1st Open Call. Guide for Applicants

www.i-nergy.eu

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1 Basic Info about I-NERGY

I-NERGY is an EU funded innovation project around Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Next Generation Energy aiming at reshaping the energy sector value chain towards better business and operational performance, increased environmental sustainability and the creation of a stronger social fabric propagating high social value among citizens.

The I-NERGY Consortium consists of 17 partners, coordinated by the Institute of Communication and Computer Systems (ICCS) of the National Technical University of Athens.

I-NERGY will deliver financing support for third parties through 2 Open Calls to select up to 10 projects in the 1st Open Call, and up to 15 projects in the 2nd Open Call. Up to 2 million euro will be distributed among selected projects for new energy use cases and technology building blocks validation, as well as for developing new AI-based energy services in order to strengthen the SME competitiveness on AI for energy and enrich the AI resources and tools catalogue for Energy on Europe's AI-on-demand platform AI4EU. After both Open Calls the selected projects will participate in a Technology Transfer Programme (TTP) receiving technical mentoring services provided by the core partners, which is one of the added values of the project.

	TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAMME I	TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAMME II
CALL LAUNCH	NOV 2021-JAN 2022	OCT-NOV 2022
WHO CAN APPLY?	SMEs INCLUDING STARTUPS	SMEs, STARTUPS, EPES BENEFICIARIES, RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS (at least 2 organisations per bottom-up project are required)
SCOPE	BUILDING BLOCKS FOR NEW AI ALGORITHMS / SERVICES AND SMALL-SCALE EXPERIMENTS (PROTOTYPES)	DEVELOPING NEW SERVICES ON TOP OF EXISTING TECHNOLOGIES (MVPs)
NO. SELECTED PER CALL	10	15
FUNDING	UP TO 50.000 EUR	UP TO 100.000 EUR
DURATION OF SUPPORT PROGRAM	6 MONTHS	9 MONTHS

Please check the I-NERGY website and I-NERGY Helpdesk to get more information and visit Section 7 in this Guide of Applicants to know how to contact us.

2   What do we offer?

I-NERGY will enrol a Funnel Process to stimulate and support Bottom-up Projects throughout Europe to come up with and develop innovative projects.

In this first Open Call, I-NERGY will select up to **10 bottom-up projects** for the Technology Transfer Programme I.

The scope of the programme is:
Building blocks and applications for new AI algorithms/services and small-scale experiments (prototypes) using own resources (modules, models and components) in order to address the developments and implementation of technology and systems applicable to specific cross-sectorial Challenges within the Energy sector for the purpose of enriching the AI resources and tools catalogue for Energy on Europe's AI-on-demand platform AI4EU (see 3.2: What types of activities can be funded).

Already existing third-party resources available on the AI4EU platform, including a small number of I-NERGY assets can be used for inspirational purposes (please contact us for more information at contact@i-nergy.eu).

Each selected beneficiary will be invited to join the Technology Transfer Programme 1 (TTP1), receive a maximum of **50.000€** for the execution of the project and take part in a 6 months support programme.

The outcome of the Programme will be fully functional prototypes (TRL 5-6). For further details see Section 5 in this Guide of Applicants.

The Beneficiaries from the 1st Open Call, involved in TTP1, may apply for participation in the 2nd Open Call and be involved in TTP2, expanding the scope of their application from development to piloting (+15 % bonus in total score then). For more information on TTP2 please see section 1. Expected time for the 2nd Open Call launch is October 2022.

The first Open Call will launch on the 8th **of November 2021 at 09:00 (CET) and will have a deadline on the 20th of January 2022 at 17:00 (CET).**

Applications must be submitted online at: https://i-nergy-1-oc.fundingbox.com/

3   Eligibility Criteria

All applicants will have to abide by all general requirements described in sections from 3.1 to 3.4 of this Guide for Applicants in order to be considered eligible to take part in the Technology Transfer Programme 1 (TTP1), and benefit from its services and receive funding.

3.1   Who are we looking for?

We are looking for a single (individual) SMEs[1], including startups, registered no later than 8th November 2021 as a company in:
- The Member States of the European Union and its Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) or
- Associated Countries to H2020.

