

TECHNICAL ANNEX

Call for Applications

COMPETE2030–2026-12

STEP – Productive Innovation – Energy

When preparing your application, please follow the structure (topics) of this template. It was designed to ensure that the project's key aspects are clear and sound, allowing expert evaluators to perform an effective assessment.

 **Page limits:** The sections must not exceed **45** pages in total.

The minimum font size is 11 pt. Use A4 page size, with all margins (top, bottom, left, right) of at least 3 cm (excluding headers and footers). Do not change the structure of the index.

 After completion, convert this annex to PDF (Portable Document Format) and upload it before submitting the application

 **ATTENTION:** if you upload the annex with a number of pages above the permitted limit, the excess pages will not be considered for evaluation.

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Acronym and Project Title:

Executive Summary

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Project Beneficiary:	
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Start date:	
End Date:	
Duration (months):	

Eligible Investment:	
Location:	

1. Project description

1.1. Context

Describe the context and needs that motivated the definition of the project.

What changes or strategic opportunities motivate this project in the sector in which the company operates?

Which link(s) in the value chain will be strengthened by the investment?

Identify and justify which critical technologies will be manufactured within the scope of clean and resource-efficient technologies, including carbon-neutral technologies as defined by the Zero Impact Industry Regulation, within the scope of this project, as well as the actions to be developed aimed at such manufacturing, indicating them in the following tables.

Clean and resource-efficient technologies	Alignment	Identify Technologies
Solar technologies	(Yes/No)	
Onshore wind technologies and offshore renewable energy technologies	(Yes/No)	
Battery and energy storage technologies	(Yes/No)	
Heat pumps and geothermal energy technologies	(Yes/No)	
Hydrogen technologies	(Yes/No)	
Sustainable biogas and biomethane technologies	(Yes/No)	
Carbon capture and storage technologies	(Yes/No)	
Electricity grid technologies	(Yes/No)	
Nuclear fission technologies	(Yes/No)	
Sustainable alternative fuel technologies	(Yes/No)	
Hydroelectric technologies	(Yes/No)	
Other renewable energy technologies	(Yes/No)	
Energy efficiency technologies related to the energy system	(Yes/No)	
Non-biological renewable fuel technologies	(Yes/No)	

Biotechnology solutions for climate and energy	(Yes/No)	
Transformative industrial technologies for decarbonisation	(Yes/No)	
CO2 transport and utilisation technologies	(Yes/No)	
Wind and electric propulsion technologies for transport	(Yes/No)	
Other nuclear technologies	(Yes/No)	
Advanced materials, manufacturing and recycling technologies	(Yes/No)	
Technologies vital to sustainability, such as water purification and desalination	(Yes/No)	
Justification		

Indicate the type of contribution of the investments to be supported for the manufacture of critical STEP technologies, identifying whether the project contributes to (i) end products, (ii) specific components and machines, (iii) critical raw materials, or (iv) specialised services essential to the manufacture of these technologies, and describe how the project fits into this/these domain(s). (Annex D of the Call)

	Alignment	Specify which
Final products	(Yes/No)	
Specific components and machinery	(Yes/No)	
Critical raw materials	(Yes/No)	
Associated services, which include specialised services that are specific and critical to the manufacture of the final products.	(Yes/No)	
Justification		

Describe and justify the project to be developed in terms of STEP criticality, i.e. technologies are considered critical if:

- They introduce an innovative, emerging and cutting-edge element with significant economic potential into the domestic market (see point (h) of Annex D of the Call).

and/or

- Contribute to reducing or preventing the Union's strategic dependencies (See points (i), (j), (k), (l) and (m) of Annex D of the Call)

Fill in the table below according to the framework described above.

STEP technology domain / Technology	Value Chain intervention	Development and manufacturing critical technologies? (Y/N)	Direct contribution to strengthening the value chain? (Y/N)	Innovative, emerging, cutting-edge with significant economic potential? (Y/N)	Reducing or preventing strategic dependencies? (Y/N)

1.2 Objectives and context

What are the main objectives of the project?

How do these objectives contribute to the manufacture of critical STEP technologies?

How do these objectives contribute to strengthening the value chains of critical STEP technologies?

How do these objectives contribute to promoting increased production capacity, efficiency, and competitiveness of the company?

Explain the technical challenges associated with implementing the operation, identifying the specific requirements related to the manufacture, integration or installation of critical STEP technologies, and describe the methodological approach adopted to ensure its technical and operational feasibility.

1.3 Identification of Activities

Activity Number	Designation	Type of Innovation
1		
n		

Briefly describe the structure and logic of the work plan. Identify the main activities planned and their interdependencies.

1.4 Description of Productive Innovation Activities

Copy and fill in the table below for each of the planned activities.

Briefly describe the structure and logic of the work plan. Identify the main activities planned and their interdependencies.

Activity Number	Activity Title	
A1...An		
	Start date: dd/mm/yyyy	Completion date: dd/mm/yyyy
Activity Objectives		

Description of Activity

Describe the work (where appropriate, subdivided by task). The description of the work should provide relevant details regarding the need for access to critical infrastructure and the use of critical external expertise.

1.5 Technical and financial maturity

Describe the degree of development and robustness of the technical solutions to be implemented within the scope of the project, demonstrating that the company has the necessary knowledge, resources, and conditions to ensure the execution of the planned activities.

