

Public Funding for Deep Tech Projects

Financing for small and medium-sized enterprises, large companies, and research institutions



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Partner in consortium:

Partner in Consortium



Digital Hub Logistics Hamburg



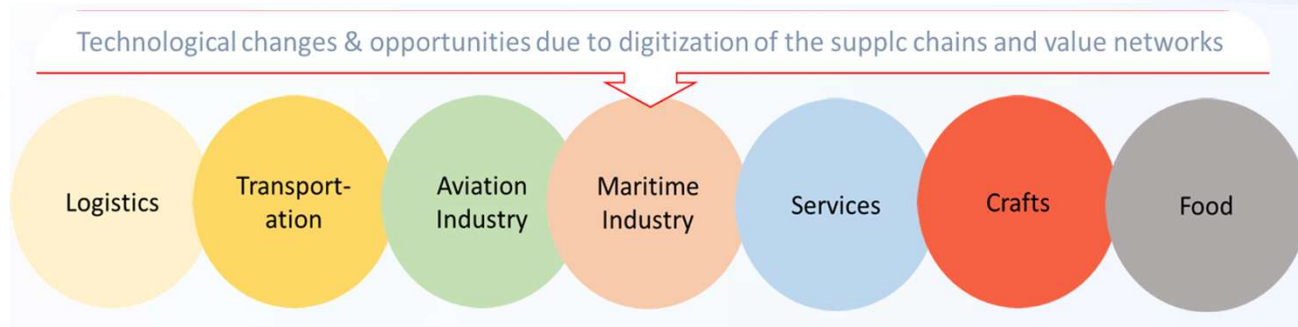
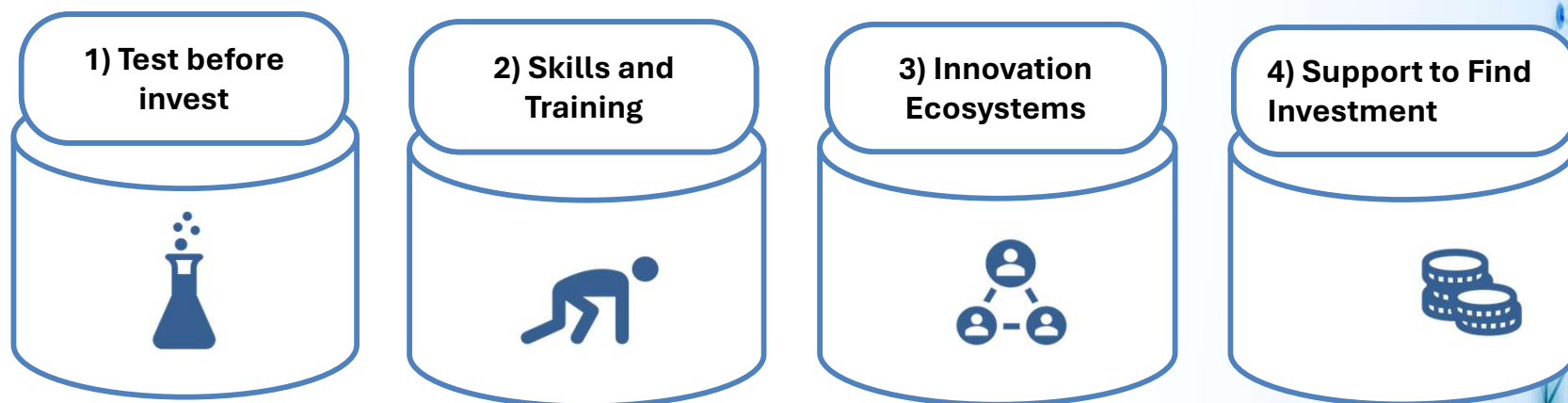
Associated Partner



