



Electric Mobility Europe Call 2016

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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2 November 2016

Light proposal submission deadline:

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1. What is Electric Mobility Europe (EMEurope) and what is an ERA-NET Cofund?

EMEurope is a H2020 Coordination project under the ERA-NET Cofund instrument scheme designed to take transnational e-mobility research and policy exchange towards deployable solutions.

ERA-NET Cofund under Horizon 2020 is designed to support public-public partnerships, including joint programming initiatives between Member States, in their preparation, establishment of networking structures, design, implementation and coordination of joint activities as well as Union topping-up of a trans-national call for proposals. It is based on the merger of the former FP7 instruments ERA-NET and ERA-NET Plus actions and is implemented by using 'programme co-fund actions'. It allows for programme collaboration in any part of the entire research-innovation cycle. The main and compulsory activity of the ERA-NET Cofund under Horizon 2020 is the implementation of a co-funded joint call for proposals that leads to the funding of trans-national research and innovation projects.

2. What is the EMEurope Call 2016?

In collaboration with the European Commission (EC) and the European Green Vehicles Initiative Association (EGVIA), 14 European countries and regions set up the co-funded call for proposals 'EMEurope Call 2016' to further promote and advance electric mobility in Europe. The EMEurope Call 2016 will fund projects with focus on the application and implementation of integrated e-mobility solutions in urban and suburban areas.

3. How is the EMEurope Call 2016 funded?

European countries and regions and the EC are pooling together in EMEurope about **23,000,000 EUR** for coordinated funding of Research & Innovation (R&I) projects. The EMEurope Call 2016 follows a two-step submission and evaluation procedure, starting with the submission of light proposals. In a second step a full proposal submission will follow for those proposals selected from the light proposal evaluation.

Applicants from consortia of selected full proposals will follow a virtual common pot funding mechanism. This means that they will be funded by their respective national or regional funding organisation. The funding organisations of the participating countries and regions are listed in the Annex I of the Guide for Applicants (GfA).

The total available funding for applicants from a country or region is provided in table 2 on page 9 of the GfA and its Annex I: National/regional call specifications and contacts. The total available funding budget per country or region may be increased on the bases of evolving national/regional opportunities in some cases.

4. When will the EMEurope Call 2016 be launched? What are the deadlines?

The EMEurope Call 2016 has been launched on 2 November 2016. This Call follows a two-step submission and evaluation procedure. The Call closure for 'light' proposals in the 1st step submission phase is on 6 February 2017, 17:00 CET. The deadline for submission of full proposals (upon invitation only) is expected for May/June 2017.

5. Who can apply for funding from the EMEurope Call 2016?

Only organisations based in the EMEurope Call 2016 funding countries and regions can apply for funding from the EMEurope Call 2016. The funding countries and regions are (in alphabetical order): Austria, Belarus, Catalonia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Israel, the Netherlands, Piedmont, Poland, Spain, Sweden and Turkey.

Project consortia may consist of partners from universities, research institutes, stakeholder associations, city councils, SMEs, industry and operators. Consortia have to include stakeholders and/or implementation partners and may consist of partners active across several positions within the research and development system (i.e. innovation, applied research, strategic research) and across disciplines.

6. Can applicants from non-funding countries and regions participate?

Applicants from non-funding countries and regions can participate but they cannot apply for funding from the EMEurope Call 2016. Applicants from non-funding countries and regions have the following options. They:

- participate at their own expense;
- apply for/use funding from other existing national/regional (funding) programmes from their country or region;
- act as a subcontractor of one of the consortium partners (only possible in exceptional cases and circumstances).

Note that applicants from non-funding countries or regions do not count for the country threshold requirement.

7. How can consortia apply for funding? How long does it take? How much funding can they get?

Proposals must be prepared and submitted electronically using the Call Management Tool (CMT), which is available on the EMEurope website <http://www.electricmobilityeurope.eu>. Only those proposals formally submitted in the CMT system before the strict Call deadline will be considered for evaluation. This applies to both the light proposals in the 1st step and the full proposals in the 2nd step. Only consortia of favourably evaluated light proposals in the 1st step will be invited to submit full proposals in the 2nd step.

