Co-funded by the European Union

Joint Transnational Call for Proposals (2025) for

Better care closer to home: Enhancing primary and community care

***(THCS Grant* 101095654)**

Call Text

Important Deadlines

Submission of Pre-Proposal: 30 January 2025 at 14:00 (CET)
Submission of Full-Proposals: 19 June 2025 at 14:00 (CEST)

For further information, please visit our website: https://www.thcspartnership.eu/

or contact the THCS Joint Call Secretariat (JCS)
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2 History of changes

Page	Change	Date of change
19	Added registration link to JTC 2025 Information Webinar	2 December 2024
29	Corrections to Czech Republic – MZCR and AZVCR contact details.	2 December 2024
72	Corrections to Italy – RT national/regional eligibility criteria.	2 December 2024
116	Corrections to Switzerland – Innosuisse national/regional eligibility criteria.	2 December 2024

3 Introduction and aims of THCS

The Transforming Health and Care Systems (THCS) initiative has been established as a European Partnership under Horizon Europe, co-funded by the European Commission. Co-funded European Partnerships are instruments implemented in Horizon Europe as Programme Co-fund Actions. These partnerships are involving EU member states and associated countries, with research and innovation funders and other public authorities at the core of the consortium. The aim of THCS is to efficiently respond to increasing burdens on European health and care systems and deliver on their common commitment to high-quality health and care services[1]. The rapidly changing demographic make-up of society, along with the occurrence of health emergencies, are urging health and care systems to develop harmonised and coordinated solutions. These should be devised through a process that allows all stakeholders involved to design, research, and implement such solutions in an economically,

[1] https://www.thcspartnership.eu/kdocs/2101188/sria_thcs-feb2023.pdf

socially, and environmentally sustainable manner, while keeping people at the centre of the system process.

To align regional and national research strategies and funding activities, promote excellence, reinforce the competitiveness of European players while fostering EU cooperation and enhance European collaboration with non-EU countries, 34 funding organisations have agreed to launch the Joint Transnational Call 2025 (JTC2025) for collaborative, innovative research projects co-funded by the European Union. The funding organisations participating in this call particularly wish to promote innovative, interdisciplinary collaboration and encourage transnational collaboration.

4 Participating European regions, countries and funding organisations

The following participating funding partner organisations (FPOs) are jointly launching the JTC 2025. The JTC 2025 is managed by the THCS Joint Call Secretariat (JCS).

Country	Funding Organisation	Acronym
Austria	Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft	FFG
Belgium	Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique	FNRS
Belgium	Flanders Innovation and Entrepreneurship	VLAIO - FIO
Canada	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	CIHR
Czech Republic	Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic/Czech Health Research Council	MZCR/AZVCR
Denmark	Innovationsfonden	IFD
Estonia	Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur	ETAG
Finland	Research Council of Finland	AKA
France	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	ANR
France	Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention	Fr MoH
Iceland	Rannsóknamiðstöð Íslands	Rannís
Ireland	Health Research Board	HRB
Israel	Ministry of Health	CSO-MOH
Italy	Agenzia Regionale per la Salute ed il Sociale	AReSS
Italy	Regional Foundation for Biomedical Research, Lombardy Region	FRRB
Italy	Ministero della Salute	IT-MoH
Italy	Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca	MUR
Italy	Regione Toscana	RT
Latvia	Izglītības un zinātnes ministrijas	LCS
Lithuania	Lietuvos Mokslo Taryba	LMT
Malta	Xjenza Malta (formerly MCST)	Xjenza Malta
The Netherlands	Nederlandse organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek - Regieorgaan SIA	NWO-SIA
The Netherlands	Zorgonderzoek Nederland	ZonMw
Norway	Norges Forskningsråd	RCN
Poland	Narodowe Centrum Badań i Rozwoju	NCBR
Portugal	Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional do Centro	CCDRC
Portugal	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia	FCT
Spain	Consejería de Salud y Consumo de la Junta de Andalucía	CSCJA

Spain	Department of Health of the Basque Government	DPTO SALUD/BIOEF
Spain	Instituto de Investigación Marqués de Valdecilla	IDIVAL
Spain	Instituto de Salud Carlos III	ISCIII
Sweden	Forskningsrådet för hälsa, arbetsliv och välfärd	Forte
Switzerland	Schweizerische Agentur für Innovationsförderung	Innosuisse
Switzerland	Schweizerischer Nationalfonds	SNSF

5 Timeline of the call

Time	Activity
26 October 2024	Pre-announcement of the call
26 November 2024	Launch of the call
17 December 2024, 14:00-16:00 CET	JTC 2025 Information Webinar
30 January 2025	Deadline for submission of pre-proposals
9-11 April 2025	Peer review panel meeting
From 15 April 2025	Invitation to submit full-proposals
19 June 2025	Deadline for submission of full-proposals
9-11 September 2025	Peer review panel meeting
Early October 2025	Ethical evaluation of the selected proposals
Late October 2025	Final funding recommendation announced to applicants
End of 2025/Early 2026	Expected scientific start of funded projects

6 Rationale of the call

Transformation of European health and care systems is necessary in order for services to deliver high-quality health and care to patients throughout their life. Health and care delivery should be performed in settings that are appropriate to the care being provided to best serve service users and caretakers. In order to achieve this, there is a need for new or improved health and care models that rethink how and where different types of care are delivered, how they should be organized, financed and distributed. Currently, many European health and care systems are overly reliant on hospitals and other forms of institutional care to provide complete coverage of quality health and care services. However, the high personnel requirement and cost associated with institutional treatment is a barrier to meeting the increasing demand in the coming decades. This applies to a range of health and care services that provide institutionalised treatment, including hospitals, care homes and mental health institutions. In order to reduce the need for institutional treatment, without incurring a decrease in quality of care, innovative forms of health and care services and models are required. This includes co-creation across sectors, actors, services, and disciplines.

Health and care delivery should be based on the needs of the people. Currently, European health and care service providers do not have robust systems for ensuring that patients are allocated to the health and care pathway that is sustainable and appropriate to them, and that is of high quality. Furthermore, health and care systems in Europe are fragmented and in need of better interoperation to deliver seamless health and care services and pathways. Additionally, interoperability between different services is poorly facilitated by existing legislations, tools and systems. Furthermore, there is significant variability between different countries and regions in how the health and care systems are organised. Therefore, transforming how, where and what kinds of care are delivered is not trivial.

For different patient groups and treatment plans, there may be one or several barriers that prevent the timely and appropriate transition to more sustainable treatment pathways.

Alternative and innovative forms of health and care service delivery in primary and community care is integral to overcoming these barriers to reducing the reliance on institutional care. Primary care serves as the first point of contact for patients, facilitating early diagnosis and intervention, which can prevent the occurrence and/or progression of illnesses that would otherwise require specialized, high-cost treatments. Enhanced primary care can ensure continuity and coordination of care, reducing unnecessary hospital admissions and readmissions.

In addition, a stronger primary care system promotes a more preventive, rather than reactive, approach to health. Primary care physicians, with greater access to resources and training, would be able to constantly monitor the health status of patients, intercepting issues early on that, if neglected, could develop into serious conditions requiring hospitalization.

Furthermore, strengthening territorial medicine improves access to care for the entire population, ensuring a more equitable and comprehensive approach. This helps reduce socioeconomic disparities in access to care and promotes sustainable health care by shifting the focus from emergency management to continuous patient care.

Primary and community care innovations may be in the form of new or elaborated services, processes, models of organisation and governess or concepts. This transformation will involve patients, formal and informal caretakers, health and care professionals, administrators, policy makers and decision takers at all levels of health and care service delivery.

Health and care delivery requires a multidisciplinary and coordinated approach that can address the diverse and complex needs of patients, as well as the integration of new technologies and treatment, transferring research and innovations into the care process. This demands a high level of training, education, and continuous professional development for the health and care professionals involved, as well as effective communication and collaboration across different sectors and levels of care. An ecosystem approach offers the opportunity to involve all relevant stakeholders to support an efficient and sustainable transformation.

Another barrier is the capacity of existing infrastructure and resources to sufficiently support non-institutionalised care, such as the availability and accessibility of equipment, facilities, transportation, and information systems in primary and community health and care settings. Non-institutionalised care also requires adequate funding and reimbursement models that can cover the costs and incentivize the provision of quality services. In other instances, transferring care out of institutions could feasibly be done, but will require novel technologies and treatment advances to be better integrated into work processes and structures. Moreover, non-institutional care may face policy and legislative obstacles, such as outdated regulatory frameworks, standards, and guidelines that are not aligned with the goals and principles of primary and community care, or that create unnecessary administrative burdens or legal risks for health and care providers. Innovative policy and legislation are very necessary to guarantee quality of care and protect the rights of vulnerable patients, whilst facilitating the transition to sustainable and scalable primary and community care.

Meeting the needs of service users is not solely a matter of enabling more efficient and sustainable treatment pathways, but also ensuring seamless care delivery at all service levels from specialised

hospitals to primary and community care. In order to meet users' needs, health and care systems should adopt new models, technologies, policies, competences, and so forth. There is a need for research and innovation actions to improve service delivery, as well as create the conditions to put the results of the research into practice. Transnational research and innovation projects offer the opportunity to accelerate the transfer of successful and effective solutions to new areas.

7 Aim of the call

The aim of this call is to fund research and innovation projects that, within an ecosystem approach[2], strengthen the primary and community health and care systems, and provide policy and decision makers with the necessary knowledge and tools to govern the transitions that are needed in the primary and community care sector. Projects funded under this call will deliver promising financial, organisational and practise-based service innovations that promote the transformation of the health and care system and contribute to faster exchange of best practices across different countries and regions.

Proposals are expected to address one of two sub-topics:

Sub-topic 1: Strengthening the primary and community health and care system

When placing individuals and populations at the centre of health and care, it is of key importance that the services and systems themselves change. Enhancement of the different settings where health and care services are being delivered is central. Through its funded projects, this call aims to enable reduced reliance on institutionalised treatment in favour of seamless care pathways and different forms of primary and community health and care.

Proposals may concern 1) organisational innovations,2) operational improvements, or 3) human resource innovations. Organisational innovations include, but not limited to, models for integrated care, composition and management of multidisciplinary teams, and shifting services from speciality to primary or community care. Operational improvements include systems and tools that enable more efficient and sustainable health and care delivery, such as administrative tools and systems. This also encompasses digital health tools and new financial or payment models. Finally, human resource innovations include capacity building, upskilling and professional development, as well as shifting tasks from specialized to general healthcare professionals.

This will require enhancing primary and community health and care within the broader care ecosystem. Importantly, proposals will need to consider the entire value chain – idea generation, development and implementation – to take into account knock-on effects of the proposed solutions on other parts of the health and care system. Proposals are expected to involve relevant stakeholders in the development, implementation and transfer of innovative forms of health and care services targeting economic, social and environmental sustainability.

Sub-topic 2: Systemic approaches to modernising the primary and community care sector

[2] See Guidance for Applicants p. 5 for details.

Policy and decision makers require evidence- and practice-based knowledge to reinforce the primary and community care pathways. A major obstacle to this is a lack of systemic understanding of the needs of the primary and community health and care sector, including relevant complexities in national/regional policies, infrastructures and local and regional governance. What is needed is knowledge that is actionable and applicable, rather than a mapping of the current state of affairs and issues. Proposals should leverage multidisciplinary and transnational perspectives to provide knowledge that is transferrable and applicable across different European health and care systems. Through the funded projects, we aim to involve relevant stakeholders to support decision makers at implementing the knowledge into transformative action. This may be in the form of policy development, change management, strategic planning and so on. Proposals may make recommendations for how to implement and transfer best practices at the political, administrative and management level. Proposals may also develop guidance on how to design and/or implement primary and community care reform in the relevant national, regional and local context.

Research and innovation proposals targeting all settings in which non-institutional care is provided are encouraged.

This call mandates collaborative, transnational research, innovation, and assessment actions. It is compulsory to engage in one or more of the following types of action: applied research, implementation research, piloting, upscaling and/or testing. All projects must demonstrate proof of concept(s), validate concepts, models, or solutions, and showcase demonstrations of solutions in relevant health and care ecosystems. Translation to other settings of already adopted solutions is also within scope of this call.

Proposals that include elements of technology development, or concern organisational models or policies related to novel technologies, must target Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) 4 to 8.

The projects must be original and should not replicate, but may complement and further develop on, the work done by the already on-going activities in place funded by the EU. (e.g. the Joint Action CIRCE-JA).

7.1 Relevant R&I Areas

Several research and innovation areas are particularly relevant to this call. The following list highlights some relevant R&I areas but is not exhaustive or prescriptive.

a) Service research: Service research is a multidisciplinary scientific field that examines how social factors, financing systems, organizational structures and processes, technology, and personnel behaviour affect access to services, the quality and costs of the services, and ultimately the health, welfare, and quality of life for citizens.
b) Health Technology Research (HTR), which is an interdisciplinary field of study that aims to implement new technologies to improve the delivery of healthcare services and to achieve better health outcomes. The field includes a wide range of research areas such as medical devices, diagnostics, genomics, digital health, telemedicine, mobile health, electronic health records and others.

c) Health economics: This area studies the allocation of healthcare resources and the financial implications of health decisions. It's concerned with issues like cost-effectiveness, efficiency, value, and behaviour in the production and consumption of health and healthcare.
d) Health psychology, which is the scientific study of how psychological, behavioural, and social factors influence health, illness, and health care. It examines issues such as how people cope with stress, manage chronic conditions, adhere to medical regimens, and promote healthy behaviours.
e) Business and organisational management, which is a field of study that explores how businesses and organisations function, operate, and interact with their internal and external environments. It covers topics such as strategy, leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship, human resources, marketing, finance, accounting, and operations. It also examines the ethical, social, and environmental implications of business and organisational decisions and practices.
f) Health Technology Assessment (HTA): A multidisciplinary process that uses systematic research methods to evaluate the properties, effects, and/or impacts of health technologies. It often plays a crucial role in determining reimbursement and coverage decisions for new technologies.
g) Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) is a discipline that investigates the development, application, and impact of various tools, systems, and platforms used for processing, storing, and exchanging information electronically.

7.2 Exclusion criteria

Proposals will be rejected if they:

1) Predominantly concern development of new technological solutions (TRLs 1-3), without any focus on the integration of solutions, organisational models or implementation in the health and care systems.
2) Have a predominantly clinical, pre-clinical/bio-medical component.
3) Are solely epidemiological studies mapping the extent of and causal factors of illnesses, without a focus on solutions, models or implementation in health and care systems.
4) Relate solely to welfare services and do not address issues related to health and care services.
5) Do not take into consideration an ecosystem-wide approach[3]
6) Fail to consider end-users' perspective (see Guidance for Applicants for details).

8 Expected outcomes and impacts

Research and innovation projects funded under this call are expected to deliver concrete, feasible, actionable and transferrable results that enable patient-centred care pathways in their preferred living environment. Project outcomes may be in the form of new and innovative practices and models of care, and strategies for their upscaling, transfer and implementation into the health and care system.

Project outputs are expected to be inclusive and address the challenges with the relevant ecosystem, e.g. stakeholders, adopters, and implementers. Proposals are expected to provide concrete plans for

[3] The Guidance for Applicants contains a detailed description of what is meant by an ecosystems approach in the THCS partnership.

how the output can be deployed, implemented, and adopted beyond the duration and setting of the project itself.

Subtopic 1: Strengthening the primary and community care system

Projects under this subtopic are expected to deliver innovative solutions that will enable direct implementation in primary and community care settings. Proposals may involve proofs of concept, demonstrations of effectiveness and health impact assessments of the proposed solutions. Projects should describe the steps and stakeholders required to deploy the solution in the relevant environment. Outcomes may take the form of, but are not limited to, service, organisational or business models, including how innovative technologies and treatments fit into these models.

Sub-topic 2: Systemic approaches to modernising the primary and community care sector

Proposals under this subtopic may focus on knowledge generation in several areas of seamless care pathways. Proposals must also demonstrate how the knowledge generated can be used to inform evidence-based policy development, change management, strategic planning, and other areas of health and care systems management. Projects outputs are expected to include perspectives on how the generated knowledge can build person-centred solutions.

Proposals may include elements of technology development and implementation and are expected to address the broader picture of how the technology will support or enhance the quality, safety, equity, affordability and efficiency of care delivery in primary and community health and care settings. However, technology development should not be the main outcome or focus of the proposals, as the call (also) aims to address the organisational, social, and policy aspects of primary and community health and care.

The call aims at supporting research and innovation projects that contribute to some or even all of the THCS objectives (operational, specific and global) and therewith contribute to the following expected impacts:

1. **Health Outcomes**: Improvements in health outcomes, such as reduced morbidity and mortality, improved management of chronic conditions, and enhanced mental health and well-being.
2. **System Efficiency and Effectiveness**: Enhancements in the efficiency and effectiveness of health and care systems, including reduced healthcare costs, decreased hospital readmissions, and streamlined care pathways.
3. **Access and Equity**: Increases in the accessibility and equity of health services, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of socioeconomic status, geographic location, or cultural background, can access high-quality care.
4. **Policy and Practice Influence**: Influence policy decisions, regulatory frameworks, and clinical practices, leading to evidence-based improvements in health and care systems.
5. **People Empowerment and Self-Management**: Promote patient and community engagement and empowerment, enabling individuals to play an active role in their health and care.
6. **Knowledge Generation and Dissemination**: The contribution of the project to the generation of new knowledge, best practices, and innovative solutions, and the effectiveness of dissemination strategies to share findings with relevant stakeholders.

7. **Ecosystem Approach**: The facilitation of multidisciplinary and intersectoral collaborations, within and beyond the consortium, that bring together diverse expertise from a variety of fields and sectors, including healthcare, technology, digital health, public health, health economics, implementation, humanities and social sciences, education, industry, non-profits organisations and end-users, to address complex health and care challenges. The embedding of the endeavour into organisational strategies will raise the transformational power of the consortium. Established links to the wider ecosystems, including the policy level, ensure that the project's reach and impact are maximised. See Guidance to Applicants p. 5 for more details in the ecosystems approach.
8. **Sustainability and Environmental Impact**: Consideration of the long-term sustainability of the proposed solutions and their environmental impact, including the promotion of greener health practices and adaptation to climate change.

Proposals should outline how they will generate adequate quantitative and qualitative evidence that demonstrates their contribution to these objectives.

Proposals should consider the general challenge in publicly funded research and innovation activities within health and care systems, in that the developed practices do not spread from the original development environments to other relevant services (within the same country or in another country). As a rule, good practices in health and care systems are not universally effective and workable, and as such proposals should account for how outcomes can be transferred and scaled up. Their implementation and workability in a new environment require the simultaneous moulding of the original practice and the context where it will be adopted. The health and care systems, and in particular organisations in them, need support and means for evaluating the transferability of practices, for performing implementation activities, and for adapting practices to local environments.

9 Application

9.1 General Conditions

9.1.1 Multidisciplinary teams & intersectoral collaboration

In the dynamic landscape of healthcare, transformative solutions necessitate an ecosystem approach that extends beyond traditional boundaries. Health and care systems are facing challenges that require harmonised and coordinated solutions, devised through processes that enable all stakeholders involved to design, research and implement such solutions in an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable manner, while keeping people at the centre of the systemic process. This call for proposals invites innovative projects that demonstrate a profound and deep understanding of this approach, ensuring their alignment with existing policy contexts and the broader ecosystem of health and care.

Proposals **must encompass the development of comprehensive sustainability strategies** considering legal, financial, technological, and educational barriers to the implementation of the project outcome(s), as well as barriers to adaptation to the local context by stakeholders. These plans should reflect a clear strategy for engaging with relevant, wider ecosystems, ensuring that the project's reach

and impact are maximized. This approach is anticipated to facilitate the creation of sustainable, user-centred solutions, leading to a meaningful transformation in health and care systems.

This aspect is assessed in the evaluation of proposals and represents one evaluation sub-criterion in *"2. Impact: a. Credibility of the pathways towards impacts, b. the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project and d. Suitability and effectiveness of dissemination and exploitation strategies to influence policy decisions, regulatory frameworks, and health care delivery, leading to evidence-based improvements in health and care systems".*

Proposals **must explicitly illustrate their integration within this ecosystem**, showcasing effective cooperation and coordination among diverse stakeholders. This includes, but is not limited to, health and care professionals, system owners, and, crucially, the service users. The emphasis is on transcending the confines of conventional health and care domains, fostering collaboration at local or regional levels. The consortium should include partners that have the strategic interest and the means to engage in transformation.

