



i3⁴BLUE GROWTH

green innovation for blue growth

Capacity building on novel EU Financial Instruments

September – 2025



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Introduction

This document is a short guide to different funding programs at interregional and European level, produced in the framework of the I3-4-BLUE-GROWTH project. The primary objective of this project is to enhance capacities of less-developed coastal & insular European regions to build and reinforce innovative ecosystems for the development of a sustainable and smart blue economy. This guide is part of the end results of task 4.2 of the project "Capacity building for access and use of the novel financial instruments to the stakeholders in the new value chains". The objective of this guide is to help stimulating the access of SMEs/stakeholders to these funding resources, some of which may be less known.

The project calls, working programs, etc. presented have been selected based on the knowledge and experience of the partners in the I3-4-BLUE GROWTH project and of an intensive internet search. This has resulted in this comprehensive list of funding opportunities. Although it has been produced to include all funding opportunities that exist to our best knowledge, by no means did we had the intention to produce an exhaustive list and this cannot be guaranteed. It is also important to note that this list only includes funding opportunities in interregional and international programs. There might exist additional specific funding programs in your own country or region.

More information and possibilities for support with proposal submissions may be obtained from each of the I3-4-BLUE-GROWTH project partners.

Index of EU instruments

1. ALGAE ACCELERATOR
2. HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME: Call: EIC ACCELERATOR 2025 - SHORT APPLICATION (HORIZON-EIC-2025-ACCELERATOR-01).
3. HORIZON EUROPE: EU FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME
4. EUROPEAN MARITIME, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE FUND (EMFAF)
5. INTERREG GENERAL INTRODUCTION
6. INTERREG EURO-MED 2021-2027
7. INTERREG EURO MED. MEDITERRANEAN MULTI-PROGRAMME MECHANISM. ITALY-CROATIA.
8. INTERREG EURO MED. MEDITERRANEAN MULTI-PROGRAMME MECHANISM. ITALY-FRANCE
9. INTERREG ESPAÑA-PORTUGAL POCTEP
10. INTERREG ATLANTIC AREA
11. INTERREG BALTIC SEA REGION
12. INTERREG POLAND-DENMARK-GERMANY-LITHUANIA-SWEDEN (SOUTH BALTIC)
13. EIT-FOOD
14. EU RENEWABLE ENERGY FINANCING MECHANISM
15. LIFE +
16. INNOVATION FUND. EUROPE FUNDING FOR CLIMATE ACTION.
17. THE DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME
18. CBE-JU. CIRCULAR BIO-BASED EUROPE
19. EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL.
20. INTERREGIONAL INNOVATION INVESTMENTS (I3) INSTRUMENT
21. EUREKA: THE EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP ON INNOVATE SMEs

Identification of the Financing Instrument #1

Name of the Financing Instrument:

ALGAE ACCELERATOR

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

Horizon Europe: EU Framework Programme

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://algaeprobanos.eu/>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

It is a six-month mentoring programme designed to support startups and SMEs in the algae value chain to improve their business strategies. The initiative aims to bring new sustainable alternatives to the market, addressing some of our

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

Support startups and SMEs by enhancing their capacity and fostering connections with experienced blue biotech talent to help them achieve their

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Seaweed sector algae.

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

<https://algaeprobanos.eu/>

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

Individual SMEs/start-ups or consortia of 2-3 entities in the seaweed sector algae

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

Mentoring vouchers.

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

€ 200.00

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

Up to € 10.000 per solution is offered for mentoring voucher

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

No. Direct grant.

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

6 months

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

See <https://algaeprobanos.eu/>



Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

See <https://alaaeprobamos.eu/>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

Annual

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

Number of projects approved.

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

Introduce new sustainable alternatives to the market, addressing some of the key ocean challenges to drive the development and uptake of innovative

Final questions – Answer these two questions after the identification of all relevant financing instruments.

Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

1. Lack of access to information on existing calls for proposals by companies.
2. Economic difficulty for companies to hire qualified personnel to manage

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

1. Propose new innovation financing instruments specifically for small enterprises with less than 10 employees.
2. Improve existing financing instruments.
3. Develop local promotion campaigns in less developed European areas,



