Basque public institutions annually allocate significant funds to finance projects of interest that are carried out by local and foreign companies with work centres in the Basque Country.

This financial support, which is compatible with other programmes and funds from Spain and the EU, is aimed at incentivising technological and sustainable investments with a high impact on employment, to support R&D&I actions, to promote the internationalisation of companies and to promote entrepreneurial activity as a driver of change and innovation in organisations. It is also focused on smart specialisation in three strategic areas: Biosciences for Health, Energy and Advanced Manufacturing 4.0.

The following is a list of some of the main aid programmes awarded and called by the Basque Government, SPRI, the Basque Provincial Councils and the General Administration of the Spanish State, as well as the venture capital funds that serve as a stimulus to invest in and develop companies in the Basque Country.
Invest in the Basque Country

**Investment aid**

**GAUZATU INDUSTRIA**
SPRI Basque Competitiveness Agency

- **Beneficiaries**: Basque technology-based or innovative industrial SMEs.
- **Objective**: Investment projects in fixed assets accompanied by maintaining or creating jobs.
- **Aid type**: Interest-free, up to €1,500,000

**INDARTU**
SPRI Basque Competitiveness Agency

- **Beneficiaries**: Industrial companies or groups of companies.
- **Objective**: Investments in production made in disadvantaged areas.
- **Aid type**: Subsidy of 10% of the investment, up to €3,000,000

**STRENGTHENING INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS**

Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness

- **Beneficiaries**: Companies that carry out a production activity of an industrial nature.
- **Objective**: Aid for industrial investment, promoting projects in companies that incorporate advanced technologies into their products and processes and create skilled employment.
- **Aid type**: Loan of 75% of the investment, at an interest of 1.647%. Max. 5 x own funds. 10 years of repayments with a 3-year grace period. Guarantees between 10% and 70%.

**GLOBAL INNOVATION LINE**

CDTI Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology

- **Beneficiaries**: SMEs and mid-caps
- **Objective**: Investment projects in innovation and the incorporation of technology for the growth and internationalisation of companies in facilities located both in Spain and abroad.
- **Aid type**: Subsidised loan (approx. 2%) of up to 75% for 7 years, limit €4,000,000. 50% guarantees.
DFB Bizkaia Provincial Council

**Beneficiaries**
SMEs with a production centre in Bizkaia with at least 10 employees.

**Objective**
To support projects with great impact potential, encompassing investments, innovation and internationalisation. Minimum budget of €500,000.

**Aid type**
Subsidies between 10% and 50%, limit €500,000.

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### INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMME

**EVE Basque Energy Agency**

**Beneficiaries**
Companies with facilities in the Basque Country, of any size and in any sector.

**Objective**
Aid to implement auxiliary equipment and improve energy facilities in order to increase the energy efficiency of plants located in the Basque Country.

**Aid type**
Subsidy of 20%, up to €100,000

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### AID FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACTIONS IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

**IDAE Institute for the Diversification and Saving of Energy**

**Beneficiaries**
SMEs and large companies.

**Objective**
Aid for energy efficiency in industry. To incentivise and promote the implementation of actions in the industrial sector that reduce carbon dioxide emissions by improving energy efficiency.

**Aid type**
Subsidy up to 30%, limit €1,200,000.

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### AID FOR INVESTMENTS IN AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRIES

**Basque Government**

**Beneficiaries**
Agri-food companies with a production establishment in the Basque Country

**Objective**
Aid for investing in the processing and marketing of agricultural and food products and fish derivatives and aquaculture products.

**Aid type**
Subsidy up to 40% of the total investment.
Aid for R&D

HAZITEK COMPETITIVO (COMPETITIVE HAZITEK)
SPRI Basque Competitiveness Agency

**Beneficiaries**
Companies of any size and in any sector, with at least one production activity in the Basque Country.

**Objective**
R&D projects aimed at developing new products, individually or in collaboration or via the launch of new science and technology-based companies. Minimum budget of €100,000 for individual projects and €50,000 for collaboration projects.

**Aid type**
15%-40% of eligible costs, limit of €250,000.

HAZITEK ESTRATEGICO (STRATEGIC HAZITEK)
SPRI Basque Competitiveness Agency

**Beneficiaries**
Companies of any size and in any sector, with at least one production activity in the Basque Country.

**Objective**
Industrial Research and Experimental Development Projects in strategic sectors: These projects must have a minimum budget of €4,000,000 and a maximum duration of 3 years.

