

# Rules for participation, call conditions, evaluation and submission

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# Applicable rules

**Call: HORIZON-JU-CLEANH2-2022**

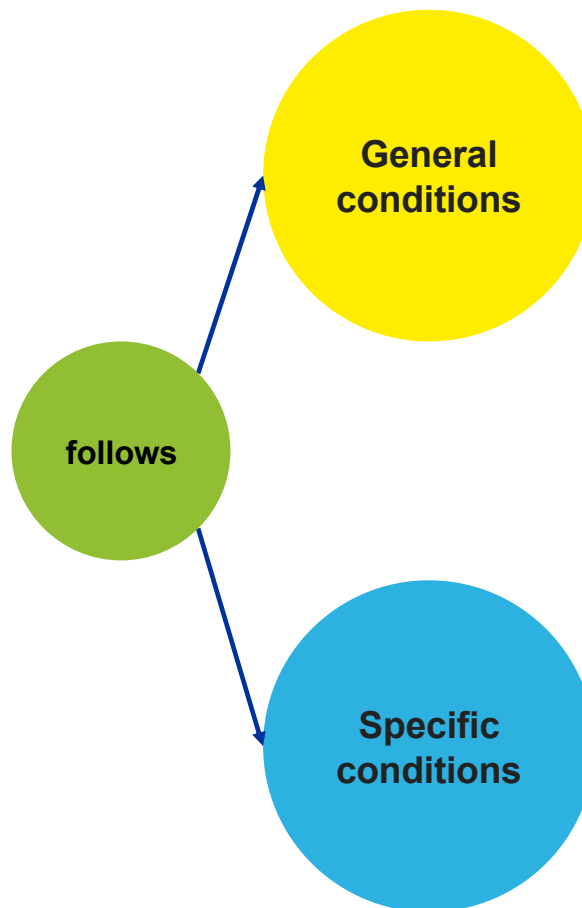
Total budget: 300.5 M€

**Publication date:** 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**Opening of submission:** 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**Deadlines:**

- 31 May 2022 (26 topics)
- 20 September 2022 (15 different topics)



## General Annexes to Horizon Europe

- Admissibility (Annex A)
- Eligibility (Annex B)
- Financial and operational capacity and exclusion (Annex C)
- Award criteria (Annex D)
- Documents (Annex E)
- Procedure (Annex F)

Others important aspects:

- TRL, Gender equality plan

## Work Programme 2022

May introduce additional eligibility criteria:

- Maximum contribution per topic
- Consortium composition
- Participation of African countries

## Annexes A, B and E – Admissibility, eligibility and documents

A proposal is **ADMISSIBLE**, when:

- **Submitted** electronically via the Funders & Tenders Portal **on time**
- **Readable**, accessible and printable
- **Complete** (admin data, proposal description, **operational capacity**, etc.)
- Must include a **plan for the exploitation and dissemination** of the results
- Consist of 2 parts:
  - Part A: administrative and budgetary data
  - Part B: technical description

A proposal is **ELIGIBLE**, when:

- **In line with the topic and call conditions**, with exclusive focus on civil applications
- **Complies with consortium composition:**

### RIA and IA

- At least one independent legal entity established in a Member State
- And at least two other independent legal entities, each established in different Member States or Associated Countries.

### CSA

- At least one legal entity established in a Member State or Associated Country

Respect page limit for  
Part B!  
CSA = 30 pages  
RIA = 45 pages  
IA = 70 pages

+ Additional Conditions in the AWP



Clean Hydrogen  
Partnership

## International participation and Eligibility for funding

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**Applicants from all over the world can participate** (except entities subject to EU restrictive measures –see [EU Sanctions map](#))



**Yet, to be eligible for funding**, applicants must be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:

- The EU members states and their overseas countries and territories
- Countries associated to Horizon Europe
- Low and middle-income countries: Afghanistan, Algeria, ... , Zambia, Zimbabwe
- **Exceptionally**, any other country, if
  - Their country is explicitly identified in the call for proposals as being eligible for funding
  - The Clean Hydrogen JU considers that their participation as a beneficiary is essential for implementing the project

Countries of African  
Union for topic 05-05



**If not eligible for funding**, applicants will have to participate at their own cost. These participants should **explain in the proposal how their funding will be secured**.