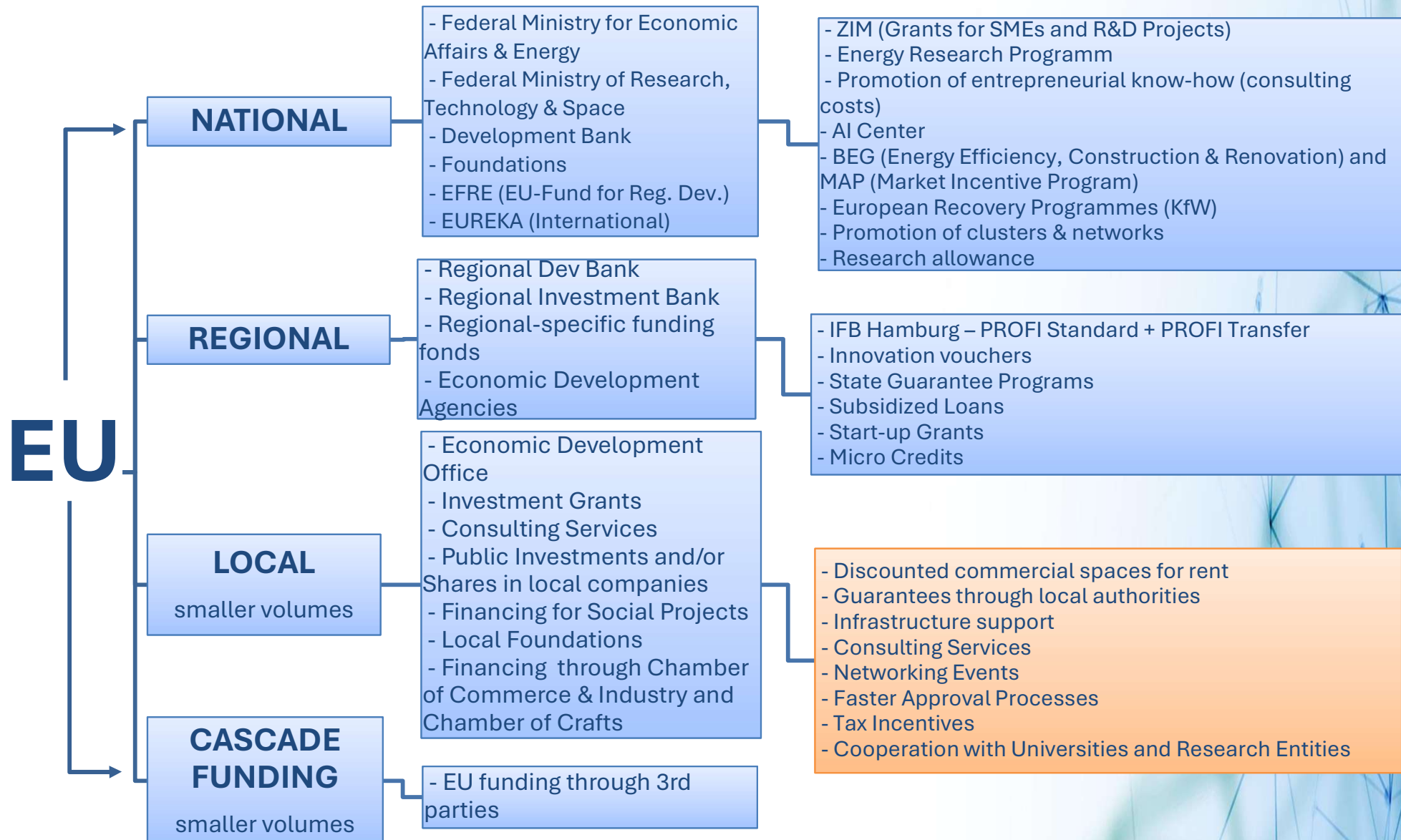
Support & Cooperation



The EDIHs as intermediaries and innovation drivers across Europe



European and national funding sources and mechanisms for distributing of funding

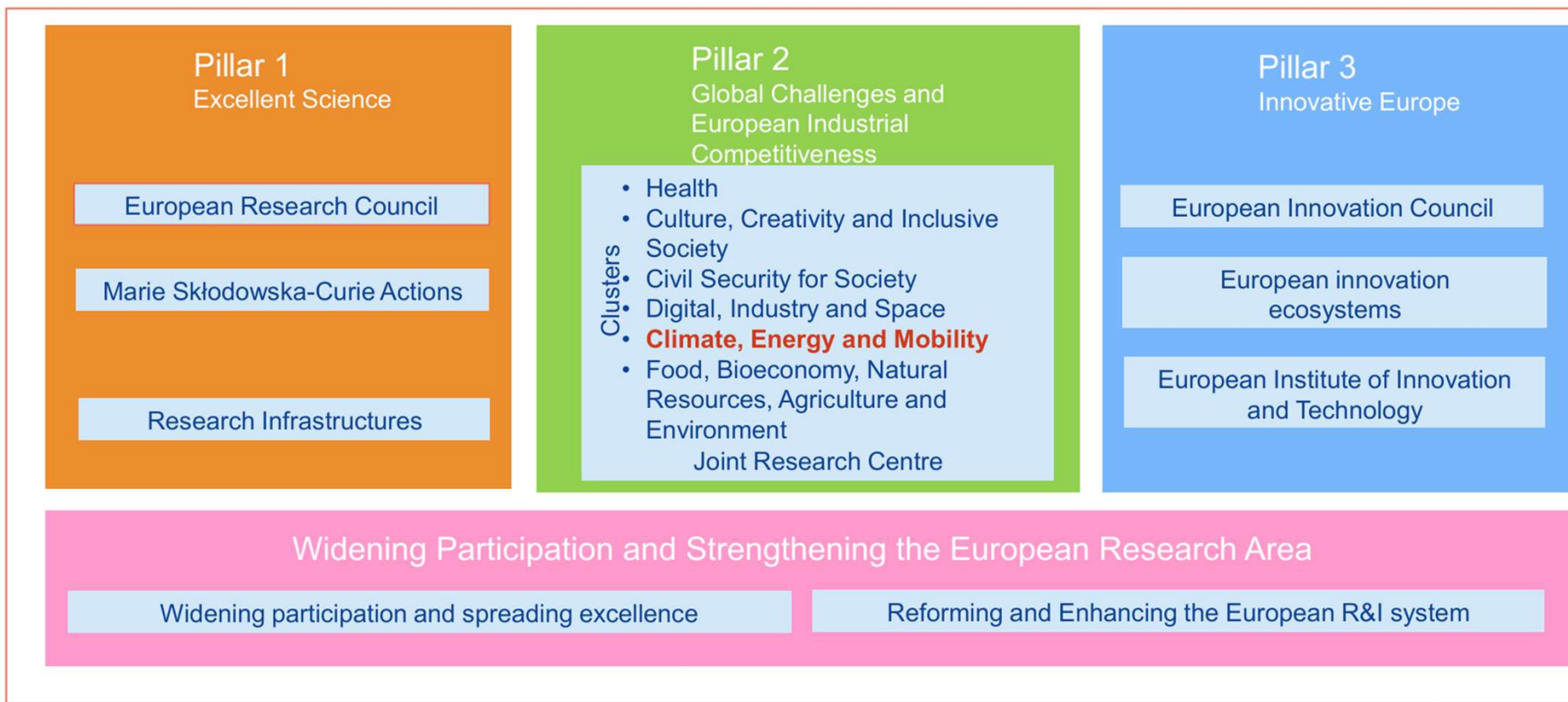


Overview current EU-Programmes

Connecting Europe Facility CEF2027	Creative Europe CREA2027	Customs Control Equipment Instrument CCEI	Customs Programme CUST
Digital Europe Programme DIGITAL	Erasmus+ Programme ERASMUS2027	EU Anti-fraud Programme EUAF	EU External Actions RELEX
EU Renewable Energy Financing Mechanism RENEWFM	EU4Health Programme (EU4H) EU4H	Euratom Research and Training Programme EURATOM2027	EUROPE DIRECT ED
European Defence Fund EDF	European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund EMFAF	European Parliament (EP) EP	European Social Fund + ESF
European Solidarity Corps ESC2027	Fiscalis Programme FISC	Horizon Europe HORIZON	IMCAP IMCAP2027
Information Measures for the EU Cohesion policy IMREG	Innovation Fund INNOVFUND	Internal Security Fund ISF	Interregional Innovation Investments I3
Just Transition Mechanism JTM	Justice Programme JUST2027	Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI) NDICI	Pilot Projects Funds PPPA2027
Programme for Environment and Climate Action LIFE2027	Promotion of Agricultural Products AGRIP2027	Protection of the Euro against Counterfeiting Programme PERI	Research Fund for Coal and Steel RFC2027
