



CETPartnership Joint Call 2025 Information Document

SEAI National Energy Research Development and
Demonstration Programme

Timeline for Submission of Applications

Key Dates	
Call open date – pre-proposals	11 th June 2025
Deadline for pre-proposal submission	14.00 (CEST) Thursday 9 th October 2025
Opening for full proposal submission	9 th January 2026
Deadline for full proposal submission	12 th March 2026
National application to SEAI	12:00 noon Thursday 19 th March 2026

It is the responsibility of each applicant to CETPartnership Joint Call 2025 to ensure that they have read and fully understand all Documentation associated with this Call before making a submission, including: this Document (pdf); [Privacy Notice](#); [SEAI RD&D Budget Policy \(pdf\)](#);

Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

SEAI is Ireland’s national energy authority investing in, and delivering, appropriate, effective and sustainable solutions to help Ireland’s transition to a clean energy future. We work with the public, businesses, communities and the Government to achieve this, through expertise, funding, educational programmes, policy advice, research and the development of new technologies.

SEAI is funded by the Government of Ireland through the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

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1.About CETPartnership

CETPartnership is a European Partnership co-funded by the European Commission under Horizon Europe, enabling regional and national funders and organisations to pool resources, leverage knowledge and experience and strategically align priorities to drive a unified response to shared challenges and to meet the ambitious objectives required to transform the energy system across all its dimensions.

The three main goals of the CETPartnership are:

- Joint programming and funding;
- Renewable energy technology development, demonstration and integration (for fuels, carbon capture and storage, power, heating, and cooling) and system change (e.g. energy infrastructures);
- Innovation ecosystem fostering capacity building, faster market diffusion, upscaling, replication and enabling of the clean energy transition.

A joint Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda defines specific thematic challenges – also referred to as ‘Transition Initiatives’ (TRIs) – to be addressed under CETPartnership, primarily through the implementation of joint transnational calls (JTCs) for research and innovation projects.

The Joint Call 2025 is a collaboration with funding organisations and program owners across Europe and beyond. More information on the CET Partnership and the Joint Call 2025, including the call text and general eligibility requirements, are available on <https://cetpartnership.eu/>.

2.Who Can Avail of the Funding

SEAI National Energy RD&D Funding is open to public and private sector organisations based in the Republic of Ireland (including Irish subsidiaries of overseas companies) who wish to carry out projects in Ireland. Applications will be accepted from companies, 3rd level educational bodies, public sector bodies and semi-state bodies who are based in the Republic of Ireland. Proposals from individuals applying in their own right will not be accepted.

3.What funding is available?

SEAI will commit €500,000 to Joint Call 2025 with approximately 30% of co-funding available from the European Commission. Projects can request costs of up to €250,000 to be shared between one or more partners.

4. Definition of Project Roles

SEAI Lead Applicant: The SEAI Lead Applicant is a budget holder of SEAI funding and will hold responsibility and accountability for management of the proposed project with SEAI. They will be responsible for the technical direction, progress monitoring, budgeting, reporting, dissemination and other management duties associated with the proposed SEAI-funded research, in-line with SEAI policies. The SEAI Lead Applicant is responsible for ensuring that all project partners and stakeholders are kept fully informed on all matters relating to the project. The SEAI Lead Applicant will act as the primary contact point for SEAI. Each national application to SEAI may list only one Lead Applicant. If there is more than one organisation applying for SEAI funding in the same consortium, one of those partners must be nominated as the SEAI Lead Applicant. The SEAI Lead Applicant must hold a contract covering at least the duration of the proposed project or agreement from their employer that their employment will be extended to cover at least the period of the proposed project.

Please note, for 3rd level Educational Bodies, the named SEAI Lead Applicant must be a core funded member of academic staff or a member of academic staff with a fixed-term contract and is therefore ineligible to receive salary funding through the SEAI National Energy RD&D Funding Programme. Postdoctoral Researchers or Research Fellows may not be listed as the Lead Applicant.

SEAI Partner Applicant(s): SEAI Partner Applicants may form part of the proposed SEAI-funded project team, along with the SEAI Lead Applicant and are responsible for supporting the SEAI Lead Applicant to achieve the goals of the proposed project. The role of the SEAI Partner Applicant(s) should be well-defined within the application to SEAI.

Collaborators: Collaborators are organisations who are committed to providing a valuable intellectual, technical or financial contribution to the proposed project. Collaborators are not funded by SEAI in a proposed project.