Proposals **must be interdisciplinary and intersectoral and clearly demonstrate the potential impact on the transformation of health and care systems, as well as the added value of transnational collaboration.** In order to achieve these goals, the necessary expertise and resources should be brought together from most if not all of the following areas: academia, clinical and public health sector (e.g. hospitals, community care, wellbeing and social care services), professional medical associations (e.g. General Practitioners associations), private sectors (e.g. SMEs, industry as well as regulatory authorities and HTA agencies), patient organisations and other operational stakeholders. Especially with respect to implementation approaches, relevant industry and end-user organisations should be partners in the consortium.

Consortia should include investigators from a broad range of relevant scientific disciplines, research fields or sectors, and bring together the necessary expertise, beside the medical fields targeted, to achieve the objectives as well as expected impact of the research proposed. It is recommended to include, besides clinical research, public health research, bioinformatics, technology, digital health, Ethical, Legal and Social Aspects (ELSA) research, implementation research, health economics research and end-user's perspective to empower the implementation of the proposed work.

The ecosystem approach through interdisciplinary and intersectoral collaborations is assessed in the evaluation of proposals and represents one evaluation sub-criterion in "*1. Excellence: b. Transformative dimension for health and care systems, introducing ambitious and novel approaches, technologies, or methodologies (including multidisciplinary and intersectoral approaches) to solve the challenges in reducing the reliance on institutional care in European health and care systems*".

9.1.2 Patients and citizen

Patient organisations can also be included in consortia as partners (on own funding or funded, if eligible according to regional/national FPOs' regulations). By actively engaging with this group, applicants can ensure that the projects are grounded in real-world experiences, leading to more relevant and impactful outcomes. Their involvement in e.g. dissemination activities enhances the reach and relatability of the research, while their participation in the utilisation of results ensures that the solutions developed are not only practical but also embraced by those they are meant to serve.

9.1.3 Enterprises

Similarly, enterprises, ranging from start-ups to established corporations in the health and care sectors, act as catalysts for translating research into practical, innovative solutions. Their participation in this ecosystem ensures a continuous flow of new ideas and technologies, which is essential for addressing the evolving challenges in healthcare. The embedding of the endeavour into organisational strategies will raise the transformational power of the consortium. If the consortium has a commercial component, the workplan needs to include the development of business plans and reflect the reaching out to relevant wider ecosystems.

The involvement of patient organisations and enterprises is not mandatory but should be appropriate to the proposed project. Note that some participating FPOs may not allow funding to patient organisations and/or enterprises, while other FPOs may require the participation of enterprises (see **Error! Reference source not found.**). Involvement of patient organisations and/or enterprises is part o f the evaluation: "*1. Excellence: b. Transformative dimension for health and care systems, introducing ambitious and novel approaches, technologies, or methodologies (including multidisciplinary and intersectoral approaches) to solve the challenges to reducing the reliance on institutional care in European health and care systems.*; *2. Impact: d. Suitability and effectiveness of dissemination and exploitation strategies to influence policy decisions, regulatory frameworks, and health care delivery, leading to evidence-based improvements in health and care systems; 3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation: c. Appropriate multidisciplinary and intersectoral collaborations that bring together diverse expertise to implement approaches."*

9.1.4 End-user involvement

Project partners of the joint applications should be complementary, and the proposed work should contain novel, innovative, and ambitious ideas with a high application potential for the end-users and/or with a high implementation potential to benefit of end-users. **Consultation with end-users and other stakeholders relevant for a successful implementation into health and care systems (e.g. policymakers, medical associations, patient representatives, regulatory authorities, health insurance providers) is highly recommended during the course of the project running time**. The proposal should describe how these discussions could be approached and how they might impact the overall implementation of the project. These discussions may concern the planning, realisation and implementation of the project, to dissemination activities and/or to the planned utilisation of the results.

This aspect is assessed in the evaluation of proposals and represents one evaluation sub-criterion "*1. Excellence: f. Appropriate consideration to engage with and consider perspectives from a wide range of stakeholders/end-users, including patients, healthcare providers, policymakers, regulatory authorities, insurance providers*".

9.1.5 Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and ethical compliance

Projects should follow the principles of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI). Consortia submitting proposals to this call should demonstrate a commitment for investigating and addressing social, ethical, political, environmental or cultural dimensions of the proposed research.

Furthermore, proposed work must respect fundamental ethical principles. Applicants have to describe any potential ethical aspects of the work to be carried out, and how the project will fulfil applicable

requirements in institutional, regional/national and European Union legislation (including the ethical standards and guidelines of Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe[4]).

Further information is available in the "Guidelines for Applicants" document, and consortia are requested to elaborate on both aspects, RRI and ethical dimensions, in the proposal application forms.

9.1.6 Inclusion of sex, gender analysis[5] and underrepresented populations

Applicants are strongly encouraged to integrate sex and gender considerations, as well as underrepresented populations (e.g. ethnic minorities, people with disabilities), or underrepresented patient sub-groups (e.g. children or elderly) as well as social components (e.g. different economic, educational backgrounds) in proposals submitted to the THCS call. This includes not only the sex distribution of research teams and the distribution of roles in a consortium (gender balance), but also the inclusion of sex or gender analysis in the research per-se (gender dimension). This applies especially when patients are involved in the proposal. A project is considered sex- and gender-relevant when it concerns individuals or groups of people or when its findings may affect individuals or groups.

The inclusion of gender or sex or underrepresented populations analysis is assessed in the evaluation of proposals and represents one evaluation sub-criterion in "1. Excellence, e. Appropriate consideration to societal responsibility and ethical issues such as gender dimensions, socioeconomic disparities, underrepresented and vulnerable populations and/or environmental factors."

9.1.7 Scientific Data Policy

Applicants must clearly describe all tools, technologies, and digital supports to be used in the project, as well as the methodological approach. In addition, descriptions should be included of how data from different sources (such as different institutions) will be combined, how different data streams will be merged and how the primary outcomes will be meaningful across different institutions. Proposals should explain how the data, tools, code or algorithms gathered, developed or used through the project will be maintained after the project end and would be available (findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable) or communicated to the wider research community, during and after the end of the project period.

9.2 Eligibility criteria

- The consortium must include at least three (3) eligible partners from three different countries whose funding organisations participate in the call. At least two (2) members of the consortium should be legal entities from two different EU Member States or Horizon Europe associated countries. Each of these partners must be eligible and request funding from the respective funding organisation. All three legal entities must be independent of each other.
- Maximum number of partners eligible for funding is nine (9).
- Maximum two (2) eligible partners from the same country.
- The project coordinator must be eligible for funding by a regional/national funding organisation participating in the call.

[4] https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/ethics_en.htm

[5] European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Horizon Europe, gender equality – A strengthened commitment in Horizon Europe, Publications Office, 2021, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/97891

- Maximum of two (2) collaborators per consortium are permitted. Collaborators are self-funded partners, i.e. partners that do not request funds from one of the participating FPOs (i.e. partners from non-funding countries or partners who are not eligible according to national/regional regulations of the participating funding organisations). Collaborators do not count towards the maximum number of partners.

Widening measure[6](optional): To promote inclusiveness, ensure global participation, relevance and impact of the submitted projects in and outside Europe, as well as to maximise the use of committed resources, the Joint Call may employ the following widening measure: in the full-proposal, consortia are allowed to increase the size of the consortium from the pre-proposal by adding one project partner funded by the underrepresented FPO (i.e. an FPO that is at risk of not using the total funds it committed to the call). Specifically, consortia that are invited to the second stage of the Call, and that are smaller than the maximum of nine (9) project partners, will be able to add one new project partner eligible for funding by an underrepresented FPO. Only partners eligible to receive funding from FPOs that agree to participate in the widening measure may be added. Project coordinators will be notified of the widening measure in their invitation letter to submit a full-proposal. A list of eligible underrepresented regions/countries and the corresponding FPOs adopting the widening measure will be provided to coordinators invited to submit full-proposals.

For regional/national eligibility check purposes, applicants must indicate during pre-proposal submission whether the submitted project is subject to other evaluation processes, such as other joint transnational calls and regional/national calls. Applicants must not apply to different calls for the same research activities. Double funding is not allowed.

Please note that if a proposal includes an ineligible partner, the whole proposal will be rejected if the composition of the consortium does not meet the call's criteria (see 9.2 Eligibility criteria) or the ineligible partner is the project coordinator, without further review (for the definition of eligible partners see "Guidelines for Applicants" and regional/national funding regulations and contact your regional/national contact person listed in Annex. I).

If it's not possible for patient organisations to participate as funded partners or collaborators, they may optionally be included as sub-contractors, if permissible by the relevant FPO.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their national/regional contact points to check their national/regional eligibility rules before submission (see Annex. I).

9.3 Funding recipients

Joint research proposals may be submitted by applicants belonging to one of the following categories (according to national/regional regulations; certain categories may not be eligible for funding by a specific funding organisation, please see Annex. I):

- **Academia:** research teams working at universities, universities of applied sciences, other higher education institutions, research and knowledge dissemination organisations or research institutes;

[6] **Widening concept:** Consortia are allowed to include in the full-proposal phase a new project partner that is eligible to receive funding from a funding organisation that is underrepresented in the first stage of the call and that agrees to participate in the widening option

- **Clinical/public health sector:** research teams working at hospitals, policlinics, medical practices, public health and/or other health care settings and health organisations;
- **Companies:** private companies of all sizes;
- **Operational stakeholders:** e.g. citizens and/or citizen representatives, local communities, schools, municipalities, local/national NGOs, consumer organisations. Operational stakeholders should be in a position to provide useful knowledge to the consortium, ensure the consortium's research is useful and translatable to their (or other) organizational contexts, and/or influence decision making or create change within their organisations. Operational stakeholders should be engaged in the research process from conception of the study to dissemination.

Consortia submitting applications under this call are strongly encouraged to include partners from different categories in line with the multifaceted nature of health and care challenges, where the aim is to integrate expertise from a variety of fields and sectors to reach a transformative impact on health and care systems. The number of participants, the category of partner organisations and their research contribution should be appropriate for the aims of the call, the aims of the project and should be reasonably balanced in terms of international participation (the different points are reflected in the three evaluation criteria). Each collaborative project should represent the critical mass necessary to achieve the ambitious goals and should clearly demonstrate the added value for the cooperation.

Each project partner has to be represented by <u>one</u> principal investigator. Within a joint proposal, each project partner's principal investigator will be the contact person for the relevant regional/national funding organisation. Each principal investigator can submit up to two proposals as mere partner including one as coordinator (i.e. the coordinator of a proposal can only be partner in another proposal). For some funding organisations, the maximum number of eligible partners who can be funded in one project is limited to one (see also "Guidelines for Applicants" for individual funding rules). Applicants are consequently strongly encouraged to contact their national/regional contact points to check their national/regional eligibility rules before submission (see Annex. I).

Each consortium must nominate <u>one</u> project coordinator among the participating eligible partners (NOT a collaborator). The project coordinator will represent the consortium externally, will act as contact person for the Joint Call Secretariat (JCS) and will be responsible during the entire process for the internal scientific management such as the application procedure, coordination of consortium agreement drafting, Data Management Plan, gender equality plan and reporting.

Partners not eligible for funding by one of the organisations participating in this joint transnational call (e.g. from non-funding countries or not fundable according to regional/national regulations of the participating funding organisations) may participate if they are able to secure their own funding. They are treated as full partners and must be included as **collaborators** in the pre- and full-proposal templates as such. Please note that **no more than two collaborators** are allowed in consortia. A letter of commitment must be included as an annex to the full-proposal, summarising the commitment of the partner participating in the project with own funding and demonstrating the source of funding. The budget of a non-funded partner shall not exceed 30% of the total project budget requested. A collaborator cannot be coordinator of a consortium nor work package leader.

Although proposals will be submitted jointly by teams from several regions/countries, teams will be funded by the respective funding organisation of the region/country from which they have applied.

Applicants are therefore subject to the eligibility criteria of the respective funding organisations (see also Annex. I and "Guidelines for Applicants"). They should therefore read the funding rules and eligibility criteria of their funding organisations carefully. Applicants are strongly advised to contact their relevant funding organisation (Annex I) prior to submission; please note that this step might be mandatory for some regions/countries.

The eligibility of the consortium will be approved by the Call Steering Committee[7] (CSC).

Every partner in the consortium, including self-funded partners, need to include a Participant Identification Code (PIC) from the EC to be included in the submission. Applicants are strongly advised to ensure they have a valid PIC well in advance of submission.

Individual representatives from THCS Partnership Governing Board Members, THCS Partnership General Assembly Members or Funding Agency Board Members cannot submit proposals to THCS Joint Calls.

9.4 Financial and legal aspects

The minimum project duration is 12 months and projects must be designed to be achievable during a maximum funding period of 36 months.

Eligible costs (e.g. personnel, material, consumables, travel, other direct costs, overheads) and funding rules and provisions may vary according to the respective funding organisation's regulations. Project partners must refer and adhere to their own regional/national regulations and scientific remits (Annex I).

This call for proposals constitutes a funding scheme that is notified to the EFTA (European Free Trade Association) Surveillance Authority (ESA) and must be practised in compliance with the national applicable (EU/EEA (European Economic Area) State Aid rules.

9.5 Submission of joint proposals

A two-step submission and evaluation procedure has been established for joint applications: pre-proposals and full-proposals. In both phases, one joint proposal document shall be prepared by the partners of a joint transnational project. **Pre-proposals** must be submitted by the project coordinator to the JCS via the electronic submission system (https://proposals.etag.ee/thcs/2025) no later than **January 30, 2025 at 14:00 CET**. The proposals must be written in English. A template for the pre-proposal form can be downloaded from the THCS website (https://www.thcspartnership.eu/). Pre-proposals that do not use the respective template will be declared ineligible.

The decision on which applicants are selected to submit a full-proposal will be communicated to applicants solely by the JCS from **April 15, 2025**. The JCS will send a full-proposal application template to the coordinators of those research pre-proposals invited to the full-proposal stage, as well as make it available on the THCS website (https://www.thcspartnership.eu/). **Full-proposals** must be submitted by the project coordinator to the JCS via the electronic submission system (https://proposals.etag.ee/thcs/2025) no later than **June 19, 2025 at 14:00 CEST**. Please note that **joint**

[7] Call Steering Committee: comprises a single representative from each country's/region's funding organisation.

full-proposals will only be accepted from applicants explicitly invited by the JCS to submit full-proposals. Full-proposals that do not use the respective template will be declared ineligible.

Any fundamental changes between the pre- and full-proposal concerning the composition of the consortium, project objectives or requested budget must be communicated to the JCS and to the regional/national funding organisations. The request for the change must be submitted to the JCS at least one week before the deadline set for the submission of full proposals. Changes will be discussed on a case-by-case with the involved FPOs. Any change in the composition of the consortium must comply with the general eligibility rules of the call and the national/regional regulations of the relevant FPOs. The eligibility of the new partners must be verified with the relevant FPOs before submitting the full-proposal. The identity of the project coordinator cannot be changed from stage 1 to stage 2. This rule applies except in the event of "*force majeure*". A specific authorisation request must be sent to the JCS and explain the *force majeure* requiring a change of project coordinator. Changes to the consortium, project objectives or requested budget communicated to the JCS and to the regional/national funding organisations after the end of the stage 2 will not be accepted.

Further information on electronic submission of pre- and full-proposals is available on the THCS website (https://www.thcspartnership.eu/) and in the "Guidelines for Applicants".

Applicants from some regions/countries may be required to submit the additional regional/national proposal or other information (in some cases before the deadline of this call).

Ethical and legal issues must be addressed in each application, according to the relevant region's/country's regulations.

The THCS CSC will take all lawful steps to ensure the confidentiality of the information and documents obtained during the joint call evaluation and selection procedure.

9.6 Further information

Applicants should contact their corresponding regional/national representative to enquire about eligibility with their respective funding organisations prior to applying (see Annex. I). For additional information, please contact the JCS.

An online Information Webinar for applicants will be held on **17 December 14:00-16:00 CET**. Interested applicants are encouraged to register for the webinar at the following link: https://www.zonmw.nl/nl/agenda/thcs-jtc-2025-information-webinar-applicants. The webinar will cover general information about the THCS partnership, explanation of the call topic and call procedure, giving an example project, explanation of the partner search tool. The webinar will conclude with a questions and answers session.

10 Evaluation of proposals

10.1 Peer-review of proposals

The selection of projects is based on the principle of peer review. Experts in the field(s), hereinafter referred to as reviewers, carry out written evaluations at two stages of evaluation: the pre-proposal and full-proposal stages. In addition, the reviewers will participate in a peer review panel (PRP) meeting

at both the pre-proposal and full-proposal stage. Proposals for both sub-topics will be evaluated in the same PRPs and compete for the same funding. Reviewers operate independently and confidentially, without exchange with third parties. They only have at their disposal the information included in the submitted proposal on the closing date and time of the call.

Each proposal will be reviewed by at least three reviewers with qualifying expertise fitting the topic of the submitted application.

The reviewers will assess the proposals and provide a written evaluation form with scores and comments for each evaluation criterion (see 10.5 Evaluation criteria).

10.2 Formal check and evaluation of pre-proposals

The JCS will check all pre-proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal criteria (see also 9.2 Eligibility criteria). In parallel, the JCS will forward the pre-proposals to the regional/national funding organisations, which will perform a check for compliance with their regional/national regulations.

If a partner is found to be ineligible by one of the funding organisations after the formal check, the entire proposal will be rejected if the composition of the consortium does not meet the call's criteria (see 9.2 Eligibility criteria) or the ineligible partner is the project coordinator, without further review. For a definition of eligible partners, see "Guidelines for Applicants", the regional/national regulations, and contact your regional/national funding organisation (Annex. I).

After passing the eligibility check (performed by the JCS and the participating funding organisations), pre-proposals will be sent to at least three reviewers for the first evaluation (see 10.5 Evaluation criteria). The reviewers will assess the pre-proposal and complete a written evaluation form with scores and comments for the evaluation criteria.

In addition, the reviewers will assess whether the projects described in the pre-proposal documents fit the aim and scope of the call. Pre-proposals not fitting the call topic and objectives will not be invited to submit a full-proposal, regardless of their scientific quality.

The reviewers will meet in a Peer Review Panel (PRP) to discuss all pre-proposals, to produce a final consensus report for each pre-proposal and a ranking list of the pre-proposals. The PRP will assign each pre-proposal to a group based on its overall assessment of the pre-proposals' evaluation score. Each pre-proposal will receive one of the following recommendations:

Group Invited – Recommended for submitting full proposal

Group Not invited – Not recommended for submitting full proposal.

The composition of the PRP will be communicated through the THCS website at the end of the entire evaluation process.

The CSC members will meet to decide which pre-proposals within the "Group Invited" will be invited for full-proposal submission based on the reviewers' scores, the reviewers' recommendations, on the panel's ranking list and grades, and to ensure a reasonable balance of requested as also consider the available regional/national budgets.

10.3 Formal check and evaluation of full-proposals

The JCS will review the full-proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal requirements and have not changed substantially from the respective pre-proposals prior to sending them to the reviewers.

If a partner is found to be ineligible by one of the funding organisations after the formal check, the entire proposal will be rejected if the composition of the consortium does not meet the call's criteria (see 9.2 Eligibility criteria) or the ineligible partner is the project coordinator, without further review. For a definition of eligible partners, see "Guidelines for Applicants", the regional/national regulations, and contact your regional/national funding organisation (see Annex. I).

Each full-proposal will be allocated to at least three reviewers. The reviewers will assess the full-proposal and complete a written evaluation form with scores and comments for each criterion (see 10.5 Evaluation criteria).

The reviewers will meet in a Peer Review Panel (PRP) to discuss all full-proposals, to produce a final consensus report for each full-proposal, and a ranking list.

The composition of the PRP will be communicated through the THCS website at the end of the entire evaluation process.

10.4 Rebuttal stage

Prior to the PRP meeting to discuss the full-proposals, the JCS will provide the reviewers' assessment (by email or other electronic means) to each project coordinator who will have the opportunity to study the assessments and to provide comments on the arguments and evaluations of the reviewers, who remain anonymous. The rebuttal allows applicants to comment on factual errors or misunderstandings that may have been committed by the reviewers while assessing the proposal, and to reply to reviewers' questions. However, issues not related to reviewers' comments or questions cannot be addressed and the work plan cannot be modified at this stage. Answers sent after the notified deadline, or not related with reviewers' comments or questions will be disregarded.

During the PRP meeting, reviewers will take into consideration the rebuttal letters during the discussions and will produce a final consensus report for each full-proposal.

10.5 Evaluation criteria

Pre-proposals and full-proposals will be assessed according to specific evaluation criteria using a common evaluation form. A scoring system from 0 to 5 will be used to evaluate the proposal's performance with respect to the different evaluation criteria.

