

04/12/2025 | Press Release

ScaleDem project launches open calls to boost the scaling of democratic innovations

Funding and support now available for organisations ready to expand their democratic solutions

ScaleDem has launched **two open calls** to support organisations seeking to scale democratic innovations. Through dedicated **piloting and twinning programmes**, the initiative provides funding, empirical testing, and practical support to help proven solutions grow beyond their current limits.

Funded by the European Union, ScaleDem bridges the gap between research and practice. Across Europe, hundreds of participatory and civic innovations have been developed in recent years, yet many remain small, isolated, or short-lived. ScaleDem provides the missing scaling infrastructure by helping innovators strengthen internal capacities, expand to new contexts, secure institutional backing, and root participation in culture.

The open calls invite local authorities, civil society organisations, NGOs, cooperatives, research teams, and mission-driven companies to apply for two programmes:

- **Piloting programme:** for pathbreaking organisations ready to test bold strategies for scaling, with up to €100,000 available.
- **Twinning programme:** for pioneers looking to adapt or mentor proven democratic innovations in new contexts. ScaleDem welcomes applications from both mentors and mentees, with up to €65,500 available.

At the launch, **project coordinator Camille Dobler** encouraged a broad range of organisations and innovators to take part:

“Whether you are a practitioner, a public administration, or simply someone with an idea that can strengthen democratic resilience, ScaleDem is here to support you. We have resources and a knowledge transfer system in place to help you make it happen. So do not hesitate to reach out and learn more on our website.”

Registrations are open until 31 March 2026, with optional pre-application support available through a declaration of interest to be submitted by 31 January 2026.

More information on eligibility and the application process is available at:
<https://scaledem.eu/open-calls/>

Register for the info sessions here.



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



CONTACTS

For the open calls: opencalls@scaledem.eu

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