

EU FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MOBILITY TRANSITION IN THE ALPINE REGION

An overview of mobility related funding schemes



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Alpine Space

The EUSALP 2025 Presidency has made the mobility transition one of its three priorities, with key goals to maximise existing infrastructure to shift traffic from road to rail, develop sustainable mobility services in the Alps, and ensure climate-resilient infrastructure. Several EU funding schemes are available to help the Alpine region in realising this ambitious shift. Here you can find an overview of mobility related funding streams.

Infrastructure funds

The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) for Transport helps build new or upgrade existing transport infrastructure across Europe. It focuses on crossborder projects that remove bottlenecks or bridge missing links, contributing to the development of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T). CEF Transport projects also support traffic management systems, innovation, environmental impact, energy efficiency and safety. There is an annual call for proposals with €2.5 billion made available last year.

The Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Facility (AFIF) supports the roll-out of alternative fuels infrastructure (predominantly high power electricity and hydrogen) for road, maritime, inland waterway and air transport. AFIF is dispersing €1 billion through a series of rolling calls, with upcoming deadlines in June 2025 and March 2026. Review the virtual info day for more information about the call.

The <u>InvestEU</u> Fund supports private and public investments in transport. Clean and sustainable transport modes, multimodal transport, road safety, renewal and maintenance of rail and road infrastructure are key parts of the 'Sustainable Infrastructure' policy area. Contact should be made with the <u>Information Desk</u> for financing enquiries.

Research and innovation

The majority of Horizon Europe calls related to mobility can be found in Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility including topics on industrial competitiveness in transport; clean, safe and accessible transport; and smart mobility. Besides this, two partnerships are dedicated to mobility issues:

- The Clean Hydrogen Partnership launched its 2025 call for proposals in January with a budget of €184.5 million to support the creation of cutting-edge hydrogen technologies. 3 topics totalling €17 million funding are dedicated specifically to transport.
- <u>Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-Rail)</u> will accelerate research and development in innovative railway technologies and operational solutions. It publishes regular calls for proposals, with next deadlines in May.

The following Horizon Europe partnerships will publish their calls within Cluster 5, which will be made available in April and have deadlines in September:

- The Connected, Cooperative and Automated Mobility (CCAM) Partnership funds topics from data ecosystems to infrastructure support and validation methodologies.
- The <u>BATT4EU Partnership</u> has a budget of €925 million to fund R&I activities in the battery sector.
- Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport is a Partnership that will develop zero-emission solutions for all main ship types and services.
- The <u>Towards zero emission road transport (2Zero)</u>
 <u>Partnership</u> aims at accelerating the transition towards zero tailpipe emission road mobility and covers research pertaining to all types of vehicles.

EIT Urban Mobility is Europe's largest innovation community for urban throughout the year on mobility related topics. Discover upcoming calls in its Call Programme 2025.

Active mobility

The European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIFs), including the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund, are the main funding instrument for active mobility infrastructure and support schemes. In particular, the ERDF's Greener Europe priority enables investment into sustainable multimodal urban mobility, and the Connected Europe priority supports sustainable and intermodal TEN-T.

The <u>Social Climate Fund</u> (SCF) aims to ensure that vulnerable groups, such as households in transport poverty, are not left behind during the green transition and can also support investments in active transport, including infrastructure and bike sharing schemes. Fund disbursement is organised at national level, and Member States must prepare their Social Climate Plans by June 2025, which will set out where and how these funds are to be spent. This includes measures that incentivise the use of affordable and accessible public transport and support private and public entities, including cooperatives, in developing and providing sustainable mobility on demand, shared mobility services and active mobility options.

Territorial cooperation

Transnational and cross-border Interreg programmes publish calls for proposals throughout the year, which can be tracked on the Interreg website. Interreg Europe provides free, tailor-made expert support services in the form of peer reviews and matchmakings. Examples include peer reviews on Urban mobility, the Implementation of DRT services and Low emission zones. The calls are continuously open and can be requested through a short and easy application process.