Appendix – Typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments

Financing instruments			Key features
Direct public funding	Grants, subsidies		Most common funding instruments. Used as seed funding for start-ups and innovative SMEs. Granted on a competitive basis and in some cases, on the basis of private co-funding. No repayment is usually required. Supply-side, discretionary instruments.
	Debt financing	Credit loans	Government subsidised loans. Require sorts of collateral or guarantee. Obligation of repayment as debt. The investor/lender does not receive an equity stake.
		Repayable grants/advances	Repayment required, partial or total, sometimes in the form of royalties. Could be granted on the basis of private co-funding.
		Loans guarantees and risk-sharing mechanisms	Used widely as important tools to ease financial constraints for SMEs and start-ups. In the case of individual assessment of loans, can signal ex ante the creditworthiness of the firm to the bank. Often combined with the provision of complementary services (e.g. information, assistance, training).
	Debt/Equity financing	Non-bank debt/equity funding	New funding channels. Innovative lending platforms and non-bank debt or equity funds.
		Mezzanine funding	Combination of several financing instruments of varying degrees of risk and return that incorporate elements of debt and equity in a single investment vehicle. Used at later stage of firms' development. More suitable for SMEs with a strong cash position and a moderate growth profile.
	Equity financing (*)	Venture capital funds and funds of funds	Funds provided by institutional investors (banks, pensions funds etc.) to be invested in firms at early to expansion stages. Tends to increasingly invest at later -less risky- stage. Referred as patient capital, due to lengthy time span for exiting (10-12 years). The investor receives an equity stake.
		Business angels	Provide financing, expertise, mentoring and network facilities. Tends to invest in the form of groups and networks. Financing at start-up and early stage.
	Public procurement for R&D and innovation (*)		Create a demand for technologies or services that do not exist, or, target the purchase of R&D services (pre-commercial procurement of R&D). Provide early-stage financial support to high-risk innovative technology-based small firms with commercial promise.
	Technology consulting services, extension programmes		Expand the diffusion and adoption of already existing technology, and contribute to increase the absorptive capacity of targeted firms (especially SMEs). Provide information, technical assistance, consulting and training etc. Of particular importance in low income countries.
Indirect public funding	Innovation vouchers		Small lines of credit provided to SMEs to purchase services from public knowledge providers with a view to introducing innovations in their business operations.
	Tax incentives (*)	Tax incentives on corporate income tax	Used in most countries. Broad range of tax arrangements on corporate income tax, including tax incentives on R&D expenditure and, less frequently, tax incentives on IP-related gains. Indirect, non-discriminatory.
		Tax incentives on personal income tax and other taxes	Available in many countries. Broad range of tax incentives on R&D and entrepreneurial investments and revenues that apply to personal income tax, value added tax or other taxes (consumption, land, property etc.). Indirect, non-discriminatory.

Source: OECD Science, Technology and Innovation Outlook 2016

Identification of the Financing Instrument #2

Name of the Financing Instrument:

HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME: Call: EIC ACCELERATOR 2025 - SHORT

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

Horizon Europe: EU Framework Programme

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The EIC Accelerator supports companies to develop and scale up high-impact innovations with the potential to create new markets or improve existing ones. EIC Accelerator applicants can submit proposals through:
- EIC Accelerator Open, which has no pre-defined thematic priorities and is open

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

To develop and scale up high-impact innovations with the potential to create

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Open to proposals in any field of technology or application and areas of

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

SMEs which have no pre-defined thematic priorities and is open to proposals in any field of technology or application and areas of emerging and strategic

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

SMEs or small enterprises established or to be established established or to be established in the EU or in associated countries, and persons or or entities from the EU, associated countries, or from third countries (the latter, if they plan to

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

Equity investments, coaching and mentoring, networking.

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

Up to 10 million euros of investments

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

Flat-rate contribution of less than EUR 2.5 million for innovation activities (TRL 6-

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

Direct grant. In general, the reimbursement reaches a maximum of 100% of the total eligible costs for research and innovation actions or coordination and support actions, reducing this maximum percentage to 70% in the case of

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

1 year

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

See <https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

See <https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

Annual

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

Number of projects approved.

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

Creation of new markets or improve existing ones.

Final questions – Answer these two questions after the identification of all relevant financing instruments.

Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

5. Lack of access to information on existing calls for proposals by companies.
6. Economic difficulty for companies to hire qualified personnel to manage

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

4. Propose new innovation financing instruments specifically for small enterprises with less than 10 employees.
5. Improve existing financing instruments.
6. Develop local promotion campaigns in less developed European areas,

Identification of the Financing Instrument #3

Name of the Financing Instrument:

HORIZON EUROPE: EU FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

European Commission

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

DEMONSTRATIONS OF INNOVATIVE FLOATING WIND ENERGY CONCEPTS.

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

Accelerating the cost-effective construction and deployment of floating wind farms, facilitating their rapid and sustainable deployment across Europe and

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Projects will carry out activities to establish and strengthen strategic inter-regional partnerships that develop and implement highly innovative solutions



Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

Any legal entity established in one of the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions, and countries associated associated

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

Grant

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

€ 30 M

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

1 year

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal

See <https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

Annual

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

Number of projects approved.

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

It is expected to optimise a floating offshore wind energy system, by developing 4 MW (horizontal) and 2 MW (vertical) platforms to operate at sea for 12-24 months, in order to collect performance and sustainability data.

Final questions – Answer these two questions after the identification of all relevant financing instruments.

Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

1. Lack of access to information on existing calls for proposals by companies.
2. Economic difficulty for companies to hire qualified personnel to manage international projects.
3. Preference for internationalisation towards neighbouring countries.

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

1. Propose new innovation financing instruments specifically for small enterprises with less than 10 employees.
2. Improve existing financing instruments.
3. Develop local promotion campaigns in less developed European areas,

Identification of the Financing Instrument #4

Name of the Financing Instrument:

EUROPEAN MARITIME, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE FUND (EMFAF)

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

EU

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive->

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

INNOVATION PROJECTS

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

Granting of innovation projects in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in line with the objectives of the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Two thematics:

1. Innovation in the fisheries sector: companies in the extractive fishing, processing and marketing sectors. In the case of companies in the processing sector, only SMEs are considered as beneficiaries. SMEs are

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

Enterprises, operating in the fishery and aquaculture sector, which may be SMEs or large enterprises in particular calls. Also can be considered as beneficiary

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive->

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

Grant

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

<https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive->

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

The minimum budget to be financed is € 175.000

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

Maximum aid intensity of 50% for SMEs and 30% for large enterprises. For the outermost regions the aid is increased by 35% for SMEs, thus reaching 85%.

