



Driving manufacturing SME transformation  
towards green, digital and social sustainability

## Cascade funding opportunities in Horizon: lessons learnt from the greenSME project and the next call for proposals

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Mesap in a nutshell

# Innovation Cluster MESAP

Born in Turin in 2009 as the **mechatronic innovation cluster** Mesap is uniting different cross-sector partners today.

Its agenda focuses on **Smart Products and Smart Manufacturing**

With both strong Regional roots and National connections, Mesap works together with local Entities and National Authorities

➤ **235** Members



**193** SME

**34** Large companies



**2** Universities

**6** Research Centres



➤ **Technology Sectors**

**AEROSPACE** **AUTOMOTIVE** **MANUFACTURING** **equipment, machines and automation**  
ICT RAILWAY Healthcare  
Energy/Clean Technologies **ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES Nanotechnologies**  
Construction and Home Automation Textile Agrifood Chemicals Marine Printing technologies





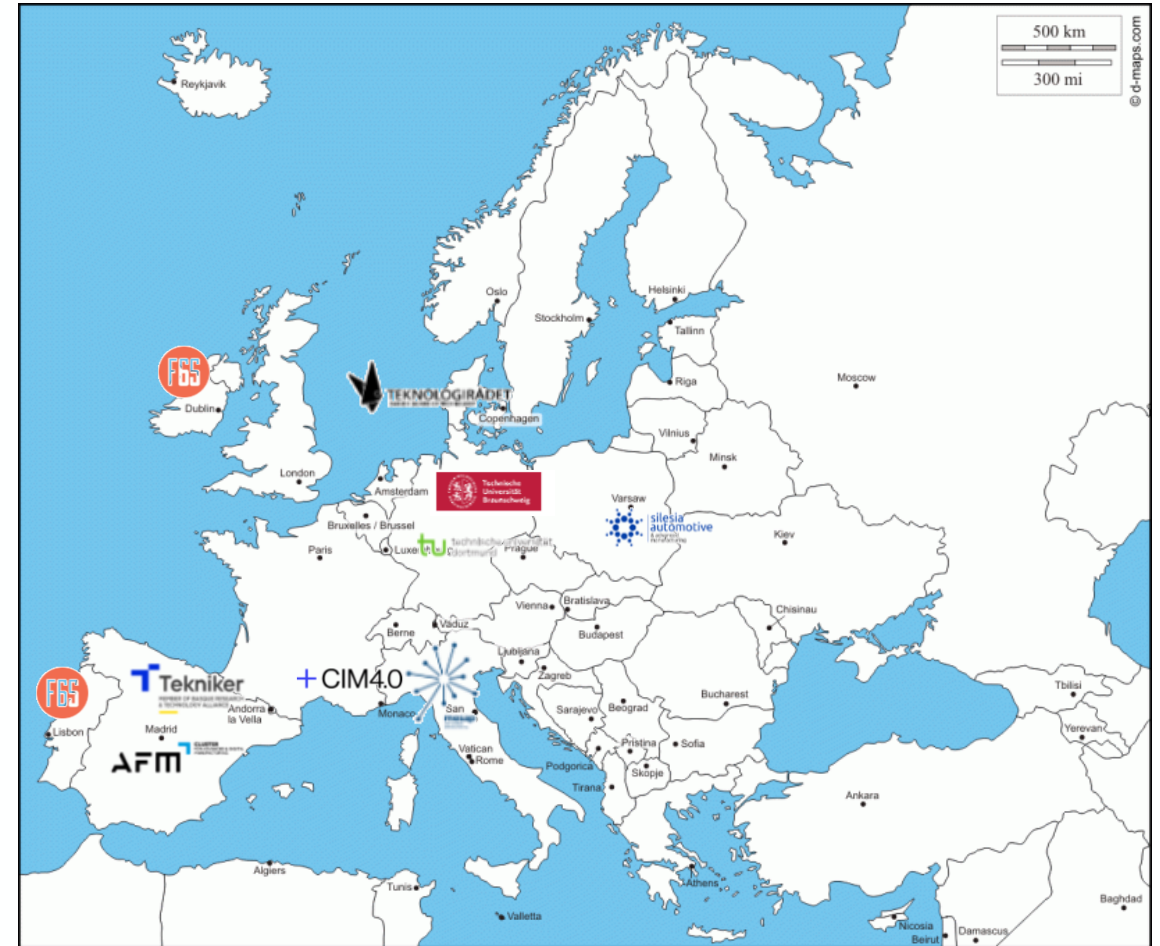
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What is greenSME

