ENFIELD



OC1-2025-TIS-01

OPEN CALL REPORT

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Co-funded by the European Union

INOVA+ RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION FOR GROWTH

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INTRODUCTION TO THE OPEN CALL

ENFIELD project has **1.1M€** to provide support at least **18 small scale projects** to answer specific ENFIELD challenges through four rounds of exchange open calls. This was the second out of two open calls for R&D intensive establishments to conduct applied research activities under the ENFIELD[1] (European Lighthouse to Manifest Trustworthy and Green AI) project, co-funded by the European Union. Through the ENFIELD Innovation Scheme open calls and the Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP) mechanism, the project aims to attract top-level Research Institutes, Start-ups, SMEs and Large Companies to conduct foundational research activities related to specific scientific/technological challenges in artificial intelligence, contributing to ENFIELD network creation and expansion to European AI labs.

ENFIELD Innovation Schemes Open Calls grants up to 9 beneficiaries with up to 60.000€ for them to carry out activities in ENFIELD partner organizations for **3-6 months**.

OPEN CALL PUBLICATION

All the documents that provided information to the potential applicants or templates that must be provided as part of the application process for oc1-2025-TIS-01 can be found in "D5.1 – Open Call Documents".

The ENFIELD website, as one of the key tools of the project, was the main point of information for potential applicants for the oc1-2025-TIS-01 (link here), including relevant documents and links for the submission process (**Figure 1**). Additionally, in accordance with the European Commission's requirements, the ENFIELD Open Call has been published on the Cascade Funding page of the Funding & Tenders Portal (link here).

The ENFIELD Open Call oc1-2025-TIS-01 was launched using the platform EU Survey on **April 17, 2025**, and the deadline was **June 17, 2025**.

To promote the open call, several posts were published on the ENFIELD LinkedIn page (**Figure 2**).

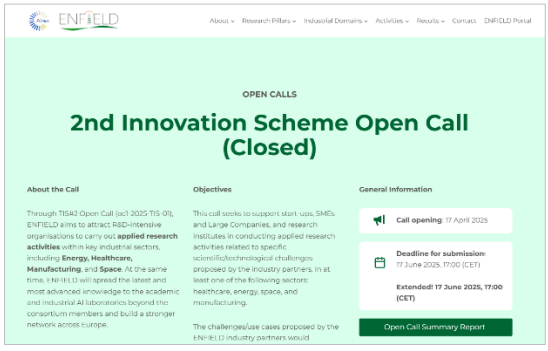


Figure 1. 2nd Innovation Scheme Open Call Page on the ENFIELD website





Figure 2. Examples of posts published on social media to advertise oc1-2025-TES-01.

[1] Grant Agreement nº 101120657, funded by the European Union.

To promote the open call and clarify potential questions interested researchers could have, the consortium organised a webinar on **May 13, 2025,** at **11:00 CET**; in which INOVA+ presented the procedures of the open call, and the technical partners (MAGGIOLI, EDP, DTI, POLIMI, IQANTO, ECoE, BAS) presented the challenges potential applicants would have to address when applying. The webinar had **58 participants**, out of which **47** were external participants, and was later made available on the project's website for wider access (link here) (**Figure 3**). Also, potential applicants were encouraged to contact the ENFIELD support team for additional information and guidance via enfield.opencall@inova.business.



Figure 3. ENFIELD 2nd Innovation Scheme Webinar available at the website.

OPEN CALL RESULTS AND STATISTICS

ENFIELD Open Call oc1-2025-TIS-01 received a **total of 197 applications**. The distribution of applications received across the challenges proposed by the various pillars/verticals is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Distribution of applications received.