Single Market Programme SMP	Social Prerogative and Specific Competencies Lines Programme SOCPL	Technical assistance for ERDF, CF and JTF ERDFTA	Technical Support Instrument (TSI) TSI
Union Civil Protection Mechanism UCPM2027			

HORIZON Europe: an example for the complexity of the funding programmes

Horizon Europe structure



Funded Technologies:

Artificial Intelligence	Public Policy & Governance	Smart Cities	Marine & Maritime Research
Deep Tech	Manufacturing & Industry	Agriculture & Food	Space & Space Exploration
Quantum Computing	Transportation & Mobility	Tourism & Cultural Heritage	Robotics & Automation
Nuclear	Circular Economy & Sustainability	(Science) Education, Training	Energy & Environment
Economy & Finance	Nanotechnology & Advanced Materials	Social Sciences & Humanities	Digital Society & E-Inclusion
Security & Defence	Arts, Culture & Heritage	Life Science & Health	Information & Communication Technology (ICT)
Neuromorphic Computing		Social Innovation & Community Development	




















Target groups for public funding

Companies*	Academia	Others
✓ Large Enterprises 1000+ employees	✓ Universities	✓ Competence Centers
✓ SMEs (Definition for SME could slightly differ in the diff. calls)	✓ Research Entities & Technology Centers	✓ Local Authorities
✓ Start-ups	✓ Spin-offs	✓ Consortia (national/international)
