



## Vinnovate Call 2026 – Regional Instrument Description : NORTE

Beyond the information provided in the present document, applicants are **required to consult the dedicated [regional documents/webpages](#), and to contact regional representatives** in case of doubts.

| <b><u>Category</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b><u>Answers</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <b>Name Funding Instrument</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Programa Regional do Norte 2021-27 / Norte Regional Programme 2021-27 (NORTE 2030)                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Source of Funding</b><br><br><i>Indicate the extent to which the instrument is based on ERDF or Regional or National resources. Indicate the extent to which the instrument is activable (by regional actors) only in the context of Vinnovate or not (in that case the instrument can also be activated locally, outside of the Vinnovate Call 2026 framework)</i> | Own regional/national funds: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO<br><br>- If yes, : Dedicated/reserved for Vinnovate Call 2026: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO<br><br>ERDF: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| <b>Website</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | The application website with info is still not entirely defined. Will be provided as soon as possible                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Geographical Coverage (NUTS 2 or NUTS 3 level)</b><br><br><i>Name the region/provinces potentially covered by the instrument.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | NUTS II                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Grant amount <u>potentially</u> activable for Vinnovate Call 2026</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 250,000€                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |



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| <p><i>N.B.1: This amount represents the amount available for the Vinnovate Call 2026 <u>in total</u>, i.e. for all possible projects/actors from the region.</i></p> <p><i>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 2026. It is only an indication regarding the amount potentially activable.</i></p>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>Indicative target regarding the number of projects expected to be funded/selected, per region</b></p> <p><i>If possible, please indicate here the targeted number (or range) of projects the regions is expected to select for funding. This is an indication only, to guide strategic decisions of actors. Internal comment: if you are not in a position to provide such range, please leave blank.</i></p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>Short description and Scope of the instrument - Technologies and/or applications areas and/or policies objectives targeted?</b></p> <p><i>Indicate the extent to which the instrument has a thematic focus or not (incl. any specific policy objectives to be pursued). In less than 100 words. E.g. indicate whether projects need to be aligned with e.g. the S3 priorities from the region.</i></p>        | <p>The projects must comply with the Norte 2030 strategy, namely to be framed within the Smart Specialization Strategy of Norte region, S3Norte. Compliance with the specific domains of S3Norte is a compulsory requirement.</p> <p>In terms of Policy objectives, this instrument will fall under OE1.1 of the Norte2030 strategy.</p> <p>This call will be under the “demonstrator projects” type of funding mechanism, allowing co-promotion efforts (multiple partners, with 1 leading partner).</p> |
| <p><b>Conditions for funded applicants – Type</b></p> <p><i>Mention the type of eligible (for funding) applicants.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>SMEs: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Large Companies:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |



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|                                                                                                                                          | <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES, but only when cooperating with an SME located in the region;</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p><b>Universities:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES;</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES, but only when cooperating with an SME located in the region;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p><b>Research/Technology/Facility centres:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES;</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES, but only when cooperating with an SME located in the region;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p><b>Others / other comments:</b> Aside from SMEs, “small mid caps” are also eligible. Among Norte partners, the application must be led by a company (SME or “small mid cap”), and can then have universities / R&amp;D centers as copromotors.</p> |
| <p><b>Specific consortium-related conditions applying (eventually) at regional level, beyond Vinnovate Call 2026 main conditions</b></p> | <p>Min. number of partners located in the region per consortium ? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>- If “yes”, indicate how many partners min. required: here</p> <p>Max. number of partners located in the region per consortium ? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |



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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>- <i>If yes, indicate how many partners max.: here</i></p> <p>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 ? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>- <i>If yes, specify those rules : here</i></p> |
| <b>Can actors outside of the region be financially supported by the instrument?</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Conditions for 'international' partners – Type</b><br><br><i>Please indicate any specific conditions associated to the partners (outside of the region) which can be part of the project (not financially supported/not eligible for funding in most of the case, unless answered 'YES' to the previous question.</i> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Funding rates</b><br><br><i>If different funding rates according to different types of funded partners, please indicate.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>For companies, base funding rate is 25%, which can be increased by 20% for SMEs, and by an additional 15% for projects in collaboration between SMEs and academic/R&amp;D partners.</p> <p>For research partners, funding rate is 85%.</p>                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>TRLs covered</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>(TRL 5: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO)<sup>1</sup></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

<sup>1</sup> While this is not the core target, activities at TRL5 can be potentially eligible for funding in a Vinnovate project if a substantial part of the project activities (more than 50% of the project costs) are associated to activities at higher (TRL6 and beyond) TRL levels.