The applicants can NOT be any I-NERGY partners (or their affiliate entities or employees).

3.2   What types of activities can be funded?

Bottom-up projects should address the development and implementation of technology and systems applicable to specific cross-sectorial Challenges within the Energy sector.

Areas of Experimentation:
- **AI applications in energy**
- **Data governance and data valorisation for energy services**
- **Analytical applications in energy**
- **Monitoring, energy usage optimization**
- **Predictive maintenance**
- **Demand forecast**

Challenges:
- **AI for network assets predictive maintenance:** AI-based predictive and prescriptive analytics and DT models for assessing the health of network assets (aka transformers, power lines, etc.) to increase their lifetime and reduce failure rates.
- **AI for network loads and demand forecasting towards efficient operational planning:** AI-based forecasting techniques supporting network load and demand assessment to improve the reliability of the grid operation.
- **AI for energy demand and supply prediction:** AI-based analytics enabling to assess, balance and/or match energy supply and demand.
- **AI for energy storage management decisions**: AI-based decision support algorithms for managing power flow fluctuations, matching energy supply and demand, optimising the operation of energy storage devices, etc.
- **AI for integrated TSOs / DSOs asset management:** AI-based predictive analytics supporting system/grid level condition monitoring and management of network assets.

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[1]   An **SME** will be considered as such if it complies with the European Commission's Recommendation 2003/361/EC. As a summary, the criteria defining an SME are:
 • Headcount in Annual Work Unit (AWU) less than 250;
 • Annual turnover less or equal to €50 million OR annual balance sheet total less or equal to €43 million.
 Note that the figures of partners and linked enterprises should also be considered as stated in the SME user guide. For detailed information check EU recommendation:
  https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en

- **AI-based consumption and flexibility prediction:** AI-based analytics for predicting consumption based on customer needs, habits, weather forecasts and other aspects, forecasting aggregated customer demand and enabling flexibility sources' and dynamic load management.
- **AI services for Solar Energy and Photovoltaic Applications**: AI services and applications enabling data-driven operation and maintenance (O&M) of solar energy and photovoltaic projects and installations.
- **AI for Electric Vehicles:** AI algorithms and services enabling to forecast, analyse and manage the load or flexibility potential of electric vehicles' charging stations and/or support related techno-economic decisions (e.g. charging stations' installation, pricing of charging sessions, etc.)
- **AI for trading in energy communities**: AI-based analytics supporting peer to peer energy trading and flexibility management within communities.
- **AI for energy efficiency investments and decision support systems:** AI-based decision support techniques and services enabling evaluation, planning and prioritisation of energy efficiency investments and thereby investment de-risking.
- **AI for improved energy performance:** AI-based analytics for monitoring and optimising the energy performance of buildings, electric vehicles' and other energy consuming/generating infrastructures.
- **AI for energy savings and contracts:** AI-based analytics allowing to assess, monitor and verify energy savings, and increase the reliability and trust on energy performance contracts.
- **AI for fighting climate change and transform environmental impact of business:** AI models and services depicting and predicting the impacts of climate change, and generating accordingly recommendations and actionable insights to mitigate the latter and create environmentally sustainable business models.
- **Applications of reinforcement learning in energy systems:** Application and evaluation of reinforcement learning techniques to improve the reliability and transferability of data-driven models for energy systems.
- **Open Innovation:** AI-based services boosting prosumer empowerment and the creation of collaboration models.

All proposed solutions should follow the principles of Trustworthy AI and be compliant with H2020 Ethical Guidelines and EU Regulations for AI. Applicants are expected to conduct a relevant risk analysis within their scope of work.

3.3   Ideal Project

The ideal project is an applicant (SME) with a use case developing building blocks and applications for new AI algorithms/services and small-scale experiments (prototypes) using own resources (modules, models and components) that addresses the developments and implementation of technology and systems applicable to at least one of the outlined specific cross-sectorial Challenges in the Energy Sector for the purpose of enriching the AI resources and tools catalogue for Energy on Europe's AI-on-demand platform AI4EU.

