is typically the first formal equity funding stage in a cluster's lifecycle. It is generally used to fund initial collaboration, artistic research production and dissemination, and other early-stage activities to help the cluster gain traction.

A cluster can be awarded up to **15.000** euros in seed funding for pilot projects. Each cluster can propose one or more projects per cluster, but the maximum amount of seed funding is 15.000 euros per cluster.

The clusters can be staffed by researchers for whom the work packages received HR budget. Please get in touch with your HEI research coordinator about HR possibilities. The seed funding does not include these HR expenses.

The clusters can be supported by mobility funds received by the work packages. Please get in touch with your HEI research coordinator about mobility possibilities. The seed funding does not include these mobility expenses.

**How can we help?**

If you are interested in applying for a Horizon Pilot, please fill in the form to tell us your research expertise here: [link](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=m1hzOUCetU6ADrC2OD0WIXn02cL8I0JHgpo9B60Ht99UNVFOTlJSQ1kxQTVJVDJQSFg1Q0RaMDM5TS4u)

All researchers interested in the call can attend the online **Matchmaking** event **on March 06, at 10:00 CET**. This is a hands-on opportunity for you to meet, listen and pitch ideas in smaller thematic groups defined by an analysis of the existing research expertise that you listed. Matchmaking allows you to explore the network and work creatively on the first ideas for an application answering the different FilmEU calls.

**Matchmaking:** [link](https://videoconf-colibri.zoom.us/j/97987610153?pwd=QuXm1osdBb7D3JCadx5TbSvjSfk0ZI.1)

SPECIFICS

**Requirements**

* Only clusters of researchers based on at least three of the partner HEIs are eligible.
* The lead researcher should have a senior profile in one of the participating HEIs (a senior researcher profile holds a PhD with at least five years of post-PhD research experience).
* Each pilot proposal should include FilmEU senior and junior researchers.
* No institution can be awarded as the lead HEI more than once per round.
* In 2025, a HEI that led a 2024 FilmEU Cosmos collaboration cannot take the lead on another proposal. (2024 awarded leading HEIs in WIRE: Lusófona and NATFA)
* The maximum duration of a cluster is 20 months, starting in June 2025 and ending January 2027.

**Outcomes**

1. All projects must aim for artistic research outcomes disseminated (e.g. festival participation, art gallery, …) in conjunction with a publication in an international peer-reviewed journal (e.g. JAR) and/or participation in international conferences.
2. Pilot project outcomes must be presented and discussed at the WIRE by FilmEU Research Days in 2026.
3. All clusters must provide a final report on the pilot projects in January 2027.

**The deadline for applications is 24 April 2025**

Please send the following application form in PDF to Victor Flores (Lusófona University) via e-mail to [p1102@ulusofona.pt](mailto:p1102@ulusofona.pt)

Follow FilmEU University and WIRE on social media:

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