# greenSME in a nutshell

greenSME aims to strengthen manufacturing SMEs' capacity to adopt advanced technologies and social innovation for sustainability through a sustainability assessment tool, an action plan, and financial support to foster projects between manufacturing SMEs and Sustainability and Technology Providers.

- Topic: Horizon- CL4 2021- RESILIENCE-01-29
- Call: HORIZON-CSA
- Budget: around 5 million of Euros
- Open calls budget: 3 million of Euros
- Duration: 36 months
  
- 10 partners (Coordinator – TEKNIKER)
- 6 Countries





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Framework

# The EU framework

## A European Green Deal

European industry is a key component of Europe's economy and social welfare, but it is also a source of pollution.

The **European Green Deal** seeks to transform the EU into a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy



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# Why greenSME Project?

- + Advanced technologies together with social science will be the driver for the required green and digital transformation.



SMEs face different kinds of **barriers** in adopting **Advanced Technologies and sustainability principles**, such as:

- Lack of awareness about the importance of Sustainability
- No access to financial resources,
- Lack of information how to implement Sustainability
- Lack of skills
- SMEs support organizations, don't see sustainability benefits and tend to undervalue it regarding other topics.







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GreenSME vision



## DIGITAL AND GREEN MANUFACTURING ECOSYSTEM



## greenSME HUB

Sustainable Manufacturing SME Innovation Community



## SME pathway to sustainability

### Sustainability assessment



### Advanced Sustainability Action Plan (ASAP)



Financial support

### AT & Social projects for sustainability



Sustainable & Innovative SMEs

### Advanced Technology expertise and Social Innovation enablers



+ CIM4.0



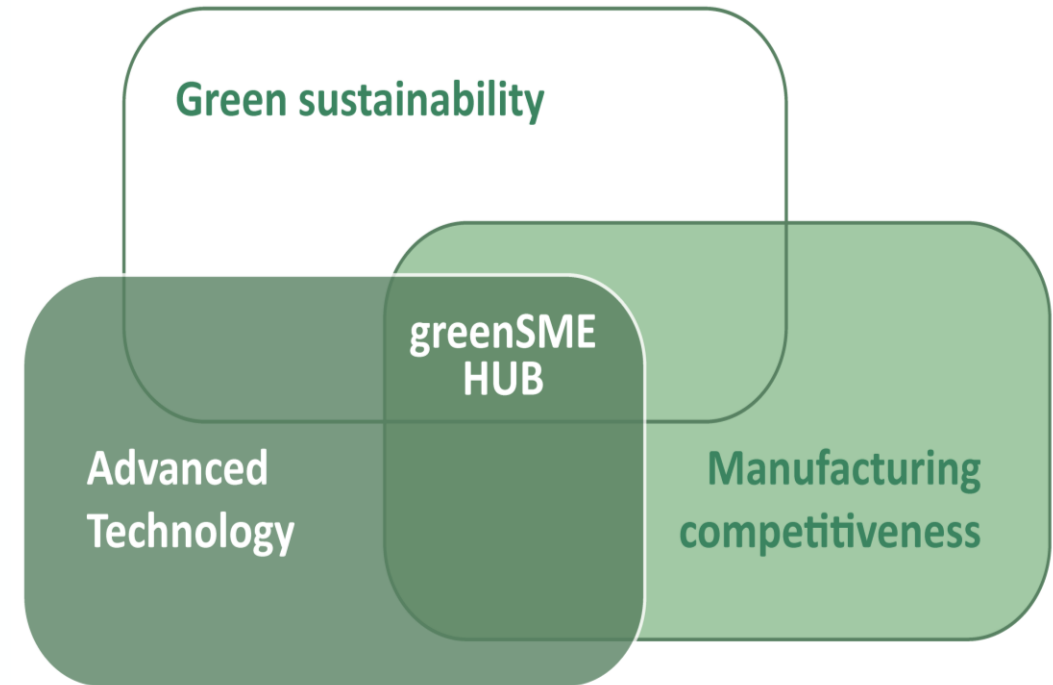
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### Providers Ecosystem AT & Social Innovation