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

2021-2027

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive->

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal

<https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive->

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

Annual or until the budget is exhausted.

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

<https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive->

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

Increasing innovation in fisheries and aquaculture enterprises.

Final questions – Answer these two questions after the identification of all relevant financing instruments.

Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

1. Lack of access to information on existing calls for proposals by companies.
2. Economic difficulty for companies to hire qualified personnel to manage international projects.
3. Preference for internationalisation towards neighbouring countries.
4. In general, innovation is not a preference in the activity of companies

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

1. Propose new innovation financing instruments specifically for small enterprises with less than 10 employees.
2. Improve existing financing instruments.
3. Develop local promotion campaigns in less developed European areas,

Identification of the Financing Instrument #5

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INTERREG GENERAL INFORMATION

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

With the support of ERDF (European Regional Development Funds).

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

Europe + adjacent regions (North Africa, Nordic regions) and overseas territories

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://interreg.eu/> for general information. <https://interreg.eu/programmes/> for an overview (with interactive map) of all INTERREG programs.

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

Interreg is a series (86 in total) of EU funding programmes that support interregional, pluriregional and international cooperation. By bringing together organisations from across Europe and beyond, Interreg tackles shared challenges and creates lasting connections. From boosting economic growth and regional cohesion to protecting the environment and promoting sustainable

Identification of the Financing Instrument #6

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INTERREG EURO-MED 2021-2027

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

With the support of ERDF (European Regional Development Funds).

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

Our Programme cooperation area includes 69 regions of 14 countries from the Northern shore of the Mediterranean: 10 EU Member States and 4 countries from

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The Interreg Euro-MED Programme supports **cooperation across Mediterranean** borders. We provide funds for projects developed and

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

1. Facilitate the **sharing** and **reuse** of our project results
2. Encourage their **transfer** and integration into policies
3. Strengthen **coordination** between Mediterranean stakeholders.

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/get-involved/#CallsForProposals>.



Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

Public administrations, universities, private and civil society organisations.

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/documents-tools-programme->

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<https://interreg-med.eu/about-us/what-is-interreg-med/>

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

The total budget for the 2014-2020 period amounts to 265 Mio €, composed of 224 Mio € ERDF (European Regional Development Fund), 9

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://interreg-med.eu/about-us/what-is-interreg-med/>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

The co-financing rate for partners not concerned by state aid is 85%. The co-financing rate for economic operators and structures concerned by state aid is

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/what-we-do/#TypesOfProjects>



Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/what-we-do/#TypesOfProjects>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/what-we-do/#TypesOfProjects>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/get-involved/#CallsForProposals>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to market, increased competitiveness)?

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/who-we-are/#TheProgramme>

Expected Impact:

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/who-we-are/#TheProgramme>

Other Information

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/who-we-are/#TheProgramme>

Identification of the Financing Instrument #7

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INTERREG EURO MED. MEDITERRANEAN MULTI-PROGRAMME MECHANISM. ITALY-

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

With the support of ERDF (European Regional Development Funds).

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

Italy-Croatia

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

Strengthening an innovative sustainable economy

Improving innovation capacities in our Mediterranean territories is a necessity to strengthen and consolidate a knowledge society. It will help us face future possible economic crisis. Projects under this mission will increase the capacities of public and private organisations to implement and coordinate Regional

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

From the numerous funding priorities and specific objectives proposed by the European Commission for 2021-2027, Interreg Euro-MED selected 3 priorities and 5 specific objectives:

- **Priority 1 – A Smarter Mediterranean**
Specific objective 1.1: Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies
- **Priority 2 – A Greener Mediterranean**
Specific objective 2.4: Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account eco-system-based approaches
Specific objective 2.6: Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

The Interreg VI Italy-Croatia Programme 2021-2027, involves the areas in Italy and Croatia facing the Adriatic Sea .

Thematic focus are:

1.1 - Innovation and research / SO 1.1

1.4 - Smart Specialization / SO 1.2

2.4 - Climate change adaptation and environmental risk prevention / SO 2.1

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

Public administrations, universities, private and civil society organisations.

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you consider it is suitable and useful to describe your case).

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

EUR 222,7 M.

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

**Required Co-funding:**

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Other Information

<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia>

Final questions – Answer these two questions after the identification of all relevant financing instruments.

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

The interreg Italy-Croatia 2021-2027 Programme finances cross-border cooperation projects focusing on innovation in the blue economy, capitalises previous cooperation experiences and creates synergies with ERDF.

Identification of the Financing Instrument #8

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INTERREG EURO MED. MEDITERRANEAN MULTI-PROGRAMME MECHANISM. ITALY-FRANCE

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

With the support of ERDF (European Regional Development Funds).

