

# LEAP-SE

## CALL PRESENTATION



# LEAP-SE

Long-Term Joint EU-AU Research and  
Innovation Partnership on Sustainable Energy



The LEAP-SE project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Program Cofund Action under Grant Agreement 101172838.



# Agenda

- Welcome
- Introduction: LEAP-SE
- LEAP-SE call 2026 - Concise overview of multi-annual roadmaps
- Timeline, eligibility criteria, transnational rules
- Proposal template & evaluation criteria
- Submission platform
- Matchmaking platform



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# **INTRODUCTION: LEAP-SE**



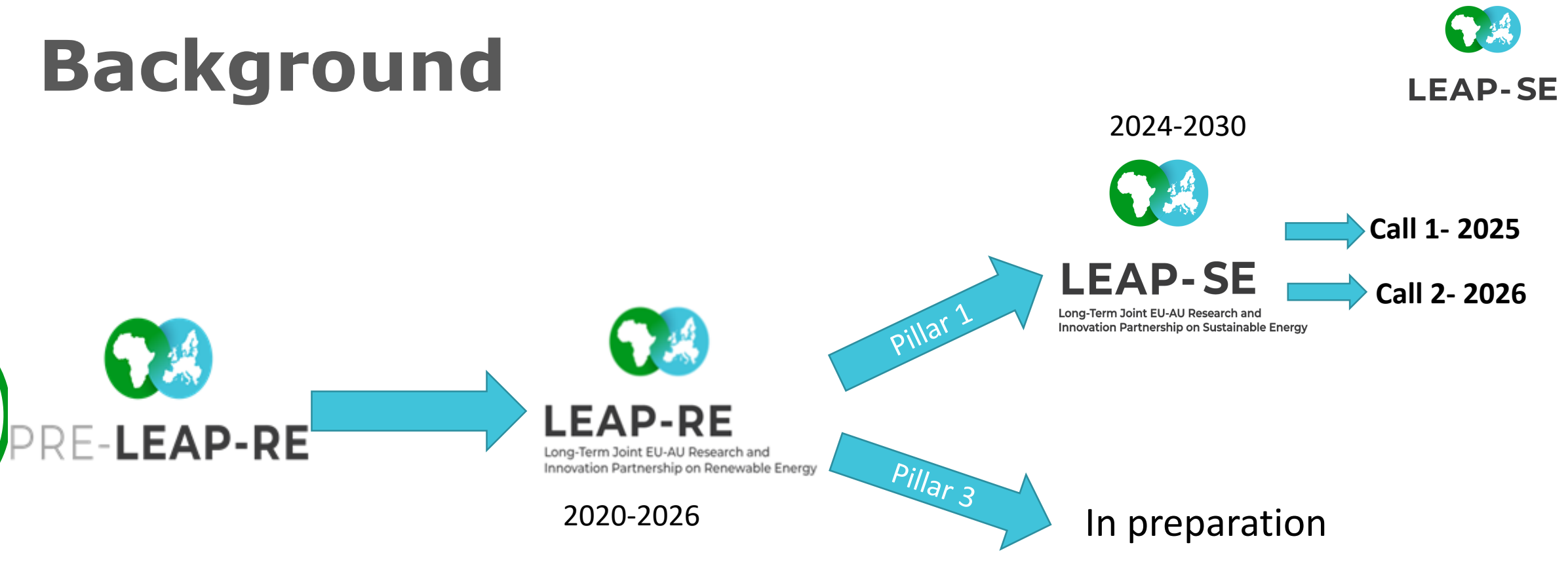
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# Background

- The EU-AU **High Level Policy Dialogue** (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) serves as a platform for regular exchanges on research and innovation policy and aims to formulate and implement long-term priorities to strengthen Africa-Europe cooperation on science, technology and innovation
- HLPD strengthened the mutual commitment to action in renewable energy, among other thematics, by adopting the *Roadmap for a jointly funded AU-EU research & innovation partnership on climate change and sustainable energy (CCSE)*
- The LEAP-SE programme, following LEAP-RE aligns with and responds with the specific objectives of the *CCSE Roadmap*

# Background



→ **LEAP-SE** draws on the experience and partnership in LEAP-RE pillar 1



# LEAP-SE main objectives

- **Launch 2 joint calls (2025 & 2026)** for projects for research and innovation projects in the field of roadmaps developed for sustainable energy in Africa.
- **Promote the attractiveness** of calls for projects co-financed with the EU for funding agencies in Africa and Europe.
- Develop **networking activities** (clustering) between LEAP-SE projects and beyond with other projects funded by the European Commission on sustainable energy in Africa.
- **Promote dialogue** with stakeholders and decision-maker.