The preferable initial TRL (Technology Readiness Level) should be TRL3[2]. Evidence via Github or similar appreciated. Applications at lower TRL can be accepted as long as the applicant presents

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[2] TRL, Technology Readiness Level. Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) are indicators of the maturity level of particular technologies. This measurement system provides a common understanding of technology status and addresses the entire innovation chain. There are nine technology readiness levels; TRL 1 being the lowest and TRL 9 the highest. In our project we refer to Annex G of the General Annexes to the Work Programme 2016/17 for a full description of TRLs.

the road map to reach the attempted TRL5-6 level within the 6 months of the programme. Maximum initial TRL: 4.

Examples of ideal projects:
- *A small IT company from Spain develops, trains and deploys an AI service for intelligent storage units that adjust according to the supply flow. The AI service is modular, extensible and re-usable by other applications. It is made available on the AI4EU platform with open or proprietary license with efficient documentation. An energy supplier company can utilise the service with an end-user application / dashboard created by the IT company for managing these flows and storing excess energy to avoid grid overloads.*

- *An Italian startup develops and trains an AI model and service for detecting demand and supply patterns and making predictions by processing a large number of datasets from their customers. The AI model is modular and extensible and published on AI4EU catalogue and AI4EU experiments marketplace to be further utilised by other AI4EU community members in their pipelines.*

3.4   How to apply?

We know it. Applying to an open call takes time and dedication and we are grateful you take up the challenge of applying to the first I-NERGY open call. Because we care, we would like to make sure you understand what are the eligibility requirements with which you have to comply.

- Your proposal should **have a clear European Dimension,** meaning that the challenge is to fully exploit the potential of the European economy and society. Building notably on Europe's Scientific and Technology strengths in the field, the supported activities should reinforce industrial competitiveness across all sectors and help address societal challenges. The ambition is to bring AI technologies and resources to integrators and innovators in all sectors and actively engage with a wide user community, to foster adoption of AI, via use-cases experiments.

- **Be on time:** Make sure you submit your proposal through the online form before the **deadline** (20 January 2022, 17:00 CET). If you submit the form correctly, the system will send you a confirmation of your submission. Get in touch with us if it is not the case. It is important for you to know that we will not be evaluating any proposal sent after the deadline and submitted outside the dedicated form.

- **Be exhaustive:** Have you answered all the sections of the form? It won't be possible to add any information after the deadline. However, you will be able to modify the form as much as you like even after the proposal is submitted, as long as it is done before the deadline.

- **Less is more:** If more than one proposal is identified, only the last proposal which has been submitted will be evaluated. So, no point multiplying your chances this way, it is better to submit only one proposal and make it shine.

- **We only understand the language of Shakespeare:** Your proposal must be written in **English** in all mandatory parts in order to be eligible. Only parts written in English will be evaluated.

- **Every question deserves your attention:** All mandatory sections of your proposal - generally marked with an asterisk - must be filled in. Make sure that the data provided is true and complete. This is crucial for us to properly assess your proposal. Conversely, any

additional material that is not specifically requested in the online application form will not be considered for the evaluation so no point overdoing it.
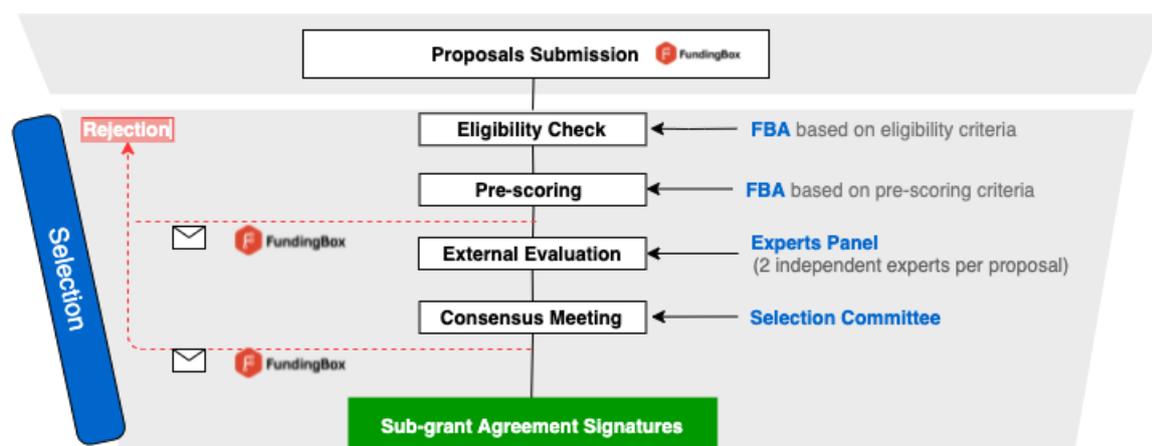
- We will take into consideration the existence of potential **conflict of interest** between you and one or more I-NERGY Consortium partners. Indeed, consortium partners, their affiliated entities, employees and permanent collaborators cannot take part in the I-NERGY programme. All cases of potential conflict of interest will be assessed case by case.

