

Net Zero
Transatlantic
Flight Fund
100% SAF flight
competition briefing



20 May 2022



Background

The UK Government is keen to build a world-leading SAF industry in the UK.

The Net Zero Strategy included a commitment to accelerating SAF production and use.

SAF use in aircraft is currently limited due to commercial challenges, as well as blending limits in existing jet fuel specifications.





Headlines

UK Transport Secretary launched a competition to deliver the first ever net zero transatlantic flight running on 100% SAF

- Up to £1m available to support testing, research and personnel costs of 100% SAF flight project
- Competition open to airlines operating UK-US routes, supported by delivery partners
- Use of 100% SAF to be combined with greenhouse gas removals for net zero flight
- Flight to be delivered by end of 2023
- InnovateUK delivery partner



Objectives

This initiative can help inform future SAF policy development and fuel certification efforts – alongside wider programme of support for industry.

This flight should aim to:

- prove feasibility of running a commercial aircraft on 100% SAF for a sustained period and across a transatlantic route
- gather meaningful data that can accelerate existing fuel certification processes and scientific research in the SAF, emissions, contrails and routes management area
- demonstrate options available for and feasibility of greenhouse gas removals, while that market develops, to ensure the flight is net zero
- prompt domestic and international industry collaboration
- provide a positive news story about the transition to SAF to increase consumer confidence in the safety and environmental benefits of SAF



Funding and eligibility

Up to £1m will be made available to support the testing, research and personnel costs of the initiative

The competition is open to all airlines and associated partners (e.g. aircraft and engine manufacturers, fuel producers and suppliers) covering non-stop UK-US routes

Please note: the full eligibility criteria and a list of eligible costs that the Government will support will be made available after the EOI stage, ahead of the closed competition.



Competition process

EOI stage (now open) to inform delivery plan and pre-select participants for full competition



Full competition stage will assess proposals for delivery of initiative and determine funding decision



Innovate UK will issue funding agreements and manage project

Indicative timescales:

Deadline for EOIs: 12th June 2022

Full (closed) competition launched: *late June/early July 2022*

Deadline for full applications: early August 2022

Competition outcome decided: September 2022

Project starts: December 2022

Project ends: Summer 2023

What are we looking for?

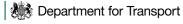
At EOI stage:

- Draft proposal to deliver the 100% SAF flight
- Indicative plan to work with relevant partners and stakeholders
- Proposals which align with the objectives of the initiative

At full competition stage:

- Complete proposal to deliver the 100% SAF flight
- Final plan for working with relevant partners and stakeholders
- Full costings and timeline of project activity

Please note: detailed assessment criteria for the full competition stage will be made available when the competition opens.



Resources / links

Competition page: Net zero transatlantic flight fund - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Contact: saf@dft.gov.uk

Reminder: EOI to close 23:59 on 12th June 2022



Q&As received so far

Are only airlines eligible to receive funding via the competition?

Which approved pathway fuels can be used for the flight?

Why is a UK-US route specified?

Are non-commercial aircraft eligible to undertake the flight?

