

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Version 3.0 (May 5, 2023)

updated sections in current version

| Question   | Answer  |
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| <b>GENERAL QUESTIONS</b>   |   |
| How will the proposals be submitted?   | Proposals will be submitted via the Call Application System found at EIT Culture & Creativity's website. The Application System will open by April 17, 2023.  |
| What are the submission deadlines?   | Applications for all open calls close at 4pm CET on 31 May 2023. Information regarding the second step of two-step calls will be provided to applicants at a later stage. More details on the timeline may be found in the Call Document under 'Call Calendar & Milestones'.  |
| Who can I address to seek advice on applying to the call for proposals?  | For general queries, such as application process and rules for participation, you may contact: <a href="mailto:calls@eit-culture-creativity.eu">calls@eit-culture-creativity.eu</a> . Please make sure that you include in the 'Subject' which Call you are referring to.   |
| Which costs are fundable and can be considered in the budget?  | All costs need to comply with Horizon Europe regulations regarding the eligibility of expenses. Please refer to Article 6 of the <a href="#">Model Grant Agreement</a> and the <a href="#">Annotated Model Grant Agreement</a> .  |
| When will participants get notified of the results?  | All participants will get notified upon the conclusion of the call process (September 2023).  |
| Will participants get notified if they do not pass the eligibility check? Will they be allowed to take corrective actions? | Proposals containing one or more ineligible elements will receive an official communication from EIT Culture & Creativity setting out the outcome of the admissibility and eligibility check and explaining why the proposal failed to meet the criteria. In case of missing or incorrect information linked to co-funding, KPI and partner registration, applicants will be given five calendar days from the official communication for the completion of the application. If the applicants respond positively to this requirement and within the time limit, the proposals will be sent to the next step of the evaluation. If the applicants fail to respond or respond after the deadline, the proposals will remain ineligible and will not be further processed. More details may be found in the "Eligibility and admissibility check" section of the Call text. |
| Will participants whose EoIs have not been shortlisted get notified?   | Yes, all participants in the EoI process will be notified regardless of the outcome.  |

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| What is a VET?   | Vocational education and training (VET) provides learners with essential skills enhancing their employability, supporting their personal development and encouraging active citizenship. VET boosts enterprise performance, competitiveness, research and innovation. For further information on VET terminology please use the official Cedefop (European Center For the Development of Educational Training) publication: <a href="https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/files/4117_en.pdf">https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/files/4117_en.pdf</a> |
| How can participants learn more about the calls?   | There will be an Infoday on 25 April 2023. For more information and registration please visit our <a href="#">website</a> . The session will be recorded.   |
| Is there a membership scheme in place?   | Yes, there is a membership scheme in place. Details on the membership scheme may be found in the supporting documentation (Membership Factsheet) published on our website under 'calls for proposals'.  |
| Will successful projects get published?  | Yes, upon the conclusion of the evaluation process all granted projects will be published on KIC's website.   |
| Are there any word limits for the descriptions of work packages, deliverables, milestones and risks?         | Yes, there is a word limit (including spaces) for Work Packages (500 characters) and Risks (250 characters). For Milestones and Deliverables, it is strongly recommended not to exceed 500 characters (including spaces) each.  |
| As regards co-funding, what should be produced to document it?   | The co-funding amount to be provided by the consortium is part of the budget not covered by the EIT grant. For example: If a project has a budget of 100 K and the co-funding level required is 20%, it means that the applicants will receive a total grant of 80K, but they must report costs at the financial reports for a total value of 100 K. It does not matter how they pay the remaining amount (20K co-funding) but they need to report expenses for a value of 100K, not 80K.   |
| Can a project whose first phases have been funded by other EU programs be funded by EIT for its third phase? | Yes, this is possible as long as it relates to a continued development of the results of a previous activity.   |

#### ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

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| Who can participate in the calls?                                  | EIT Culture & Creativity calls are open to all legal entities from EU and associated countries eligible for Horizon Europe. Any type of organization can apply for Horizon Europe funding as long as they have the operational and financial capacity to carry out the tasks that they propose.   |
| Are organizations from the UK eligible for Horizon Europe funding? | The European Commission has published a Q&A <a href="#">document</a> confirming that UK entities are already eligible to apply as a beneficiary. If delays to association mean the grant agreement cannot be signed by successful UK applicants in a consortium, they can switch to participating as associated partner and request domestic funding. More details can be found <a href="#">HERE</a> . Please note that UK applicants must apply for funding from the EU as |

