**O-CEI Project Announces First Open Call**

**Offering €2.4 Million in Equity-Free Funding**

**Valencia, September 22nd, 2025 - *The O-CEI project (Open CloudEdgeIoT Platform Uptake in Large Scale Cross-Domain Pilots), a Horizon Europe Innovation Action program, announces its first Open Call. This initiative invites small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and startups to apply for €100,000 in funding to develop and test innovative Cloud-Edge-IoT computing solutions. The call for applications officially opened on September 19th, 2025, and will last for two months.***

Through this Open Call, O-CEI will select **24 exceptional SMEs** to integrate their Cloud-Edge-IoT applications and services into the O-CEI’s platform. Selected applicants will participate in **a comprehensive seven-month support program that includes:**

* Fixed amount of €100,000 (lump sum modality type 1-a)
* Direct responses to challenges, provided by relevant industrial actors
* Tailored technical and business mentoring

The interested companies can find more information on the project website: [**https://o-cei.eu/open-calls/**](https://o-cei.eu/open-calls/)

The **Cloud-Edge-IoT (CEI)** paradigm is a key driver of digital transformation, and O-CEI stands at the forefront of this evolution. The project aims to develop an open platform and blueprints for seamless data exchange across computing ecosystems, supporting a marketplace for digital assets like services, datasets, and AI models. The platform is built across 6 domains (Electricity, Agrifood, Mobility, Urban, Telco infrastructure, and Logistics), represented by eight large-scale pilots and 28 real-world scenarios.

*"We are creating a robust and energy-efficient digital backbone that will benefit industries, citizens, and the environment,"* said the project coordinator, Prof. Carlos Enrique Palau Salvador, from the Polytechnic University of Valencia. "*Our first Open Call is a unique opportunity for European startups and SMEs to receive significant funding and also invaluable technical and business support to scale their innovative solutions."*

By fostering an ecosystem to accelerate innovation and adoption, O-CEI aims to establish new CEI standards and create viable business models. The project's work will enable faster and more accurate predictions for energy flexibility, supporting a smoother transition toward a cleaner and more sustainable energy future.

O-CEI unites **58 partners from 19 countries**, including leading industrial players, research organizations, academic institutions, SMEs, and non-profits, all collaborating to shape a resilient ecosystem and a competitive market for European businesses.

If you are interested in following the development of the O-CEI project, follow it on [**LinkedIn**](https://www.linkedin.com/company/o-cei-horizon/) and [**Mastodon**](https://mastodon.social/@O_CEI_Horizon) channels and visit the [**website**](https://o-cei.eu/).

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