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INNOVFUND Innovation Fund 2024 Net Zero Technologies – General Decarbonisation – Large Scale Projects; Deadline: 24 April 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time

Objectives

These topics aim to support and advance innovative low-carbon technologies and processes to significantly mitigate climate change in sectors listed in Annex I and Annex III to the EU ETS Directive 2003/87/EC, promoting sustainable development and technological leadership within Europe.

Activities that can be funded (scope)

The following activities are in scope under this topic:

- Innovation in Low-Carbon Technologies and Processes: activities that support innovation in low-carbon technologies and processes in sectors listed in Annex I and Annex III to the EU ETS Directive 2003/87, including projects focusing on the utilization of waste heat and improvements in electrification and energy efficiency within industrial processes and energy systems; activities involving environmentally safe carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) that significantly mitigate climate change, development of products that substitute carbon-intensive ones produced in sectors listed in Annex I to the EU ETS Directive.
- Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS): activities supporting the construction and operation of projects focused on the environmentally safe capture and geological storage of CO₂ (CCS).
- Innovative Renewable Energy and Energy Storage Technologies: activities supporting the construction and operation of innovative renewable energy and energy storage technologies.

Carbon capture and utilisation can be funded if the capture of CO₂ occurs within one of the activities listed in Annex I of the EU ETS Directive, or if the utilisation of CO₂ results in products substituting carbon-intensive ones from the sectors listed in Annex I to the EU ETS Directive, even if carbon is captured outside the activities of Annex I.

Hydrogen use in industry (i.e. hydrogen use as an energy carrier, reducing agent, or feedstock) and hydrogen production projects with a demonstrated sufficient degree of innovation can be funded under these topics. Projects installing and operating mature electrolyser technologies for production of RFNBO hydrogen, without additional relevant innovation in the use of the produced hydrogen, are strongly encouraged to apply to the Innovation Fund auction call for RFNBO Hydrogen.

In the maritime and aviation transport sector, support can be provided to, for example, breakthrough innovative technologies and infrastructure, including energy efficiency, sustainable alternative fuels, electrification, and zero-emission propulsion technologies such as wind technologies, including innovative infrastructure in the maritime sector, particularly for EU container transshipment ports. Production and installation of new or retrofitted innovative technology (e.g. energy system, engine or equipment) into a ship or plane is eligible for funding provided that the manufacturing and/or installation is done in EU/EEA. For EU ETS Annex III sectors, support can be provided to innovative low-carbon activities, including renewable energy integration, energy-efficiency, zero-emission vehicles, alternative fuels, process optimisation and waste heat recovery. Projects should contribute to building industrial capacity, technology leadership, supply chain resilience and strategic autonomy within the EU/EEA.

Further information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/INNOVFUND-2024-NZT-GENERAL-LSP?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate&isExactMatch=true&type=1&status=31094501,3>

INNOVFUND Innovation Fund 2024 Net Zero Technologies – General Decarbonisation – Medium Scale Projects; Deadline: 24 April 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time

Objectives

These topics aim to support and advance innovative low-carbon technologies and processes to significantly mitigate climate change in sectors listed in Annex I and Annex III to the EU ETS Directive 2003/87/EC, promoting sustainable development and technological leadership within Europe.

Activities that can be funded (scope)

The following activities are in scope under this topic:

- Innovation in Low-Carbon Technologies and Processes: activities that support innovation in low-carbon technologies and processes in sectors listed in Annex I and Annex III to the EU ETS Directive 2003/87, including projects focusing on the utilization of waste heat and improvements in electrification and energy efficiency within industrial processes and energy systems; activities involving environmentally safe carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) that significantly mitigate climate change, development of products that substitute carbon-intensive ones produced in sectors listed in Annex I to the EU ETS Directive.
- Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS): activities supporting the construction and operation of projects focused on the environmentally safe capture and geological storage of CO₂ (CCS).
- Innovative Renewable Energy and Energy Storage Technologies: activities supporting the construction and operation of innovative renewable energy and energy storage technologies.