Scoring system:

0: Failure. The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1: Poor. The proposal inadequately addresses the criterion, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2: Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3: Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4: Very Good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5: Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Definitions for score descriptors

- A **minor shortcoming** is an issue that relates only to a marginal aspect of the proposal with respect to the criterion and/or can easily be rectified (it will not impact the scoring).
- A **shortcoming** is a problem that relates to an important aspect of the proposal. It impacts the scoring but does not render the proposal inappropriate for funding, i.e. the proposal is still expected to lead to useful results with positive impact.
- A **significant weakness** means that the proposal addresses the criterion in a limited and/or not sufficiently effective way (will lower the score below threshold). This can also be the case when the proposal includes a large number of shortcomings, each one of them not rendering the proposal inappropriate for funding, though all together make the proposal not addressing the criterion sufficiently in an effective way.

Evaluation scores will be awarded for each of the three main criteria: excellence, impact, and implementation, each as a whole, and not separately for the different sub-criteria listed below each criterion. The sub-criteria related to the main criteria provide a level of detail adapted to the content and size of the pre- and full- proposal. The sub-criteria serve as a guide to help the applicant prepare the application and for the reviewer to conduct the evaluation. Each individual reviewer will independently give scores for each criterion. The three criteria are weighted equally. The final score for the proposal for each criterion is agreed upon by the panel members during the PRP discussion.

Evaluation criteria:

1. **Excellence:**
    a. Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives to address the enhancement of primary and community care.
    b. Transformative dimension for health and care systems, introducing ambitious and novel approaches, technologies, or methodologies (including multidisciplinary and intersectoral approaches) to solve the challenges to reducing the reliance on institutional care in European health and care systems.
    c. Soundness of the proposed concepts, methodology, organisational and business models, solutions, services.
    d. Clarity of how expertise and methods from different disciplines will be brought together and integrated in pursuit of the objectives. Credibility of the proposed inter-disciplinary approach.
    e. Appropriate consideration to societal responsibility and ethical issues such as gender dimensions, socioeconomic disparities, underrepresented and vulnerable populations and/or environmental factors.

f. Appropriate consideration to engage with and consider perspectives from a wide range of stakeholders/end-users, including patients, healthcare providers, policymakers, regulatory authorities, insurance providers.

2. **Impact:**
    a. Credibility of the pathways to achieve THCS expected impacts under the relevant topic:
        i. improve health outcomes, such as reduced morbidity and mortality, improved care management of e.g. chronic conditions, mental health, well-being etc.
        ii. enhance efficiency and effectiveness of health and care systems, including reduced healthcare costs, decreased hospital readmissions, and streamlined care pathways.
        iii. increase accessibility and equity of health services, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of socioeconomic status, geographic location, or cultural background, can access high-quality care.
        iv. promote people empowerment and self-management, enabling individuals to play an active role in their health and care.
    b. Scalability[8] and significance[9] of implementing the project's objectives within existing health and care systems and/or in different settings.
    c. Consideration of the long-term sustainability of the proposed solutions and their environmental impact, including the promotion of greener health practices and adaptation to climate change.

At Stage 2 only (i.e. only for full-proposals), the following criterion will also be included in the assessment of Impact:

    d. Suitability and effectiveness of dissemination and exploitation strategies to influence policy decisions, regulatory frameworks, and health care delivery, leading to evidence-based improvements in health and care systems.

3. **Quality and efficiency of the implementation:**
    a. Quality and effectiveness of the work plan (including adequacy of the time schedule) and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.
    b. Capacity and role of each participant including appropriate expertise of partners responsible for proposed work packages and appropriate allocation of tasks.
    c. Appropriate multidisciplinary and intersectoral collaborations that bring together diverse expertise to implement approaches.
    d. Suitability and robustness in monitoring progress towards the project's objectives and evaluating impact, including identification of potential barriers and risk mitigation measures.
    e. Appropriateness of the management structures, governance and procedures to address critical risks, innovation management and RRI, including ethical considerations.

[8] **Scalability** refers to how widespread the outcomes and impacts are likely to be. For example, in terms of the size of the target group, or the proportion of that group, that should benefit over time.
[9] **Significance** refers to the importance, or value, of those benefits. For example, number of additional healthy life years.

10.6 Conflict of interest

All necessary steps will be taken by the JCS and the CSC to ensure that there is no conflict of interest concerning PRP members for those proposals assigned to them for review. The PRP members will be required to formally declare that no conflict of interest exists at any point in the evaluation process and to declare confidentiality concerning all documents and the entire review process. A reviewer cannot be part of the PRPs if they have been involved in the preparation of proposals, stand to benefit professionally, financially or personally from approval or rejection of a proposal, or have close familiar or personal relationship with any persons representing an applicant organisation in a proposal. In other cases of a conflict of interest towards specific proposals, the specific reviewer will be excluded from the meeting when discussing that proposal. Any PRP member who breaches the conflict of interest rule will be excluded from the PRP. Projects assigned to that reviewer will be assigned to another reviewer.

10.7 Ethical clearance – Ethics and RRI evaluation

It is mandatory for applicants to complete an "Ethical self-assessment" (Annex 1 of the full-proposal application form). After the PRP meeting, an Ethics and RRI evaluation will take place for the full-proposals which are recommended for funding by the PRP and selected for funding by the CSC, to verify alignment with ethical norms and regulations. If further clarifications are necessary, the consortium will be contacted to take some actions or submit additional documents. The ethics experts may put forward additional conditions that need to be fulfilled by the applicants. Only those proposals approved by both the scientific evaluation and ethical assessment, complying with the central Horizon Europe and regional/national ethical requirements, will be funded.

11 Final decision on funding

Based on the ranking list and the scores established by the PRP, the ethical clearance and on available funding, the CSC will recommend the projects to be funded to the regional/national funding organisations. Based on these recommendations, final decisions will be made by the regional/national funding organisations, subject to budgetary considerations.

In case several projects with an equal overall grade cannot be awarded due to budgetary constraints, the CSC will prioritise according to the following core principles, in the order listed below:

1. Maximising the total output in terms of total funded budget in the call and number of funders involved;
   Aim is to allocate as much of the budget as possible and that all funders are involved in the projects funded.
2. Score of Excellence;
   If 1 cannot lead to an optimum selection with the highest budget allocation, the project with the highest excellence score will be considered first.
3. *Maximisation of the number of countries/regions involved in the funded project;*
   If 1 to 2 above cannot lead to a selection, then the involvement of the highest number countries/regions in the proposal will make that it is considered first.
4. Gender balance.

If 1 to 3 above cannot lead to a selection, then the gender balance among PIs within the consortium will be considered.

5. *Maximising inclusion of SMEs;*
   If 1 to 4 above cannot lead to a selection, then the involvement of the highest number of SMEs in the proposal will make that it is considered first.

The project coordinator will be informed by the JCS of the decision. The project coordinators are responsible to inform their project partners.

12 Redress procedure

Applicants can appeal against the evaluation outcome if they suspect a breach in the application of the evaluation and selection procedures, including the regional/national eligibility checks. This redress procedure only covers the procedural aspects of the call. The redress will not call into question the scientific or technical judgement of appropriately qualified experts/evaluators. The appeal must demonstrate a procedural irregularity, factual error, manifest error of assessment, misuse of powers, or a conflict of interests. Appeals that do not meet the above conditions, or do not deal with the evaluation of a specific proposal or express mere disagreement with the result or the reasoning of the evaluation might be judged as not suitable for redress.

Applicants shall submit their appeal to the JCS via email (thcs@zonmw.nl) up to fourteen (14) calendar days following the dispatch of the evaluation outcome email by the JCS at the end of each stage (first or second stage). The proposal outcome email containing the results of the evaluation will give information on the appeals procedure, which is described below.

13 Admissibility of appeals

For an appeal to be admissible the following conditions must be met:

- The appeal must be submitted by the coordinator of the proposal to which the appeal relates;
- Only one appeal per proposal will be considered;
- The appeal must be submitted via email within a fourteen (14) calendar days deadline. The appeal must contain the following minimum information:
  - The name of the call for proposals;
  - The proposal acronym;
  - The title of the proposal;
  - A description of the alleged shortcomings of the evaluation procedure.

14 Procedure

Upon receipt of an appeal, an acknowledgement of receipt will be sent by the JCS within seven (7) calendar days. The acknowledgement shall report the redress process and the anticipated date by which a decision on the appeal will be communicated to the appellant.

All appeals received by the seven (7) calendar days deadline will be processed together, and the decision will be communicated to the appellant by the JCS within six (6) weeks from the deadline for

submitting the appeals. The redress procedure within THCS is not an automatic re-evaluation, and the judgement of appropriately qualified experts is not called into question.

15 Responsibilities, Reporting requirements and Dissemination

15.1.1 Granting Arrangements

Partners from the projects approved for funding will subsequently enter into granting arrangements with the relevant FPOs, according to their applicable grant awarding process and will be funded directly by the respective FPOs. Projects are expected to start late 2025 (or early 2026).

15.1.2 Consortium Agreement

Consortium members of projects selected for funding must fix a common scientific project start date, which will be the reference date for the annual progress reports and final reporting. The common scientific project start date must be stated in the project Consortium Agreement (CA).

Project coordinators will be responsible for drafting the mandatory CA specific to their consortium in order to manage the delivery of the project activities, intellectual property rights (IPR) and decision-making, and to avoid disputes that could compromise the completion of the project. The coordinator is responsible for sending the CA signed by all partners, including collaborators, to the JCS. The CA must state that funding and administrative matters are not regulated by the CA and are issues addressed bilaterally between each project partner and its funder in the relevant Grant Agreement (GA). The CA will be made available to the relevant funding organisations. The project consortium is strongly encouraged to sign this CA before the official project start date and, in any case, the CA should be signed and submitted to the JCS no later than six months after the scientific project start date. Please note that regional and national funding agencies' regulations concerning the requirement for a CA may apply. Further instructions will be provided by the JCS to the coordinators of the projects selected for funding. Some FPOs may require the signed CA to release the funds.

15.1.3 Data Management Plan

THCS expects proposals to develop data management plans (DMPs) according to international state-of-the-art standards for data security (following the FAIR principles[10], the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)[11] and in accordance with Ethical principles[12] for data management).

The Data Management Plan (DMP) must be submitted by the project coordinator to the JCS no later than six months after the scientific project start date (template to be available: https://www.thcspartnership.eu/). The DMP represents an essential document for the implementation of the research, as it helps to define the responsibilities of research data management ahead of the start of the project. The project coordinator is responsible for sending an updated DMP

[10] findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR): http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-data-mgt_en.pdf

[11] GDPR : https://gdpr-info.eu/

[12] https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/ethics/h2020_hi_ethics-self-assess_en.pdf https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/ethics/h2020_hi_ethics-data-protection_en.pdf

at the end of the project together with the final scientific report. Compliance with or updates of the DMP, must be reported in each annual scientific project progress report.

15.1.4 Project Monitoring and Reporting

The project coordinator is required to fill out and submit an annual scientific progress report in English on behalf of the consortium to THCS, detailing how the project is progressing in relation to planned objectives. Furthermore, a final scientific report must be sent to THCS within a period of two months after the project has ended. In addition to the reports, information related to some indicators related to the project may be collected on a platform/survey. A report template will be provided by THCS stating the scientific progress, the goals that have been met and corrective measures in the event that the annual project plan has not been executed.

The project partners' principal investigators may also be required to submit individual reports to their respective funding organisation in accordance with the respective regional/national regulations.

In addition, project coordinators will be required to present the project results at THCS monitoring meetings, where attendance is mandatory. Additionally, they may be invited to attend at least two status seminars. Travel expenses to attend these mandatory meetings should be included in the proposal budget plans. In case of events being organised online, all partners of the consortia will be encouraged to participate. Funded project consortia shall participate in follow-up surveys up to two years after the project has officially been ended.

The coordinator must promptly inform the JCS in case of ANY significant changes in the work plan or in the consortium composition. The JCS will inform the relevant funding organisations, who will decide upon the proper action to be taken.

Upon notification, project coordinators are required to deliver a project abstract suitable for communication and dissemination purposes.

In addition, the funding recipients are expected to participate in, and contribute to, any communication activity or evaluation surveys initiated by THCS during the funding period (mandatory) and beyond.

15.1.5 Open Science

Publication of the scientific outcomes of the project is mandatorily subject to open access, and a corresponding budget should be allocated for this in the proposal's budget plan. Research projects funded through THCS are eligible to publish at no cost on Open Research Europe (ORE)[13], an open access publishing platform of the EC.

Importantly, all funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of transnational THCS-funded projects include proper acknowledgement of the THCS and the respective FPOs:

"This project received funding from [name of funding organisations, or an acknowledgment as requested by your regional/national funding organisation] under the frame of Transforming Health and Care Systems, THCS, (GA N° 101095654 of the EU Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme)".

[13] https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/

For any oral presentation, the EU emblem should be displayed. Moreover, the beneficiary may not appropriate the EU emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

15.1.6 Confidentiality

The THCS JCS takes all reasonable steps to ensure that information provided in the application is treated confidentially. The proposals will be handled confidentially by the JCS and by the regional/national funding organisations. In selecting the international experts for the PRP, the JCS shall endeavour to avoid any possible conflict of interest. Each expert will have to sign a declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest. In case of a conflict of interest the reviewer will be withdrawn from evaluating the respective proposal.

15.1.7 General Data Protection Regulation

Applicants are informed that their personal data submitted in their application to the call are processed in accordance with article 6.1 (e) and (c) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2016/679), and for the purposes of

- Processing and evaluating the application where processing shall be lawful only if and to the extent that processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller;
- Administering any subsequent funding award;
- Managing the funding organisations relationship with them;
- Analysing and evaluating the call;
- Providing aggregate data to national and European surveys and analyses on the funded projects;
- Complying with audits that may be initiated by the funding organisations and the European Commission (or its agencies).

The CSC may share applicant's data with third parties (some of which may be based outside the European Economic Area) in relation to the above activities including evaluators, auditors and the European Commission (or its agencies).

The members of the CSC may link the data that funding recipients provide in the application with regional/national, bibliographic or external research and innovation funding data which are available through public subscription-based databases (e.g., Scopus, Web of Science, etc.) or other national/open datasets.

Annex. I Regional/National Contact Details

Contact persons

Country	FPO	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Austria	FFG	Gerda Geyer	gerda.geyer@ffg.at	+43(0)577554205
Belgium	FNRS	Joël Groeneveld	international@frs-fnrs.be	+32 2 504 9270
Belgium	FNRS	Maxime Bonsir	international@frs-fnrs.be	+32 2 504 9236
Belgium	VLAIO - FIO	Lieve Apers	lieve.apers@vlaio.be	+32 497 59 33 58
Canada	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	CIHR Contact Centre[14]	support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca	1-888-603-4178
Czech Republic	MZCR	Olga Laaksonen	Olga.Laaksonen@mzcr.cz	+420 604 786 141
Czech Republic	AZVCR	Monika Kocmanova	Monika.kocmanova@azvcr.cz	+420 606 273 871
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France	Fr MoH	Cécile Fragny	cecile.fragny@sante.gouv.fr	+33 (0)140564076
France	Fr MoH	Virginie Delattre	virginie.delattre@sante.gouv.fr	+33 (0)140566000
Iceland	Rannis	Bylgja Valtýsdóttir	Bylgja.valtysdottir@rannis.is	+354 5155800
Iceland	Rannis	Elísabet Andrésdóttir	elisabet.m.andresdottir@rannis.is	+354 5155800
Ireland	HRB	Siobhán Hackett	HRB-JTCs@hrb.ie	None
Israel	CSO-MOH	Irit Allon	irit.allon@moh.health.gov.il	+972 (0)2 5082167

[14] The NCP is Jessica Nadigel, Associate Scientific Director, CIHR's Institute of Health Services and Policy Research.

Israel	CSO-MOH	Netta Koren	netta.koren@moh.health.gov.il	+972 (0) 545889393
Italy	AReSS	Francesco Fera	management@aress.regione.puglia.it	Office : +39 080 5403222 Mob.: +39 347 1588361
Italy	AReSS	Agata Di Candia	a.dicandia@aress.regione.puglia.it	Office : +39 080 5403222 Mob.: +39 347 1588361
Italy	FRRB	Giulia Maria Rossignolo	giuliamaria.rossignolo@frrb.it bandi@frrb.it	+39 02 6765 0159
Italy	IT MoH	Chiara Ciccarelli	c.ciccarelli@sanita.it	0039 06 59943919
Italy	MUR	Aldo Covello	Aldo.covello@mur.gov.it	+393755102431
Italy	MUR	Luca Tomat	luca.tomat@est.mur.gov.it	+393298827903
Italy	RT	Donatella Tanini	thcs@regione.toscana.it	+39 055 4383256
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Latvia	LCS	Maija Bundule	Maija.Bundule@lzp.gov.lv	+371- 26514481
Latvia	LCS	Uldis Berkis	Uldis.Berkis@lzp.gov.lv	+371-29472349
Lithuania	LMT	Živilė Ruželė	zivile.ruzele@lmt.lt	(+370) 676 14383
Malta	Xjenza Malta	Annalisa Cartabia	annalisa.cartabia@gov.mt General inbox: eusubmissions.xjenzamalta@gov.mt	+356 2360 2152
Malta	Xjenza Malta	Christy Baldacchino	christy.baldacchino.2@gov.mt General inbox: eusubmissions.xjenzamalta@gov.mt	+356 2360 2158
Netherlands	NWO-SIA	Mel Major	Mel.major@regieorgaan-sia.nl	+31703494652
Netherlands	NWO-SIA	Marcus van Leeuwen	marcus.vanleeuwen@regieorgaan-sia.nl	+31306331466
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Norway	RCN	Jostein Holmgren	johol@forskningsradet.no	+47 96646834
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Poland	NCBR	Marcin Chmielewski	thcs@ncbr.gov.pl	+48 571 226 666
Poland	NCBR	Magdalena Krzystyniak	thcs@ncbr.gov.pl	+48 571 226 675
Portugal	CCDRC	Sophie Patrício	ccdrc.projects@ccdrc.pt	239 400 100

Portugal	CCDRC	Dora Cabete	ccdrc.projects@ccdrc.pt	
Portugal	FCT	Pedro Miguel Ferreira	thcs@fct.pt	[+351] 213 924 445
Portugal	FCT	Marta Norton	thcs@fct.pt	[+351] 213 911 565
Spain	CSCJA	Alicia Milano Curto	ep.fps@juntadeandalucia.es	+34 954 78 75 42
Spain	DPTO SALUD/BIOEF	Ainhoa Martín Pagola	amartin@bioef.eus	+34 944536142
Spain	IDIVAL	Paloma Gonzalez	Innovacion4@idival.org	+34942202857
Spain	ISCIII	Cristina Gonzalez-Zarauz	cristina.gonzalez@isciii.es	(+34) 91 822 25 51
Spain	ISCII	Cándida Sánchez Barco	cbarco@isciii.es	
Sweden	Forte	Staffan Arvidsson	Staffan.arvidsson@forte.se	+4687754080
Switzerland	Innosuisse	Marina Dorner	marina.dorner@innosuisse.ch	+41 58 462 98 55
Switzerland	SNSF	Priyanka Parmar	thcs@snf.ch	
Switzerland	SNSF	Clémence Le Cornec	thcs@snf.ch	

1.1 Austria – FFG

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)
(acting on behalf of the Federal Ministry, Republic of Austria, Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology)

Funding commitment	1,5 Mio €
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Minimum funding per Austrian participation in a project (1 or more partners) : 100.000 €

Eligible institutions	The following legal entities are eligible for funding:
	• Companies of any legal form, including
	  • Local authorities[15] and autonomous bodies,
	  • Non-profit making organisations such as NPOs[16]/ ”Daseinsvorsorger”/ user organisations
	• Institutions of research and knowledge dissemination
	  • Universities and universities of applied sciences
	  • Non-university research institutions
	  • Technology transfer institutions, innovation agents and other research-oriented organisations such as associations with a relevant purpose

Table 1 : funding rates

Type of organisation	Research category Industrial research	Research category Experimental development
Small enterprise	80 %	60 %
Medium-sized enterprise	70 %	50 %
Large enterprise	55 %	35 %
Research institutions (non-commercial activities)	85 %	60 %
Non-commercial institutions (non-commercial activities)	80 %	60 %

[15] Activities of local authorities falling within their statutory mandate are not eligible for funding

[16] Non-profit making organisations do not distribute profits to their owners, members or other natural persons or legal entities in accordance with their legal status or articles of association.