# CONCISE OVERVIEW OF THE MULTI- ANNUAL ROAD- MAPS



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# #1 Assessment of Renewable Energy Sources and integration of RES in sustainable energy scenarios



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- Assessment of medium and long-term sustainability of energy scenarios, and assessment of needs and potential resources at country or regional levels.
- Development of tools such as models and scenarios
  - In compliance with national policies for RE development
  - In compliance with the needs of local population
  - focusing on efficiency and reliability
  - In compliance with decarbonization and replacement of conventional energy solutions
  - focusing on achieving universal access for all



## #2 End-of-life and second-life management and environmental impact of RE components



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- Research and innovation on End-of-life (EoL) components (batteries, solar panels from large PV plants, etc.) used in **renewable energy (RE) production or storage**
- **Research and innovation on** 'second life' components as appropriate solutions (e.g. reuse of out of specification of electrical vehicles batteries for stationary applications as electricity storage)
- **Design and experimentation of new** collection schemes of EoL components beyond what is presently done by informal collectors with rudimentary methods
- **Research and innovation on materials used in renewable energy components regarding end of life issues**

# #3 Smart stand-alone systems and on-grid auto-consumption systems



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- **Improving the technology of stand-alone components and usability of the whole systems in order to to address rural or isolated communities needs** and support economic and social development
- Development of stand-alone solar systems for essential needs including lighting, phones charging, domestic refrigeration but also some productive use of energy such as water pumping, grains milling, sewing machines, soldering iron, health devices such as vaccine storage...
- Development of individual solar PV systems connected to the grid in urban areas as a solution where the electricity provided by the grid is not reliable for domestic or professional electricity consumers

# #4 Smart grid (different scales) for off grid application



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- Research and innovation on technological challenges that arise from the integration of different RE technologies, distribution, and storage systems in mini or micro-grids
- **Digital solutions** applied to energy systems could deeply contribute to enhancing the performance of smart grids (stability of mini-grids, demand management, optimization of multi-energy supply...).
- Research and development of different energy storage systems options for balancing electricity supply and demand
- Developing **Agri-photovoltaic solutions** (combining electricity production and agriculture on the same site)
- How minigrids could respond to local **socio-economic challenges**

# #5 Processes and appliances for productive uses (agriculture and industry)



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- Research and innovation addressing **the Energy – water – Food nexus in order to enhance agriculture productivity and local revenues**
- **Development of** Food supply and value chain segments involving processes such as harvesting, grain milling, drying, cooking, cooling, transportation and retail
- Technological innovations and solutions such as **productive use (PRODUSE) appliances in agriculture and other activities such as craft and small industrial activities** to support local economic development (sewing workshops, welding works and craft manufacturing)
- New mobility services development in urban or rural areas, associated with renewable energy (e.g; electric vehicle batteries charged by stations relying on local solar electricity)

## #6 Innovative solutions for priority domestic uses (clean cooking and cold chain)



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- Research and innovation on **highly efficient cooking appliances (e.g. the emerging potential for electric cooking) as alternative to traditional biomass**
- New larger-scale approaches to biogas via municipal scale developments or the development of other innovative new fuels such as ethanol.
- Development of refrigeration systems for food or vaccine preservation at domestic or community level
- Development of compact and fully reliable systems that avoid breaking the cold chain for medicine, and for food preservation with reasonable costs

# #7 Production and utilisation of Green Hydrogen



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- Development of Green hydrogen production technologies :
  - enhancement of existing processes such as electrolysis with a particular focus on application in African context (reliability, maintenance and security).
  - the issue of water availability in some contexts of superficial water shortage
  - enhancement of biogas or synthetic gas production from biomass reforming to produce hydrogen
  - the direct conversion of sunlight into chemicals and solar fuels
- Green hydrogen utilization as decarbonized energy vector for industrial processes or energy storage (power-to-hydrogen solutions ) and renewables driven power-to-ammonia/UREA systems
- Research and innovation on hydrogen storage solutions
- Cross-cutting issues (socio-economic, hydrogen valleys, stakeholders involvement...)