Time to grant (administrative period between submission of light proposals and signature of the grant agreement) is around 11 months. The grants will be concluded between funding organisations and their respective national/regional applicants. This negotiation and granting process will be monitored centrally.

There is no particular maximum funding for proposals. Consortia are however bound to transnational criteria for maximum funding percentages for consortium partners and national and regional criteria that may define maxima for requested funding by applicants (refer to Annex I of the Guide for Applicants and the underlying national and regional funding programmes).

8. How many partners can be in a consortium?

A consortium shall be composed of at least three independent eligible legal entities from at least three different Call participating countries. There is no limit to the maximum number of partners.

Consortia need to be balanced between countries/regions in terms of number of partners, geographical coverage and distribution of budget. The added value resulting from transnational cooperation has to be properly elaborated in the proposal.

9. Where can I get more information about the EMEurope Call 2016 requirements?

A Guide for Applicants (GfA) can be downloaded from the EMEurope website <http://www.electricmobilityeurope.eu>. This document stipulates in detail the requirements for participation in the EMEurope Call 2016.

As part of the EMEurope Call 2016, a main Information and Brokerage Event was held on 25 November 2016 in Brussels at the Diamant Conference Center. Presentations of the Information part of the event are available through the following web link: <https://www.electricmobilityeurope.eu/veranstaltung/event-1>.

To support potential applicants, there is also a Call Secretariat that you can contact via callsecretariat@electricmobilityeurope.eu and the national and regional contact points in your country or region that can be found in Annex I of the GfA.

Moreover user manuals for the CMT (versions 'proposal coordinator' and 'partners') are available for download on <http://cmt-electricmobilityeurope.eu/login.php>.

Finally applicants can make use of the ETNA 2020 brokerage tool: <http://www.transport-ncps.net/partner-search>.

10. What is the difference in the kind/type of, and the amount of requested information in step 1 of the light proposal as compared to step 2 of the full proposals?

In step 2 of the full proposal phase the content of selected light proposals from step 1 will have to be elaborated more in depth. Moreover additional components will have to be filled in in the CMT during step 2 submission. For instance, a detailed description of the work packages, the specific role and effort of consortium members, as well as due dates of deliverables will be requested in the full proposal. For the preparation and submission of full proposals updated CMT manuals will be provided.

11. What makes a proposal stands out?

EMEurope Call 2016 proposals should significantly contribute to the EMEurope objectives as described in the Guide for Applicants (GfA):

- Accelerate the time to market for solutions for integrating electric mobility in Europe's (sub-)urban mobility systems;
- Establish and activate a network of policy decision makers and stakeholders for exchanging know-how and experiences on electric mobility solutions for European urban areas;
- Link policy, science and industry towards a joint support of electric mobility in European urban areas;
- Facilitate industry, service sector, politics, authorities and users, providing suitable and feasible solutions for electric mobility in European urban areas;
- Contribute to the European White Paper objective to promote zero emission mobility in European cities:
(http://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/strategies/2011_white_paper_en).

All requirements for a proposal are set out in the EMEurope Call 2016 GfA. Good proposals will be characterised by high clarity regarding the objectives of the proposed project, high relevance to the call, a well-structured work plan and clear indications on expected impact. The high quality of a good proposal should immediately stand out from its summary.

12. Is there a specific minimum or maximum budget allocated for the different key areas?

There is no specific funding budget allocation to the five key areas or to individual research questions of a key area. Thus, depending on the kind and number of submitted proposals and the result of the evaluations in step 1 (light proposals), respectively in step 2 (full proposals), it may happen that not all key areas are covered in the end. Moreover, since proposals may address several key areas, a specific budget allocation would not be useful.

13. Is it possible to include Third Parties in the sense of FP7/H2020 special clause 10 (different from subcontracting)?

No, in the EMEurope Call 2016 it is not possible to include Third Parties that are linked to a partner in the consortium in the sense of FP7/H2020 special clause 10: (http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/fp7/100308/rea-special-clauses_en.pdf).

14. What about the balance of a consortium: Is it okay e.g. to have a consortium composed of five partners from one country and single partners from two other countries?

In principle yes, as three countries are involved. However, all other formal requirements outlined in the Guide for Applicants have to be considered, too (e.g. applicants from one country may in sum not request more than 70% of the eligible costs in the project).

15. How transparent will the evaluations and their outcomes be?

The evaluation process of the EMEurope Call 2016 is regulated according to the strict rules for ERA-NET Cofund initiatives. In step 1 the light proposals will be assessed by experts delegated by the national and regional funding providers. Based on their assessment results the funding providers will come to a consensus on how many and which proposals are going to be selected for invitation to submit full proposals. Due to the expected large number of submitted light proposals it will not be possible for the Call Secretariat to provide details on the reasons why a light proposal has not been selected.

In step 2 the full proposals will be assessed by independent international experts. The assessment procedure for this peer review is strictly prescribed by the ERA-NET Cofund requirements. The peer review procedure will be closely monitored and reported by an independent observer and an EC representative. Unsuccessful consortia will be informed of the reasons why their full proposal has been rejected.

16. Can a proposal address more than one key area?

Yes, a proposal can address more than one key area. The addressed key areas should be clearly indicated and described in the proposal. The CMT will still request the proposal Coordinator to stipulate one main key area.

17. Does the selection process make a distinction between large or small projects?

There is no actual preference for either larger or smaller projects. The focus is on the quality of the proposals and the expected impact of the projects. There is no absolute limit to the number of partners in a proposal. However, it is important to build a consortium that is – in terms of size and selection of partners – both appropriate and necessary for achieving the objectives of the project proposed.

18. Can one organisation be involved in several proposals?

Yes, an organisation can be involved in more than one proposal.

19. Can the composition of the consortium be changed in the full proposal as compared to the light proposal? What about the funding?

The requested funding in the full proposal is not allowed to exceed the amount given in the light proposal financial breakdown unless the changes are based on conditions or recommendations from the light proposal evaluation outcomes.

The same applies to the composition of the consortium. The consortium set-up shall not be changed, except when a change has been stipulated as a condition or recommendation for the submission of a full proposal.

20. How does one know which key areas and research topics are most important and should therefore be addressed?

There is no particular order in the key areas addressed by the EMEurope Call 2016. All key areas are equally important. The Guide for Applicants (GfA) describes guiding objectives for each key area and research topics (see GfA Chapter 3).

21. Is the call limited to electric mobility or can fuel cell applications also be considered?

In the Call text and its requirements and specifications there is no limitation to Battery Electric Vehicles or (Plug-in) Hybrid Electric Vehicles. Also Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles are in scope. However, one should bear in mind that a project in its maximum duration of 30 months should result in a demonstration of the integrated e-mobility solution. This seems harder to achieve for FCEV than for BEV or PHEV as the technology of the latter is more proven. Furthermore, national specifications might exclude FCEV.

22. Countries with both national and regional funding**Spain/Catalonia region**

In the specific case of Spain there are two funding programmes: a national one and a regional one for Catalonian applicants. Spanish organisations might apply for CDTI funding, regardless the region where they are established, whereas organisations established in Catalonia might apply for funding from CDTI or ACCIÓ. In any case, applicants need to fulfill the national/regional regulations of the corresponding funding agency. It is strongly recommended that the organisation in question contact the NCP of any of the funding agencies before submitting a proposal for further information. Their contact details can be found in the Annex I of the Guide for Applicants.



Italy/Piedmont region

Only applicants from the Piedmont region are entitled to apply for funding from the EMEurope Call 2016. Participants from other Italian regions can participate, but they cannot apply for funding from the EMEurope Call 2016. Please, see question 6 for more information.

