

# AEC EUROCLUSTER

## Frequently asked questions

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Grant Agreement Number 101074498



## ANNEX 6: FAQ (regularly updated)

### 1. I'm an SME owner and don't receive a salary. Can my effort within the funded activity also be funded?

Yes, of course. In this case we make use of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie action guidelines under the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2023-2024 (can be downloaded [here](#)).

You need to determine the days you worked on the funded activity and your daily rate. Days worked have to be justified with a time-sheet (same applies for all persons on the project). The daily rate is the monthly living allowance of €5,080 / for example 18 days = €282.22 multiplied by the **country-specific correction coefficient** of your home country.

Calculation example for Austria: €5,080 / 18 days \* 1.0643 = €300.00 daily rate

Please select the appropriate coefficient from the following list:

Country code	Country coefficient EU Member States	Country code	Country coefficient Third Countries	Country code	Country coefficient Third Countries
AT	106,3%	AE	94,0%	CO	67,6%
BE	100,0%	AL	59,0%	CR	77,6%
BG	54,8%	AM	77,7%	CU	82,5%
CY	77,5%	AO	130,0%	CV	69,6%
CZ	79,1%	AR	62,5%	GW	87,2%
DE	98,3%	BO	100,9%	DO	61,4%
DK	132,0%	AZ	82,1%	DZ	67,9%
EE	80,3%	BA	63,9%	EC	79,4%
EL	81,6%	BB	112,8%	EG	67,4%
ES	91,3%	BD	81,2%	ER	120,4%
FI	119,5%	BF	95,0%	ET	81,9%
FR	116,4%	BI	81,3%	FJ	73,5%
HR	75,5%	BJ	91,9%	FO	132,0%
HU	72,0%	BO	83,9%	GA	107,9%
IE	119,5%	BR	84,7%	GE	62,2%
IT	97,4%	BW	62,9%	GH	73,9%
LT	72,8%	BY	66,8%	GM	68,8%
LU	100,0%	BZ	79,9%	GN	84,2%
LV	76,0%	CA	95,2%	GT	87,3%
MT	88,1%	CD	151,9%	GW	81,9%
NL	109,6%	CF	109,3%	GY	71,7%
PL	70,5%	CG	117,3%	HK	115,4%
PT	84,3%	CH	128,6%	HN	77,4%
RO	65,4%	CI	94,6%	HT	85,0%
SE	125,4%	CL	69,5%	ID	73,0%
SI	83,3%	CM	87,8%	IL	107,2%
SK	78,1%	CN	90,0%	IN	73,8%

Country code	Country coefficient Third Countries	Country code	Country coefficient Third Countries	Country code	Country coefficient Third Countries
IS	130,5%	MY	67,2%	SV	72,2%
JM	84,4%	MZ	71,7%	SZ	61,3%
JO	98,8%	NA	66,9%	TD	100,1%
JP	103,3%	NC	107,4%	TG	82,8%
KE	85,6%	NE	80,0%	TH	78,8%
KG	73,7%	NG	85,2%	TJ	58,4%
KH	78,6%	NI	67,3%	TL	88,7%
KM	75,7%	NO	128,7%	TM	82,9%
KR	95,5%	NP	87,8%	TN	67,4%
KZ	71,9%	NZ	98,9%	TR	64,5%
LA	89,8%	PA	76,8%	TT	81,8%
LB	116,2%	PE	88,0%	TW	84,7%
LI	128,6%	PG	99,8%	TZ	67,9%
LK	77,4%	PH	81,3%	UA	68,5%
LR	149,6%	PK	54,8%	UG	67,2%
LS	56,2%	PS	112,5%	UK	136,9%
MA	72,6%	PY	63,0%	US	102,3%
MD	63,2%	RS	57,7%	UY	89,7%
ME	61,6%	RU	97,3%	UZ	68,0%
MG	85,6%	RW	81,6%	VE	139,2%
MK	50,7%	SA	83,4%	VN	61,3%
ML	90,0%	SB	112,7%	VU	104,8%
MM	67,0%	SD	107,8%	WS	82,2%
MR	68,1%	SG	124,4%	XK	70,2%
MU	73,3%	SL	107,1%	YE	104,4%
MW	60,9%	SN	98,4%	ZA	55,3%
MX	60,3%	SR	69,1%	ZM	74,8%
				ZW	98,3%

## 2. Can you guarantee that I won't have to disclose any of my ideas in case I receive financial support?

Yes, absolutely - all sensitive information related to your business will be kept strictly confidential! The AEC EUROCLUSTER partners signed a **Non-Disclosure Agreement** which forbids them and the evaluators to discuss, forward or use any of the information you provide in your application or during subsequent funded activities (project, training, trade fair or similar).