- **Healthy finances and a clean sheet are a must:** We won't accept entities that are under liquidation or enterprises in difficulty according to the Commission Regulation No 651/2014, art. 2.18. Neither will we accept proposals from entities that are excluded from the possibility of obtaining EU funding under the provisions of both national and EU law, or by a decision of both national or EU authority.

- **It is *your* proposal:** Your project should be based on your original work. If not, that's okay, just make sure your right to use the IPR is 100% certain. Going forward, any foreseen developments must be free from third-party rights and if not, these third-party rights must be clearly stated. The IPR for your project cannot be the subject of any dispute.

4 How will we evaluate your proposal?

Our evaluation process is transparent, fair and equal to all our participants.

Having said that, note that we will be evaluating your project in 4 phases. We expect a high number of applications, so if you want to stand out, *quality* is the way to go. What does it mean? In short, provide as many details as possible while being extremely clear and structured.
This will help us to identify properly the key points of your application and see how it fits within the overall I-NERGY scope.

4.1 Step1: First Automatic Eligibility check

The first evaluation step is about verifying some basic requirements based on the statements from your proposal. Your proposal will be admissible for the next phase if it:

● Is complete, readable and in English in all mandatory sections.
● Has been submitted via the online application form here within the deadline (20 January 2022, 17:00 CET).
● Includes the properly filled declaration of honour. Read carefully the Declaration of Honour template included in the online application form, as we will check the related submitted statements. You will not be able to change them after the deadline.

Moreover, a first check regarding the eligibility of the participants specified in section 3 will be carried out.

The proposals that do not comply with these criteria will be excluded. We will inform you about the results of this first eligibility check soon after the deadline.

4.2 Step 2: Pre-scoring

If we receive more than 55 eligible proposals, a pre-scoring system will be included to help us make a pre-selection.

What does this mean? The FundingBox Open Call Management System (FundingBox Enterprise) will automatically assign a score to the eligible proposals according to the following criteria:

- Dedication to the project (10% weight / up to 10 points),

- Team skills (15% weight / up to 15 points),

- Proved experience in AI /ML (15% weight / up to 15 points),

- Proved experience in the target market (10% weight / up to 10 points),

- Current Technological Readiness Level (10% weight / up to 10 points),

- Scalability and openness of the solution (15% weight / up to 15 points),

- Market opportunity (15% weight / up to 15 points)

- Which type of license are you planning to use for your future product (10% weight / up to 10 points)

As an applicant, you should:
- select the option that best describes the characteristics of your project in relation to each criterion in the application form,
- confirm that no false declarations are made.

In total, your project can receive up to 100 points. If your score places you in the best-marked applications (our goal is to select 55 top-ranked applications), well done!

Ties will be solved using the following process, in order (these criteria are explained below in point 4.3 External Evaluation):
- Highest score obtained in IMPACT,
- Highest score obtained in EXCELLENCE,
- Highest score obtained in IMPLEMENTATION,

- Date of submission: earlier submitted proposals go first

As a next step, we will forward your application to an external pool of experts for a more detailed and qualitative evaluation and scoring.

