



Nebula
A Built4People Project

Tips to detect and apply to EU funding

FUNDING TOOLBOX - January 2024

Objective of this document

This document aims to guide you through European programmes to find calls that are of interest for you and help you apply to them.

It is therefore divided in three main parts:

- How to find EU calls for project
- How to apply to a European fund (with links to existing materials and tips)
- How to contact your National Contact Points (NCP).

Where to find EU calls for projects

HORIZON EUROPE

Horizon Europe calls are **collaborative calls**, where at least three partners from three different countries should work together on a proposal. Therefore, these proposals are **usually not coordinated by SMEs**, but SMEs are encouraged to participate in existing consortia.

For the built environment, most interesting calls will be found in the **cluster 4** ("Digital, Industry and Space") **cluster 5** ("Climate, Energy and Mobility") and in **cluster 6** ("Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment").

The Built4People Partnership is co-programmed with HE cluster 5. The calls aim at supporting the sustainability of the built environment, through a more circular and human-centred approach. Around €400millions will be dedicated to these calls by the EC (until 2027).

Specific calls are also labelled "New European Bauhaus"(NEB) to support the initiative. These calls support the concrete transformation of the built environment and associated lifestyles at the local level. They can be found in different clusters: **cluster 2, cluster 4, cluster 5, cluster 6 or the calls dedicated to the EU Missions.**

There are two ways to find calls from Horizon Europe:

- Read the current **Horizon Europe Work Programme**. Horizon Europe Work Programmes present all the calls that will be available in all cluster for the next two years. You can find the [Work Programme 2023-2024 here](#).
- **Search key words** on the [EU Funding&tenders opportunities platform](#). There you can refine your search based on the funding programme, and submission status.

LIFE

The LIFE programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action. Organisations can apply by themselves or in a consortium, and participation of SMEs is encouraged. The projects funded are generally demonstrations and close to market projects. They can address all types of stakeholders: research Institutes, companies and local authorities.

EIC ACCELERATOR

The EIC Accelerator supports companies (principally SMEs, including start-ups) to scale up high impact innovations with the potential to create new markets or disrupt existing ones. It provides a combination of funding from EUR 0.5 to EUR 17.5 million (composed of a grant + investment components).

Two different "calls" are organised each year (with four different cut-off dates): an open call (companies working on all topics can apply and be funded) and a challenge call where only companies working on the yearly specific challenges can apply. In 2023, the New European Bauhaus was one of the EIC Accelerator challenges.

Where to find EU calls for projects

EIC Accelerator topics/ challenges can be found on the [yearly EIC Work Programme](#), [that can be downloaded from this page](#).

EUROSTARS

Eurostars, as part of the European Partnership on Innovative SMEs, is co-funded by the European Union through Horizon Europe, and national funding agencies. It supports **collaborative R&D projects (led by an SME)** creating innovation products, processes or services for commercialisation.

The beneficiaries of Eurostars are funded directly and each by their own national funding agency. Therefore, the eligibility criteria and funding level may differ from one party to the other.

All Eurostars calls can be found [on the EUREKA platform, here](#).

CASCADE FUNDING

Cascade funding calls are financed by European projects themselves, with public funds. Each project will define the eligibility criteria and pre-requisite for the applications to its funding opportunities.

Cascade funding projects can be found on specific projects websites, and are all gathered on a specific page on the [European funding&tender opportunities portal](#).

INNOVATION FUND

The Innovation Fund will provide around €38billion of support from 2020 to 2030 for the commercial demonstration of innovative low-carbon technologies. This is done through calls for large and small-scale projects focusing on: Innovative low-carbon technologies and processes in energy-intensive industries, including products substituting carbon-intensive ones; Carbon capture and utilisation (CCU); Construction and operation of carbon capture and storage (CCS); Innovative renewable energy generation; and Energy storage.

