

We're here to help you

The EU Energy Focus service is a free, Government-funded service that aims to ensure that UK companies, research institutions and other organisations are well informed and have every chance of success in applying for and securing European funding for energy-related projects. Our services include one-to-one discussion of proposal ideas, webinars on key subjects and review of draft proposals. Through this bulletin we aim to provide you with information on sustainable energy policy and funding in Europe and in the UK.

To enable us to tailor our communications to your needs, we ask you to confirm your contact details and inform us of your interest areas via our contacts survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EUEFcontacts>

Statement on UK eligibility for EU Horizon 2020 funding following the referendum decision

Recognising the importance of science and innovation to society, productivity and economic competitiveness, the government has provided reassurance to UK participants of the European Union's Horizon 2020 Programme with a commitment to safeguard funding for research and innovation projects.

The Treasury has confirmed that it will underwrite funding for approved Horizon 2020 projects applied for before the UK leaves the European Union. **As a result, British organisations have certainty over future funding and should continue to bid for Horizon 2020 Calls while the UK remains a member of the EU.** The Treasury will underwrite the payment of such awards, even when specific projects continue beyond the UK's departure from the EU.

We are working with the Energy National Contact Points from the other European countries that participate in Horizon 2020 to ensure the above message is being disseminated to relevant organisations so that UK organisations' continued eligibility for funding is widely known to allow consortia to be maintained and built. **Please let us know if you do come across European organisations that are not aware of the Treasury announcement.**

The position regarding **structural funds** is as follows - all structural and investment fund projects signed before the Autumn Statement on 23rd November 2016 will be fully funded, even when these projects continue beyond the UK's departure from the EU. The Treasury is working with departments, Local Enterprise Partnerships and other relevant stakeholders to implement arrangements for those structural fund projects that are signed after the Autumn Statement but while the UK remains a member of the EU. These projects will need to address UK priorities and satisfy value for money criteria. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-certainty-on-eu-funding-for-hundreds-of-british-projects>

Horizon 2020 – see page 9 for background

105M€ available for low carbon energy demonstration projects

The final 2017 Horizon 2020 Energy Call for Proposal opened on 11th May 2017 with a **total budget of €105M**. The Commission will fund demonstration projects in PV, concentrated solar power, solar heat, offshore wind, ocean energy, geothermal energy and biofuels. The deadline for submitting proposals is **7th September 2017**. The table below shows the topic areas and the budgets available for these topics.

Budget	€105M
Call topics (funding action), expected EU funding per project	Indicative budget (M€)
<u>LCE-10-2017</u> : Reducing the cost of PV electricity (IA), €7M to €10M	10
<u>LCE-11-2017</u> : Near-to-market solutions for reducing the water consumption of CSP Plants (IA), €10M to €12M	12
<u>LCE-12-2017</u> : Near-to-market solutions for the use of solar heat in industrial processes(IA), €5M to €8M	8
<u>LCE-14-2017</u> : Demonstration of large >10MW wind turbine (IA), €20M to €25M	25
<u>LCE-16-2017</u> : 2nd Generation of design tools for ocean energy devices and arrays development and deployment (IA), €5M to €7M	7
<u>LCE-17-2017</u> : Easier to install and more efficient geothermal systems for retrofitting buildings (IA), €5M to €8M	8
<u>LCE-18-2017</u> : EGS in different geological conditions (IA), €6M to €10M	10
<u>LCE-19-2017</u> : Demonstration of the most promising advanced biofuel pathways (IA), €10M to €15M	15
<u>LCE-20-2017</u> : Enabling pre-commercial production of advanced aviation biofuel (IA), €5M to €10M	10

Please contact the EU Energy Focus team if you are interested in submitting a proposal for any of these topics. The team will be reviewing draft proposals for these topics throughout July and August. Please contact the team by email if you would like to book a proposal review slot.

Funded project example

The FloTEC project was allocated 9.8M€ in the 2015 Horizon 2020 Call for Proposals for low carbon energy demonstration projects. The project is coordinated by Scotrenewables Tidal Power Ltd and involves partners from the UK (EMEC, ABB Ltd and Harland and Wolff Heavy Industries Limited), Ireland and Germany. The project was set up to exploit the ocean's energy supply potential by using floating tidal stream turbines, demonstrating how the technology could; reduce cost and risk, improve reliability, while also setting out a commercial framework for its introduction to the European grid.