✓ Internationally cooperating companies	✓ Individual Researchers	✓ Non-profit Organizations

Explanations & Notes:

- Terminology: EU-Calls for Proposals = EU-Funding Calls
- EU calls are subject to very strict deadlines. Some of these involve multiple stages. Applicants can withdraw a rejected funding application and reapply. The withdrawal period varies and ranges from seven to 30 days, depending on the program.
- Company PIC Number
- TRL (Technology Readiness Level) 1 - 9 = from 1 (basic technology research) up to 9 (system test, launch & operations)

Important platforms for public funding, project partner search and support*

EU- Funding	Cascade Funding	National & Regional Funding		Service portals & Project partner search		
 European Institute of Innovation & Technology	 Cascade Funding Hub	 Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz	 Förderberatung des Bundes Forschung und Innovationen	 enterprise europe network		
 European Commission	 CoARA	 NKS DIT	 GERMAN ACCELERATOR®	 EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM		
EIC FUND	SUCHE CASCADE FUNDING	 Plattform für Soziale Innovationen & Gemeinwohlorientierte Unternehmen		 euresearch	 Dealflow.eu	
HORIZON		 IFB HAMBURG	 IFB innovations starter	 Σeureka		
EUROPE DIGITAL	EFRD	 HTGF		 eXIST	 IKS Hamburg	 startupcity hamburg

NOTE: This list **does not include all currently available** sources for public funding.

