EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021

Business Development, Innovation and SMEs

(“Business Innovation Greece”)

Pre-announcement

2nd Call for Proposals

Background and general information

Business Innovation Greece is a Programme financed by the EEA Grants and managed by Innovation Norway, with the aim to increase the competitiveness, value creation and sustainable growth of Greek enterprises.

Greek enterprises can apply for a grant to finance part of a project to bring more innovation in products, services and processes. Note that this is neither a research programme, nor an energy programme. It is a business development Programme that will finance business growth and scale-up of activities.

This Programme does not have a fixed grant rate. The financial contribution will be determined on a case-by-case basis, taking all relevant factors into account. Innovation Norway will use the General Block Exemption Regulation as the legal basis for calculating eligible costs and grant rates https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R0651&from=EN

As a general rule, a small or medium-sized enterprise in Greece could get approximately 50 per cent grant out of the total approved project budget for an investment project. The grant amount could be in the range of Euro 50,000 to Euro 1.5 mill., depending on company size and project type. Large companies can also apply but they will normally get a lower grant rate.

Status of 1st Call for Proposals

By the deadline of 1st October 2019, 35 application were received. The assessment process has been finalised and the final stage of project award is ongoing. A list of approved projects will be published on the Programme web-site in August 2020.

Pre-announcement 2nd Call for Proposals

A second Call for Proposals will be announced in September 2020 with a deadline for submission by end of year, and the available funds will be at least EUR 12 Million. The Call will be published on the
The three focus areas of the Programme and the second Call are: Green Industry Innovation, Blue Growth and ICT.

In the 2nd Call for Proposals, we are in particular encouraging projects within the Green Industry Innovation and Blue Growth areas.

- Projects for greening of the manufacturing and production industries. Support can be given to investments in more green technologies to increase the production capacity, diversify products or services, or contribute to a fundamental change in the production process to make it more environmentally friendly.
- Blue Growth can support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sector in general. Sea, ocean, rivers, lakes and islands represent resources for innovation and economic growth. Example of projects could be innovative marine/maritime equipment, green shipping technology, greening of vessels, ship repair, maritime and marine safety and development of small-scale tourism along the coasts. Development of new products from living organisms in the sea is another innovative example.

**Project partnership opportunity**

This Programme represents a unique partnership opportunity – a gateway to new expertise and modern technology from project partners in one of the Donor States (Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein). Project cooperation offers many benefits, both immediate and in the long term.

**More information on the Programme web-site:**

For more information related to the process and the Programme in general, please visit the Programme website [www.innovasjonorge.no/Greeceinnovation](http://www.innovasjonorge.no/Greeceinnovation)

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