Industrial Domains				
Challenge	**Industrial Domain**	**Title**	**Received Applications per Challenge**	**Received Applications per Industrial Domain**
IDH.1	Healthcare	Enhanced AI-Powered Remote Patient Monitoring	49	49
IDE.1	Energy	Early Signs of Energy Poverty	21	49
IDE.2		City Sustainability Index	28	
IDM.1	Manufacturing	Enhancing robotic disassembly of electronics and household appliances with adaptive AI	9	66
IDM.2		Metrics and tools for assessing dataset reliability and robustness in Smart Manufacturing	18	
IDM.3		Computer Vision for feet recognition	11	
IDM.4		Transitioning to Industry 5.0 by enhancing worker safety and well-being in the manufacturing industry	28	
IDS.1	Space	Space-based maritime surveillance	22	33
IDS.2		Robust vision-based autonomous navigation for low SWaP UAVs	11	

Out of the 197 applications, **177** were submitted by **individual applicants**, while **20** were from **consortia**. Among the consortium applications, **16** included **two entities each**, and **4** included **three entities each**. This brings the total number of entities applying to the call to **221** (**177** individual applicants and **44** applicants from consortia).

The majority of applications were submitted for the Industrial Domain **Manufacturing (66)**, followed by Industrial Domain **Healthcare and Energy (both 49)**, and Industrial Domain **Space (33)**. Notably, the highest number of applications per challenge was for **IDH.1**, with **49** submissions.

The legal status distribution among the received applications shows that the majority of applicants were **SMEs (92)**, followed by **Start-ups (69)**, **Research Centers (55),** and **Large Companies (5)** (**Figure 4**). When broken down by the type of application, individual applicants were primarily **SMEs (72)** and **Start-ups (63)**, while most group applications were composed of **SMEs (20)**, followed by **Research Centers (15)**

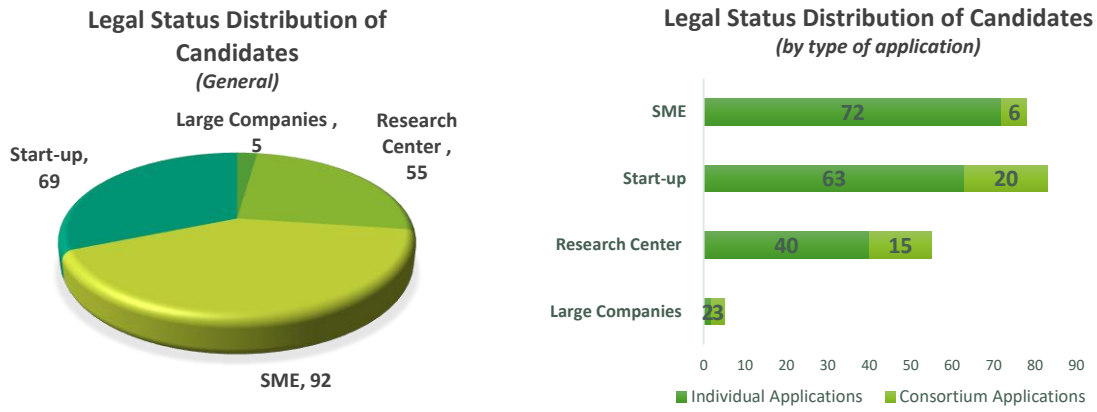
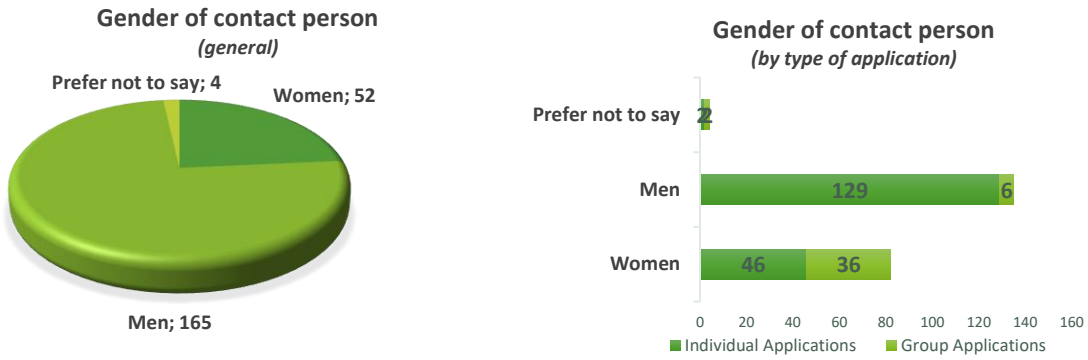


Figure 4. Legal Status Distribution among all the received applications. Left panel in the overall open call. Right Panel depending on the type of application (individual or group).

