



H2020 PROJECT MINE.THE.GAP Announcement of the Second Open Call

Aim

MINE.THE.GAP project provides funding opportunities specifically for small and mid-size enterprises in the raw materials sector. The grants are given to the beneficiaries on a call-based procedure in a very simplified way. The funding rate is 100%. This brief introduction will familiarize yourself with the background information and the key actions to be funded.

Highlights

- Call budget: **€1,5 Mio.**
- Official launch of the Call: **10 January 2022**
- Deadline for proposal submission: **14 March 2022 at 17:00 CET**
- Starting date of funded projects: **01 June 2022**
- Type of the Call: **Single-stage Call**
- Type and duration of the projects:
 - MINE-PoC (TRL 6-7) – 8 to 9 Months
 - MINE-Demo (TRL 7-8) – 9 to 12 Months
- Eligibility criteria to applicants:
 - **SMEs** established in Bulgaria, Finland, France, **Germany**, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Greece and Sweden
 - **SMEs** from **raw materials and mining sectors** or SMEs providing technology/solutions from sectors including **ICT, circular economy, resources efficiency and advanced manufacturing**
- Consortium requirement:
 - Max. three SMEs and min. two SMEs
 - SMEs from min. two eligible countries
- Type of financial support: **Lump-sum**
- Max. funding per SME per project:
 - MINE-PoC – 25.000,00€
 - MINE-Demo – 50.000,00€
- Submission language: **English**



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No. 873149

Topic: H2020-INNOSUP-01-2018-2020

MINE.THE.GAP

MINE.THE.GAP is a project funded by the European Commission as part of the HORIZON 2020 INNOSUP programme. MINE.THE.GAP aims to provide SMEs from the raw materials sector with the necessary tools to improve their competitiveness, boost their growth and implement new services, solutions and/or products through cross-sectorial and cross-regional collaboration. Therefore, MINE.THE.GAP offers direct financial support to SMEs through two competitive Open Calls and additional business support services which will reinforce and/or create synergies between raw materials mining SMEs and technology/solution providers from the fields of ICT, circular economy, resources efficiency and advanced manufacturing. More information is available at <https://h2020-minethegap.eu/open-calls/>. German contact point: GKZ Freiberg Mrs. Meng-Chun Lee (mengchun.lee@gkz-ev.de)

Seven Key Actions to be funded

- **Key Action 1.** Adoption and implementation of innovative technologies oriented to improve the sustainable supply of raw materials from mineral resources and anthropogenic deposits, including innovative exploration technologies or technologies that will boost competitiveness in mining life cycle.
- **Key Action 2.** Eco-friendly technologies and environmental actions to achieve a sustainable mining approach, technologies to mitigate the impact of mining or to reclaim post-operation mining land and/or revitalise the economy of the region.
- **Key Action 3.** Circular economy plans, technologies, methods, analysis and business model (i.e. industrial symbiosis) to be applied at any stage of the operation cycle of raw materials value chain, ensuring an eco-efficient operation of a mining exploitation or related to the circular supply of raw materials.
- **Key Action 4.** Process technologies, advanced manufacturing technologies, robotics, oriented to improve productivity and the efficient use of resources, recovery of raw materials (including co and by-product), recycling technologies or other approaches increasing eco-efficiency in the sector of raw materials.
- **Key Action 5.** Towards the digitalisation of the raw materials sector. Innovative technologies to be applied into mining, processing, smelting operations that improve SMEs competitiveness, contribute to an efficient use of resources, reduction of emissions, or ensure safe operations.
- **Key Action 6.** Advanced training skills, methods, technologies and occupational safety innovative measures for the workers oriented to improve the operations and attract or recover jobs in a new transformed sector essential for the Just Transition.
- **Key Action 7.** Cross-cutting topics, highlighting the importance of new business models, new financial and investment methodologies for the raw materials sector, forefront methods or exploration data bases for low environmental impact exploration, and methods to improve public perception of mining and processing/metallurgy in addition to legislative obligations in order to better gain the social acceptance (Social License to operate).