



Call for expression of interest

Looking for new opportunities to implement your smart-energy efficient solutions in **isolated grids**?
Join the **ICE community** and get the **ICE label**!

What the ICE label can offer to your business?

Networking

Match-making events
Contact with smart-energy businesses
Increased market exposure

Market Knowledge

Database of isolated territories
Access to future market outlets

Funding information

Support to identify funding sources



Interested?

Have a look at the **ICE Expression of Interest** and
learn more about the **ICE certification process**!

Expression of Interest

What are we looking for?

The objectives of this Expression of Interest are first to identify businesses that can provide electricity solutions in the context of isolated grids and then to give them access to a specific business offer.

Who are we?

Supported by Interreg VA France (Channel) England, the Intelligent Community Energy (ICE) project aims to facilitate the design and the implementation of innovative smart energy solutions for isolated territories of the Channel area that face unique energy challenges.

Many islands have no connection to wider electricity distribution systems and are dependent on imported energy supplies, typically fossil fuel driven. The energy systems that isolated communities depend on tend to be less reliable, more expensive and produce more greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions than mainland grid systems.

In response to these problems, the ICE project considers the entire energy cycle, from production to consumption, and integrates new and established technologies in order to deliver innovative energy system solutions. These solutions will be implemented and tested at our unique pilot demonstration sites (Ushant island and the University of East Anglia's campus), to demonstrate their feasibility and to develop a general model for isolated smart energy systems elsewhere.

The ICE consortium brings together research and business support organisations in France and the United Kingdom; and commitment from SMEs will support the project rollout and promote European cooperation.

What is an isolated grid?

An isolated grid is an off-grid system that involves small-scale electricity generation (10 kW to 10 MW) and which serves a limited number of consumers via a distribution grid that can operate in isolation from national electricity transmission or distribution networks ([Mini-Grid Policy Toolkit, 2014](#)).

Island territories as well as rural, mountainous and forest areas are generally concrete examples of isolated grids. Expanding the national grid to these areas is extremely costly and technically challenging: access, installation, regulations and extreme environments are major barriers to grid connection.

On the contrary, off-grid systems are flexible, easy to use, cost-effective and adaptable to local needs and conditions. These systems can also incorporate local renewable energy sources to provide electricity.

What actions for isolated territories?

On the two pilot sites (e.g. Ushant) and, in a longer-term perspective, on other isolated territories, the aim is to reach a 100% renewable energy mix by 2030 by working on:

- The energy-demand management (e.g. progressive renovation / insulation of buildings, modernisation / replacement of heating systems, etc.);
- The production and management of the grid (e.g. studies of the energy mix most suited to the area concerned, modernisation of the grid, integration of other assets such as wind and tidal turbines, solar PV, etc.)
- The implementation of “Smart City” related services (e.g. IoT, smart public lighting, etc.)

Why is the ICE label interesting for my business?




The ICE label is dedicated to businesses willing to provide energy solutions to isolated grids. This label will certify that companies have expertise in smart grids and that their solutions are suited to isolated territories and transferable.

The ICE certified companies will form a consortium of entities offering technical and commercial knowledge and skills to enable them to apply for tenders at European level.

In the meantime, synergies between companies will open access to markets that they cannot reach by themselves.

What will you get from ICE?

With the ICE label, the selected companies will have access to the business offer described below.

<p>MARKET KNOWLEDGE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a database of isolated territories case studies at international level and contact points to enable access to these territories (15 islands identified in Europe; 8 in the rest of the world).
<p>NETWORKING / MATCHMAKING</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Visibility</u> The ICE certified companies will be offered an increased market exposure through various communication channels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promotion of the certified companies on the web (ICE partners websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.); ✓ An online directory of the ICE companies; ✓ An interactive directory of businesses in the energy sector. • <u>Networking</u> Match-making and networking events will be organised by the ICE partners: a great opportunity for the ICE certified companies to pitch their solution or services to EU smart-energy businesses. • <u>Mentoring</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ICE will ease collaboration between the certified companies and other EU smart-energy businesses.
<p>ACCESS TO FUNDING INFORMATION</p> 	<p>The ICE certified companies will be offered support to identify funding sources to finance their R&D projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic monitoring; • Access to a database of private/public funding at national, European and international level; • Project support.

How to submit my proposal?

Applications can be submitted through the online form available [here](#).

Eligibility and selection criteria

Eligible businesses must be able to provide solutions or services within the framework of low carbon energy models for isolated territories. The selection committee will assess the solutions proposed based on the following criteria:

- **Technical:**
Is the applicant providing a “green” solution that can be implemented in a smart grid?
- **Logistical:**
Is the solution provided by the applicant implementable on isolated territories, considering the more difficult access conditions that generally induce logistics issues and higher costs?
- **Commercial:**
Can the solution provided by the applicant be integrated in a grid jointly with technologies from other companies? Is the applicant able to work collaboratively with other companies?”
- **Social:**
Is the solution proposed by the applicant fitting the ICE philosophy? In other words, is the solution in line with the idea of improving the energy transition in isolated territories with a high level of society implication and acceptance?
- **Territorial:**
Is the solution provided by the applicant replicable and adaptable to different isolated territories?

Selection process

A selection committee will choose a pool of businesses that will be ICE certified. With the ICE label, companies will be guaranteed a preferred access to the business offer presented above. The selection committee will be constituted of English and French smart-grid experts, business support organisations, NGOs, etc.

Calendar

The Expression of Interest will be launched on 29 January 2019 and will be open all year long with **three cut-off dates: on 30 April, 30 September and 31 December 2019.**

The selection committee will gather at each cut-off date to select the applicants.

Businesses selected will be informed in May and October 2019, and in January 2020.

Contacts

For any questions regarding the ICE certification process, please contact the following ICE partners:

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Further information on the ICE project can also be found [here](#).