

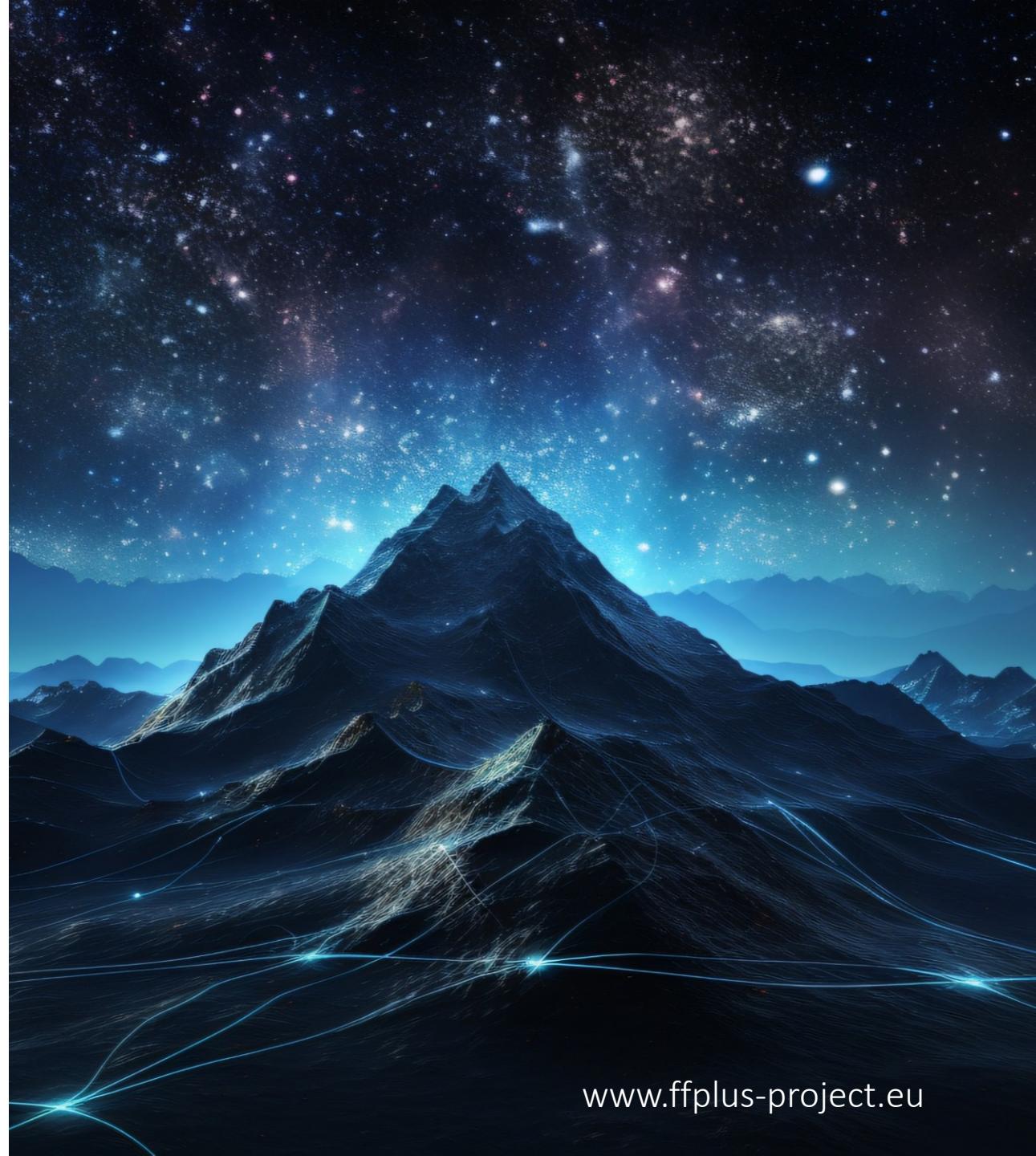


FORTESSIMO  
PLUS

# Second call for innovation studies for the development of generative AI models

Guy Lonsdale, scapos AG

5 December 2025



[www.ffplus-project.eu](http://www.ffplus-project.eu)



