



sundanse

Sustainable Sediment solutions for  
the Danube - Black Sea system

Press Article



## Could European rivers be healthy? EU-funded SUNDANSE project launches €200,000 Open Call for healthy freshwaters

As Europe intensifies efforts to safeguard its critical freshwater infrastructure, the **EU-funded SUNDANSE project has officially launched its second Open Call**. This funding mechanism delivers **a total of €200,000** to help forward-thinking communities transition from planning to real on-the-ground action.

The core objective of the call is to address the hidden environmental threats resting beneath the surface of European waterways: sediment dynamics and water flow management. Sub-surface imbalances, pollution accumulation, and altered flow regimes directly threaten water security, biodiversity, and regional climate resilience. **This funding call offers a direct route for local public authorities to implement advanced, practical solutions to reverse these trends.**



[info@sundanseproject.eu](mailto:info@sundanseproject.eu)



[www.sundanseproject.eu](http://www.sundanseproject.eu)



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The call will select two Associated Regions from 31 eligible European and Associated countries, providing each successful applicant with a **direct grant of up to €100,000** alongside technical and scientific support from the SUNDANSE consortium.

Eligible local and regional authorities established in participating nations - Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, and the United Kingdom - are encouraged to leverage this opportunity to deploy water flow monitoring tools, undertake sediment quantity tracking and quality assessments to mitigate pollution, and launch localised public awareness campaigns for freshwater basin care.

"With the official launch of this second funding round, we are putting practical tools directly into the hands of regional managers," said Professor Lucian Georgescu, Coordinator of the SUNDANSE project. "By focusing on sediment management and water flow tracking, this programme empowers local authorities to make a tangible, lasting impact on the health of their freshwater ecosystems."

**The application window is open until Wednesday, 30 September 2026 (5 PM CET).** To support applicants, the consortium will host two informative webinars, one of them being on 29 July 2026. To read the guidelines, register for the support webinars, and apply, visit: [sundanseproject.eu/sundanse-open-call-2/](https://sundanseproject.eu/sundanse-open-call-2/).

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The SUNDANSE mission supports the EU's "Restore our Ocean and Waters" goal, aiming to protect freshwater ecosystems and foster a climate-neutral blue economy by 2030.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The SUNDANSE project is a Horizon Europe initiative involving 19 partners from 10 countries. It focuses on innovative sediment management to ensure a sustainable future for the Danube-Black Sea system.

Website: [www.sundanseproject.eu](http://www.sundanseproject.eu)

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## MEDIA CONTACT

Nika Levikov, SUNDANSE Open Call 2 Manager

Email: [info@sundanseproject.eu](mailto:info@sundanseproject.eu)



[info@sundanseproject.eu](mailto:info@sundanseproject.eu)



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