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

Italy-France

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://interreg.eu/programmes/italy-france-maritime/>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

This is a cross-border cooperation programme that fosters collaboration between maritime regions of Italy and France, aiming to enhance competitiveness and sustainability in the Mediterranean area. The programme focuses on sustainable growth, environmental protection, improved accessibility, human capital

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

From the numerous funding priorities and specific objectives proposed by the European Commission for 2021-2027, Interreg Euro-MED selected 3 priorities and 5 specific objectives:

- **Priority 1 – A Smarter Mediterranean**
Specific objective 1.1: Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies
- **Priority 2 – A Greener Mediterranean**
Specific objective 2.4: Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account eco-system-based approaches
Specific objective 2.6: Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

Thematic focus are:

- 1.1 - Innovation and research / SO 1.1
- 1.4 - Smart Specialization / SO 1.2
- 2.4 - Climate change adaptation and environmental risk prevention / SO 2.1
- 2.7 - Protection of biodiversity and reduction of pollution / SO 2.2

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

Public administrations, universities, private and civil society organisations.

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you consider it is suitable and useful to describe your case).

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/get-involved/#HowToApply>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Other Information

<https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/mediterranean-multi-programme-mechanism/>

Final questions – Answer these two questions after the identification of all relevant financing instruments.

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

The interreg Italy-France 2021-2027 Programme finances cross-border cooperation projects focusing on innovation in the blue economy, capitalises previous cooperation experiences and creates synergies with FUSAD

Identification of the Financing Instrument #9

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INTERREG ESPAÑA-PORTUGAL POCTEP

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public



Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

UE-ERDF

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

PORTUGAL-SPAIN

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/about-poctep-2021-2027/>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The POCTEP programme promotes development and cross-border cooperation with ERDF funds along the Spain-Portugal border.

The Interreg Spain-Portugal program (POCTEP) 2021-2027 is the largest cross-border cooperation program in the EU, with a total budget of 475 million euros (356 million from ERDF).

It has been developed by the Member States of Spain and Portugal in order to address key challenges in the border area between the two countries.

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

The POCTEP 2021-2027 is structured around [priorities that respond to four of the Political Objectives \(OP\) plus one specific Interreg objective](#), for which different specific objectives (OE) and types of actions that can be financed in each of

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/objectives-and-priorities-of-poctep/>

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/objectives-and-priorities-of-poctep/>

Eligibility conditions:



Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/project-management-2021-2027/>

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/project-management-2021-2027/>

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

budget of 475 million euros (356 million from ERDF).

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/project-management-2021-2027/>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

Yes.

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/project-management-2021-2027/>

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/project-management-2021-2027/>

Selection Phases:



If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/project-management-2021-2027/>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/poctep-2021-2027-project-calls/>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to market, increased competitiveness)?

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/project-management-2021-2027/>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://www.poctep.eu/en/project-management-2021-2027/>

Identification of the Financing Instrument #10

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INTERREG ATLANTIC AREA 2021-2027

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

ERDF FUNDS

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

The Atlantic Area 2021-2027 covers the western part of the Atlantic Ocean and includes all regions of Ireland and Portugal, as well as several French and Spanish regions close to or on the Atlantic Ocean coast. The eligible regions are the following:

Spain: Galicia; Asturias; Cantabria; País Vasco; La Rioja; Navarra; Andalucía; Islas Canarias.

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The Interreg Atlantic Area 2021-2027 supports transnational cooperation in the Atlantic regions of four countries: Portugal, Spain, France and Ireland. In this new programme, we renew the commitment with the Atlantic regions in the support of innovative initiatives that contribute to the growth of this area, solving common

Objectives:



What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

Strengthening Institutional Collaboration

By fostering partnerships among managing authorities to improve the efficiency and impact of cohesion policy in the Atlantic Region.

Facilitating Knowledge Exchange

ARMA serves as a platform for sharing best practices, challenges, and strategies to maximize the benefits of transnational cooperation.

Promoting Synergies

The network aims to increase complementarities between cooperation and regional funding programmes to create a more integrated approach to regional development.

other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Programme structure:

- Priority 1: Blue innovation and competitiveness
- Priority 2: Blue/Green environment
- Priority 3: Blue sustainable and social tourism & culture
- Priority 4: A better governance for cooperation in the Atlantic Area

Type of Beneficiary:

The calls are open to consortia involving academia: public authorities, service providers and sectorial agencies; education and research organisations; enterprises and business support organisations and non-governmental

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

The programme budget for 2021-2027 is 113 million euros from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The co-financing rate for projects



Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

There are two main types of projects in our Programme: core projects and small projects. In **core projects** (duration up to 36 months), you will prepare, pilot and transfer practical and durable solutions.

In **small projects** (duration up to 24 months), you will also develop practical and durable outputs. In addition, you will focus on facilitating cooperation initiatives,

implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to market, increased competitiveness)?

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>



Final questions – Answer these two questions

Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

<https://www.atlanticarea.eu/for-applicants/atlantic-connection-hub>



Identification of the Financing Instrument #11

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INTERREG BALTIC SEA REGION

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

ERDF FUNDS

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European Baltic Region: Eighth Baltic countries + Norway.

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) is the first macro-regional strategy in Europe. The Strategy was approved by the European Council in 2009 following a communication from the European Commission. The Strategy is divided into three objectives, which represent the three key challenges of the Strategy: saving the sea, connecting the region and increasing prosperity. Each objective relates to a wide range of policies and has an impact on the other objectives.

To achieve these objectives, the action plan of the EUSBSR identifies most

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

The Strategy is divided into three objectives, which represent the three key challenges of the Strategy: saving the sea, connecting the region and



Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Programme structure:

- Priority 1: Innovative societies:
- Priority 2: Water-smart societies
- Priority 3: Climate-neutral societies
- Priority 4: Cooperation governance

Type of Beneficiary:

The calls are open to consortia involving academia: public authorities, service providers and sectorial agencies; education and research organisations; enterprises and business support organisations and non-governmental

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

At least three partners from three Programme area countries.

In addition, we encourage to adopt a broader approach by involving partners from multiple projects across various funding programmes. This approach enriches the outcomes of a project platform, enhances its value for public

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you consider it is suitable and useful to describe your case)

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/interregional-innovation->

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

Over **€ 235,7 million available in the 2021-2027** programming period

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/toolkit/programme-manual-2021-2027/>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

EU Partners receive up to 80% and Norwegian partners receive up to 50%.

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

There are two main types of projects in our Programme: core projects and small projects. In **core projects** (duration up to 36 months), you will prepare, pilot and transfer practical and durable solutions.

In **small projects** (duration up to 24 months), you will also develop practical and durable outputs. In addition, you will focus on facilitating cooperation initiatives,

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/aateway/>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/aateway/>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to market, increased competitiveness)?

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/>

Final questions – Answer these two questions

Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/>

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/>

Identification of the Financing Instrument #12

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INTERREG SOUTH BALTIC PROGRAMME 2021-2027

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

ERDF FUNDS

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

Coastal areas of Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, and Sweden

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://southbaltic.eu/>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The Interreg South Baltic Programme 2021-2027 enters a new era of multilateral cross-border cooperation between the coastal regions of five EU Member States: Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Lithuania, and Poland. Even after more than 30 years of territorial collaboration the Programme demonstrates its relevance, timeliness, and pertinence to the development of the South Baltic area. The

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

Actions with the focus on economic, environmental, and social development, natural and cultural heritage, and cooperation of different actors in the area are supported by the Programme foremost aiming above all at improving the

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Programme structure:

- Priority 1: Innovative South Baltic
- Priority 2: Sustainable South Baltic
- Priority 3: Attractive South Baltic
- Priority 4: Active South Baltic

Type of Beneficiary:

The calls are open to consortia involving academia: public authorities, service providers and sectorial agencies; education and research organisations; enterprises and business support organisations and non-governmental

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

Two project partners from the Programme Area from two different Member States. The Programme strongly emphasises that projects involving project partners from the Programme area from only two Member States are not the prime target and can be funded only in exceptional and well justified cases

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:



Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/interregional-innovation->

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

The total co-financing allocation from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to the South Baltic Programme for the period 2021-2027 is 87,7

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

https://southbaltic.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/2025-04-29_Programme-

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

EU Partners receive up to 80% funding.

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

https://southbaltic.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/2025-04-29_Programme-

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://southbaltic.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/sfc2021-PRG->

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal

<https://southbaltic.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/sfc2021-PRG->

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

Calls for project proposals open approximately twice a year. Each call opens for a defined period of time and defined Measure of the Programme. All calls are in a competitive manner. Decision on the call timing and scope is made by the

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to market, increased competitiveness)?

<https://southbaltic.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/sfc2021-PRG-2021TC16RFCB012-2.1-1.pdf>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://southbaltic.eu/>

Final questions – Answer these two questions**Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:**

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/>

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/>

Identification of the Financing Instrument #13

Name of the Financing Instrument:

EIT-FOOD. EIT Food accelerates innovation to build a future-fit food system that

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Private Organisation. Consortium of key industry players, businesses, research

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

<https://www.eitfood.eu/about-us>

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

<https://www.eitfood.eu/about-us>

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://www.eitfood.eu/community>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

Supported by the EU, we lead the world's largest and most dynamic food innovation community. We create connections right across the food system that stimulate new ideas and inventions to drive change.

With teams in place across Europe, we create connections right across the food system: between startups and corporates; between food entrepreneurs and

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

Our goal is to boost the skills and entrepreneurial spirit in agri-food sector in order to deliver a healthier lifestyle for all European citizens.

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

SMEs, research centers, startups, universities, etc...

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

Yes.

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Selection Phases:



If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls>

Other Information

<https://www.eitfood.eu/>

Identification of the Financing Instrument #14

Name of the Financing Instrument:

EU RENEWABLE ENERGY FINANCING MECHANISM

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public. Directorate General of Energy.

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA).

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

Europe

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/financing/eu-renewable-energy-financing-mechanism_en

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

Helping EU countries cooperate on renewable energy by hosting or contributing financially to each other's projects.