# Gender equality plan, and other considerations

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## Gender Equality Plan

As an **ELIGIBILITY** criterion, public bodies, research organisations and higher education establishments from Member States and Associated Countries are required to have in place a gender equality plan, covering:

### Process:

- Publication: a formal document published on the institution's website and signed by the top management;
- Dedicated resources: commitment of resources and expertise in gender equality to implement the plan
- Data collection and monitoring: sex/gender disaggregated data on personnel (and students, for the establishments concerned) and annual reporting based on indicators
- Training: awareness raising/training on gender equality and unconscious gender biases for staff and decision-makers

### Content

- work-life balance and organisational culture
- gender balance in leadership and decision-making
- gender equality in recruitment and career progression
- integration of the gender dimension into research and teaching content
- measures against gender-based violence, including sexual harassment.

Self-declaration in the proposal

## Additional possible considerations by evaluators

- Dual use and **exclusive focus on civil applications** – simple check via a separate question
- Respect of the “**Do Not Significant Harm**” principle, under criteria Excellence + Impact
- Robustness of **Artificial Intelligence** based systems, under criterion Excellence



## Types of Actions and funding rates

### RIA - Research and Innovation Actions

Activities that aim primarily to establish new knowledge or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution. This may include basic and applied research, technology development and integration, testing, demonstration and validation of a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment.

funding rate  
max. **100%**

### IA- Innovation Actions

Activities that aim directly to produce plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services. These activities may include prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication.

funding rate  
max. **70%\***

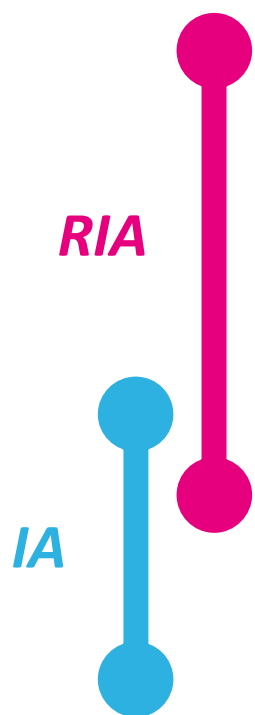
\*Funding 100% for non-profit legal entities

### CSA - Coordination and Support Action

Activities that contribute to the objectives of Horizon Europe. This excludes R&I activities. Also eligible are bottom-up coordination actions which promote cooperation between legal entities from Member States and Associated Countries to strengthen the European Research Area, and which receive no EU co-funding for research activities

funding rate  
max. **100%**

## Technology readiness levels (TRL)



TRL 1 – basic principles observed

TRL 2 – technology concept formulated

TRL 3 – experimental proof of concept

TRL 4 – technology validated in lab

TRL 5 – technology validated in relevant environment

TRL 6 – technology demonstrated in relevant environment

TRL 7 – system prototype demonstration in operational environment

TRL 8 – system complete and qualified

TRL 9 – actual system proven in operational environment

**Manufacturing Readiness Level** applies instead for Topics 01.04 and 04-01

## Annex C – Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

### Financial Capacity:

- Coordinator completes a self-assessment at the proposal stage

### Operational Capacity (including operational resources - human, technical and other):

Scored by the experts under implementation, based on partners information:

- Qualifications and experience of staff
- Description of the consortium participants
- List of EU-funded actions/projects in the last 4 years

### Exclusion:

- If subject to EU administrative sanctions or in exclusion situations
- Misrepresented information or involved in the call preparation and create a distortion of competition

Capacity and role of each participant, and the extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise

Each individual participant has, or exceptionally will have in due time, competence and experience to carry out its tasks in the proposed work plan?