# Overview

- Intro to the Fortissimo Approach & the FFplus project
  - HPC for Business Innovation, Fortissimo Success Stories
- FFplus Call-2 Type-2: second call for innovation studies for the development of generative AI models
  - Objectives; expectations; funding & eligibility
- Summary of info sources and submission procedure

# Fortissimo & Fortissimo-2

Fortissimo – 2013-2016

- Business relevant investigations and demonstrations of simulation services in the Fortissimo HPC Cloud creating future business benefits for manufacturing SMEs



Fortissimo 2 – 2015-2018

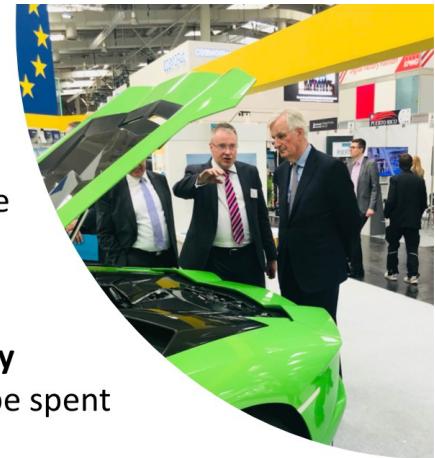


- Demonstrating the business potential of an ecosystem for HPC-Cloud services, specifically for applications involving simulation of coupled physical processes or high-performance data analytics.



## Political context

- All major economies world-wide are investing in large supercomputers on the road to Exascale
- EuroHPC is a major commitment by the European Union
- Business Case is for **Science and Industry**
- European citizens expect their taxes to be spent wisely for the good of everyone
- We must ensure our Universities **and** our Companies can access and benefit from investment in supercomputing



|epcc|

Funded under  
H2020-JTI-EuroHPC-2019-2  
1.9.2020-31.10.2023



## FF4EuroHPC **in numbers**



**6**

project  
partners



**42**

high-quality  
experiments



**€ 8**

million  
funding budget

### Experiment partners



**118**

organisations

**22**

countries



wide variety of  
industrial sectors,  
focus on  
**manufacturing**

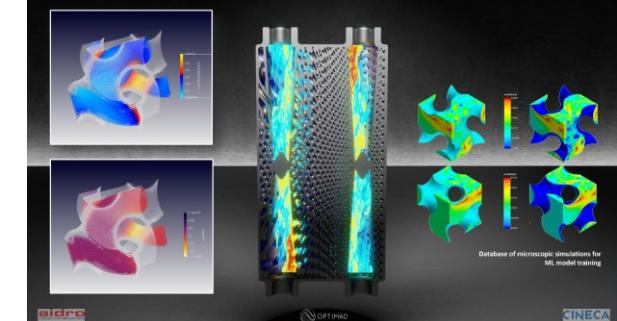
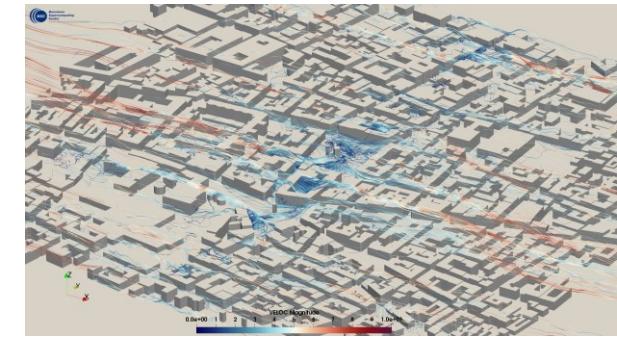
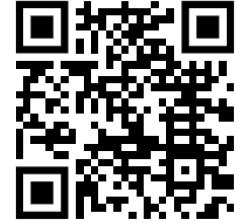
**57%**

# The Fortissimo Approach

- Execution of „experiments“ with SMEs, delivering real business impact through use of HPC
- The bulk of project funding is used for these experiments and the highest quality, innovative SME-oriented experiments are acquired through the execution of open calls for proposals

<https://www.ff4eurohpc.eu/en/success-stories/>

**FF, FF-2,  
FF4EuroHPC:**  
**121 success  
stories** were  
produced in  
collaboration with  
**310 partners** from  
**more than 20**  
**European**  
**countries.**