Regarding gender, most applications were led by **men (165)**, with **women** leading **52 applications**, and **4 contact persons** preferred **not to disclose their gender** (**Figure 5**). In both individual and group applications, most contact persons were **men** (**129** and **36**, respectively). While ENFIELD does not specifically encourage applications from women, the selection process prioritizes gender balance when proposals are tied, with preference given to those led by women or with teams closer to a 50/50



gender distribution, as outlined in the ranking rules.

Figure 5. Gender Distribution among all the received applications. Left panel in the overall open call. Right Panel depending on the type of application (individual or group).

Geographically, the entities applying come from **31** different countries (**Figure 6**), with Spain accounting for the highest number of applicants (**35**), followed by Greece (**34**), Belgium and Italy (**14**), Germany and Portugal (**12**).

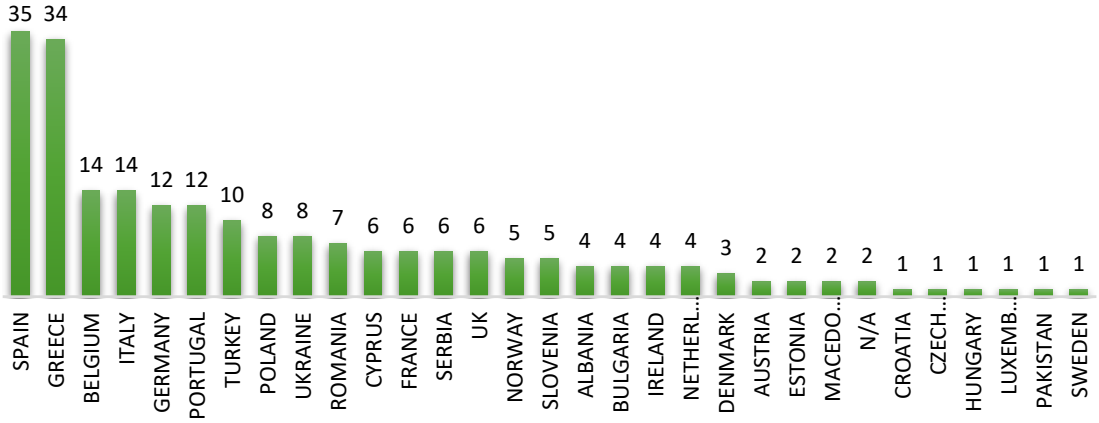


Figure 6. Country of the entities among all the received applications.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

4.1.ELIGIBILITY CHECK

INOVA+ conducted the eligibility check for all **197** proposals, verifying them based on the following criteria:

- Applicants must be a research centre (legal entity) or a private-for-profit company (including start-ups, SMEs, and large companies)
- Legal entities are based in EU Member States or Horizon Europe associated countries
- The participating organisations should not have been declared bankrupt or have initiated bankruptcy procedures
- The organisations applying should not have convictions for fraudulent behaviour, other financial irregularities, and unethical or illegal business practices
- There should not be any conflict of interest with any of the ENFIELD partners (beneficiaries)
- The application and all requested documents are provided only in the English language.
- The proposal description is provided according to the guidelines in the "ENFIELD – Innovation Scheme Open Call - oc1-2025-TIS-01_Technical Annex"
- The application must include a budget overview for the implementation of their proposal (to be submitted using the oc1-2025-TIS-01_ApplicationForm_Budget Template)