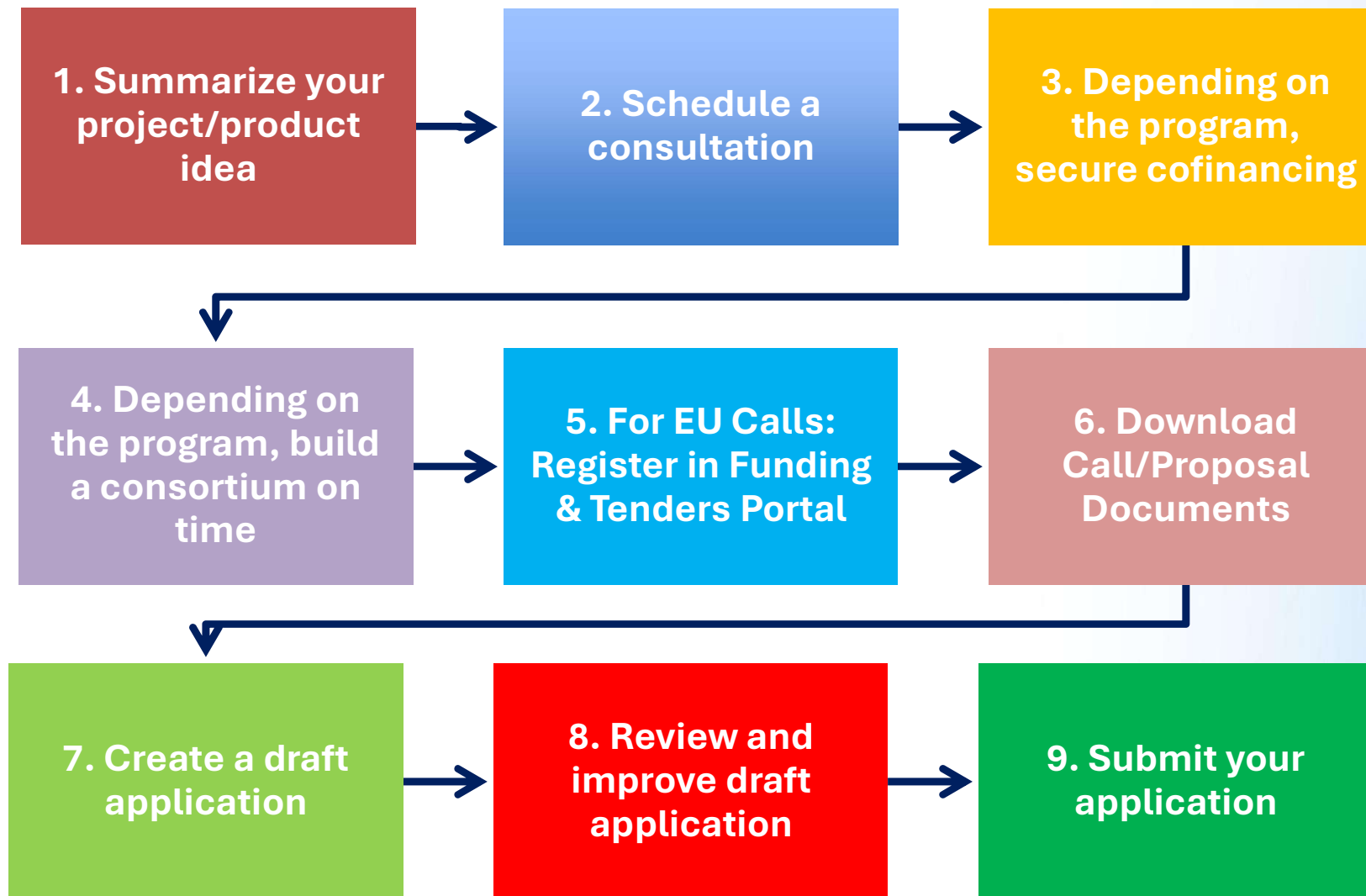
What should you consider first when looking for public funding?

- ✓ **Development stage of the project to be funded:** Idea | Prototype | MVP | Pre-Seed | Seed | Scale-up
- ✓ **Eligible applicants:** Established SMEs | Startups | University researchers | Individual research institutions
- ✓ **Activity status:** Basic research | Applied R&D | Technical feasibility | Market validation | Business model testing
- ✓ **Eligible sectors:** Deep tech | Life sciences | Digital | Social projects | Innovation in SMEs, etc.
- ✓ **Funding type:** Full funding | Grant (non-repayable) | Loan (repayable) | Equity required | For consortia – proportional funding between partners, etc.
- ✓ **Eligibility criteria:** Location | Size/number of employees | Partnerships | TRL
- ✓ **Application effort vs. reward:** Strength of competition | Estimated time required | Compliance with requirements | Lack of time | Actual degree of innovation, etc.
- ✓ **IP rights considerations:** IP rules for funding | Willingness to collaborate on external platforms | Patent status | Shared IP rights, etc.
- ✓ **Ethical considerations:** The project/development complies with current ethical requirements


