

October 30, 2025,
Thessaloniki, Greece

Path4Med Launches €500k Open Call to Support Public Authorities in Tackling Water and Soil Pollution Across the Mediterranean

What is Path4Med about

Path4Med is a Horizon Europe project, launched in July 2024, designed to set clear pathways towards tackling water and soil pollution. By promoting novel agricultural practices, integrated monitoring techniques, and evidence-based solutions, the project empowers local communities and public authorities to tackle environmental pollution proactively.

What is the Open Call about

To strengthen the fight against water and soil pollution across the Mediterranean and associated regions, the **Path4Med project** has launched its **Open Call**, offering **Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP)**. This initiative aims to empower **local and regional public authorities** to implement and scale up innovative solutions that reduce fertiliser use, mitigate nutrient pollution, and promote cleaner ecosystems.

Through this call, Path4Med seeks to **enhance the capacity of public authorities** to address environmental challenges by reproducing and demonstrating solutions developed within the project. The funded sub-projects will contribute to the reduction of pollution and the sustainable management of soil and water resources across the Mediterranean, Balkan, Black Sea, and Baltic regions.

Key Objectives

The Path4Med Open Call aims to:

- Promote and empower public authorities and citizens to take action against soil, water, and ocean pollution.
- Reproduce the approaches developed by the project and demonstrate their functionality for future uptake at different scales and across different regions.
- Accelerate the uptake of innovative solutions, particularly in less developed areas.

Who can apply

Eligible applicants are **Public authorities** acting on regional or local level, established under public law, that operate within a specific sub-national geographical area (region, city, town, etc.) and are responsible for exercising public functions and providing services to the population within that area.

Entities must be established in one of the eligible countries in the **South Mediterranean, Western Balkans, Black Sea, and Baltic Sea regions**. For more information about the eligible countries, please check the Call's [Applicant's guide](#).

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."

Applicants must select **at least one of the Path4Med solution categories** and implement one or more solutions from it, based on the needs and priorities of their region:

1. Novel monitoring strategies (IoT, water sampling, DNA protocols).
2. Integrated indicators for water management and water quality/quantity monitoring.
3. Earth Observation data sources and analysis techniques representing states and fluxes of the Agro-Hydro System.
4. Innovative data aggregations and interpretation methodologies (incl. digital twins, modelling, AI) improving capacity on risk assessment and response.
5. Framework of effective cascades of solutions/toolbox of agricultural approaches, practices, and technologies
6. Location-based services for farmers and advisors.
7. Technologies to reduce the presence of excess nutrients and agrochemical residues in water bodies.
8. Policies design and evaluation through the integrated, policy-enabled modelling platform
9. Information-based precision irrigation and nutrient management systems.

Funding Overview

- **Total Open Call budget:** €500,000
- **Five (5) sub-projects** to be funded.
- **Maximum budget per sub-project:** €100,000
- **Eligible applicants:** Single applicants only (no consortia).

Timeline

- **Open Call launch:** October 29, 2025
- **Application deadline:** January 30, 2026 (17:00 CET)
- **Sub-projects start date:** July 2026
- **Duration:** 9 months, divided into three phases — Feasibility (1 month), Replicability (6 months), and Scalability (2 months).

How to apply?

Applications must be submitted electronically via the opencalls.fund platform. Submissions received through any other channel will be automatically discarded. The full **Open Call Kit**, including eligibility criteria and application guidelines, is available for download on the [Path4Med website](https://path4med.eu).

Interested Applicants should:

- Read the Open Call Kit and Applicant's Guide thoroughly
- Register on the platform and complete the digital submission form
- Submit their application along with all required documents before the deadline: January 30, 2026
- Monitor the FAQ section for clarifications and updates

Evaluation will be conducted by independent evaluators who will assess the quality of each application, including its excellence, impact, as well as organisational capacity and

sufficiency in the team's background. Full evaluation criteria are available in the Open Call Kit documents.

English is the official language for the Path4Med Open Call. Applications submitted in any other language will not be evaluated. English is also the only official language throughout the whole execution of the Path4Med project. This means all requested contributions for the application (documents of the OC kit) must be submitted in English to be eligible.

Call for Evaluators

Path4Med is also seeking **independent evaluators** to assess received applications. Evaluators should be EU or Horizon Europe–associated country nationals with expertise in fields such as agriculture, ecosystem management, water and soil pollution, agri-environmental technologies, and Mediterranean agro-hydro systems.

Interested experts can express their interest by creating an evaluator profile on opencalls.fund and uploading their CV.

Points of contact

All questions concerning the Call must be in writing and be stated on the FAQ section on the opencalls.fund platform or sent by e-mail to path4med@opencalls.fund. The deadline for asking clarification questions or requesting additional information is 17:00 CET on January 28th, 2026.



Co-funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."