Based on the criteria mentioned above, **eleven (11)** applications were automatically rejected:

- **2** proposals did not submit documents correctly: oc2-2025-TIS-01-**028**; oc2-2025-TIS-01-**105**
- **1** proposal did not comply with financial conditions: oc2-2025-TIS-01-**127**
- **3** proposals were partner organisations of the ENFIELD Project: oc2-2025-TIS-01-**079**; oc2-2025-TIS-01-**083**; oc2-2025-TIS-01-**176**
- **5** proposals have posterior resubmissions**:** oc2-2025-TIS-01-**044;** oc2-2025-TIS-01-**054;** oc2-2025-TIS-01-**144;** oc2-2025-TIS-01-**150;** oc2-2025-TIS-01-**154**

4.2 CALL FOR EXTERNAL EVALUATORS

A Call for External Evaluators was launched to attract external experts to serve as evaluators of proposals submitted in response to the ENFIELD 2nd Innovation Scheme Open Call.

The Call for External Experts was launched on **April 24, 2025,** and the deadline for submission was **May 23, 2025.**

A total of **89** proposals were received, out of which **37** were selected.

When analysing the gender distribution of all applicants, the numbers were balanced, with **43** applicants identifying as "women", **45** identifying as "men", and **1** preferred not to say (Figure 7).

Geographically, the entities applying come from **17** different countries, with the largest number of applications coming from Spain (**10**), Portugal, and Türkiye (**5**) (Figure 8).

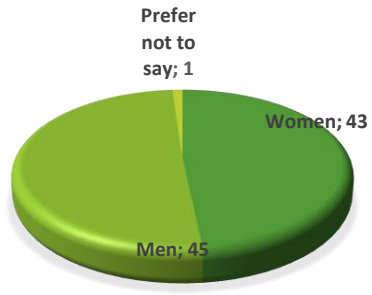


Figure 7. Gender distribution among applicants

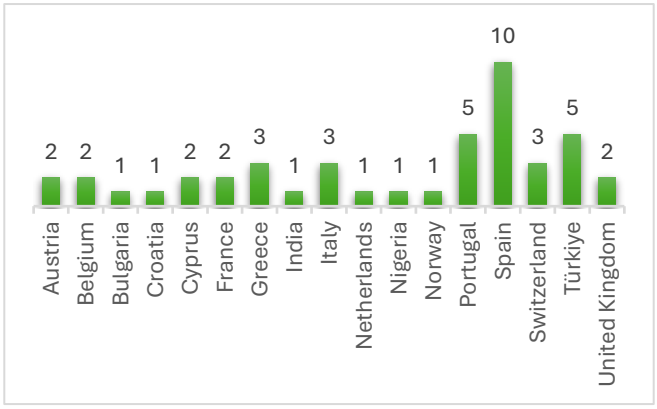


Figure 8. Country distribution among applicants

4.3 ALLOCATION OF INTERNAL EVALUATORS

Evaluators from the following ENFIELD partners institutions were selected for the evaluation of each Vertical:

- Energy: EDP, MAGGIOLI
- Healthcare: UPB, MAGGIOLI, TUC
- Manufacturing: DTI, TALTECH, POLIMI, PREDICT, IMT
- Space: BAS, ECOE

The **10** evaluators were proposed by each ENFIELD partner entity involved in the evaluation process. When analysing the gender distribution of evaluators, **nine (9**) were men and **one (1)** was a woman (Figure 9).

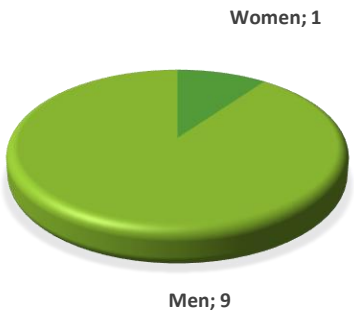


Figure 9. Gender Distribution of Internal Evaluators

5.1. EVALUATION PERIOD AND CONSENSUS MEETING

Each evaluator, upon signing the NDA, was granted access to the folder containing all documents related to the application for evaluation. The individual evaluation phase took place from the **24th of June to the 10th of July 2025**.

