



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT
Directorate C – Zero Pollution
ENV.C.1 – Sustainable Freshwater Management



Brussels
ENV.C.1

Dear Mr [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email to Executive Vice-President Timmermans of 7 June 2022 in which you ask to present your projects about cleaning up polluted water and hydrogen production from wastewater. The Executive Vice-President asked me to reply on his behalf.

The European Green Deal (EGD) is the new growth strategy that aims to transform the European Union into a modern, climate neutral, resource-efficient and competitive economy. The Commission works intensively on the implementation of the EGD. In this respect, the Commission is a frontrunner in supporting zero pollution¹, circular economy² and quality of life and welcomes initiatives for the implementation of the European Union environmental policies.

In this regard, your e-mail message about counteracting water pollution and hydrogen production sounds interesting and it is very much welcome and supportive of our joint goal. Unfortunately, currently, our commitments do not allow us to be able to arrange a meeting with you, at least for the present time period. Furthermore, the Commission services are not in a position to discuss commercial projects as such.

However, the Commission provides a series of funding opportunities and supporting tools that you might wish to explore and take advantage of them. For example, the Life Programme³ provides support for projects promoting environmental protection and related to the circular economy. Horizon Europe⁴ is another research and innovation funding programme. It is very likely that one or several of these financing opportunities match your project orientation. Moreover, the Commission opened on 1 March 2022 funding

¹ On 12 May 2021, the European Commission adopted the EU Action Plan: "[Towards a Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil](#)".

² In March 2020, EC adopted a new [Circular Economy Action Plan](#), which outlines several specific measures relevant to plastics.

³ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/>

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en

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opportunities worth over €1.7 billion under the European Innovation Council (EIC). I suggest you visit our dedicated website for [funding](#) the environmental objectives of the European Green Deal (EGD), which also includes information on grants and calls of proposals⁵ and also the [EIC Accelerator webpage](#). I also use the occasion to inform you that the [Vademecum on funding and financing for the environment](#) has just been published. You may access it via the [Publication Office of the European Union](#) website, along with other relevant publications. You are also invited to subscribe to our ZPSP newsletter and get updated information on zero pollution issues.

Last but not least, since your startup company is bringing innovative ideas, I am delighted to share with you that EC's Communication on the [new European innovation agenda](#) was adopted by the College on 5 July this year⁶. This new agenda aims to position Europe at the forefront of the new wave of deep tech innovation and start-ups. It will help Europe to develop new technologies to address the most pressing societal challenges, and to bring them on the market and in particular it aims to improve access to finance for European start-ups.

I hope this information is useful and wish you success in your further work.

Yours faithfully,

(e-signed)



Acting as Head of Unit

⁵ More information at the [European Commission's Funding and Tender opportunities page](#).

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52022DC0332&from=EN>