

Energy and mobility - Your 2026 funding roadmap

Do not miss out on these grants and incentives!

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Energy and mobility – Relevant trends

- **Grid congestion and infrastructure bottlenecks**

- Parts of the electricity grid are at full capacity, with thousands of companies and households on waiting lists for new connections. Expanding and modernizing the network is critical to relieve this bottleneck and secure the energy transition

- **Charging corridors & hydrogen refuelling**

- The EU is deploying high-power charging corridors and hydrogen refuelling stations along major routes in Europe. These projects accelerate decarbonization in transport and support the rollout of zero-emission vehicles – including dedicated fast chargers for heavy-duty trucks and buses

- **Ports & maritime industry pivot**

- In March 2026, the European Commission adopted new EU Ports and Industrial Maritime Strategies to boost competitiveness, reinforce security and drive sustainability. These initiatives aim to modernize shipping and port hubs to support Europe's clean energy transition and strengthen strategic supply chains

Funding roadmap 2026 - Opportunity selection



Relevant grants and incentives in 2026

Programs - Energy and mobility*	Description	SME only?	Estimated grant range	Funding rate	Deadline
EIA and MIA/Vamil	Dutch fiscal advantage opportunities for investments in innovative decarbonizing techniques and environment friendly techniques	No	10% - 12% net benefit	Max. 45% eligible costs	Year-round
WBSO	Dutch fiscal scheme offering tax benefits for companies conducting R&D activities in innovative technologies and processes	No	Project specific	Max. 50% of eligible costs	Year-round
EIC Accelerator (incl. challenges)	European program providing funding and equity support for high-risk, high-impact innovations developed by start-ups and SMEs to scale breakthrough technologies	Yes	€2.5m + equity	Max. 70%	Multiple deadline dates in Q3/Q4
DEI+	Dutch program for sustainable pilot or demonstration projects, including topics like energy efficiency, hydrogen and other innovative decarbonization technologies	No	Max. €30m	Max. 80%	30 July or 27 August 2026
NIKI	Dutch program promoting climate innovations by funding projects that develop and implement breakthrough technologies for CO ₂ reduction	No	Min. €30m	n/a	September 2026
MOOI	Dutch program supporting collaborative research and development of innovative solutions for the following call topics: Nuclear Energy, Electricity, Industry, Built Environment, Carbon Removal, System Integration, Biobased Circular	No	Max. €4m	n/a	3 September 2026 (call specific)
Horizon Europe	European program supporting innovative projects, including the development and uptake of zero-emission waterborne transport technologies	No	€1m - €20m	Max. 70% - 100%	Call specific, next deadline: 15 September 2026
LIFE	European program for environment and climate action which includes mobility projects that aim to reduce air pollutants and/or reduce CO ₂ emissions	No	€1m - €10m	60% - 95%	22 September 2026
Subsidy Sustainable Shipbuilding	Dutch program promoting environmentally friendly shipbuilding practices and technologies to reduce emissions and improve efficiency	Yes	Max. €750k	n/a	22 September 2026
CEF Energy	European program supporting cross-border energy infrastructure projects that enhance security of supply and enable the energy transition	No	Max. €600m	Max. 50%	30 September 2026
EFRO Oost	European program supporting regional projects through local grant programs, driving innovation, sustainability, and economic growth	Yes	€100k - €500k	Around 50%	30 September 2026 (call specific)