The project's tidal turbine has now matched the performance of established offshore wind turbines, generating over 18MWh (megawatt-hour) within a continuous 24-hour testing period and heralding an age of more competitive tidal energy supply. More information about the project can be found at http://cordis.europa.eu/news/rcn/128377_en.html

H2020 Energy Efficiency Call now closed

The 2017 H2020 Call for energy efficiency proposals had a deadline of **7th June 2017**. The Commission received 203 proposals for this Call. The list of the number of proposals received per topic can be found at

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/calls/h2020-ee-2016-2017.html>

Call summary document: the priorities and deadlines for all of the 2017 Energy Calls can be viewed in our Call summary document at

http://docs.euenergyfocus.co.uk/H2020_Energy_Call_summary_2017.pdf

Support for UK organisations: We provide a free and confidential service to UK organisations on European funding for energy projects. We can help to facilitate UK involvement in these major European collaborative projects. We are available to discuss proposal ideas and review proposals.

Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Call for Proposals

2017 Call for Proposals now closed

The 2017 Call for Proposals closed on 20th April 2017. Results are expected to be communicated to coordinators by 20th September 2017.

Horizon Prizes for energy innovation

The European Commission has launched three Horizon 2020 energy prizes, which will encourage innovations and finding solutions in the areas of great importance to European citizens, culture and health, and by this contribute to one of the key challenges of Energy Union, which is to put citizens at its core. These prizes will reward innovative approaches to integrating solar energy into historical buildings, using renewable energy in hospitals, and developing products that help cut emissions by reusing CO₂. **The total value of the prizes is €3.25M.** More information can be found at

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/horizonprize/index.cfm>

There is a conference session on the prizes during the European Sustainable Energy Week conference in Brussels on Thursday 22nd June. The session will be broadcast online. Details can be found at <http://eusew.eu/renewable-energy-horizon-prizes-%E2%80%94-crack-challenge>

UK Technology Stakeholder Groups

Now is a good time for you to consider joining one of our sector stakeholder groups. These continue to play an important role in helping to shape UK input to discussions on future European energy technology development spending priorities. But in parallel, in the light of the EU referendum result, they will increasingly now focus on providing input to the UK's new, wider international energy innovation engagement priorities that are currently being developed and other possible activities related to international collaboration.

There are UK Stakeholder Groups for bioenergy, solar, wind, CCS, smart cities, smart grids, ocean and a group on energy efficiency is in the process of being set-up. Stakeholder group

membership offers an opportunity to help influence policy at EU and UK levels; and to build your networks and knowledge to take advantage of the resulting opportunities.

It's important to have representative groups made up of industry, academia and the public sector to help ensure feedback matches as closely as possible to UK priorities, strengths and interests. This should give UK organisations the best possible chance of success in securing EU funding and activity, along with wider international business opportunities against increasingly tough competition.

We are interested in hearing from organisations, particularly trade associations or industry, about joining the stakeholder groups. Please contact the EU Energy Focus team if you would like more information or would like to explore joining.

European Developments in the energy sector

Eurostars Call now open

Eurostars supports international innovative projects led by research and development performing small and medium sized enterprises. With its bottom-up approach, the programme supports the development of rapidly marketable innovative products, processes and services that help improve the daily lives of people around the world. Eurostars is a joint programme between EUREKA and the European Commission, co-funded from the national budgets of 36 Eurostars Participating States and Partner Countries and by the European Union through Horizon 2020. The next cut-off date for applications is **14th September 2017**. Details of the funding and the eligibility criteria can be found at <https://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/content/eurostars-2017-cut-offs> and <https://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/countries/united-kingdom>

Unlocking energy investment opportunities at local level

On 27th April Mareike Schmidt, Service Manager for Energy at Bristol City Council, delivered a webinar on lessons learnt from the use of the European Investment Bank's technical assistance, called European Local Energy Assistance (ELENA). As a result of ELENA grant funding, Bristol City Council has delivered thousands of insulation measures on social and private housing, hundreds of solar PV panels on municipal buildings and kick-started the development of the city's Heat Network. This large-scale programme, called BRITE, has seen over £50m of investment over the last three years and laid strong foundations for Bristol to be on track to be carbon neutral by 2050. More information, including a recording of the webinar, can be found at http://www.covenantofmayors.eu/news_en.html?id_news=827

Call for university experts in the field of energy

The UNI-SET consortium and the European Platform of Universities in Energy Research and Education have launched a call for university experts in the field of energy. The initiative follows the publication of the "Roadmap for European Universities in Energy" and the "European Atlas of Universities in Energy Research & Education". It intends to draft strategic thematic documents providing guidelines for the update of education and research programmes. The initiative is titled "Energy Pan-European Action Agendas for Universities: Identifying New Paradigms in Energy Higher Education and Research". Expressions of interest from experts working in energy-related fields are welcome until **23rd June 2017**. More information can be found at <http://www.eua.be/activities-services/news/newsitem/2017/06/08/call-for-university-experts-in-the-field-of-energy>

SHAPE ENERGY Call for Evidence

SHAPE ENERGY – Social sciences and Humanities for Advancing Policy in European Energy – is a new 2M€ European platform for energy-related social sciences and humanities (energy-SSH) research. Energy-SSH has played less of a role to date in shaping European energy policy than Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines and, as such, the SHAPE ENERGY platform aims to develop Europe's expertise in using and applying energy-SSH. SHAPE ENERGY directly feeds into the work of the European Commission's strategy unit with responsibility for energy research and innovation.