We will inform you about the results of the eligibility check and the pre-scoring phase soon after these steps have been completed, generally in the week that follows the deadline to submit the application.

4.3   Step 3: External Evaluation

You have reached the external evaluation phase: bravo! And if not, be persistent: there will be other open calls for this project and other funding opportunities may suit - even better - your proposal.

For those who have been selected: from now on, each project will be evaluated by **2 external and independent evaluators** specialized in the AI and energy field.

They will consider the following standard criteria:

(1). EXCELLENCE will evaluate:
- Ambition. The applicants have to demonstrate to what extent that proposed Experiment is beyond the State of the Art and describe the innovative approach behind it (e.g.

ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services, analytical tools).
- Innovation: applicants should provide information about the level of innovation in the proposed solution and about the degree of differentiation that this project will bring.
- Soundness of the approach

(2). IMPACT will analyse:
- Market opportunity: The applicants have to demonstrate a clear idea of what they want to do and whether the proposed concept has market potential, e.g. because it solves a problem for a specific target customer.
- Commercial Strategy and Scalability: The applicants have to demonstrate the level of scalability of the proposed solution, meaning that it not only solves a specific problem but is able to be commercialised to solve a structural problem in a specific sector/process/etc.

(3). IMPLEMENTATION will consider:
- Team: The applicants have to demonstrate their technical competencies, their management and leadership qualities, their ability to take a concept from ideas to market, their capacity to carry through their ideas and understand the dynamics of the market they are trying to tap into. The team should be balanced and cross-functional with a strong background and skill set.
- Resources. Demonstrate the quality and effectiveness of the resources assigned in order to get the objectives/deliverables proposed including evidence on how the AI4EU platform offering will be enriched by the proposed developments. It should be described to what extent the expected non-financial support to be provided by I-NERGY, will be critical for the execution of the project.
- Transversal criteria such as 'Environment and low carbon economy contribution', 'Equal Opportunities', 'Gender Balance' and 'Social Impact' will be also considered by evaluators when scoring the proposals.

Each evaluator will rank the application assigning a score from 0 to 5 for each criterion and produce a short **Individual Evaluation Report**.
The final score will be calculated as an average of the individual assessments provided by the Evaluators, after normalising in order to compensate for scoring bias.
Each criterion will be scored out of 5. The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. The overall threshold, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be 10.
If scores on a project show significant divergence between the two evaluators, a third evaluator will be involved to provide an additional independent assessment of this proposal.

Ties will be solved using the following process, in order:
- Highest score obtained in IMPACT,
- Highest score obtained in EXCELLENCE,
- Highest score obtained in IMPLEMENTATION,
- Date of submission: earlier submitted proposals go first

All proposals above the threshold will pass to the next phase.

Do note that the evaluation phase takes time as it implies a more personal, qualitative and thus non-automated approach. But eventually, your patience will be rewarded!

4.4   Step 5: Consensus Meeting

The **'Selection Committee'**, consisting of FUNDINGBOX (responsible for FSTP management), INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATION AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS (Project Coordinator), ENGINEERING (responsible for the technical and innovation management), ASM TERNI SPA (as EPES beneficiary and pilot leader) and PARITY PLATFORM (as SME with significant experience in acceleration programmes) will decide by consensus or ⅔ of majority, and based on the ranking received as result of the External Evaluation, the **'List of up to 10 finalists'**.

Whilst normally the highest ranked proposals at the External Evaluation phase will be proposed for the next stage, there might be reasonable arguments for objecting to a specific third party, for example due to the non-alignment with I-NERGY's goals and scope, the lack of ability to achieve the strongest possible impact, commercial competition, the existence of significant ethical concerns or a potential conflict of interest. These types of issues will be analysed within the Consensus Meeting. In this case the choice may pass to the next-ranked proposal.

The exact number of proposals approved will be decided based on the overall quality of the proposals.

4.5   Step 6: Subgrant Agreement Preparation and Signature

You made it! You are part of the final up to 10 pre-selected projects for the I-NERGY open call. It has been a long journey. Or has it actually just started?

In any case, before you get started with the I-NERGY programme, you need to sign the Subgrant Agreement with the I-NERGY Consortium (for the details, please check our Frequently Asked Questions Document).

