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# SEACURE launches €700k Open Call to support public authorities in reducing soil and water nutrient pollution

Nutrient pollution, driven largely by agricultural activities and inadequate wastewater treatment, is among today's most pressing environmental challenges. It leads to soil degradation, freshwater contamination, eutrophication in rivers and seas, threatening biodiversity, and coastal economies.

To accelerate action against nutrient pollution, the European Union-funded SEACURE project has launched its Open Call for Associated Regions, offering up to €100,000 in financial support to seven public authorities and an 18-month support programme designed to build capacity, mobilise local stakeholders, and prepare regions to implement and scale up innovative solutions that prevent, reduce, and remediate soil and water nutrient pollution.

#### What is SEACURE about?

<u>SEACURE</u> is a Horizon Europe project demonstrating and scaling up systemic solutions to prevent, reduce, and remediate nutrient pollution across the land-river-sea continuum in the Mediterranean Basin and beyond. Launched under the **EU Missions "A Soil Deal for Europe"** and **"Restore Our Ocean and Waters,"** the project adopts a holistic approach to address nutrient pollution from its sources to its impacts.

By integrating sustainable land and farming practices, advanced wastewater treatment, nature-based restoration, and innovative governance approaches, SEACURE works to strengthen regional capacity, accelerate the uptake of effective strategies across Mediterranean basins, and guide their replication in new regions affected by nutrient pollution.

## What is the Open Call about?

Through its Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP), SEACURE will provide financial and tailored technical assistance to empower public authorities to replicate and scale up the project's solutions across their basins.

The call will support activities that help regions affected by nutrient pollution adopt effective solutions that reduce fertiliser use, enhance wastewater treatment, and restore degraded ecosystems, while strengthening key actors' capacity and preparing clear pathways for their future scale-up. By leveraging SEACURE's knowledge, tools, and demonstrated solutions, selected regions will receive support to **implement innovative approaches for managing Nitrogen (N) and Phosphorus (P) cycles**.

Each public authority will select <u>SEACURE solution(s)</u> and supporting activities best suited to its regional needs, to assess their replicability in its territorial context, mobilise key stakeholders, and develop the strategic plans and mechanisms needed to accelerate their adoption.







## Who can apply?

The SEACURE Open Call is open to **local and regional public authorities involved in land and/or wastewater management,** applying either individually or as a consortium.

Eligible entities must be established in:

- EU Member States (except Austria, Belgium, Italy, Greece, and Spain)
- Horizon Europe Associated Countries, including Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, the Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo<sup>1</sup>, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Egypt, Morocco, and Switzerland. Applicants can consult the full list of Horizon Europe-eligible Associated Countries through this <u>link</u>.

## **Key dates**

Opening Date: 01 December 2025

Submission deadline: 28 February 2026 (17:00 CET)

**Funded projects implementation:** 01 November 2026 to 30 April 2028 (max. duration 18 months)

## How to apply?

Applications must be submitted electronically via the <u>SEACURE RedCap Form</u>, with the required documentation attached as provided in the guidelines below:

- Read the <u>Terms of Reference and Applicant Guidelines</u> thoroughly.
- Check whether you meet the rules and eligibility criteria to apply by using the self-assessment eligibility tool.
- Select from the SEACURE <u>Solution Factsheet</u> the solution(s) that best address your regionspecific nutrient-pollution challenges.
- Fill in the online <a href="RedCap Form">RedCap Form</a> and attach the complete <a href="Application Form">Application Form</a> and <a href="Budget Template">Budget Template</a> before 28 February 2026, 17:00 CET.

In addition, a series of information webinars will be held to guide potential applicants through the Open Call structure, application process, and requirements.

The first **Info Webinar** will be held on **Monday, 26 January at 12:00 CET**. Interested participants can register now via the webinar registration form available <u>here</u>.

## Contact

For any inquiries related to the Open Call, please contact us through the **dedicated message box** available on our Open Call web page, or directly contact the Project Coordinators: lorenzo.proia@uvic.cat & anna.rovira.anduja@uvic.cat.

All information on the SEACURE Open Call is available on the SEACURE website



<sup>\*</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.







