

Energy Innovation Challenge

Challenge Handbook

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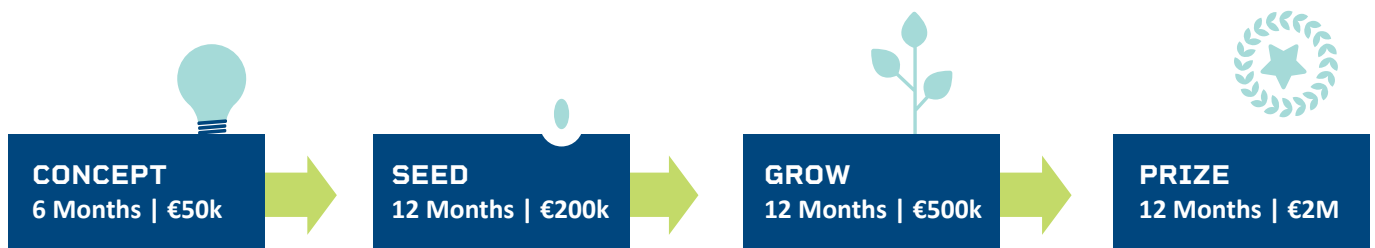
The Energy Innovation Challenge focuses on supporting research teams in developing solutions that will accelerate Ireland's transition to a clean and secure energy system.

Why Apply?

The Energy Innovation Challenge gives academic research teams a unique opportunity to contribute to Ireland's transition to an environmentally sustainable and climate-neutral economy. Following successful review of applications, teams will receive funding of up to €250k and training to accelerate development of their idea. A number of teams will then be selected as finalists and receive up to €500k to further develop their idea before an overall winner is selected for the €2M Prize Award.

Who Can Apply?

Postdoctoral, early career or established researchers may lead teams in the Energy Innovation Challenge. Teams will consist of a minimum of two academic researchers with complementary skillsets. At the application or during the first phase of the award, teams must also include a third member who will bring specific knowledge or experience of the societal challenge the team will address.



How To Apply?

Complete a short 6-page form that asks you to describe your team, the specific challenge or problem you will address, the solution you propose and how it will create impact. Register and upload your application to SFI's grant management system before the deadline.

Teams should note that they will also be required to upload their CVs and other supporting documentation described in the call document.

What Are We Looking For?

The urgency to accelerate the transition to a clean energy system has never been clearer with existential threats posed to society by climate change and energy security. Increasing the pace of action in reducing our dependence on fossil fuels is essential, with research and innovation playing a central role. The Energy Innovation Challenge seeks novel solutions to accelerate Ireland's transition to a clean and secure energy system.

Examples of areas where novel solutions could contribute to addressing this challenge are energy storage, energy materials, energy efficiency, low-carbon fuels, energy management, as well as many others.



Key Dates



November 7th, 2022 –
Call opens for
applications



February 10th, 2023
(13:00 Dublin Local
Time) – Application
Deadline



April 2023 – Successful
teams notified

More About the Energy Innovation Challenge

The Energy Innovation Challenge seeks solutions to accelerate Ireland's transition to a clean and secure energy systems.

Under this Challenge, applications would be considered in areas including but not limited to:

- ▲ **Energy Storage** – solutions to enable storage and ubiquitous use of energy generated from clean sources in application areas such as grid-level storage, transport and domestic use.
- ▲ **Energy Materials** – solutions to advance clean energy technologies based on novel or innovative materials or through improved production and recycling technologies.
- ▲ **Energy Efficiency** – solutions to reduce our energy usage or to transition to cleaner energy sources, for example, through the reduction of energy usage in high-demand sectors.
- ▲ **Low-carbon Fuels** – solutions for the production, distribution and usage of sustainable, low-carbon fuels, for example, biofuels, synthetic fuels or hydrogen.
- ▲ **Energy Management** – solutions to address challenges across the full breadth of energy management from the generation, transmission, distribution, and usage of energy.



Challenge research is an approach to research funding that provides participants with an opportunity to accelerate progress toward delivering tangible impact from research. In addition to funding, researchers participating in the National Challenge Fund will be provided with significant training and mentoring to support them in this process.

Further Information

For all information on the Energy Innovation Challenge, please visit the website: sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/energy-innovation/. Applicants are advised that they should consult the call document for all details and eligibility criteria for the call in advance of preparing an application. For any further queries, please contact the SFI Challenge Team at challenges@sfi.ie

