



EU Partnership
Agriculture of Data



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Autumn School 2026

Call announcement

Agriculture of Data (AgData) Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) as a reference framework to leverage applied research in Digital and Green Agriculture

Agriculture of Data (AgData) is a co-funded Horizon Europe partnership focusing on the digital transformation of agriculture. The partnership was launched on October 1, 2025 under Cluster 6 of the Horizon Europe research programme and consists of 61 partners from 22 countries (see map below) with a contract period of seven years (2025-2032). The partnership aims to establish an integrated and efficient data infrastructure that supports the sustainable development of agriculture by leveraging innovative data-driven technologies. The partnership builds on prior initiatives, such as ICT-AGRI-FOOD, expanding efforts to integrate diverse data sources, including Earth Observation (EO), environmental data, and in-situ farm data, to enhance agricultural productivity, policy monitoring, and climate resilience.

With a total budget of €300 million, including €90 million from the European Commission and €210 million from Member States and Associated Countries, AgData will fund National Funded Use Cases and Use Cases funded by AgData's open calls and create synergies to other EU initiatives.

An AgData Use Case is a research project that will contribute to the implementation of AgData's Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda ([SRIA](#)).

Furthermore, through various activities/events AgData facilitates collaboration among relevant stakeholders, including farmers, researchers, policymakers, industry, and public institutions, bringing them together to drive the integration of digital technologies and data solutions across the agricultural sector.

In this regard, we are very pleased to announce a call for participation to an Autumn School for early career researchers, planned to take place at [Velventos](#) Greece during 3-6 November 2026.

1. Objectives

The Autumn School overarching objective is to cultivate a multidisciplinary perspective among early researchers in the fields of *Data - agronomy - environmental science; Socio-economic and policy dimensions; Ethics and data governance*, in order to foster a holistic understanding of research and innovation needs in digital agriculture at the interface of data science and environment-friendly agri-food systems.

In this regard, it addresses and highlights the theoretical foundations of several R&I elements of the main topics of the SRIA (see below) including horizontal and cross-cutting activities while it encourages interaction with students to add value to SRIA and achieve:

- **Proficiency building** in data-driven agriculture
- **Mutual learning** among peers in digital and green agriculture
- **Better understanding of interdisciplinary methods** for early-stage researchers (PhD students, Postdocs in years 1-3)

2. Time and location

November 3, 4, 5 & 6, 2026 in North Western Greece in **Velventos**, a small city surrounded by vineyards and farms, not far from the sea shore, the greater region marked by its university campuses and Greece's 2nd AI Factory

3. Target Audience & Capacity

- Target group:
 - Doctorate/post doc students - Postdocs (≤ 3 years after Doctorate/post doc)
 - Background assumptions: *Scientists/engineers in the field of agriculture, geoinformatics, UAVs, remote sensing and earth observation, soil scientists, environmentalists, data science, AI and/or other relevant disciplines.*
- Ideal size:
 - 22 students from AgData countries, one seat/AgData participating country
 - Mixed-background participant teams

4. Tentative Program Structure (spanned across 4-days) *

3 Key note speeches:

- ✓ Ensuring uptake & Innovation management of results of the partnership (SRIA 4.3)
 - ✓ Data marketplaces and cooperatives in agriculture (SRIA 3.1.3)
 - ✓ Enhancing functionality of and generating input for decision support systems including FMIS (SRIA 3.2.1)
- Morning: theory + concepts as per 1,2,3 below - *at the end of each lecture, round table assisted by the lecturers will be organized, for students to discuss and provide input to complementing or improving R&Is from the SRIA*
 - Lunch-brakes: visits to the local cooperative, vineyard/winery, University of Western Macedonia/AI Factory)/3 key note speeches
 - Late afternoon: two valorization workshops (how to make progress in your research endeavor, career and funding opportunities) discussion, networking, poster about attendants PhD research projects and/or field context

**The final Autumn School program structure is subject to change depending on lecturers' availability and visits plan.*

5. Theory will be delivered through 3 hours lectures/day, focused on*:

1. Data technologies and data management in agriculture

- Research and Data Infrastructures (SRIA 3.1.1)
- Data integration and data quality (SRIA 3.1.2)
- Applications of AI techniques (SRIA 3.1.4)

2. Data-based solutions for sustainable agriculture

- Farm modelling systems (SRIA 3.2.2)
- Data-based solutions for addressing environmental challenges, incl. climate change mitigation, biodiversity, water, and soil (SRIA 3.2.4)
- Strategies and technologies for climate change adaptation in the agricultural sector (SRIA 3.2.5)

