

## **IFAB 2021 CALL FOR PROJECTS**

### **FAQ**

(04/10/2021)

#### **PROJECTS' AIM**

**Q: Does the Call concern projects already focused on a specific application or can it be more general?**

A: The aim of the Call is to attract and finance innovative projects in the form of proof of concept, research and development, applications, and solutions.

The projects will have to develop and exploit HPC computational methods, big data analytics and artificial intelligence, cloud and edge computing workflow. Projects based on quantum computing methods will also be considered.

Among the Evaluation Criteria, “Outcomes for the community” are included (p. 3 of the Call).

#### **PARTNERS INVOLVEMENT**

**Q: Should projects involve private companies?**

A: Although it is not mandatory, public-private partnerships will be appreciated.

**Q: Is in-kind contribution allowed? Could a partner participate with the contribution of its own person-months other than money?**

A: Yes

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES INVOLVEMENT**

**Q: How many people should be involved in the project?**

A: This choice is left to proposers, also according to possible co-financing.

**Q: How should be reported personnel working time? PI should be 100% committed or lower commitments are acceptable (e.g., 75%)?**

A: Working time can be reported by time sheet or similar. There are no constraints as to the minimum time to be devoted to the project. It is illegal any double funding with reference to the same working time. If the Foundation will be audited, the same audit rules will be applied to funded projects.

**Q: Can the PI be part of the non-structured staff?**

A: Yes

**Q: The Call for projects states, "The Principal Investigator of the leader entity cannot be the Principal Investigator of any other currently active IFAB funded proposal": what does it mean exactly?**

A: IFAB can carry out only one project at a time with the same PI.

#### **PROJECTS COORDINATION**

**Q: What role can each entity play in the project?**

A: Each entity will be financed as coordinator of only one project per year. No restrictions apply to participation in multiple projects as a member of the partnership.

**Q: Can the Project be coordinated by a private entity?**

A: Yes

#### **PROJETCS DURATION**

**Q: How long projects are expected to last?**

A: Indicatively, projects could last 12 months from the signature of the research agreement.

#### **REQUEST FOR FUNDING FORM**

**Q: Is there a minimum tolerance on the number of characters indicated in the various fields of the form (e.g., 20%)?**

A: Synthesis and the respect of the form indications are appreciated. It is possible to include attachments.

Please note: Name the file as: "2021-IFAB Call for Projects\_Surname".

**Q: Does the number of characters refer to included or excluded spaces?**

A: Included spaces.

**Q: With reference to temporary staff to be selected, what should be included in the description of the research team?**

A: Type of contract and number of months that will be dedicated to the Project.

**Q: Should the application for funding be signed by the PI or by the legal representative?**

A: No.

#### **CONSENT FORM**

**Q: Who is expected to sign the consent form?**

A: It must be signed by the Principal Investigator of the leading entity.

Please note: "IFAB privacy statement acceptance and authorization" and "Consent form" are the same document.

## **BUDGET**

**Q: There is no section in the form for the inclusion of costs for permanent staff.**

A: These costs, if any, should be entered, detailing the budget where appropriate. It is possible, for example, to add a row under "temporary staff". This contribution is intended as virtual co-financing of the project.

**Q: Is it possible to report project costs related to the payment of PhDs and/or research grants for students from universities with which the partners already collaborate and who will be actively involved in the project?**

A: Yes, subject to the prohibition of double reporting.

**Q: How will the budget be allocated to the participants? It will be distributed among the participants or to the coordinator?**

A: The rules should be defined when the agreement is being signed. It would be better for IFAB to interface with only one partner.

**Q: Could subcontracts be part of "services providers"?**

A: It would be better to avoid them. They are admitted if specific components or services are useful for the project but not critical in term of necessary knowledge or research.