Before signing the Subgrant Agreement, you should provide documents regarding your formal status. The I-NERGY Consortium will proceed to the **verification of these documents** in order to make sure you are eligible.

Be extremely vigilant with respect to:

1   **The nature of the documents** we request.
     If the documents you provide us with do not prove your eligibility, the adventure will end here.

2   **The deadlines** that we will give you to hand us these documents.
     If you do not deliver the requested documents on time, without a clear and reasonable justification, we will have to exclude you from the further formal assessment. Another applicant from the Reserve list will then replace you.

Additionally, the compliance of your proposal and development with **GDPR regulations** and the totality of the H2020 Ethical Guidelines including the Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI) will be verified before the Subgrant Agreement signature and during the Tech Transfer Program (TTP1) program.

5   Our Support Programme and Payment Arrangements

Once your eligibility has been confirmed following the formal check and the Subgrant Agreement signature, you would be an official beneficiary of the I-NERGY programme. It is now that the adventure begins and it is now high time to understand how the funding is going to be distributed and the support programme is going to work.

The first Technical Transfer Programme (TTP) will last 6 months and is articulated as a totally customised service, where highly specialised technical mentors are specifically selected to fit your and guide you along the whole program.

The Technical Mentors will support you in defining the Proof of Concept (PoC), as well as help to develop prototypes and MVPs, acting as a kind of 'Advisory Board' member for you complementing the capabilities of your team members.

As a beneficiary, you will receive a fixed lump sum of up to 50.000€. The lump sum is a simplified method of settling expenses in projects financed with Horizon 2020 funds. It means that you are not required to present accounting documents to prove the investment-related costs incurred (e.g. invoices). However, you are obliged to demonstrate that the implementation of the project is in line with the milestones set for it.

The milestones (deliverables, KPIs and ethical recommendations) will be defined and calendarized in the 'Individual Mentoring Plan' (IMP) elaborated by you with support of your mentor at the beginning of the programme.

Before releasing the respective tranches of the payment, submitted deliverables must be evaluated and approved by the Mentoring Committee and validated by the Selection Committee during dedicated Interim Reviews after each of the 2 Technology Transfer Programme stages.

The corresponding evaluation criteria is as follows:
- Deliverables quality (based on the Deliverables established in the IMP).
- Technical performance indicators (based on the KPIs established in the IMP).
- Deadline Compliance.

Each criterion will be scored from 0 to 10 and the weight of each one of these criteria, in the final score, will be as follow:
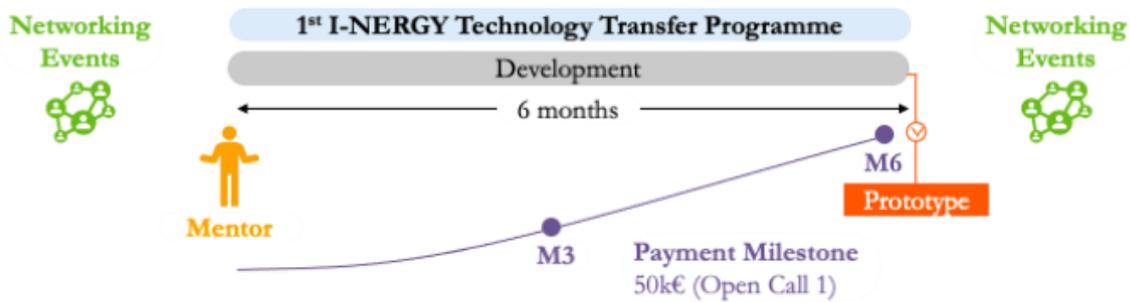- Deliverable quality (45%).
- Technical performance indicators (45%).
- Deadline Compliance (10%).

According with this final score:
- Beneficiaries over threshold (7 points) will successfully receive the next payment and continue in the program.
- Beneficiaries under threshold will be reviewed by the 'Selection Committee' who will take the final decision taking into account all possible objective reasons for underperformance (i.e. external factors which might have influenced the beneficiaries' performance). Those not passing this examination will not receive the next payment and will be invited to leave the Program.

