Deep dive into synergies with Member States and Regions

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Co-funded by the European Union
Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking builds on extensive experience gained from the Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking. Clean Aviation has stepped up efforts to capitalise on synergies and complementarities with national and regional Research & Innovation programmes and is extending its network of collaborating Member States and Regions at both strategic and operational levels.

Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking has fostered strategic collaborations with Member States and regions, largely by leveraging synergies with the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). Since the launch of this pilot programme in 2015, 18 Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) have been signed at national or regional level.

Through the 18 MoUs, 52 pilot projects were launched with a total budget of more than EUR 50m. In addition, 12 Clean Sky Synergy Labels were awarded. These quality labels were awarded to complementary activities proposed by Clean Sky 2 beneficiaries, and they enabled those activities to be supported for funding by ESIF.

Memoranda of Understanding between Clean Sky and Member States / Regions

18 MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING AT NATIONAL OR REGIONAL LEVEL

- Occitania (FR)
- Catalonia (ES)
- Castilla La Mancha (ES)
- Västra Götaland (SE)
- Östergötland (SE)
- Romania (National level)
- Andalucía (ES)
- Campania (IT)
- Czech Republic (National level)
- Zuid-Holland (NL)
- Flevoland (NL)
- Portugal (National level)
- Castilla y Leon (ES)
- Podkarpackie (PL)
- Greece (National level)
- Sterea Ellada (GR)
- Brandenburg (DE)
- Nouvelle-Aquitaine (FR)

Countries with a MoU in place
Regions with a MoU in place
Key achievements

MoU action plan

Clean Sky 2 developed a strategic action plan to leverage synergies with Member States and regions that were interested in investing ESIF or other national funds into the aeronautics area. The Joint Undertaking collaborated closely with interested Member States and regions, focusing efforts on the priorities set out in national programmes or Research and Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3). As a result of this strategic cooperation, a number of Member States and regions launched calls and funding schemes that either included topics dedicated to aeronautics that are synergetic to Clean Sky or incentivised the submission of proposals complementary to JU’s activities and objectives.

National/regional calls linked to the Clean Sky 2 programme

CAMPANIA (IT)

A second regional call was launched during 2020, allocating EUR 15m of available funding for regional aeronautics priorities aligned to the Clean Sky 2 programme. The aim was to fund enabling systems and technologies in aeronautics to accelerate innovation processes in the local industry. By the end of 2020, nine pilot projects had been supported by the two regional calls.

The region also committed an initial EUR 10m to support regional stakeholders for their potential participation in research actions that can support the Clean Aviation Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, with funding mechanisms to be agreed and designed with the JU.

OCCITANIE (FR)

The regional call “Readynov” included topics related to aeronautics technologies in line with RIS3 priorities, and aimed to support proposals linked to Clean Sky 2 topics. By the end of 2020, this call had supported eight pilot projects with a budget of around EUR 4.5m.

PODKARPACKIE (PL)

Under the Priority 1: ‘Competitive and innovative economy’, action 1.2 ‘Industrial research, development works and their implementation’, the regional Managing Authority launched a call for stakeholders representing the aviation industry from the Podkarpackie region. This call included specific research topics aligned with the Clean Sky 2 Work Plan and additional evaluation points for projects showing alignment to Clean Sky 2.
ROMANIA

A national open submission scheme launched in early 2016 by the National Authority for Scientific Research and Innovation of Romania (ANCSI) supported a number of complementary projects to Clean Sky 2 activities with a total budget of EUR 5.5m. Two of these projects were awarded the Clean Sky Synergy Label.

CZECH REPUBLIC

The Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic launched a complementary call to Clean Sky 2 in 2017, under the national programme ‘Aplikace’, as a result of the MoU cooperation. The call aimed to support R&I projects complementary to Clean Sky 2’s Work Plan and had a total budget of around EUR 15.5m.

GREECE

A funding scheme, within the framework of the MoU, was launched to support complementary activities to Clean Sky 2 calls with a budget of EUR 2m. This scheme aims to support either proposals with a Clean Sky Synergy Label, or proposals highly ranked in the reserve list of the last Clean Sky calls.

PORTUGAL

The Innovation National Agency (ANI) launched the national call ‘AVISO’ which included possible support for complementary activities to Clean Sky 2. Two projects have been supported so far with a budget of around EUR 5.9m, in the context of the MoU cooperation.

Projects developed and supported by ESIF under the MoUs’ cooperation

**Modular Iron Bird (MIB):** a project supported by the Campania region, with a budget of EUR 1.84m aiming to develop an advanced test to flight control equipment of and/or actuators of different types of small/medium aircraft.

**Development works on preparation and implementation of technology for the production of aviation units with an integral thin-walled structure:** a project supported by the Podkarpackie (PL) Operational Programme in 2020, with a budget of around EUR 1.7m. The project was a complementary proposal in a Clean Sky 2 topic in the Airframe platform.

**Reuse of Composites for high performance Applications (ReCAP):** was a Portuguese complementary activity to the targeted developments on new composite technologies for aircraft structures and components. The project, with a budget of around EUR 2.36m, was aligned with the Clean Sky 2 high-level objectives for structures.

**Development of Press-Forming Conforming Processes for Pre-Impregnated Fabrics of High Thickness (ANNPRESS):** a pilot project supported by Castilla La Mancha (ES) region with a budget of EUR 250 000. The project activities were planned under Airframe and Large Passenger Aircraft platforms.

**FiA:** was a project supported by the Västra Götaland (SE) region with a budget of EUR 400 000 that aimed to set up a flexible automation cell to manufacture lightweight structural engine parts for Clean Sky 2 demonstrators.
**BRAMETAL**: a project awarded by the Occitanie (FR) region that aims at new processes for metal-alumina brazing in the Large Passenger Aircraft and Airframe areas, with a budget of **EUR 820 000**.

**Composite Automation Development Centre (CADC)**: a regional project supported by the Regional Development Funds [EFRO] in South Holland. This project had a budget of **EUR 4.25m**, and demonstrated strong synergies with activities in the Large Passenger Aircraft and Airframe platforms.

**Clean Sky Synergy Label project (supported by ESIF under MoUs Cooperation)**

**DADTOFLY**: was a complementary activity to the Clean Sky topic ‘Ultra-High Aspect Ratio wings’ under the 10th Call for Proposals. This was submitted for funding in the Greek national call dedicated to Clean Sky 2 programme. The project budget was **EUR 250 000** while the maximum possible ESIF contribution for this Clean Sky project was about **EUR 500 000**.

**INFRASEAL**: was a complementary proposal linked to the project ‘AIRSEAL’ selected for funding under the 8th Call for Proposals within the Engine topic “Airflow characterization through rotating labyrinth seal”. This proposal, with a budget of approx. **EUR 2 000 000**, was submitted for funding under the Romanian national scheme, and had been also supported by the Minister of Research and Innovation.

**OSIRIS**: was a complementary activity linked to the project ‘SENSORIANCE’ selected for funding under the 6th Call for Proposals, within the System topic “Affordable Electro-Optical Sensor Cluster”. This proposal had a budget of **EUR 528 240** and was submitted for funding under the Andalucía (ES) regional funding scheme for ESIF proposals.

**REMASTER**: this proposal was linked to the Clean Sky project ‘InnoSTAT’ selected for funding under the 9th Call for Proposals, within the Large passenger Aircraft topic “Innovative low noise fan stator technologies for 2030+ power-plants”. This proposal, with a budget of **EUR 1 467 500**, was submitted for funding under the Romanian national call for Clean Sky activities.