

FEASIBILITY STUDIES FAQ - JUNE 2018

I. Partnership

Do you need to be paying member of the cluster to be partner of a feasibility study?

Yes, only paying members at talent or valorization level can participate as official partners.

Do you need to be "valorization level" member to coordinate a feasibility study?

The coordinator of the feasibility study is an industrial company engaged in the Flemish cluster at valorization level, preferentially with a strong commercial/innovation engagement in the respective value chain.

Can scientific partners participate to the feasibility study?

Depending on the nature of the activities, scientific partners can participate as partners or as subcontractors to the feasibility study (with IP rights to be agreed upon). Financially, they are always treated as a subcontractor, meaning that the companies need to fully reimburse the scientific partner(s) at market-conform conditions. Costs need to be detailed (research) or can be justified by a quotation (routine tasks).

Can cities, housing companies, federations, grid operators, regional innovation centers... participate to the feasibility study?

Companies/institutes cannot be financed unless they function as actor deploying commercial activities relevant for Flanders. Where relevant the cluster can advise the consortium to set up a "stakeholder group" of other parties relevant for the value chain in order to provide relevant input.

Can partners with no "commercial activities in Flanders" participate?

If participation of such a company or institute is desired, contact the coordinator of your innovator zone. The specific case will be individually evaluated by Flux50 and VLAIO. This evaluation has to be done before the final submission of the proposal.

How many partners can participate to a feasibility project?

Min. 3 industrial companies involved, max. is not limited

Can a company/institute participate to more than 1 feasibility study at a time, in the same year?

Yes, but a company cannot be coordinator of more than 2 feasibility studies at a time.

II.Content

What are the topical priorities for proposal?

The objectives of the feasibility studies need to be related to the field of action, ambitions and where available the roadmaps defined for the different innovator zones in the cluster. Complementary topics to the existing innovator zones are possible if they fit in the mission and vision of the cluster and if they are supported by a substantial industrial partnership. The relevance to the roadmaps of the innovator zones will be one of the selection criteria during the evaluation procedure

Is it necessary to choose a specific innovator zone for the feasibility study?

A feasibility study can be related to more than one innovator zone; the submitters can mention this in their proposal; in this case the energy cluster will decide which innovation zone is the most relevant.

Is there a template for submission of feasibility study proposals?

A template is available on the website.

Can a proposal be submitted in Dutch?

No, all proposals need to be submitted in English (when required with Dutch summary)

III.Duration/timing

When can feasibility studies be submitted?

In 2017 exceptionally, due to start-up, specific calls are launched. The first one was in May 2017 with a specific submission date, to stimulate early ideas. A second call is launched with submission date on 16 October 2017 with decision date December 2017. The third call is launched with submission data on 30 June 2018 with decision in the autumn 2018.

Is It mandatory to pre-register the feasibility studies?

For this third call, a pre-registration by email to call3@flux50.com by 30 June is required. This pre-registration needs to be done according to the template available on the website. This pre-registration is only informative, and no formal decisions will be made based on the information contained in this document.

[See template pre-registration](#)

What is the max. duration of a feasibility study?

The maximum duration is 1 year (typically between 3 and 6 months)

IV.Financing

All the project proposals must meet the conditions of a regular research-project

<https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject>



What is the maximum financing for a feasibility study?

The maximum financing is € 200.000.

What percentage of the costs is financed?

The minimal percentage is 25% and the maximal is 80% for SES, 70% for MES and 60% for other companies.

What is the maximum percentage of subcontracting?

Subcontracting outside Flanders is limited to 50% of the costs. Each partner should have a minimum of 50% R&D (personnel) in Flanders.

V. Innovator zone coordinators

Do you need to discuss the proposal with the innovator zone coordinator of the Flemish Energy Cluster before submission?

Yes, this is a mandatory step. The innovator zone coordinator has the task to support, facilitate and consult possible consortia in submitting proposals. He will contact you after reading the preregistration document to further enhance the proposal.

VI. Results of the study

Are the results of the study only available for the feasibility study partners?

It needs to be defined upfront (when submitting the feasibility study) which data resulting from the feasibility study will be available to the project partners only and which data can be made available for open innovation purposes or for the cluster strategy.

VII. Relation with living lab projects/trajectories

Do you automatically receive funding for a living lab project after completing the feasibility study?

No, a completed feasibility study can support the submission of a trajectory and/or living lab with relevant content but does not directly relate to the approval of next phases. Also living lab projects without previous feasibility study can be submitted.

