

## Current Funding and Financing Opportunities for Intelligent Energies



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# 1. EU News

## The European Green Deal

On its homepage the EU Commission provides an overview of current developments in its Green Deal initiative. The following link will provide interested parties with detailed information on the action plan for the initiative, relevant legal requirements, EU communications and measures, a timetable for implementing the climate targets, and many other additional information:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en)

## EU Calls

### EIT Raw Materials Booster (RM Booster)

The European Institute of Innovation & Technology supports Start-ups or SMEs in the development of innovative solutions. The “RM Booster programme” provides support to start-ups and SMEs for the development of innovative products and services that can produce an impact in the raw materials sector or benefit the partners of the EIT RawMaterials network. The beneficiaries can receive grants up to 60000 euros. Besides funding and customized services, the selected start-ups and SMEs will also get access to the EIT Raw Materials partner network, participating in the networking events, as well as gain visibility through EIT Raw Materials network channels.

The Start-up and SME Booster Call 2021 is open all year long. The next application deadlines coming up are: 28 May and 3 September 2021.

Applications can be submitted online:

<https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/BoosterCall2021>

For more information on the program, please visit the EIT homepage:

<https://eitrawmaterials.eu/booster-call/>

# 2. Selected National Funding Opportunities

Below selected current funding opportunities for renewable energies, energy efficiency, environment and circular economy are presented. This overview is limited to those countries represented by members of the sector group Intelligent Energy. In case interesting funding options exist in other countries these might be added. The countries are listed in alphabetical order.

## Germany

### Program of the KfW development bank

The *Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)* is the national promotional bank of the federal republic of Germany. At the moment the KfW offers a funding program for climate-friendly investments and projects developed and performed by SMEs. It is called “*Klimaschutzoffensive für den Mittelstand*” (climate protection offensive for small and medium-sized businesses).

Eligible measures are any that can be related to climate protection. Specifically, these include:

- renewable energy plants

- low-emission vehicles and sustainable mobility
- efficient building technology
- production methods that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in certain energy-intensive processes
- the establishment of a water, wastewater and waste management system.

Funding is provided in the form of low-interest loans.

A special feature of this program is that it offers in addition to low-interest loans a climate grant of up to 6 percent of the loan amount. This is awarded in combination with the loan on a first-come, first-serve basis and can only be granted for loans with a duration between five and 20 years. The maximum loan amount is 25 million euros per project, whereby up to 100 percent of the investment costs can be financed.

SMEs, municipal companies and freelancers are entitled to apply. Also foreign SMEs investing in Germany are eligible. Companies can apply through their onlending bank for the loan.

Further information are given on the KfW-homepage (in German language):

[https://www.kfw.de/inlandsfoerderung/Unternehmen/Energie-Umwelt/F%C3%B6rderprodukte/Klimaschutzoffensive-f%C3%BCr-den-Mittelstand-\(293\)/](https://www.kfw.de/inlandsfoerderung/Unternehmen/Energie-Umwelt/F%C3%B6rderprodukte/Klimaschutzoffensive-f%C3%BCr-den-Mittelstand-(293)/)

## **Program of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research**

The funding program “KMU innovativ” supports small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) meeting the EU's definition of an SME. German subsidiaries of foreign companies are also eligible for funding.

The program aims to strengthen the innovation potential of SMEs in the area of cutting-edge research. Cross-thematic research and development projects in the fields of data technology, information technologies and Industry 4.0, as well as communication systems and IT security, which are geared towards specific applications or industries, are funded. Particularly relevant technology fields include: autonomous driving, ICT, materials research, quantum technologies and resource efficiency & climate protection.

SMEs can be funded when working in individual projects or in collaborative projects with research institutions. The maximum project volume depends on the performance potential of the SMEs involved. An appropriate own contribution by the companies is required - in principle at least 50 percent of the eligible costs incurred. (Funding approved to date: approx. 1.2 billion euros for 1,700 individual and collaborative projects). Before submitting the application for the grant a project outline has to be filed by the following deadline: 15 October 2021. If the evaluation is positive, a funding application can be submitted. A decision on the application will be made within a further two months.

Further information:

<https://www.bmbf.de/de/kmu-innovativ-561.html>

## **Program of the Federal State of Berlin**

“EnergiespeicherPLUS” is a promotional program for solar power storage in Berlin. German subsidiaries of foreign companies are also eligible for funding as long as they have a registered office in Berlin.

The following projects are supported:

- The installation of an electricity storage system is. The storage system must be combined with a newly installed PV system. The subsidy is granted up to the ratio of the rated power of the newly installed PV system to the usable storage capacity of at least 1.2 kWp per 1 kWh. The storage capacity exceeding the ratio is not subsidised.
- Battery storage, saltwater batteries, redox flow systems and hydrogen storage systems with electrolyser and fuel cell
- Private individuals, companies, other legal entities such as associations and foundations, as well as the Berlin boroughs are eligible to apply. The funding must be applied for by the owner of the storage unit and the PV system. Example: For a photovoltaic system with an output of 6 kWp, a storage unit with an output of 5 kWh can be subsidised with 1,500 euros.

The subsidy amounts to 300 euros per kilowatt hour of usable capacity of the electricity storage system. A maximum of 15,000 euros is granted per electricity storage system. If the storage system or the energy management system has a forecast-based operating strategy, a bonus of 300 euros is added.

Further information:

<https://www.berlin.de/sen/energie/energie/erneuerbare-energien/foerderprogramm-stromspeicher/#wer>

## Spain

### Renewable Energies Investment Fund

(Líneas de ayudas a la inversión en renovables)

The Spanish Institute for Energy Diversification and Savings (IDAE) in collaboration with the Ministry of Green Transition and Demographic Challenge has dedicated 316 million euros intended at fostering facilities for the production of renewable energy (thermal and electrical) within Spanish borders on the Iberian Peninsula. This Investment Fund is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The type of financial aid is a competitive outright grant and which includes the below mentioned two modalities:

- Electrical energy generation from renewable sources such as Eolic, photovoltaic solar energy or renewable gases (biogas, bio methane, green hydrogen, and synthetic natural gas), highlighting innovation and the development of renewable power linked to hydrogen, hydrogen generation or self-consumption applications.
- Thermal energy production from renewable sources such as geothermal, thermal solar energy and aerothermal energy linked to photovoltaic or biomass facilities, mainly focused on the development of innovative applications for the industry and the services sector in order to achieve a significant reduction in their emissions and a higher level of self-consumption.

Further information:

<https://www.idae.es/ayudas-y-financiacion/lineas-de-ayudas-la-inversion-en-renovables-fondos-feder>

## **PLAN MOVES II for Sustainable Mobility**

PLAN MOVES II for Sustainable Mobility (Incentivos a la Movilidad Eficiente y Sostenible). This Plan is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). Budget: 100 million euros.

Eligible actions:

- Action 1. Acquisition of alternative energy vehicles.
- Action 2. Instalment of charging stations for electric vehicles.
- Action 3. Instalment of loan systems for electric bikes
- Action 4. Implementation of new transport plans for companies and adaptive measures for COVID-19 in municipalities

Further information:

<https://www.idae.es/en/node/14517>

If you would like to discuss any of the funding instruments or require assistance to identify relevant expertise, please contact a member of the funding team: [justus.schuenemann@nrwbank.de](mailto:justus.schuenemann@nrwbank.de) or

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