Autonomous Drive Ambition Cities (IA) - Apply AI

Horizon Europe

OPEN

Code
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-10

Scope
International - Europe

Curator

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FINANCIAL DETAILS

Support type
Non-Refundable

Maximum Funding Rate
100%

Budget
15M€

Eligible Project Value
Up to 15M€

Bonuses & Majorations

- Inclusion of at least one cross-border city pilot between adjacent cities
- Mandatory sharing of data, AI models, and experiences across all pilots
- Synergies with ongoing European, national, or regional actions
- Complementary public funding and industrial investments encouraged
- Selection of city pilots from the ADACities Initiative Call for Expression of Interest

The call provides a single Innovation Action grant with a total budget of 15.000.000 EUR. The grant is non-refundable and covers eligible costs as defined by Horizon Europe rules. Only one project is expected to be funded under this topic, with the full amount allocated to the selected consortium.

DATES & DEADLINES

Opening Date
October 20, 2026

Deadline
February 16, 2027 at 05:00 PM (104 days left)

OBJECTIVES

This call aims to support the large-scale demonstration and deployment of AI-enabled electric autonomous mobility services (level 4 automation) in urban environments across Europe. The objective is to bridge the gap between high technical maturity and sustainable commercial deployment of autonomous vehicles in cities, enhancing safety, sustainability, and commercial scalability. The action targets consortia led by cities or urban agglomerations from EU Member States or associated countries, in partnership with mobility service providers, vehicle manufacturers, technology providers, research and innovation entities, and public transport operators. At least one cross-border pilot between adjacent cities is required, and participating cities should demonstrate a high level of technological, operational, and regulatory readiness. The initiative is closely aligned with the European Apply AI strategy and the European Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Alliance (ECAVA), aiming to strengthen the competitiveness of European industry and support regulatory harmonisation and capacity building within cities.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Personnel Costs
- Travel costs
- Equipment costs
- Other goods, works and services costs
- Subcontracting
- Indirect Costs

ELIGIBILITY

Application Mode
Consortium / Copromotion

Company Typologies

- Micro
- SME
- Small Mid-Cap
- Mid-Cap
- Large
- Non-business entities of the R&I system (ENESII)
- Public entities

Action Types

- Development and demonstration of AI-enabled electric autonomous mobility services in urban traffic
- Integration and deployment of autonomous vehicles in 5-7 city pilots across Europe
- Cross-border pilot to demonstrate interoperability of autonomous mobility services
- Sharing of data, AI models, and experiences among pilots and stakeholders

- Prototyping and integration of vehicles, software, and hardware in urban transport systems
- Initial demonstrations in real-life urban traffic environments
- Development of scaling and financing roadmaps for autonomous mobility
- Addressing regulatory, operational, and governance barriers to deployment
- Capacity building and harmonisation of deployment conditions in cities
- Collaboration with European Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Alliance and CCAM partnership
- Application of European Common Evaluation Methodology for CCAM
- Use of European AI factories, data labs, and mobility data spaces
- Innovation Action

EU PROGRAMME DETAILS

Call ID
HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-10

Cluster
Horizontal Activities

Destination
Bridging Actions

Submission Mode
single-stage

EU Contribution
€15,000,000.00

Expected Projects
1

Funding Rate Rule
Up to 70% of eligible costs for Innovation Actions (IA); up to 100% for non-profit legal entities

OFFICIAL LINKS

Official Regulation
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-BRIDGING-2027-01-10

Grantavia page
https://grantavia.com/en/incentives/autonomous-drive-ambition-cities-ia-apply-ai

Schedule a meeting
https://calendly.com/filipa-silva-epsa/reuniao