



AIBC EUROCLUSTERS Open Calls' Frequency Asked Questions (FAQ)

This document gathers the main questions received via email (aibc@piemonteinnova.it) and during the infoday.

Version 1 – 4/07/2023

I. GENERAL

Which are the eligible countries where SMEs can apply from?

SMEs established in the Member States of the European Union (EU) and Countries participating in the Single Market Programme (SMP) are eligible to apply to AIBC Open Calls.

The list of SMP participating countries is available here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/smp/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation_smp_en.pdf

Bear in mind that only countries with signed agreements are eligible, meaning Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine. Countries that have confirmed interest to join the SMP Programme but have not yet do so at the moment of opening the calls (6th June, 2023) are not eligible.

II. FUNDING

III. TRAINING

Are there any limitations on the country where the service/training provider is based? Does it have to be registered in an EU Member State or country participating in the SMP (as the SMEs participating to the call)?

Service providers can also be based in countries different that the EU member States and countries participating to the SMP, but only if there is a valid justification for the specific services the provider is carrying out, i.e. the training involves entering specific geographical markets, etc.



IV. Digitalisation Services and Product Development

Are there any limitations on the country where the service provider is based? Does it have to be registered in an EU Member State or country participating in the SMP (as the SMEs participating to the call)?

Service providers can also be based in countries different that the EU member States and countries participating to the SMP, but only if there is a valid justification for the specific services the provider is carrying out, i.e. the activity is a continuation of a previous project where the continuity of the service provider is important.

V. Project proposals

Is there a limit for the number of SMEs in a Consortium?

As described in section 4.1.1 *Consortium composition* from the AIBC Project proposals Guidelines, a consortium can be composed by at least 2 SMEs, meaning that more than 2 SMEs can conform a consortium if they meet the required eligibility criteria and respect the limit of maximum of 65.000,00 EUR requested by each consortium.

Will a Consortium agreement be needed between the partners applying to the AIBC Open Call for Project Proposals?

Yes, the selected Consortium beneficiaries must have internal arrangements regarding their operation and coordination, to ensure that the action is implemented properly. These arrangements must be set out in a written consortium agreement between the Beneficiaries.

Should the consortium be international, or could it be from SMEs from the same country?

The consortium can be composed by SMEs from different countries or from the same country. The countries must be EU Member States or countries participating in the SMP. Consortia composed by companies from different countries will receive a bonus in the evaluation process. Please check section 4.1.1.