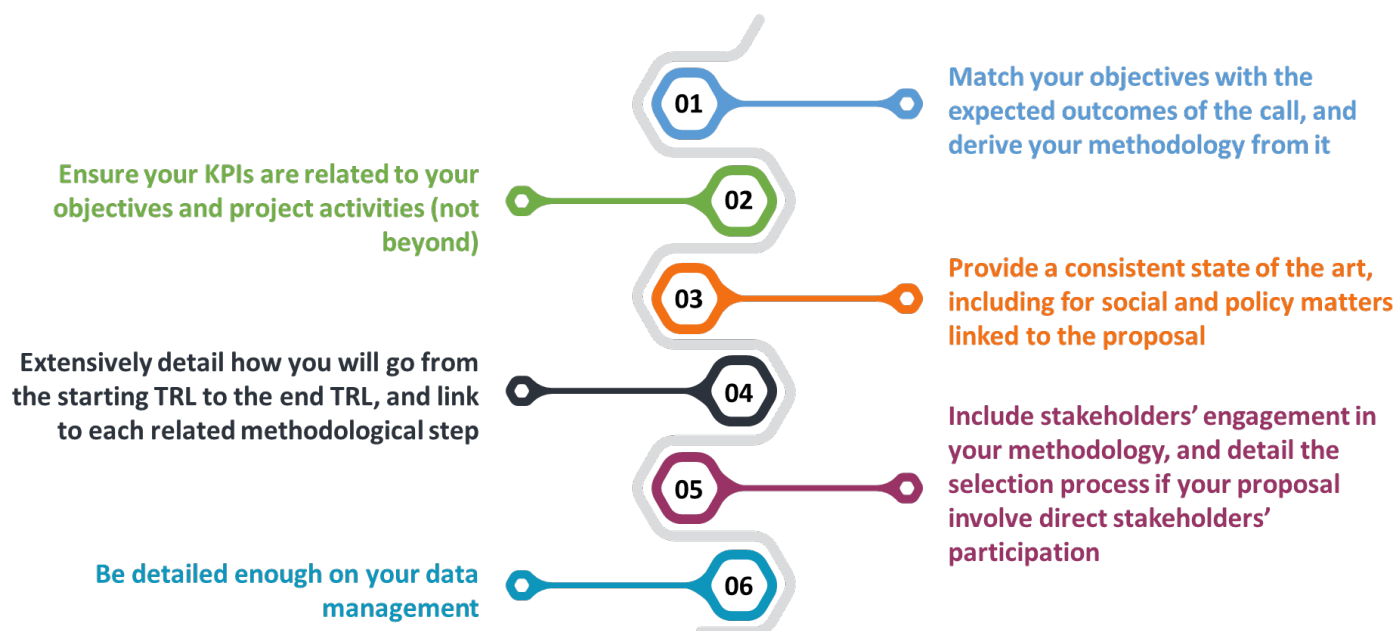
Calls for both large-scale and small-scale projects can be found [on the EC funding portal](#).

Applicants guidelines

Many different materials have already been developed to help you create a proposal for a European call. These materials have been developed by the European Commission itself, NCP networks, consultancy companies etc. As an introductory website, the [EU Funding Playbook](#) will already give you relevant information. Below are the most reliable sources to understand what are the main sections of a proposal, what inputs you should highlight, and what are the main evaluation criteria.