The final beneficiaries will receive the funding as follows:

- Up to €10,000 - Deliverable 1 (IMP validation, identification of Proof of Concept [PoC]).
- Up to €40,000 - Deliverable 2 ('Prototype').

1st I-NERGY Technology Transfer Programme (TTP)

Retention to Payments after the end of the project.

A delayed payment mechanism will be applied to all payments. 15% of each tranche will be paid to the beneficiaries once the I-NERGY project is completed and all the milestones are achieved by the beneficiary. The final payment will be released 6 months after the end of the project. The expected end of the I-NERGY project is 31 December 2023.

6   Intellectual property rights

6.1   Originality of sub-granted projects

The applicants base their proposals on original or open-source solutions and going forward any foreseen developments are free from third party rights, or they are clearly stated. The I-NERGY consortium is not obliged to verify the authenticity of the ownership of the future products and services and any issues arising from third party claims regarding ownership - it is the responsibility of the sub-granted parties. The IPR for your project cannot be the subject of any dispute.

6.2   Ownership of the sub-granted project results

The ownership of all IPR created by the Beneficiaries, via the I-NERGY funding, will remain with the Beneficiaries. Results are owned by the Party that generates them. An agreement will introduce provisions concerning joint ownership of the results of the sub-granted projects (if this will be the case). It will be assessed and negotiated case by case. The beneficiaries commit to exploit the results via the AI4EU marketplace (mandatory publication on AI4EU Catalogue). Optional publication on AIEU Experiments. Please find more information in the development section on AI4EU Platform here.

Any communication or publication by the funded applicants shall clearly indicate that: (a) the project has received funding from the European Union and the I-NERGY project displaying the EU logo, H2020 logo and the I-NERGY logo on all printed and digital material, including websites and press releases; (b) that the material published reflect only the author's views and the EC and I-NERGY consortium is not liable for any use of the information contained therein
The projects that will be selected for funding (including the publishable summary of the proposal and the pitching videos that will be created at the end of the I-NERGY Technical Transfer Program (TTP1) and any content thereof) grant to I-NERGY the right to use for dissemination and communication purposes. Moreover, the EC, the I-NERGY consortium as well as the AI4EU consortium shall be authorized to publish, in whatever form and on or by whatever medium, information related to the funded sub-projects for dissemination and communication purposes.

6.3   Protection of the sub-granted project results

The beneficiaries will be responsible for taking the appropriate steps for securing IPR created during the bottom-up projects. The beneficiaries shall protect their published sub-granted project results by defining an open (preferably) or restricted licence.

Please find more information in the development section on AI4EU Platform here.

7   Contact us

How can we help you?
If you still have any doubts regarding our Open Call process, feel free to get in touch with us:
- Ask your question in the Helpdesk space of I-NERGY Community at https://spaces.fundingbox.com/spaces/i-nergy-open-call-helpdesk
- Send us an email to the following address: i-nergy.help@fundingbox.com

If you ever face any technical issues or problems, make sure you include the following information in your message:
- Your username, telephone number and your email address.
- The details of the specific problem (error messages that appeared, bug descriptions such as a dropdown list that isn't working, etc.).
- Screenshots of the problem.

Complaints
First of all, be aware that we won't be reviewing your complaint **if**:
- ...It is anonymous.
- ...The information is incomplete.
- ...It is not related to the results of the evaluation of the eligibility check and pre-scoring. Indeed, most of the evaluation process is run by **independent experts** in the field. The project consortium does not interfere with their assessment.

If, after receiving the results of any of the selection phases you consider that a mistake has been made, resulting in the rejection of your application, you have the right to send us a complaint. You can email us in English to i-nergy.help@fundingbox.com including the following information:
- Your contact details (including email address).
- The subject of the complaint.
- Information and evidence regarding the alleged mistake.

Important note regarding the timeline:
You have **3 calendar days** to submit your complaint starting from the day after the communication was sent. On our side, we will review them within no more than **7 calendar days** from its reception. If we need more time to assess your complaint, we will inform you by email about the extension.

