

First Call for Small-Scale Project under the Innovation Fund

Questionnaire for stakeholders' feedback

OBJECTIVES:

The present questionnaire aims to collect feedback from the IFEG members to feed the development of the first call for small-scale projects under the Innovation Fund. The objective is to understand the specific needs of small scale projects in the field innovative clean tech so as:

- to target decarbonisation opportunities that are not well covered by existing financing mechanisms; and
- to develop an adequate process and methodology for project selection.

Please provide your views and suggestions in the template below and return the questionnaire to CLIMA-IF-EXPERTGROUP@ec.europa.eu by the end of June 2020.

KEY FACTS ABOUT SUPPORT TO SMALL-SCALE PROJECTS UNDER THE INNOVATION FUND:

The feedback of stakeholders should consider the general framework for supporting small scale projects under the Innovation Fund, in accordance with the legal basis of the Fund¹. In particular, a 'small-scale project' means a project with a total capital expenditure not exceeding EUR 7 500 000.

In addition, small-scale projects will benefit from a simplified selection procedure. This procedure will have only one stage. The 5 award criteria (GHG emission avoidance potential, degree of innovation, project maturity, scalability and cost efficiency) will, as for large-scale projects, be the basis for selecting small-scale projects. However, the methodology for evaluating these criteria may be subject to simplification. In addition, the relevant costs of small scale projects are defined as the total capital expenditure of the project and therefore the Innovation Fund grant will amount to a maximum of 60% of the total capital expenditure.

After grant award, GHG emission avoidance will have to reported and monitored.

Organisation contributing the response

No.	Question	Feedback
Part A – FINANCING NEEDS		
1	What type of sectors are best to target for the first small-scale call? - All eligible sectors under the Innovation Fund (energy intensive industry, renewable energy, energy storage, CCS and CCU), or some of	

¹ Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a system for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Union and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC, OJ L 275, 25.10.2003, p. 32; and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/856 of 26 February 2019 supplementing Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the operation of the Innovation Fund, OJ L 140, 28.5.2019, p. 6

	<p>these sector only?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific themes within sectors (such as renewable heating/cooling, industrial symbiosis, etc.)? 	
2	<p>What type of projects are best to target?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pilot projects? - Technology demonstrator projects (not destined for commercial deployment)? - Demonstration projects destined for commercial deployment? - Green procurement, where pioneer customers use IF support to install innovative clean tech for the first time (e.g. renewable cooling data centers, implementation of fossil fuel cells, energy storage, etc.)? 	
3	<p>Please give a short description of possible projects that could apply for funding under the IF small-scale call.</p>	
<p>Part B – PROCESS <i>Reminder: the application will be one stage only, and relevant costs of small-scale project are defined as the total capital expenditure of that project.</i></p>		
4	<p>Do you see scope for simplifying the methodology for calculating and monitoring GHG emissions avoidance? How?</p>	
5	<p>Do you see scope for simplifying the methodology for assessing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Degree of innovation? - Project maturity? - Scalability? <p>How?</p>	
6	<p>What are the most important types of Project Development Assistance (PDA) needed by small-scale projects?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical inputs - Finance, business, and market strategies - Legal - Other 	
7	<p>Do you have any other suggestions in relation to a small-scale call?</p>	