

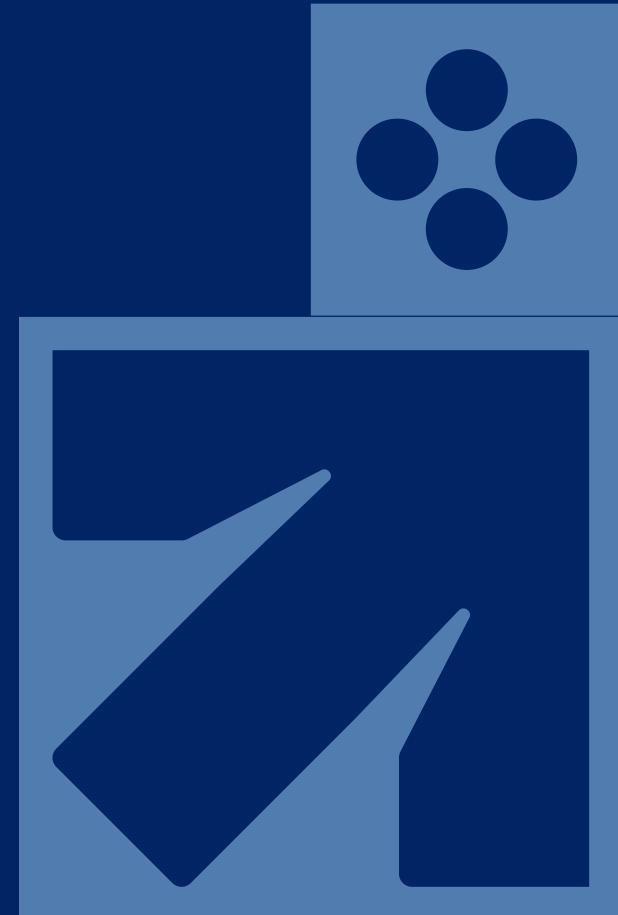
Driving Urban Transitions (DUT) Partnership

- Joint Call 2026



KAISA HOLMA, Business Finland

15.9.2026



AGENDA 15.9.2026

- General information about the DUT Call 2026
- DUT Call 2026 topics
- Business Finland funding for DUT consortium projects
- Networking tools and services including EEN
- Q&A

ABOUT DUT JOINT CALL 2026

JOINT CALL BACKGROUND

- The aim of DUT call is to pool funds together to support transnational research and/or innovation projects that helps tackle urban challenges and transition towards a climate neutral and resilient future
- Proposals and applicants must meet guidelines of transnational call, call topics and guidelines of the national funding organization of their own countries
- Participating countries jointly decide on the projects to be funded based on external evaluation and available funding. Business Finland follows this joint decision.

ABOUT DUT JOINT CALL 2026

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- [DUT Call 2026 | DUT Partnership](#)
[Call documents](#)
 - [Joint Call 2026 Call Text](#)
Annex A: Specific Funding Agencies' Budgets and Rules of Eligibility
Participating Funding Agencies: budget, RDI activities, topics and organisations eligible for funding
National/Regional information and eligibility criteria
- [Business Finland Call Announcement: Driving Urban Transitions \(DUT\) Partnership Funding Call 2026](#)

