Partner Search for Horizon Europe Call
HORIZON CL5 2026 11 D3 23 on AI Driven Data Sharing for the
Energy Sector

Summary

Profile type	Company's country	POD reference
Research & Development Request	**Italy**	**RDRIT20260211028**

Profile status	Type of partnership	Targeted countries
PUBLISHED	**Research and development cooperation agreement**	**• World**

Contact Person	Term of validity	Last update
Enrico FRANZIN	**11 Feb 2026** **11 Feb 2027**	**11 Feb 2026**

General Information

Short summary

A SME active in digital solutions for energy systems seeks partners for Horizon Europe call HORIZON CL5 2026 11 D3 23.
The project aims to integrate standardized transnational datasets to train/test AI models for energy forecasting and to develop benchmarking tools evaluating optimisation performance.

Partners sought across AI, energy communities, data platforms, smart grids, privacy and security.

Full description

The initiative concerns participation in the Horizon Europe call HORIZON CL5 2026 11 D3 23, focused on data sharing and AI foundation models for the energy sector.
The project aims to standardize multisource transnational datasets representing energy supply, demand, and grid observability conditions, enabling large-scale training of AI models while ensuring privacy, security, and FAIR principles.

Main activities include:
• Definition of a shared data model for cross-border energy datasets
• Development of AI forecasting models for supply and demand
• Implementation of training/validation frameworks compliant with regulatory and security constraints
• Creation of benchmarking systems to evaluate optimisation performance
• Deployment of validated solutions in pre-production environments
• Ensuring long-term usability and replicability beyond the project's duration

This falls under Horizon Europe Cluster 5, addressing sustainable, secure, competitive energy systems, including renewables, grids, storage and digitalisation.

Timescale:
• Call deadline: 1 December 2026
• Expected project duration: 36 months
• Consortium composition: open to all technical and scientific partners required for a balanced and complete value chain
• Roles: data providers, AI developers, grid operators, research institutions, cybersecurity specialists, energy community stakeholders

Advantages and innovations

The project will integrate extensive datasets with transnational data sources, applying standardised models to enable AI training/testing under strict privacy and security constraints.

A key innovation is the creation of AI-based forecasting modules for energy supply and demand, enabling accurate, scalable, and interoperable optimisation across heterogeneous energy systems.

A second innovative component is the definition of objective benchmarking methodologies, assessing system performance in terms of timeliness, cost, accuracy, constraint satisfaction, and operational value.

The project fosters interoperability, knowledge sharing, and FAIR, privacy-preserving data exchange, strengthening the path toward a sustainable and secure energy transition.

Technical specification or expertise sought

Partners sought across AI, energy communities, data platforms, smart grids, privacy and security.

Stage of development

Under development

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal**
- **Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**
- **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**
- **Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities**
- **Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy**

IPR Status

No IPR applied

IPR Notes

IPR strategies will be defined collaboratively with partners, ensuring alignment with FAIR principles and equitable exploitation.

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

Partners across all sizes with expertise in: AI, data spaces, smart grids, energy communities, cybersecurity, interoperability, energy forecasting.

Type of partnership

Type and size of the partner

Research and development cooperation agreement

- University
- SME <=10
- Big company
- SME 11-49
- R&D Institution
- Other
- SME 50 - 249

Call Details

Framework program

Horizon Europe

Call title and identifier

HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3-23, Data sharing to support the training and development of AI foundation models in the energy sector

Submission and evaluation scheme

Single Stage

Anticipated project budget

Coordinator required

Yes

Deadline for EoI

1 Oct 2026

Deadline of the call

1 Dec 2026

Project duration in weeks

156

Web link to the call

https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/document/download/1e480813-74f9-4ebf-a189-3c743de95e7e_en

Project title and acronym

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **04002013 - Smart grids**
- **01001002 - Digital Systems, Digital Representation**
- **04007001 - Energy management**
- **01003008 - Data Processing / Data Interchange, Middleware**

Targeted countries

- **World**

Market keywords

- **02006004 - Data processing, analysis and input services**
- **06002003 - Power grid and distribution**
- **08002001 - Energy management**
- **02007016 - Artificial intelligence related software**
- **06003010 - Distributed power and grid connection**

Sector groups involved

- **Digital**
- **Energy-Intensive Industries**
- **Renewable Energy**