



SOS2LearnDBS

1ST CALL (CLED)

## OPEN CALL FOR COMMUNITY-LED ACTIONS TO RESTORE DANUBE-BLACK SEA REGIONS

### WHAT IS SOS2LEARNDBS?

The **SoS2LearnDBS** project is part of the **EU Horizon Europe** program and aims to restore aquatic ecosystems across the Danube River Basin and Black Sea region. This funding call supports community-driven solutions that address pollution, habitat restoration, and promote sustainable blue economy practices.

The call has a total available budget of **€7 million** and aims to support grassroots initiatives that can demonstrate lasting impact on local environmental and societal challenges.

### WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

**Consortia of 3–7 independent legal entities.**

**Partners** must be established in **EU Member States** or **Horizon Europe Associated Countries**.

At least **one partner** represents or is directly accountable to **local communities** (e.g. local NGO, community organisation, municipality).

The **consortium leader** must be based in a **Danube–Black Sea** country:

**Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Romania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Poland, Italy, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Türkiye or Albania.**





## WHERE CAN THE PROJECTS BE IMPLEMENTED?

Projects must be implemented in one of the five target regions:

- Upper Danube
- Lower Danube
- Black Sea
- Middle Danube
- Danube Delta

The call aims to fund at **least 2 projects per region** (minimum 10 projects overall).

## WHAT SHOULD MY PROJECT BE ABOUT?

### PROJECTS MUST

- Be community-led pilot actions lasting 18–30 months.
- Address local or regional challenges in the Danube–Black Sea basin.
- Contribute to at least one objective of the EU Mission *“Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”* and at least one of its targets:
  - Protect and restore marine and freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity.
  - Prevent and eliminate pollution of ocean, seas and waters.
  - Make the sustainable blue economy carbon-neutral and circular.

## HOW MUCH FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?

**€7.000.000**

TOTAL CALL BUDGET

**10**

MINIMUM NUMBER OF PROJECTS FUNDED

**TIER 1: €200.000 - €400.000****TIER 2: €500.000 - €1.000.000**

FUNDING TIERS PER PROJECT



### BUDGET REQUIREMENTS

**€500.000**

MAXIMUM FUNDING PER ORGANISATION

**LUMP SUM** – PAYMENTS LINKED TO COMPLETION OF PREDEFINED  
WORK PACKAGES, NOT DETAILED COST REIMBURSEMENT.

TYPE OF GRANT

**100% OF ELIGIBLE COSTS (NO  
CO-FINANCING REQUIRED).**

FUNDING RATE

PERSONNEL, TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION, EQUIPMENT  
(DEPRECIATION), OTHER GOODS/WORKS/SERVICES (E.G. MATERIALS,  
COMMUNICATION, EVENTS), SUBCONTRACTING (MAX. 30% OF  
REQUESTED GRANT), PLUS 25% FLAT-RATE INDIRECT COSTS.

ELIGIBLE COST CATEGORIES (FOR BUDGET PLANNING)



# HOW SHOULD I APPLY?

## STEP 1 READ THE OPEN CALL DOCUMENTATION

Download and carefully read all documents available on the SoS2LearnDBS website for the Call for Proposals & Guidelines for Applicants:

- Call for Proposals
- Application Form
- Technical Annex template
- Budget template

## STEP 2 PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION

Prepare your application using the [Online Application Form](#).

Make sure you **answer all questions** and **upload all relevant documents**.

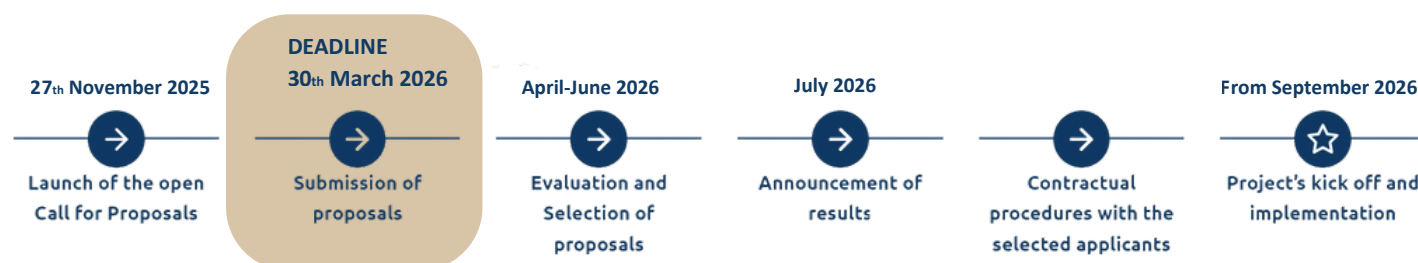
All parts must be completed in English and aligned with the guidelines.

## STEP 3 SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL

Submit only via the **EU Survey** link above before **30 March 2026, 17:00 CET**.

Multiple proposals are allowed, but each beneficiary can only be funded once.

After submission you should receive a confirmation email, if not, contact the SoS2LearnDBS team immediately.





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## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING?

Selected projects will receive:

**Financial** support (Tier 1 or Tier 2) to implement their community-led pilot action.

**Networking** and cross-regional collaboration across the Danube and Black Sea.

**Technical** assistance from SoS2LearnDBS partners.

**Access** to the Mission Implementation Platform and visibility within the EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”.

**Capacity**-building activities and peer-learning opportunities.

**Communication** and dissemination support during implementation.

# HOW TO GET IN TOUCH?

FOLLOW US:



[sos2learndbs.eu](https://sos2learndbs.eu)



[SoS2LearnDBS](#)



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## DOUBTS?

For questions about the call or the application process:

Email: [sosdb@inova.business](mailto:sosdb@inova.business)

Questions will be answered up to 25 March 2026 (indicative).

Info sessions will be held to clarify any doubts.

Coordinated by:



Partners:



PART OF THE

# EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

Funded by  
the European Union