8   Last but not least – final provisions

Any matters not covered by this Guide will be governed by Polish law and rules related to the Horizon 2020 programme and European Union grants regulations.
We do our best to keep all the applicant data confidential. However, to avoid any doubts, you are entirely responsible to indicate what information is confidential.
Your IPR will remain your property.

For the selected beneficiaries, the agreement will include the set of obligations towards the European Commission (for example: promoting the project and giving visibility to the EU funding, maintaining confidentiality, understanding potential controls by the EC/ECA and OLAF).

The I-NERGY Consortium might cancel the call at any time, change its provisions or extend it. In such a case we will inform all applicants about such change. Signature of the agreement is an initial condition to establish any obligations among applicants and any Consortium partners (with respect to the obligation of confidentiality of the application).

You didn't find what you were looking for? You may want to check our Frequently Asked Questions Section.

9   Extra hints before submitting your proposal

A proposal takes time and effort and we know it. Here a few crucial points you should read before hitting the "Submit" button in order to maximize your chances of success:

- Is your project in line with what I-NERGY is looking for? Not 100% sure? You can consult section 1 and 2.

- Did you present your project in a way that will convince evaluators? Go back to section 4 if you have any doubt.

- Is your project fulfilling all the eligibility requirements described in the Guide for Applicants? Check again section 3.

- Are you able to cope with our signature agreement process and payment arrangements for the selected proposals? You may want to go over section 5.

- Did you check our Sub-grant Agreement Template? Check it here.

- Do you need extra help? Get in touch!

And as a bonus: You can read our R.E.C.I.P.E. for an outstanding European Funding Opportunity application for additional advice. Good luck!

Annex 1 – Information Clause for personal data

**Information clause for personal data processing
in the 1st Open Call under I-NERGY Project**

CONTROLLER`S IDENTITY AND CONTACT DETAILS

The data controller is FundingBox Accelerator sp. z o.o. (Al. Jerozolimskie 136, 02-305 Warsaw, Poland). In all matters regarding personal data, you can contact us via: privacy@fundingbox.com.

PURPOSES, LEGAL BASIS AND PROCESSING PERIOD		
The purpose and legitimate interest of processing	Legal basis for processing	Period
1) To run an Open Call and collect data necessary to evaluate applications submitted in the Open Call	Legitimate interest of FundingBox (based on Article 6, paragraph 1 (f) of GDPR) which is fulfilling the obligations and our other interests related to these purposes	6 years from the end of the year in which the Project ended
2) To realize the Project goals described in the Grant Agreement (e.g. communication, reporting, collaborating with other project partners)		
3) To consider potential complaints		
4) To gather feedback from applicants when the Open Call is over to improve processes		

DATA RECEIVERS

Data controller will transfer personal data only to trusted recipients such as entities belonging to the FundingBox's capital group, IT service providers, accountants, law firms, postal and courier companies (who process personal data on the controller's behalf).

Due to the fact that we use the services of Google LLC, your data may be transferred to the USA. We have concluded an agreement with Google LLC - the so-called Standard Contractual Clauses. This means that in accordance with the decision of the European Commission No. 2010/87/EU of February 5, 2010, your personal data may be processed by this company in the USA. More information about the decision at:
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/PL/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32010D0087

To realize the Project data can be transferred also to Project Partners (complete list of the project partners is available at the email address: privacy@fundingbox.com) and European Commision.

RIGHTS OF DATA SUBJECT

Due to the fact that we process your personal data, you have the right to:
1) request access to your personal data,
2) demand the rectification of your personal data,
3) request to remove or limit the processing of your personal data,
4) complain with the supervisory authority (The President of the Personal Data Protection Office, Warsaw, Poland, https://uodo.gov.pl/en).

You also have a right to object to processing of your personal data for all purposes indicated above (according to the Article 21 of GDPR).

<div style="background-color:black; color:white; text-align:center; padding:8px;">INFORMATION ABOUT VOLUNTARY OR OBLIGATORY DATA PROVISION</div>

Providing data is voluntary, although it is necessary to participate in the Open Call. Without providing your data, it is not possible to contact you and evaluate the application.