Explain the suitability of the technologies, equipment, processes or methodologies to be adopted, demonstrating that they are sufficiently validated to be integrated into the company's operations and compatible with the proposed productive innovation objectives.

Describe the technical team responsible for developing the project, namely in terms of qualifications, professional skills, and respective roles necessary for executing the project.

Explain the financial maturity of the project, describing the financial resources allocated, the consistency between funding sources and investments, the assumptions underlying the economic and financial projections, as well as the financial indicators and KPIs used in management and monitoring that demonstrate the project's viability.

Explain how the identified financial capacity supports and enables the technical requirements of the project, ensuring consistency between the technical means necessary and the financial resources allocated for its implementation.

2. Implementation Capacity

2.1 Company Overview

Describe the company's experience, skills, physical, technological and administrative-financial capacity relevant to the expected contribution to the project, identifying the profile and experience of the team members who will carry out the work.

3. Degree of alignment with relevant public policy strategies

In this context, you should identify the degree of alignment of the operation with relevant public policy priorities, namely the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) 2030, the Critical Raw Materials Regulation and the Zero Impact Industry Regulation.

Alignment with public policy priorities	Alignment
National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) 2030	(Yes/No)
Critical Raw Materials Regulation	(Yes/No)
Zero Impact Industry Regulation	(Yes/No)

3.1 Description of critical risks for Project Management

Fill in the table below, selecting management risk events that could compromise the project schedule, with the highest probability of occurrence and/or greatest impact on the project's completion.

Annex 1 provides some examples of risk events, but you may add others that are relevant to the project.

Describe in detail each selected risk event as it applies to the project context.

For each risk event identified, describe its impact on the implementation of the project (e.g. delays, additional costs).

Describe the mitigation measures planned for each risk to reduce the probability of each risk occurring.

Project management risk event	Event description	Probability of occurrence (1 - Low to 5 - High)	Impact on the implementation of the Project	Planned mitigation measures

4. Impact

4.1 Economic and/or business impact

Describe how the proposed investment will contribute to strengthening the company's competitiveness and its integration or consolidation in relevant value chains in the fields of digital technologies, deep tech or biotechnologies, highlighting the expected impacts in terms of production capacity, market positioning, value creation and growth opportunities.

Fill in the table below, indicating whether the project falls within at least one of the STEP objectives (Yes/No), which will be a key tool for evaluating and monitoring the project.

Objective	Alignment
Contribution of the operation to strengthening the strategic autonomy and competitiveness of the European Union (EU)	(Yes/No)
Contribution of the operation to reducing the European Union's (EU) strategic dependencies	(Yes/No)

4.2 Contribution of the operation to strengthening the strategic autonomy and competitiveness of the European Union (EU)

If you have indicated 'yes' for the objective 'Contribution of the operation to strengthening the strategic autonomy and competitiveness of the European Union (EU)' for the dimensions listed in the following table, justify the project's alignment with the applicable dimensions.

Introduction of an innovation through a technological novelty, by introducing an improvement or change in a specific area or industry.
Emerging elements, with new or developing technologies, that are gaining traction and promise scalability or significant impact

Cutting-edge elements, with very recent and sophisticated technologies that are under research and development in the EU
Potential for scalability across broad geographical areas (variety of Union markets), benchmark positioning and spillover effects within the EU of technologies capable of responding to a variety of Union markets
Substantial impact on the manufacture of technology with a high degree of technological readiness, enabling its rapid adoption throughout the Union

4.3 Contribution of the operation to reducing the European Union's (EU) strategic dependencies

If you indicated 'yes' for the objective 'Contribution of the operation to reducing the European Union's (EU) strategic dependencies' for the dimensions listed in the following table, justify the project's alignment for reducing strategic dependencies in the applicable dimensions.

Contribution of the project to EU industrial and technological leadership
Contribution of the project to critical infrastructure at European level
Contribution of the project to increasing the manufacturing capacity of critical raw materials, essential components or value chains within the EU
Contribution of the project to strengthening the security of supply of critical production factors, components and technologies in the EU
Contribution of the project to promoting positive cross-border effects in the internal market

4.4 Description of market risks

Fill in the table below, selecting market risk events with the highest probability of occurrence and/or greatest impact on the economic exploitation of the project results, and describe how each of these risks could impact the expected performance of the investment.

Annex 1 provides some examples of risk events, but you may add others that are relevant to the project.

Describe in detail each selected risk event as it applies to the project context.

Describe the mitigation measures planned for each risk to reduce the likelihood of each risk occurring.

Market risk event	Event description	Probability of occurrence (1 - Low to 5 - High)	Planned mitigation measures

ANNEX 1 - List of risk events

Market	Project Management
Low acceptance of the solution	Delays in the delivery of specialised equipment
Low adoption of the solution	Delays in adaptation work on the premises
Long time-to-market	Deviations from the defined budget
Variation in prices of raw materials or critical components	Lack of qualified human resources
Competing solutions already on the market	Effort required significantly different from that anticipated in the application
Cultural and social factors	Increase in costs
Rapid Technological Evolution	Shortage of specialised human resources
Barriers to entry into new international markets	Lack of equity capital to carry out activities
Rate of adoption of critical STEP technologies	Failure or delays in integrating machinery with software, automation, digitisation or control systems
Other risks	Difficulty in obtaining certifications or technical authorisations
	Other risks