

INNOVATION, SMES AND DIGITAL SKILLS

Horizon Europe — Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility

Call	HORIZON-CL5-2026-10-D6-10 — Enhanced resilience in multimodal passenger transport through digital technologies and generative and discriminative AI
Programme	Horizon Europe, Cluster 5, Destination 6 (Safe, Resilient Transport and Smart Mobility) — Innovation Action (IA)
Deadline	8 October 2026 , 17:00 Brussels time
Budget	EUR 10 million for the topic; around EUR 5 million per project; 2 projects expected
Priorities	Multimodal mobility Digital transition Artificial intelligence
Objective	This Destination includes activities addressing safe and smart mobility services for passengers and goods. Proposed actions are expected to address all of the following aspects: • Development and implementation of measures to enhance the resilience of urban, sub-urban and long-distance transport systems. • Leveraging digital technologies (e.g. big data, digital twins) and in particular generative and discriminative AI for anticipating and predicting the evolution of disruptions and their impacts, with real-time planning and information systems for minimizing impact and enabling faster recovery.



	• Use of innovative technologies for data acquisition and integrate data from various sources to inform decision-making and optimise strategies, and generate scenario libraries for different disruptive events and monitor the implementation of the response plans • Involve authorities and operators in the design process to create holistic solutions that are user-friendly and aligned with their needs. • Conducting safety and security assessments in data interpretation, ensuring decisions are based on objective factors while avoiding biases. • Test and validate the aspects above in real-life use cases in multimodal transport corridor within urban, sub-urban and long-distance passenger transport with minimum three transport modes per use cases (e.g. buses, metros, trams, trains, coaches, trolleybuses, ferries, share mobility) in at least three pilot sites situated in different Member States and reflecting a diversity of operational, geographic, and technological contexts.
Maturity	Innovation Action — demonstration in operational transport settings
Co-financing	70% of eligible costs (100% for non-profit legal entities)
Consortium	Standard Horizon Europe rules: at least 3 independent legal entities from 3 different Member States or Associated Countries, including at least 1 from an EU Member State
Duration	Not specified in the topic
Link	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-C



Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument — Strand 1

Call	I3-2026-INV1 — Financial and advisory support for investments in shared or complementary Smart Specialisation areas (Strand 1)
Programme	Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument, under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) / Cohesion Policy
Deadline	12 November 2026 , 17:00 Brussels time
Budget	EUR 28.2 million indicative for 2026; projects normally EUR 2–10 million
Priorities	Digital transition Green transition Smart manufacturing
Objective	The Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument is a funding instrument under the European Regional Development Fund that supports interregional cooperation in innovation by using Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) as a guiding framework to connect regional strengths, align complementary capabilities and strengthen EU value chains. In practice, the I3 Instrument focuses on bringing mature innovations into deployment across regions (move from TRL 6 to TRL 9). Projects are therefore expected to use I3 Instrument for validation, demonstration, adaptation, replication, scale-up and market uptake. Strand 1 of the I3 instrument seeks to increase the competitiveness and the resilience of EU value chains on the basis of interregional cooperation and shared smart specialisation areas. The objective of this I3 Instrument Strand 1 call for proposals is to support interregional innovation investments by offering consortia of innovation actors from the quadruple helix ecosystems (9) the necessary financial and advisory support to bring their innovations to a mature level, ready for scale-up and commercialisation, while bridging



	and reducing the innovation divide in Europe with a strong cohesion policy focus of integrating all regions and in particular the less developed regions into European value chains. Thereby, proposals under this call for proposals seek to facilitate: - the development and expansion of already existing interregional and cross border value chains and stronger connection between regional innovation ecosystems; - the collaboration between innovation actors, especially SMEs, from less developed regions and innovation actors, especially SMEs, from more developed regions, contributing to cohesion policy objectives; - the support of innovation actors with investment ideas that are ready to be evolve into mature business cases; - the identification of new regional technological domains and market opportunities aligned with the EU priorities and bridging the gap between the supply and demand sides to help innovation ecosystems overcome market failures
Maturity	From TRL 6 upwards — demonstration, deployment and market uptake, not research
Co-financing	70% of eligible costs (100% for financial support to third parties)
Consortium	At least 5 independent entities from 5 regions in 3 eligible countries, of which at least 2 from less developed regions. The coordinator must be a public body, a non-profit, or an entity delivering innovation support to SMEs.
Duration	Normally 18–36 months
Link	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-t



Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument — Strand 2a

Call	I3-2026-INV2a — Financial and advisory support for investments in interregional innovation projects for the development of value chains in less developed regions (Strand 2a)
Programme	Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument, under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) / Cohesion Policy
Deadline	12 November 2026 , 17:00 Brussels time
Budget	EUR 30.2 million indicative for 2026; projects normally EUR 2–10 million
Priorities	Digital transition Green transition Smart manufacturing
Objective	The Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument is a funding instrument under the European Regional Development Fund that supports interregional cooperation in innovation by using Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) as a guiding framework to connect regional strengths, align complementary capabilities and strengthen EU value chains. In practice, the I3 Instrument focuses on bringing mature innovations into deployment across regions (move from TRL 6 to TRL 9). Projects are therefore expected to use I3 Instrument for validation, demonstration, adaptation, replication, scale-up and market uptake. Strand 2a addresses structural and market barriers that limit the uptake and adaptation of innovative solutions in these regions by supporting coordinated interregional investments as identified in shared Smart Specialisation priorities. It aims to translate innovation developed in other regions into concrete deployment and market opportunities in less

developed regions and transition regions, while strengthening their integration into European value chains.

The objective of the present I3 Instrument Strand 2a call for proposals is to support interregional innovation investments by offering consortia of innovation actors from the quadruple helix ecosystems the necessary financial and advisory support to bring their innovations to a mature level, ready for scale-up and commercialisation. This call specifically aims at reducing the innovation divide in Europe, with a strong cohesion policy focus on integrating less developed and transition regions into European value chains.

Thereby, proposals under this call for proposals seek to facilitate:

- the support of innovation actors with investment ideas that are ready to be developed into mature business cases;
- the identification of new regional technological domains and market opportunities with the EU priorities and bridging the gap between the supply and demand sides to help innovation ecosystems overcome market failures;
- the creation of new value chains in less developed and transition regions and the integration into interregional and cross border value chains with more developed regions;
- the improvement of knowledge and practical skills in business and investment planning, particularly for SMEs, as well as for other consortium partners
- the application and the deployment of innovative technologies and solutions in less developed and transition regions;
- the interaction and collaboration of SMEs from less developed and transition regions in interregional/multi-national value chains with innovation actors from more developed regions.

The focus is on technology transfer and highly specialised advisory support for the implementation of experiments and demonstration cases in companies. Participation of innovation actors is based on shared or



Maturity	complementary innovation priorities, as defined in their regional and/or national smart specialisation strategies. Projects shall show a balanced participation of regions with varying levels of development and innovation performance.
Co-financing	From TRL 6 upwards — demonstration, deployment and market uptake, not research
Consortium	70% of eligible costs (100% for financial support to third parties)
Duration	At least 3 independent entities from 3 different regions in at least 2 eligible countries, of which at least 1 from a more developed region. The coordinator must be a public body, a non-profit, or an entity delivering innovation support to SMEs.
Link	Normally 18–36 months
Link	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/I3-2026-INV2A

EuroHPC Joint Undertaking — Quantum Platform Technologies

Call	HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-SPT-10-01 — Superconducting Platform Technologies
Programme	European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC JU), under Horizon Europe / Digital Europe
Deadline	17 November 2026 , 17:00 Brussels time
Budget	EUR 20 million for the call — one of six EuroHPC quantum calls totalling EUR 119 million
Priorities	Quantum computing Superconducting qubits European supply chains
Objective	Build a superconducting quantum processing unit of at least 1,000 individually addressable physical qubits using chiplet technology, delivered as a full-stack system — hardware, cooling, control electronics and software — accessible to researchers and industry via the cloud, and drawing on European component supply chains.
Maturity	Full-stack system development and deployment, with demonstrated practical applications
Co-financing	Set in the EuroHPC JU call conditions; EuroHPC actions are typically co-funded by the JU and participating states
Consortium	Standard Horizon Europe rules apply, with EuroHPC JU participation conditions — check the call conditions for restrictions in critical technology areas

Interreg



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BSB Dialogue
Innovation
Platform

NEXT Black Sea Basin

Duration	3.5 years
Link	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-JU-EUROHPC-2026-SPT-10-01



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