Checklist before applying for public funding:

- ✓ Is my company registered in the EU or in an associated/partner country?
- ✓ Does my company meet the permitted company size requirements?
- ✓ Do I have permanent employees?
- ✓ Can I implement the project alone, or am I looking for partners?
- ✓ Am I already collaborating with other companies, R&D institutions, academia, etc.?
- ✓ What is the technological level of my company/project? (compare your project to EU's Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs))
- ✓ How does my project exceed the state of the art (level of innovation)? Customer benefit/market?
- ✓ Do I have the time and knowledge to apply for funding?
- ✓ Have I found the right funding program? Are there alternatives?
- ✓ Can I cover part of the costs by myself?
- ✓ Do I already have a project outline?
- ✓ Do I already have or am I currently receiving other funding?
- ✓ Can I meet the funding requirements?

How to prepare your application for funding?



References to open calls:

CALL	DESCRIPTION	DL	Budget
<u>AMALTEA</u>	Supporting proposals to develop innovative software or hardware solutions for facade applications, focusing on AI-enhanced design, digital twins, and robotics, to drive sustainability and efficiency in construction	07.11.2025	up to 100K/120K for 9-12 months
<u>COSMIC 1st Open Call</u>	AI and Data Solutions to Boost the Green Transition	27.10.2025	up to €150 K, duration 10 months
<u>INNOWWIDE</u> Note: Info webinar: 15.10.25	Supports innovative SMEs and startups from all sectors to test and enter new markets (bilateral "Market Feasibility Projects")	25.11.2025	€ 60K, 6 months
<u>Forschungszulage</u>	Provided as a tax credit for German companies of all sizes amounting to 25% of eligible R&D personnel costs, with SMEs receiving an increased rate of 35	ongoing	tax relief up to €3.5 Mio/year
<u>Förderdatenbank</u>	Calls & Project Funding Opportunities (also for international projects)	ongoing	
<u>SPRIND Challenges</u>	Challenges/Project Funding in different sectors & technologies	ongoing	
<u>EU Funding & Tenders Portal</u>	EU Database & Portal for Funding Calls Newly released: App for Android and iOS to track funding opportunities & proposals	ongoing 	

... and many other funding opportunities, the application for which requires a highly individual approach!

Additional References for Deep Tech SMEs:

- **Future Tech Week 2026 – 19 to 23 January 2026:** The event will provide an enhanced platform for EIC projects and stakeholders to engage with Europe's Deep Tech landscape.
- **Follow on LinkedIn or subscribe for DeepSync.eu Newsletter** (initiated by EIC, focus on Deep Tech)
- Join the **O-CEI Discord Community (Cloud-Edge-IoT (CEI) networks)**: As a Horizon Europe Innovation Action program, O-CEI aims to create an open CEI platform with a strong focus on interoperability, security, and reliability, making it easier for different sectors to collaborate and share data in real-time.

--> 📅 **17 October | Online O-CEI 1st Open Call - 2nd Infoday**

Discover how to apply for the O-CEI Open Call and secure €100K equity-free funding for your Cloud-Edge-IoT innovation. Get expert tips, ask questions, and boost your chances of success.

👉 **Save your spot!**

- Explore & Apply for **EIC International Trade Fairs (ITF) Programme 3.0**
- **13.11.2025, 11-12:00 h Funding for Research & Innovation Projects in HORIZON Europe**
👉 Register: <https://join.next.edudip.com/de/webinar/fordermoglichkeiten-fur-digitale-technologien-in-horizont-europa/2571411>

Q & A SESSION.

**Arrange your individual consultation
appointment directly at:**

al-ubaydi@aric-hamburg.de

Or submit your initial enquiry in less than 2 min:



THANK YOU.

Please share your feedback:

