



Research Programme on Industrial Processes

Call 2021 for Research Proposals: “Energy Efficiency in Industry”

Questions and Answers (Q&A)

We recommend that you study not only this Q&A document, but also the full [call text](#) and the guidance provided in the call-specific [application form](#).

Please note that the “[Directive](#) on the submission and evaluation of applications for financial support of energy research, pilot and demonstration projects” applies to all procedures related with this call.

Since the Q&A period closed on April 24, 2021 the SFOE can no longer answer questions in relation with this call.



Questions received in due time (before the April 24 deadline)

Q 1: TRL Range

Is there a particular range of TRL levels (fundamental research (TRL 1-3) vs. TRL 4-6 that best suits this call?

Answer:

The “Directive on the submission and evaluation of applications for financial support of energy research, pilot and demonstration projects” applies to all procedures related with this call.

[Appendix 1](#) of this directive shows the TRLs for the SFOE research programmes as they apply to this call (as well as those for the P+D Programme).

Q 2: Subsidiary Funding

As the SFOE only supplements the financial resources of the project partners: Is there a minimum of third party / in kind contribution expected?

Answer:

As the call addresses a range of TRL levels and is open to a broad spectrum of research organizations in the public and the private sectors, there are no pre-defined minimum values for in-kind or third party contributions, neither as a percentage nor as an absolute amount.

However, a project’s ability to raise funding from different sources is usually an early indicator of implementation potential. Thus higher shares of own and third party funding are expected at higher technology readiness levels.

Since SFOE funds are limited, this call is competitive. Of the projects that meet the funding criteria, only those with the highest scores will be attributed funding. As indicated in Appendix 1 of the call text, cost-benefit ratio and subsidiarity of public funding are considered in the score-determining evaluation criteria.

Please refer to the “Eligibility” section of the call text for more details on funding.

Q 3: Application Areas

Do process technologies in large and complex infrastructure plants (sewage treatment, garbage incineration, water treatment, etc.) qualify as industrial production facilities?

Answer:

As stated in the call text, SFOE aims to promote process technologies and management practices that generate significant energy savings at industrial sites and/or in industrial value chains. Hence the scalability and the multiplication potential of novel approaches are key success factors in this complete call.

The facility type of the initial application of the novel solution might be of lesser importance as long as it can be convincingly shown that the solution is principally suited for industrial applications.