



WIRE

Widening + Innovation
& Research Excellence



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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 on the common objective of jointly promoting artistic research, innovation, and educational activities in the multidisciplinary field of Film and Media Arts. Through this collaboration, they aim to consolidate Europe's central role 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, supported by seed funding, are carried out, ensuring that FilmEU's artistic and practice-based agenda is transferred and assimilated by new partners from widening countries or less-research-intensive higher education institutions (HEIs) now joining the Alliance in the context of the ongoing enlargement. We aim to promote the development of new research pilots that bring together researchers from our 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 pilot. It is typically the first formal stage of equity funding in a pilot's lifecycle. It is generally used to fund initial collaboration, artistic research, production, and dissemination, as well as other early-stage activities that help the pilot gain traction.

Pilots are eligible for up to €15,000 in seed funding. This funding can be used for physical mobility. Pilots may also include researchers whose work packages have secured HR funding through WIRE. Please contact your Higher Education Institution (HEI) research coordinator to explore available options. HR expenses will be added to the seed funding.

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](#)

SPECIFICS

Requirements



- Only pilots with 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 pilot is 20 months, starting in June 2025 and ending in 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 pilots must provide a final report on the pilot projects by January 2027.

The deadline for applications is 23 June 2025

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



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HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-03 Project: 101136627



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