After receiving all individual evaluation reports, INOVA+ calculated the average score for each application from the three evaluators' individual scores. These averages were then used to create the final ranking of applications. Following this process, INOVA+ organized a Consensus Meeting with all evaluators to discuss the final scores and proceed with the selection of applicants. The details about the consensus meetings (including which applications they were related to, which criteria, and the outcome regarding the marks in question) will be made available to the European Commission upon request.

Following the **Consensus Meeting** held on the **17th of July 2025**, all evaluators successfully aligned their scores. Subsequently, the process advanced to generating the Evaluation Summary Reports (ESR), which were sent to the applicants on the **23rd and 24th of July 2025. Five (5)** emails from rejected applications were received asking for clarifications, and **one (1)** request for redress was received.

The average of the three individual evaluations gave us the final evaluation. Out of the **186 eligible** proposals:

- **Fifty (50)** applications were automatically rejected because they ranked below the threshold (three (3) for each criterion and/or twelve (12) for the overall score)
- **One hundred eighteen (118)** applications were rejected, given the budgetary resources available for the call
- **Eight (8)** applications were placed on the reserve list

5.2. SELECTED APPLICATIONS

All other **ten (10)** applications were selected with the following ranking:

Table 2. List of selected applications

Final Ranking	Proposal Identifier	Application	Challenge	Project Duration	Total Grant Amount
21	oc1-2025-TIS-01-133	Consortium Application	IDS.1	6 months	38,062.50 €
21	oc1-2025-TIS-01-146	Individual Application	IDM.3	6 months	60.000,00 €
20	oc1-2025-TIS-01-159	Individual Application	IDM.2	6 months	42,000.00 €
20	oc1-2025-TIS-01-102	Individual Application	IDE.2	6 months	59,937.50 €
20	oc1-2025-TIS-01-153	Consortium Application	IDH.1	6 months	37,500.00 €
20	oc1-2025-TIS-01-075	Consortium Application	IDM.4	6 months	45.000,00 €
19	oc1-2025-TIS-01-050	Individual Application	IDE.1	6 months	59,500.00 €
19	oc1-2025-TIS-01-024	Individual Application	IDE.1	6 months	60.000,00 €

19	oc1-2025-TIS-01-165	Individual Application	IDS.2	6 months	60 000,00 €
19	oc1-2025-TIS-01-032	Individual Application	IDH.1	6 months	60 000,00 €

5.3. STATISTICS OF THE SELECTED APPLICATIONS

Two (2) projects were selected for vertical Healthcare and Space, while **three (3)** were selected for Energy and Manufacturing.

The success rate was **4%** for the Healthcare Vertical, **6%** for the Energy Vertical, **5%** for the Manufacturing Vertical, and **6%** for the Space Vertical.

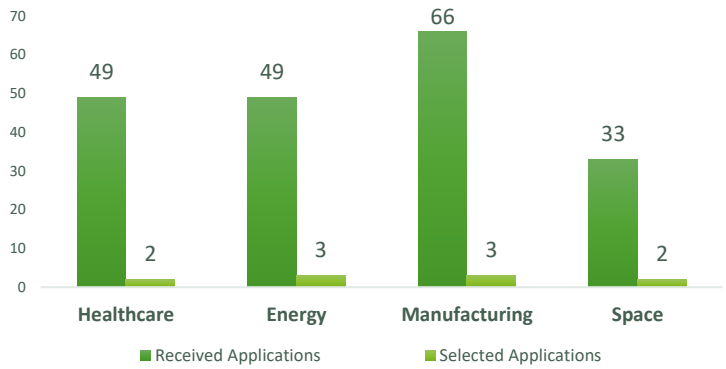


Figure 8. Distribution of received and selected applications across verticals.