The two-year SHAPE ENERGY project began in February 2017 and is coordinated by Anglia Ruskin University in the UK. As part of its initial scoping work, it has launched a Call for Evidence aiming to identify current understandings and future priorities for energy research from a wide range of research, policy and practitioner communities across Europe. As such, this Call is not solely intended for energy-SSH researchers; the project team is keen to engage with energy-STEM and non-energy-SSH researchers – as well as those from policy, industry, NGOs and beyond – who may want to utilise energy-SSH research in the future.

This Call is intentionally designed to be easy to respond to (only four core questions taking approx. 5-10mins). Responses will be anonymised and made publicly available free-of-charge in summer 2017 at www.shapeenergy.eu. The Call for Evidence can be accessed at <https://shapeenergy.eu/index.php/activities/call-for-evidence/>

Call for Expressions of Interest - Clean energy technology studies

The European Commission Joint Research Centre has launched a Call for Expressions of Interest for clean energy technology studies. The Call for Expressions of interest is divided into 3 fields:

- assessment of the status of development of energy supply technologies and their trend including wind, PV, ocean, geothermal, hydropower, CCS, hydrogen and fuel cells and many others
- integration of energy supply technologies in the energy system
- assessment of technology markets and industrial development intelligence for energy supply technologies

As a first step, interested parties are invited to submit an expression of interest by providing their full contact details and by listing the specific fields of interest. More details can be found at

<https://web.jrc.ec.europa.eu/callsfortender/index.cfm?action=app.tender&id=3519&error=nochoises>

UK news from the energy sector

Cutting-edge technology innovation: apply for business funding

Innovate UK has up to £15 million for game-changing, cutting-edge or disruptive innovation projects that leads to new products, processes or services. This funding is part of a regular series of open competitions that support good ideas with market potential, no matter where they come from. Projects can come from any technology, science, engineering or industrial area. They can fit in with any of Innovate UK's priority sectors – emerging and enabling technologies, health and life sciences, infrastructure systems, and manufacturing and materials – or be outside. Funding is available for a wide range of projects, from feasibility studies to experimental development that is closer to market. The competition is now open

and the deadline for registration is 9th August 2017. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cutting-edge-technology-innovation-apply-for-business-funding>

Offshore Wind Innovation Hub website launched

The Offshore Wind Innovation Hub, designed to coordinate UK offshore wind innovation, launched its new website on 11th May. The website includes an evidence-based identification of UK offshore wind innovation priorities, supply chain growth opportunities and a comprehensive view of the funding landscape. The Hub, and its first programme the Offshore Wind Innovation Exchange, is backed by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and delivered jointly by the Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult and Innovate UK's Knowledge Transfer Network. The website can be accessed at <http://offshorewindinnovationhub.com/>

Energy Catalyst Round 5 open

The Department for International Development, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council are to invest up to £13 million in innovation projects to address the global need for clean, affordable and secure energy. The aim of the Energy Catalyst competition is to support highly innovative, market-focused energy solutions in any technology or sector or international market. Proposals must address all 3 elements of the energy trilemma: cost, emissions, and security of supply. The deadline for registration is midday (BST) on **21st June 2017** and the application deadline is midday (BST) on **28th June 2017**. Details of the competition can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-energy-catalyst-round-5>

Shanghai-UK industrial challenge programme

UK businesses can apply for a share of £5 million for projects with partners from Shanghai municipality, People's Republic of China. Innovate UK and the Science and Technology Commission Department of Shanghai Municipality, will both invest in collaborative research and development (R&D) projects. Up to £5 million is available for UK partners from Innovate UK. The Science and Technology Commission Department of Shanghai Municipality will allocate funding for R&D performing Shanghai-registered companies.

The aim of this competition is to stimulate economic growth in China and the UK through projects in one of the following two areas:

- future cities: addressing the challenges brought on by rapid urbanisation, demographic and social change, resource scarcity and climate change
- transformational or disruptive innovation leading to novel, new products, processes or services drawn from any technology, engineering or industrial area. There is particular interest in the areas of healthcare and life sciences, advanced manufacturing and energy/green technology. Projects should lead to a significant return on investment and have a clear and anticipated impact on business growth

The programme is expected to fund around ten projects across the two areas. Projects should last up to 36 months. The deadline for registration is midday (BST) on **21st June 2017** and the application deadline is midday (BST) on **28th June 2017**. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-shanghai-uk-industrial-challenge-programme>

Jiangsu-UK industrial challenge programme

UK businesses can apply for a share of £5 million to carry out projects with partners from Jiangsu province, People's Republic of China. Innovate UK and Jiangsu Science and Technology Department will both invest in collaborative research and development (R&D) projects. Up to £5 million is available for UK partners from Innovate UK. Jiangsu Science and Technology Department will allocate funding for Jiangsu partners.