5. Funding Rate

European Union (EU) state aid rules stipulate what types of research activities are eligible for support, which costs relating to these activities may be covered in part or in full (ranging from 25% up to 100%), and the maximum aid intensity that may be granted for the various activities. Applicants should refer to the [SEAI RD&D Budget Policy](#) for additional information in relation to which category their project falls under.

The Categories below represent the maximum level of support that are available. Additional information is provided in the SEAI RD&D Budget Policy.

RD&D activities subject to EU State Aid Regulations					
Research Category	Base Level	Type of Company		Effective Collaboration	Maximum Support
		Small Enterprise	Medium Enterprise		
Industrial Research	50% of approved itemised eligible costs	+20%	+10%	+15%	80%
Experimental Development	25% of approved itemised eligible costs	+20%	+10%	+15%	60%
RD&D activities not subject to State Aid Regulations					
Non-economic Public Good Research					100%

6. What Projects are Eligible

Eligible project proposals include projects that:

- meet CETPartnership eligibility criteria
- address the overarching SEAI RDD programme objectives (see Section 8)
- are submitted by eligible organisations (see Section 2)
- submit full complete applications
- are submitted in advance of the SEAI deadline of **12 noon (Irish Standard Time) Thursday 19th March 2026**.

SEAI will fund highly evaluated eligible projects in any of the CETPartnership Call Modules in Joint Call 2025.

Lead Irish applicants must outline in their national application to SEAI how the SEAI-funded project work is aligned with SEAI remit and the objectives of the SEAI National Research, Development and Demonstration Funding Programme.

7. Submitting your application

Applications to the 2025 CETPartnership Joint Call should be made through CETPartnership online application platform. More information about the national application to SEAI will be shared with projects who are invited to submit a full proposal to CETPartnership in Q1 2026.

If applying for SEAI funding, please give a brief notification of your intent to submit a pre-proposal through email to energyresearch@seai.ie before the submission deadline.

Within the notification, please include the following information:

- SEAI Lead Applicant
- Total Budget request to SEAI
- List of project partners
- Call Module

*Please note it is also the responsibility of the applicant to notify the research office of their Irish Host Institution of their intention to submit a pre-proposal to the CETPartnership Joint Call 2025.

The completed pre-proposal must be submitted directly on the CETPartnership Submission Platform.

Applicants may be contacted directly by SEAI to confirm eligibility following proposal submission or at any time subsequently should queries arise in relation to the application.

8. SEAI Research Development and Demonstration Programme - Description and Objectives

SEAI will be central to bringing about a low carbon economy through measures and activities focused on the transition to a smarter and more sustainable energy future. To achieve this mission, SEAI will continue to build an environment for positive change through our analysis, modelling, and support for policymaking. SEAI will catalyse direct action through our design and delivery of grant and incentive programmes and through our capacity-building processes with citizens, communities, and private and public sector organisations.

The overarching objectives of the SEAI National Energy Research Development and Demonstration (RD&D) Funding Programme are as follows:

- Accelerate the development and deployment in the Irish marketplace of competitive energy-related products, processes and systems;
- Support solutions that enable technical and other barriers to energy market uptake to be overcome;
- Grow Ireland's national capacity to access, develop and apply international class energy RD&D;
- Provide guidance and support to policy makers and public bodies through results, outcomes and learning from supported projects.

SEAI's National Energy RD&D Funding Programme supports innovative and targeted actions which assist in delivery of the [Climate Action Plan](#), the [Programme for Government](#), the [2030 Climate and Energy Framework](#), [Project 2040 Ireland](#), [Impact 2030: Ireland's Research and Innovation Strategy](#), [Project Ireland 2040](#), the [2015 Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications Energy White Paper](#), [Ireland's National Energy & Climate Plan](#) (NECP), and [the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill](#) (2021) such as it pertains to SEAI's remit.

Accelerating transformative research to deliver Ireland's clean energy and climate ambitions will require enhanced collaboration across a wide range of stakeholders and actors. Diverse approaches and engaged research methods will be required. The SEAI National Energy RD&D Funding Programme welcomes research proposals from all research disciplines, as well as collaborative projects involving multiple organisations, and multidisciplinary, transdisciplinary or interdisciplinary approaches, subject to alignment with the overall programme objectives.



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

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