Relevant grants and incentives in 2026

Programs - Energy and mobility*	Description	SME only?	Estimated grant range	Funding rate	Deadline
Subsidy early scale-up of inland shipping energy transition	Dutch program supporting early-scale deployment of zero-emission energy systems in inland shipping, accelerating the transition to climate-neutral inland waterways	No	Max. €3m	Max. 50%	Q4 2026/Q1 2027
CEF Transport: AFIF	European program supporting large-scale infrastructure investments in alternative fuels such as electricity, hydrogen, and methanol	No	€10m	30% - 70%	October 2026
SDE++	Dutch program incentivizing large-scale deployment of renewable energy and CO ₂ -reducing technologies through financial support	No	Non-profitable component	n/a	22 October 2026
Maritime Masterplan	Dutch program funding collaborative demonstration projects that accelerate the development and deployment of climate-neutral maritime energy technologies	No	Max. €8m	25% - 100%	3 November 2026
Just Transition Fund (JTF)	EU funding program that supports regions most affected by the transition to a climate-neutral economy, financing projects that create new jobs, reskill workers, and promote sustainable economic diversification	No	Call dependent	Call dependent	Late 2026
STIHWI	Dutch subsidy aimed at stimulating the use of renewable hydrogen in industry by creating demand certainty, contributing to EU obligations for renewable hydrogen carriers and accelerating investment decisions for hydrogen production and import facilities. Expected opening in 2027	No	Max. €200m	Max. €75 per GJ	Q1/Q2 2027
VEKI	Dutch subsidy for investments in advanced climate technologies that significantly reduce industrial CO ₂ emissions	No	Max. €30m	Max. 60%	28 January 2027
Innovation Fund Hydrogen Auction	European program providing support to scale renewable and low-carbon hydrogen production across multiple end-use sectors	No	€300m - €600m	n/a	February 2027
STUDI (Formerly: TSE Industrie studies)	Dutch program funding feasibility studies for innovative industrial technologies aimed at energy efficiency and emission reduction	Yes	Max. €4m	50% - 70%	31 March 2027
Innovation Fund	European program with a strong focus on decarbonizing the European industry. Since 2023, innovative low-carbon technology projects from the maritime sector are invited to apply	No	€7.5m - €100m+	Max. 60%	April 2027
Innovation Fund Heat Auction	European program focused on accelerating industrial decarbonization through large-scale heat electrification and renewable heat projects	No	€100m - €250m	n/a	TBD

Credential highlight: Innovation Fund – hydrogen

EY Grants & Incentives team assisted an electricity company in a successful Innovation Fund application for hydrogen.

Project details

The client planned to generate large amounts of green hydrogen in one of the dominant industrial areas in the Netherlands.

- The electrolyzers, primarily powered by wind, will be fitted in an existing power facility, to retrofit utility infrastructures such as demineralized water supply and grid connections
- The produced hydrogen will be purposed for uptake by end-users, particularly for e.g., the derivation of synthetic bio-fuel
- The plant will be equipped to handle grid-ancillary services through streamlined and efficient dispatch, helping alleviate grid congestion problems



How EY provided support

- The EY Grants & Incentives team was called in last minute for a comprehensive application review
- EY found that the application package required substantial modifications to maximize the chances of success
- EY instantly scaled up its project team and flexibly expanded the scope of the assignment to provide full hands-on support
- The EY and client teams worked collaboratively under intense time pressure and delivered a successful proposal



Outcome and benefit to client

The project was awarded a grant of €27m by the European Commission.

EY Grants & Incentives - approach and contact



Opportunity and risk assessment

Our international team of grants & incentives experts can aid you in mapping the right incentives for your operations. The ensuing long- and shortlists focus on timing, feasibility and value and help to devise an appropriate funding strategy. Additionally, compliance experts from our Subsidy Audit Services can identify potential compliance breaches early - contributing towards prevention of potential clawbacks.



End-to-end support

Our experienced team is well-versed all things grants and incentives. Deep technical and subject matter expertise helps to draft compelling, strong funding applications, whereas our knowledge of funding rules and regulations helps to optimize compliance processes.

Our Grants & Incentives services can consist of 1. aligning with your needs, 2. mapping opportunities, 3. deciding and prioritizing, 4. applying and submitting, and 5. ensuring compliance and follow-up.



Governance

As one of the world's largest business advisors we know how organizations work. Our in-house experience and track-record with servicing the largest firms in G&I applications helps us to define efficient, effective processes that ensure 1. timely identification of benefits, 2. efficient application for benefits and 3. effective retention of benefits. We help to define G&I governance processes - be it local, regional or global.



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