

Science4Policy Programme

Information Session

Call for Proposals 2026

[23/06/2026]

Agenda

1. The S4Policy Team
2. The S4Policy Programme
3. Application Procedure
4. Research Topics
5. Questions?
6. Contact us!

The S4Policy Team



Coordinator	Aziz Naji
Programme Managers	Emmanuèle Bourgeois Emma Moerman Chloë Rogiers
Secretariat	Ria D'Haemers

The S4Policy Programme: S4Policy-DRIVEN

- Bottom-up needs for scientific support, requested by the **Federal Departments** to support decision-making
- Co-financed: BELSPO + (Federal) Public Service(s)
 - After public announcement of selected projects, a **bilateral contract** between the FPS(s) and applicants is signed

The S4Policy Programme: S4Policy-DRIVEN

- Transdisciplinary projects = close collaboration with the FPS(s) & other stakeholders
 - FPS(s) facilitate access to data, infrastructure
 - Need to **transfer knowledge** from the project team to the FPS
- = Need for frequent interactions

The S4Policy Programme: Follow-up Committee

- Maximise the impact of deliverables
- Forum for exchanges between the project team(s), relevant members of the (co-financing) federal administration, and observing public services, and potential users of the project results (academic and non-academic)
- Bring together the most pertinent actors within the project's research field(s)
- Allow co-creation, promote dissemination
- At least one meeting per year

The S4Policy Programme: S4Policy-DRIVEN

- Call 2026: currently awaiting official approval, provisional opening of the application procedure to safeguard timing

Application Procedure: General Information



Visit the [Belspo website!](https://belspo.aimsgrants.com)

- Expression of Interest
 - Short, Mandatory, not evaluated
- Full Proposal
 - Mandatory, evaluated by experts
 - Documentation available on Belspo website
 - Submission form available on our platform
- Submission via our Platform: belspo.aimsgrants.com

Application Procedure: Platform

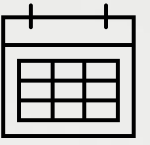


- Submission via our Platform: belspo.aimsgrants.com
 - We worked hard on the platform to improve user experience
- Eol must be submitted by promotor of the Coordinator
 - The Eol is short & Funded Partners can still be edited/changed in the Full Proposal

The screenshot shows a web interface with three buttons at the top: « Return to Index, Print Form, and Generate new PDF. Below these is a horizontal progress bar with six segments, each containing a checkbox and a label: General Information, Project Description, Coordinator, Funded Partner(s), Proposed Evaluators, and Non-Grata Evaluators. The 'General Information' segment is currently selected and highlighted.

- After acceptance of Eol: you receive an invitation to submit the Full Proposal

Application Procedure: Timing & Deadlines



Activity	Deadline
Launch of the call & Opening of the platform for submission of the EoI	June 2026
Information session	23 June 2023
Deadline submission EoI	13 July 2026 @ 14:00 CEST
Eligibility check by BELSPO	13 – 22 July 2026
Opening of the platform for submission of the Full Proposal	22 July 2026
Deadline submission Full Proposal	11 September 2026 @ 14:00 CEST
Evaluation	September – October 2026
Communication of Results	December 2026
Finalisation of the contracts	December 2026
Start of the projects	Early 2027

Application Procedure: Evaluation



- Proposals evaluated by international experts
 - Individual (anonymous) & panel evaluations
- You do not need to defend your proposal in front of a jury
- No rebuttal phase
- Final approval by the Programme Committee & Minister

Projects Selected for Funding: co-financing



- Co-financed call = at least 2 contracts (1 contract per funder): Belspo & FPS(s)

Note: in the proposal you submit a budget table for the TOTAL budget. However, budget will be split in the contracts. We will contact you and guide you through this process.

Selected Projects: The Belspo Contract



- Base contract: signed mid-December (*indicative timing*)
 - once signed, you can start making expenses (incl. hiring staff)
- Annex I: contains the details about your project, based on the Full Proposal & comments by Expert Panel
- Annex II: general conditions - available [online](#)
- Start of the project: Early 2027

Research Topics - 2026



1. Inclusion for persons with disabilities within Federal Governmental Organisations

(FPS Policy & Support)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 450 000 EUR

36 months



Research Topics - 2026



2. Potential, competences, skills and capacity to learn, as an alternative to diploma & experience as criteria in hiring processes and career & salary development

(FPS Policy & Support)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 300 000 EUR

24 months



Research Topics - 2026



3. Government Resilience with regards to Operational Upkeep & Nature based Design (GROUND)

(FPS Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 400 000 EUR

36 months

4. Analysis of the societal consequences of biodiversity loss (degradation) in Belgian soil *(CERAC – Climate Risk Assessment Center)*

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 375 000 EUR

12 - 36 months



5. The competitiveness of Belgian SMEs in the transition to a decarbonised and circular economy

(FPS Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 300 000 EUR

18 months

**6. Economic Cost of Climate Change & benefits of alternative adaptation strategies for Public investment at sectoral level:
Development of an Operational Assessment Framework at sectoral level and for the Belgian Defence sector**
(Climate Risk Assessment Center & Ministry of Defence)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 600 000 EUR

24 months



7. The decarbonisation of Belgian industry: long-term potential for negative greenhouse gas emissions through BECCS

(FPS Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 100 000 EUR

12 months



8. Sustainable Raw Materials in Belgium: ESG risks assessment and priority actions for the circular economy *(Federal Institute of Sustainable Development)*

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 450 000 EUR

36 months

9. Data Infrastructure for Monitoring Labour Market and Social Protection Transitions

(FPS Social Security & PPS Social Integration)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 420 000 EUR

24 months



10. Towards a new assessment scale for self-reliance among people with disabilities (FPS Social Security)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 250 000 EUR

12 months

11. Labour migration flows & channels for third-country nationals in Belgium

(Belgian Federal Migration Centre & Department of Work, Economy, Science, Innovation & Social Economy (Flanders))

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 200 000 EUR

24 months

Research Topics - 2026

12. Towards a scientific research agenda for the Federal administration

(All Federal Departments)

Indicative timing & budget:

Max. 300 000 EUR

24 months

Questions: Research Topics

Any questions on the “Research Priorities of the call” (research topics)?

→ contact S4Policy@belspo.be until 22/07.

We will answer your question/clarification as soon as possible. We will not answer questions that would lead to an unfair distribution of information among the interested researchers. All clarifications will be shared by e-mail and publicly on the website.

Contact



Questions? Check the available documentation, FAQ (will be uploaded after the info session) or contact the S4Policy Team!



S4Policy@belspo.be for general questions,
platform.support@belspo.be for questions about the platform



[Call 2026](tel:2026) | [S4Policy](#) | [P4Science](#) & [S4Policy](#)