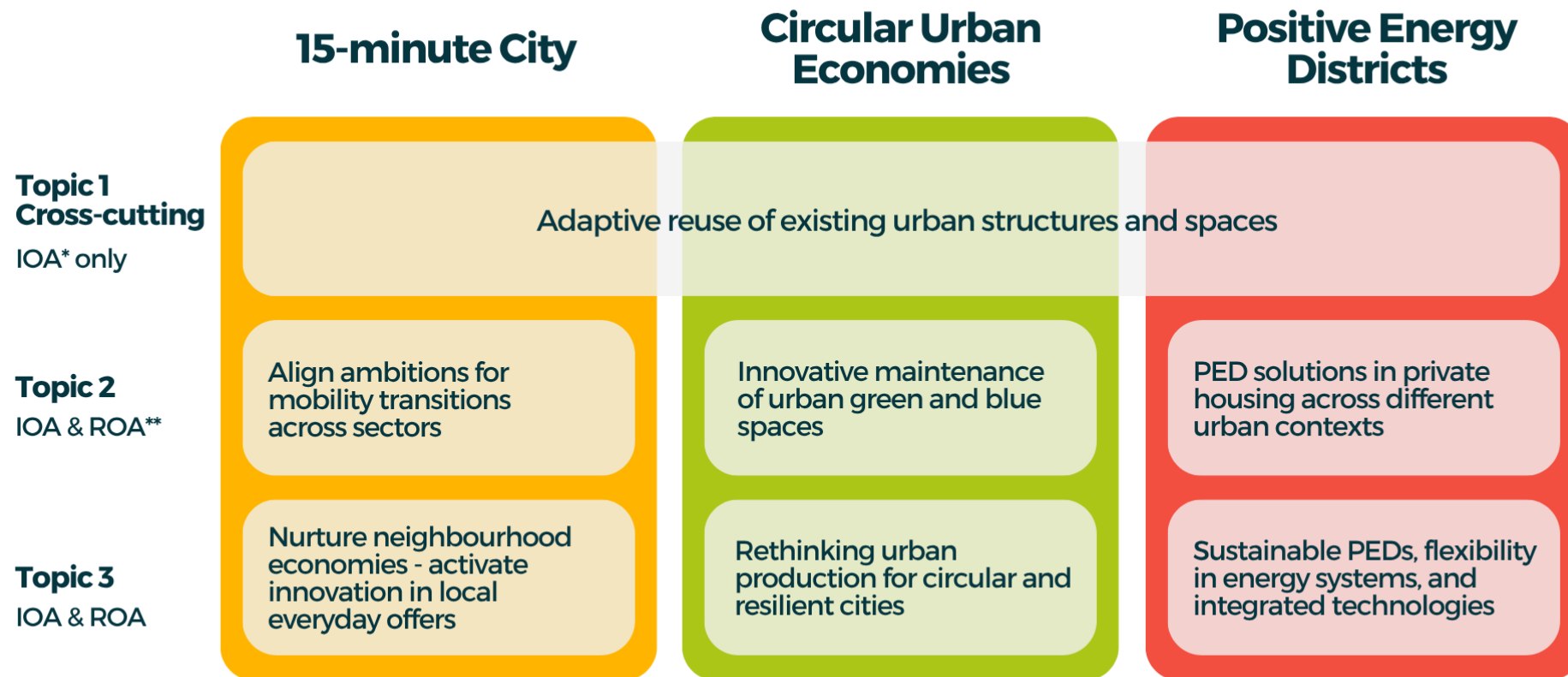


JOINT CALL 2026 CALL TEXT

- Background, Scope and Topics of the Call
- Eligibility criteria and guidelines
- Assessment and selection procedure
- Annex A: Specific Funding Agencies' Budgets and Rules of Eligibility



CALL TOPICS



*Innovation-Oriented Approach

**Research-Oriented Approach

Transnational eligibility criteria (1)

1. Only **transnational projects** will be funded; consortia must include at **least three independent legal entities** applying for funding from **three different countries** that have Funding Agencies participating in the Call. In addition, at least two eligible Applicants within a consortium must be from different EU MS or AC eligible for EC co-funding in this Call (see Annex A for a summary).

→ **Finland is participating as an Associated Partner not eligible for EC co-funding**

2. Each consortium must include at least one **urban government authority** partner, either as a Main Applicant, Co-applicant or Cooperation Partner, depending on the national/regional eligibility criteria.

3. Each consortium submitting an application to the cross-cutting topic must include at least one **private sector organisation** (industry, company, business, SME, branch/sector organisation) either as a Main Applicant or Co-applicant

4. The project coordinator (Main Applicant) must be eligible to be funded by its national/regional participating Funding Agency and request funding.

Transnational eligibility criteria (2)

5. One person must only participate in a maximum of two proposals as a PCP, and only once as the PCP of a Main Applicant
6. The duration of a project must not exceed 36 months.
7. Pre-proposals/full proposals must be written in English and respect the template form (in terms of overall size, limit of pages and characters). The template form must be filled in completely.
8. Pre-proposals/full proposals must be submitted on the UEFISCDI electronic submission system (UDiManager) before the corresponding deadlines indicated in this document.
9. Only pre-proposals invited to submit a full proposal are eligible in the second stage.
10. No fundamental changes between the pre-proposal and full proposal, initiated by the applicants alone, will be accepted.

BUSINESS FINLAND CALL ANNOUNCEMENT

Driving Urban Transitions (DUT) Partnership Funding Call 2026

Call

Call
Updated 2.7.2026

Ongoing



INFOWEBINARS

The **international call info** will be organized as a webinar on September 9, 2026 at 10:00-13:00 CEST (11:00-14:00 Finnish time). National funding agencies will also participate in the event.

[READ MORE](#)

The **national call info** will be organized on September 15, 2026 at 1 p.m.-2 p.m.

[READ MORE](#)

Additional information events will be organised and announced [on the DUT website](#).

The call seeks innovative projects that accelerate the transition to climate neutral and resilient cities.