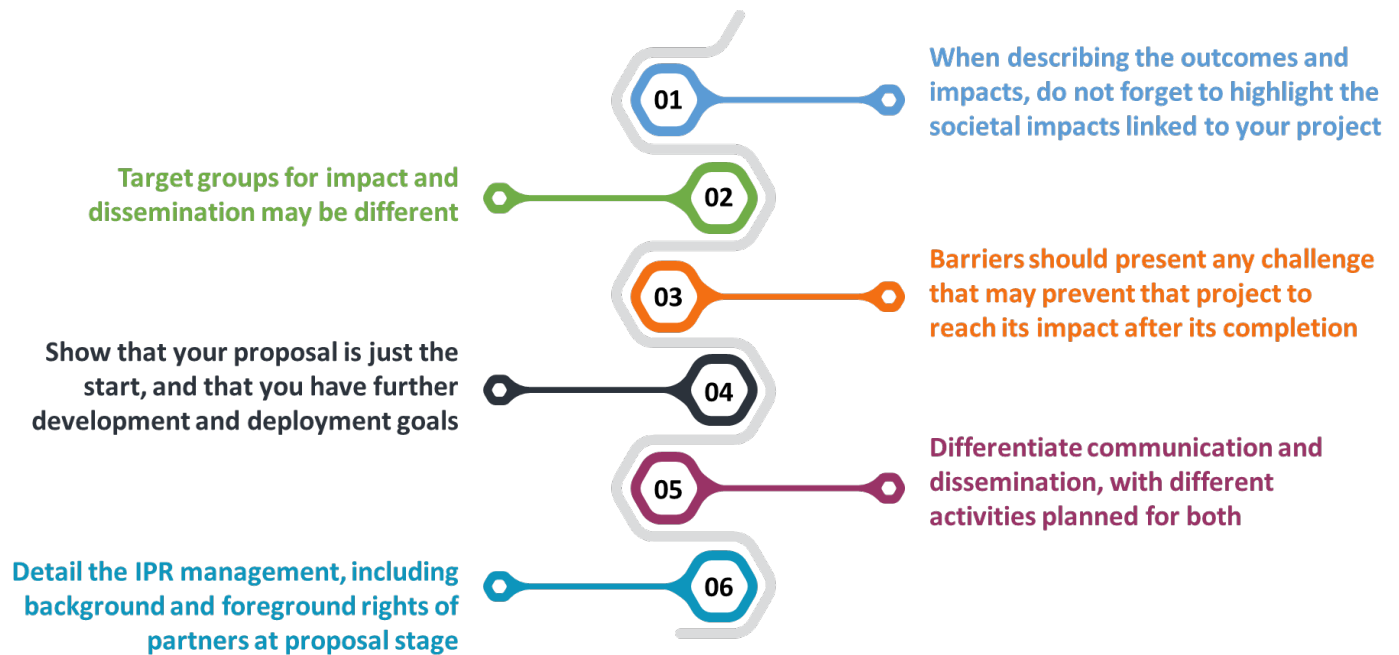
Horizon Europe (HE)	
Webinar: How to prepare a successful proposal in Horizon Europe (24 March 2021)	This webinar has been proposed by the EC at the launch of Horizon Europe. The slides presented can be downloaded, and notably present: the eligibility criteria, evaluation criteria, novelties of HE compared to Horizon 2020, key principles of a proposal etc.
Training on Horizon Europe proposal writing	This training is proposed by the European HE NCP Portal. It presents practical elements on the writing of the proposal for the different sections.

EXCELLENCE



Applicants guidelines

IMPACT



IMPLEMENTATION



Applicants guidelines

LIFE	
CINEA Frequently Asked Questions	Frequently asked questions (FAQs) are related to the calls for proposals submitted under the LIFE programme 2021-2027
Enterprise Europe Network	Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) offers comprehensive support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in accessing and applying for various EU funding programmes, including the LIFE programme.
EIC Accelerator	
Tips for applicants - EIC Accelerator	These tips are given directly by the European Innovation Council to help you understand if the EIC Accelerator is for you, and how to convince evaluators.
EIC guide for applicants	Everything you need to know in details can be found in this application guide. Search no longer!
ACCESS2EIC: How to apply successfully – EIC Accelerator	ACCESS2EIC has developed a series of publication and tools to help applicants to prepare a proposal under the EIC Accelerator program.
Eurostars	
EUREKA guidelines for applicants	The EUREKA library makes a list of guidelines available for all applicants. Here you can get familiar with eligibility criteria, the application platform, how to complete the application etc.
	➔ Because Eurostars projects are co-funded by national funding agencies, we recommend you to contact your funding agency as early as possible to benefit from tailor-made guidance.
Innovation Fund	
Innovation Fund – Best practices from previous Calls for Proposals	This document gathers best practices from the review of 2020 calls: it needs to be adapted to the requirements of new calls, but still provides relevant information.

