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Waste-to-value devices - circular production of renewable fuels, chemicals and materials

European Commission

Fossil fuels supply a majority of the world's energy and also provide the raw materials, or feedstocks, for many essential everyday products. While energy provision is becoming increasingly decarbonized, the production of fuels, chemicals, and materials requires carbon atoms as feedstocks. However, their production can be "de-fossilized" by utilising renewable energy and alternative carbon sources. Likewise, a circular economy approach offers scope to reduce external dependencies and source other essential molecular feedstocks, including critical raw materials from wastes. This Pathfinder Challenge therefore focuses on the development of next-generation technologies that turn today's problematic waste streams into essential building blocks of a future circular economy. Furthermore, it specifically focuses on currently non- or hard-to-recycle types of synthetic polymer materials (including, among other mixtures of different types of plastics, polymeric composite materials, micro-/nanoplastics, untreated plastic waste, diapers, rubber, etc.), flue gases, wastewater, and seawater desalination brines. Proposals must target real-life industrial and household waste streams where current recycling methods face insurmountable barriers, e.g., due to impurities, the presence of noxious additives, inseparable material mixtures, or non-biodegradable materials. An important side effect is the remediation of waste streams to micro-/nanoplastics, trace metals, and noxious substances.

Eligibility

- The EIC Pathfinder Challenges support collaborative or individual research and innovation from consortia or single legal entities established in a Member State or an Associated Country (unless stated otherwise in the specific Challenge chapter).
- In case of a consortium, your proposal must be submitted by the coordinator on behalf of the consortium.
- A consortium of two entities must comprise independent legal entities from two different Member States or Associated Countries. Consortia of three or more entities must include as beneficiaries at least three legal entities, independent from each other and each established in a different country

The award value for this call is EUR 500000 to 4000000.

The application deadline is October 29, 2025.

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Opportunity Info

198 day(s) remaining**Amount:** EURO 4,000,000**Date added:** 2025-04-10**Deadline:** 29 Oct 25**Email:****Tel:****Contact Person:****Collaboration Required:** Yes**Funder's Website:** [Visit](#)**Related Calls:** [View](#)