#DUTCall2026

dutpartnership.eu

DUT Call 2026

A funding opportunity for transformative urban research and innovation



- What can funding be applied for?
- Finnish parties in the consortium
- Business Finland funding
- Call timeline

BUSINESS FINLAND CALL ANNOUNCEMENT

What can funding be applied for?

The call funds large-scale international research and development projects. The international call text and the call topics can be found on the DUT website. Read more: [DUT Call 2026](#) 

Finnish parties can apply for national funding from Innovation Funding Agency Business Finland to participate in a joint project. Innovation Funding Agency Business Finland can grant funding to projects under all Call Topics. The maximum duration of funded research and development projects is 36 months. In addition to the criteria and conditions of the international call, the applicants and projects to be funded must meet the criteria and conditions of Business Finland funding.

Projects to be funded must create possibilities for strengthening companies' competitiveness, renewal, and significant new international export business. Projects must demonstrate clear added value from collaboration.

BUSINESS FINLAND CALL ANNOUNCEMENT

Finnish parties in the consortium

Finnish companies and research organisations can participate in joint projects with their own research and development projects and apply for funding for their project from Business Finland. Finnish companies may participate in consortia either independently or together with other Finnish partners. Companies may participate either as Co-applicants applying for funding or as self-financed Cooperation partners with an own research and development project. All parties that meet the criteria of the international call can participate in the consortia on a self-financed basis.

BUSINESS FINLAND CALL ANNOUNCEMENT

COMPANIES APPLYING FOR FUNDING

Joint projects are expected to generate turnover only after the project has ended. Therefore, a company that is suitable for applying for funding:

- has secured total financing for the duration of the project
- has the capabilities to implement an ambitious R&D project
- aims to develop significant international business through the project
- fulfils Business Finland's funding criteria for research and development projects

To ensure impact of funding, the project budget must be significant in relation to the scale of the applicant's business; for SMEs, at least EUR 100,000.

If the company has previously received Business Finland funding, the proposed project must not jeopardize the achievement of the objectives of the earlier funded projects. In addition, granting new funding must continue to be appropriate from the perspective of the company's development. Obstacles to granting the funding:

[FUNDING OBSTACLES](#)

BUSINESS FINLAND CALL ANNOUNCEMENT

RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR FUNDING

If Finnish research organisations participate in the consortium, at least two Finnish export-oriented companies must also participate in the same international consortium with their own research and development project.

The share of public sector organisations in the total costs of the Finnish sub-consortium may not exceed 60%. Total costs include the budgets of Finnish partners' projects, including the R&D projects of self-financed partners. Consequently, at least 40% of the total costs of the Finnish sub-consortium must originate from companies' R&D projects.

BUSINESS FINLAND CALL ANNOUNCEMENT

BUSINESS FINLAND FUNDING

- Total of EUR 3 million
- Indicatively funding from EUR 200,000 to EUR 500,000 per Finnish sub-consortium
- Business Finland funding services used:
 - Research and development funding** for individual companies: [Read more: Research and development funding](#)
 - Co-Innovation funding** for joint projects involving two or more companies and for joint consortia of companies and research organisations. [Read more: Co-Innovation funding](#)

The funding to be granted for the project is a grant - exceptionally also for the approved costs of an experimental development project.

BUSINESS FINLAND FUNDING

Organisation type	Basic research	Industrial / Applied Research	Experimental development / Innovation
Large Enterprises	n/a	Max 50%	Max 40%
Medium Enterprises	n/a	Max 60%	Max 50%
Small Enterprises	n/a	Max 60%	Max 50%
University colleges, and integrated university educations	n/a	Research organisations 80%	n/a
Universities, public research organisations	n/a	80%	n/a
Public authorities	n/a	n/a	n/a
Associations (and NGOs) without economic activities	n/a	n/a	n/a

<https://dutpartnership.eu/index.php/calls/dut-call-2026#documents-1249>

- If a company's R&D project includes research activities and development work, the standard grant rates are for SMEs 50 % and for large companies 40% of the eligible project costs.
- Maximum funding rates for companies can only be used if the project consists entirely of industrial research.
- Definition on industrial research can be found on BF webpages, eg. [Research, development, piloting](#)

