HEDGE-IoT Open Call 1 Press Release

22/07/2025

HEDGE–IOT LAUNCHES FIRST OPEN CALL TO EMPOWER ENERGY

The HEDGE–IoT project is proud to announce the launch of its **Open Call 1**, an exciting funding opportunity designed to support **SMEs and startups** in developing **innovative, IoT–enabled, data–driven energy services**. The Open Call opened on 22 July 2025, and will remain open until **24 October 2025 at 17:00 CET**.

Through this Open Call, HEDGE–IoT will select and fund up to **12 third–party projects**, with a total funding allocation of **€700,000** and **up to €60,000 per applicant**. Selected innovators will be integrated into the HEDGE–IoT ecosystem and have the opportunity to **test and validate their solutions in real–world demonstration environments**.

Unlocking Innovation for a Smarter Energy Future

HEDGE–IoT is developing a novel **Digital Framework** that deploys IoT technologies across the energy value chain – from behind–the–meter devices to TSO–level systems. The project combines edge and cloud intelligence, federated AI, and semantic interoperability to deliver distributed, scalable, and secure energy services.

What the Open Call Offers

Participants in Open Call 1 will:

- Leverage **HEDGE–IoT's distributed digital architecture**
- Prove **the interoperability, scalability, and value** of their services
- Contribute to **Europe's energy transition** and digital transformation

The process is designed to ensure transparency and efficiency:

1. **Preparation & Publication** – All guidelines and templates are publicly available
2. **Application & Selection** – Proposals will be evaluated by an independent expert panel
3. **Implementation & Support** – Selected applicants receive funding and mentorship
4. **Evaluation & Sustainability** – Progress is monitored for long–term viability

Technical Scope and Strategic Priorities

Applicants are invited to propose solutions aligned with **sixteen targeted technical topics**, each associated with real–world pilot sites in Finland, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Slovenia. Topics include:

- Grid resiliency and DER optimization,
- AI–driven flexibility pricing and forecasting,

Co-funded by the European Union

- Standardized IoT protocols and data space integration,

- Federated learning, semantic interoperability, and edge-cloud orchestration, etc.

Funding Details

- **Maximum grant**: €60,000 per third party

- **Funding rate**: 70% of eligible costs

- **Pre-financing**: Up to 25%

- **Equipment and consumables cap**: 20% of total budget

All support will be provided under a standard contract, ensuring compliance with EU rules and full transparency in reporting, payments, and IP protection.

Who Can Apply?

The call is open to:

- **SMEs and startups** legally established in **Horizon Europe countries**

- Entities developing **IoT-enabled, data-driven energy services**

Evaluation Criteria

All proposals will be assessed on:

- **Excellence**: Innovativeness and alignment with Open Call goals

- **Impact**: Market potential and benefit to energy consumers

- **Technical Quality**: Use case definition and integration feasibility

- **Feasibility**: Realistic work plan, risk management, and resources

Apply Now

To learn more, visit the official **HEDGE-IoT Open Call website page**:

https://hedgeiot.eu/open-call/

Applications are being one through the **HEDGE-IoT page on F6S Platform**:

https://www.f6s.com/hedge-iot-open-call-1/apply

For media inquiries, contact:

✉ vukasin@f6s.com

🌐 www.hedge-iot.eu

HEDGE-IoT