



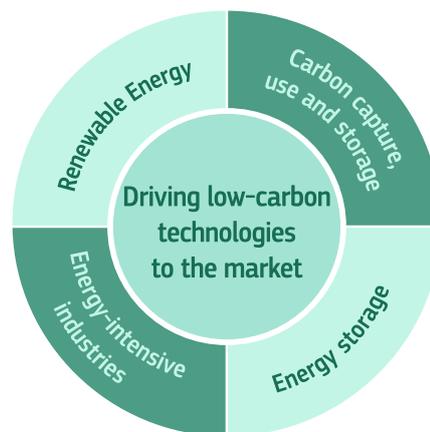
Innovation Fund: Driving low-carbon technologies towards the market

The Innovation Fund is one of the first EU funding instruments tangibly supporting the vision for climate neutral Europe by 2050. It is about unleashing low-carbon investments in all Member States and pressing the fast-forward button in our transition to a climate neutral, competitive and innovative EU economy.

What is it?

The Innovation Fund is one of the world's largest funding programmes for demonstration of innovative low-carbon technologies. It is not a research programme, it is about bringing highly innovative technologies to the market.

The revenues for the Innovation Fund come from the auctioning of 450 million EU Emissions Trading System allowances from 2020 to 2030, as well as any unspent funds coming from the NER300 programme. The Fund may amount to about €10 billion, depending on the carbon price.



Innovation Fund aims:



Help create the right financial incentives for projects to invest **now** in the next generation of technologies needed for the EU's low-carbon transition.



Boost growth and competitiveness by empowering EU companies with a **first-mover advantage** to become **global technology leaders**.

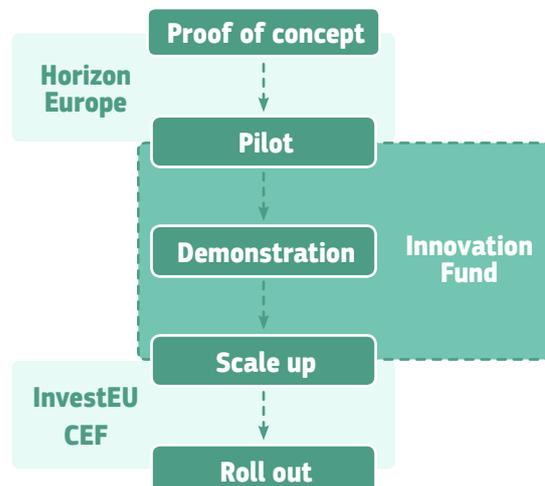


Support innovative low-carbon technologies in **all** Member States.

Support throughout the project development cycle and synergies with other instruments.

The Innovation Fund grants can be combined with other sources of funding, for example:

- **InvestEU** investment support instrument to de-risk big projects
- **Horizon Europe** to help bring such new technological solutions across the “valley of death” and to the market
- **Connecting Europe Facility** for the roll-out of key infrastructure
- **Modernisation Fund** and the Cohesion Fund to boost innovation in all Member States
- **National programmes** supporting research and innovation for low-carbon technologies
- **Private capital**



Innovation Fund: bigger and better

The Innovation Fund takes into account the lessons learned from its predecessor, the NER300 programme. It is bigger and better in several ways:

- It is open to projects from energy intensive industries
- It improves the risk-sharing for projects: grants cover up to 60% of the additional capital and operational costs of innovation
- It provides support in more flexible way, following the cash flow needs of the projects: up to 40% of the grant can be given based on pre-defined milestones before the whole project is fully up and running.
- It has a streamlined governance and simplified decision-making

Application and selection of projects

Expression of interest

First assessment of the projects effectiveness, innovation and maturity level. Projects that meet only the first two criteria may qualify for project development assistance.

Selection criteria

Greenhouse gas emission avoidance

Degree of innovation

Project maturity

Full application

Projects are assessed on all the criteria, including scalability and cost efficiency.

Selection criteria

Greenhouse gas emission avoidance

Degree of innovation

Project maturity

Scalability

Cost efficiency

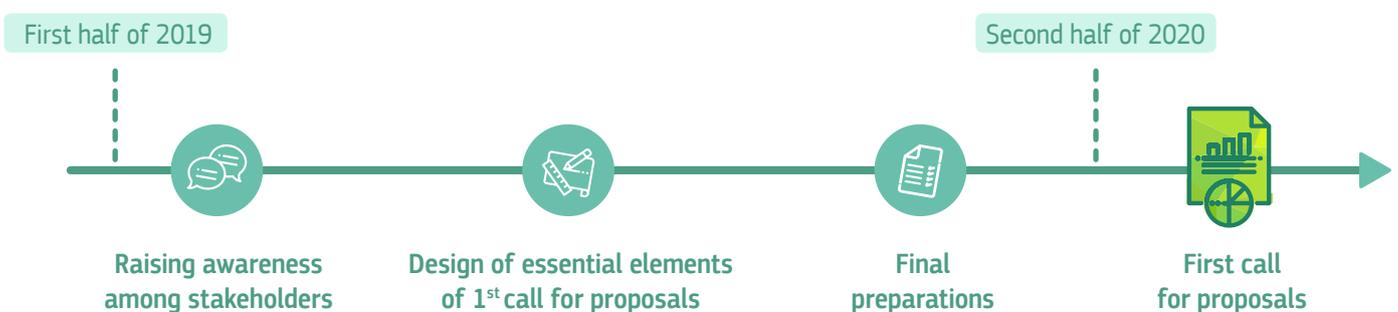
Small scale projects can benefit from single phase application and simplified selection.

The first call for proposals will be launched in 2020, followed by regular calls until 2030.

More information will be provided in the calls for proposals, e.g. amount of funds available for the call, and for **project development assistance**, types of solicited projects or sectors, detailed information on the application and selection procedures, including documents to be submitted.

Timeline

As there is no time to lose in order to boost investments in low-carbon technologies, the Commission aims to launch the first call for proposals as early as 2020, followed by regular calls until 2030.



More information

ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/innovation-fund
#InnovationFund