

Enhanced electric operation and battery durability (ZEWT Partnership)

Horizon Europe

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● PENDING

Code

HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-18

Scope

International

Location

Europe

Curator

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Financial Details

Support type

Non-Refundable

Maximum Funding Rate

100%

Budget

20M€

Eligible Project Value

Up to 10M€

Dates & Deadlines

Publication Date

October 5, 2026

Opening Date

December 15, 2026

Phase 1

April 14, 2027 at 05:00 PM GMT+2

Description

Objectives

This Horizon Europe Innovation Action targets the full-scale demonstration of solutions for extended-range, fully battery-electric operation of waterborne transport vessels, focusing on vessels such as ferries, short-sea shipping, offshore and inland vessels. The main aim is to increase the autonomy of electrical vessels, enabling operation over distances of at least 150 nautical miles, and to allow rapid, zero-emission in-route charging. Eligible entities include industry, shipyards, equipment manufacturers, port operators, training providers, and higher education institutions within the EU/EEA. The call specifically encourages strong collaboration for knowledge transfer and specialized training in battery management for waterborne transport. Proposals must address business models, IP management, and EU value chain competitiveness, targeting zero-emission waterborne transport and supporting the European Partnership on 'Zero Emission Waterborne Transport' (ZEWT).

Funding

The action is co-financed by the European Commission with a total indicative budget of EUR 20,000,000. The expected EU contribution per project is around EUR 10,000,000, typically funding two projects. The maximum eligible funding rate for Innovation Actions under Horizon Europe is up to 70% of total eligible costs for commercial participants and up to 100% for non-profit entities, according to Horizon Europe rules (see General Annex D). The actual funding rate applies based on the beneficiary's legal status. Proposals must clearly indicate budget planning in line with these co-financing rules and include accurate financial justifications.

Eligible Expenses

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

Bonuses & Majorations

- Prioritization of EU and EEA shipyards and equipment manufacturers
- Plans for commercial replication and broader market uptake
- Development of specialized workforce training modules

Eligibility

Application Mode

Consortium / Copromotion

Eligible Sectors

- Energy & Environment
- Mobility & Transport
- Blue Economy
- Industry

Company Typologies

- SME
- Large
- Non-business entities of the R&I system (ENESII)
- Private non-profit entities
- Public entities

Action Types

- Innovation Actions
- Demonstration projects
- Battery-electric retrofitting
- Energy management systems
- Safety assessment

EU Programme Details

Call ID

HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-18

Cluster

5. Climate, Energy and Mobility

Destination

D5. Clean and competitive solutions for all transport modes

Submission Mode

Single-stage

EU Contribution

around EUR 10,000,000 per project

Expected Projects

2

Funding Rate Rule

Up to 70% for commercial entities; up to 100% for non-profit organisations, in accordance with the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement and General Annexes.

Official Links

Official Regulation

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-18?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=relevance&keywords=HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-18&isExactMatch=true&status=31094501,31094502,31094503>

Grantavia page

<https://grantavia.com/en/incentives/enhanced-electric-operation-and-battery-durability-zewt-partnership>

Schedule a meeting

<https://calendly.com/sandra-cardoso-epsa/reuniao>