Find your NCP and get hands on support

What is the role of a NCP ?

National Contact Points (NCPs) are national structures established and financed by governments of the 27 EU member states and the associated states ("third countries") to the Horizon Europe and Innovation Fund framework programmes.

NCPs provide guidance, practical information and personalised support on the spot and **in applicants' own languages** on all aspects of participation in Horizon Europe and Innovation Fund.

The **NCP systems can vary from one country to another** from highly centralised to decentralised networks, and a number of very different actors, from ministries to universities, research centres and special agencies to private consulting companies.

In general, the following basic services are available in accordance with [the NCP Guiding Principles](#) agreed by all countries:

- Guidance on choosing relevant topics and types of action
- Advice on administrative procedures and contractual issues
- Training and assistance on proposal writing
- Distribution of documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.)
- Assistance in partner search

Beyond sharing information, one of their role is to enable potential applicants to identify and engage with organisations to form a consortium, shape the direction of future Work Programme and understand policies, standards and legislation important to their specific area of interest.

Please keep in mind that as NCPs are national structures, the type and level of services offered may differ from country to country

Find your NCP and get hands on support

Where to find your NCP?

The European Commission has set up two main tools that will allow you to find the right contact.

The [Funding and Tender portal](#)

The screenshot shows the 'Funding & tender opportunities' portal (SEDIA) with the 'SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS' menu selected. The search results for 'France' are displayed, showing 'France's NCP' with contact information for Zoé BUYLE-BODIN, Function(s): Climate, Energy and Mobility, and a button to 'Contact Zoé BUYLE-BODIN'. The search criteria include 'Country Group: Select a group...' and 'Country(ies): France'. The search results are ordered by 'Country'. A sidebar on the right lists 'All Functions' with 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' selected. The footer includes copyright information for the European Commission and links to 'About', 'Free text search', 'IT Helpdesk', 'Cookies', 'Legal Notice', and 'APIs'.

European Commission | Funding & tender opportunities | Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS | HOW TO PARTICIPATE | PROJECTS & RESULTS | WORK AS AN EXPERT | SUPPORT

Search funding & tenders
Funding updates
Archived funding (FP7-CIP)

Results for Horizon Europe

The network of National Contact Points (NCPs) is the main structure to provide guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in Horizon Europe. NCPs :

Search by

Country Group: Select a group...
Country(ies): France
Clear

Order By: ☒ Country ☐ Contact ☐ Recent

Count : 7

France's NCP

Person of contact: Zoé BUYLE-BODIN
Function(s): Climate, Energy and Mobility
[Contact Zoé BUYLE-BODIN](#)

Update date: 01-SEP-23 - Record Control Number: 115076

All Functions

- ☐ NCP Coordinator
- ☐ Legal and Financial aspects
- ☐ European Research Council
- ☐ Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- ☐ Research Infrastructures
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Culture, creativity and Inclusive Society
- ☐ Civil Security for Society
- ☐ Digital, Industry and Space
- ☒ Climate, Energy and Mobility
- ☐ Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment
- ☐ The European Innovation Council and European Innovation ecosystems
- ☐ Widening Participation and ERA
- ☐ Fission
- ☐ Fusion
- ☐ Joint Research Centre
- ☐ European Institute of Innovation and Technology

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Find your NCP and get hands on support

The [Horizon Europe NCP Portal](#)

The screenshot shows the Horizon Europe NCP Portal interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the logo and a search icon. Below it, the page title is 'NCP Portal / Find your NCP'. The main section contains search filters: 'Country group' (dropdown), 'Country(ies)' (dropdown with 'Finland' selected), 'Functions' (dropdown with 'NCP Coordinator' selected), and 'Order by' (radio buttons for 'Country' and 'Contact', with 'Contact' selected). A 'Clear' button is next to the filters. Below the filters, it says 'Count: 3'. There are two results listed, both for 'Finland NCP'. Each result shows contact information for a person and an organization, along with a 'Contact' button.

