The EDF is implemented through annual work programmes.

The third EDF work programme is organised around 4 thematic calls and 3 calls dedicated to SMEs and disruptive technologies, consisting of 34 topics.

![QR Code]

**Categories**

- **Defence medical response, Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN)**
  - Federating CBRN systems - European CBRN system (D)
  - Defence medical countermeasures Alliance (R)
  - €40 M

- **Information superiority**
  - Detect and Avoid (D)
  - Laser Communications (D)
  - Tactical RPAS (D)
  - €99 M

- **Sensors**
  - Electromagnetic signal propagation (R)
  - Optronics detector technologies (R)
  - Sensor Grid (D)
  - €69 M

- **Cyber**
  - Automation of security penetration tests (R)
  - Cyber situational awareness (D)
  - Deployable autonomous AI Agent (D)
  - €60 M

- **Space**
  - Threat surveillance and protection of space-based assets (R)
  - Initial operational capacity for Space situational awareness C2 and sensors (D)
  - €125 M

- **Digital transformation**
  - Human language technologies for defence - Preparation of a technological challenge (R)
  - Human language technologies for defence - Organisation of a technological challenge (R)
  - Dedicated hardware architectures for energy-efficient AI (R)
  - €45 M

- **Materials and components**
  - High-performance materials (R)
  - Technologies and processes for maintenance, joining and repair through an innovation test hub (D)
  - €50 M

**Disclaimer:** Budget allocations depend on the adoption of a separate financing decision with reference to 2024 budget appropriations.

**Legend:**
- RESEARCH (R)
- DEVELOPMENT (D)
- OTHER SUPPORT AND PREPARATIVE MEASURES

**Calls for Proposals 2023**

- **7 CALLS**
- **€1.2 billion budget**

**Categories**

- **EDF**
  - **CALLS FOR PROPOSALS 2023**
  - **THE EDF IS IMPLEMENTED THROUGH ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMMES**
  - **The third EDF work programme is organised around 4 thematic calls and 3 calls dedicated to SMEs and disruptive technologies, consisting of 34 topics.**
The 2023 EDF work programme provides dedicated SME calls and funding for business coaching to SMEs participating in projects selected under the dedicated calls for SMEs and disruptive technologies. In addition, to encourage SMEs participation, the EDF foresees various incentives, such as a financial bonus for projects that include cross-border SMEs.

**SUPPORT FOR SMES**

The 2023 EDF work programme provides dedicated SME calls and funding for business coaching to SMEs participating in projects selected under the dedicated calls for SMEs and disruptive technologies. In addition, to encourage SMEs participation, the EDF foresees various incentives, such as a financial bonus for projects that include cross-border SMEs.

**SUPPORT FOR DEFENCE INNOVATION**

The 2023 Work Programme includes targeted measures to stimulate defence innovation. Inbuilt measures such as Technological Challenges, calls focused on SMEs & disruptive technologies, and the Defence Equity Facility are all aimed at enhancing EU defence innovation.

The European Defence Fund will empower the EU Defence Innovation Scheme making it a key driver for innovation in the EU defence sector.

**EMBLEMATIC PROJECTS IN CRITICAL DOMAINS**

- Space situational awareness
- European patrol corvette
- Countering hypersonic missiles

...and preparing the ground for the development of next generation fighter systems, main battle tank, strategic air transportation.