Organisations excluded from funding	It is not possible to provide funding to undertakings in difficulty[17].
Additional eligibility criteria	Austria requires the fulfillment of the following Eligibility Criteria for Austrian participants and verifies them by means of an eligibility pre-check): • Registration at the eCall system of the FFG at https://ecall.ffg.at within the submission deadlines of the Call (phase 1 and phase 2); please consult the tutorial at https://ecall.ffg.at/Cockpit/Help.aspx; participant's cost information has to be filled in the FFG ecall proposal prior to submission deadline; • For companies: upload of the balance sheets of the last two years in the FFG eCall within the submission deadline; • FFG experts will check the financial potential (credit rating and liquidity) of the participating enterprises. Declaration of SME Status for associations and sole traders
Eligible costs	Eligible costs must be allocable directly to the project. This means that: – they are incurred additionally to the normal operating costs during the funding period – they are in accordance with the Funding Contract – they can be evidenced by receipts For details on the eligibility of costs see the Cost Guidelines.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Yes, see additional eligibility criteria If more than 1 Austrian partner participate in the same proposal, they will nominate one of the Austrian partners to act as the national coordinator. The duties of the national coordinator are listed in the « Leitfaden für kooperative F&E Projekte, Transnationale Ausschreibungen », Chapter 2.1 and Chapter 2.3. Contrary to Chapter 2.2 it is not mandatory that 1 enterprise must be part of the European project consortium, consequently, also the given percentages of effort of the partners are not applicable.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	Yes, see additional eligibility criteria • For enterprises: upload of the balance sheets of the last two years in the FFG eCall within the submission deadline; • Declaration of SME Status for associations and sole traders

[17] Undertakings in difficulty as defined in the General block exemption Regulation (EU), Allgemeine Gruppenfreistellungsverordnung (ABl. L 187 S. 19, idF ABl. L 270/39 vom 29.07.2021)

Further guidance	The national rules on eligible costs for Austrian participants are available from the FFG webpage at https://www.ffg.at/recht-finanzen/kostenleitfaden, Kostenleitfaden 3.1 (Cost Guidelines). Legal background for funding: FFG Technologie-Richtlinie. More information can be found in the Guidelines « Leitfaden für kooperative F&E Projekte, Transnationale Ausschreibungen » and on the FFG Call webpage under www.ffg.at/THCS_Call3

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Austria	FFG	Gerda Geyer	gerda.geyer@ffg.at	+43(0)577554205

1.2 Belgium – FNRS

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS) **International@frs-fnrs.be**	
Funding commitment	300,000 euros
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	300,000 euros
Eligible institutions	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations.
Organisations excluded from funding	**Please note that the F.R.S.-FNRS only funds Basic research** (low Technology Readiness Level) carried out in a research institution from the "Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles". The F.R.S.-FNRS will not fund industrial partners or any activity related to the private sector. Nevertheless, partners funded by the F.R.S.-FNRS can be in a consortium where there are also partners from the private sector.
Additional eligibility criteria	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations.
Eligible costs	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations. This call is co-funded (See article III.6). • Please note that personnel costs (Article III.6) have an annual average cap of 80,000 EUR for this call. • For "overhead" costs: Operating expenses: up to 1% within the granted budget. This percentage should be included in the requested operating budget. Personnel: up to 2% outside of the granted budget. This percentage will be paid upon reimbursement of expenses to institutions by the F.R.S.-FNRS.

Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding must provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application on e-space within 5 working days after the general deadline of the THCS call to be eligible. Please select the "PINT-MULTI" funding instrument when creating the administrative application. Proposals invited to the second stage will be able to complete the pre-proposal form and provide information for the full proposal upon validation by the F.R.S.-FNRS.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/calendrier-des-appels

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
French speaking Belgium	Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS	Joël Groeneveld	international@frs-fnrs.be	+32 2 504 9270
French speaking Belgium	Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS	Maxime Bonsir	international@frs-fnrs.be	+32 2 504 9236

1.3 Belgium – VLAIO - FIO

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) **Email address**	
Funding commitment	€1.000.000
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	For this call the maximum funding (subsidy) per project is € 500.000.
Eligible institutions	Companies established in the Flemish region, with a sustainable activity in this region, based upon a sound business model are eligible to apply for funding. They have not received public funding for the same activities. Flemish public and non-public universities and academic organisations, research organisations, higher and secondary education organisations (Knowledge Institutes) can only participate as research partner or subcontractor of a Flemish company. All applicants should demonstrate their viability and financial soundness regarding their own contribution to the project and the implementation of the results. End user organisations, may be funded for the activities necessary for the success of the project.
Organisations excluded from funding	Organisations established in the Brussels or Walloon region, without a sustainable activity in Flanders.
Additional eligibility criteria	For a project to be eligible, enterprises must request at least €25.000 and at most €500.000 subsidy.
Eligible costs	Alle information on eligible costs and funding rates for development projects: www.vlaio.be/en/subsidies/development-project Alle information on eligible costs and funding rates for research projects: www.vlaio.be/en/subsidies/research-project

Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	In addition to the centrally submitted THCS project application form, partners from Flanders need to submit an annex to VLAIO. Development project – www.vlaio.be/en/subsidies/development-project/how-apply-development-project-subsidy or Research project – www.vlaio.be/en/subsidies/research-project/application-process-research-project-grant including a project plan and budget. The annex can be found via the document link to 'Template annex internationale en interregionale projecten – mei 2024'.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	Financial viability of the company and eligibility on regional level should be demonstrated in the annex.
Further guidance	Please contact upfront Lieve Apers (lieve.apers@vlaio.be)

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Belgium - Flanders	VLAIO - FIO	Lieve Apers	lieve.apers@vlaio.be	+32 497 59 33 58

1.4 Canada – CIHR

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) **Email address: support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca**	
Funding commitment	$1,500,000 CAD
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	The maximum funding amount is $300,000 CAD per partner.
Eligible institutions	Eligibility criteria for all CIHR research funding programs apply. The business office of the institution of an eligible Nominated Principal Applicant generally administers CIHR funds. Refer to the Individual Eligibility Requirements regarding the eligibility requirements for individuals and institutions. For your application to be eligible to CIHR the Canadian researcher that is applying for funding from Canada must be an independent researcher at a CIHR eligible institution.
Organisations excluded from funding	Organizations that are not eligible to receive CIHR funding are excluded from CIHR funding.
Additional eligibility criteria	Projects must be focused on the health and care of older persons and/or their caregivers and use a Patient-Oriented Research approach. Patient-oriented research (POR) involves engaging patients, caregivers, families, communities as well as knowledge users and decision makers as partners in co-creating research. This partnered approach is a key element of research excellence and increases the quality, relevance, and impact of research evidence, increasing its uptake into health policy and practice. Projects therefore must include a Patient Engagement Plan with details on how People with Lived and Living Experience (PWLLE) and/or communities, including Indigenous, will be part of the research team, designing and executing the research and subsequent knowledge mobilization. For more information, please also refer to SPOR's Patient Engagement Framework.
Eligible costs	Applicants should review the Use of Grant Funds section of the Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) Financial Administration Guide for a complete listing and description of allowable costs and activities.

Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	A parallel submission to CIHR is not required.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	The Nominated Principal Applicant (NPA) will be required to submit an electronic Final Report to CIHR. This online report will be made available to the NPA on ResearchNet at the beginning of the grant funding period and can be filled in as the research progresses. Additional reports may be required. It is incumbent upon the Canadian researchers to review and understand all expectations of the THCS Call Text, including the requirement for a Consortium Agreement (CA) and a data management plan that aligns with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The NPA does NOT need to send CIHR copies of these documents. The applicant will be required to also meet all THCS reporting requirements. Please consult the THCS website for more information.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Canada	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	CIHR Contact Centre	support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca	1-888-603-4178

*The NCP is Jessica Nadigel, Associate Scientific Director, CIHR's Institute of Health Services and Policy Research.

1.5 Czech Republic – MZCR/AZVCR

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) **Email address** **The Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic (MZCR)** **Olga.laaksonen@mzcr.cz;** **monika.kocmanova@azvcr.cz**	
Funding commitment	500, 000 €
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	**Maximum 250,000** € per project, regardless of the number of Czech partners in the project consortium. The final decision about the maximum funding per grant will depend on the number of proposals submitted to the pre-proposal stage or the number of proposals with Czech participation recommended for funding by the international evaluation committee. In the case of only one Czech project proposal being recommended for funding, the amount of finance support per project may be increased.
Eligible institutions	Research Organisations, Enterprises. All eligibility rules and criteria can be found on the Czech Health Research website (AZV ČR – Agentura pro zdravotnický výzkum České republiky (azvcr.cz)). It is **recommended** to contact the responsible person at the Czech Health Research Council (prior to submission regarding the eligibility criteria).
Organisations excluded from funding	None
Additional eligibility criteria	All eligibility criteria can be found on the Czech Health Research website ((AZV ČR – Agentura pro zdravotnický výzkum České republiky (azvcr.cz))
Eligible costs	All eligibility of costs, types and their caps can be found on the Czech Health Research Council (AZV ČR – Agentura pro zdravotnický výzkum České republiky (azvcr.cz)). It is **recommended** to contact the responsible person at the Czech Health Research Council (prior to submission regarding the eligibility criteria).
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	NO

Submission of additional information at regional/national level	Prior to submission of the pre-proposal to EP THCS, Czech researchers need to submit to the Czech Health Research Council the following documents: 1. Sworn Statement 2. Sworn Statement of composition consortium 3. Application Form All these documents are available on the website at the Czech Health Research Council AZV ČR – Agentura pro zdravotnický výzkum České republiky (azvcr.cz). Prior to submission of the full proposal to EP THCS, Czech researchers need to submit to the Czech Health Research Council the following documents: 1. Ethics documents (if required for the project proposal). More information is part of the document "Methodology for European Partnership in Health" in the chapter 7.2.1 Eligibility requirements for applicants. 2. Updated budget table In case the projects of Czech participants are recommended for funding on the basis of the results of the international evaluation and after the approval of the representatives of the funding authorities of the countries participating in the EP THCS calls, the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic / Czech Health Research Council may ask the successful Czech participants to submit additional documents in order to issue a decision on the provision of purpose-special support according to the rules established by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic/ Czech Health Research Council.
Further guidance	AZV ČR – Agentura pro zdravotnický výzkum České republiky (azvcr.cz)

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Czech Republic	The Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic (MZCR)	Olga Laaksonen Monika Kocmanova	Olga. Laaksonen@mzcr.cz Monika.kocmanova@azvcr.cz	+ 420 604 786 141 + 420 606 273 871

1.6 Denmark – IFD

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Denmark - IFD **Innovation Fund Denmark** **internationale@innofond.dk**	
Funding commitment	1.000.000 €
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Both a maximum funding amount and maximum funding rates apply. The maximum funding amount is 300.000 € per partner and (if there is more than one Danish partner) 500.000€ per project. Additionally, maximum funding rates apply according to IFD's Guidelines.
Eligible institutions	All public and private organizations (for profit and not for-profit)
Organisations excluded from funding	
Additional eligibility criteria	
Eligible costs	• Salaries; • Equipment (equipment, materials, etc.); • Other project-related costs (events, transportation, travel, audit costs, etc.), • External services (consultancy costs, subcontracting or services); Overhead (for the applicable rate please refer to the IFD's Guidelines)
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Usually 2-4 weeks after the proposal submission deadline, Danish applicants will receive and invitation to upload the proposal to the e-grant system. Private companies will be requested further documentation, which can be found under Documents.

Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	Link to IFD Guidelines: https://innovationsfonden.dk/sites/default/files/2022-03/Guidelines%20for%20international%20programmes%202.%20marts%202022%20.pdf Additional documents: https://innovationsfonden.dk/en/p/international-collaborations

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Denmark	Innovation Fund Denmark	Katrine Boeriis	Katrine.boeriis@innofond.dk internationale@innofond.dk	+ 45 61 90 50 06

1.7 Estonia – ETAG

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Estonian Research Council (ETAG) **Email address: margit.suuroja@etag.ee**	
Funding commitment	300 000 EUR
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	max. 150 000 EUR as a project partner and max. 300 000 EUR as a project coordinator
Eligible institutions	The Host Institution may be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia and has an Estonian bank account. If the Host Institution is a for-profit institution, the State aid and de minimis aid regulations must be taken into account
Organisations excluded from funding	-
Additional eligibility criteria	**The Principal Investigator**: 1. must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline; 2. must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded by the submission deadline of the grant application at the latest; 3. must have published at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to the proposal submission deadline. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or performed compulsory service in the Defence Forces, or has another good reason, they can request the publication period requirement to be extended by the relevant period of time. If the Principal Investigator has received the PhD degree outside Estonia, its correspondence to an Estonian doctoral degree must be recognised by either the Estonian ENIC-NARIC Center or the Host Institution in accordance with the Regulation of the Government of the Republic of April 6, 2006, No. 89 "Evaluation and academic recognition of documents proving foreign education and the name of the qualification awarded in the foreign education system terms and conditions of use". The Funding Organisation may ask for a relevant Evaluation Report.

	If several Estonian institutions participate in a proposal, all institutions must have a Principal Investigator who meets the national eligibility requirements. If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Funding Organisation by the start of the relevant activities.
Eligible costs	**Direct costs**: 1.**Personnel costs** are monthly salaries(along with all state taxes, contributions, and compensations arising from law) of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution. 2. **Other direct costs** are: - travel costs that may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel Insurance only for travels abroad; - where the project is funded from the European Regional Development Fund (Mobilitas 3.0) resources, travel and accommodation costs are eligible only for travels abroad; - consumables and minor equipment directly and fully related to the project; - publication and dissemination of project results; - organising meetings, seminars or conferences (e.g room rent, catering, equipment rental and related costs); - fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events directly and fully related to the project; - patent costs; - all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, etc.) and are directly and fully related to the project. 3. **Indirect costs (overhead)** are costs that cannot be identified as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action and/or should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution related to the management of the grant. Office consumables and costs for equipment and services intended for general use (e.g., phone bills, copy service, printer) should be covered from the indirect costs. Indirect costs are 15% of the personnel costs. 4. **Subcontracting costs** are direct costs. Subcontracting costs should cover only additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs. 5. Double funding of activities is not acceptable.

	6. If several Estonian institutions participate in one proposal, the sum of their requested budgets may not exceed the maximum contribution of the respective national Funding Organisation indicated in the call documents. EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	No
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	After the submission deadline (after the preproposal deadline) and upon the notice from the Funding Organisation, the Host Institution must confirm to the Funding Organisation in the written form that the project can be carried out on their premises in Estonia and that they will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding. If the Host Institution is a for-profit institution, the State aid and de minimis aid form must be filled in also.
Further guidance	https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel_2024.pdf

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Estonia	ETAG	Margit Suuroja	Margit.Suuroja@etag.ee	+372 731 7360

1.8 Finland – AKA

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) Research Council of Finland (RCF) **Email address kirjaamo@aka.fi**	
Funding commitment	1 000 000 € Anticipated number of funded research groups : ~4
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	
Eligible institutions	Finnish research organisations such as higher education institutes, research institutes, technology transfer organisations, innovation intermediaries, regardless of their legal status (organised under public or private law). Research Council funding is not granted to support economic activity. Economic activity is defined as all activity where goods or services are offered on an open market regardless of whether profits are pursued or generated. When an organisation is also engaged in economic activities, separate accounts must be kept of the funding and costs of and the revenue generated by such activities. Funding may be granted for economic activity only if it can be granted in keeping with the EU's state aid rules in the form of de minimis aid.
Organisations excluded from funding	---
Additional eligibility criteria	In addition to a doctoral degree, the principal investigator (PI) of the proposed project must also have other significant scientific merits.
Eligible costs	Research Council funding can be used to cover both direct costs (e.g. salaries, mobility of researchers, consumables, travel expenses, purchases of services, overheads) and indirect costs (e.g. rents for premises) of a research project. All costs are covered with the same funding percentage. Research Council's contribution to funding can be up to 70% of the total project costs. The host institution has to commit at least 30 % of the total project costs. Please ensure the commitment of the host institution before submitting the proposal.

Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Only in case of case of positive funding recommendation from THCS call, the applicant is invited to submit the proposal also in the Research Council of Finland's online services for national decision.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	Please refer to Research Council of Finland's funding terms and conditions for further detail (https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/apply-for-funding/how-to-use-funding/). Terms concerning Academy Project funding apply.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Finland	Research Council of Finland	Marko Uutela, Sirpa Nuotio, Helena Vänskä	marko.uutela@aka.fi, sirpa.nuotio@aka.fi, helena.vanska@aka.fi	+358295335113 +358295335082 +358295335036

1.9 France – ANR

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) **Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR)** **Email address** **THCS@anr.fr**	
Funding commitment	1 500 000€
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	• Minimum for a partner: 15 000€ • Maximum for a partner: 300 000€ • Maximum for a coordinator: 350 000€
Eligible institutions	ANR may fund research organisations and undertakings, as defined by the EC regulation on State aid for research, development and innovation (see the ANR funding regulations for further reference). As for research organisations, only those that have their primary establishment in France may be funded. As for undertakings, those that have their real head office in an EU member State and having an establishment (primary or secondary) in France may be funded. Within this framework, public research institutions (such as EPST, EPIC, Universities) as well as foundations can apply, in general for up to 100% of direct costs. This list is not comprehensive and funding rates vary. Enterprises may also be eligible: funding rates vary based on the types of research and types of enterprises. For fundamental research, maximum funding rates are 45% of total costs for SMEs, 30% for larger companies. Please consult https://anr.fr/fr/rf/ for full details. Private partners are asked to indicate their SIRET number in the pre- and full-proposal template (partner description: “Project Consortium”, “Other information”).
Organisations excluded from funding	Healthcare institutions Please see with the French Ministry of Health.
Additional eligibility criteria	• Submission of the proposal at the national level: No • Submission of other information at the national level (e.g. bioethics approval): No • ANR prohibits double applications and double funding and will not finance projects or parts of projects that have been funded through other calls. ANR will cross-check the proposals submitted

	to ANR through the national and international calls for possible demands of double funding. • Large clinical trials are not funded by ANR; • Countries subject to sanction(s) by the European Union authorities are excluded from this call. At the time of publication, these countries include the following: Belarus, Russia. If entities from these countries are partners in an application in which some partners request ANR support, ANR will deem the latter ineligible. This list might evolve and application measures be taken accordingly.
Eligible costs	Eligible costs and rates of funding depend on the type of partners. Among others, eligible costs may include the following: personnel costs; equipment costs; consumables and animal costs; travel and subsistence costs; sub- contracting costs. For public research organisations, only personnel costs of fixed-term contracts are eligible (except for an EPIC in partnership with an enterprise). The ANR heading for "overheads" in the ANR financial regulations is "*frais d'environnement"*. 13.5% of the total eligible costs must be applied for, if the partner is a public research organisation (or other organisation funded at "marginal" costs), or up to 68% of the total personnel costs and up to 7% of other costs for partners funded at full economic cost (such as enterprises). Please refer to ANR's financial regulations ("*Règlement financier*" ANR: https://anr.fr/fr/rf/) for full details.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	No

Submission of additional information at regional/national level	No
Further guidance	ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND BENEFIT-SHARING: Funded partners participating in projects falling within the scope of the regulations on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing (Nagoya protocol) will be required to provide evidence to demonstrate compliance with these obligations and must ensure that all data relating to such genetic resources or associated traditional knowledge are kept in order to demonstrate that the necessary due diligence has been exercised. Funding regulations: https://anr.fr/fr/rf/ In case of a conflict of interpretation between the terms and conditions stated in this annex and the "*Modalités de participation*" and "*Règlement financier*", the latter shall prevail.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
France	ANR	Michael Joulie Maria Tsilioni	THCS@anr.fr	+33 (0) 1 80 48 83 57 +33 (0) 1 73 54 83 04

1.10 France – Fr MoH

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Ministère chargé de la santé / French Ministry of Health - Fr MoH) **Email address** cecile.fragny@sante.gouv.fr virginie.delattre@sante.gouv.fr	
Funding commitment	2.000.000 €
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Minimum funding per grant awarded to a partner : 10 000 €
Eligible institutions	French ministry of Health (Fr MoH) funds French healthcare institutions defined by public health regulation articles L.611-1 and further, L.6141-1 and further, L6161-1 and further (*établissements de santé*), L6133-1 to 8 (*groupements de coopération sanitaire*), L6323-3 (*maisons de santé*) and L6323-1 (*centres de santé*) of the *Code de la Santé Publique.* They can apply for up to 100% of total costs.
Organisations excluded from funding	French user organisations are not directly eligible. They can be funded as sub-contractor of a French partner and if they fulfil the eligibility criteria of the EC.
Additional eligibility criteria	A partner must be composed of a physical leader and of a health care institution, which manages the financing. The physical leader must be contractually linked to a healthcare institution and get its approval to be part of the project. For example, leaders can be private health professionals if they have a binding agreement with a French healthcare institution. Minimum funding per awarded to a partner : 10 000 € They is no maximum funding per partner. Fr MoH will avoid double funding and will not finance projects or parts of projects that have been funded through other calls.
Eligible costs	Funds are reserved for the exclusive use of French healthcare institutions involved in the project. Transfer for part of these funds to other French structures, organisations or physical or legal person may be allowed provided they are not eligible for funding by another financing body of the partnership. The healthcare institution would also have to demonstrate that they do not have the necessary skills. If so, public tenders rules including call of bides applies. Investment expenses giving rise to depreciation are not eligible. Management costs up to 10% of personal expenses are eligible.

Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	The certificate and budget grid available on Fr MoH website page must be fulfilled and send before submission deadline. See online for further instructions.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	Funds delegation will be performed through budgetary circulars of the Fr MoH. Funds will be allowed regarding project progression.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
FR	Fr MoH	Cécile Fragny	cecile.fragny@sante.gouv.fr	+33 (0)140564076
FR	Fr MoH	Virginie Delattre	virginie.delattre@sante.gouv.fr	+33 (0)140566000

1.11 Iceland – Rannís

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) The Icelandic Centre for Research (Rannis) **Email address: rannis.is@rannis.is**	
Funding commitment	€300.000
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	No minimum/Maximum 300.000€
Eligible institutions	University, Research organisation, SME, User organisations
Organisations excluded from funding	None
Additional eligibility criteria	HANDBOOK FOR THE STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2020-2023 SOCIETAL CHALLENGES
Eligible costs	Salaries, operating expenses, publishing expenses, equipment, sub-contracting, overhead
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Yes, submission system is being prepared and will be ready in the coming weeks.

Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	https://www.rannis.is/media/markaaetlun-samfelgagslegar-askoranir/SRDP_SC-Handbook-2020-2023.pdf

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Iceland	Rannis	Bylgja Valtýsdóttir	Bylgja.valtysdottir@rannis.is	+354 5155800
Iceland	Rannis	Elísabet Andrésdóttir	elisabet.m.andresdottir@rannis.is	+354 5155800

1.12 Ireland – HRB

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) Health Research Board (HRB) **Email address** HRB-JTCs@hrb.ie	
Funding commitment	€1,060,000
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	**Please see HRB's dedicated scheme page on HRB's funding page for more detailed guidance and FAQs specific to applicants based in Ireland.** **Max. for Partners**: €330,000 direct costs; €430,000 including overheads. **Max. for Coordinators**: €405,000 direct costs (with the additional €75,000 for coordination-specific activities); €530,000 including overheads.
Eligible institutions	Recognised HRB Host Institutions (Policy on Approval of HRB Host Institutions).
Organisations excluded from funding	Any organisation that is not a HRB Host Institution (see above). HRB cannot provide funding to Enterprise organisations as partners or collaborators. Organisations providing services for the project can be paid by the Host Institution via sub-contracting costs. Any procurement activities should adhere to national and EC procurement guidelines.
Additional eligibility criteria	Irish Partner(s) are not eligible for HRB funding for: • Proposals involving basic biomedical research. • Research intended to create human embryos solely for the purposes of research or for the purposes of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer. • Applications from individuals applying for, holding, or employed under funding received from the tobacco industry; • Applications from individuals applying for, holding, or employed under funding received from the alcohol industry and related actors.
Eligible costs	Funding available is inclusive of overheads and pension contributions and will cover research-related costs, including: • Salary related costs • Student stipend and fees for Master's students only • Direct running costs • Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) costs • Small equipment costs (max. €10,000 total)

	• Travel • FAIR data management costs • Open access publication costs • Dissemination costs • Sub-contracting for the provision of a service can be covered up to a maximum of 20% of direct costs. This would need to conform with the Host Institution, National and EU procurement rules. HRB cannot provide funds to cover costs towards Technology Transfer, Patents or any commercialisation costs. For consortium coordinators, the additional €75,000 (direct costs) must be allocated to coordination-specific activities and cannot cover equipment or consumables.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Not required
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	The below documentation is required on submission: • New applicants to HRB for Joint Transnational Calls must submit a short form at submission to provide details on PI's track record for eligibility checks. • A letter of support will be required at submission stage for any Lead Applicants who do not have a permanent post at a HRB Host Institution. Please refer to the guidance on the HRB scheme page for further information. • At full proposal stage, applicants must complete HRB's Budget and Deliverables templates. These will be provided after invitation to submit a full proposal.
Further guidance	**Please see HRB's dedicated scheme page on HRB's funding page for more detailed guidance and FAQs specific to applicants based in Ireland.** All Irish partners who are undertaking feasibility and/or interventional studies must adhere to the HRB Clinical Trial and Interventions Research Governance Policy. In projects where consortia include enterprise partners, applicants applying to HRB for funding will be advised that funding awarded will be subject to, and must comply with, State aid rules and conditions of the European Commission General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER). All applicants should contact the HRB with any queries regarding the requirements of this policy.

	HRB grant holders are required to submit grant reports as outlined in their grant contracts and the most recent HRB General Terms and Conditions for Research Awards. These include Annual and Final reports.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Ireland	HRB	Siobhán Hackett	HRB-JTCs@hrb.ie	None

1.13 Israel – CSO-MOH

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Chief Scientist office, Ministry of Health (CSO-MOH) **http://www.health.gov.il/**	
Funding commitment	Up to 300,000 €, depending on budget availability
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Up to 140,000 € Additional 20,000 € for coordination
Eligible institutions	
Organisations excluded from funding	
Additional eligibility criteria	Position in a university, research center or hospital. Research authority must approve position prior to submission. PI should hold a Ph.D., M.D., D.M.D., D. Sc or equivalent degree and employed by an eligible institution. Research will not be funded simultaneously by CSO-MOH on more than one grant (Era-NET or national). Researchers can not apply for more than one grant from any ERA-NET funded by CSO-MOH or submit more than one proposal for any programme.
Eligible costs	Materials and consumables; Travel and hosting (up to 5%); No salaries for applicants; No heavy equipment, Institutional overhead 10%.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Prior to submission, researchers will submit to CSO-MOH an abstract approved by their research authority including budget distribution. No submission of abstract can result in declaration of the consortium as ineligible.

Submission of additional information at regional/national level	If the application involves human or animal experiments, bioethics approvals must be submitted with the application or up to 4 months later.
Further guidance	Please see detailed instructions of application at the national level and reporting at http://www.health.gov.il/research-fund

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Israel		Dr. Irit Allon	irit.allon@moh.health.gov.il	+972 (0)2 5082167
Israel		Netta Koren	netta.koren@moh.health.gov.il	+972 (0) 545889393

1.14 Italy – AReSS

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Italy – AReSS Puglia **Agenzia Regionale per la Salute ed il Sociale** **management@aress.regione.puglia.it**	
Funding commitment	€ 60.000
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Maximum funding per awarded to a partner: AReSS has a maximum funding per partner for this call: a research team can be funded with a maximum amount of 30.000 € for a coordinating Partner and 15.000 € for a simple partner.
Eligible institutions	AReSS can finance only legal persons with legal and/or operational headquarters in Puglia falling into the following categories: • SMEs • Universities (public and private) • Research institutions (public and private) • Research organizations (public and private) in compliance with the EU Reg. no. 651/2014 of the European Commission - 17 June 2014. • Other private subjects who carry out research activities in the sector of interest for the tender as well as end users whose contribution is functional to the achievement of the project objectives Patient organisation can be funded as a partner if they perform research activities. Otherwise, patient organisation can be funded as sub-contractor of an Italian partner and if they fulfil the eligibility criteria of the EC. AReSS cannot finance natural persons.
Organisations excluded from funding	
Additional eligibility criteria	Maximum funding per awarded to a partner: AReSS has a maximum funding per partner for this call: a research team can be funded with a maximum amount of 30.000 € for a coordinating Partner and 15.000 € for a simple partner. • Submission of the proposal at the national level: No • Submission of other information at the national level (e.g. bioethics approval): No • AReSS will avoid double funding and will not finance projects or parts of projects that have been funded through other calls. • AReSS will cross-check the proposals submitted to AReSS through the national and international calls for possible demands of double funding. • Large clinical trials are not funded by AReSS.

Eligible costs	Activities classifiable as fundamental or basic research, industrial research and experimental development (Reg. EU n. 651/2014) are eligible - experimental development activities must not be predominant (in terms of costs) • The costs must be incurred during the course of the project or between the start date and the end date of the international project • The following types of costs are allowed: Personnel, Equipment, Consulting and equivalent services, Consumables and General expenses. • Overheads cannot exceed 50% of personnel expenses. Travel expenses, dissemination and coordination costs should be included in overheads or other cost categories where possible.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	Decreto-Legge 22 giugno 2012, n. 83, convertito, con modificazioni, dalla Legge 7 agosto 2012, n. 134, articoli 60, 61, 62 e 63 di cui al Titolo III, Capo IX "Misure per la ricerca scientifica e tecnologica" Decreto Ministeriale n. 1314 del 14 dicembre 2021 - Nuovo sistema di concessione delle agevolazioni del MUR alle attività di ricerca Decreto Ministeriale n. 1368 del 24 dicembre 2021 - Modificazioni all'articolo 15 del decreto n. 1314 del 14 dicembre 2021

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Italy (Puglia)	Agenzia Regionale per la Salute ed il Sociale (AReSS)	Francesco Fera Agata Di Candia	management@aress.regione.puglia.it a.dicandia@aress.regione.puglia.it	Office : +39 080 5403222 Mob.: +39 347 1588361

1.15 Italy – FRRB

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) Fondazione Regionale per la Ricerca Biomedica - Regional Foundation for Biomedical Research (FRRB), Lombardy Region (IT) **Email address:** bandi@frrb.it giuliamaria.rossignolo@frrb.it	
Funding commitment	2.000.000,00€
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Maximum € 500,000 per project. MAXIMUM TWO PARTNERS FROM LOMBARDY PER PROJECT. In case of two Lombardy partners in the same consortium, the amount of € 500,000 will be shared.
Eligible institutions	**Eligible applicants:** 1. Public or Private Italian IRCCS (Scientific Institutes for Health Research, Hospitalization and Health Care) 2. Public Health Care Providers (ASST) 3. Agenzie di Tutela della Salute (ATS), 4. Azienda Regionale Emergenza Urgenza (AREU), 5. Universities - only in in partnership with one of the organisations above (1,2,3,4) located in Lombardy and requesting funding to FRRB 6. Research Institutes - only in in partnership with one of the organisations above (1,2,3,4) located in Lombardy and requesting funding to FRRB All applicants must be in Lombardy and their activities should take place in Lombardy.
Organisations excluded from funding	Enterprises and for-profit Organisation are **NOT** eligible. Patient Associations are **NOT** eligible.
Additional eligibility criteria	n.a.
Eligible costs	Direct costs: •Personnel (for public IRCCS and ASST, ATS and AREU, ONLY staff recruited specifically on the project). Personnel costs of PIs who have a permanent contract (contratto a tempo indeterminato) with their own organisation are NOT eligible. •Consumables, animals purchase, maintenance and breeding. •Equipment (on hire or eligible amortization rate). •Travel: max 10% of the total direct costs (overheads and subcontracting costs excluded)

	•Publications (only open access): max 5% of the total direct costs (overheads and subcontracting costs excluded). •Overheads: 20% flat rate calculated on direct costs (Subcontracting costs excluded from this calculation). •Other direct costs: please include here other costs, including those related to patient involvement (insurance, reimbursement, etc.). •Subcontracting: max 20% of the total direct costs (overheads costs excluded) FRRB will require the submission of a financial audit certificate together with the final financial report. This cost, to be included under the "Subcontracting" category will be eligible up to a maximum of € 8.000. Only costs generated over the lifetime of the project will be considered eligible. Rules regarding the Principal Investigator (PI): 1. A Principal Investigator (PI) cannot simultaneously hold more than one FRRB grant. PIs who are currently FRRB grant holders cannot apply to a new JTC unless their project is closed before the deadline of the new JTC pre-proposals. A project is considered closed when the final financial and scientific reports have been sent to FRRB. This rule applies only to PIs, not to team members. 2. Personnel costs of PIs who have a permanent contract with their own organisation are NOT eligible.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Not necessary
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	It is not necessary to send the proposal to FRRB. However, FRRB requires a **Pre-eligibility form**. According to internal procedures, Regional Foundation for Biomedical Research (FRRB) will carry out an **eligibility check** to potential applicants prior to the submission of the pre-proposals. The eligibility check will be based on the verification of a dedicated form ("***Pre-eligibility form***"), also available on the FRRB institutional website, to be returned, by email, to FRRB (bandi@frrb.it), duly completed and signed by the Principal Investigator and by the Scientific Director/Director of the Department at least 10 working days before the pre-proposal submission deadline. FRRB will provide feedback on the "*Pre-eligibility form*", **ONLY** in case of major non-eligibility issues.

	In addition, FRRB provides an excel sheet to help applicants abide by FRRB funding rules. This form is meant to support the PIs in the elaboration of the proposal budget, but it does not need to be sent to FRRB. Information and instructions on how to fill the Pre-Eligibility check form will be published on the dedicated FRRB webpage in due time. Following the award, Lombardy beneficiaries will be requested to submit annual scientific and financial reports.
Further guidance	Administrative and financial guidelines will be provided by FRRB on the dedicated webpage.

Contact Person

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
ITALY	FRRB	Giulia Maria Rossignolo	giuliamaria.rossignolo@frrb.it; bandi@frrb.it	+39 02 6765 0159

1.16 Italy – IT-MoH

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Italian Ministry of Health (IT MoH) c.ciccarelli@sanita.it – s.bifolchi@sanita.it	
Funding commitment	4.000.000,00 €
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Max 400.000 per project. Anticipated number of fundable proposals: 10.
Eligible institutions	Only IRCCS (Istituti di Ricovero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico) researchers are eligible to apply.
Organisations excluded from funding	Universities, other research Institutes, companies
Additional eligibility criteria	Simultaneous PI participation in different 2025 JTCs funded by the Ministry of Health is not allowed. No more than two Italian PIs (Principal Investigators) are eligible to apply for the same project. Italian PAOs can be funded as a sub-contractor of an IRCCS if they fulfil the eligibility criteria of the EC. The maximum amount eligible for a sub-contract is **≤ 10% of the total budget** (from the IRCCS Budget). Italian PAOs can still participate in Consortia as "Collaborators" with their own funds.
Eligible costs	**Direct Costs:** • Personnel (only temporary contracts or permanent contracts for the amount of hours dedicated to the project, **≤ 60%**); • Consumables/Supplies; • Animals/Model costs; • Equipment (only on leasing or rent); • Travel (**≤ 30%**); • Dissemination activities (**≤ 1%**); • Publication costs: < 2%; open access < 5%; • Patients recruitment costs; • IT Services and Data Bases; • Coordination costs **Indirect Costs:** • Overhead (**≤ 10%**, included in the total); Other indirect costs are not eligible. Transfer of eligible funds abroad is not allowed. **Subcontracts are allowed only upon approval, by presenting via Workflow – code ER, a request together with the National preelegibility**

	form, the latest 20 days before the deadline of the pre-proposal submission.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	In order to expedite the eligibility check process, the Ministry of Health will grant an eligibility clearance to the applicant prior to the submission of the proposals. To this end, it is mandatory that the applicants fill out and return to the IT-MoH a pre-submission eligibility check form through their IRCCS, using WFR System-> ER communication code, before submitting their proposal to the Joint Call Secretariat. It is strongly recommended that the form, completed and duly signed, is returned at least 10 working days before the proposal submission deadline. Applicants will be sent written notification of their eligibility status. Changes in acronyms and budgets provided in the pre-submission eligibility check are not allowed. The pre-eligibility form can be downloaded here: https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_pagineAree_4441_0_file.pdf
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	Submission of annual scientific and financial reports at the national level will be required according to the rules of the Ministry of Health (Ricerca Finalizzata). Further information on the rules of the Ministry of Health can be requested to the national contact persons.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Italy	IT MoH	Chiara Ciccarelli	c.ciccarelli@sanita.it	0039 06 59943919

1.17 Italy – MUR

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Italy - MUR **Ministry for universities and research**	
Funding commitment	€ 500.000,00
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Maximum funding per project: € 100.000,00 (not per partner)
Eligible institutions	The following entities are eligible for funding, providing that they have stable organization in Italy: 1. Universities; 2. Enterprises; 3. Private and Public research institutions 4. Research organizations (public and private) in accordance with EU Reg. n. 651/2014 of the European Commission - June 17, 2014; 5. Hospitals (as long as they provide in the statutory purposes the execution of research activities).
Organisations excluded from funding	/
Additional eligibility criteria	• Legal/administrative/conditions: The participant must not be defaulting regarding other funding received by the Ministry. The participant must not have requested/got any other funding for the same research activities. The participant must respect the Italian law "D.Lgs. n 159 del 6/09/2011 as amended and supplemented". The participant must not be subject to bankruptcy or must not be a company in difficulty according to the definition under number 18) of article 2 "Definitions" of Regulation (EU) no. 651/2014. The participant must follow the obligations laid down in the contributory and social security regulations (DURC). The judicial and pending records of the legal representative of the participant are negative. • Financial conditions For any participant, except for public universities and public research institutions (Enti pubblici di ricerca), the following financial criteria, calculated using the data reported in the last approved balance sheet, must be fulfilled. CN > (CP – I)/2 Where: CN = net assets (Capitale netto) CP = sum of the costs of all the projects for which public funding has been requested by the participant during the year.

	I = sum of the contributions received, approved or requested for the same projects. OF/F < 8% Where: OF = financial charges (Oneri finanziari) F = turnover (Fatturato)
Eligible costs	All activities classifiable as Basic research, Industrial research and Experimental development are eligible for funding. Furthermore, Basic Research and Industrial research activities must be predominant with respect to Experimental development activities (in terms of costs). All costs incurred during the lifetime of the project under the following categories are eligible: Personnel, Equipment, Consulting and equivalent services, Travels and subsistance, other goods and services, Overheads. Overheads ("Spese generali") shall be calculated as 25% of the direct costs. Dissemination and coordination costs are to be included in the overheads. The amount of funding which can be granted to each beneficiary is calculated multiplying the eligible costs for the following funding rates: Basic research: 70% Industrial research: 70% Experimental development: 25% Basic Research and Industrial research activities must be predominant with respect to Experimental development activities (in terms of budget share). A pre-payment, equal to 90% of the total funding, will be done after the signature of the grant agreement. The remaining 10% will be paid at the end of the project. Private partners need to provide MUR with a bank guarantee.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	In addition to the project proposal, which shall be submitted at European level, the Italian participants are requested to submit further documentation to MUR, through the national web platform, available at the following link: https://banditransnazionali.mur.gov.it These national additional documents must be submitted by the same deadline established for the pre-proposal phase as defined in the international call. Any participant who does not submit its national documents by the deadline of the pre-proposal phase will be considered not eligible for funding. The complete list of criteria and provisions legally valid, which must be respected by all the Italian participants, is included in

	the “Avviso integrativo nazionale”, to be published on the dedicated web page on MUR website: http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/era/european-partnership-2021-27/thcs.aspx
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	/
Further guidance	Information available at http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/era/european-partnership-2021-27/thcs.aspx

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Italy	MUR	Aldo Covello	Aldo.covello@mur.gov.it	+393755102431
Italy	MUR	Luca Tomat	luca.tomat@est.mur.gov.it	+393298827903

1.18 Italy – RT

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) REGIONE TOSCANA RT **Email address thcs@regione.toscana.it**	
Funding commitment	400.000,00 €
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Up to 0.4 Mio. € Anticipated number of potential project partner: 1-2 Max 0,4 M€ per project, if 2 Tuscany partners in same consortium 0,4 M€ will be shared
Eligible institutions	A. Authorities of the Tuscany Health Service-SST (Local Health Authorities, University Hospitals) and the SST bodies that carry out institutional research activities (Fondazione Toscana Gabriele Monasterio and ISPRO Institute for Study, Prevention and Networking Oncology) located in the territory of Tuscany. B. Universities and other research institutes located in the territory of Tuscany. NB: Institutions referring to point B are eligible only in partnership with institutions referring to point A. The Principal Investigator must be affiliated to one of the eligible bodies
Organisations excluded from funding	Enterprises Please note that for private partners coming from the Tuscany Region, Tuscany Region is only providing funding to applicants from non for profit research organisations
Additional eligibility criteria	
Eligible costs	Only costs generated over the lifetime of the project will be considered eligible: - Personnel (ad hoc temporary contracts ONLY); - Consumables (no limit); - Equipment (on hire/leasing or eligible amortisation rate ONLY); - Travel (Up to 10% of the requested fund) Travel expenses and subsistence allowances associated with activities only linked to the project; - Other direct costs: • dissemination of results (publications, organization of meetings/workshops etc.- up to 5% of the requested fund); • patients costs - subcontracting (up to 20%of the direct costs of the projects) - Overheads (up to 10% of the direct costs of the project excepted subcontracting).

	The cost of structured personnel is not eligible for funding
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	ALIGNMENT WITH REGIONAL PLANNING Project proposals must ensure appropriate knowledge and integration with the National and Regional actions, planning and regulatory framework. It is strongly recommended to contact the Regional focal point at least 30 days before the pre-proposals submission deadline in order to ensure that the project proposal is adequately aligned with the regional acts and plans and to receive adequate support referring to regional eligibility. MANDATORY ELIGIBILITY CLEARENCE Tuscany Region will grant an eligibility clearance to the potential applicants prior to the submission of their proposals. The eligibility check will be performed by Tuscany Region offices after receiving a dedicated form (available on Tuscany Region institutional web-site or on request to mail to: thcs@regione.toscana.it) duly filled and signed by the Tuscan Principal Investigator and by the legal representative of the beneficiary The form should be sent to Tuscany Region (mailto: thcs@regione.toscana.it), at least, 10 days before the pre-proposal submission deadline
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	
Further guidance	Financial guidelines: Decreto dirigenziale n. 27322 del 20.12.2023 https://www301.regione.toscana.it/bancadati/atti/DettaglioAttiD.xml?codprat=2023AD00000030275

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
ITALY	Regione Toscana	Donatella Tanini Teresa Vieri	thcs@regione.toscana.it thcs@regione.toscana.it	+39 055 4383256 +39 055 4383289

1.19 Lativa – LCS

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) Latvian Council of Science (LCS) **Email address lzp@lzp.gov.lv**	
Funding commitment	600 000 EUR
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Maximum funding for a Latvian partner eligible for funding by LCS is 100.000 EUR/ per year Maximum 2 partners funded by LCS per project allowed
Eligible institutions	Only the following **legal** persons: 1) Research institutions registered in the Latvian Registry of Scientific Institutions, e.g. - Research Institutes - Universities And must have the status of Research and knowledge dissemination organization (Regulation EC 651/2014) 2) Business enterprises entered in the Latvian Commercial registry as companies, assumed they are eligible to do the specific research and have specific capacity and resources to do the research in Latvia and have their main activity in Latvia. Limitations of EU legislation apply (Regulation 651/2014) together with financial reporting requirements, in this case this is state aid. Two previous statements with sworn auditor's approval should be provided and they must reflect the correspondence to the regulation as well as evidence of previous scientific activity and presence of capacity. They must provide audited statements of 2 previous closed financial periods.
Organisations excluded from funding	All entities not listed under eligible institutions are ineligible to be funded by LCS
Additional eligibility criteria	To receive funding by LCS, Consortium agreement duly signed should be presented. Enterprises shall provide audited statements of 2 previous closed financial periods on request. Audits according to the LCS regulations.

	The applicants for State aid must submit a certification that it does not correspond to the criteria laid down in laws and regulations to be subject to insolvency proceedings at the request of the creditor. Upon request applicants for State aid must provide all requested documents to evaluate the financial situation and financial viability. Undertakings in difficulty are not eligible for funding. (Regulation 651/2014) In case of State aid the undertakings are assessed for eligibility at each of the application stages and at the conclusion and during execution of the contract with LCS for project funding. If the eligibility criteria are not fulfilled, project funding can not be approved or continued.
Eligible costs	1. Personnel costs incl. taxes; 2. Consumables; 3. Subcontracts (up to 25% of direct costs), needs detailed justification, includes all external services, project core activities cannot be subcontracted; 4. Equipment (only depreciation costs during project directly attributable to project tasks); 5. Replaceable and fully consumable during project elements of equipment (e.g. electrodes); 6. Travels (according to travel plan); Indirect costs (up to 25% of direct costs excluding subcontracting). In case of State aid indirect costs shall be proven via audited statements and accounting evidence.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	No national proposal submission during application process
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	Applicants for State aid must send before the call deadline (both 1st and 2nd stages) to the e-mail address lzp@lzp.gov. lv, stating the acronym and the title of the project, applicant name and registration number, the following document: a certification that the applying entity does not correspond to the criteria laid down in laws and regulations to be subject to insolvency proceedings at the request of the creditor. It must be electronically signed by valid legal representative (s). Upon request applicants for State aid must provide all requested documents to evaluate the financial situation and financial viability.

	Undertakings in difficulty are not eligible for funding. (Regulation 651/2014)
Further guidance	Support is provided according to Provisions Nr 259, 26.05.2015 of the Latvian Cabinet of Ministers (http://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-dalibaistarptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas-petniecibas-un-tehnologiju-joma) These provisions should be respected without exceptions. The maximum rates should respect the Provisions. The requirements in the provisions to specific applicant groups must be respected. LCS cannot fund implementation support, nor training activities. LCS is funding only research.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Latvia	LCS	Maija Bundule	Maija.Bundule@lzp.gov.lv	+371-26514481
Latvia	LCS	Uldis Berkis	Uldis.Berkis@lzp.gov.lv	+371-29472349

1.20 Lithuania – LMT

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Research Council of Lithuania **info@lmt.lt**	
Funding commitment	0,3 M Eur
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Min per grant about 150 000 Eur Max per grant 250 000 Eur Within a single project proposal, the maximum funding can be: up to EUR 150 000 – for a mere consortium partner; up to EUR 200 000 – for a coordinator or 2 eligible mere partners in a consortium; up to EUR 250 000 – for a coordinator and 1 eligible mere partner in a consortium
Eligible institutions	Eligible for funding institutions are Lithuanian research and higher education institutions that are included in the Register of Education and Research institutions, public healthcare institutions, academy of science mentioned in the state Law on Science and Studies, other state public institutions such as National libraries, archives, museums. Eligible beneficiary institution (grant holder) manages the state budget funds allocated to the project following the rules stated in the legal acts, as well as representing the project partners (if applicable 'project partner' means public or private legal entity that, together with the eligible institution, created the conditions for project implementation).
Organisations excluded from funding	Only eligible institutions can directly receive funding, as other institutions can receive funding only through partnership with eligible one
Additional eligibility criteria	PI must be a PhD holder.
Eligible costs	Only costs generated during the lifetime of the project, related to project are eligible: staff, travel, consumables, subcontracts, contractual research, consultancy, equipment and instruments, dissemination of results, data handling and analysis, overheads (up to 20 % from all direct costs).
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Not required
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	Following funding decision, grant signing institution and the PI must complete and submit the national document (the template can be found following this link) containing this information: more detailed planed budget, foreseen dissemination and communication activities and expected outputs from project results with the granted research team contribution (scientific papers, patents, etc.) Midterm and final reports nationally are required by the end of the project.

Further guidance	For any information, please refer to contact person. All information about the call is published on LMT website under Calls webpage. General information for applicants submitting proposals to European Partnerships calls can be found here.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Lithuania (LT)	LMT	Živilė Ruželė	zivile.ruzele@lmt.lt	(+370) 676 14383

1.21 Malta – Xjenza Malta (formerly MCST)

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Xjenza Malta (formerly Malta Council for Science and Technology) eusubmissions.xjenzamalta@gov.mt annalisa.cartabia@gov.mt	
Funding commitment	€ 500,000
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	The maximum amount that national partner/s can jointly request per project is €500,000.
Eligible institutions	1. Malta-based applicants that are Eligible Undertakings, with an Operating Base in Malta, planning to carry out Fundamental Research, Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development projects and must either be: a. A partnership constituted under the Companies Act, being a partnership *en nom collectif*, *en commandite* or a limited liability company; or b. Be duly registered as a co-operative society under the Co-Operative Societies Act, or c. Professional body; or d. NGOs; or e. Non-profit making entities (including Foundations). 2. Any Public Entity or Public Research or Knowledge-Dissemination Organisation registered in Malta, that do not carry out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU, will be eligible for funding subject to the terms and conditions laid out in the latest version of the National Rules for Participation (Non-State Aid).
Organisations excluded from funding	Further information can be found in the detailed National Rules accessible from the Xjenza Malta website: https://xjenzamalta.mt/media/funding-schemes/
Additional eligibility criteria	Further information can be found in the detailed National Rules accessible from the Xjenza Malta website: https://xjenzamalta.mt/media/funding-schemes/
Eligible costs	Eligible costs and rates of funding depend on the type of the Malta-based entities and the funding route chosen. Eligible costs include the following: personnel; instruments, specialised equipment, and research consumables; IP and

	knowledge transfer activities; travel and subsistence; subcontracted activities; overheads and other operating expenses. Further information can be found in the detailed National Rules accessible from the Xjenza Malta website: https://xjenzamalta.mt/media/funding-schemes/
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	The **national application form** together with the **required annexes** can be downloaded from the Xjenza Malta website (https://xjenzamalta.mt/media/funding-schemes/) and must be sent to eusubmissions.xjenzamalta@gov.mt by the national deadline specified in the detailed National Rules.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	The **national application form** together with the **required annexes** can be downloaded from the Xjenza Malta website and must be sent to eusubmissions.xjenzamalta@gov.mt by the national deadline specified in the detailed National Rules. For any further information and assistance with partner search, applicants can contact the Xjenza Malta lead call manager Dr Annalisa Cartabia (annalisa.cartabia@gov.mt) and/or the alternate call manager Ms Christy Baldacchino (christy.baldacchino.2@gov.mt).
Further guidance	Further information can be found in the detailed National Rules accessible from the Xjenza Malta website: https://xjenzamalta.mt/media/funding-schemes/

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Malta	Xjenza Malta	Annalisa Cartabia Christy Baldacchino	annalisa.cartabia@gov.mt christy.baldacchino.2@gov.mt General inbox: eusubmissions.xjenzamalta@gov.mt	+356 2360 2152 +356 2360 2158

1.22 The Netherlands – NWO-SIA

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Dutch Research Council – Taskforce for Applied Sciences SIA (NWO-SIA) **Email address mel.major@regieorgaan-sia.nl**	
Funding commitment	€ 900.000
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	The maximum financial contribution by NWO-SIA for Dutch partners in **one project** is €300.000 in total.
Eligible institutions	Only Universities of applied sciences (UAS) as referred to in Article 1.8 of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*, WHW) are eligible to submit an application as **project coordinator**. Project coordinators are required to submit a SIA budget form at the Full Proposal stage. As project partners the following institutions are eligible to receive funding: universities, universities of applied sciences, health authorities, research institutes, SME's, user organizations, NGO's, public sector, municipalities. All project partners (not being project coordinators) receiving funding, are required to submit a de-minimis form (if applicable). The budget form and the de-minimis form will be made available on the call page of Regieorgaan SIA www.regieorgaan-sia.nl/thcs before the full proposal phase. All other partners are non-funded collaborators. The call text specifies these different roles in the consortium and describes limitations to the amount of partners and collaborators
Organisations excluded from funding	Large enterprises (i.e., enterprises with more than 250 employees, a greater than €50 million annual turnover, or a balance sheet total of more than €43 million) are excluded from funding.
Additional eligibility criteria	The board of the UAS has to be informed about the submission of the proposal and needs to agree with its content. At the full proposal phase, it is mandatory to attach a SIA budget form to the application. This form will be available via www.regieorgaan-sia.nl/thcs. It is recommended to use this budget form in the pre-proposal stage as well. All project partners that are to receive financing from the SIA-grant through the project coordinator, are subject to the de-minimis regulation (Regulation (EU) no. 2023/2831 of the European Commission of 13 December 2023), except for research organizations as summed up in article 1.1, paragraph 1, of the NWO Grant Rules. Based on the de-minimis regulation, project partners may receive a maximum of €300,000 in government support over a period of three years, except for some sectors which may have other thresholds. By completing the de-minimis statement, project partners declare that in the event of the award of a grant by SIA, they will not exceed the de-

	minimis threshold. If a project partner finds that the de-minimis threshold will be exceeded with the grant from SIA (and other possible de-minimis aid), this partner cannot receive funding from SIA through the project coordinator. The project coordinator must take this into account when drawing up the application budget, and must therefore check for each partner that will be involved as a project partner whether the subsidy amount applied for does not exceed the de-minimis threshold. The de-minimis statement, completed separately by each project partner, forms part of the full proposal. NWO-SIA will cross-check the proposals submitted to NWO-SIA with proposals submitted to the other Dutch participant (i.e., ZonMw). Proposals submitted to ZonMw will not be eligible for NWO-SIA funding.
Eligible costs	**Personnel** Funding can be applied for staff of universities of applied sciences (UAS), TO2 institutes, other educational institutions and other organizations, including public organizations and SMEs. Rates are determined using the most recent *Handleiding Overheidstarieven (HOT)*, table 2 *'gemiddelde totale loonkosten per salarisschaal',* column *'Uurtarief productieve uren, excl. btw'*. The salary scale of the requested position determines the rate from the HOT table. This rate applies for the entire duration of the project. For academic universities, the UNL rate at the time of the decision date apply. For organizations that do not use the collective bargaining agreement (*cao*) of the central government or a comparable collective bargaining agreement (including those of UAS, secondary vocational education, and lower authorities), the following salary scales from the HOT apply: Project support worker: scale 6. Junior (researcher): salary scale 10. Medior (researcher): salary scale 12. Senior (researcher): scale 13. Director: scale 16. Other partners (than UAS), like SMEs, public authorities and/or NGO's may be funded within the project as consortium partners. Maximum funding percentage for these partners is 50% of their costs. *Students* Students may work on the project. If students contribute as part of their curriculum, the rate applies according to the usual internship fee of the UAS. If students contribute as a side job in addition to their studies as student assistants, the rate according to HOT Table 2 scale 1 applies. **Material Costs** Funding can be requested for all material costs for the project and its knock-on effects regarding, among other things, consumables, purchase of services, materials, small instruments, access to (inter)national facilities, software and resources that have no

	economic value after use. Travel and accommodation costs (national and international) for all people working on the project including foreign guest researchers, costs for the organization of (international) workshops and symposia, costs for data management, publications, and costs in the context of *citizen science* also fall under this module. Travel expenses (national and international) will only be reimbursed on the basis of second class/economy class fares. It is not allowed to include costs for: - organizational infrastructure and overhead, including a fully functioning workplace, housing, office automation, personnel administration, commuting expenses, training, facility management, HR advice and corporate care, documentary information services and home office allowance. - use and maintenance of in-house developed scientific infrastructure. - regular educational activities. **Cofinancing: in cash or in-kind contribution** A minimum in cash or in-kind contribution of 10% is required. The in-kind contribution may be delivered by the UAS or its partners. The in-kind contribution may exist of either personnel or material costs. Do not hesitate to contact the national contact person in case of questions. In total the maximum allowed funding for project partners, excluding the UAS, is 25% of the total grant budget provided by SIA. **Additional information** The NWO Grant Rules are applicable to the part of the project's budget covered by Regieorgaan SIA. Under the Dutch General Administrative Law Act, any interested party has the right to lodge an objection to the decision taken by Regieorgaan SIA, within six weeks of the date of the decision letter. Further information about the objections procedure can be found on the SIA website: https://regieorgaan-sia.nl/financiering/bezwaar-maken/
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	The proposal does not need to be submitted at national level separate from the general submission. Main applicants are required to submit a mandatory SIA budget form at the Full Proposal stage. We recommend this budget form to be used for the pre-proposal as well. All project partners, (not being project coordinators) receiving funding are required to submit a de-minimis-form (if applicable). The budget form and the de-minimis form will be made available on the call page of Regieorgaan SIA www.regieorgaan-sia.nl/thcs before the deadline of the pre-proposal phase.

Submission of additional information at regional/national level	At the full proposal stage the project coordinator needs to submit a NWO-SIA budget form via email to: mel.major@regieorgaan-sia.nl
Further guidance	For publications, the provisions in the *Beleidsregel* Open Access apply, additionally to the provisions as described in the JTC2025 call text. The consortium agreement, as described in the call text, should be signed and submitted to SIA within 3 months after the project start date. We encourage project coordinators to contact the below mentioned contact persons of NWO-SIA with questions during while preparing their proposals.

Contact Person

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Netherlands	NWO-SIA	Mel Major	Mel.major@regieorgaan-sia.nl	+31703494652
Netherlands	NWO-SIA	Marcus van Leeuwen	marcus.vanleeuwen@regieorgaan-sia.nl	+31306331466

1.23 The Netherlands - ZonMw

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Zorgonderzoek Nederland / The Netherlands organisation for health research and development (ZonMw) **THCS@Zonmw.nl**	
Funding commitment	€2.600.000,- This budget is made available by ZonMw and the Dutch Research Council (NWO)
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	The maximum financial contribution for Dutch partners in **one project** is €275.000 in total. If a Dutch partner has the coordination role the maximum contribution for the total project is €325.000
Eligible institutions	Universities, , health authorities, research institutes, SMEs, user organisations, NGOs, public sector, municipalities.
Organisations excluded from funding	Large enterprises
Additional eligibility criteria	**End-user involvement :** For Dutch applicant it is mandatory that an end-user organization is involved in the consortium. **State Aid**: No grants will be awarded by ZonMw if this would or could constitute unlawful state aid. Therefore, the following state aid measure applies to this funding round: Exemption Decision for Services of General Economic Interest (SGEI). For the purposes of this call for grant applications, ZonMw will consider proposed project activities as SGEI. This means that there are specific conditions for funding and rules for budgets. Read more here about the specific conditions of the SGEI Exemption Decision. **Note: Together Dutch project partners are expected to co-finance 20% of the funding requested.** (this means that if your funding request is €300.000,- you need to co-finance €60.000,- above that. Making the total amount €360.000,-) ZonMw will avoid double funding and will not finance projects or part of projects that have been funded through other calls. ZonMw will cross-check the proposals submitted to ZonMw through the national and international calls for possible demands of double funding.

Eligible costs	The following costs are eligible: - staff costs - Travel costs - Material/ equipment and consumer goods - Dissemination and knowledge exchange costs - Datamanagament / data steward - Open access costs with a maximum of €5.000,-/project **There will be a maximum of €275.000,- for the Dutch partners in a consortium. Note that if a Dutch partner has the coordinator role the maximum available contribution is €325.000,- per project**. For more information, please consult the **ZonMw terms and conditions** or your national contact person.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	**Not at central submission stage.** Only proposals recommended for funding will be invited by ZonMw at a later stage to submit an additional application. - Funded projects will be subject to standard ZonMw Grants Conditions. - Make sure to consult the ZonMw Open Access publication and Data management policies.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	No
Further guidance	Awarded projects will need to deliver a Consortium Agreement (CA) and a Data Management Plan. With regards to the Consortium Agreement ZonMw requests a copy of the CA, signed by all partners, within 3 months after the project start date.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Netherlands	ZonMw	Denice Moi Thuk Shung Ewoud v/d Wal	thcs@zonmw.nl	+31703495242 +31704126264

1.24 Norway – RCN

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) **Email address**	
Funding commitment	€1 850 000 Depending on the volume of submitted and eligible projects, up to 25 % additional funding may be allocated to the call to fund additional projects on the ranking list.
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Maximum €300.000 / Norwegian participant. If the participant has coordinator role, max €400.000. For funded projects, the contractual budget will be in Norwegian kroner (NOK) using the exchange rate from the pre-proposal deadline. The official exchange rate can be found on the websites of the European Central Bank (https://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/policy_and_exchange_rates/euro_reference_exchange_rates/html/eurofxref-graph-nok.en.html).
Eligible institutions	Universities, health authorities, research institutes, SME, industry/large enterprises, user organisations, NGOs, public sector, municipalities.
Organisations excluded from funding	The Research Council cannot award support to an enterprise that is defined as an “undertaking in difficulty” under the state aid rules (see the “Definition of ‘undertaking in difficulty’” on our website). "Enkeltpersonforetak", that is Norwegian companies with sole proprietorship can only participate as subcontractor, and have the role as partner (beneficiary) in projects.
Additional eligibility criteria	Clinical research/trials and translational studies allowing rapid implementation into public health-related decisions or into the clinic are encouraged. All applicants and partners must comply with the State Aid rules. All projects are to be carried out as effective collaboration between the partners. Undertakings (companies) that participate in the consortium must also not receive indirect state aid in the form of advantageous conditions for cooperation with the research institutions taking part in the consortium. SME or industry/large enterprise partners are funded with up to 50% of their eligible project costs. See *Conditions for awarding state aid* (https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/state-aid/) for more details.
Eligible costs	See *What to enter in the project budget* (https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/financing/how/budget/). Note that the cost category "Procurement of R&D services" will not be used in this call. Funding to Norwegian SMEs and Industry will be provided according to the State aid rules. See *Conditions for awarding state aid* (https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/state-aid/) for more details.

Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	Yes, after the evaluation process, if the project is retained for funding,
Further guidance	Please refer to the guidelines for applicants.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Norway	RCN	Jostein Holmgren Siv Østerås	johol@forskningsradet.no sio@forskningsradet.no	+47 96646834

1.25 Poland – NCBR

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Narodowe Centrum Badań i Rozwoju (NCBR) **thcs@ncbr.gov.pl**	
Funding commitment	2 000 000 EUR
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Maximum 400 000 € per project
Eligible institutions	• Enterprises[18] - Micro, Small, Medium and Large; • Research organisations[19]; • Groups of entities composed of at least two enterprises, • Groups of entities composed of at least one research organisation and at least one enterprise, • Group of entities composed of at least two research organisations.
Organisations excluded from funding	Other than above

[18] defined in Annex I to Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (hereinafter referred to as "Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014");

[19] Defined in Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014;

Additional eligibility criteria	• Entities must be established as a legal person[20] and must conduct its business, R&D or any other activity on the territory of the Republic of Poland, confirmed by an entry into the relevant register[21]. • For enterprises it is strongly advised to state in the Pre-proposal application form the KRS number of the enterprise and the size of the enterprise (micro/small, medium, large); • A condition for the participation of a group of entities as the Applicant in the competition is its formal existence on the date of submission of the pre-proposal, confirmed by its members concluding, at least conditionally, agreement on the creation of a group of entities; Please note that group of entities counts as at least two project partners from Poland (it meets the limit on the number of participants from the same country, please refer to call text for details). • Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for research organisations. In the case of enterprises, funding quota will be decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the size of the company, type of research/development, risk associated with the research activities and commercial perspective of exploitation, under the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on criteria and rules on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1456, 2020. • Please note that group of entities counts as two project partners from Poland (it meets the limit on the number of participants from the same country, please refer to call text for details).
Eligible costs	The eligible costs shall be the following: 1. personnel costs 2. consumables* 3. equipment 4. travel* 5. other direct costs* 6. subcontracting - this cost type cannot account for more than 70% of all eligible costs of a project 7. additional overheads incurred indirectly as a result of the research project; that costs are: - in case of research organisations exactly 25% of eligible project costs and are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above and the rest of direct costs, excluding subcontracting (3); It means 4 = (1+2)*25% - in case of enterprises exactly 20% of eligible project costs and are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above and the rest of direct costs; It means 4 = (1+2+3)*20%

[20] Legal person (juridical person) - an entity that is capable of having and amend legal rights and obligations within a certain legal system, such as to enter into contracts, sue, and be sued, excluding natural persons;
[21] if applicable.

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>
* Please note, in the case of entrepreneurs, cost items related to consumables, travel and other direct costs are only eligible under the category of overheads. Only expenses related to personnel, equipment, subcontracting and overheads may be included in the entrepreneur's budget.

Please refer to cost eligibility guide (przewodnik kwalifikowalności kosztów) for details. Guide is available on the NCBR webpage: https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr

<table>
<tr><th></th><th>Large Enterprises</th><th>Medium Enterprises</th><th>Small Enterprises</th><th>Research organizations</th></tr>
<tr><td>Fundamental/Basic Research</td><td>Not eligible</td><td>Not eligible</td><td>Not eligible</td><td>Not eligible</td></tr>
<tr><td>Industrial/Applied Research</td><td>Up to 50 + 5/15/25 (max 75 %)</td><td>Up to 50 + 10 + 5/15/25 (max 80 %)</td><td>Up to 50 + 20 + 5/15/25 (max 80 %)</td><td>Up to 100%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Experimental development</td><td>Up to 25 + 5/15/25 (max 50 %)</td><td>Up to 25 + 10 + 5/15/25 (max 60 %)</td><td>Up to 25 + 20 + 5/15/25 (max 70 %)</td><td>Up to 100 %</td></tr>
</table>

For entrepreneurs independently undertaking projects at the national level (meaning there is no Polish group of entities or Polish group of enterprises), there is no possibility of increasing the intensity of state aid for industrial research and experimental development based on the condition of effective cooperation between entrepreneurs or between entrepreneurs and research organisations.

Only Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental Development will be funded. Other type of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) is not eligible for funding as separate research tasks in the project schedule but can be eligible as part of R&D tasks.
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Submission of the proposal at regional/national level</td><td>After international evaluation of full proposals and the selection of projects to be funded, Polish participants will be invited to submit a National Application Form (NAF). The NAFs will be examined for the appropriateness of funding requested. The Polish participants are obliged to use the rate of exchange of the European Central Bank dated on the day of opening of the call. If more than one Polish entity participates in the project, the national application is submitted by a consortium (group of entities) of all Polish entities.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Submission of additional information at regional/national level</td><td>-</td></tr>
</table>

Further guidance	Sample documents are available at: https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/wniosek-krajowy We encourage you to learn about and use our "PartFinder" (Partner Search Tool), which allows you to match science and industry entities from around the World with each other. The search engine is available at: https://partfinder.ncbr.gov.pl/ Relevant documents: All proposals must be aligned with national regulations, inter alia: • The Act of 20 July 2018 - Law on Higher Education and Science; • The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development; • The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, which is in line with the Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (General Block Exemption Regulation); • The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 17 September 2010 on the detailed mode of performance of tasks of the National Centre for Research and Development. • The Regulation of the Minister of Funds and Regional Policy of 1 December 2023, amending the Regulation on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Poland	NCBR	Marcin Chmielewski	thcs@ncbr.gov.pl	+48 571 226 666
Poland	NCBR	Magdalena Krzystyniak	thcs@ncbr.gov.pl	+48 571 226 675

1.26 Portugal – CCDRC

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) **Portugal – CCDRC** **Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional do Centro** **Email address** ccdrc.projects@ccdrc.pt	
Funding commitment	**400 000€**
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	• **150 000, 00€** - for a regional participation. This amount must be distributed through all the Centro Region's stakeholders participating in the proposal. • **250 000, 00€** - if the transnational project is coordinated by a stakeholder from Centro region. This amount must be distributed through all Centro Region's stakeholders participating in the proposal.
Eligible institutions	• Academia • Clinical/public health research organisations; • Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises • Other stakeholders – might be possible to participate if partnering up with one (or more) regional institutions from the typologies listed above; must contact CCDRC in order to assess their eligibility before submitting their application; **Only entities from NUTS II Centro, or those that can ensure the investment will be made in the Centro Region, are eligible to apply for CCDRC funding.** The maximum funding rates to be considered are the following: • Research organisations and Higher Education Institutions (HEI) – 85%

	• SME: micro and small enterprises – 80% | medium enterprises – 75% • User organisations and other organisations – 85%. **ATTENTION:** The funding rates presented are the maximum (possible) values. • For projects led by companies, consult funding rates at article 49 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital. • For projects led by non-entrepreneurial entities from the regional research and innovation system (HEI and research organizations), consult funding rates at article 141 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital. **<u>All regional applicants are advised to contact CCDRC's team before applying.</u>**
Organisations excluded from funding	Large companies will not be considered eligible in the context of this call.
Additional eligibility criteria	The eligibility of partners, as beneficiary institutions, must be verified in the following articles of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital: - For projects led by **companies**, consult article 46 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital to have concrete information about the eligible beneficiaries and the eligibility criteria that must be fulfilled; - For projects led by **non-entrepreneurial entities** from the regional research and innovation system (HEI and research organizations), consult article 139 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digitall to have concrete information about the eligible beneficiaries and the eligibility criteria that must be fulfilled. When checking eligibility of projects the following articles should also be considered:

	- For projects led by **companies**, articles 42 and 47 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital; - For projects led by **non-entrepreneurial entities**, article 138 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital.
Eligible costs	For eligible costs verify the article 9 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital. The following articles should also be considered: - For projects led by **companies**, article 50 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital; - For projects led by **non-entrepreneurial entities** from the regional research and innovation system (HEI and research. organizations), article 143 of Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Must be done after the final decisions for approvals at transnational level. Stakeholders will receive instructions on this in due time.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	When applying to the transnational call, all regional stakeholders must fill in and sign this Declaration: - For projects led by companies: *https://ris3.ccdrc.pt/index.php/ris3-documentacao/declaracao-de-compromisso-si-i-d/download* - For projects led by non-entrepreneurial entities: *https://ris3.ccdrc.pt/index.php/ris3-documentacao/declaracao-de-compromisso-saccct/download* **The Declaration must be sent within 5 working days after the submission of the pre-proposal to ccdrc.projects@ccdrc.pt**
Further guidance	To all other criteria and conditions not explicit in this annex, please consult Regulamento Específico da Área Temática Inovação e Transição Digital

	(https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/portaria/328-b-2023-223573621?_ts=1700139369853).

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Portugal	**CCDRC**	**Sophie Patrício** **Dora Cabete**	**ccdrc.projects@ccdrc.pt**	**239 400 100**

1.27 Portugal – FCT

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Portugal **Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)** **thcs@fct.pt**	
Applications requesting funding from FCT under this call will be subject to FCT Regulation on projects funded solely by national funds**,** as amended by the Regulation no. 5/2024, of 3 January, hereinafter referred to as FCT Regulation, which amends and republishes Regulation no. 999/2016, of 31 October, and to other applicable national and EU legislation.	
Funding commitment	• 500 000,00£
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	• The maximum amount of funding to be requested to FCT by a consortium with a **Portuguese Main Applicant** is **250 000,00€** • The maximum amount of funding to be requested to FCT by a consortium with a **Portuguese Project Applicant** is **150 000,00€** • If more than one Portuguese applicant participating in the **same international consortium** applies for funding by FCT, the **combined funding** demanded by all the Portuguese applicants **may not exceed the maximum financial threshold for proposals with a Portuguese Coordinator** (250 000,00 €) or with a **Portuguese Partner** (150 000,00 €). Portuguese Coordinators and/or Partners in the same international consortium will therefore have to share the funding that will be granted by FCT. • For information on funding rates, see no. 2 of article 7 of FCT Regulation.
Eligible institutions	• For information on the type of beneficiaries eligible for FCT funding under this call, see article 3 of FCT Regulation.
Organisations excluded from funding	• For information on the type of beneficiaries eligible for FCT funding under this call, see article 3 of FCT Regulation.
Additional eligibility criteria	• For information on the criteria of beneficiaries' and of projects eligibility, see article 5 of FCT Regulation.
Eligible costs	• In accordance with no. 1 of article 7 of the FCT Regulation, the funding to be granted to proposals requesting funding from FCT under this call is non-reimbursable and is based on **real costs**. As such it must be justified through invoices paid or other accounting documents of similar probationary value, under the terms of no. 5 of article 8 of FCT Regulation.

	• For the purposes of defining the budget, the terms defined in article 8 of FCT Regulation apply to **eligible expenses** and in article 9 to **non-eligible expenses**. • Excluded from the range of eligible expenses are the **salaries and other remuneration supplements** of teachers, researchers and other staff with a previously established indefinite contract with the Public Administration. • Expenditure on **adapting buildings and facilities** is limited to a maximum of 10% of the project's total eligible expenses. • The **project's indirect costs** are based on the application of a flat rate of 25% of the direct eligible costs.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	• Yes, but only for full proposals selected for funding.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	**Statement of Commitment**: • Within 10 working days after the deadline for submitting the pre-proposal, a **Statement of Commitment** duly signed by the Researcher in Charge (partner and/or coordinators) and by the legal representantive of the Portuguese Proposing Institution must be sent to thcs@fct.pt. • The stamp or white seal of the Portuguese Proposing Institution will not be required on a digitally signed Statement of Commitment. • Portuguese applicants of transnational consortia that do not apply for funding from FCT do not need to submit the Statement of Commitment to FCT.
Further guidance	• FCT and CCDR Centro, as Portuguese funding agencies on this call, reserve the right to evaluate the **possibility of transferring application(s) to the other Portuguese funding agency** if an application is considered non-eligible by the funding agency selected by the candidate institution, but is eligible by the other Portuguese funding agency, which will from then on be responsible for managing the application(s). The transfer of applications will be carried out in accordance with the terms set out in the MoU signed between the parties. • If FCT or CCDR Centro reach the limit of the budget that each of the agencies has set for funding projects under this call before the number of applications recommended for funding by each of these agencies has run out, the applications recommended for funding that lack funding may be transferred to the agency that still has the budget to fund applications. The transfer of applications recommended for funding will be carried out in accordance with the terms set out in the MoU signed between the parties. • The percentage of time dedicated to transnational projects will **not** be added to the percentage of time dedicated to existing national projects.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Portugal	FCT	Pedro Miguel Ferreira Marta Norton	thcs@fct.pt	[+351] 213 924 445 [+351] 213 911 565

1.28 Spain – CSCJA

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) Consejería de Salud y Consumo de la Junta de Andalucía (CSCJA) **Email address** ep.fps@juntadeandalucia.es	
Funding commitment	500.000 €
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	125.000€, 250.000€ if coordinator (including 21% indirect costs)
Eligible institutions	Eligible organisation must be Andalusian Non-profit entities registered as Agents of the Andalusian Knowledge System (Registro de Agentes Andaluces del Conocimiento) with research and innovation activity in Biomedicine and Health Sciences, ie: Research managing foundations of the Andalusian Public Health System. Eligibility criteria established in Orden de 10 de agosto de 2023 de la Consejería de Salud y Consumo de la Junta de Andalucía.
Organisations excluded from funding	Organisations not fulfilling eligibility criteria
Additional eligibility criteria	• Principal investigators must be linked through a civil servant, statutory or labour relationship with the applicant or performing centre. For Health Research Institutes (Institutos de Investigación Sanitaria, IIS), the link may be with any of the public or private law entities that are part of the IIS provided that the entity meets all the specific requirements determined in each action, and, in any case, be personnel assigned to the IIS. • More than one partner from Andalusia may participate in the same project • A PI can only participate in one application per call. • For receiving regional funding, the final funding decision issued by the corresponding program's decision-making body must be accredited. • The duration of the projects shall be determined by the corresponding JTC. In any case, this period shall be stated in the award resolution.
Eligible costs	**a. Goods and services**: consumables, bibliographic material, equipment rentals, software licenses and external services. **b. Personnel costs**: specifically hired for the project, including salaries, employer Social Security contributions, legally established compensation and other duly justified expenses derived.

	c. Travel, accommodation and subsistence according to the maximum amounts of compensation for service established in Decree 54/1989, of March 21, on compensation for service of the Junta de Andalucía, exclusively for people who are part of the research group or hired under the funded project. Exceptionally, any expense outside these amounts, or for people other than those listed before, must be authorised by the granting body. **d. Registration** fees for congresses or conferences for the presentation and dissemination of the results. Publication costs **e. Other expenses** duly justified and necessary for carrying out the project. **f. Indirect costs** 21% **g. Subcontracting costs**: cannot exceed 50% of the funding and need prior authorization from the granting body. Nor Scientific aspects nor the management of the project should be subcontracted. The following are not considered eligible expenses - Equipment or Equipment repair and maintenance - Items or amounts that, after analysis, are not considered justified - Amounts paid to persons participating in the project, except for expenses necessary for special attention to patients that involve compensation for their participation in the project not derived from an employment relationship. The sum of the funding or income received for the same purpose may in no case exceed the cost of the funded activity.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	• The deadline for the submission of regional applications will be established in the regional call and will be informed through the website of the Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs. • Regional applications must be submitted to the General Secretariat of Public Health and R&D&I in Health exclusively by telematic means (please see section 10.c Orden de 10 de agosto de 2023)
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	• Beneficiaries must submit financial and scientific reports to Consejería de Salud y Consumo de la Junta de Andalucía (please see section 22.b) 3º and 25.f) 1º Orden de 10 de agosto de 2023) • Additionally, for projects involving invasive procedures on human beings, their biological material and/or clinical data, a favourable report or a document accrediting the request for its evaluation by the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee must be provided. The documents to be provided are detailed in section 14 of the Orden de 10 de agosto de 2023).

Further guidance	The projects must respect the fundamental principles established in national and international declarations, protocols and conventions on research ethics, as well as respect the requirements established in national and regional legislation in the field of biomedical research, development and innovation, personal data protection and bioethics. When the results are not susceptible to protection of industrial or intellectual property rights, the scientific publications resulting from the funding granted must be made available in open access, in accordance with article 37 of Law 14/2011, of June 1.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Spain	Consejería de Salud y Consumo de la Junta de Andalucía (CSCJA)	Alicia Milano Curto	ep.fps@juntadeandalucia.es	+34 954 78 75 42

1.29 Spain – DPTO SALUD/BIOEF

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym): Departamento de Salud Gobierno Vasco (DPTO SALUD) through Fundación Vasca de Innovación e Investigación Sanitarias (BIOEF) **Email address:** amartin@bioef.eus	
Funding commitment	350.000 €
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	• No minimum funding per awarded partner • Maximum funding per awarded partner: 200.000€ for a coordinating partner and 150.000€ for a partner.
Eligible institutions	• Agents integrated in the Basque Science, Technology and Innovation Network (RVCTI) will be eligible for these grants. • **The participation in the consortium of at least one RVCTI Agent accredited in the category of Health Research Centers will be an essential requirement.** Proposals without a Health Research Center will not be eligible.
Organisations excluded from funding	• Organizations not fulfilling eligibility criteria
Additional eligibility criteria	• The members of the research teams must officially have a staff, statutory staff or contractual link with the beneficiary RVCTI Agent, with the centre that is carrying out the project or with the entities with which the RVCTI Agent holds an agreement in force covering the link with the researcher. • Coordinating PIs may only participate in this role in a single project. • **Double funding of the same concept is not allowed.**
Eligible costs	Eligible costs include the following: • **Personnel costs for the required and specifically dedicated staff in order to carry out the project, who have a contractual labour relation with the beneficiary entity.** • Travel and subsistence costs incurred directly as a result of the research project. • Consumables and services costs: This includes small scientific equipment used to carry out the project, consumables and complementary expenses (use of central and general research support services of the beneficiary entity), and expenses related to the publication and dissemination of project results, duly justified and necessary for the successful completion of the project. • Subcontracting costs: cannot exceed 50% of the funding. Nor scientific aspects nor the management of the project should be subcontracted.

	• Overheads 21%
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	YES
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	YES
Further guidance	• Call for grants for R&D projects with Basque participation in the competitive international call for transnational proposals 2023 in the THCS EP framework: https://www.euskadi.eus/web01-bopv/es/bopv2/datos/2024/10/2404586a.shtml

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Spain/Basque Country	Departamento de Salud Gobierno Vasco (DPTO SALUD/BIOEF)	Ainhoa Martín Pagola	amartin@bioef.eus	+34 944536142

1.30 Spain – IDIVAL

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym): Fundación Instituto de Investigación Marqués de Valdecilla (IDIVAL) **Email address** Innovacion4@idival.org	
Funding commitment	150.000€
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Max. 100.000€ participating as partner Max. 150.000€ participating as coordinator
Eligible institutions	Institutional eligibility criteria: The eligible institutions are non-profit research organizations and public bodies in the health care sector of the autonomous community of Cantabria, such as Hospitals, Healthcare centers, the ministry of health or the Cantabria Health Service that performs RDI activities in Cantabria. Eligible applicants: Cantabrian Principal Investigators must have a job relationship with the Public Health System of Cantabria, IDIVAL or with the University of Cantabria as a professor linked to health care activity. The research team will be made up of at least three people and could participate researchers from other national or international institutions. The figure of the Co-principal investigator is contemplated, who does not need to meet the requirements for the principal investigator. Incompatibilities: • Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal under the Joint Call 2025
Organisations excluded from funding	Only will be eligible entities from Cantabria working in the public health sector and legally linked to IDIVAL
Additional eligibility criteria	Proposals must fit within Cantabria's strategic areas defined in the biodynamization plan: https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=368181
Eligible costs	• Direct costs such as: - Personnel costs for employment contracts hired for the proyect development. - Current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities. - Travelling costs incurred directly as a result of the research project. - Equipment corresponding to the research project.

	- Subcontracting special tasks to EU and non-EU countries (i.e. IT services, etc.) is allowed within the limits legally established. • Indirect costs (overheads) or clinical assays, proofs of concept, proofs of principle **are not eligible for funding in this call**.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	NO
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	NO
Further guidance	https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=368181

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Spain	IDIVAL	Paloma Gonzalez	Innovacion4@idival.org	+34942202857

1.31 Spain – ISCIII

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Spain ISCIII **Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII)** **E-mail addresses : cristina.gonzalez@isciii.es ; cbarco@isciii.es**	
Funding commitment	National Programme: "**Líneas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud" / PEICTI 2024-2027** **1.000.000 €** (pending of approval of Spanish State Budget)
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project	**Maximum ISCIII funding PER AWARDED SPANISH PROJECT:** • If a Spanish Partner requesting funding to the ISCIII **IS NOT** the Coordinator of the transnational project: • **220.000€** (overheads included), if there is only **one** Spanish Partner requesting funding to the ISCIII in the proposal. • **275.000€** (overheads included), if there are **two Spanish Partners requesting funding to the ISCIII** in the proposal. • If a Spanish Partner requesting funding to the ISCIII **IS** the Coordinator of the transnational project: • **300.000€** (overheads included), if there is only **one** Spanish Partner in the proposal, acting as a coordinator. • **400.000€** (overheads included), if there is one Spanish Partner in addition to the Spanish Coordinator in the proposal, **both requesting funding to the ISCIII.** **Projects' duration**: from 24 months to 36 months The level of funding will take into account the evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration, the participation of the primary health care and the financial resources available.
Eligible institutions	A maximum of two different partners requesting funding from ISCIII may participate in the same project proposal. The participation of the **public Spanish primary health care** is crucial to the success of this call so for that: • The participation in the consortium of at least one Spanish primary health care center is mandatory in this call. **Proposals without a public Spanish primary health care center will not be eligible**. • Therefore, only projects with at least one Principal Investigator (PI) **belonging to an** (assigned/affiliated) primary care center participates **will be** eligible for funding. • In the event that the corresponding primary care center forms an integral part of an Accredited Health Research Institute (IIS) and the **PI belongs to**

	(assigned/affiliated) the IIS, the eligible institution will be the Institute. In this case, additional groups from the same IIS **might** participate in the same proposal, **taking into account the maximum number of entities by country considered in the eligibility criteria requirements described in the call text.** **Eligible institutions**: • **Accredited Health Research Institutes** (Institutos de Investigación Sanitaria acreditados, **IIS**). Accredited according to the RD 279/2016 (These institutions may manage research via a foundation regulated according to the Spanish Act 50/ 2002, of December 26th). See the list of IIS in this link. • **Hospitals or public health administration of the Spanish National Health System** (SNS) These institutions may manage research via a foundation regulated in accordance to the Spanish Act 50/2002, of December 26th (a copy of the foundation's statutes may be submitted). • **CIBER** team members applying to the call must be from at least two groups belonging to CIBER in two different home institutions and one of these two should be a hospital, primary health care or public health administration of the **SNS** or **IIS**. Please contact (pai@ciberisciii.es) for more information related to CIBER's eligibility. • Public **Spanish primary health care** will be eligible institutions even if they apply independently. This would also apply in the case that the PI from CIBER or from the Accredited Health Research Institutes (IIS) belongs to primary health care. • **Public Research Institutions (OPIs)** as defined in article 47 of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, in accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree 202/2021, of 30 March and Non-**profit Private health entities**. These entities **can only participate** if they apply together with **a public Spanish primary health care** partner in the same proposal. It is not allowed for these entities to apply independently, thus there **must be two beneficiary** Spanish institutions requesting funding to ISCIII in the same proposal. • Applicants from ISCIII are also eligible as Public Research Institution (OPI). Eligibility criteria from AESI 2025 apply.
Organisations excluded from funding	**NOT eligible institutions:** - **National Technological centres** and other **private non-profit institutions performing RDI activities** in Spain. - Those declared by ***"Líneas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud"*** as ineligible to receive funds by ISCIII.

	- Particularly for this call, it will not be eligible the **National Technological Centres** and National Centres for supporting technological innovation that are inscribed in the Register according by RD 2093/2008, of 19 December.
Eligibility of PI and team members	• Principal investigators (PIs) must hold a **PhD degree**. • PIs can only participate in one project proposal per call. • PIs belonging to an **Accredited Health Research Institutes** (IIS) could apply **only from the IIS**. • The PI and all members of the research group must belong to the eligible institutions in the call. • Only one PI per beneficiary institution may be funded within the same proposal. • PIs that has an ongoing International Collaboration (PCIN) project of the same initiative and purpose that this call and that the project has an ending date after the 31st December 2024 will not be able to apply for this call. This incompatibility will affect only to the PI. And this incompatibility will not apply in the case that the PI participate as coordinator in the new application or in the ongoing project. For additional incompatibilities please review ***"Líneas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud" 2025.*** **Excluded** personnel as Principal Investigator (PI): • Those undergoing a postgraduate training in Health Specialization (MIR, EIR, FIR, QIR, BIR, PIR, RFIR). • Those undergoing research training (e.g. PhD students, or "Río Hortega" contracts). • Those undergoing postdoctoral training (e.g. "Sara Borrell" or "Juan de la Cierva" contracts). • Researchers contracted by a RICORs and platforms funded by ISCIII.
Eligible cost, types and their caps	**Personnel costs:** - Personnel costs will be eligible for contracts with the needed professional category (superior technician, BSc (grado), MSc (máster), PhD (doctor) for the project development accordingly to the published salary tables in ISCIII's webpage. Personnel cost will precisely adhere to the salary tables, no other amount will be considered, either upper nor lower. - Personal costs will be eligible with a maximum of **36 PM** in total for the personal contracts altogether. - Contracts for PhD students will be done in the framework of National Subprogramme for Training (scholarships are not eligible). - Personnel costs will NOT be eligible when they correspond to civil servants or the equivalent personnel (as specified in the ***"Lineas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud***" 2025) either employed by the beneficiary entities or belonging to the research team. -The hiring of permanent personal already belonging to the beneficiary entity or members of the research team will not be considered eligible expenses, unless that applies the exception stated

	in "***Líneas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud 2025***" for eligible personal costs, for contracts framed under the Law 17/2022, 5 September, article 23bis in the specified Entities of Public sector. • **Other eligible costs**: Current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, complementary expenses (use of central and general research support services of the beneficiary entity), publication and dissemination of results and other costs as included in "***Líneas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud 2025***" that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities. • **Overheads**, according to "***Líneas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud 2025***" (25%). • Double funding of the same concept is not allowed.
Submission of the proposal at national level	**National phase:** National applications will be required by ISCIII to the full applicants proposals according to the timeline established in "***Líneas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud 2025***" Due to administrative and legal regulations, the Institute of Health Carlos III establishes the **31st October 2025** as the national deadline for the decision on fundable project consortia which includes Spanish partners to be funded by ISCIII. Any concerned applicant in a proposal for which no final decision has been made by the deadline of **31/10/2024**, could be declared not fundable by ISCIII. Additional clause regarding the available grant: After the evaluation process, depending on its budgetary availability, of the requested funding of the selected projects, ang giving priority to projects requesting funding from ISCIII, ISCIII and other Spanish funding agencies may exchange applicants with each other in order to optimize the available funds, provided that the respective eligibility rules are met. Such applicants must submit the national phase of ISCIII in time and form.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	As specified by "***Líneas Estratégicas de Investigación en Salud 2025***".
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Submision of financial and scientific reports at the national level only for proposals funded by the ISCIII : As specified by the ISCIII´s instructions (please check the ISCIII website).
Submission of a pre-eligibility form needed at national level	In order to expedite the eligibility check process after the proposal submission it is mandatory that all applicants submit a **CVA-ISCIII**. In the case of the IPs of public primary health care it will be mandatory also a certificate signed by the legal representative of their entities. A

	template of this certificate can be downloaded in their link **Certificado Vinculación IP Atencion Primaria** These documents shall be submitted by the PI before the proposal submission deadline to cristina.gonzalez@isciii.es and cbarco@isciii.es indicating her/his full name and proposal acronym in the email subject line. The checking of these documents will be done during the eligibility checking process after the proposals submission.
Requirements on data and repositories	• Researchers funded by ISCIII must make public the human genomic data, as well as relevant data (phenotype and exposition data) generated inside the funded project and will use open access repositories. Researchers must also make public all the necessary information for the interpretation of these genomic data, including lab protocols, data instruments survey tools. Regarding genomic data it is understood: association of complete genomes (GWAS), matrixes of polymorphism of a single nucleotide (SNP) and sequence of genome, and transcriptomic, metagenomic, epigenomic and gene expression data. The researchers whose projects are funded by ISCIII are recommended to store their scientific data at the "ELIXIR Core Data Resources", or if non-European repositories or data bases are to be used they must be certified by ELIXIR or the US National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). • ISCIII may not fund any project that may require a repository and/or a data base without a plan ensuring sustainability and decommissioning after the end of funding.
Requirements for clinical studies	Spanish groups that are involved on the performance of a clinical trial in the proposal, **are recommended to include** in their team a member from their scientific node of the EU Clinical Trials Network (SCReN or ECRIN-ERIC) or if it does not exist, a member from the personnel of their Clinical Research Supporting Platform of their institutions (UIC).
Use of Research infrastructures and platforms	Researchers funded by ISCIII are encouraged to make use of the resources available through the European Research Infrastructures and the Spanish Platforms funded by ISCIII for supporting the biomedical and health R&I.
Acknowledgements	Any publication, data base, product or event protected with IPR or not, resulting from the granted project must acknowledge “Award no. XX by Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII) through AES 2024 and within the ERA4Health Partnership” even after the end of the project, including other specific acknowledgments that could be requested by ISCIII to the granted project. For more information please see ISCIII’s ROR here.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding Org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
SPAIN	ISCIII	Cristina Gonzalez-Zarauz Cándida Sánchez Barco	cristina.gonzalez@isciii.es cbarco@isciii.es	(+34) 91 822 25 51

1.32 Sweden – Forte

Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym) Forte **Email address staffan.arvidsson@forte.se**	
Funding commitment	15 million SEK (approx. 1.4 million Euros)
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Maximum 3 million SEK per Swedish partner and project, if coordinator max 4,5 million SEK. Maximum 4,5 million SEK in total to Swedish partners within the same project.
Eligible institutions	The grants paid out by Forte must be administrated by a Swedish organisation. They need to be a Swedish legal entity with a Swedish organisation registration number. There is an exception, grants may be paid out to a foreign organisation in accordance with governing documents or agreements. An approved administrating organisation must conduct research, which means having a documented research activity and being assessed as capable of taking on commitments in accordance with the general conditions for research grants.
Organisations excluded from funding	An administrating organisation cannot use grants for economic activity. As a general rule, all companies are assumed to conduct economic activity. Associations and other organisations may also be included here, depending on what sort of activity they conduct. For organisations that conduct both economic and noneconomic activity, it is possible to be an administrating organisation if grants are used for the non-economic activity. Grants cannot be used for the economic activity. The accounts for the different activities must be kept separate.
Additional eligibility criteria	The main applicant must be employed by a Swedish organisation that is approved as an administrating organisation. However, the main applicant does not need to be employed by the administrating organisation at the time of application. The main applicant must have a doctoral degree.
Eligible costs	Among others, eligible costs may include the following: personnel costs; equipment costs; consumables and travel. The costs of general publication may not be included as direct cost in the application.

Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	Yes, applicants also need to submit their proposals to Forte´s application portal, Prisma.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	No.
Further guidance	For additional information, please go to: Who can apply for a grant? - Forte (English)

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Sweden	Forte	Staffan Arvidsson	Staffan.arvidsson@forte.se	+4687754080

1.33 Switzerland – Innosuisse

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym): Swiss Innovation Agency - Innosuisse **Email address: eu-partnerships@innosuisse.ch**	
Funding commitment	3.0 Mio. Euro
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	---
Eligible institutions	Swiss implementation partners: organisations that later produce, sell or apply the results of the projects in practice, e.g. end-user organizations, health providers, companies, or other organizations based in Switzerland. A Swiss company identification number (UID number) is required for each implementation partner. Swiss research partners: Eligible research partners are defined by law and must be accredited by Innosuisse before the submission of an application. They include higher education research centres or non-commercial research centres outside the higher education sector, etc.
Organisations excluded from funding	Non-Swiss based Organisations and companies Consultants
Additional eligibility criteria	The Swiss part of the consortium must at least contain one Swiss implementation partner. Participation of a Swiss research partner is optional. The share of the total eligible costs of the Swiss implementation partners must be higher than the cost of the Swiss research partner/s. For detailed eligibility criteria refer to the THCS Call 2025 on the Innosuisse Website.
Eligible costs	Only costs necessary for the execution of the project plan specified in the application form are eligible. Limits of eligible costs are defined in the funding conditions document on the Innosuisse call webpage. Only effective costs documented by employment contracts of Swiss project partners or invoices to Swiss project partners will be reimbursed. All expenses must be specified and documented in detail for reporting and auditing purposes.

Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	---
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	SMEs, Start-ups, for-profit and non-profit and end-user organisations, counting less than 250 full-time-equivalents must document their capacity to finance own contributions by providing the profit/loss and balance sheets 2022/2023 and other relevant information to Innosuisse. The documents must provide evidence that own contributions for the project are secured. Large companies and other implementation partners counting more than 250 full-time-equivalents are not obliged to submit their audited financial documents. All implementation partners requesting more than CHF 1 Mio. funding have to submit documents for an additional due diligence directly to Innosuisse. The relevant documents must be requested by e-mail (eu-partnerships@innosuisse.ch). Start-ups, which cannot document two years of operation must also request and submit the documents for due diligence as mentioned above. The obligation to document the financial capacity to finance their own contribution for the project remains the same as for other implementation partners counting less than 250 full-time-equivalents. Financial documents must be submitted to Innosuisse at the latest before the deadline for the submission of the pre-proposal on 30th January 2025. Applications lacking financial documents of Swiss partners as explained above may be rated incomplete and excluded from evaluation
Further guidance	International calls for proposals (innosuisse.ch)

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Switzerland	Innosuisse	Marina Dorner	marina.dorner@innosuisse.ch	+41 58 462 98 55

1.34 Switzerland – SNSF

Regional/National Eligibility Criteria

Funding Agency Full name (Acronym): Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) **Email address:** thcs@snf.ch	
Funding commitment	1'000'000 CHF (approx. €1'000'000)
Minimum/Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	The SNSF provides a **minimum grant of 100'000** Swiss francs per project. The SNSF provides a **maximum of 250'000 Swiss francs** annually per applicant of a project, within an overall limit of **1 million Swiss francs** annually for the project as a whole. The SNSF expects to fund **4 to 5 projects** under this call. **The term 'applicant' here refers to any Switzerland-based principal investigator (PI) who is requesting for financial support from the SNSF**.
Eligible institutions	Applicants must be employed at a research institution within the **higher education sector** or at a **non-commercial research institution** outside the higher education sector, as defined in the **Research and Innovation Promotion Act (RIPA)**. Accredited Swiss Higher Education Institutions, as well as institutions listed as Research Institutes of National Relevance, are eligible.
Organisations excluded from funding	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), large enterprises, and user organizations.
Additional eligibility criteria	**All applicants must meet the eligibility requirements of the SNSF**. The **SNSF Funding Regulations**, the **General implementation regulations** and the **Regulations on Project Funding** are applicable. Please note that applications submitted by a non-eligible person will not be considered nor evaluated. **Applicants requesting financial support from the SNSF are limited to one project proposal per call** (Art.6.3, SNSF Regulations on project

	funding). However, they may participate in other THCS consortia projects as **self-financed partners**. The maximum number of grants in the project funding scheme for the same funding period from the SNSF is **limited to three grants**, provided at least one grant is for an **EU consortium project** or has been granted on the basis of a **lead agency, Weave or International Co-investigator scheme evaluation**. A Switzerland-based PI who already hold **three SNSF grants in project funding** cannot request financial support from the SNSF to participate in this call (Article 13 of the Amended Project Funding Regulations). Grants from funding schemes that count towards the limit of concurrent grants in project funding can be found **here.** Proposals with overlapping funding periods are only approved if the research projects pursue **different goals** (Article 17 of the SNSF Funding Regulations). **The SNSF exclusively funds research conducted for purposes that are not directly commercial.** Pursuant to the Research and Innovation Promotion Act RIPA and the legal framework of the SNSF, no research grants are awarded if the relevant research is conducted for directly commercial purposes or if the persons involved in the research work do not enjoy scientific independence.
Eligible costs	Applicants can apply for **staff salaries** and **research costs**, as well as funds for **scientific collaboration**, **networking** and **communication**. **Applicants may not apply for their own salaries**. Eligible costs are outlined in detail in the **SNSF Funding Regulations** (Art. 28) and the **SNSF General Implementation Regulations** (Section 2). **Project overhead costs** cannot be applied for. They are calculated on the basis of the research funding acquired by eligible institutions under eligible funding schemes. Overhead contributions are paid in retrospect at a flat rate to the institutions of the SNSF awardees.
Submission of the proposal at regional/national level	**Mandatory submission of Pre- and Full Proposals via mySNF** **Switzerland-based PIs** applying for **SNSF funding** in this call must submit their **pre-proposals** and **full proposals** via the **SNSF online system**, **mySNF**, by the **same deadlines** as the consortium applications submitted through the JCS electronic submission system. **Submission via mySNF is mandatory** and does not replace the consortium application submission to the JCS electronic submission system.

	In mySNF, **pre-proposal** forms are created by selecting "**Projects > Partnerships > Transforming Health and Care Systems: Pre-proposal**". **full-proposal** forms are created by navigating through the following path in the "funding instrument" section: **Projects** > **Partnerships** > **Transforming Health and Care Systems: Full Proposal,** and are to be linked to the pre-proposal by selecting its number in the data container "Relation to pre-proposal". Please be aware that the SNSF has introduced a new **CV format**, and applicants are required to create an account on the **SNSF Portal** to ensure their CV is formatted according to the specified SNSF standards. In cases where **multiple Switzerland-based PIs** are part of the same consortium, only one application should be submitted via **mySNF**. One Switzerland-based PI must act as the **'corresponding applicant**,' while the other Switzerland-based PIs should be designated as **'other applicants**.' Please note that both the corresponding applicant and co-applicants must be designated as Principal Investigators (PIs) in the consortium application submitted to the JCS to request financial support from the SNSF. **International PIs** in the consortium applying for funding from agencies other than the SNSF cannot be declared as 'project partners' in applications submitted via mySNF (Article 11.2 of the SNSF Funding Regulations). Instead, they must be designated as **'consortium partners**' and must apply for funding from their respective research funding organizations.
Submission of additional information at regional/national level	**Important information in case of funding** • **Yearly financial reports** must be submitted to the SNSF via mySNF. • The SNSF requests the submission of the final scientific report submitted to the **THCS Call Secretariat**. No other scientific reports are required. • Applicants must complete the **Data Management Plan** (DMP) on mySNF once the project is approved, regardless of whether a DMP is requested by the consortium. The DMP must cover the research data collected, observed, generated, or reused in the Swiss part of the project and must comply with the SNSF policy on open research data. • Before the release of the funds, the SNSF requests the submission of a copy of the **consortium agreement** signed by all the partners.

	Grants will be managed according to standard SNSF rules described in SNSF Funding Regulations.
Further guidance	SNSF Regulations: • SNSF Funding regulations • General implementation regulations for the Funding Regulations • SNSF Regulations on Project Funding Applicants are encouraged to reach out to the national contact person to verify eligibility before submitting their application.

Contact Persons

Country	Funding org.	Contact person(s)	Email	Telephone
Switzerland	Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)	Priyanka Parmar Clémence Le Cornec	thcs@snf.ch	

Annex II. Indicative funding commitments in THCS JTC 2025

Country	FPO	Indicative funding commitment
Austria	FFG	€ 1,500,000
Belgium	FNRS	€ 300,000
Belgium	VLAIO - FIO	€ 1,000,000
Canada	CHIR	€ 1,000,000
Czech Republic	MZCR/AZVCR	€ 500,000
Denmark	IFD	€ 1,000,000
Estonia	ETAG	€ 300,000
Finland	AKA	€ 1,000,000
France	ANR	€ 1,500,000
France	Fr MoH	€ 2,000,000
Iceland	Rannís	€ 300,000
Ireland	HRB	€ 1,060,000
Israel	CSO-MOH	€ 300,000
Italy	AReSS	€ 60,000
Italy	FRRB	€ 2,000,000
Italy	IT-MoH	€ 4,000,000
Italy	MUR	€ 500,000
Italy	RT	€ 400,000
Latvia	LCS	€ 600,000
Lithuania	LMT	€ 300,000
Malta	Xjenza Malta	€ 500,000
Netherlands	NWO-SIA	€ 900,000
Netherlands	ZonMw	€ 2,600,000
Norway	RCN	€ 1,850,000
Poland	NCBR	€ 2,000,000
Portugal	CCDRC	€ 400,000
Portugal	FCT	€ 500,000
Spain	CSCJA	€ 500,000
Spain	DPTO SALUD/BIOEF	€ 350,000
Spain	IDIVAL	€ 150,000
Spain	ISCIII	€ 1,000,000
Sweden	Forte	€ 1,400,000
Switzerland	Innosuisse	€ 3,000,000
Switzerland	SNSF	€ 1,000,000
Total		**€ 35,770,000**