# greenSME vision

## MAIN GOALS

- Mentor and support advanced technology adoption by **manufacturing SMEs** for economic, social and environmental sustainability
- Strengthen **EU sustainable manufacturing ecosystem**. Clusters have a key role in fostering resilient, green and digital industrial ecosystems.





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Who are the main  
actors?

# greenSME Actors

- **Manufacturing SMEs:** willing to to become more sustainable by adopting technology and social innovations
- **Sustainability and Technology Providers:** they will support manufacturing SMEs in implementing measures towards becoming more sustainable.  
The Providers will supply their services and solutions to the manufacturing SMEs in their industry fields EU sustainable manufacturing ecosystem.





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**Manufacturing SME  
pathway to  
Sustainability**

# The green transition pathway



Sustainability and  
Technology Providers



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# MANUFACTURING SME PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABILITY



- SME sustainability transformation pathway aims to foster manufacturing SMEs sustainability shift.

- The 3 main steps are:

1. Sustainability Assessment
2. Advanced Sustainability Action Plan
3. Financial support through the Open Call.

- The **Sustainability Assessment Tool** has been developed as a web-based self-assessment questionnaire, accessible through the greenSME HUB platform

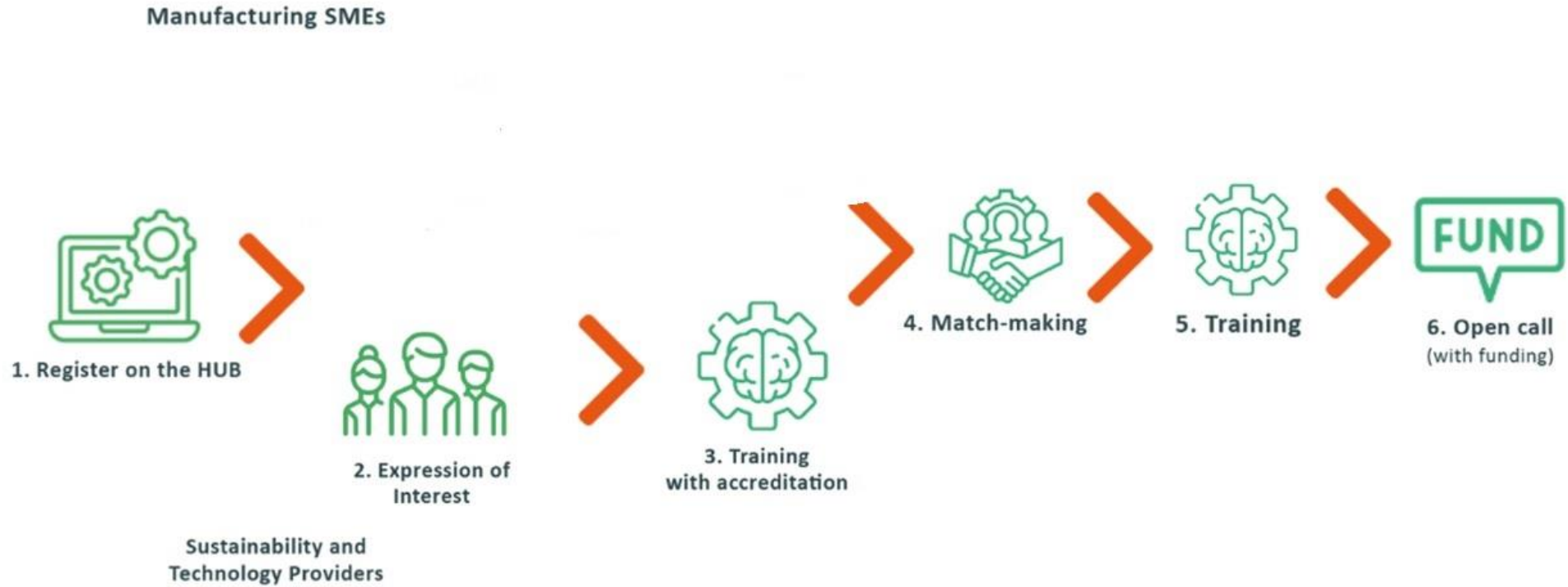




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**The role of the  
Sustainability and  
Technology Providers**

# The green transition pathway



- **Legal entities**, which mean any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has a legal personality and may, acting in its name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations.
- **SMEs** (enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million)
- **Established in one of the eligible Countries** (according to Horizon Europe scheme)

- greenSME will launch **the second open call in 2024** to provide financial support to manufacturing SMEs in adopting advanced technologies and social innovations supplied by the providers
- The Sustainability and Technology Providers **will support manufacturing SMEs in implementing measures defined in their action plan** towards becoming more sustainable
- The Providers will supply their **services and solutions** to the manufacturing SMEs in their industry fields

## Domains

- **Advanced Technologies**
- **Social Innovation**
- **Environment**

<b>Resources</b>
<b>Environmental life cycle</b>
<b>Carbon Footprint</b>
<b>Leadership</b>
<b>Collaborative Partnerships</b>
<b>Blockchain</b>
<b>Connectivity</b>
<b>Cloud computin</b>
<b>Industrial Biotechnology</b>
<b>Internet of Things (IoT)</b>
<b>Micro- and Nanoelectronics</b>
<b>Mobility</b>
