



European Partnership on
Animal Health and Welfare

External Newsletter

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Second external funding call for EUP AH&W projects - launching in 2026



EUPAHW FIRST CALL OUTCOMES

- **20 PROJECTS** RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING
- **19 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES**
- **84 DIFFERENT ENTITIES**
- **9 ACTIONS UNDER 7 OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES** FROM THE STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AGENDA OF THE PARTNERSHIP



The EUP AH&W will launch its Second External Co-Funded Research and Innovation Call, “Shaping the Future of Animal Health and Welfare,” in January 2026.

The Call aims to foster international collaboration and impactful research and innovation across Europe and will be supported by funding organisations across 19 countries. Proposals submitted under this Call must address animal welfare or prevention and control and spanning welfare assessment, humane transport and slaughter, disease prevention, resilience, therapeutics, and innovation. Researchers, both internal and external to the current EUP AH&W consortia, are encouraged to access the full eligibility details and guidance that will be released soon, with additional details available on our **website**. The detailed call scope is pending final review and dependent on acceptance of the proposal to address the **EU call for the additional activities of the EUP AH&W**.

**The second external funding call for EUP AH&W projects
will be launched in January 2026.**

External funders, who are not current beneficiaries of EUP AH&W, are welcome to join this call (without the possibility of receiving EU top-up funding).

Please contact the Call Secretariat at ptj-pahw@ptj.de if you have any questions about the call.