The EU Renewable Energy Financing Mechanism (RENEWFM) supports new renewable energy projects. It encourages a greater uptake of renewable energy

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

The main objective of the financing mechanism is to enable EU countries to work more closely together on the uptake and promotion of renewable energy, making it easier to achieve both EU and national targets, in line with the European Green Deal. The Renewable Energy Directive (EU 2018/2001) provides different measures to encourage this cooperation, such as cooperation

Thematic Areas of Focus:



Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Value Chain 2

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

SMEs. Companies

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal->

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal->

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal->

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal->

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal->

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal->

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:



Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal->

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal->

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/eu-renewable-energy-financing-mechanism_en

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

The mechanism links countries that voluntarily pay into the mechanism (contributing countries) with countries that agree to have new projects built on their territory (hosting countries).

There is no need for a direct negotiation between contributing and hosting countries, as is required under other EU cooperation mechanisms. Instead, the

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

The advantages for contributing countries include

- financing renewable energy projects where the local geography makes them more cost-effective than they would be at home
- accessing renewable energy production that is absent or scarce on their own territory - land-locked countries, for example, can benefit from offshore wind projects

The advantages for host countries include

- investment in local renewable energy projects with no burden on the national budget
- local employment, lower greenhouse gas emissions, improved air quality

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

https://energy.ec.europa.eu/publications/commission-decision-financing-activities-and-work-program-renewable-energy-financing-mechanism_en

Identification of the Financing Instrument #15

Name of the Financing Instrument:

LIFE +

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public. Directorate General of Energy.

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

Europe

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

LIFE - European Commission

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

Created in 1992, the LIFE programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action, which has co-financed more than 5,000 projects helping Europe to become greener. As of 2021, the LIFE programme includes the new Clean Energy Transition sub-programme.

LIFE will publish two Multi-Annual Work Programmes (MAWP) for the 2021-2024 and 2025-2027 timeframes. These will include details on:

- the four sub-programmes
- funding allocation
- types of projects and co-financing rates
- submission and selection procedures including award criteria

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

The LIFE programme's main goals are to:

- help make the shift towards a more sustainable, circular, energy-efficient, renewable energy-based, climate-neutral and -resilient economy.
- protect, restore and enhance our environment.
- halt and reverse biodiversity loss.
- stop the degradation of ecosystems by managing and enhancing the Natura 2000 network, thereby boosting sustainable development.
- encourage and support green ideas from both large and small companies, NGOs, public authorities, citizen groups and academia, amongst others

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

The LIFE programme will help the EU to reach its European Green Deal ambitions by:

- transforming the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy where there are zero net emissions in 2050 and where economic growth is separate from resource use.
- protecting, conserving and enhancing nature across the continent.
- safeguarding the health and well-being of citizens from environment and climate-related impacts.

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

SME, startup or entity

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

A public or private legal entity registered in the EU or an overseas country or territory linked to it; a third country associated to the LIFE programme; or a legal entity created under Union law or any international organisation. Natural persons are not eligible to apply

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you consider it is suitable and useful to describe your case).

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

Differ according to the funding call.

The overall budget for the implementation of the LIFE programme 2021-2027 will

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

Differ according to the funding call.

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

Differ according to the funding call.

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

Differ according to the funding call.

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en



Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to market, increased competitiveness)?

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en

Identification of the Financing Instrument #16

Name of the Financing Instrument:

INNOVATION FUND. EUROPE FUNDING FOR CLIMATE ACTION.

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The Innovation Fund is one of the world's largest funding programmes for the demonstration of innovative low-carbon technologies.

The Innovation Fund is the EU fund for climate policy, with a focus on energy

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster

The Innovation Fund's goals are to:

- help businesses invest in clean energy and industry
- boost economic growth
- create future-proof jobs
- reinforce European technological leadership on a global scale.

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

This is done by funding innovative projects focusing on:

- innovative low-carbon technologies and processes in energy-intensive industries, including products that can substitute carbon-intensive ones
- carbon capture and utilisation – CCU
- construction and operation of carbon capture and storage (CCS) facilities
- innovative renewable energy generation
- energy storage

New sectors added following the revision of the ETS Directive: net zero mobility (maritime, aviation, road transport) and buildings. The Innovation Fund provides

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

The Innovation Fund focuses on highly innovative technologies and flagship projects within Europe that can bring about significant emission reductions. It is about sharing the risk with project promoters and putting the spotlight on first-of-a-kind, highly innovative projects.

The Fund aims to finance a varied project pipeline, achieving an optimum balance between a wide range of innovative technologies in all eligible sectors and countries. It covers all EU countries plus Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland.

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

The Innovation Fund's total funding depends on the carbon price, and it may amount to about €40 billion from 2020 to 2030, calculated by using a carbon

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

**Duration of Support:**

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal submission, interview).

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-funding-climate-action/innovation->

Identification of the Financing Instrument #17

Name of the Financing Instrument:

THE DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

Digital Europe Programme is the first EU programme that aims to accelerate the

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

The Programme is a part of the next long-term EU budget, (the Multiannual Financial Framework), and it covers 2021 to 2027. It will provide funding for projects in five crucial areas: supercomputing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills, and ensuring the wide use of digital technologies across the economy and society.

The Programme is fine-tuned to fill the gap between the research of digital technologies and their deployment, and to bring the results of research to the

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

VC 1 & 2.