3. Horizontal/crosscutting activities

- Data-based solutions for policy-making (SRIA 3.3)
- Pushing forward the valorisation of synergies between public and private sectors (SRIA 4.1)
- Providing technological, organizational and legal solutions for data governance, standards and security (SRIA 4.2)

**Each topic will be expanded according to the SRIA descriptions of R&I activities. Lecturers are professionals from the Partnership participating organizations who hold advanced degrees (such as a PhD) and are responsible for teaching in universities and colleges or for conducting research in R&D Institutions. Topics are indicative depending on lecturers' availability. In any case the Autumn School content will be SRIA-oriented.*

6. What does the Autumn School offer?

Successful applicants will:

- Have travel, accommodation and summer school participation expenses covered (including catering);
- Increase their technical capacity in data science and analytics for green agriculture;
- Exploit future opportunities for early-career researchers;
- Enjoy and experience social and cultural activities in the region of Velventos with peers.

7. Participation process

Applications must be submitted on-line in response to this open call. Applications by email will not be accepted. The applications will be checked by the Call Office regarding the defined eligibility criteria and requirements (see below). Eligible application will be forwarded for expert evaluation (see section 11).

The applicant should apply in accordance with the following eligibility criteria – non-compliance with these criteria/requirements may result in exclusion of the application:

- At the time of application, the applicant must reside and perform the doctorate/post doc programme in one of the **blue color-coded** countries in the map below.
- Expenses will only be covered for a round-trip from these countries to Greece
- The applicant must have officially started the doctorate/post doc programme at the time of application (confirmation is mandatory, see below).
- The applicant's doctorate/post doc project must be in line with the topics of the AgData Summer School (see above).
- At least one peer-reviewed paper as a 1st author.

It is desirable to form a cohort of participants consisting of one successful applicant per AgData/22 participating countries. This rule will be reexamined though and allow for some flexibility according to the number of worth retaining applications.

8. Required information for the on-line application:

The applicant has to provide the following information for the application process - all application documents have to be written in English:

- Motivation of applicant to join the summer school (to be filled in the applicant's account);
- Curriculum Vitae of max. 1 page (PDF upload, no template provided);
- Official letter of reference from the doctorate/post doc supervisor max. 2 pages (official letterhead, dated, signed, PDF upload, no template provided);
- Up-to-date and official certificate proving enrolment of the applicant in a doctorate/post doc programme max. 2 pages (this document must be officially issued from a graduate studies office or an equivalent personnel section of the corresponding institution, official letterhead, dated, signed, PDF upload, no template provided);

- Short summary of doctorate/post doc project (to be filled in the applicant's account), max. 2000 characters including spaces.

9. Online application procedure

- Application must be submitted via the available online submission platform at <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/27859fec-99e6-afad-e6bf-d9e99691292c>. Applications by email will not be accepted.
- All online applications must be submitted by September 15, 2026 (CET 18:00). The applications will be checked by the Call Office regarding the defined eligibility criteria (see section 7). Eligible applications will be forwarded for expert evaluation (see section 11).

10. Timeline of the call

The preliminary timeline for the application and selection process is as follows:

- Call launch: August 2026
- Submission period of applications: 31.07.2026 - 15.09.2026, 16:00 (CET)
- Note that due to the summer holidays, the Call Office will be non-regularly available between 10.08.2026 and 21.08.2026 returning to regular operating hours on August 21st.
- Evaluation and selection of applications: 2nd half September 2026
- Communication to the applicants: Late September 2026
- Autumn school: 3-6 November 2026

11. Evaluation criteria

A dedicated team of experts will review the appropriateness and quality of the application. Each application will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- Qualification of the applicant;
- Motivation of the applicant;
- Compatibility with the AgData summer school topics.

12. Organization of travel and accommodation

The host institution [GRNET](#) will contact successful applicants to assist with suitable travel arrangement from country of origin to Greece and to and from the airport to the venue, providing essential information for the accommodation. All participants shall be entitled to the reimbursement of their travel expenses from the place specified in their invitation (work or home address) to the place of the event, after presenting original receipts, tickets, boarding passes, and a completed expense claim form. Accommodation and catering will be also fully covered on-site by the host organization GRNET.

13. Liability exclusion

The AgData Partnership consortium partners cannot be held liable, jointly or severally, for any damage caused to any selected applicant or to third parties as a consequence of the applicant's participation at the Autumn School. Selected applicants are responsible to be sufficiently insured (travel insurance, health insurance etc.).

14. Contact Call Office:

agdata_as@qrnet.gr

Figure 1: Map of the AgData Partnership beneficiaries' countries (dark blue)