Finland NCP [Contact](#)

Person of Contact: Elja Auranen
 Functions (s): NCP Coordinator
 Update date: 12-MAY-21
 Record control number: 114001

Organisation:
 Business Finland Oy
 P.O. Box 358 - FI-00181 Helsinki | Finland
 Telf: +358 50 5577 601 Fax: N/A
 Website: N/A

Finland NCP [Contact](#)

Person of Contact: Elina Holmberg
 Functions (s): NCP Coordinator | The European Innovation Council (EIC) and European Innovation ecosystems
 Update date: 13-DEC-22
 Record control number: 114003

Organisation:
 Business Finland Oy
 P.O. Box 358 - FI-00181 Helsinki | Finland
 Telf: +358 50 5577 606 Fax: N/A
 Website: N/A

From both the Funding and Tender portal or the Horizon Europe NCP portal, the **easiest way to find your NCP is to select your country as well as the function** either linked to your specific R&I area or to specific questions. For instance, select:

- **NCP coordinator** if you are hesitant on choosing relevant topic or function
- **Legal and Financial aspect** to address a legal or financial question

Several NCP networks have been established to coordinate their activities and facilitate contact with participants. The table below lists these networks, which are relevant for companies in the built environment sector:

Network	Links
Network of Horizon Europe NCPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cluster 5 NCPS (Climate/Energy) Greenet - Social media • Cluster 2 NCPS (Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society) Net4Society - Social media • Cluster 4 NCPS (Digital, Industry and Space). Industry related guidance is provided by NCP4Industry (followed them on LinkedIn) while the ICT network is animated by IDEAL-IST (Follow them on LinkedIn).
Innovation Fund NCPS	Contacts of Innovation Fund NCPS can be found here .

Find your NCP and get hands on support

Network of EIC Accelerator NCPs	Access2EIC works as a network of EIC NCPs supporting national applicants and raising the quality of applications submitted under the EIC.
LIFE National Contact Points	Contacts of Life NCPs can be found here .

Below, links toward website and social media accounts of national structures are provided:

Country	Organisation responsible for NCPs
Finland	<p>The Research Council of Finland and Business Finland act as Finland's national contact organisation for Horizon Europe. The NCP responsibilities are divided as follows: the Research Council has the main responsibility for Horizon Europe Pillar 1, Excellent Science, which includes the European Research Council (ERC), Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) and research infrastructures. In addition, the Research Council has the main responsibility for clusters 1 (Health) and 2 (Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society) under pillar 2, Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness Research Council science advisers are also active in NCP and expert roles in other parts of the programme. A community has been set up on LinkedIn.</p> <p>In Finland, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment is hosting the Innovation Fund NCP.</p>
France	<p>In France, NCPs mainly are ministries and clusters representatives. They gather on this website.</p> <p>Follow their social media accounts to stay informed! PCN Climat Energie, PCN Industrie, PCN Transports, PCN Innovation Fund France, PCN ERC France,</p>
Hungary	In Hungary the work of NCPs is coordinated by the NRDl Office .
Italy	<p>In Italy, APRE is hosting the Italian NCP for Horizon Europe. Follow them on LinkedIn.</p> <p>EU ETS Italia is hosting the Italian NCP for Innovation Fund.</p>
Spain	The Spanish Horizon Europe portal , which is jointly managed by the CDTI and the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT), serves as the official channel of communication and information for participants and potential stakeholders in the Programme in Spain.

Find your NCP and get hands on support

As part of these advisory services, the CDTI has a [mock interview service](#) dedicated exclusively to Spanish companies participating in the EIC Accelerator.

In Spain, the [Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica y el Reto Demográfico](#) is hosting the Innovation Fund NCP.