Of the 10 selected projects, **seven (7)** were from **Individual Applicants**, and **three (3)** from **Consortium Applications** with **2** members, totalling **thirteen (13)** individual beneficiaries.

The legal status distribution among the selected applications shows that the majority of applicants were **Start-ups (5)**, followed by **Research Centres and SMEs (4)** (**Figure 9**).

Regarding gender, the totality of selected applicants were men **(13)**(**Figure 10**).

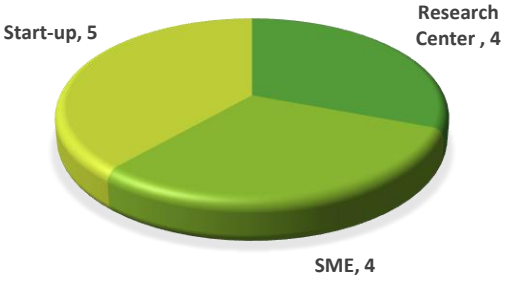


Figure 9. Legal Status Distribution among all the selected applicants

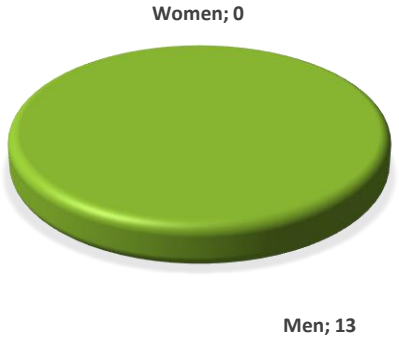


Figure 10. Gender Distribution among all the selected applicants

Geographically, the selected entities come from **10** different countries (**Figure 11**). There's two applicants from Belgium and Türkiye each, while one entity is based in each of the following countries: Austria, France, Germany, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain,

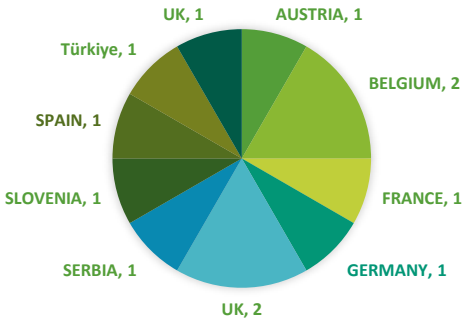


Figure 11. Selected applicants' country.

A total of **nine (9) projects** were selected out of **one hundred and twenty-three (123)** in the first ENFIELD Innovation Scheme Open Call. The average duration of exchange is **6 months**. Out of the €1.1M allocated by the ENFIELD project to support at least 18 small scale projects, **€499 760** was allocated in the oc1-2025-TIS-01 round to support 9 entities from R&D intensive establishments.

ETHICS DIMENSION

All the selected applications signed a sub-grant agreement ensuring that the projects will be carried out in line with the highest ethical standards and the applicable EU, international and national law on ethical principles (article 7 SGA). Naturally all unforeseen ethical issues that may rise during project implementation will be monitored by ENFIELD consortium on the one side, and the projects have a duty to report any issues on the other. Furthermore, the work carried out in this Open Call oc1-2025-TIS-01 followed the ethical standards set by the ENFIELD Grant Agreement article 14 (Ethics and Values), specific ethics rules are set out in Annex 5.

GENDER EQUALITY DIMENSION

Gender considerations were thoroughly incorporated throughout the development and selection processes of this Open Call oc1-2025-TIS-01, aligning with best practices for promoting diversity in AI research. While ENFIELD does not specifically encourage applications from women, the selection process prioritizes gender balance when proposals are tied, with preference given to those led by women or with teams closer to a 50/50 gender distribution, as outlined in the ranking rules. This approach ensured that gender equality standards were upheld consistently, guiding decision-making, and aligning with best practices.