

Plant-based dairy innovation: Research and industry partners sought for Horizon Europe proposal HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-03 on scaling up chickpea-based alternatives

Summary

Profile type

Research & Development Request

Company's country

Belgium

POD reference

RDRBE20250606008

Profile status

PUBLISHED

Type of partnership

**Research and development
cooperation agreement**

Targeted countries

• World

Contact Person

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Term of validity

16 Jun 2025**16 Jun 2026**

Last update

16 Jun 2025

General Information

Short summary

A Belgian start-up developing plant-based dairy alternatives based on pulses, with a first focus on chickpeas, is seeking research and industry partners for a Horizon Europe proposal (HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-03). The company wishes to join a consortium focused on scaling up nutritional proteins from alternative sources. They seek partners including dairy/plant-based food companies, co-manufacturers, and legume producer organisations. Research cooperation agreement is envisaged.

Full description

Double Triple Foods is a Belgian start-up innovating in the plant-based dairy sector. They are developing a dairy alternative based on pulses, first chickpeas, using a unique direct milking process for clean label products with improved nutritional and functional properties.

Their R&D activities include:

- Optimisation of processing of pulses to dairy alternative products;
- Formulations;
- Upscaling of processing & production;
- Piloting Regenerative chickpea cultivation in Belgium.

Double Triple Foods is actively seeking to join a consortium for the Horizon Europe call HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-03: Scaling-up nutritional proteins from alternative sources. They aim to contribute as industrial partner in the value chain and testbed development. Their ambition is to develop nutritious and affordable plant-based products, promote regenerative agriculture and expand European protein autonomy.

The company looks for partners with complementary expertise and infrastructure:

- Food manufacturers in the dairy/plant-based sector exploring diversification to chickpea-based alternatives;
- Co-manufacturers with capacity for small- to mid-scale production and fermentation of plant-based drinks;
- Producer organisations/cooperatives of legumes (chickpeas, fava beans, etc.) open to supply chain cooperation and agro-ecological innovation.

Advantages and innovations

Double Triple Foods distinguishes itself through its integrative approach combining food innovation, sustainability, and supply chain impact:

- The developed base & drinks mimic dairy properties without common allergens (e.g. lactose, soy, nuts...);
- Contains added micronutrients tailored to consumer health needs;
- Focuses on scalable, clean-label fermentation processes avoiding synthetic additives.
- Integrates regenerative agriculture into protein ingredient sourcing, enabling local value creation.

Technical specification or expertise sought

Stage of development

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**
- **Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being**
- **Goal 13: Climate Action**
- **Goal 2: Zero Hunger**

IPR Status

IPR Notes

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

Partners are expected to co-develop, pilot or validate components of the value chain: from chickpea cultivation and processing to co-manufacturing and market uptake of the final product.

Type of partnership

Research and development cooperation agreement

Type and size of the partner

- **University**
- **Big company**
- **SME 50 - 249**
- **R&D Institution**
- **SME 11-49**
- **SME <=10**

Call Details

Framework program

Horizon Europe

Call title and identifier

**Scaling-up nutritional proteins from alternative sources
HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-03**

Submission and evaluation scheme

Single-stage

Anticipated project budget

Coordinator required

No

Deadline for EoI

1 Aug 2025

Deadline of the call

18 Sep 2025

Project duration in weeks

Web link to the call

144

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/to-pic-details/HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-03>

Project title and acronym

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **08001004 - Food Processing**
- **06006011 - Fermentation**
- **08001005 - Food Technology**

Targeted countries

- **World**

Market keywords

- **07003002 - Health food**

Sector groups involved