

Funding Strategy Preparation Worksheet

Section 1: Your Current Position

1. What stage is your business or project currently at?

- ☐ Idea/Concept
- ☐ Prototype/Pilot
- ☐ Early Operations
- ☐ Scaling/Growth
- ☐ Established

2. Briefly describe your innovation and its core impact goal:

3. Have you already secured any funding? If yes, describe the source and amount:

Section 2: Funding Needs

4. How much funding do you need over the next 12–24 months?

€ _____

5. What will the funding be used for?

- ☐ Product/prototype development
- ☐ Staff or contractor costs
- ☐ Marketing and communications
- ☐ Monitoring and evaluation
- ☐ Pilot/project delivery
- ☐ Equipment or materials
- ☐ Other: _____

6. When will you need this funding?

Month/Quarter: _____

Is the funding needed all at once or in stages? _____

Section 3: Suitable Funding Types

7. Which funding types are most realistic and appropriate for you right now?

- ☐ Grants
- ☐ Loans
- ☐ Equity
- ☐ Crowdfunding
- ☐ Impact Investment
- ☐ Blended/Hybrid Finance
- ☐ Other: _____

8. Which types of funders are a good match for your impact and stage?

Section 4: Funders to Explore

Funder/Programme	Type (grant, loan, equity)	Deadline	Notes
------------------	----------------------------	----------	-------

Section 5: Risks and Readiness

10. What are your biggest funding challenges or risks?

11. What steps can you take to build credibility with funders?

Section 6: Next Steps

12. List three concrete actions you'll take in the next 30 days to progress your funding strategy:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Further Resources

Use the resources below to help you explore real-world funding options and strengthen your strategy:

Funder/Programme	Type	Who It's For	Geographic Scope	Link
LIFE Programme	Grant	Environmental and nature-based projects	EU-wide	https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/section/life
Horizon Europe (Cluster 6)	Grant	R&I in climate, food, biodiversity	EU & Associated Countries	https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu
BRIGAD Connect	Grant/Support	Climate resilience innovators	EU	https://brigaidconnect.eu
EU Climate-KIC	Grant/Incubator	Early-stage climate solutions	EU	https://www.climate-kic.org
Seedrs / Crowdcube	Equity Crowdfunding	Consumer-facing startups	Europe	https://www.seedrs.com/ https://www.crowdcube.com
EIB InnovFin	Loan	Scale-ups in clean tech and innovation	EU	https://www.eib.org/en/products/mandates-partnerships/innovfin/index.htm
Social Finance Foundation (Ireland)	Social Loan	Mission-driven organisations	Ireland	https://www.sff.ie

Bonus Tips:

- Check eligibility criteria and deadlines early.
- Prioritise funders aligned with your mission and stage.
- Use this worksheet to create a shortlist and track your applications.