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# LEAP-SE CALL 2026



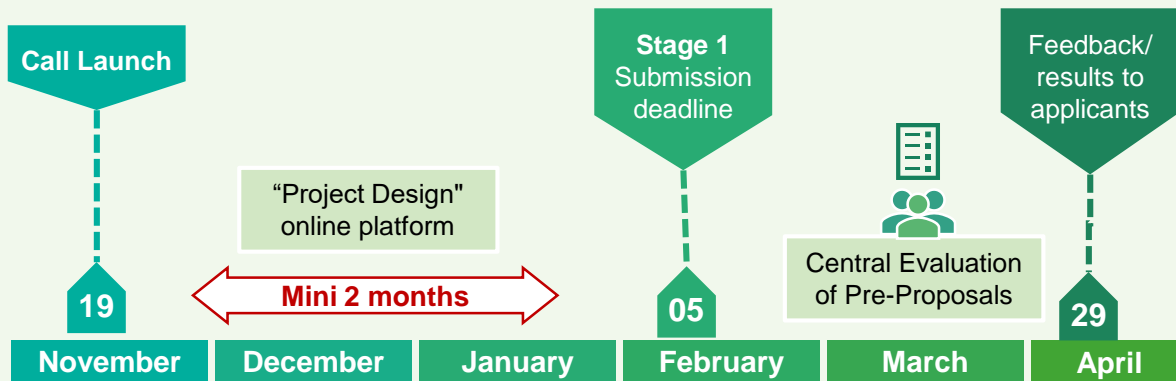
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# Timeline

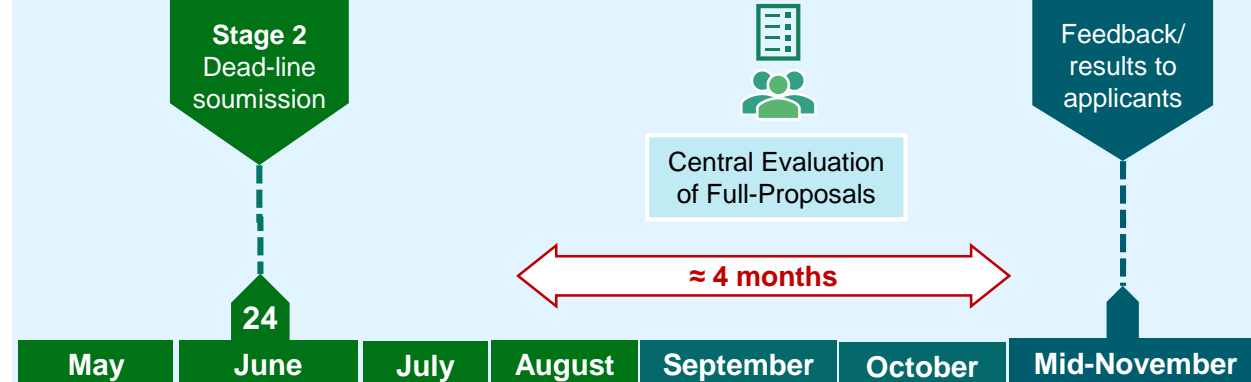


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## Phase 1 – Pre-Proposals



## Phase 2 – Full-proposals





# Call Partners



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Europe	
Austria	FFG
Belgium	FRS-FNRS
France	ANR
France/ La Réunion	LARI
Germany	JUELICH-PtJ
Italy	MUR
Poland	NCN
Romania	UEFISCDI
Slovenia	ARIS
Türkiye	TUBITAK
United Kingdom	UKRI

Africa	
Algeria	MESRS
Cameroon	MINRESI
Egypt	STDF
Kenya	NRF/MOEST
Morocco	MESRSI
Morocco	IRESN (TBC)
Senegal	MESRI
South Africa	DSTI
South Africa	NRF
Tunisia	MHESR

→ LGI will manage the contract for African partners without a national funding organisation



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# Rules regarding the call for projects



The pre-proposals must be submitted no later than **05<sup>th</sup> February 2026, at 16:00:00 CET**. Upon invitation, the full-proposals must be submitted, no later than **24<sup>th</sup> June 2026, at 16:00:00 CEST**.