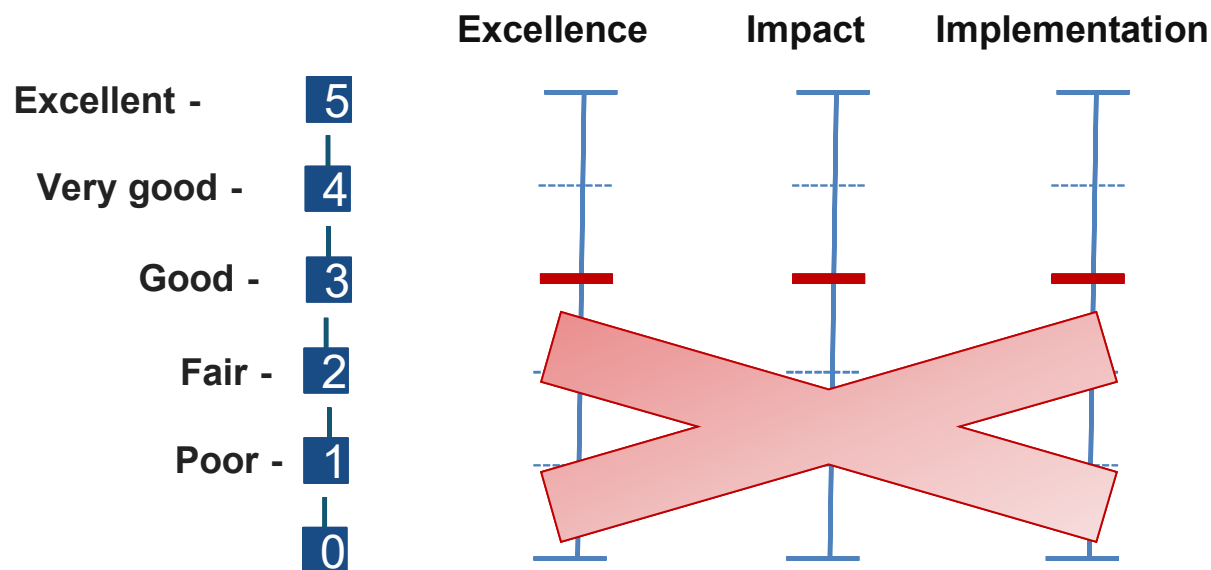


## Annex D – Award criteria, scores, weighting and thresholds

The proposals will be evaluated against the following **award criteria**:

- **Excellence**
- **Impact**
- Quality and efficiency of the **implementation**

Evaluation grid available in  
Annex D



Thresholds apply to:

- Individual criterion, score must be  $\geq 3$
- Overall score must be  $\geq 10$

# Applicable rules

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HorizonEU

**Call: HORIZON-JU-CLEANH2-2022**

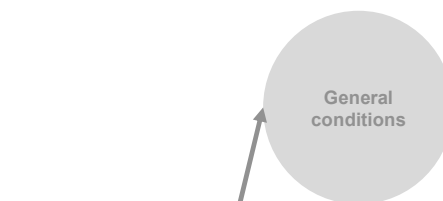
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follows

**Specific conditions**

General Annexes to Horizon Europe

Work Programme 2022



- **Maximum contribution per topic** (relevant for 6 topics):

*“The maximum Clean Hydrogen JU contribution is .... proposals requesting FCH 2 JU contribution above this amount will not be evaluated”*

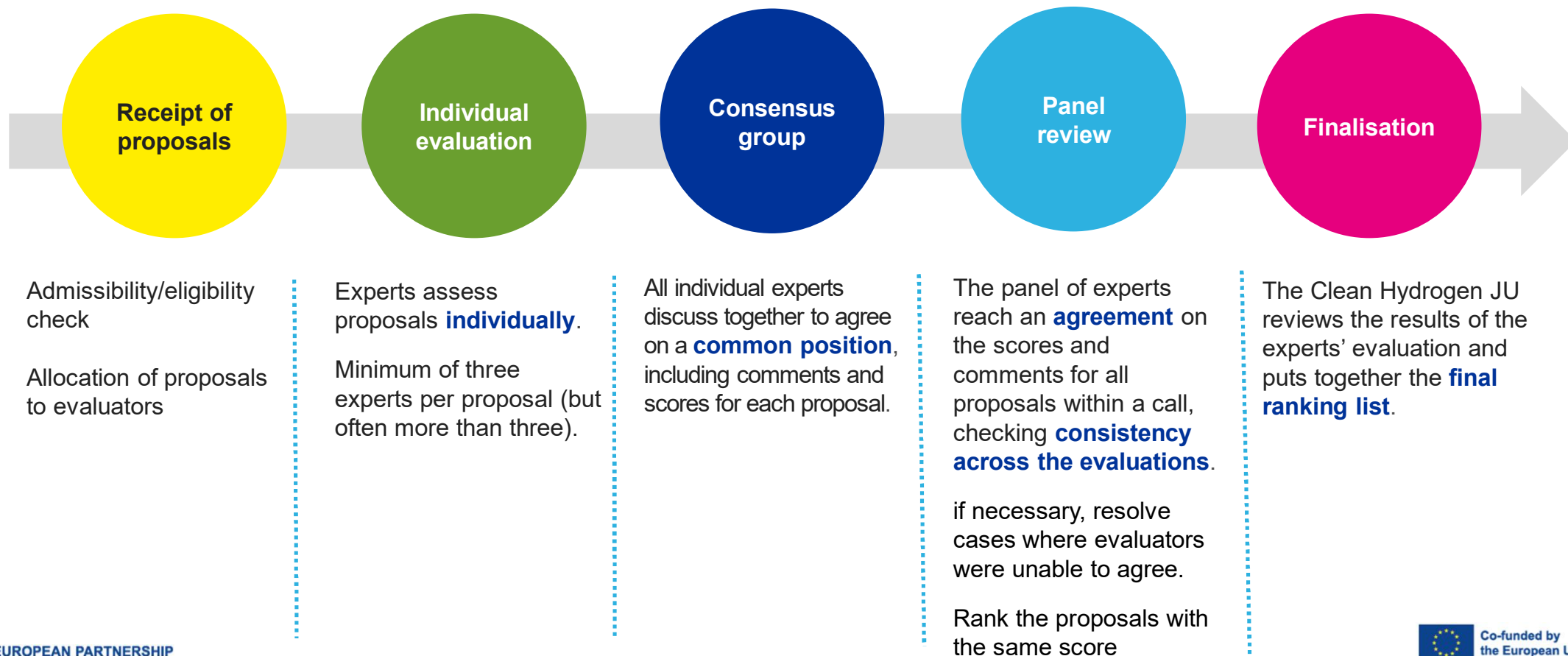
- **Consortium composition** (relevant for 10 topics):