Carbon capture and utilisation can be funded if the capture of CO₂ occurs within one of the activities listed in Annex I of the EU ETS Directive, or if the utilisation of CO₂ results in products substituting carbon-intensive ones from the sectors listed in Annex I to the EU ETS Directive, even if carbon is captured outside the activities of Annex I.

Hydrogen use in industry (i.e. hydrogen use as an energy carrier, reducing agent, or feedstock) and hydrogen production projects with a demonstrated sufficient degree of innovation can be funded under these topics. Projects installing and operating mature electrolyser technologies for production of RFNBO hydrogen, without additional relevant innovation in the use of the produced hydrogen, are strongly encouraged to apply to the Innovation Fund auction call for RFNBO Hydrogen.

In the maritime and aviation transport sector, support can be provided to, for example, breakthrough innovative technologies and infrastructure, including energy efficiency, sustainable alternative fuels, electrification, and zero-emission propulsion technologies such as wind technologies, including innovative infrastructure in the maritime sector, particularly for EU container transshipment ports. Production and installation of new or retrofitted innovative technology (e.g. energy system, engine or equipment) into a ship or plane is eligible for funding provided that the manufacturing and/or installation is done in EU/EEA. For EU ETS Annex III sectors, support can be provided to innovative low-carbon activities, including renewable energy integration, energy-efficiency, zero-emission vehicles, alternative fuels, process optimisation and waste heat recovery. Projects should contribute to building industrial capacity, technology leadership, supply chain resilience and strategic autonomy within the EU/EEA.

Further information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/INNOVFUND-2024-NZT-GENERAL-MSP?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate&isExactMatch=true&type=1&status=31094501,3>

INNOVFUND Innovation Fund 2024 Net Zero Technologies – Clean-tech manufacturing; Deadline: 24 April 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time

Activities that can be funded (scope)

Construction and operation of manufacturing facilities to produce specific components for:

- Renewable energy: facilities producing components for photovoltaics, concentrated solar power, onshore and offshore wind power, ocean energy, geothermal, solar thermal, and other renewable energy systems, including their connection to the electricity/heat grid.

- Electrolysers and fuel cells: manufacturing of electrolysers and fuel cells for hydrogen production and consumption.
- Energy storage solutions: production of batteries (except manufacturing of battery cells, that can be used in electric vehicles (also as part of integrated projects)) and other storage solutions for stationary and mobile use, covering both intra-day and long duration storage.
- Heat pumps: development and production of heat pumps.

Components also include final equipment such as wind turbines, solar panels, batteries, heat pumps or electrolysers. The topic also targets the manufacturing of components and materials (except mining activities) that are a significant factor in the final equipment's performance and/or cost. Activities relating to recycling or reusing critical materials (except manufacturing of battery cells, that can be used in electric vehicles (also as part of integrated projects)) to be used in the above equipment categories or components thereof may also be funded under this topic.

The produced equipment, components and materials can be sold on the EU market and in third countries.

Activities should demonstrate innovation in (and/or):

- Products: achieving lower cost when fully mature, higher performance, more energy efficiency, better system integration, higher durability, flexibility, reliability and/or convenience as compared to the state-of-the-art product.
- Production processes: increased use of recycled materials, more efficient use of critical materials, lower environmental/carbon footprint, improved automation and use of digital technologies, etc. Innovation can concern one or several steps of the manufacturing process.

Under this topic, the use of innovative components, including the final equipment, in power/heat generation, energy storage, or production and consumption of hydrogen will not be supported.

Further information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/INNOVFUND-2024-NZT-CLEAN-TECH-MANUFACTURING?isExactMatch=true&status=31094501,31094502&callIdentifier=InnovFund-2024-NZT&order=D>

INNOVFUND Innovation Fund 2024 Net Zero Technologies – Pilot projects; Deadline: 24 April 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time

Objectives

The objective of this topic is to support highly innovative, disruptive or breakthrough technologies that enable deep decarbonisation needed for achieving climate neutrality.

