**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. Can individuals be part of a consortium?

**Answer**: Proposals must be submitted by applicants belonging to one of the following categories (subject to national/ regional eligibility criteria): Public and private scientific research, technological and innovation institutions, universities or other higher education institutions.
Please see national eligibility guidelines around how individuals can be involved in proposals before submission, as this differs from country to country.

1. What if a non-eligible applicant is included in the proposal?

**Answer**: Proposals not meeting the formal criteria will be declined without further review. If a proposal includes one non-eligible applicant, or also unable/ not able to secure their own funding, the whole proposal will be rejected and cannot be resubmitted.

Therefore, applicants are strongly advised to carefully read the funding rules and eligibility criteria of the relevant funding organisation in the guidelines and contact their national funding organisation contact before making an application. Note that for some countries,this might be mandatory.

1. Will proposals submitted after the closing date be accepted?

**Answer**: No, proposals submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. Please note that the submisson portal closes at **16.00 pm (CEST)/ 15.00 (GMT)** on **Tuesday 14th May, 2024 and** **cannot be reopened.**

We advise on asking any questions on national guidelines or on the portal submission well in advance of this deadline.

1. Can submissions be edited before the call dadline?

**Answer**: Proposals can be edited on the submission platform as long as they have not been submitted. Once a **proposal is submitted, this is no longer possible**.

1. Is there a possibility to upload Letters of Intent together with the proposal? Is this expected in the call?

**Answer**: Letters of Intent can be uploaded via the submission platform as attachments alongside the proposals. Letters of Intent can be added where appropriate, e.g., when including associated partners.

1. Will a cover sheet for the proposal be automatically created (as cover sheets are referenced in the proposal template)?

**Answer**: Cover sheets are not automatically created. If a cover sheet is added to the proposal, this is not counted into the number of pages.

1. Can projects be shorter than 36 months in duration?

**Answer**: Duration of the projects can be up to three years. Nevertheless, a partner can receive funding for less than 3 years according to funding organisations’ eligibility criteria and national/regional regulations. However, all project partners must have the same timeline.

1. If non-funding countries (not participating in JPI) are a part of the project, can meeting costs and also travel/accommodation costs be covered within the JPI budget? If there is high relevance for including such countries, will it be considered beneficial for the application or not, if non-JPI countries are written into the application?

**Answer:** Funding organisations only cover costs that relate to their country. Project co-leads that are based in countries that are not part of the call funding consortium must cover all their own costs incuding travel and subsistence. It is up to projects who they include in proposals however any participants from countries not part of the funding consortium **must demonstrate the source of funding for their part in the project** when the application is submitted.

1. You encourage involvement of industry and/or third sector project partners in proposals where appropriate. What involvement does it include? Can it be funded, given that the annex of the call text states that no large or SME enterprises can receive funding, and special rules apply for most countries regarding funding for user organisations?

**Answer**: We encourage industry/and or third sector involvement in whatever way is appropriate to the project. **This inclues involvement as associated partner or where approriate as member of the consortium.** Each country has different rules on permissible costs so check with national guidance for specific rules on involving industry/third sector organisations before submission.

1. What is meant by the requirement for proposal to involve a minimum of three eligible applicants from at least three different countries participating in the call?

**Answer**: This means there needs to be **at minimum** three consortium countries involved in a proposal with minimum one eligible applicant from each of the countries. It is permissable for projects to include more than this.

1. Can a reference list be included as a separate attachment?

**Answer**: Reference lists can be uploaded as a seperate attachment on the submission platform. They do not count into the proposal‘s number of pages.

1. Shall we attach all the budgets from each partner as separate attachments (filled to templates provided in portal) or is it meant that we only fill those tables in application template?

**Answer**: It is mandatory to provide an overview over the consortiums budget as part of the proposal. Additionally, costing sheets have to be provided by each project partner. Templates can be downloaded form the submission platform.

Please refer to the guidelines for applicants to confirm any requirements and restrictions regarding national funding criteria.

1. Do we not provide any CVs, just that one page in the application template?

**Answer**: Individual CVs do not have to be provided. However, the individual partner‘s qualifications have to be detailed as part of the project proposal.

We expect concise and separate descriptions of each partner’s expertise which they contribute to the project. The qualifications of the coordinator for successful project organization and management should be suitable substantiated, e.g., through article references. For valid suitability please refer your expertises to the research objectives.

1. Who has to be included in the partner overview of the submission?

**Answer**: All partners that are formally part of the consortium have to provide information both on the submission platform as well as in the project proposal. Associated partners and their expertise should also be mentioned. Detailed information on the input required from each partner can be found in the linked documents on the submission platform (https://ssl.vdivde-it.de/positrons-en/calls/2401/login).