**Aid type**
Strategic projects: between 25%-50% of the eligible costs for research projects and 20%-25% for experimental development projects.

COLLABORATION CHALLENGES
Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness

**Beneficiaries**
Groupings between companies and research organisations with at least two participants: 1 public or private research organisation + 1 company

**Objective**
Support for projects in collaborations between companies and research bodies to promote the development of new technologies, the business application of new ideas and techniques, and to contribute to the creation of new products and services.

**Aid type**
Loans at the Euribor interest rate for up to 95% of the budget depending on the company type. 10 years of repayments with a 3-year grace period.
**CDTI R&D Projects**

**CDTI Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology**

**Beneficiaries**
Companies of any size and in any sector.

**Objective**
To carry out R&D projects of an applied nature to create and significantly improve a productive process, product or service presented by a single company or by a business group. Such projects may include both industrial research and experimental development activities.

**Aid type**
Loans at the Euribor interest rate for 85% of the total approved budget, with a non-refundable tranche (NRT) of 20%-33% of the aid.

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**INNOGLOBAL**

**CDTI Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology**

**Beneficiaries**
Companies of any size and in any sector.

**Objective**
Aid for market-oriented international business projects presented by a single Spanish company within an international consortium. Such projects may include both industrial research and experimental development activities.

**Aid type**
Subsidies of 30-50%. Up to €400,000
Support for business start-ups

**EKINTZAILE PHASE I**

**Basque Government**

**Beneficiaries**
Individuals, micro-companies, SMEs and large industrial companies or related services.

**Objective**
Support for evolving a business idea in a Business and Innovation Centre. In the event that the idea becomes a business, it can access subsidised loans.

**Aid type**
Maximum €60,000 non-refundable grant and up to 100% of eligible expenses.

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**EKINTZAILE PHASE II**

**Basque Government**

**Beneficiaries**
Newly-created companies (less than 1 year) of an innovative nature, with an industrial or industry-related service activity.

**Objective**
Long-term financing of active investments for newly-created small and medium-sized enterprises under the Ekintzaile Programme.

**Aid type**
Loan of up to €180,000, Euribor interest + 1.25%, 7 years + 2-year grace period. No guaranties.

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**NEOTEC**

**CDTI Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology**

**Beneficiaries**
Small innovative company that develops its own technology. It must be between 6 months and 3 years old at the time of any application, with a minimum share capital of €20,000 and R&D expenses representing at least 10% of its operating costs.

**Objective**
Start-up of new business projects that require the use of technologies or knowledge developed from the research activity, in which the business strategy is based on the development of technology.

**Aid type**
Subsidy of up to 70% of the budget for the action, with a maximum subsidy amount of €250,000 euros.
VENTURE CAPITAL FUNDS IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY

Basque VCF

Beneficiaries
Industrial projects or industry-related services, with growth potential. Foreign companies looking for a local partner to support them in their implementation.

Objective
Venture Capital Fund (VCF) to invest in the capital of companies that are at any stage of development (23 million euros) and to promote entrepreneurship (5 million euros).

Aid type
CREATED in 2014. Closed fund. Time limit of 25 years. A maximum of €400,000 may be provided from the fund, in a combination of equity and/or convertible loans.

SEED Gipuzkoa

Beneficiaries
Consolidated companies or under development.

Objective
Investments in the capital of newly-created technology-based and innovative companies in the province of Gipuzkoa.

Aid type

Suztapen VCF

Beneficiaries
Consolidated companies or under development.

Objective
Venture Capital Fund to invest in the capital of consolidated companies or those under development.

Aid type

EZTEN VCF

Beneficiaries
Companies in their initial phase.

Objective
Investments in the capital of companies in their initial phase, approximately during their first three years.

Aid type
Created in 1986, Closed fund with no time limit.
**SEED CAPITAL-FUND 1**

**FUND 1**

**Beneficiaries**
New or newly-created companies. With their registered office and a production centre in Bizkaia. Minimum share capital of €90,000. With the potential for growth and job creation.

**Objective**
To promote business initiatives of an innovative nature.

**Aid type**
Aid type. Up to €450,000 in capital and loans.

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**FUND BI**

**Beneficiaries**
Consolidated companies with a strong innovative bias, preferably technology-based.

**Objective**
Support for consolidating business initiatives of an innovative nature.

**Aid type**
Aid type. Up to €1,000,000 in capital and loans.