Activities that can be funded (scope)

The following activities can be funded under this topic: construction and operation of pilot projects that focus on validating, testing and optimising highly innovative, deep decarbonisation solutions in all sectors eligible for Innovation Fund support.

Pilot projects can thus concern:

- Sectors listed in Annex I and Annex III to the EU ETS Directive 2003/87, including environmentally safe carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) that contributes substantially to mitigating climate change, and products substituting carbon-intensive ones produced in sectors listed in Annex I to the EU ETS Directive.
- Construction and operation of innovative energy storage systems.
- Development of CO₂ storage solutions.
- Renewable energy installations, in photovoltaics, concentrated solar power, onshore and offshore wind power, ocean energy, geothermal, solar thermal, and other renewable energy technologies, including innovative systems for grid connection (electricity/heat).

A higher degree of innovation is expected than in the other topics under this call. Funded activities should address technical risks associated with the demonstration of innovative technologies and solutions, such as optimising technology processes and operational parameters and/or improving the characteristics of the final products. Pilot projects should demonstrate an innovative, deep decarbonisation or net carbon removal technology or solution in an operational environment but are not expected yet to reach large scale demonstration or commercial production. Nevertheless, limited production or operation for testing purposes, including delivery to/from potential customers for validation is expected. These projects typically have a limited lifetime of 3 to 5 years. If successful, the technology should progress to large-scale demonstration or first-of-a-kind commercial production.

Deep decarbonisation technology means technology that has the potential to be fully compatible with a 2050 climate neutrality objective. The pilot installation should have a very low level of residual emissions or result in net carbon removals. See more details in the minimum requirements under the GHG emission avoidance criterion.

Projects should contribute to building industrial capacity, technology leadership, supply chain resilience and strategic autonomy within the EU/EEA.

The maximum amount of Innovation Fund grant for an individual project under this topic is limited to EUR 40 million.

Further information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/INNOVFUND-2024-NZT-PILOTS?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate&isExactMatch=true&type=1&status=31094501,31094502>

INNOVFUND Innovation Fund 2024 Batteries – Manufacturing of electric vehicles battery cells; Deadline: 24 April 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time

Objectives

This topic supports projects on electric vehicle battery cells manufacturing in order to enhance Europe's industrial capacity and leadership in this net-zero technology and to ensure that battery production capacity in the EU/EEA is ready to respond to increased demand for electric vehicles, in line with the mandatory standards on CO₂ emission performance of light- and heavy-duty vehicles.

Activities that can be funded (scope)

Manufacturing of cells that can be used in electric vehicle batteries.

Electric vehicle batteries are defined in the Battery Regulation as follows:

“‘electric vehicle battery’ means a battery that is specifically designed to provide electric power for traction in hybrid or electric vehicles of category L as provided for in Regulation (EU) No 168/2013, that weighs more than 25 kg, or a battery that is specifically designed to provide electric power for traction in hybrid or electric vehicles of categories M, N or O as provided for in Regulation (EU) 2018/858.”

Optionally, the project (i.e. in case of horizontally integrated projects) may also include the additional production of upstream components such as:

- cathode precursor material (pCAM),
- cathode active material (CAM),
- anode active material (AAM),
- electrolyte,
- separator

as well as battery or battery material recycling.

The outputs of upstream component production steps or recycling included in the project scope may not exceed 100% of the project's battery cell production capacity (outputs going beyond 100% cannot be included in the project scope).

New patents originating from the project, during the project's duration (i.e. 'results' within the meaning of Article 16 of the Grant Agreement) must be registered in an EU Member State or EEA country.

The estimated available call budget is EUR 1 000 000 000.