Proposal should be electronically submitted through the LEAP-SE Electronic Submission Platform provided by the French National Research Agency.



Proposals must be written in English.

# Rules regarding the call for projects



Each consortium submitting a proposal must :



European side and HE associated countries	African Union side:
at least two independent legal entities from two different Member States from the European Union or Horizon Europe associated countries participating to the Cofund Call should ask and be eligible to receive support from the relevant participating funder	at least two independent legal entities from two countries from the African Union. At least one partner from the African Union should ask and be eligible to receive support from the national/regional participating funder
Research sector requirement	Private sector requirement
the consortium must include at least one partner from the institutional research sector (academic, public research center, non-profit organisation, etc.) coming from participating countries	one partner from the private sector (commercial company) coming from participating countries must be part of the consortium. The role of the commercial company and its contribution to the work plan should be clearly described in the scientific document (even if on own funding).

# Rules regarding the call for projects



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- Each partner requesting funding MUST comply with the national/regional funding rules and regulations of their respective Funding Organisation to ensure the eligibility of the consortium proposal
- Organisations from African countries/regions not participating in the Cofund Call have a limited possibility to be funded and become partner of funded consortia
- Other partners can join the consortium but only with their own funding

# Examples





Consortium 1	Consortium 2	Consortium 3	Consortium 4
<p><u>Partner 1 (coordinator)</u> : Senegalese university requesting funds to MESRI</p> <p><u>Partner 2</u>: French commercial company requesting funds to ANR</p> <p><u>Partner 3</u>: Egyptian university requesting funds to STDF</p> <p><u>Partner 4</u>: Algerian University requesting funds to MESRS</p>	<p><u>Partner 1 (coordinator)</u>: a company from Benin requesting funds to the limited amount for African partners managed by LGI</p> <p><u>Partner 2</u>: German company requesting funds to JUELICH-PtJ</p> <p><u>Partner 3</u>: UK university requesting funds to UKRI</p> <p><u>Partner 4</u> : Cameroonian university requesting funds to MINRESI</p> <p><u>Partner 5</u>: Finnish university on own funds</p>	<p><u>Partner 1 (coordinator)</u>: Polish university requesting fund to NCN</p> <p><u>Partner 2</u>: Slovenian university asking funds to ARIS</p> <p><u>Partner 3</u>: South African university requesting funds to NRF</p> <p><u>Partner 4</u>: Kenyan university requesting funds to NRF/MOEST</p> <p><u>Partner 5</u> : Romanian university requesting funds to UEFISCDI</p>	<p><u>Partner 1 (coordinator)</u>: Italian university requesting fund to MUR</p> <p><u>Partner 2</u>: Turkish commercial company asking funds to TUBITAK</p> <p><u>Partner 3</u>: Moroccan university requesting funds to MESRSI</p> <p><u>Partner 4</u>: Tunisian university requesting funds to MHESR</p>
<p>Consortium NOT eligible →Missing a partner from EU member state or HE associated countries requesting funds</p>	<p>Consortium NOT eligible →the coordinator is not from a country participating to the call</p>	<p>Consortium NOT eligible →no partner from the private sector (commercial company)</p>	<p>Consortium eligible <i>If all partners comply with the national regulations</i></p>

# Rules regarding the call for projects



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- A Lead Researcher can be the coordinator in **just** one proposal (i.e. if a Lead Researcher coordinates one proposal, he/she can only participate in other proposals as a partner and not coordinator of a consortium partner).
- The **coordinating partner** of the consortium must be established in a country or region participating in the Cofund Call, request funds from one of the participating Funding organisations and be eligible.
-  **Researchers' members of the IRP** (International Review Panel) or experts of proposals **cannot be member of a consortium applying to this Cofund Call.**
-  Researchers employed or affiliated to a funding Organisation cannot apply to the Cofund Call except where explicitly authorized (Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (FZJ), Fond de la Recherche Scientifique – FNRS (FRS-FNRS), Institut de Recherches en Energie Solaire et Energies Nouvelles (IRESEN), Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Araştırma Kurumu (TÜBİTAK))

