

OPEN CALLS FOR FUNDING UNDER THE I3FLOAT PROJECT – INFORMATION SHEET

What is the I3FLOAT project?

I3FLOAT is a European initiative aimed at strengthening the **value chain** of floating offshore wind farms by mobilizing interregional investments in innovation and increasing the market readiness of advanced technologies. The project, which is funded under the Interregional Investment in Innovation (I3) program and co-financed by the European Union through EISMEA, involves 24 partners from 8 regions across Europe, including the Wind Industry Hub (PWEA Group – Poland).

Floating offshore wind technology

Floating offshore wind technology is beginning to play an increasingly important role in European offshore wind energy projects – especially in countries with deeper waters, such as the United Kingdom, France, Norway, Portugal, and Spain. It is estimated that by the end of the decade, a total of 10 GW of floating wind turbine capacity will be installed worldwide, and by 2050 these **installations will account for 15% of all offshore wind farms**, reaching a capacity of 264 GW.

An opportunity for Polish companies

The supply chain, which is being developed almost from scratch, currently presents a unique opportunity for domestic companies to get involved in the development of this technology at an early stage. **As part of the I3FLOAT project, grants of up to 60,000 EUR will be awarded to 50 SMEs for innovative solutions across the technology's entire life-cycle value chain.**

Poland is represented in the project consortium by the **Wind Industry Hub Foundation**, through which domestic companies can access all necessary information and receive assistance locally. The project also promotes companies from *Less Developed Regions* of the EU, which include most of Poland's territory¹!

Who can apply?

Applicants must be small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as defined by the European Union:

- **Employees:** < 250
- **Annual turnover:** ≤ 50 million EUR *or* **Balance Sheet:** ≤ 43 million EUR

¹ According to the criteria used by the European Union, the *less developed regions* (LDRs) cover almost all of Poland, excluding Greater Poland, Lower Silesia, and the Warsaw metropolitan area. Applicants from LDRs will receive bonus points during the proposal evaluation process.

Open Calls schedule

The first round of funding (*1st Open Call*) will follow this schedule:

- **September 7, 2026 – launch of the 1st Open Call**
- September 15, 2026 – informational webinar
- **November 11, 2026 – end of the 1st Open Call**
- November 12 – December 12, 2026 – evaluation process
- December 14 – December 31, 2026 – contractualization with beneficiaries
- January – December 2027 – project duration

The second round of funding (*2nd Open Call*) will begin in April 2027.

Types of projects

In the first round, funding will be awarded to projects in two thematic streams:

- ✓ up to 10 projects addressing **Open Challenges** developed on the basis of the priority Innovation Lines described in *the Floating Wind Strategic Innovation Agenda*, the launch of which will accompany the launch of the 1st Open Call in September 2026,
- ✓ 11 projects addressing **Specific Challenges** that are needs directly identified by developers and suppliers involved in the I3FLOAT project. The list is as follows:

Area:	Challenge title:	Requested by:
Mooring and anchoring design	Integration and assessment of Load Reduction Devices applied to mooring lines in floating offshore wind systems, aimed at reducing dynamic loads and improving fatigue life and system reliability	Saitec
Modularisation, process-oriented standardisation and industrial automation	Single-pass welding outside for local FOWT serial assembly	Eolink
Data acquisition for O&M digitalisation	Monitoring of Dynamic Performance of Offshore Wind Turbine Blades using LiDAR-based systems	EnerOcean
Data acquisition for O&M digitalisation	Storm-resilient drones for real time subsea inspection of floating windfarms	EDF
Mooring and anchoring design	Cost-optimised hybrid mooring systems	Iberdrola
Port-based component integration and heavy lifting operations	Logistics optimization on the transport of offshore wind structures	Navantia
Environmental impact and ecosystem effect mitigation	Maintaining fishing activities within the windfarm, marine safety, instrumentation: towards a sustainable co-existence inside floating windfarms	Qair
Mooring and anchoring design	Compact pre-terminated cable pull-in head for 66kV and 132kV	Aventa

Port-based component integration and heavy lifting operations	Lifting solution enabling to perform full erection of wind turbine generators (WTGs) at Port quayside	Geodis
Offshore installation and hook-up of platforms, cables and mooring system; Data acquisition for O&M digitalisation	Smart Offshore Gateway for Real-Time Subsea Monitoring in Floating Wind Operations	CoreMarine
Wind farm layout design and site planning	FLOW — Floating Layout Optimization for Wind	Tetrace

Contact:

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