

HARD2SCALE accelerates European startups TACKLING INDUSTRIAL decarbonisation

EU-funded initiative connects startups, investors and industry to scale solutions for energy-intensive sectors

10/04/2026

A new European initiative is supporting the next generation of deep-tech startups developing solutions for some of the most challenging industrial sectors. HARD2SCALE, a Horizon Europe-funded project, aims to accelerate innovation addressing the decarbonisation of energy-intensive and hard-to-abate industries.

Sectors such as steel, cement, chemicals and maritime transport face increasing pressure to reduce emissions while maintaining competitiveness. HARD2SCALE responds to this challenge by connecting startups with investors, industry and innovation ecosystems across Europe.

Through its cross-border acceleration programme, HARD2SCALE provides startups with tailored support, including mentoring, business strategy development, investor readiness training and access to industrial collaboration opportunities. The initiative focuses on helping startups bridge the gap between technological innovation and market adoption, enabling them to scale their solutions and contribute to the European green transition.

Programme ACTIVITIES

HARD2SCALE supports startups through a structured acceleration programme that includes:

- tailored mentoring and business support
- innovation workshops and industry collaboration
- investor matchmaking and pitch sessions
- access to European innovation ecosystems

These activities are designed to support startups in achieving **market readiness, securing investment and scaling across borders**.

DRIVING EUROPE'S GREEN TRANSITION

By supporting deep-tech and cleantech startups, HARD2SCALE contributes to the development of technologies that can significantly reduce emissions in industrial sectors that are traditionally difficult to decarbonise.

The project also strengthens collaboration across the European innovation ecosystem, bringing together key actors to accelerate the transition towards a more sustainable and competitive industrial landscape.

Press CONTACT

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