<b>Nanotechnology</b>
<b>Photonics</b>
<b>Robotics</b>
<b>Security</b>

Domain	Services
Technology	Feasibility study
	Prototyping
	Pilot testing
	Demonstrating
	Use testing facilities
	New IT solutions
Technology, Social Innovation and Environment	Consultancy
	Coaching





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**OC2: Timeline, Funding  
and Eligibility  
conditions**

# Timeline and Funding

<b>Open Call 2</b>	Around June 2024	The objective of the call is to financially support the manufacturing SMEs that will submit proposals with the aim of implementing the recommendations elaborated during the sustainability assessment (SAT) and Advanced Sustainability Action Plan (ASAP) in order to become more sustainable with greater adaptability and resilience
<b>EoI Providers</b>	Cut-out dates: 31/12/2023 31/03/2024 (to be confirmed) 31/05/2024 (tbc)	The objective of the EoI is to create a list of accredited Sustainability and Technology Providers best suited to support manufacturing SMEs in implementing the changes defined in their action plan
<b>Funding</b>	Financial support will be delivered through a lump sum mechanism	greenSME provides up to EUR 35 000 per project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sustainability and Technology Provider(s) (max 2) – EUR 25 000</li><li>• Manufacturing SME – EUR 10 000</li></ul>





# Eligibility Criteria

<b>Only SMEs can participate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Legal entities, which mean any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has a legal personality and may, acting in its name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations.</li><li>• Single legal entities classified as Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs): “The category of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is made up of enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million.”</li></ul>
<b>Location</b>	<p>All the participants [manufacturer SMEs and Sustainability &amp; Technology Providers] must be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the Member States of the European Union, including their outmost regions;</li><li>• the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States; and</li><li>• third countries associated with Horizon Europe Entities from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) are eligible for funding under the same conditions as entities from the Member States to which the OCT in question is linked.</li></ul>



# Eligibility Criteria

<b>Manufacturing SMEs</b>	The manufacturing company should have a <b><u>NACE code classified under the category C</u></b>
<b>Manufacturing SMEs</b>	The manufacturing company must have fulfilled a greenSME sustainability assessment (SAT) and developed the Action Plan (ASAP)
<b>Sustainable and Technology Providers</b>	The Sustainable and Technology Providers must be part of the list of accredited providers