*“At least one partner in the consortium must be a member of either Hydrogen Europe or Hydrogen Europe Research”*

- **Participation of African countries** (relevant for 1 topic)

*“... Participants in the African Union are exceptionally eligible for EU funding”*

## Submission and Evaluation process



## Application form (proposal template)



The proposal contains **two parts**:

### Part A

- Part A (web-based forms) is generated by the IT system. It is based on the information entered by the participants through the submission system in the [Funding & Tenders Portal](#).

### Part B

- Part B is the narrative part that includes three sections that each correspond to an evaluation criterion. Part B needs to be uploaded as a PDF document following the templates downloaded by the applicants in the submission system for the specific call or topic.

## New features in the Horizon Europe proposal



### NEW FIELDS IN PART A

- **Researchers table** – needed to follow up researchers careers (HE indicator)
- Role of participating organisation
- Self-declaration on **gender equality plan**



### FIELDS MOVED FROM PART B TO PART A

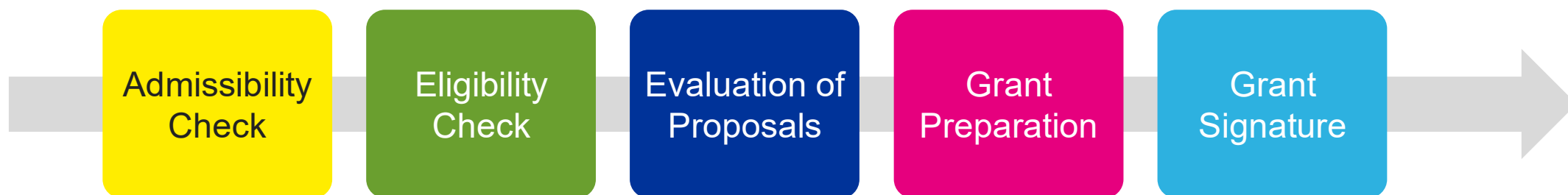
- Ethics self-assessment
- Security questionnaire (**NEW!** in all HE proposals)
- Information on participants' previous activities related to the call



### NEW IN PART B

- Glossary of terms.
- Consistency on the use of terminology is ensured in all project phases (from WP to proposal and reporting)
- Extensive explanations on what exactly should be included in each section.

## 8 months for time to grant, from call deadline to signature of the grant agreement



**Call deadline**



31<sup>st</sup> May 2022  
20<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2022



**Signature of  
Grant Agreement**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2023  
20<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Quality of the proposal is key !

