

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

- Net congestion and infrastructure bottlenecks

- Grid capacity is under pressure, with thousands of companies and households waiting for new or upgraded connections. Expanding and modernizing the electricity network is a top priority to enable the energy transition and support new projects

- Grid bottlenecks, slow EV charging rollout

- The transition to electric mobility is challenged by grid congestion, which is causing delays in the rollout of public charging infrastructure and making the switch to electric vehicles less accessible for some groups

- Ports & maritime industry pivot

- The European Commission is preparing EU Ports and Industrial Maritime Strategies to boost competitiveness, security, and drive the green and digital transition: critical for energy logistics and military mobility

Funding roadmap 2026 - Opportunity selection



Relevant grants and incentives in 2026

Programs - Energy and mobility*	Description	SME only?	Estimated grant range	Funding rate	Deadline
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%	23 April 2026
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	19 February 2026
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	19 February 2026
CEF Transport: AFIF	European program supporting large-scale infrastructure investments in alternative fuels such as electricity, hydrogen, and methanol	No	€10m	30%-70%	TBD
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%	September 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
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%	September 2026
DEI+	Dutch program for sustainable energy investments, including renewable generation, energy efficiency, and innovative decarbonization technologies	No	Max. €30m	Max. 80%	August 2026
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
Horizon Europe	Supports innovative projects, including the development and uptake of zero-emission waterborne transport technologies	No	€1m - €20m	Max. 70%-100%	Call specific
SDE++	Dutch program incentivizing large-scale deployment of renewable energy and CO ₂ -reducing technologies through financial support	No	Non-profitable component	n/a	November 2026
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

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
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	Call specific (first deadline: 16 April 2026)
EFRO Oost	European program supporting regional projects through local grant programs, driving innovation, sustainability, and economic growth	Yes	€100k-€500k	Around 50%	Call specific
VEKI	Dutch subsidy for investments in advanced climate technologies that significantly reduce industrial CO ₂ emissions	No	Max. €30m	Max. 60%	2 February 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	30 January 2026 (consultation)
TSE Industrie Studies	Dutch program funding feasibility studies for innovative industrial technologies aimed at energy efficiency and emission reduction	Yes	Max. €4m	Max. 70%	31 March 2026
Maritime Innovation Projects	Dutch program supporting R&D and pilot projects that advance sustainable and innovative solutions in the maritime sector	Yes	Max. €2m	40%-100%	3 February 2026
Subsidy Sustainable Shipbuilding	Dutch program promoting environmentally friendly shipbuilding practices and technologies to reduce emissions and improve efficiency	Yes	Max. €750k	25%-45%	November 2026
EKOO: Electricity	Dutch program promoting R&D in the renewable energy area to improve energy efficient and climate neutral innovations.	No	Max. €500k	40%-80%	28 May 2026

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.

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