

Questions – Réponses AAP 2025

Commission européenne

En rouge : les FAQ ajoutées depuis la dernière mise à jour

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BRIDGE initiative

Question: clarification on the sentence: *“The selected projects are expected to contribute to the BRIDGE initiative, actively participate to its activities and allocate up to 2% of their budgets to that end. Additional contributions to the ‘Alliance for Internet of Things Innovation’ (AIOTI) and other relevant activities (e.g. clusters of digital projects and coordinating actions) might be considered, when relevant.”*

→ **Reply:** The aim of the Bridge initiative is to increase the impact of projects in 2 ways: 1) to exchange experiences and best practices among projects so that they can build on each other’s work and cooperate across projects; 2) to provide input to EU-level policy discussions based on coordinated and aggregated feedback from projects so that policy actions benefit from project experience and evidence. Projects are expected to support the provision of advice and evidence for EU policy making by taking an active role in at least one of the Bridge working groups, by contributing to its annual work programme and related reports, by participating in the Bridge annual general assembly and, more generally, by sharing experiences and best practices with the other Bridge member projects. Applicants could already specify in their application, the activities and the fields of interests for the cooperation with the Bridge initiative. Applicants not expected to contact the Bridge secretariat during the proposal preparation but only when the project has been awarded.

New European Bauhaus

Request to clarify the standard sentence *“Projects are expected to contribute to the New European Bauhaus (NEB) initiative by interacting with the NEB Community, NEBLab and other relevant actions of the NEB initiative through sharing information, best practice, and, where relevant, results”* that appears in several topics.

Question: What type of contribution is expected?

→ **Reply:** Topics include this statement because the project results could be useful for the development and implementation of the NEB initiative.
Projects should firstly check whether it is feasible to become an official Partner[2] (any entity, except for-profit organisations and public authorities) or Friend[3] (companies and public actors [regions, villages and cities]) of the NEB. Joining the NEB Community will make it easier to share information, best practice and/or results when the project is properly underway (and producing results).
Projects should also inform their relevant NEB National Contact Point[4] (separate to the R&I Framework Programme NCP) of their activities.
The project may also wish to explore whether they are eligible to participate in the NEB Festival[6] (next edition in 2024) and/or apply for NEB Prizes[5] (annual).

- [1] https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/index_en
- [2] https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/get-involved/call-partners_en
- [3] https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/get-involved/call-friends_en
- [4] https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/about/national-contact-points_en
- [5] https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/get-involved/festival_en
- [6] https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/get-involved/2023-prizes_en

Question: How/ where is this reflected in the evaluation?

- **Reply:** It is up to the applicant to decide the appropriate level of interaction with / contribution to the NEB Community and initiative. This contribution will be evaluated by independent expert evaluators, who will assess whether the proposals credibly and appropriately include such a contribution.

HORIZON-CL5-2025-04-D5-11: Demonstration of battery energy storage systems in existing and new vessels via novel energy storage and ship design concepts (ZEWT Partnership)

The topic mentions: *“Concepts for rapid in-route charging or battery replenishment while maintaining desired operating schedules”* and *“Demonstrate 40% increase in the vessel operating range with battery as the primary source of propulsion with respect to a 2024 state-of-the-art full electric baseline. The solutions should allow an operation range **of at least 120 nautical miles**”*

Question 1: Does the demonstrator need to operate for 120 nautical miles straight, or will projects that plan to semi-charge the vessel during loading/offloading operations be approved as well?

- Reply : The demonstrator needs to be able to operate for 120 nmi straight purely by electric means without recharging.

Question 2: Is a big, fast and energy-intensive car ferry ,operating along the coastline between islands within the scope of this call?

- Reply : Ferries are within the scope, however, they must be able to demonstrate the capacity to operate for 120 nmi straight purely by electric means without recharging.

HORIZON-CL5-2025-01-Two-Stage-D3-23: Critical elements for energy security of grid and storage technologies

Question 1: Are Li-ion battery storage technologies in scope of this topic?

- All relevant energy storage technologies for renewable energy are in scope.

Question 2: Is it obligatory to address both “energy network technologies” **AND** “storage technologies”? Or is it possible to address only “energy network technologies” **OR** “storage technologies”?

- The scope includes energy networks and/or storage technologies, meaning it is sufficient to address only one of them, but also both can be addressed.

HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D2-08: Coordinated call with India on waste to renewable hydrogen

Question : Is it obligatory or not to include at least one legal entity from India in the EU project? (the eligibility condition of the HE call and the Guidelines from the Indian Ministry seem contradictory).

- The Horizon Europe work programme is the legal basis on which eligibility rules apply for the HE Call. Horizon Europe is open to 3rd countries and Indian organisations can participate in this HE Call as associated partners but this not a compulsory condition. The guidelines published by the Government of India (Ministry of New and Renewable Energy MNRE) establish the eligibility rules for the India Call.
- The eligibility conditions of the Horizon Europe Call topic requires at least one work package to be coordinated with the MNRE-funded project under the Indian Call.
- Applicants that would like to access co-funding made available for associated partners by the Indian counterpart in selected projects should fulfil eligibility criteria included in the Indian Call and submit their application via that Call.
- The criteria established by the Indian side will only apply to the parallel Indian project with its own grant agreement and not to the HE grant agreement.