- The experts evaluate each proposal as submitted
- The experts do not recommend substantial modifications
- If the experts identify significant shortcomings, they must reflect those in a lower score for the relevant criterion



## Evaluation by independent experts

### European Commission database of experts

Register through the **Funding & tender opportunities Portal** and **notify us with your interest**

### Selection of experts

- High level of skill, experience and knowledge
- Independence and absence of conflict of interest

And **a balance** in terms of:

- geographical diversity
- gender
- where appropriate, the private and public sectors, and
- an appropriate 'rotation' from year to year.

In principle, each proposal will be examined by **at least three experts**

Presence of **one or more independent observers**

Experts that have a **conflict of interests** will be excluded by us !



25% new experts



Large fields of expertise

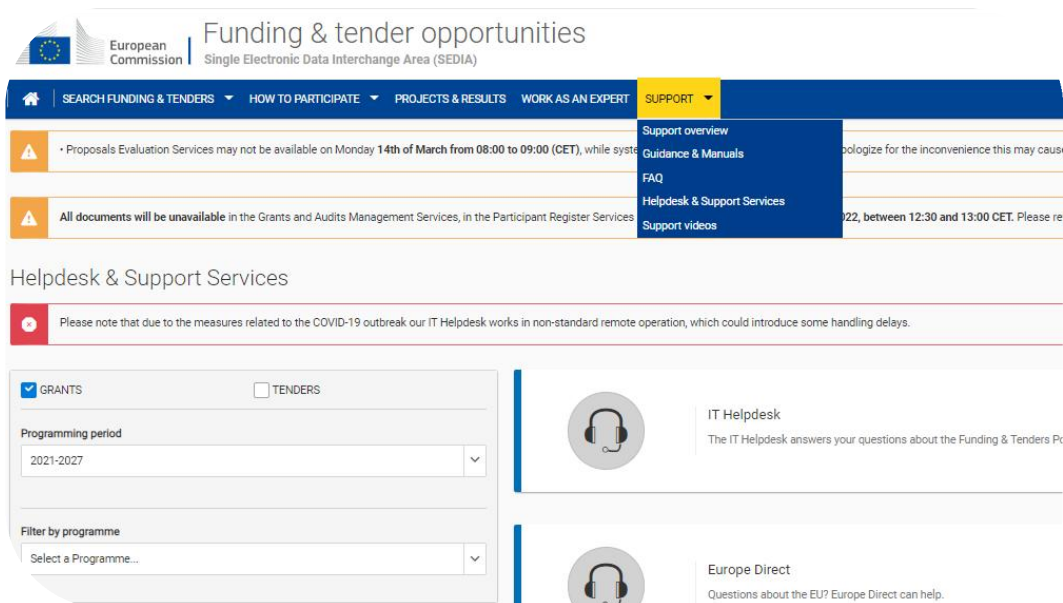


Network with fellows

## Funding and Tenders Opportunities Portal

### Get Support

- [Online Manual](#) is your guide on the procedures from proposal submission to managing your grant
- [Funding & Tender Portal FAQ](#) find the answers to most frequently asked questions on submission of proposals, evaluation and grant management
- [Research Enquiry Service](#) enquiries about the validation process of the legal entities
- [PROJECTS@clean-hydrogen.europa.eu](mailto:PROJECTS@clean-hydrogen.europa.eu)



The screenshot shows the European Commission's 'Funding & tender opportunities' portal. The header includes the European Commission logo and the text 'Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)'. The main navigation bar has links for 'SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS', 'HOW TO PARTICIPATE', 'PROJECTS & RESULTS', 'WORK AS AN EXPERT', and 'SUPPORT'. The 'SUPPORT' dropdown menu is open, showing options like 'Support overview', 'Guidance & Manuals', 'FAQ', 'Helpdesk & Support Services', and 'Support videos'. Below the navigation bar, there are two orange warning banners: one about 'Proposals Evaluation Services' being unavailable on Monday 14th of March, and another about 'All documents' being unavailable in various services. The 'Helpdesk & Support Services' section features a red banner with a COVID-19 notice. Below this, there are two service cards: 'IT Helpdesk' and 'Europe Direct', each with a headset icon and a brief description of their services. On the left side of the page, there is a search filter section with tabs for 'GRANTS' and 'TENDERS'. The 'GRANTS' tab is selected, showing a 'Programming period' dropdown set to '2021-2027' and a 'Filter by programme' dropdown set to 'Select a Programme...'. The 'TENDERS' tab is also visible but not selected.

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**For further information**  
<https://www.clean-hydrogen.europa.eu/>

