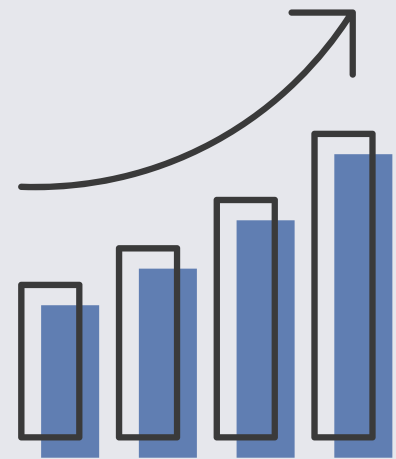




INTERNATIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Funding programs are an important source of finance during the time of economic uncertainty and additional fuel to finance business activities and societal processes at any time. EU funding programmes are designed to support research, development and innovation and advancement of specific societal priorities (environment and climate actions, audio-visual, cultural and creative sectors, education, training, youth and sports initiatives, etc).



In this factsheet, we present information on opened EU funding programs and calls at the EU level put together by experts at CIVITTA.

Horizon 2020



Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation program supports large international consortiums composing of R&D, industry, policy and societal stakeholders in producing world-class science and technology, improving industrial leadership and solving societal challenges of Europe by funding research, development and innovation.

EIC Accelerator



EIC Accelerator supports highly innovative SMEs and startups in developing ground-breaking business ideas further into market-ready products, service or processes by financing advanced prototyping, validation, trials, demonstration, testing, certification and commercialization.

Fast Track to Innovation



The Fast Track to Innovation supports industry-driven consortiums of 3-5 partners with relatively mature, ground-breaking innovations to reach from the demonstration stage to market uptake by financing piloting, test-beds, pre-normative research and standard-setting, validation in real-world conditions and validation of business models.

LIFE+



LIFE+ supports private bodies, public entities and NGOs in the environment and climate field by financing technology development, strategies and policy development aimed at ensuring nature conservation, biodiversity, environment and resource efficiency, climate change mitigation and adaptation.

EIT Innovation Communities



The European Institute of Innovation and Technology supports the creation and fining of innovative solutions to major societal challenges through training and education programs, development of innovative products and services and powering startups and scale-ups.

Cascade Funding



Cascade funding opportunities are calls organized within H2020 projects to tech start-ups or scale-ups via acceleration, incubation and mentoring programs or for implementing pilots, demonstrations and experiments on a specific innovative technology or framework defined in the project.

Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme

Horizon 2020 is the EU Research and Innovation program with nearly €80 billion over the years 2014-2020 for:

- producing world-class science and technology
- removing barriers to innovation
- facilitating cooperation between sectors in delivering solutions to big challenges facing our society

H2020 will be followed by Horizon Europe with the biggest ever budget of €100 billion being launched in January 2021. Horizon 2020 funding is available through 19 thematic Work Programmes and over 300 individual calls managed and submitted via central [Funding and Tenders Portal](#) in English.

Programme specifics

Activities funded:

- Research and Innovation Actions (RIA): basic and applied research, technology development and integration, prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, product validation and market replication
- Coordination and Support actions (CSA): standardization, dissemination, awareness-raising and communication, networking, policy dialogues and mutual learning exercises and studies

Project size: ca 0,5 -25 mln EUR

Funding rate: RIA and CSA 100%, IA 70% or 100% (for non-profit sector)

Time to grant: ca 8 months from submission

Criteria for success:

- Research idea or innovative solution applying state of the art technologies
- Consortium composed of international partners covering the value chain from science to market (R&D organizations, tech companies, pilot partners, end-users)
- Impact in solving European level social and economic challenges

Open calls and deadlines:

- Innovation in SMEs (14.10.2020)
- Information and communication technologies (17.06.2020)
- Health, demographic change and well-being (04.06 & 18.06.2020)
- Secure societies – protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens (27.08.2020)
- Secure, clean and efficient energy (01.09, 10.09.2020)
- Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking - BBI JU (03.09.2020)

More information: <https://civitta.com/financing/horizon2020>



EIC Accelerator for innovative product development

EIC Accelerator is a part of European Innovation Council (EIC) pilot that supports high-risk and high-potential innovative SMEs and startups and helps them to enter the market with their innovative ideas that could drive economic growth. All selected companies could receive either grant or blended funding (grant + equity). Besides funding, EIC Accelerator provides companies with business coaching and mentoring support to scale up their innovative solutions.

Programme specifics

Activities funded: Projects with a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of 6-8 are eligible for grant funding for following activities: advanced prototyping, validation, trials, demonstration and testing in real-world conditions, certification and other related activities intended to help a company prepare for the global scale-up of its innovative solution. Commercialization activities (above TRL 8) can be financed only through blended funding.

Project size: 0.5-2.5 mn EUR (grant only) + up to 15 mn EUR investments (grant + equity)

Funding rate: 70% for grant and 100% for investments

Time to grant: ca 5 months from submission

Criteria for success:

Your startup should be:

- Disruptive
- Targeting global market
- With a prototype
- Close-to-market
- High growth potential
- Scalable

Open calls and deadlines*:

- 07.10.2020 – grant only or blended finance

*at least 25% of applications invited for the interview stage should be SMEs (including startups) led by women CEOs

More information: <https://civitta.com/financing/eic-accelerator>



Fast track to innovation for the market uptake of innovation

The Fast Track to Innovation (FTI) is a fully-bottom-up innovation support program promoting close-to-the-market innovation activities open to industry-driven consortia that can be composed of all types of participants. It can help partners to co-create and test breakthrough products, services or business processes that have the potential to revolutionize existing or create entirely new markets. Technology Readiness Level of at least 6 is required, the intention is to bring the innovation to TRL 8.

Programme specifics

Eligible applicants: 3-5 partners from at least 3 different EU or H2020 associated countries. 2 out of 3/4 partners or 3 out of 5 partners must be private-for-profit or 60% of the budget has to be allocated to private-for-profit entities.

Activities funded: actions undertaking innovation from the demonstration stage through market uptake, such as piloting, test-beds, pre-normative research and standard-setting, validation in real-world conditions, validation of business models.

Project size: up to 3 mln EUR

Funding rate: 70 %

Time to grant: ca 6 months from the cut-off

Criteria for success:

- With fast market uptake potential
- Reaching the market with at least 3 years
- Ground-breaking innovations with strong potential to lead to a company's growth and scale-up
- Priority areas including leadership on nano-technologies, advanced materials and biotechnology, and improving lifelong health and wellbeing

Open calls and deadlines:

- 09.06.2020
- 17.10.2020

More information: <https://civitta.com/financing/fast-track-to-innovation>



LIFE+ program for the environment and climate action

The LIFE program is the EU program for the environment and climate action with €3.4 billion over the years 2014-2020 for:

- nature conservation and biodiversity, environment and resource efficiency, environmental governance and information
- climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, climate governance and information

Programme specifics

Eligible applicants: private bodies, public entities and NGOs registered in EU.

Activities funded:

Traditional projects: development and demonstration of innovative technologies, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EU policy and law, best practices and solutions, strategies and action plans at a local, regional or national level

Integrated projects: implementation of plans, strategies or roadmaps primarily in the areas of climate change mitigation and adaptation, at national or regional scales.

Preparatory projects: development and implementation of EU environmental policy and law.

Technical assistance: support to help applicants prepare integrated projects.

Project size: min 0,5-5 mln EUR, up to 17 mln in case of integrated projects

Funding rate: 55-75 %

Time to grant: ca 15 months from submission of concept notes and 8 months from submission of a full proposal

Criteria for success

- When proposing a technologic project, the solution needs to have a high level of technical and business readiness allowing implementation in close-to-market conditions and bring clear environmental and/or climate benefits
- Focus on the transferability of the project results to other sectors, regions or countries, beyond the duration of the project.
- Impact in solving European level environmental and climate challenges

Open calls and deadlines:

Environment sub-program:

- February 2021 submission of full proposals

Climate action sub-program:

- 16.06.2020 submission of full proposals of technical Assistance project
- 06.10.2020 submission of full proposals of Traditional and Integrated projects

More information: <https://civitta.com/financing/life>



European Institute of Innovation and Technology

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) supports the creation and refining of innovative solutions to major societal challenges through:

- training and education programs
- development of innovative products and services
- powering startups and scale-ups

Programme specifics

EIT Climate-KIC: Drivers of climate innovation in Europe and beyond

EIT Digital: For a strong, digital Europe

EIT Food: EIT Food connects businesses, research centers, universities and consumers.

EIT Health: Together for healthy lives in Europe

EIT InnoEnergy: Pioneering change in sustainable energy

EIT Manufacturing: Strengthening and increasing the competitiveness of Europe's manufacturing

EIT Raw Materials: Developing raw materials into a major strength for Europe

EIT Urban Mobility: Smart, green and integrated transport

Open calls and deadlines:

EIT RAW MATERIALS: START-UP AND SME BOOSTER PROGRAM

Project size: up to 60 000 EUR 60 000.

Funding rate: No formal minimum requirement of co-funding.

Deadline: 04.09.2020

More information: <https://civitta.com/financing/eit-innovation-communities>



Cascade funding for innovative product development

Cascade funding is a mechanism of the European Commission of allocating funds in order to support SMEs and startups in developing and implementing innovative digital solutions. The main idea of cascade funding is to simplify the procedures of financing by allowing the projects, that are already financed by the EU, to run open calls for financing smaller projects.

These open calls are usually competitive, have a European dimension and usually aim at:

- Supporting pilots, demonstrations and/or experiments on a specific innovative technology or framework (usually with the participation of start-ups or SME)
- Supporting tech start-ups or scale-ups via acceleration, incubation and mentoring programs (usually equity-free)
- Integrating more participants into the project to extend its scope or to address specific tasks

Horizon 2020 allocates almost 800 mln EUR in cascade funding calls.

Programme specifics

Eligible applicants: innovative SMEs and startups, industry players, R&D institutions, academia. Depending on the specific call, applicants may be requested to apply in a consortium of up to 5 partners from several European countries.

Activities funded: feasibility study, R&D, piloting, demonstrations, experiments, commercialization activities

Project size: from 20,000 EUR to 500,000 EUR

Funding rate: 50-100 %

Time to grant: ca 3 months from submission

Criteria for success

- R&D project excellence and quality, novelty, relevance for the target market, competitive position
- Market creation or expansion prospects for technology or solution, demand creation, longer-term commercialization prospects
- Appropriateness/feasibility of the proposed approach and allocated resources for the specific project funded by the grant

Open calls and deadlines:

For further info on specific calls see the Funding and Tenders Portal [page for competitive calls and calls for third parties](#).

More information: <https://civitta.com/financing/cascade-funding>