# Rules regarding the call for projects



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- LEAP-SE Templates must be used, i.e. Forms A (Calibri, 11pt, single space for all text except references and footnotes; the pages' margins 2.5 cm should be kept), Form B and C. Ethics issue and CV's of lead researcher/key personnel, template for Budget (at the pre and full-proposal stage, in a separate Excel file). All fields of the pre-proposal and full-proposal technical descriptions must be filled in. A Guide for Proposal Submission, and all templates are available on the call oage.
- Pre-proposal: the total proposal length (Form A) cannot exceed 10 pages. Images and tables must be included in the maximum page length.
- Full-proposal: the total proposal length (Form A) cannot exceed 30 pages. Images and tables must be included in the maximum page length.
- A maximum of 12 CVs is allowed. If the consortium has more than 12 partners, only the CV of the Principal Investigator for each partner is allowed. Each CV must not exceed 2 pages. LEAP-SE CV template must be used.
- Projects **must** define a task dedicated to the dissemination/transfer of their results.

# Rules regarding the call for projects



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- The project duration should be a minimum of 12 months and should not exceed 36 months
- The detailed budget is requested at the pre- and full-proposal stage using the Excel template “Budget and funding request”.
- The maximum funding for each project is 1.5 M€, and the maximum funding per partner in one project is 500 k€. However, not all funding organisations will apply these amounts (see **“National/Regional Requirements” available on the call page**). The funding maximum for one partner, 500 k€, will apply for each project, but does not accumulate for a partner present in several projects
- The total requested funding rate of partners from the same country in a proposal cannot exceed 60% of the full funding of the project. It should be noted that the budget requested regarding the work plan and the research objectives will be part of the evaluation (value for money).



# Rules regarding the call for projects



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- At the pre-proposal step: online validation of the “Commitment of applicants” by each partner on the submission platform -box to tick on the submission platform).
- At the full proposal step: All **applicants requesting funding** must provide a “declaration on double funding for recipients” as annex
- At the full proposal step: Applicants not requesting funding, can be partners of the consortium on the condition that they provide evidence of the availability of their own funds to cover their costs by providing a signed statement duly signed by the legal representative of the organisation, Form B.
- If the project is selected for funding, the participants will have to provide a Participant Identification Code (PIC).
- The projects funded under LEAP-SE are **encouraged** to develop collaboration with other projects funded by the European Commission such as the EU Call “AU-EU Water Energy Food Nexus”(HORIZON-CL5-2021-D3-03-01), “AU-EU Energy System Modelling” (HORIZON-CL5-2022-D3- 02-02) and “Accelerating the green transition and energy access in Africa” (HORIZON-CL5-2023-D3- 02-16).”



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# EVALUATION CRITERIA



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# Evaluation criteria

Pre-proposals and full-proposals will be evaluated based on three main evaluation criteria:

1. Scientific Excellence
2. Impact
3. Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation

Evaluation scores over 5 will be awarded for each of the three criteria (overall score on 15)



# Scientific Excellence

Excellence /5

Impact /5

Implementation /5

- Clarity and pertinence of the objectives;
- Soundness of the concept, and credibility of the proposed methodology;
- Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art, and demonstrates innovation potential (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models);
- Gender perspective of research and development content;
- Appropriate consideration of interdisciplinary approaches and, where relevant, use of stakeholder knowledge (**only for stage 2**)



# Impact

Excellence /5

Impact /5

Implementation /5

- Proposal should consider societal needs, including one or more of the following aspects: market evaluation, business models for long-term sustainability, and solution deployment as well as the long-term impact on society.
- Relevance to the Multi-Annual Road Map(s) and the impact on renewable energy access in African countries and in Africa context (and not only the enhancement of renewable energy performances at global level);
- Any substantial impacts that would enhance innovation capacity, create new market opportunities, strengthen competitiveness and growth of companies, address issues related to barriers/obstacles, and any framework conditions such as regulation, standards, public acceptance, workforce considerations, financing of follow-up steps, cooperation of other links in the value chain, or bring other important benefits for society;
- Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR), and to manage research data where relevant (**only for stage 2**);
- Quality of the proposed measures to communicate the project activities to different target audiences (**only for stage 2**);
- Supporting the development of non-technological solutions to address environmental, social impact and health safety issues, within, if convenient, a life cycle analysis approach, or the development/deployment of tools, applications, and services enabling to respond population needs;
- When relevant, to what extent the project will contribute to a gender equal societal development.



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# Quality and efficiency of the implementation

Excellence /5

Impact /5

Implementation /5

- The effective collaboration and IP co-ownership between the partners in the consortium beyond sharing different tasks or working packages (**only for stage 2**);
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including the extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables (**only for stage 2**);
- Feasibility and appropriateness of timescale;
- Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management (**only for stage 2**);
- Quality and complementarity of transnational activities by the participants and the extent to which the consortium as whole brings together the necessary expertise;
- Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role (**only for stage 2**);
- Global value for money (costs are realistic and reasonable with respect to the ambition of the project and the expected results and impact);
- All partners (even in own funding) demonstrate their clear roles and contributions to project working plan, including the commercial company



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# PROPOSAL TEMPLATE



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# Proposal template

What is expected and crucial when you fill the proposal :

1. Respect the formatting requirements (font size, line spacing)
2. Do not go over the max limit pages per section (indicated within the text).
3. No possibility to add/remove parts

Pre-proposal: should not exceed 10 pages

Full-proposal: should not exceed 30 pages

*Note : You will find the Pre-Proposal template on the LEAP-RE website. The Full Proposal template will come later during the process.*



# Submission Platform



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The proposal should be submitted here

[https://aap.agencerecherche.fr/\\_layouts/15/SIM/Pages/SIMNouveauProjet.aspx?idAAP=2349](https://aap.agencerecherche.fr/_layouts/15/SIM/Pages/SIMNouveauProjet.aspx?idAAP=2349)

Guidlines to help you to use the website are available on LEAP-RE website: « LEAP-SE submission guidelines »

**Welcome to the ANR's online project submission platform.**

**You selected the Call:  
LEAP-SE étape 1 - 2026 2026**

- To create a proposal:
    - You first have to register. Please fill in the following fields and then validate:  
If you already have an account on the submission site, we advise you to use the same email address to avoid the multiplication of credentials.
- Email address:  \*
- 
- Following the validation:
    - If you don't have already an account on the submission site, a confirmation email and an activation email will be sent to you.
    - If you already have an account on the submission site, only a confirmation email will be sent to you.
  - Please access then the [authentication page](#).

If you already have an account on the ANR submission website, you can access directly to the "Authentication Page".

## **Some tips to help you during the submission stage**

- Each modified page must be saved before going to the next one. If you do not click on save, all the information you entered after the last save will not be preserved.
- Be careful about the Call closing date and time. No changes will be possible after the submission deadline.

We thank you for your interest and wish you a successful submission.



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# MATCHMAKING PLATFORM



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# Matchmaking platform



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→ <https://leap-re.app/funding-calls>

## Funding Watch

Status ▼

Action Grant ▼

Funder ▼

Program ▼

Discover the funding watch you're looking for...

🔍 Search by name, funder, grant, program or name

1654 results

Sorting by ▼

05  
Feb. 2026

### AU-EU collaborative research and Innovation projects on sustainable Energy

📅 LEAP-SE CO-FUND • ⚡ Open • 🇪🇺 🇸🇪 +15

Sustainable Energy

AU-EU Cooperation

Renewable Energy

Green Hydrogen

Smart Grids

Budget  
16.5M euros

View details

# Matchmaking platform



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< All funding watch

## AU-EU collaborative research and Innovation projects on sustainable Energy

I'm looking for a partner

I'm looking for a consortium

⚡ Status: Open

📅 Start date: Not specified

📅 Due date: Feb. 05, 2026 (73 days left)

🌐 [https://www.leap-re.eu/leap-se ...](https://www.leap-re.eu/leap-se...)

📁 Program: LEAP-SE

📁 Funder: LEAP-SE CO-FUND

📁 Budget: 16 500 000 euros

# THANK YOU!

Contact us at:  
[Projects.leap-se@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:Projects.leap-se@agencerecherche.fr)



## LEAP-SE

Long-Term Joint EU-AU Research and  
Innovation Partnership on Sustainable Energy



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