

## VInnovate Call 2025 – Regional Instrument Description : Lower Saxony

Beyond the information provided in the present document, applicants are **required to consult the dedicated** <u>regional</u> <u>documents/webpages,</u> and to contact regional representatives in case of doubts.

## N.B: This version is a DRAFT version, which will be updated in the coming days.

Category	Answers
Name Funding Instrument	Program for Research and Development in SMEs
Website	Innovationsförderprogramm für Forschung und Entwicklung in Unternehmen (IFP)
Geographical Coverage (NUTS 2 or NUTS 3 level)	Lower Saxony
<b>Grant amount <u>potentially</u> activable for VInnovate Call</b> <b>2025</b> <i>N.B.1: This amount represents the amount available for</i>	Min. 250.000 €; the amount is not fixed but open for VInnovate projects <i>N.B.1 The amount mentioned is not a commitment from the region to actually use</i> <i>that entire amount in the context of the Call 2025. It is only an indication regarding</i>
the VInnovate Call 2025 <u>in total</u> , i.e. for all possible projects/actors from the region.	the amount potentially activable.
N.B.2.: The amount mentioned is not a commitment from the region to actually use that entire amount in the context of the Call 2025. It is only an indication regarding the amount potentially activable.	
Indicative target regarding the number of projects expected to be funded/selected, per region	/



New growth through smart specialisation

	th through smart specialisation
Short description and Scope of the instrument - Technologies and/or applications areas and/or policies objectives targeted?	<ul> <li>Grants for industrial research and experimental development projects from SMEs in which a high proportion of development is carried out by own personnel in order to develop new or significantly improved, marketable products, production processes or services</li> <li>Classical instrument for cooperational projects between SMEs and research institutes/universities,</li> <li>Non-repayable grant of up to 500,000 euros for companies</li> <li>At least one SME has to have a headquarters or place of business in Lower Saxony</li> <li>All partners have to submit one proposal but individual financing and work plans</li> <li>Project duration max. 36 month (3 years)</li> </ul>
Conditions for funded applicants – Type	SMEs: ⊠ YES □ NO
The type of eligible (for funding) applicants.	Large Companies:
	□ YES;
	$\boxtimes$ YES, but only when cooperating with an SME located in the region;
	Universities:
	□ YES;
	oxtimes YES, but only when cooperating with an SME located in the region;
	□ NO



New grow	th through smart specialisation
	Research/Technology/Facility centres:
	<ul> <li>YES;</li> <li>YES, but only when cooperating with an SME located in the region;</li> <li>NO</li> </ul>
	Others / other comments:
Specific consortium-related conditions applying (eventually) at regional level, beyond VInnovate Call 2025 main conditions	<ul> <li>Min. number of partners located in the region per consortium ? □ YES ⊠ NO</li> <li>If "yes", indicate how many partners min. required: here</li> <li>Max. number of partners located in the region per consortium ? □ YES ⊠ NO</li> <li>If yes, indicate how many partners max.: here</li> <li>Additional budget-related rules in terms of min./max. proportion of budget per partner or min./max. proportion of budget from the actors of the region in the total international project budget ? □ YES ⊠ NO</li> <li>If yes, specify those rules : here</li> </ul>
Can actors outside of the region be financially supported by the instrument?	□ YES
Conditions for 'international' partners – Type	/
Funding rates	45% for Small Enterprises (SE)



New grow	New growth through smart specialisation	
	35% for Medium sized Enterprises (ME)	
	25% for Non-SME, but only when cooperating with an SME located in the region	
TRLs covered	TRL 6: ⊠ YES □ NO	
	TRL 7: ⊠ YES □ NO	
	TRL 8: 🛛 YES 🗀 NO	
Max./Min. project duration (beyond the VInnovate Call rule of max. 36 Months project duration), if any	Max. 3 years	
Max./Min. amount of grant/project cost, if any	Minimum project cost:	
	Maximum project cost:	
	Maximum grant amount: Max. 500.000,00 € grant amount for SME	
	Max. 300.000,00 € additional grant amount for research partners, but a SME needs to be the applicant	
	Minimum grant amount:	
Covered transitions (potentially!)	Smarter industry: 🛛 YES 🛛 NO	
	More sustainable industry: 🛛 YES 🛛 NO	
	More autonomous/less dependent industry:	



	¥ YES □ NO
Covered VI Pilots (potentially)	Nano: 🛛 YES 🗆 NO
	Bio-Economy: 🛛 YES 🗆 NO
	ESM: 🛛 YES 🛛 NO
	<b>3DP:</b> ⊠ YES □ NO
	ADMA Ener: 🛛 YES 🛛 NO
	Smart Health: 🛛 YES 🗆 NO
	AI: ⊠ YES □ NO
	Hydrogen: 🛛 YES 🛛 NO
Covered activities	Personnel costs (demonstration/R&D): ⊠ YES □ NO
	Personnel costs (coordination):   YES INO
	Subcontracting costs: 🛛 YES 🗆 NO
	Purchase costs – travel: 🗆 YES 🛛 NO
	Purchase costs – equipment*: ⊠ YES □ NO (depreciation)
	Purchase costs – other goods, works and services: □ YES ⊠ NO



Act How	Indirect costs/overheads:  YES NO
	- If possible, please indicate here the % applied for indirect costs:
	Specific comments, if any:
	*For equipment lasting longer than the project duration, only proportional depreciation would apply.
Other specific restrictions/conditions?	
Regional Application	
Timeline for 'regional' proposals	□ YES
Additional specific timing-related provisions at regional level?	Continuous application possible
Description of requirements for 'regional proposals'	
Where can possible applicants find information about the information expected to be provided at 'regional proposal' stage?	https://www.nbank.de/Förderprogramme/Aktuelle- Förderprogramme/Innovationsförderprogramm-für-Forschung-und-Entwicklung-in- Unternehmen-(IFP).html#aufeinenblick
Contact person for 'regional instrument' questions	Thomas Brinks:
	Thomas.Brinks@NBank.de;
Who can be contacted by regional applicants in case of 'regional-instrument' specific questions?	+49 511 300 31 362;
	Antje Overmeyer:
	antje.overmeyer@mb.niedersachsen.de;
	+49 511 120 8433
'Internal cooperation' vs single application	YES, two organisations can apply jointly.



Can two (or more) organisations located in the region apply together in a cooperation project? I.e. a situation where the two organisations located in the region would apply jointly, together with organisation(s) from outside the region and country, which would in their case apply in their own region?	□ NO, each needs to submit a distinct proposal. □ NO, max. one organisation from the region is eligible per project.
Interregionaldimension-coveragein'regionalproposal'When submitting the information requested at regional level(i.e. 'regional proposal') regional applicants will be asked todescribe the entire 'interregional' project, including generaldescription of activities from the partners from outside of theregion. In addition, specific requirements will focus on theactivities of the 'regional actors' exclusively.	¥YES □ NO
For VInnovate Call 2024 participating regions only – Are beneficiaries selected for funding in the framework of the VInnovate Call 2024 eligible for the Call 2025 ?	⊠ YES □ NO