Highlights

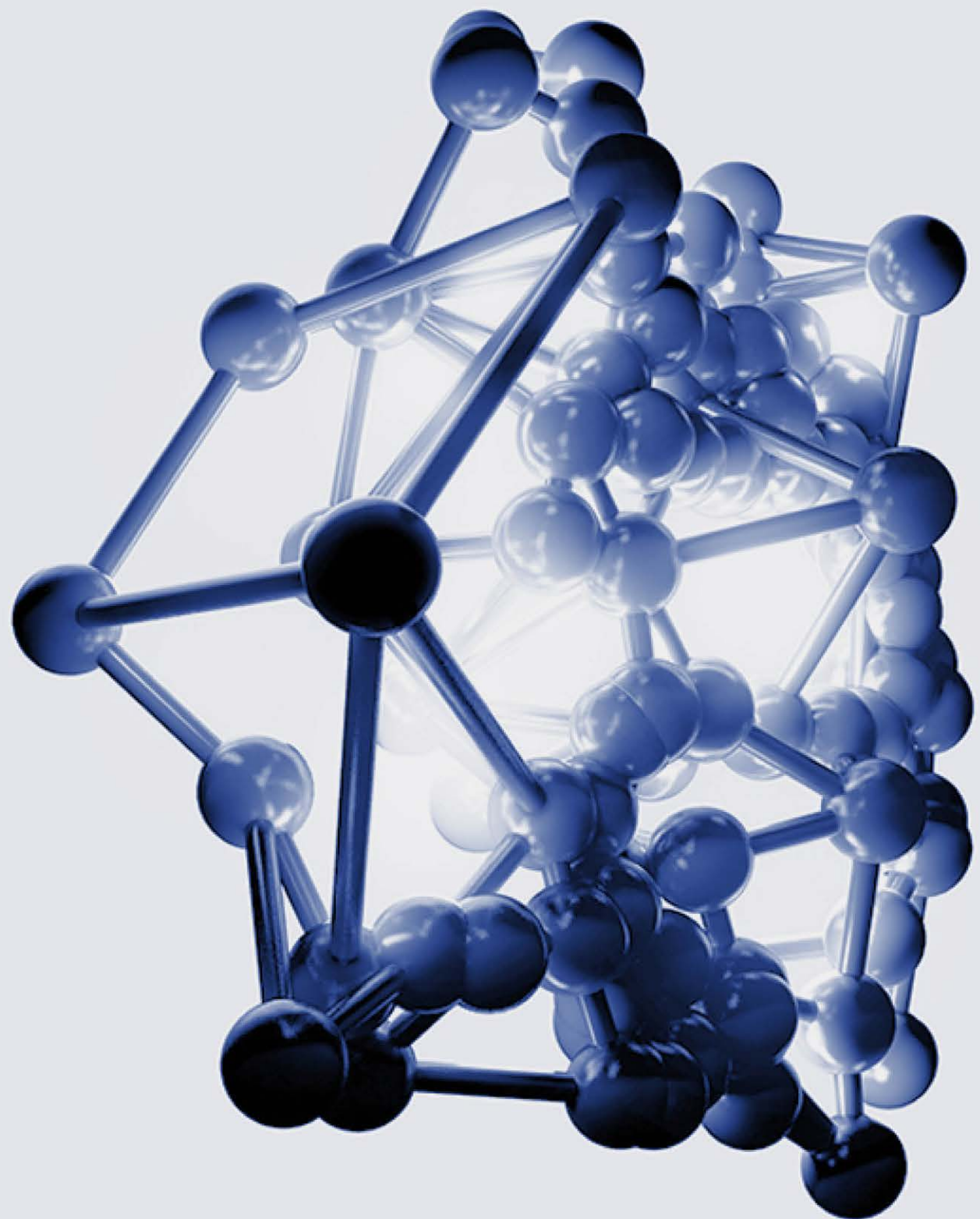
EUP AH&W impact

As part of its larger remit, the EUP AH&W has identified a need to help researchers access resources about animal health and welfare from outside of the Partnership. Therefore, the EUP AH&W has created an online repository of currently available resources. These resources are stored on the **AH/AW Resources** page on the EUP AH&W website, which is intended to be a gateway to selected documents and projects in the field of animal health and welfare. This resource section includes scientific reports, policy briefs, and reference materials, as well as information on recent and ongoing research initiatives tied to work within the EUP AH&W's remit.

The EUP AH&W has an ongoing mission to expand the knowledge base on the links between animal health (including vaccination, zoonoses, and diagnostics) and animal welfare (including methods to assess and improve animal wellbeing). Follow us on social media to learn more!

Updating our
**Research
Agenda:**

Next steps



SRIA update: progress and next steps

The **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)** update is well underway following extensive feedback from our community. The team responsible, Work Package 2 (WP2), received 36 responses from the General Assembly (formed from representatives of each organisation involved in the EUP AH&W, including 10 Funding Organisation responses and 26 Research Performing Organisation responses), 20 from Chairs of Joint Internal Projects (JIPs), and 10 from Stakeholder Committee members, plus additional input via the website. In total, this has resulted in over 100 pages of valuable insights, which are currently being reviewed.

WP2 is now finalising stakeholder interviews and analysing survey results to prepare the first draft of the updated SRIA. The first draft will be shared with the EUP AH&W Stakeholder Committee, General Assembly, JIP Chairs, and the Executive Board before Christmas, with the intended publication of the updated SRIA in Summer 2026.

Cogwheel workshops encourage collaboration across EU Partnerships



Cogwheel Workshop

9th Oct 2025



A Cogwheel Workshop held on 9th October 2025 brought together scientists from the European Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections (**EU-JAMRAI 2**) and the European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare (**EUP AH&W**) for a focused dialogue on antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Designed to strengthen coordination between complementary European initiatives, the Workshop offered a dynamic platform for sharing expertise, aligning priorities, and identifying opportunities for collaboration in the fight against AMR. The Workshop highlighted that, although the two initiatives are designed to avoid overlap, discussing technical details is considered to be extremely useful, and coordination through regular exchange is important to complement each other's outcomes, fill mutual knowledge gaps, and avoid any residual risk of duplication. Cogwheel workshops provide a space for technical dialogue that respects intellectual property while supporting strategic alignment. This is the first of a series of workshops that the EUP AH&W is organising to prevent duplication of efforts and enhance alignment at the EU level.

Expanding our research - new Joint Internal Projects planned

EUP AH&W is delighted to announce that the second round of transposing the EUP AH&W's **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)** actions into Joint Internal Projects (JIPs) has been completed, pending approval by the European Commission. These new projects are part of the proposal to address the **EU call for the additional activities of the EUP AH&W**. More information will be available soon on our **website**.

New survey: climate change links to animal health and welfare



European Animal Health & Welfare Research

COLLABORATIVE WORKING GROUP

**RESPOND
BY 10TH
JAN 2026**

In collaboration with **RefreSCAR**, a project that supports the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research, the **Animal Health and Welfare Collaborative Working Group (AH&W CWG)** has launched a new survey to gather insights from Europe's research, innovation, and policy communities on how climate change is affecting animal health and welfare, including aquaculture.

The survey (<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/15a0af39-2978-95c2-469b-0c7a3babff20>) is open until 10th January 2026 to experts across all relevant disciplines to help identify country-specific research and innovation gaps. The insights from this survey will inform upcoming workshops exploring policy priorities and opportunities for integrated approaches to addressing climate-related challenges.

Widening awareness about animal health and welfare



In the framework of the One Health Strengthening Europe initiative (OHSE), coordinated by the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), the European One Health Association (EOHA) and the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) organised a 2-hour side-event during the OSH4all conference in Lyon on the 4th of November. This side event was dedicated to presenting major EU-funded

initiatives that address the One Health approach in the fields of human, veterinary, and food public health. The EUP AH&W was represented by Nathalie Vanderheijden, Ghent University, coordinator of EUP AH&W.



