

Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022

Cluster 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment'

Third draft

Please note that:

- This document is **work in progress and subject to changes**.
- **All topics included in this document are subject to budget availability.** Topics may be withdrawn in case of lack of budget.
- Stakeholder consultations for some European Partnerships are still on-going. **Topics implementing European Partnerships will be reviewed to take into account the results of the consultations.**
- This document does not yet take into account activities to be supported under Horizon Europe Missions. **Activities included in this document will be reviewed once activities supported under Missions will be known**, with a view to ensuring coherence and complementarity.
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DISCLAIMER

This draft has not been adopted or endorsed by the European Commission. Any views expressed are the preliminary views of the Commission services and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the Commission. The information transmitted is intended only for the Member State or entity to which it is addressed for discussions and may contain confidential and/or privileged material.

Pages 2-136 and 140-498 have been removed because they fall outside the scope of the request

HORIZON-CL6-SAG-2022-00-00: Risk assessment of new low risk pesticides

<i>Conditions related to this topic</i>	
<i>Opening date</i>	2022
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The EU estimates that an EU contribution of EUR 7 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 7 million.
<i>Type of action</i>	Research and Innovation Action
<i>Funding rate</i>	100%
<i>Technology readiness level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5 by the end of the project – see General Annex D.

Expected outcomes:

In line with the Farm to Fork Strategy, for a transition to fair, healthy and resilient European agriculture and forestry, including an ambitious target of reduced use of plant protection

products¹⁷⁵, the successful proposal will support R&I to help agriculture/forestry sector to remain productive and contribute to sustainable agriculture and forest health

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Improve risk assessment of new so-called low-risk substances and plant protection products with the use of relevant methods
- Foster EU regulatory science and risk assessment of new low-risk pesticides for agriculture.
- Ensure the safety of new low-risk pesticides used in agriculture through improved risk assessment.
- Increase the availability of safe and environmentally friendly methods for plant protection and weed control to reduce the risks to the environment, non-target organisms and human health.

Scope:

Concerns are mounting over the effects of pesticides on the environment, non-target organisms and human health. Member States and EU policies seek to reduce the reliance on chemical pesticides for crop protection through the design and implementation of approaches that are more integrated and include restrictions on the use of several active substances. To ensure the lowest risk to human health and the environment, the development of so-called low-risk substances¹⁷⁶ is encouraged by several regulatory incentives in the EU. However, the changing nature of low-risk plant protection products requires increased capacities in risk assessment. The plant protection products approval and authorization process has to keep pace with scientific and technological developments to advance assessment methods of new low-risk plant protection products.

New products may seek EU market regulatory approval, thus proposals will need to consider and address relevant EU regulatory requirements as well as relevant guidance documents are to be followed for specific hazard characterisation and exposure assessment to achieve an appropriate risk assessment.

Proposals will contribute to:

- Improve risk assessment of new and innovative low-risk pesticides such as new species/strains of microorganisms, ds-RNA-based pesticides, pheromones, plant

¹⁷⁵ The Farm to Fork strategy sets the target to reduce by 50% the overall use and risk of chemical pesticides and reduce use by 50% of more hazardous pesticides

¹⁷⁶ Low-risk active substances for plant protection are defined according to criteria outlined in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC. They are subject to specific provisions for their approval and the authorisation of low-risk plant protection products containing them outlined in this Regulation and its implementing Regulations.