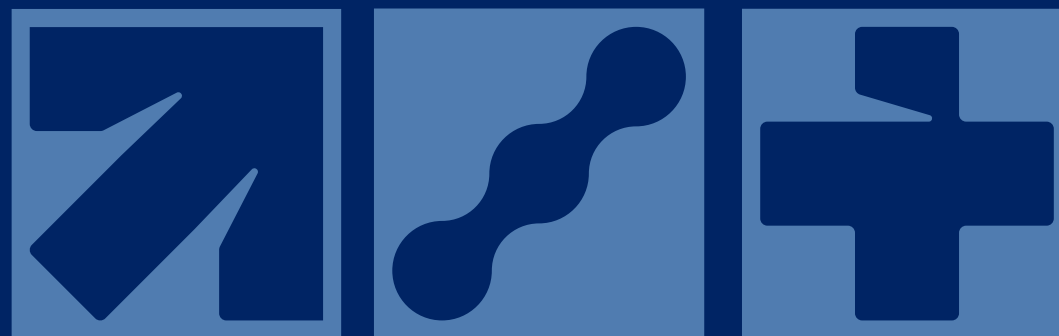
CALL TIMELINE

TWO-STAGE CALL

- **Stage 1:** For pre-proposals
 - All participants must submit their participation details and project costs via the UEFISCDI electronic submission system, UDiManager platform.
 - **Pre-proposals must be submitted to the UDiManager Platform by 17 November 2026 at 13:00 CET** (14:00 Finnish time). Please contact Business Finland well in advance of submitting your pre-proposal.
- **Stage 2:** Only for parties invited to Stage 2 based on the pre-proposal
 - Invited parties must submit their applications **both to the UDiManager Platform and to Business Finland's funding online service by 15 April 2027 at 13:00 CEST** (14:00 Finnish time).
 - **Failure to meet the deadline will result in rejection of the application.**

Please contact Business Finland well in advance of submitting your pre-proposal:

dut (at) businessfinland.fi



BUSINESS
FINLAND



**BUSINESS
FINLAND**

Driving Urban Transition call 2026: tools for matchmaking

15.9.2026



Further information:

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Common bottleneck: where to find project partners!?

General tips:

- Activate your existing contacts and long-term collaborators
- Approach major Finnish players, especially universities and research organisations
- Screen previously funded and ongoing Horizon Europe projects for suitable partners
- Join matchmaking and brokerage events around specific calls
- Use partner search tools and databases (e.g. in the Funding & Tenders Portal, Enterprise Europe Network)

But first and foremost: Be prepared – be proactive – introduce yourself – ask questions!

Enterprise Europe Network: World's largest network for internationalizing SME's



Experts across the Network are at your company's disposal, in supporting you in finding international partners and in other aspects of your internationalisation journey.

In Finland: Business Finland (coordinator), Business Turku and Helsinki Region Chamber of Commerce

The services are **free of charge**

[EEN Finland website](#)



Matchmaking Platform for DUT Call 2026

- ✓ Support partner search and project idea matchmaking for the Driving Urban Transition 2026 calls
- ✓ Connect researchers, companies, cities, clusters and other stakeholders across Europe and beyond.

At the moment:

- 1222 participants
- 255 opportunities posted in the Marker Place
- Participants from 57 countries

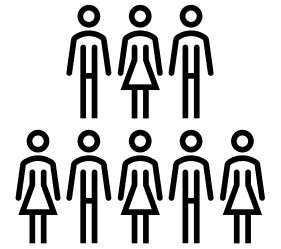
 [Link to the b2match platform](#)

The platform is open until 15.4.2027

? How?

1. **Register** & create a profile: describe your organisation, expertise, and interests linked to DUT call topics.
2. **Publish your offers & requests**: add “Marketplace” items (project ideas, partner searches, expertise offers, technology requests).
3. **Indicate your availability for meetings**: your meeting availability shows the time slots when you may be available for a meeting.
4. **Search & filter**: use topic, country, type of organisation and keyword filters to find relevant participants and opportunities.
5. **Book meetings**: send and accept 1:1 meeting requests via the platform; meetings are scheduled in fixed matchmaking slots.
6. **Meet online**: video meetings are integrated in the platform

Business Contact Database – search partners across the world!



- Look for development and research partners for an EU project/consortium
- Offer your expertise to join an EU project consortium

All profiles are prepared in cooperation with an EEN advisor and are anonymous. We will contact you if there is a response to your profile and act as the intermediary.

The service is for SME's – however, research institutes, public or non-profit organizations and large companies looking for SME partners can also make a profile in the database!

 [LINK TO THE DATABASE](#)



How does it work in practice?

At the moment, there are 102 profiles looking for partners in Horizon Europe projects (6000 profiles in total)

Examples:

- [German Research Institute seeks Consortium Partners for HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-02 on Energy-efficient software-defined EVs with Expertise in Power Electronics Design and Reliability Testing](#)
- [Partner Search for Horizon Europe Call HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3-23 on AI-Driven Data Sharing for the Energy Sector](#)

Found an interesting profile? You can **express your interest directly via the website** and we'll contact you!

Want to create a profile?

Contact me: emmi.nahi@businessfinland.fi / +358 50 555 5480



Thank you!

Wondering about EU Funding?

Contact us

Follow us in LinkedIn:

