

Cluster 4 addresses global challenges within digitalization, industry and space. It contains different destinations while the following two are especially aligning with Advanced Digitalization

Destination: Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services

This destination addresses

- The convergence of the Telco-Edge-Cloud continuum (3C) with open orchestration platforms that will unlock the transformative potential of AI across strategic sectors, from mobility and energy to health and manufacturing, fostering new services and business models.
- Building a sovereign Open Internet Stack, rooted in open-source, interoperable and standard-based solutions
- Decentralised and federated approaches to AI data processing, combined with breakthroughs in sustainable data centres, to help overcome Europe's compute bottlenecks and dependencies, while reducing the environmental footprint of AI

Destination: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies

Building on the ambition of becoming the “AI Continent” and in line with the concrete actions devised in the Apply AI Strategy, the EU will consolidate its world-class research ecosystem through network of AI science labs, the development of safe and efficient frontier AI models, and the deployment of next-generation AI agents and robotics in strategic sectors.

- Work programme for 2027 can be found on [Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space - Research and innovation](#)
- Information meeting held by the commission on 14-15th October: [Events | The research and innovation community platform](#)

Destination: Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data-services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services

Topics	Action	Budget (meuro)	Expected EU contribution per project	Opening	Deadline
Telco-Edge-Cloud continuum/ 3C Network (Connected Collaborative Computing) and Open Internet Stack					
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-08: Demand-side 3C pilot demonstrators on converged Telco Edge Cloud Infrastructure	IA	38	19.00	17 Nov 2026	18 Mar 2027
Achieving the end-to-end AI compute continuum					
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-03: New approaches for decentralized, federated and sustainable AI data processing	RIA	35	17.5	17 Nov 2026	18 Mar 2027
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-09: Energy efficiency and sustainability of AI data processing in Data Centres	IA	39	10.00	17 Nov 2026	18 Mar 2027

Destination: Achieving open strategic autonomy in digital and emerging enabling technologies

Topics	Action	Budget (meuro)	Expected EU contribution per project	Opening	Deadline
AI continent					
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-11: EU Frontier AI Initiative: Developing frontier AI solutions that are safe and computationally efficient within Apply AI	RIA	44.00	44.00	17 Nov 2026	18 Mar 2027
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-04: Apply AI: Challenge-Driven AI Innovation Booster in Apply AI prioritised sectors	RIA	42.00	14.00	17 Nov 2026	18 Mar 2027
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-05: Apply AI: AI-Driven Robotics for Industry: Enabling System Integration and Adoption	IA	18.00	18.00	17 Nov 2026	18 Mar 2027
HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DIGITAL-EMERGING-06: International cooperation in AI	IA	3.00	1.50	17 Nov 2026	18 Mar 2027

Horizontal calls – Bridging actions

Topics	Action	Budget (meuro)	Expected EU contribution per project	Opening	Deadline
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-12: Large-Scale piloting of next-generation AI-driven digital platforms for a more affordable, secure and sustainable European energy system - Apply AI	IA	15	15	20 Oct 2026	16 Feb 2027
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-13: EU Frontier AI Initiative: Advanced Scaling Frameworks for High-Performance AI Models - Apply AI	RIA	15	15	20 Oct 2026	16 Feb 2027

Bridging actions

The horizontal call ‘Bridging Actions 2027’ aims to facilitate a smooth transition between Horizon Europe 2021–2027 and the next EU R&I framework programme, Horizon Europe 2028–2034. It prepares for tight links with the future European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), introducing the ‘innovation to investment journey’, a seamless process from research to market deployment.

Draft of work programme can be found on the comitology: [D114172/04 - Comitology Register](#)

Information meeting held by the commission on 16th october: [Events | The research and innovation community platform](#)