

HEU Clean Industrial Deal



Purpose

The [Clean Industrial Deal](#) (CID) aims to boost EU industrial competitiveness while accelerating the transition towards a climate-neutral and resource-efficient economy. It seeks to modernise Europe's industrial base by promoting clean technologies, decarbonised manufacturing, and sustainable energy systems.

The CID introduces a flagship [Horizon Europe](#) call within the Horizontal Activities. With an indicative budget of €600 million for 2026 and 2027, this call supports fit-for-deployment projects that bridge the gap between research and large-scale market uptake. The initiative takes an industry-driven, bottom-up approach targeting next-generation clean tech demonstrators and the decarbonisation of energy-intensive industries, combining technological excellence with market readiness.

Technological Focus Areas

Decarbonisation of Energy-Intensive Industries (€250 million)

- **Carbon-cycle management (CCU and CCUS)** to optimise and demonstrate new solutions for the capture, utilisation, and storage of CO₂ and CO from energy intensive industries.
- **Use of clean energy in production** to achieve major improvements in clean energy usage across energy-intensive industries by 2035.
- **Circularity and resource efficiency** to improve resource efficiency (raw materials, energy, and water) across process industries and promote circularity with industrial side-streams and end-of-use waste.

Clean Technologies for Climate Action (€290 million)

- **Integrated net-zero emissions energy systems**, such as advanced energy grids and interconnected networks, that ensure flexibility and resilience in integrating renewable and low-carbon sources.

- **Enhanced zero-emission power technologies**, including renewable electricity, heat, and energy generation systems that are more efficient and scalable.
- **Energy storage technologies, renewable fuels, and carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) solutions** such as advanced batteries, renewable hydrogen, biofuels, and synthetic renewable fuels, that enable decarbonisation and climate neutrality across Europe's industrial and transport sectors.

Project Type and Funding

Both topics are Innovation Actions (IA): TRL from 6 to 8 with a funding rate of 70% of the project costs (except for non-profit legal entities, with 100%), plus 25% overhead. The max. funding ranges from €15 to 25 million.

Who Can Apply?

The application must involve a consortium integrated by at least 3 legal entities, at least 1 established in a Member State, and at least two other independent legal entities, each established in different Member States or Associated countries. Consortia are expected to demonstrate industrial leadership. Participation is open to all types of organisation or legal entities (e.g., universities, research institutes, industry, SMEs, NGOs).

Contact Us

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Expected Deadline 2026

Opening: 18/12/2025
Deadline: 15/09/2026

Expected Deadline 2027

Opening: 12/01/2027
Deadline: 15/09/2027

CID Application forms

Application forms will have to cover the following sections:

Excellence

Objectives and ambition: precise and measurable goals tied to the work programme topic.

Methodology: a high-level strategy to meet objectives, showcasing feasibility and interdisciplinarity.

Impact

Pathways: the credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the work programme.

Dissemination, Exploitation, and Communication: a roadmap for engaging stakeholders, spreading results, and ensuring adoption post-project to maximise impact.

Business plan and Market-readiness strategy.

Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation

Work Plan and Resources: a high-level outline of activities, tasks, key milestones, and deliverables.

Capacity of participants and consortium overview: evidence of why the partners are the best team for the project including their expertise, roles, and synergies.

Proposals should include a go/no-go milestone ahead of the demonstration.

CID Documentation

Part A participant information data

Part B written application, extended to fit the business plan and market-readiness strategy (60 pages).



CID Application Process

Nordic Innovators takes the lead in the preparation and submission of a high-quality online application and preparing the technical and financial project documentation in Part A and Part B. Our collaborative approach ensures the timely delivery of a strong CID application.

In addition, we also provide hourly-based services to support you on specific tasks e.g. market research, drafting of whole documents, or review and quality control.