# Examples of business benefits

## Multi-Head Additive Manufacturing with Optimal HPC Thermal Stabilization

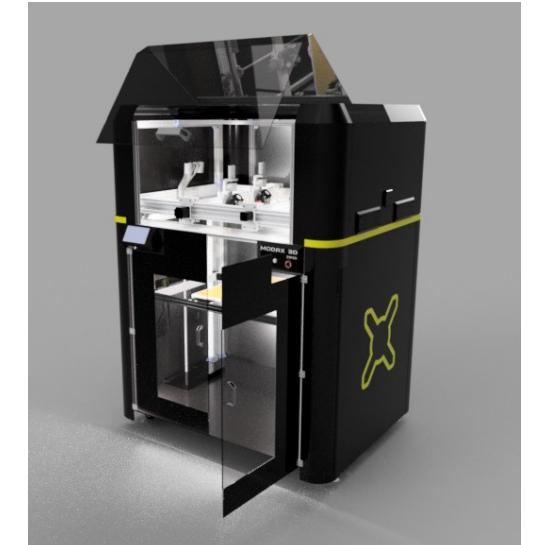
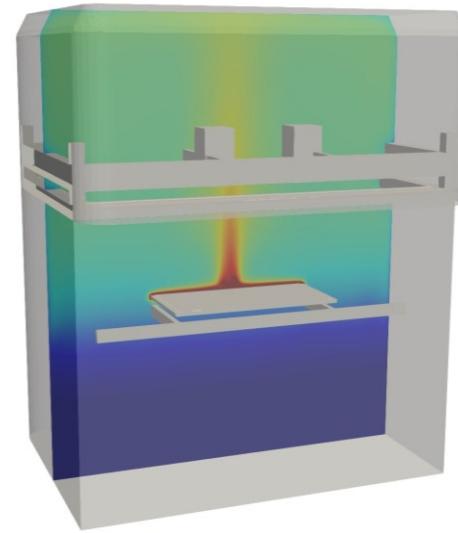
The vision of this experiment was to establish and predict the impact of this heat on the structure and motion system of the machine using HPC infrastructure.

### Business Benefits

- Shortening of product delivery time to the customer **by 30-50%.**
- Cutting costs in production **by 15-30%.**
- Greater accuracy of 3D printers is expected to increase sales **by 20-30%.**
- Creation of jobs for new, highly skilled employees

End User: [Mikrotvornica](#)

HPC Center: [Ruđer Bošković Institute](#)



# Examples of business benefits

## Improvement of Productivity in Aquaculture

The experiment used HPC and AI to help aquaculture farms better manage volatility and boost productivity. By analysing data on fish behaviour, health, and growth, it enabled smarter decisions, reduced losses, and supported more stable and scalable operations.

### Business Benefits

- **30% reduction** in predictive model error through HPC
- **Shortening time to production** in new user facilities or new procedures by 50%
- **Business know-how** for data-driven decisions for aquaculture farmers
- **7% improvement in fish growth** for the end user



End Users: [Nueva Pescanova- Insuiña](#) and [Genequa](#)

Technology provider: [DEICOM](#)

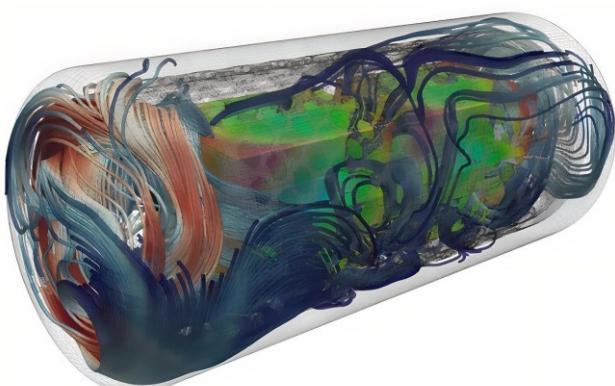
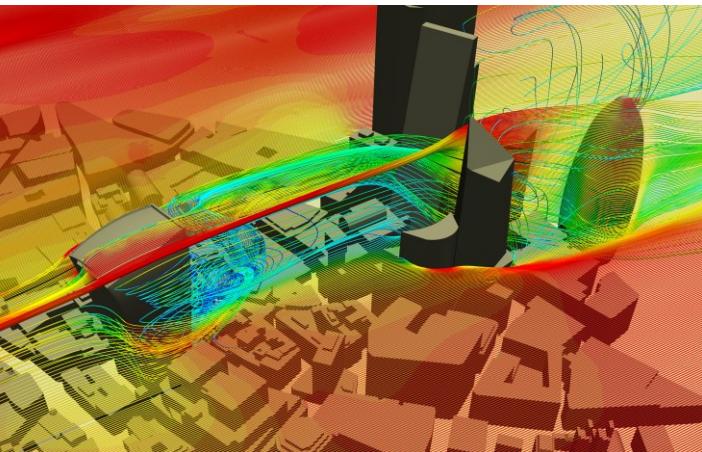
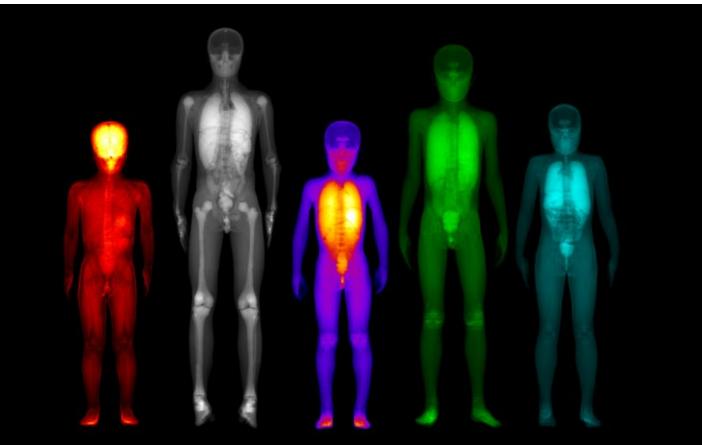
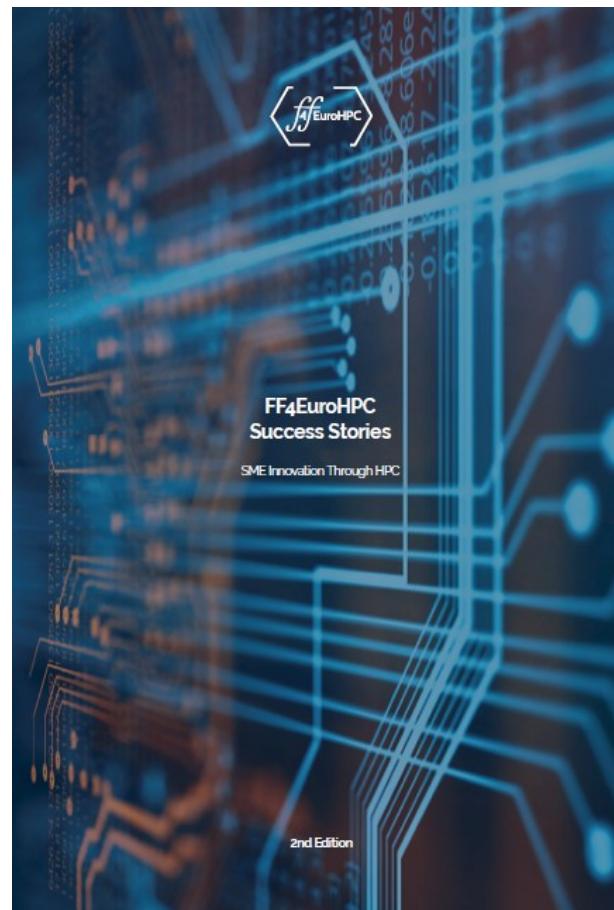
HPC provider: [CESGA](#)



