Questions and Answers Joint Call 2026

In this document you find answers to questions asked during our Call Launch, but that we did not have time to go through during our Call Launch. Further questions can be viewed through our Call Launch recording which is published before Call Opening.

Joint Call 2026 Q&A

Can you elaborate on how the expected output is to be achieved? Are for example feasibility studies, literature studies, desktop studies, lab testing, field testing and demonstration

Depending on the Call Module you aim for there can be different way to achieve outputs. Please read the specific Call Module sections carefully. For each Call Module description there is a section named Expected Outcomes of Projects**.**

Also note that there are different TRL requested for the different Call Modules and some methods may be excluded because they are too early-stage or too mature

Can this program be combined with other subsidies, e.g. for a demonstrator project, that the CETPartnership covers a very specific part of the scope?

No, as EU is co-funding the call a project can only include CETPartnership correlated activities.

Is there a minimum starting TRL?

The JC2026 generally aims to support Projects that increase their TRL and target medium to high TRLs (4–8). However, there may be Call Module specific requirements, see the Target RDI approaches/TRLs section of the respective Call Module section in Chapter 7 of the call text. Activities at lower or higher TRLs may be included where justified by Project objectives or required under national/regional rules.

What about resubmissions from last year, but now the countries are not funding those CM anymore. Any suggestions?

The earlier partners may join as self-financed partners. Maybe you can restructure the budget. Alternatively find new partners e.g. through B2Match and /or EEN.

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The call does not mention anything about industrial partner, but at the same time the speaker said it was mandatory to have. Please clarify this.

Industrial partners may be mandatory for some Call modules and/or Funding Organisations. Please see Chapter 7 of the Call text and the national requirements.

Can the need owners participate in the project as an advisory board member and not as a partner? Will this fulfil the condition to involve the need owners/end user in the project?

Need owners can participate in several ways, however it is strongly recommended to include them as active consortium partners rather than only external advisors where appropriate.

For some Call Modules participation of at least one Need Owner as a Project Consortium Partner is mandatory.

Does CET require a percentage of the grant received?

No, CETPartnership itself does not require a percentage of the received grant. However, regional or national funding agencies may require co-financing or only fund a certain percentage of eligible costs.

Is having an industrial partner required at the current or later stages of the proposal/project, or is it considered an added value?

Industrial partners may be mandatory for some Call modules and/or Funding Organisations. Please see Chapter 7 of the Call text and the national requirements. Several Call Modules encourage cross-sector collaboration and user uptake, which industrial participation can support.

What types of applicants are funded (SME, large companies, research orgs)?

The call supports participation from a wide range of organisations, including SMEs, large companies, universities, research organisations, public sector actors, and other relevant stakeholders. Eligibility and funding conditions are ultimately determined by each participating national/regional funding organisation, so the exact applicant types and funding rates may vary by country/region. Applicants must verify eligibility with their national/regional funding organisation.

What is GPFM, do participants need to have connection with this?

GPFM refers to the Green Powered Future Mission, an international initiative supporting innovation for highly renewable and flexible energy systems. Applicants do not generally

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need to be formally connected to GPFM in order to apply. However, projects that align with GPFM objectives may be seen as strategically relevant depending on the Call Module.

Are NGOs eligible to participate in Call module 2 as project partners?

Yes, NGOs can generally participate as project partners in CETPartnership Call Module 2026-02, provided they are eligible under their national/regional funding rules.

The budgets for the individual projects are rather small. How many projects are planned per topic?

The CETPartnership Joint Call 2026 does not define a fixed number of projects per topic/module. Since the programme is funded through pooled national and regional budgets, the number of funded projects depends on the available funding in each Call Module, the participating countries, and the requested project budgets.

Could you please per each Module share the information regarding the duration of project?

Across the CETPartnership Joint Call 2026 Call Modules, projects are generally expected to run for a maximum of 36 months. Shorter durations are possible depending on project scope, Call Module expectations, and national funding rules. Applicants should verify whether their national funding organisation applies additional duration limitations.

For Call Module 5 is advanced sensor development for hydrogen storage within scope?

Yes, advanced sensor development related to hydrogen storage can be considered within scope of Call Module 5, especially where the sensors contribute to the safe handling, monitoring, reliability, or operational optimisation of hydrogen storage and transport systems.

Where can I find more information regarding each module, is the economic field encouraged to participate in such calls?

You can find more detailed information about each CETPartnership Call Modules in Chapter 7 of the call text and an overview here: The CETPartnership Joint Call 2026 | CETPartnership

While CETP is strongly focused on clean energy technologies and innovation, the Joint Call 2026 also includes systemic challenges and integrated energy-system topics where economic expertise is highly relevant. The strongest fit will typically be in the more system-oriented call modules rather than purely technology-development activities.

When is the call Module 2026-05 open? When is the deadline?

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Call Module 2026-05 follows the general CETPartnership Joint Call 2026 timeline. The call opens for pre-proposal submissions on 8 June 2026, and the Stage 1 deadline is 8 October 2026 at 14:00 CEST. Successful applicants will then be invited to submit full proposals in early 2027, with the final deadline in March 2027.

If our project/technology is at TRL2 and should reach TRL3 in 2027 (before the project start). Is it OK?

Applicants should ensure that the project objectives and planned activities are consistent with the TRL expectations defined in the specific Call Module.

Is Hydrogen production from renewable resources eligible in Module 5?

Yes, hydrogen production from renewable resources is within scope of Call Module 5 (Hydrogen and Renewable Fuels).

Is there any limit for Nuclear Fusion projects/technologies? Even for technologies being primarily used for Nuclear Fusion but applicable in other industries (extreme heat flux resistent materials)?

Projects focused exclusively on nuclear fusion are likely to be outside the main scope of the CETPartnership, since the programme primarily targets clean energy transition technologies.

What is so far success rate (proposed vs. supported projects) of previous calls? In phase 1 and in phase 2.

The success rate has differed a lot between call depending on number of proposals and available funding. Generally, the success rate has decreased as the number of proposals increase but has so far always been above 15% from pre-proposal to selected for funding.

We have a concrete project idea on the "Digitalisation and sustainability: deploying digital tools while reducing dependency on critical raw materials and improving recyclability" aspect of Call Module 2026-03A: who can we contact to check that the project idea fits the scope of the call?

For questions about whether a specific project idea fits the scope of Call Module 2026-03A, the best contact is TRI2@cetpartnership.eu

Today is the launch of the call. Why are there only incomplete draft versions of the "Joint Call 2026 Documents" available?

Due to a delayed EU process and ongoing funding commitment, the final version of the CETP Joint Call 2026 documents will be available when the call opens on June 8, 2026.

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Can several submissions be made?

Yes. Under the CETPartnership Joint Call, an organisation may participate in multiple proposals, and there is generally no overall limit on the number of proposals that can be submitted by an organisation or consortium partner.

However, there are some important caveats: National funding rules may impose restrictions; The same work cannot be funded twice; Capacity and commitment are evaluated; and Module-specific rules may apply.

Italy is not mentioned in the call document "overview CETP Joint Call 2026 Funding commitment_draft_260519". Does it mean Italian organisations will not be funded for this year call?

Italian funding commitment has not been confirmed for the Joint Call 2026.

Is this list finalized? For example, Norway will participate in the CETP 2026 but not fund projects in CM2026-10. Can we expect changes in this regard?

The final list of funding commitments will be published when the call opens on June 8, 2026.

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