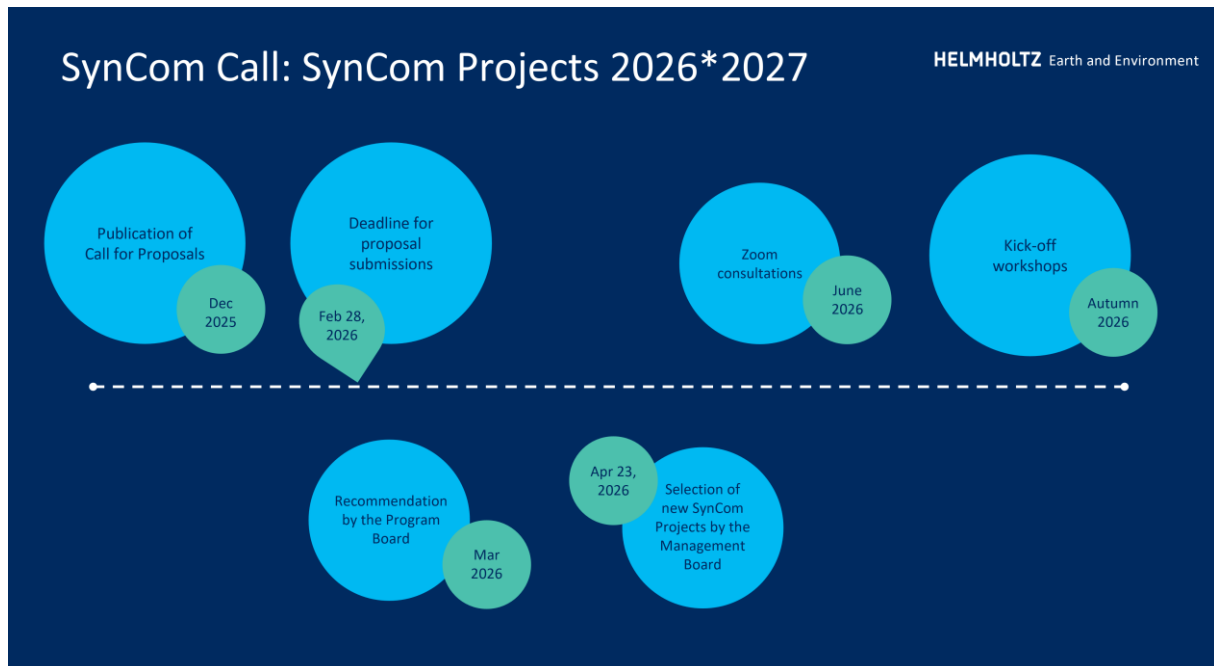


Call for Proposals: SynCom Projects 2026*2027



SynCom welcomes applications for new SynCom Projects. From December 2025 until end of February 2026, interested researchers within the Helmholtz Research Field Earth & Environment can submit their proposals. The proposal template can be downloaded [here](#). Please submit the proposal via e-mail to Marie Heidenreich: marie.heidenreich@gfz.de.

About SynCom

SynCom connects 7 Centres and 9 Topics for a higher societal impact. SynCom fosters the program '[Changing Earth – Sustaining our Future](#)' through cross-Centre and cross-Topic networking activities:

- Scientific knowledge synthesis ('Syn')
- Stakeholder engagement and communication ('Com')

SynCom Projects

SynCom Projects advance SynCom's goal of linking the seven Helmholtz E&E Centres and providing society with relevant knowledge from the Research Field Earth & Environment on key future issues. They are designed to build bridges across disciplines and to synthesize and communicate research results to clearly defined interaction groups. SynCom Projects can include partners and stakeholders from outside the scientific community.

An exceptional feature of SynCom is its unique science-policy network which connects participants with key stakeholders and decision-makers. SynCom offers distraction-free environments for productive exchanges and targeted interactions with stakeholders in politics, society, and industry, thereby enhancing societal and scientific impact.

The call is open for projects with several participants comprising at least two Topics and two Helmholtz Centres. Any researcher within the Helmholtz Research Field Earth & Environment can apply. The average duration of a project is approx. twelve months. SynCom Projects have an allocated budget for workshops and other events. There is no funding for personnel and travel expenses. Supported SynCom activities could include, but are not limited to, research synthesis paper, synthesis workshops, mapping of expertise, joint research funding proposal, stakeholder meetings, policy briefs, fact sheets, science-policy-dialogues, and parliamentary events. For further information, please see the proposal template. The SynCom Office and the SynCom Anchor Persons offer guidance on the application process and evaluation.

Selection criteria

After submission, the Program Board will recommend project proposals based on these evaluation criteria:

- Integrative in terms of disciplines, Topics, and Centres.
- In the frame of the research program 'Changing Earth – Sustaining our Future'
- Novelty in terms of timeliness/societal demand and/or filling gaps in the Research Field Earth & Environment
- Feasibility considering timeline and limited funds from the SynCom budget

Selection process

The Management Board will proceed to decide on three (or more) SynCom Projects in its meeting on April 23, 2026. At least one representative from each SynCom Project proposal is expected to present their goals at the next General Assembly of the Research Field at the end of 2026/beginning of 2027 in Bremen. SynCom Projects are expected to start after the summer break 2026 with a kick-off meeting.

Submission

- Deadline: February 28, 2026
- [Proposal template](#)
- Please submit the proposal via email to Marie Heidenreich: marie.heidenreich@gfz.de

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