Further information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/INNOVFUND-2024-BATT-EV-CELLS?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate&isExactMatch=true&type=1&status=31094501,31094>

INNOVFUND Innovation Fund 2024 Auction – Fixed Premium Auction for RFNBO hydrogen production; Deadline: 20 February 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time

Objectives

The objective of this topic is to support the production of renewable fuel of non-biological origin (RFNBO) hydrogen in Europe as defined in the Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2021 and its Delegated Acts, from new, additional installed capacity in support of the 2030 targets for renewable hydrogen established in this Directive and supported by the REPowerEU Plan and reiterated in the Green Deal Industrial Plan and the European Hydrogen Bank Communication. This topic also supports achieving security of supply of essential goods and Europe's industrial leadership and competitiveness in the hydrogen sector.

The call supports the RFNBO industry and mobility targets established in the Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2021 and is aligned with its Delegated Regulations on methodology for RFNBOs.

Activities that can be funded (scope)

The following activities can be funded under this topic:

Installation of new, additional, RFNBO hydrogen production capacity (i.e. hydrogen production capacity for which at the time of the grant application the start of works did not yet take place) as well as the verified and certified production of RFNBO hydrogen from those installations (in kg of produced volume) for a period of up to 10 years.

For avoidance of doubt:

The bid price per unit is expected to cover the premium required by the producer, i.e. the difference between the expected revenues from the sale of one unit and the unit's levelized cost. (i.e. elements like production, sale, transport, and storage can be priced into the bid).

The produced RFNBO hydrogen can be sold to any off-taker or self-consumed or stored. The RFNBO definition applies to hydrogen purchased by any off-taker (not only in transport).

Minimum installed capacity: only projects with a minimum installed capacity of the electrolyser of at least 5 MWe are eligible.

The electrolyser capacity must be in a single location. Virtual pooling of capacity is not permitted.

Projects must limit the sourcing of electrolyser stacks with surface treatment or cell unit production or stack assembly

carried out in China to no more than 25% (in MWe) of the total electrolyser capacity as expressed in the bid.

Projects must comply with standard ISO 22734:2019 for “Hydrogen generators using water electrolysis — Industrial, commercial, and residential applications” (or the latest approved version replacing it).

Projects must ensure the security of the funded installations by keeping the operational control of the installation with an entity established in the EU/EEA and by storing the data within the EU/EEA.

Further information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/INNOVFUND-2024-AUC-RFNBOH2-GENERAL?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate&isExactMatch=true&type=1&status=3109>

INNOVFUND Innovation Fund 2024 Auction – Fixed Premium Auction for RFNBO hydrogen production for the maritime sector; Deadline: 20 February 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time

Objectives

The objective of this topic is to support the production of renewable fuel of non-biological origin (RFNBO) hydrogen in Europe as defined in the Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2021 and its Delegated Acts, from new, additional installed capacity in support of the 2030 targets for renewable hydrogen established in this Directive and supported by the REPowerEU Plan and reiterated in the Green Deal Industrial Plan and the European Hydrogen Bank Communication. This topic also supports achieving security of supply of essential goods and Europe's industrial leadership and competitiveness in the hydrogen sector. This topic's objective is also to provide specific support to the production of RFNBO hydrogen that will be used by stakeholders in the maritime sector.

The call supports the RFNBO industry and mobility targets established in the Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2021 and is aligned with its Delegated Regulations on methodology for RFNBOs.

Activities that can be funded (scope)

The following activities can be funded under this topic:

Installation of new, additional, RFNBO hydrogen production capacity (i.e. hydrogen production capacity for which at the time of the grant application the start of works did not yet take place) as well as the verified and certified production of RFNBO hydrogen from those installations (in kg of produced volume) for a period of up to 10 years.

For avoidance of doubt:

- The bid price per unit is expected to cover the premium required by the producer, i.e. the difference between the expected revenues from the sale of one unit and the unit's levelized cost. (i.e. elements like production, sale, transport, and storage can be priced into the bid).
- Minimum installed capacity: only projects with a minimum installed capacity of the electrolyser of at least 5 MWe are eligible.
- Projects under this topic must supply at least 60% of their expected total volume of production as stated in the bid to off-takers belonging to the maritime sector. Projects will have to respect the specific implementation conditions concerning supply to off-takers in the maritime sector. An off-taker will be considered to belong to the maritime sector, if it will use the hydrogen produced by the project or the hydrogen derivative produced by the integrated project for carrying out/making use of bunkering activities in ports within the EU/EEA. Fuel traders and/or intermediaries (including storage facilities), are not eligible as off-takers, neither are virtual agreements. The remainder 40% of their expected total volume of produced RFNBO hydrogen can be sold to any off-taker or self-consumed or stored. The RFNBO definition applies to hydrogen purchased by any off-taker (not only in transport).