Therefore, your business secrets are protected - you only have to be ready for some general communication measures in case you are awarded for funding, e.g., a **Success Story** so that AEC EUROCLUSTER can present their beneficiaries to the world! Such communication actions will be limited to presentation of company, people behind and basic info you want to share about your business and development! Moreover, you can be sure that there won't be any surprises: if you are selected for funding first thing to do is sit together and draft the next steps including for example communication activities.

### **3. What if I'm funded for a third-country trade fair mission and don't manage to achieve a cooperation agreement with a foreign partner?**

On your mission to one of the four pre-selected trade fairs you will be accompanied by an AEC EUROCLUSTER consortium partner. He will guide you, assist in arranging business meetings and other opportunities to present yourself. During the fair each SME (not depending on the number of staff it sends to the event) has to attend at least 10 B2B meetings with potential partners from third-countries. Travel costs will be eligible even if you don't achieve a formal memorandum of understanding as long as you put efforts in reaching out to foreign organisations by meeting them.

### **4. Some Hungarian SMEs are not eligible for funding. Can you clarify which?**

Hungarian applicants should not be excluded from participating in the Open Calls but provide a self-declaration are not part of the entities listed in the link below.

The EU Council Implementing Decision 2022/2506 stipulates that **legal commitments must not be entered into with any public interest trusts established on the basis of the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 or any entity maintained by such a public interest trust**. This applies **as of 16 December 2022** for as long as the measures are in place. This means that it is prohibited to enter into legal commitments with such entities involving Union funding. This prohibition applies to the entire chain of Union financing.

No further legal commitments involving Union funding can be entered into by you or any other beneficiaries (or affiliated entities) in your grant with third parties concerned by this decision. This concerns legal commitments involving Union funding related to e.g.: the purchase of goods, works or services; subcontracting; **financial support to third parties**; equipment renting or leasing; personnel seconded against payment. More on that you can find at [Frequently Asked Questions](#). It is progressively updated as soon as further guidance is available. You can find an indicative – non-exhaustive – list of affected entities (i.e. public interest trusts and entities maintained by them) under this [link](#).

### **5. Can you clarify the budget limits for proposals?**

You can apply for Project innovation or Technology adoption (one of two), and for Training and Go international – but combined financial support can not be higher than 60.000 EUR.

### **5. What is the limit for requested funding? Does the size of project application matter?**

Yes, the budget limit of 60.000 EUR lump sum financial support. See also FAQ 5. Requested financial support cannot be higher than max. available financial support. The scope of project application must also reflect the budget available.

### **6. Is equipment eligible cost for AEC EUROCLUSTER call proposal?**

For eligibility of costs, equipment is eligible, but the cost must be eligible according to the financial rule of Single Market Programme. In the case of equipment, the depreciation cost for the duration of project is eligible.

See also Guide for applicants: page 19

“Although the payment will be made as a lump sum, the costs Direct staff costs, Subcontracting costs, Purchase costs (travel and subsistence, equipment, other goods, works and services) and the activities must be eligible according to financial rules of Single Market Programme (SMP) as described in the General Model Grant Agreement (SMP MGA — Multi & Mono). In case of doubt of eligibility of costs or activities, the SME applicant can check SMP MGA [here](#).”

See the relevant part of the MGA. *C.2 Equipment*

*[OPTION 1 by default (depreciation only):*

*Purchases of equipment, infrastructure or other assets used for the action must be declared as depreciation costs, calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred and written off in accordance with international accounting standards and the beneficiary’s usual accounting practices. Only the portion of the costs that corresponds to the rate of actual use for the action during the action duration can be taken into account.*

*Costs for renting or leasing equipment, infrastructure or other assets are also eligible, if they do not exceed the depreciation costs of similar equipment, infrastructure or assets and do not include any financing fees. ]*

See also the chapter 6 / Contraction procedure and payment scheme. “The beneficiaries must also ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the SME recipients.” This means you have manage project and provide documentation to support any EU financial audit by mentioned bodies, if they will decide on this.

For any questions regarding application, submission and evaluation of your proposal, you can reach us at [aeceurocluster@sgg.si](mailto:aeceurocluster@sgg.si). AEC EUROCLUSTER projects partners are also available for information:

- Austria: [isabella.mantello@biz-up.at](mailto:isabella.mantello@biz-up.at)
- Bulgaria: [mariana@ubbsla.org](mailto:mariana@ubbsla.org)
- Italy: [irene@csm.toscana.it](mailto:irene@csm.toscana.it)
- Romania: [office@clustertec.ro](mailto:office@clustertec.ro)

- Slovenia: [vladimir.gumilar@sgg.si](mailto:vladimir.gumilar@sgg.si)
- Spain: [gawel.walczak@secpho.org](mailto:gawel.walczak@secpho.org)



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