Access to EU FUNDING
Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP)

June 2024

WHAT IS STEP?

• The Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) is a new EU initiative launched on 1 March 2024.

• It aims to strengthen EU’s industrial competitiveness and reduce external dependencies by funding the development and manufacturing of critical technologies in the EU, reinforcing their value chains, and reducing shortages of essential labour and skills.

• It is estimated to boost investments by up to EUR 50 billion through existing EU instruments combined with other public and private funds.

FUNDING

STEP will help mobilise funding across 11 existing programmes financed by the EU, namely: The Digital Europe Programme, European Defence Fund, EU4Health, Horizon Europe, Innovation Fund, InvestEU, the Recovery and Resilience Facility and cohesion policy funds including the Cohesion Fund, European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund+ and Just Transition Fund. The sectors covered by STEP are:

Digital and deep innovation tech
including artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, advanced connectivity.

Clean and resource efficient tech
including carbon capture and storage technologies, heat pumps.

Bio tech
including molecular biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, crop biotech.
STEP CONDITIONS

Bring an innovative, cutting-edge element with significant economic potential to the Single Market

OR

Contribute to reduce or prevent strategic dependencies of the Union

STEP TOOLS

Reprogramming of EU funding with dedicated calls for STEP sectors.

STEP Seal
Label for high-quality STEP projects supporting them to access funding.

STEP Portal
That consolidates all funding opportunities for STEP sectors financed by the EU.

One-Stop Shop
The single-entry point for any contact/question on STEP for industry and managing authorities.

LEARN MORE ABOUT STEP

Is my technology in the scope of STEP? What are the next funding opportunities and their timeline? Find the right call for your project through our dashboard.

Learn more by scanning the QR code or write to EC-STEP-INFO@ec.europa.eu

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