The electrolyser capacity must be in a single location. Virtual pooling of capacity is not permitted. Projects must limit the sourcing of electrolyser stacks with surface treatment or cell unit production or stack assembly carried out in China to no more than 25% (in MWe) of the total electrolyser capacity as expressed in the bid.

Projects must comply with standard ISO 22734:2019 for “Hydrogen generators using water electrolysis — Industrial, commercial, and residential applications” (or the latest approved version replacing it).

Projects must ensure the security of the funded installations by keeping the operational control of the installation with an entity established in the EU/EEA and by storing the data within the EU/EEA.

Further information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/INNOVFUND-2024-AUC-RFNBOH2-MARITIME?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate&isExactMatch=true&type=1&status=310>

DFG Joint projects in all fields of research with Israel; Deadline: 15 March 2025

Participating institutions in Israel are invited to submit proposals which may come from all fields of science and research. Proposals shall be so designed as to be carried out in close cooperation between the Israeli and the German project partners. They must contain a description of the joint work plan for both, the Israeli and the German side. The quality of the research work and the strength of the scientific cooperation including the exchange of scientists, in particular early career researchers (PhDs/Postdocs), are the main criteria for the review and selection. Principal investigators on both sides need to have adequate working conditions over the full period of the project.

Eligible for the submission of proposals are:

- Bar-Ilan University
- Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
- The University of Haifa
- The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Reichman University
- Tel Aviv University
- Technion – The Israel Institute of Technology
- Weizmann Institute of Science

Each of these institutions is entitled to submit two proposals which makes altogether 16.

Budget

The financial plan must state the institutional resources available to the project on both sides and identify the additional needs. The total budget requested for the Israeli and the German partners may amount to a total of €1,655,000 for a maximum duration of five years.

Funding may include running costs (staff, materials, travel) and instrumentation. The equipment must be advanced and highly specialised and specifically needed for the conduct of the project and not of a general kind for basic needs of the institute.

If a project comprises several groups on both or either sides a financial plan has to be drawn up for each group individually. In each project the share between the Israeli and the German partners can be freely negotiated. Industrial partners participate at their own expense.

Duration of Projects

In all submissions the research shall be planned for a period of five years.

Further information:

<https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2024/ifw-24-117>

DFG Joint research projects in the Humanities and Social Sciences with France; Deadline: 6 March 2025

The funding programme, which wants to expand and strengthen Franco-German cooperation in the humanities and social sciences, has met with a broad response from science in recent years and has already been able to contribute to the sustainable development of Franco-German cooperation and networks.

The ANR-DFG funding programme does not contain any thematic requirements. However, special attention is paid to the intensive Franco-German cooperation and the specific scientific added value, which can be achieved by bringing together national scientific traditions in research fields of humanities and social sciences. In the areas in which German and French play a role as scientific languages, the advantages of multilingualism can also be used and demonstrated in the context of scientific cooperation.

Since 2010, postdoctoral researchers have also been opened up the opportunity to submit their own project proposals in cooperation with scientists from the partner country.

Please note that no special funds are available for this funding programme. The applications compete with those of the individual procedure.

Further information:

<https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2024/ifw-24-113>

Other Contact Research Funding Advisory Service at Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg

If you have any questions about funding opportunities, specific calls for proposals, help with submitting applications and project support, please contact the Research Funding Advisory Service/EU University Network at Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg.

Information about current events, funding structures and contact details online at:

<https://www.ovgu.de/KontaktForschungsfoerderung>

<https://www.euhochschulnetz-sachsen-anhalt.de/>