The aim of this competition is to stimulate economic growth in China and the UK through projects in one of the following areas:

- innovation in infrastructure systems that address the challenges faced by infrastructure owners, cities, towns and users
- transformational or disruptive innovation leading to novel, new products, processes or services drawn from any technology, engineering or industrial area

The programme is expected to fund around ten to 15 projects across the two areas. Projects should last up to 24 months. The deadline for registration is midday (BST) on **21st June 2017** and the application deadline is midday (BST) on **28th June 2017**. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-jiangsu-uk-industrial-challenge-programme>

Accelerating innovation with public and private investment

The investment accelerator pilot by Innovate UK will provide UK companies with simultaneous grant funding and venture capital investment for early stage projects worth up to £8.5 million. This competition aims to bring private investors into Innovate UK grant-funded companies earlier. It should give applicants greater confidence that investment will continue, remove the need to chase additional investment and match funding, and award direct access to commercial acumen and market opportunities.

There is £3 million of grant funding and £1.25 million of private equity investment for infrastructure systems projects including:

- smart infrastructure
- energy
- urban living
- connected transport

A further £3 million of grant funding and £1.25 million of private equity investment is available for projects related to health and life sciences. This includes:

- agriculture
- biosciences
- health

Innovate UK is looking to fund innovative high-risk projects and invest in companies that have real potential for growth. Single small and medium-sized enterprises can be awarded full project costs up to £150,000 for early stage feasibility studies. The competition opened on **8th May 2017**, and the deadline for registration is **28th June 2017**. More details can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-investment-accelerator-pilot>

Forthcoming events

European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) Policy Conference, Brussels (Belgium) 20th to 22nd June 2017

The Policy Conference takes place during EUSEW (19th to 25th June 2017). The conference is an important European conference dedicated to sustainable energy policy issues. Sessions are organised by the European Commission and energy stakeholders and cover new policy developments, best practices and sustainable energy ideas, while networking events forge alliances. More information can be found at <http://www.eusew.eu/about-conference>

Save the dates - European Energy Information Days, Brussels (Belgium) 23rd to 25th October 2017

The European Commission will present the new funding opportunities and innovative schemes offered by Horizon 2020's Work Programme 2018-2020 over three days in October 2017. Registration will open in September. More information can be found at <https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/news/save-date-energy-info-days-2017>

Background to the EU energy innovation funding programmes

Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 (H2020) is the European Commission's research and development funding programme. The first H2020 Calls were launched on 11th December 2013. The total budget allocation is understood to be around €70.2B. Energy is likely to receive 7.7% of the available budget for H2020, over €5B for the period 2014-20. This compares to €2.35 billion under the previous programme, Framework Programme 7. More information can be found at <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>

The SET-Plan

The Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) outlines, from a European perspective, what needs to be done in terms of technology development, demonstration and deployment, to achieve the EU's 2020 energy and emission targets and its 2050 vision. This includes ensuring security of energy supplies and retaining the EU's competitiveness in world markets. In terms of status, it is a statement of EU energy technology policy, endorsed by Ministers and the Energy Council. The Plan puts a strong emphasis on the pooling of national innovation efforts into wider European co-operation.

In addition to supporting the development and deployment of energy efficiency technologies, the SET-Plan's priorities are split between a group of technologies identified as most likely to enable the EU to achieve its 2020 targets, and those that are important for it to achieve its 2050 vision. The technologies identified for 2020 are: 2nd generation biofuels; CO2 capture, transport and storage; wind, particularly off-shore wind; photovoltaic and concentrated solar power; smart grids; more efficient energy conversion and end-use devices and systems in buildings, transport and industry, for example poly-generation and fuel cells; and nuclear fission, including long-term waste management solutions. The technologies currently further away from deployment, but expected to have an important role in the EU meeting its 2050 vision are: energy storage; hydrogen fuel cell vehicles; generation IV nuclear fission; fusion; trans-European energy networks; and new technologies for energy efficiency, including materials, nano-science, information and communication, bioscience and computation. These priorities will be reviewed as necessary in line with technology developments to ensure that they remain the most appropriate and they will increasingly drive decisions on what technologies receive support under H2020 Energy grant funding and other relevant EU programmes. <http://setis.ec.europa.eu/>