

## IFAB 2023/2024 CALL FOR PROJECTS

### FAQ

#### ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

Q: Is an IRCCS (Istituto di Ricovero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico) considered a private or public entity?

An IRCCS is considered a public entity.

Q: Is CINECA considered a public entity?

Yes.

Q: Is a consortium involving many entities mandatory?

Yes, the projects must include at least one private business or industry and one research partner.

Q: Are projects involving 1) only one public entity or 2) two public entities or 3) one public entity and one private entity eligible?

- 1) Projects involving only one public entity are not eligible.
- 2) Projects involving only two public entities are not eligible.
- 3) Projects involving one public and one private entity are eligible.

#### BUDGET

Q: Is the cost of equipment 100% eligible or is only depreciation eligible?

The cost of equipment is not 100% eligible: only depreciation is eligible and only for the % of time the equipment is used for the project (declaration of the PI).

Q: Is VAT an eligible and chargeable cost?

VAT is an eligible cost. The maximum admissible funding granted per project by IFAB (EUR 125k) will include VAT, where applicable.

Q: If both public and private entities can be involved in a project, how will the budget be distributed? In the call it is reported as follow: "For private companies who are not members of the IFAB Foundation, the grant awarded will cover up to a maximum of 50% of the eligible costs!. For

example: total budget requested € 125.000 (public entity 95.000 € / private entity 30.000€). For private company eligible cost is only 15.000 €, while the other 15.000 € is put in by the company as co-funding? Is this correct?

Yes, it is correct.

Q. Can private companies that are not members of the IFAB foundation report in-kind or in cash co-funding in the "Co-funded" column, or is it only for cofunding from entities for which the grant covers 100% of the eligible costs?

Private companies that are not members of the IFAB foundation must report any inkind or in cash co-funding in the "Co-funded" column.

Q. Can the provision of software licenses by a project partner to another project partner be considered co-funding?

Yes

Q. Do Services provided by third parties include core hours HPC, personnel costs to integrate HPOC machines for simulations, HPC infrastructure operational costs (e.g., cooling, electricity)?

Yes

## RESEARCH TEAM

Please note: It is mandatory to fill in the box for with reference to the PI.

Q. How should we compute the "Monthly cost" of members of the research team? Is it an actual cost, unit cost, average cost?

Actual if available, or average.

Q. The field "Number of months for this project" is marked as mandatory, at the same time the constraint on the minimum number of months for each person involved has been removed. Is this field still mandatory?

Yes, there is no more a minimum number of months, but if you include a member, she/he will be involved for certain period of time that has to be explicit. You can insert fractions of unit.

Q. How should we declare the monthly cost of a research team member that is an SME co-owner not employed by the SME, and whose work for the SME is remunerated via any type of non-employment contract, via profit distribution or by any remuneration method other than a salary resulting from an employment contract?

Only the monthly cost of personnel employed by the SME can be declared.

Q. For research team members that are employed by the SME, can the monthly cost include variable complements (e.g., yearly bonuses)?

Yes

Q. Will it be possible to change the composition of the research team during the project (e.g., when a person indicated in the proposal cannot longer work in the project for some reason)?

Yes

Q. Is the "Organization position" box intended for the role that a member of the research team has in his/her organization?

Yes

Q. Is there a list of values to choose from for the field "Role in the project"?

No

Q. What do you mean with "researcher"?

Anyone carrying out research activities. The relative costs can be reported by any partner who supports them.

Q. What do you mean by "young researcher"?

Under 40 years. His/her involvement is desirable, but not mandatory.

## **CONTRACT MODEL**

Q. Regarding the payment: it is not clear if the project coordinator shall pay to each partner the contribution paid by the IFAB or if the IFAB will pay and reimburse expenses directly to each partner. Could you please clarify?

IFAB will pay and reimburse expenses directly to each partner, but the administrative coordination of the consortium will be a responsibility of the leading partner.

Q. If the project aims to create a proof of concept in the form of a prototype/software application, is this Foreground IP?

Yes

Q. What is the meaning of “direct or indirect competition”? Does this constraint prevent the continuity of the activities carried out in the Project during the two years following its conclusion?

The concept of "direct and indirect competition" is a broad formulation that indicates the ban of taking part in other identical projects, both as project partners and as support (as consultant, supplier, etc...) of other partners. This constraint does not prevent continuity of the activities carried out in the project; only the activities in competition according to the previous definition are inhibited.

## **THEMATIC AREAS**

Q: Which thematic area should be chosen in case of digital twins of complex systems in healthcare and medicine?

No. 2: Healthcare and medicine.

## **SUBMISSION**

Q: How can the PI sign the final document for submission?

The system verifies the correspondence of the person signing the application digitally with the person filling in the application through his/her fiscal code. Thus, if the PI is not Italian, he/she must sign with a holographic signature.

Q: With reference to the digital signature, which format is accepted?

Only “.p7m CADES”.

## **For further technical questions:**

<https://retecompetencecenter4-0-italia.it/supporto/?cmp=50538>