The event enabled researchers from EUP AH&W and other major EU-wide initiatives (including United4Surveillance, OH4Surveillance, EU-JAMRAI 2,

and EU One Health AMR Partnership) to highlight their achievements and discuss the challenges faced in implementing a “One Health” approach across Europe.

The conference was held as a side event to the One Sustainable Health for All forum, and enabled researchers to address global leaders and government bodies to inform them about ongoing research and strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration through the linking of animal welfare, public health, environmental, and food safety concerns. Dr Vanderheijden praised the event and said, “*Meeting with related EU initiatives active in surveillance and One Health, like EUP AH&W, helped highlight potential synergies.*”

EUP AH&W participates in FOOD 2030 Networks Conference 2025

The EUP AH&W took part in the **FOOD 2030 Networks Conference 2025: Engaging, Collaborating and Partnering for Maximising Impact**, held at the University of Copenhagen in December 2025.

Organised by the **CLEVERFOOD project** as a side event to the **Danish EU Presidency Conference on Transformative Governance for Food Systems and**

Biodiversity, the meeting brought together leading European initiatives. Professor Annemarie Käsbohrer, lead of Work Package 5 on Communication, Exploitation, Education, and Dissemination (CEED), represented the EUP AH&W.

Two thematic workshops at the conference explored how networks and partnerships across the food-system landscape can better coordinate, share knowledge, and translate research into practical impact. Participants highlighted strong collective interest in improving collaboration, aligning activities, and jointly supporting evidence-based policy from local to EU level. These ideas will be further developed through follow-up meetings in 2026.

At the related Danish EU Presidency Conference, speakers emphasised that livestock will remain vital to the European economy, while continued progress in sustainability and animal welfare is essential. Research and innovation within EUP AH&W will help drive this transition.

EU Partnerships Workshop - “across clusters” 2025



The co-ordination team members from 15 EU Partnerships including EUP AH&W, Agroecology, Agriculture of Data, SBEP, OH AMR, Water4All, DUT, PARC, Resilient Culture Heritage, Social Transformations and Resilience (STR), Innovative SMEs, Biodiversa+, ERA4Health, CET Partnership, and PRIMA / Future4PRIMA.

On 2nd December 2025, the EUP AH&W organised the first in-person and hybrid meeting in a series of future meetings organised around the annual **EU Partnership Stakeholder Forum** of ERA-LEARN in Brussels. The EUP AH&W workshop gathered together the co-ordination team members from 15 EU Partnerships covering different Horizon Europe (HE) Clusters. The workshop was kindly hosted by the EUP AH&W partner **FPS Health in Brussels**, with the support of Valérie Van Merris, Co-Chair of the EUP AH&W Governing Board.

Different phasing-out strategies of the Partnerships and potential synergies to build up collaborative activities were the main topics of discussion, building on previous meetings organised by several EU Partnerships earlier this year.

Thank you to Véronique Rebholtz and FPS Health for the perfect organisation, and all participants for the fruitful exchanges. The participants are all looking forward to an improved collaboration and to a second (online) meeting, kindly organised by **EUP AgData** in the second half of February 2026!

Welcome to new beginnings

2025
2026
2027

★ As the third year of the EUP AH&W Project begins, we look forward to the support and collaboration of our internal and external partners.

We surge into another year of innovation, impact, and working together to improve animal health and welfare.

We wish you a successful 2026.

From the EUP AH&W Team

**Coming
soon...**



**Scientific
Conference**

19 - 22 January 2027

We are delighted to announce that the University of Milan, Italy, will be our venue for the first EUP AH&W Scientific Conference held between 19th and 22nd January 2027.

The conference will be a key forum for researchers both internal and external to EUP AH&W, across the diverse animal health and welfare arena to discuss issues, share experiences, and present innovative solutions. More details will be announced soon on our **website**.

Stay up to date



Keep up to date with EUP AH&W outputs on our website (<https://www.eupahw.eu/>). This website will be the place to find out about current and future activities as well as related outputs and the impact of completed projects. The website will continue to evolve and grow throughout the duration of the EUP AH&W, reflecting the dynamic nature of the research.



Follow us on social media



Find out about Partnership opportunities, jobs and workshops within the EUP AH&W network by following #EUPAHW on X, Instagram and LinkedIn

Please forward this Newsletter to anyone who may be interested in the EUP AH&W research.

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Our mailing address:
School of Biosciences
University of Surrey, Stag Hill Campus
Guildford, Surrey, GU2 7XH.
United Kingdom.

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