NATIONAL CHALLENGE FUND

From Ingenuity to Research and Solutions

Healthy Environment for All Challenge

Challenge Handbook

Healthy Environment for All Challenge

The Healthy Environment for All Challenge will support researchers in seeking solutions to ensure clean and healthy air, water and soil for humans, animals, and plants.

Why Apply?

The Healthy Environment for All Challenge gives academic research teams a unique opportunity to contribute to Ireland's transition to an environmentally sustainable and climate-neutral economy. Following successful review of applications, teams will receive funding of up to €250k and training to accelerate development of their idea. A number of teams will then be selected as finalists and receive up to €500k to further develop their idea before an overall winner is selected for the €2M Prize Award.

Who Can Apply?

Postdoctoral, early career or established researchers may lead teams in the Healthy Environment for All Challenge. Teams will consist of a minimum of two academic researchers with complementary skillsets. At the application or during the first phase of the award, teams must also include a third member who will bring specific knowledge or experience of the societal challenge the team will address.





Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland





Macinithe ag an Aontas Eorpach Funded by the European Union NextGenerationEU

How To Apply?

Complete a short 6-page form that asks you to describe your team, the specific challenge or problem you will address, the solution you propose and how it will create impact. Register and upload your application to SFI's grant management system before the deadline.

Teams should note that they will also be required to upload their CVs and other supporting documentation described in the call document.

What Are We Looking For?

Restoring and maintaining a resilient environment is an inextricable component of the Green Transition and essential for the creation of a healthy and secure future. Environmental degradation exacerbates climate change, threatens health, increases the risk of natural disaster, accelerates biodiversity loss and destabilises societies. The Healthy Environment for All Challenge seeks solutions to ensure clean and healthy air, water and soil for humans, animals, and plants.

Examples of potential research areas that could deliver impactful solutions are in the areas of climate adaptation, measuring and modelling of environmental parameters, prevention and removal of pollutants, restoration of our natural environment, natural capital, amongst others.







More About the Healthy Environment for All Challenge

Under this Challenge, applications would be considered in areas including but not limited to:

- Adaptation solutions to make our environment resilient to current and future impacts of climate change.
- Measurement and modelling solutions to enable improved monitoring of environmental quality parameters for soil, air, water and biodiversity in order to understand and address the sources of environmental damage.
- Pollutant prevention and removal solutions to remove pollutants at source or thoses already in the environment.
- Restoration solutions to restore and protect for future generations our natural environment.
- Natural capital solutions to understand the value and benefits of nature for our society and economy.



Challenge research is an approach to research funding that provides participants with an opportunity to accelerate progress toward delivering tangible impact from research. In addition to funding, researchers participating in the National Challenge Fund will be provided with significant training and mentoring to support them in this process.

Further Information

For all information on the Healthy Environment for All Challenge, please visit the website: <u>sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/healthy-environment/</u>. Applicants are advised that they should consult the call document for all details and eligibility criteria for the call in advance of preparing an application. For any further queries, please contact the SFI Challenge Team at <u>challenges@sfi.ie</u>