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|   | beneficiaries and not as Associated Partners in order to be eligible for the domestic funding if that becomes necessary.  |
| Are organizations from Ukraine eligible for Horizon Europe funding?   | Yes, participants from Ukraine are eligible and welcomed to participate.  |
| Are Russian entities eligible to participate?   | According to EU policies and measures, Russian entities are not authorized to participate in any new grant under the EU Research and Innovation programmes. This ban applies not only to their potential participation as beneficiaries, but to their potential participation in any kind of role: beneficiaries, linked third parties/affiliated entities, subcontractors, in-kind contributors, international partners/associated partners, and third parties receiving financial support. You may find the full statement from the European Commission <a href="#">here</a> .  |
| Which Hungarian HEIs are impacted by the December 2022 Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary? Can these HEIs still participate in this call for proposals? | 21 Hungarian HEIs are impacted by the <a href="#">Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506</a> on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary, effective as of 16th December 2022. These higher education institutions may still be part of an application under these Calls for Proposals. However, no new legal commitments for ongoing selection procedures shall be entered into with any HU entity covered by the above Council Implementing Decision, unless the measures set therein are lifted. In case the Council measures would not be lifted, an applicant who has in its composition an entity falling under the Council Implementing Decision, may be offered, subject to the applicable rules and procedures in the Call for Proposal and to the feasibility of the project, to replace that entity and/or to change its status into associated partner. Tasks and budget could be redistributed accordingly. |
| Are organizations from Switzerland eligible to apply?   | Organizations from Switzerland are not eligible for Horizon Europe funding. However, Swiss legal entities can apply as full partners. In case the proposal is awarded, then the said Swiss partner should apply for funding to the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI). The latter provides financial guarantee to the Swiss partners taking part in Horizon Europe projects. For more information, see this link: <a href="#">Horizon Europe and Euratom (admin.ch)</a>  |
| I was included as an Expert Evaluator in the Expert Database for the EIT Culture & Creativity. Will I, still, be able to hand in an application?  | Yes, as far as you are not part of the External Evaluators included in the mentioned Call.  |
| <b>APPLICATION QUESTIONS</b>  |   |
| Is there a minimum number of KPIs?  | There are two types of KPIs; mandatory and optional ones. As a result, for each call there is/are KPIs that the applicants will <u>need</u> to adopt and report (mandatory ones) and others out of which they are <u>encouraged</u> to choose, adopt and report (optional ones). Mandatory ones have a minimum required reportable target   |



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|   | while in the case of the optional ones it is up to the applicants' discretion to set their own target. For the full list of KPIs included in the Impact Framework of EIT please refer <a href="#">here</a> .  |
| In case of adoption of optional KPIs would the proposal be favorably evaluated?   | Given that applications will be also assessed on their capacity for impact, proposals that show higher ambition toward KPI targets are expected to be more positively evaluated.  |
| Can training modules/programmes be delivered 100% remotely?   | Yes, training can be delivered face-to-face, hybrid or entirely online.   |
| Call 3: Can we apply with an innovation whose development has been financed in former projects?   | Yes, this is possible if it relates to a continued development of the results of a previous activity.   |
| Call 4: Is there a minimum or maximum number of support/scale-up cycles that each KIC must develop over the two-year period?                                    | No, there isn't. A good approach would be to think of the KPIs and make sure that the KIC gets value for money.   |
| Can an academic institution be part of Call 3?  | Yes, if the financing of EIT fits with the criteria of the call.  |
| Call 4: Should the proposal include both incubation & acceleration programs or one of the two could also be eligible?   | It is not a requirement to include both; one of the two would be eligible.  |
| Call 2: According to the Mandatory KPI there should be 120 graduates in 2 years. What happens if there are only 100 graduates in terms of not reaching the KPI? | Missing KPIs will suppose an underperforming from the applicants and consequently a reduction on the total amount of budget to be received.   |
| Is 20% equity a requirement or a recommendation as part of the FSM for Call 4?  | Acquiring a share of equity in the companies being supported through programs funded by EIT Culture & Creativity is one of the requirements to ensure long-term financial return for the KIC. A suggestion of 20% equity is the preferred and desired target. However, applicants are allowed to make other suggestions that are more relevant for the maturity of the companies the programme will work with and that work best for their project. However, it is important to remember this is a competitive process and that the level and mechanism of financial returns proposed by the applicant is one of the evaluation criteria. In addition, any proposal around sharing of equity between the business support provider/applicant and EIT Culture & Creativity should be justified in the application. |
| <b>CONSORTIUM QUESTIONS</b>   |   |
| Are the KPIs counted per participant or per consortium?   | The KPIs are counted per consortium, and all participating partners should be contributing to the fulfillment of the KPIs.  |
| Who can lead the project?   | Any eligible Consortium participant can be the "Lead Applicant". However, it is recommended that the project is led by the participant responsible for commercializing its results.   |
| Can a participant apply for more than one of the calls?   | There is no specific limitation, so it is possible to be partner in more than one project. However, multi-participation is not  |



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|   | recommended for obvious reasons of capacities to manage several projects at the same time.   |
| Is there a portal where we can find consortium partners for the Culture and Creativity calls?   | At the moment, you may search for a partner <a href="#">here</a> .   |
| Can a municipality become a member and/or apply for a project? Can a municipality be a lead partner and which calls are suitable?   | Municipalities are welcome to take part in all calls and can be a lead partner (apart from where the call criteria specify something particular about the lead applicant). |
| How are the financial volumes distributed among partners? Are there limits?   | There are no restrictions/limitations in budget while the focus should be in the distribution of activities.   |
| Can a consortium member meet two of the call criteria (such as RIS and civil society) or do we need a consortium member per criteria (such as a RIS location & a civil society from a different member state)?    | One member can fulfill two criteria.   |
| <b>FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY MECHANISM</b>   |  |
| I would like some more info on FSM, for example revenue share. Which are the Returns of Investment you are expecting to consider positively a proposal?   | More details on this may be found in the respective section of the Call document.  |
| Is Financial Sustainability Mechanism something crucial to be implemented in our proposal or is it something that is treated as extra points?   | Yes, FSM is critical.  |
| From the point of view of financial sustainability but also IP, do legal commitments need to be signed by all participants on submission of the application?  | There are no legal commitments applicable at the application stage.  |
| How will IP rights be controlled inside the consortium? Is a consortium agreement OK? Is the establishment of a new organization (controlled by all partners) responsible for exploitation activities acceptable? | Yes, both are acceptable.  |