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Lessons learnt after OC1

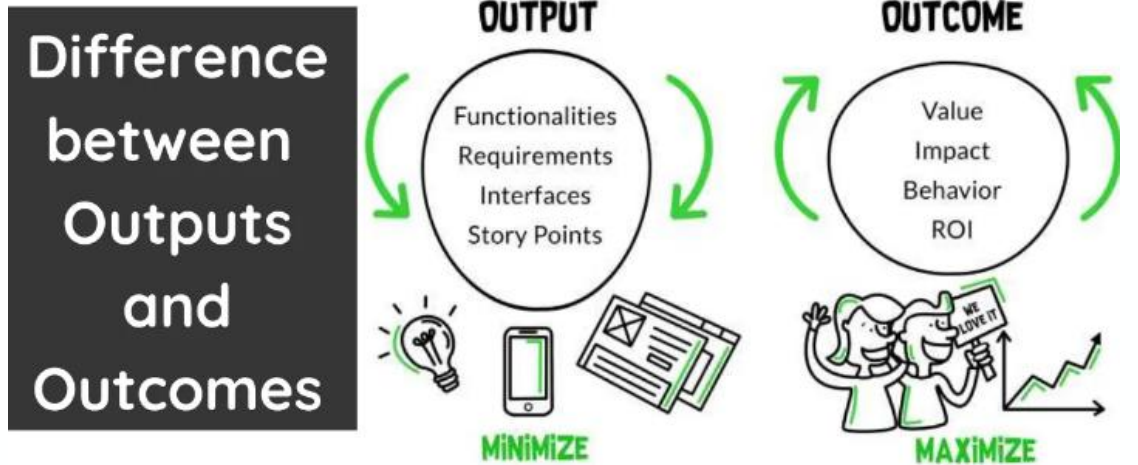
Don't put off until  
tomorrow what you  
can do today.



## Use and quantify KPIs



## Propose results, outputs and outcomes



Sustainability: specify what you mean with it





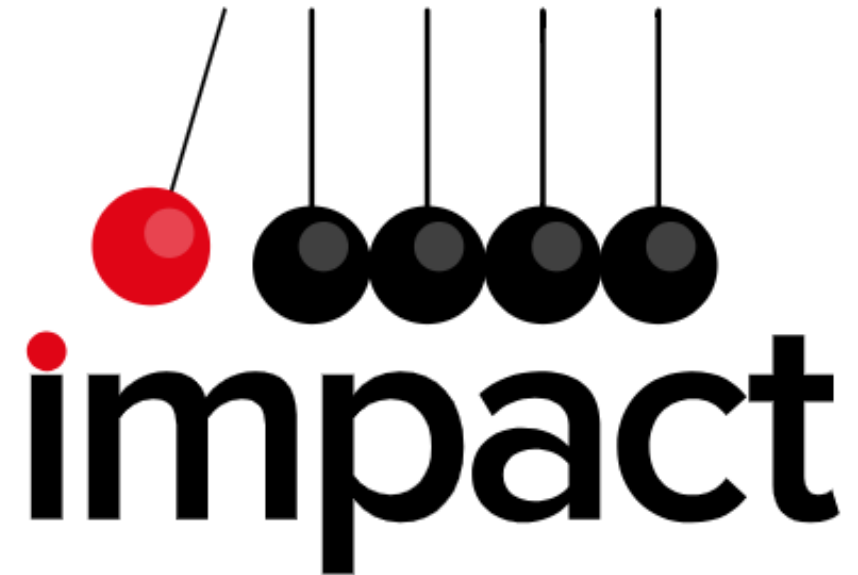
Don't produce  
"statements": always  
justify assumptions

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When writing the proposal, be effective: it is not the length that counts, but clearly detail what you want to do, and the estimated results

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# The Impact, this unknown



# Produce good risk analysis, and mitigation measures



## Allocate appropriate skilled staff





# Thank you for the attention

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