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| <p><i>Indicate the extent to which the following TRLs are covered or not: TRL6 (yes/no), TRL7 (yes/no) and TRL8 (yes/no).</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>TRL 6: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>TRL 7: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>TRL 8: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>                                                                         |
| <p><b>Max./Min. project duration (beyond the VInnovate Call rule of max. 30 Months project duration), if any</b></p> <p><i>Indicate the maximum (and minimum if any) project duration (in months),</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>0-36 months</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p><b>Max./Min. amount of costs/grants per project, if any</b></p> <p><i>Indicate the maximum (and minimum if any) total project costs and/or grant amount.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>No limits.</p> <p>Minimum project cost:</p> <p>Maximum project cost:</p> <p>Maximum grant amount:</p> <p>Minimum grant amount:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p><b>Covered transitions (potentially!)</b></p> <p><i>In view of reflecting/mirroring the eligibility criteria of VInnovate call 2026, indicate the extent to which the instrument could potentially be activated to support solutions to one or several of the targeted transitions: 1) a smarter and/or 2) a more sustainable and/or 3) a more autonomous/less dependent industry.</i></p> | <p>Smarter industry: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>More sustainable industry: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>More autonomous/less dependent industry:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> |
| <p><b>Covered VI Pilots (potentially)</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>Bio-Economy: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |



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| <p><i>In view of reflecting/mirroring the eligibility criteria of Vnnovate Call 2026, indicate the extent to which the instrument could potentially be activated to support solutions/projects in the following fields (i.e. the scope of the VI pilots): 1) Bio-Economy; 2) Efficient Sustainable Manufacturing; 3) High-Performance Production through 3D Printing; 4) Advanced Manufacturing for Energy-related Applications in Harsh Environments; 5) Smart Health; 6) Hydrogen.</i></p> | <p>ESM: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>3DP: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>ADMA Ener: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Smart Health: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Hydrogen: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p><b>Covered activities</b></p> <p><i>In view of reflecting/mirroring the eligibility criteria of Vnnovate call 2026, indicate the extent to which the following activities are eligible for funding: 1) Personnel costs (demonstration/R&amp;D), 2) Personnel costs (coordination), 3) Subcontracting costs, 4) Purchase costs – Travel, 5) Purchase costs – Equipment.</i></p>                                                                                                            | <p>Personnel costs (demonstration/R&amp;D): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Personnel costs (coordination): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Subcontracting costs: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Purchase costs – travel: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Purchase costs – equipment: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Purchase costs – other goods, works and services: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>Indirect costs/overheads: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>- If possible, please indicate here the % applied for indirect costs:</p> <p>Specific comments, if any: For equipment only amortization can be supported.</p> <p>Regarding personnel costs for coordination/management, this can be only residual costs.</p> |



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| <b>Other specific restrictions/conditions?</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Regional Application</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Timeline for 'regional' proposals</b><br><br><i>Beyond the 'standard' Vinnovate Call 2026 timeline, is there any possible additional restriction/timing to be taken into account?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO<br><br>- <i>If yes, indicate when the call will open: here</i><br><br>Or<br><br>- <i>If yes, indicate when the call will close: here</i>                                                   |
| <b>Description of requirements for 'regional proposals'</b><br><br><i>Where can possible applicants find information about the information expected to be provided at 'regional proposal' stage?</i>                                                                                                                                                                      | Indicate website here                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Contact person for 'regional instrument' questions</b><br><br><i>Who can be contacted by regional applicants in case of 'regional-instrument' specific questions?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                  | innovation@ccdr-n.pt                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>'Internal cooperation' vs single application</b><br><br>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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES, two organisations can apply jointly.<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> NO, each needs to submit a distinct proposal.<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> NO, max. one organisation from the region is eligible per project. |
| <b>Multiple applications</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One organisation can be part of <b>maximum two distinct consortia</b> , and therefore <b>submit maximum two proposals</b>                                                                                                  |



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| Can one organisation from the region submit distinct proposals?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                     |
| <p><b>Interregional dimension-coverage in ‘regional proposal’</b></p> <p><i>When submitting the information requested at regional level (i.e. ‘regional proposal’) regional applicants will be asked to describe the entire ‘interregional’ project, including general description of activities from the partners from outside of the region. In addition, specific requirements will focus on the activities of the ‘regional actors’ exclusively.</i></p> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| <p><b>For Vlnnovate Call 2025 participating regions only – Are beneficiaries selected for funding in the framework of the Vlnnovate Call 2025 eligible for the Call 2026 ?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |