



SustainNet

**Funding Opportunities
[Cyprus]**

**[Cύβουζ]
Επιχειρησιακά Προγράμματα**

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Funding opportunities Cyprus

National Funding Schemes

Research and Innovation Foundation Cyprus

Program Name	PRE-SEED (RIF)
Funder	Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF)
Objective	Support early-stage startups, including green tech
Eligibility	Startups in idea or MVP stage
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grant ; up to EUR 119,999
Application Timing	Recurring open calls
Source link	https://www.research.org.cy/en/pre-seed-make-innovation-happen/
Description	PRE-SEED helps brand-new startups (even just at the idea or prototype stage) get their first funding. Ideal for entrepreneurs building a green or innovative solution with international potential. It covers early development, basic salaries, product prototyping, and first market steps.

Program Name	SEED (RIF)
Funder	Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF)
Objective	Support development and scale-up of innovative products/services
Eligibility	Startups with product and early traction
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grant; up to EUR 500,000
Application Timing	Recurring open calls
Source link	https://www.research.org.cy/en/call-for-proposals-for-the-seed-programme/
Description	SEED supports startups that already have a prototype or early product and need funds to grow. It is useful for developing your product further, hiring staff, and entering markets. Many green or digital companies use SEED to scale up.

Program Name	Innovate (RIF)
Funder	Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF)
Objective	Support innovative product development in existing enterprises, penetration of international markets
Eligibility	Established enterprises
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grant; up to 1M (varies)
Application Timing	Recurring open calls

Source link	https://www.research.org.cy/en/new-call-for-proposals-development-and-promotion-of-internationally-competitive-innovative-products-and-services-by-existing-enterprises-innovate/
Description	INNOVATE is for established companies (not just startups) looking to build a new product or service. If your business wants to innovate, especially around sustainability, this scheme can help cover salaries, development, and equipment.

Program Name	Innovation Vouchers
Funder	Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF)
Objective	Facilitate SME access to expert innovation services (e.g. green tech, LCA)
Eligibility	SMEs
Funding Instrument and Amount	Voucher/Grant; up to EUR 20,000
Application Timing	Announced by call
Source link	https://www.research.org.cy/en/new-call-for-proposals-of-the-innovation-vouchers-programme-innovouchers-0725/
Description	Innovation Vouchers let small businesses buy services from experts (e.g. product design, life-cycle analysis, green certifications). It is great for SMEs needing outside help for technical or innovation steps.

Program Name	Fast Track Innovation
Funder	Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF) Co-funded by the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRF) of Cyprus
Objective	To support existing enterprises in rapidly developing and promoting internationally competitive innovative products or services . The program funds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R&D to improve existing products, services, or processes • Development of new products or services • Activities that can generate new revenue streams quickly
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprises from any sector • Must have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o At least €200,000 turnover o At least 4 employees
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grant: up to €200,000 per project Total call budget: €2,000,000 Co-financing may be required
Application Timing	Last opened call in 2025
Source link	https://www.research.org.cy/en/new-call-for-proposals-of-the-innovation-vouchers-programme-innovouchers-0725/
Description	This scheme helps established companies bring new or upgraded innovative products and services to market quickly. If your business has at least €200,000 in sales and four employees, you can apply for up to €200,000 in grant funding.

	It's ideal for companies wanting to scale up an innovative product — especially if it has export potential or sustainability value — in a short timeframe.
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Program Name	DISRUPT
Funder	Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF)
Objective	Support innovative enterprises developing cutting-edge products/services with the potential to disrupt markets and enter international markets.
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprises (SMEs or larger) with a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) already tested by end users • Must have a signed binding agreement with a venture capital (VC) fund committing at least €1 M in equity investment at proposal stage
Funding Instrument and Amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blended financing (grant + private VC equity) • Max funding per project: ~€1.5 M from public sources (plus VC capital)
Application Timing	Recurring call
Source link	https://www.research.org.cy/programma-disrupt/
Description	DISRUPT is designed to facilitate high-growth innovation pathways by co-financing R&D and development activities through grant funding alongside private equity. It supports experimental development, refinement of products/services, innovation services, and participation in trade fairs to boost international commercial uptake.

Program Name	CO-DEVELOP
Funder	Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF)
Objective	Enhance collaborative research and development between enterprises and research organisations to jointly tackle real industry challenges.
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consortia including at least one enterprise + one research organisation • Other public or private entities may participate as needed
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grant; Max funding per project: ~€600,000
Application Timing	Recurring call
Source link	https://www.research.org.cy/programma-disrupt/
Description	CO-DEVELOP supports the co-creation of R&D solutions by bridging the gap between academia and industry. Projects are expected to share resources, infrastructure, personnel mobility, and jointly develop technological solutions in key sectors (e.g., AgriFood, Health, Maritime & Shipping). This call strengthens knowledge transfer, technology uptake, and competitiveness.

Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry

Program Name	Scheme for Businesses Digital Upgrade
Funder	Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry (MECI)
Objective	The Scheme is expected to bring:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of SMEs which use information and communication technologies, including the e-commerce sector • Creation of new opportunities for enterprises through digital transformation and the use of advanced digital technologies.
Eligibility	SMEs
Funding Instrument and Amount	Subsidy; 50% funded. Maximum grant (€25,000 (digital transformation) / €20,000 (other activities)
Application Timing	<p>The available budget of the Scheme (€30 mil.) is planned to be launched via three Calls of Proposals.</p> <p>The first Call, with a budget of €10 mil., co-funded by the Cohesion Policy Programme “THALIA 2021-2027”, was launched on November 8, 2022. It is noted that the interest was so great that the budget exhausted on the same day.</p> <p>The second Call, with a budget of €10 mil, co-funded by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, was launched during the period March 7, 2023 – March 31, 2023.</p> <p>The third Call, with a budget of €10 mil, is planned to be launched on June, 2024 and it will be co-funded by the Cohesion Policy Programme “THALIA 2021-2027”.</p>
Source link	Scheme for Businesses Digital Upgrade - ΘΑΛΕΙΑ 2021-2027
Description	<p>The Scheme aims to encourage investment in digital entrepreneurship and strengthen the digital technology integration in enterprises.</p> <p>Existing Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) that implement digital upgrade costs (including e-commerce) participate in the Scheme, as well as new SMEs of which their investing proposal necessarily includes e-commerce/shop and/or implementation of advanced digital technologies.</p> <p>The Scheme subsidises costs, such as required equipment for the digital upgrade, “off the shell” software, specialised software, systems, IT programmes and services, as well as other costs of digital upgrade that are not immediately related with the information systems.</p>

National Energy & Climate Funding (Cyprus)

Program Name	Renewable Energy Sources & Energy Efficiency Grant Schemes
Funder	Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry (Cyprus) / Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation Fund
Objective	Promote renewable energy adoption and energy efficiency improvements to reduce emissions and energy consumption
Eligibility	Municipalities, public organisations, SMEs, households (depending on scheme)
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grants/subsidies; amount varies by call and beneficiary type

Application Timing	Periodic calls announced by the Ministry
Source link	https://www.gov.cy/meci/en/funding-programmes/
Description	These national schemes support energy upgrades in buildings, renewable energy installations, and climate-related interventions. They are highly relevant for municipalities seeking to reduce energy costs and improve environmental performance.

EU Funding Opportunities

Program Name	LIFE Programme (Environment & Climate Action)
Funder	European Union
Objective	Support projects in environmental protection, climate mitigation and adaptation, clean energy transition, circular economy, and biodiversity
Eligibility	Municipalities, public authorities, enterprises (SMEs & large), NGOs, research organisations
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grant; typically 60% co-financing (up to 75% for specific nature/biodiversity actions). Budgets vary by call
Application Timing	Annual calls (one-stage or two-stage, depending on sub-programme)
Source link	https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en
Description	The LIFE Programme is the EU's main funding instrument for environmental and climate action. It is particularly suitable for municipalities and public bodies implementing sustainability, climate adaptation, circular economy, and clean energy projects at local or regional level.

European Union Research & Innovation – Climate, Energy & Mobility

Program Name	Horizon Europe – Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility
Funder	European Union
Objective	Support research and innovation addressing climate change, clean energy systems, sustainable mobility, and climate-neutral cities
Eligibility	Research organisations, enterprises, public bodies (including municipalities) participating in international consortia
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grant; typically 70–100% funded depending on action type
Application Timing	Annual work programmes (2026–2027 currently active)
Source link	https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en
Description	Cluster 5 supports collaborative projects focusing on climate action, energy transition, smart cities, and sustainable mobility. Municipalities often participate as pilot or demonstration partners within international consortia.

Technical Assistance for Municipal Sustainability Investments

Program Name	ELENA – European Local Energy Assistance
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Funder	European Investment Bank (EIB)
Objective	Provide technical assistance for the preparation of large-scale energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainable mobility investment programmes
Eligibility	Municipalities, regions, public authorities, public-owned companies
Funding Instrument and Amount	Grant covering up to 90% of project development costs
Application Timing	Continuous (applications accepted year-round)
Source link	https://www.eib.org/en/products/advisory-services/elena
Description	ELENA does not fund infrastructure works directly but supports feasibility studies, energy audits, business plans, and tender preparation for large sustainability investments. It is particularly valuable for municipalities planning ambitious green projects.