- [DIGITAL Europe Amended Work Programme 2023-2024 \(.pdf\)](#) + [March 2024 amendment \(.pdf\)](#) + [September 2024 amendment \(.pdf\)](#) + [May 2025 amendment \(.pdf\)](#)
- [DIGITAL Europe - Amended Cybersecurity Work Programme 2023-2024](#)

- DIGITAL Europe - Chips (managed by the Chips Joint Undertaking): Multiannual work programme for the years 2023-2027
- DIGITAL Europe - EDIH Work Programme 2021-2023 (.pdf), specifically dedicated to the European Digital Innovation Hubs
- DIGITAL Europe - High Performance Computing (managed by the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking): Decision No 44/2023 Approving the Work Programme and Budget for 2024 (.pdf)

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

€8.1 billion

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

Final questions – Answer these two questions after the identification of all relevant financing instruments.

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

The DIGITAL does not address challenges in isolation. It complements the funding available through other EU programmes, such as the Horizon Europe (for research and innovation) and the Connecting Europe Facility (for digital infrastructure), the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the Structural funds, to name a few. Along with other programmes DIGITAL is also a part of the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) initiative that is designed to enhance the EU's industrial

Identification of the Financing Instrument #18

Name of the Financing Instrument:

CBE-JU. CIRCULAR BIO-BASED EUROPE

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

CBE JU is established under Council regulation (EU) 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 as an institutionalised European partnership between the European Union,

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

Private Consortium and UE (HORIZON).

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/organisation>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

- Supporting research and innovation for sustainable bio-based solutions
- De-risking investments in innovative, circular bio-based production plants
- Addressing the technological, regulatory & market challenges of the bioeconomy
- Placing sustainability at the heart of its operations
- Strengthening the collaboration of all bioeconomy actors

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

CBE JU is a €2 billion partnership between the European Union and the Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC) that funds projects advancing competitive circular bio-based industries under Horizon Europe, the EU's research and innovation

Thematic Areas of Focus:



Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

HORIZON

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

YES.

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/how-apply-funding>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to market, increased competitiveness)?

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/how-apply-funding>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/how-apply-funding>

Identification of the Financing Instrument #19

Name of the Financing Instrument:

EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL. Europe's flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale up game changing innovations.

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Private

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

UF COMMISSION

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/about-european-innovation-council_en

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The EIC is Europe's flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale up breakthrough technologies and game changing innovations.

The European Innovation Council (EIC) has been established under the EU Horizon Europe programme. It has a budget of €10.1 billion to support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early stage research, to

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

The European Innovation Council (EIC) has been established under the EU Horizon Europe programme. It has a budget of €10.1 billion to support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early-stage research, to

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities_en

Type of Beneficiary:

Who can apply (SMEs, large enterprises, research centers, higher education institutions, startups, etc.).

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities_en

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities_en

Financial Parameters

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities_en

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-fund_en

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

In January 2021, the European Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the European Innovation Council (EIC) and

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-fund_en

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-fund_en

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-fund_en

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-fund_en

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/about-european-innovation-council_en

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

The fully-fledged European Innovation Council (EIC) has been launched in March 2021. Its unique approach to identifying, developing and scaling up Europe's breakthrough technologies and game-changing innovation is already delivering tangible results.

Identification of the financing instrument /20

Name of the Financing Instrument:

Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations

Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

EISMEA (The European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency).

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

European

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/interregional-innovation->

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

The Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument, under the European Regional and Development Fund (ERDF), supports interregional innovation projects in their scale-up and commercialisation phases. It helps overcome regulatory and market barriers, bringing projects to investment level. Through Smart Specialisation and interregional collaboration, I3 Instrument strengthens regional ecosystems, fosters sustainable investment connections, and accelerates market uptake of research results. Now is launched the New Work Programme 2025-2027 with a total budget of EUR 47 M.

The calls are structured in two strands:

- Strand 1 targets consortia of innovation actors from regions (of different levels of development and innovation performance) with shared or complementary smart specialisation areas which are ready to make

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

The European Innovation Council (EIC) has been established under the EU Horizon Europe programme. It has a budget of €10.1 billion to support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early-stage research, to

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

Programme structure

- Strand 1 supports consortia from regions with shared smart specialisation areas, ready to invest in interregional innovation projects.
- Strand 2a funds value chain development in less developed regions, integrating them into EU value chains

Type of Beneficiary:

The calls are open to consortia involving academia (universities, research organisations), private organisations (SMEs, startups), and public institutions.

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please,

detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

The Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument for 2025-2027, allocating €176 million. The next calls are planned to open in May and October 2025. The investments project requirements are:

- minimum 3- 5 partners from different Member States and regional ecosystems

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/interregional-innovation->

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

- Over €490 million available in the 2021-2027 programming period
- Up to €10 million per project
- 70 % of EU contribution for all beneficiaries and cost categories
- 100 % of EU contribution of financial support to third parties

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/interregional-innovation->

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/interregional-innovation->

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/news/i3-instrument-work-programme-2025-2027->

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:

Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/news/i3-instrument-work-programme-2025-2027->

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/news/i3-instrument-work-programme-2025-2027->

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/news/i3-instrument-work-programme-2025-2027->

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/interregional-innovation-investments-i3-support->

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

What is for?