Useful Links for Funding Sustainable Initiatives in Cyprus

Platform / Programme	Level	Main Sustainability Focus	Who Can Apply	What You Can Find	Official Link
Cyprus Funding Programmes Portal	National / EU	Climate action, energy efficiency, renewables, circular economy, sustainable development	Municipalities, public bodies, SMEs, NGOs	All open and upcoming sustainability-related calls in Cyprus (national & EU-funded)	https://www.fundingprogrammesportal.gov.cy
Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry (MECI)	National	Renewable energy, energy efficiency, climate mitigation, green transition	Municipalities, public organisations, SMEs	National grant schemes for sustainability and energy transition	https://www.gov.cy/meci/en/funding-programmes/
Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Fund (RESEC Fund)	National	Renewable energy sources (RES), energy saving, emission reduction	Municipalities, public bodies, SMEs, households	Subsidy schemes for PV, energy upgrades, efficiency measures	https://resecfund.org.cy

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA – LIFE Programme)	European Union	Environment, climate adaptation & mitigation, biodiversity, circular economy, clean energy	Municipalities, public bodies, NGOs, enterprises	LIFE calls dedicated exclusively to sustainability and climate action	https://cinea.ec.europa.eu
European Commission Research & Innovation – Horizon Europe (Cluster 5)	European Union	Climate, energy systems, sustainable mobility, climate-neutral cities	Public bodies, enterprises, research organisations	Research & pilot projects supporting green and climate-neutral solutions	https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu
European Investment Bank (ELENA Facility)	European Union	Energy efficiency, renewables, sustainable urban development	Municipalities, regions, public authorities	Technical assistance funding to prepare sustainability investments	https://www.eib.org/en/products/advisory-services/elena
European Commission – Funding & Tenders Portal	European Union	Cross-cutting sustainability, climate, environment, green innovation	All organisation types	EU-wide sustainability-related calls across LIFE, Horizon, Interreg	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders

National Subsidy Schemes

Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry / Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation Fund

Program Name	Energy Storage Systems Subsidy Scheme
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Funder	Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry (Cyprus) / Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation Fund
Objective	Increase renewable energy penetration and grid flexibility through energy storage installations
Eligibility	Households, SMEs, and other eligible beneficiaries (depending on call specifications)
Funding Instrument and Amount	<p>Large Renewable Plants (FiT categories)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to €100,000 per MWh of storage capacity for solar PV and wind plants receiving feed-in tariffs up to €166/MWh. • Maximum €300,000 per MW of installed capacity for these plants. • Up to €50,000 per MWh for plants with FiT between €166/MWh and €250/MWh. • Up to €25,000 per MWh for plants with FiT between €250/MWh and €340/MWh. <i>(Caps apply per MW depending on category)</i> <p>Net-Billing / Self-Consumption Installations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to €75,000 per MWh of storage capacity for solar PV projects using net billing or self-generation methods. • Grant covers up to ~70% of eligible storage costs for this category.
Application Timing	Periodic calls announced by the Ministry
Source link	https://www.gov.cy/meci/en/funding-programmes/
Description	This scheme supports the installation of energy storage systems, either standalone or combined with renewable energy installations. It aims to enhance energy efficiency, reduce reliance on the grid, and support Cyprus' energy transition objectives.

Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works

Program Name	Electromobility Promotion Scheme
Funder	Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works (Cyprus)

Objective	Promote the uptake of electric vehicles and reduce transport-related emissions
Eligibility	Individuals, businesses, and organisations purchasing eligible electric vehicles
Funding Instrument and Amount	Subsidy; up to approximately €9,000 per electric vehicle (subject to scheme rules)
Application Timing	Periodic calls announced by the Ministry
Source link	https://www.gov.cy/mtcw/en/
Description	This scheme provides direct financial incentives for the purchase of battery electric vehicles (BEVs), contributing to Cyprus' electromobility and climate goals. Funding is co-financed through EU Recovery and Resilience instruments.

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment

Program Name	CAP Strategic Plan 2023–2027 – Green & Innovation Investment Subsidies
Funder	Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment / European Union (CAP)
Objective	Support sustainable agriculture, renewable energy use, and climate-resilient farming
Eligibility	Farmers, agricultural enterprises, rural communities
Funding Instrument and Amount	Subsidy; co-financing rates up to 80% for renewable energy and energy efficiency measures

Application Timing	Periodic calls under the CAP Strategic Plan
Source link	https://www.gov.cy/moa/
Description	These subsidies support investments in renewable energy systems, smart irrigation, energy-efficient equipment, and innovative agricultural technologies. The scheme aims to enhance sustainability, productivity, and climate resilience in the agricultural sector.