We support testing, piloting, validation, and market replication of innovations. Projects focusing on digital and green transitions, smart manufacturing, and strategic areas bringing innovation close to market.

What can you get?

Financial and advisory support for joint innovation projects, moving from ideas

Other Information

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/interregional-innovation-investments-i3-support->

Final questions – Answer these two questions

Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/interregional-innovation-investments-i3-support->

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

<https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/interregional-innovation-investments-i3-support->

Identification of the Financing Instrument #21

Name of the Financing Instrument:

EUREKA: The European Partnership on Innovative SMEs

Type of Funding Authority/Organization:

Public and other Government-Dependent bodies or Private organizations



Public

Funding Authority/Organization:

Name of the organization

EU FUNDS

Geographic Scope:

European, National, regional, municipality, etc.

Programmes focused on the R&D of close-to-market products, processes or services. And with more than 45 countries in our network, you can easily explore

Links and Resources:

Links to more information about the instrument, application guides, or other relevant information.

<https://eurekanetwork.org/why-eureka/>

<https://eurekanetwork.org/about-us/european-partnership-on-innovative-smes/>

Description of the Instrument

Brief description of the instrument:

Please, describe the instrument in a few sentences.

There are certain conditions for cooperating on a Globalstars call for projects as a non-Eureka national funding body. Countries must:

- create a call for projects with at least two Eureka countries,
- have the capacity to implement the call for projects with partners and
- possess financial capacity and resources to support organisations who apply.

Globalstars calls for projects must support projects that:

- represent cooperation in the form of a specific project,

Objectives:

What are the main objectives of the instrument (e.g., promote technological innovation, support startups, foster interregional collaboration, etc.)?

<https://eurekanetwork.org/about-us/european-partnership-on-innovative->

Thematic Areas of Focus:

Specific sectors or areas the instrument supports (please, specify whether the instrument targets exclusively applications from the Blue Economy sector, and if so, from which sub-sectors / value chains or if it also addresses other domains beyond the Blue Economy and which ones)

The European Partnership on Innovative SMEs is co-funded by the European Union through Horizon Europe and 37 Eureka countries. It supports two funding programmes, Eurostars and Innowide, and accompanying measures.

The partnership is for innovative SMEs: companies that don't necessarily have a previous R&D track record but prove they can achieve excellent results.

37 Eureka countries and the European Commission have committed close to one billion euro.

These countries are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech

Type of Beneficiary:

SMEs.

Eligibility conditions:

Please, identify all the conditions that applicants must comply with in order to be eligible to apply to this financing instrument, notably:

- Features of the beneficiary organization (type of organization, size of the organization in terms of number of employees, annual turnover, etc.)
- Geographic eligibility (countries and or regions where the beneficiary must be located in order to be eligible to apply for this financing instrument)
- Single/Individual application or joint application (involving, for instance, multiple beneficiaries from different countries, regions and or different types of beneficiaries): in case of joint applications, please, detail what type of collaboration (intercountry, interregional, cooperation between different types of beneficiaries) is promoted by the financing instrument

EUREKAs Agreement signed.

Financial Parameters

Type of Financing Instrument:

Grant, blended finance, vouchers, tax incentives, etc. (please, see in appendix one possible typology regarding instruments for public funding of business R&D and innovation investments; feel free to follow it in case you

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Total Budget:

The total amount allocated to the instrument.

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Maximum Amount per Project:

The maximum amount that a project can receive.

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Required Co-funding:

Percentage of co-funding required from beneficiaries (if applicable).

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Duration of Support:

Maximum or typical duration of financial support (e.g., 2 years, 5 years).

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria:



Key criteria used to approve projects (e.g., innovation outputs that might be achieved as a result of the project implementation, economic impact of the project implementation, fostering environmental sustainability, strengthen interregional collaboration).

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Selection Phases:

If there are different stages in the application and selection process (e.g., pre-qualification, full proposal)

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Frequency of the calls:

Is the instrument available through continuous calls or in cycles (annual, semi-annual, etc.)?

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Expected Impacts and Results

Success Indicators:

What are the key indicators used to assess the success of funded projects (e.g., job creation, new products to

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Expected Impact:

Description of the expected impact of instrument in the Blue Economy in general (and in each of value chains addressed in the I34BG project) in terms of innovation, regional development and or interregional cooperation.

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

Final questions – Answer these two questions

Funding gaps - Investments in the Blue Economy:

After identifying all relevant financing instruments that exist in your country and region, add, for each of the Value Chains addressed in the I34BG project (Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and valorization of blue resources; Renewable Marine Energy and Maritime Decarbonization), one paragraph on the main existing funding gaps to investments in the Blue Economy that, according to your organization, are still prevalent in your region and country.

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>

New financing instruments and improvements to those financing instruments that already exist:

According to your organization, to address the gaps identified above, would it be necessary to put forward new financing instruments or would it be enough to implement improvements to those financing instruments that already exist? In each case, please, provide details on the new features that either the existing or the new financing instruments should have in order to address, successfully, the gaps identified above.

<https://eurekanetwork.org/programmes/in-your-country/>