# Success Stories

## GET INSPIRED!

- Website presentation
- Videos
- Success Stories Booklets



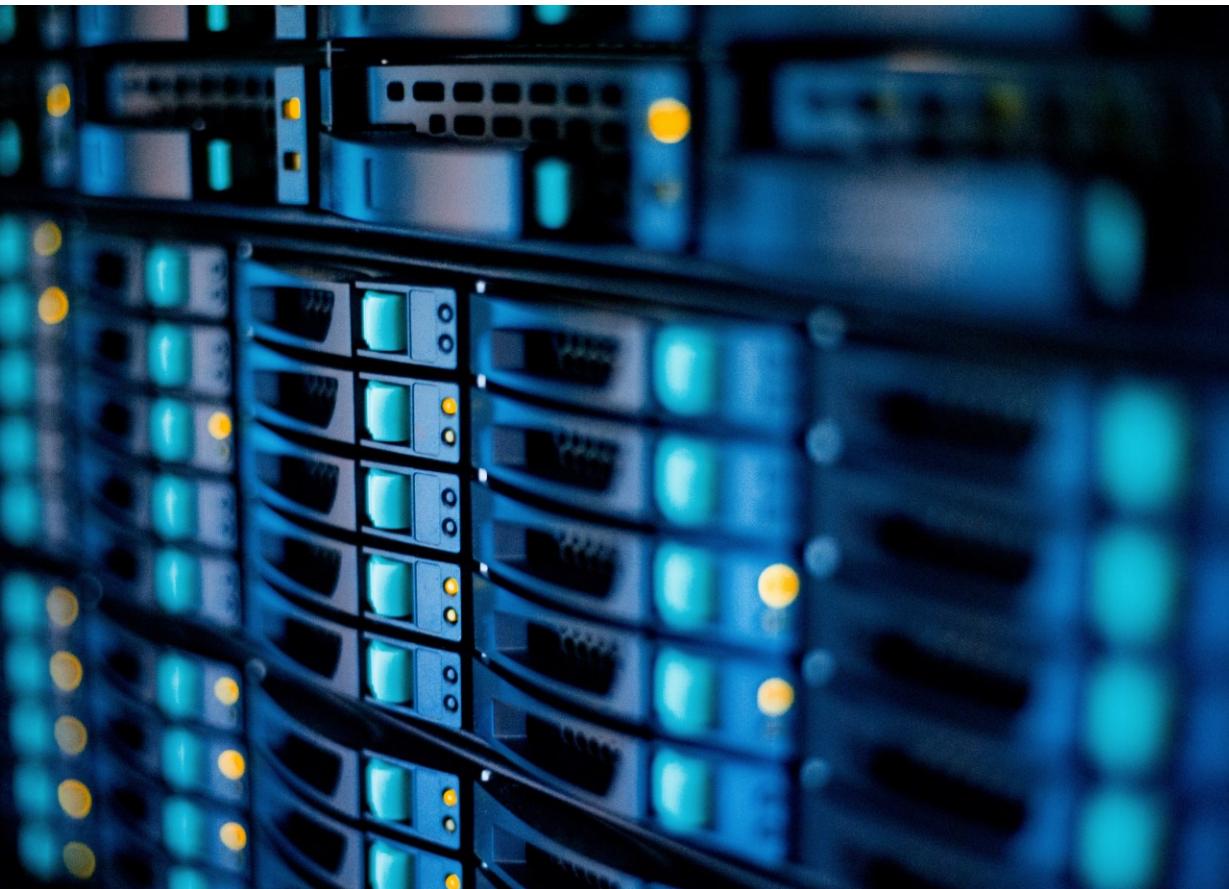
# FFplus Consortium & Project Data



- Fortissimo Plus
- Funded by the EuroHPC JU action DIGITAL-EUROHPC-JU-2023-SME-01 "Supporting the competitiveness and innovation potential of SMEs".
- Commenced 1.5.2024; 48 months duration
- Coordinator   
HLRIS  
High-Performance Computing Center | Stuttgart
- Other Partners:



# FFplus Objectives



**Empower SMEs and Start-Ups with advanced computational capabilities based on HPC, enabling them to **drive innovation**, enhance competitiveness, and overcome challenges in the digitalisation of R&D and business processes.**

FFplus will **execute 6 open calls** (**3 for business experiments, 3 for innovation studies**) with a **funding budget of over 24 M€**.



Solve your business challenges and shift to the next level with the help of HPC!



Participate in the Open Call for Business Experiments!

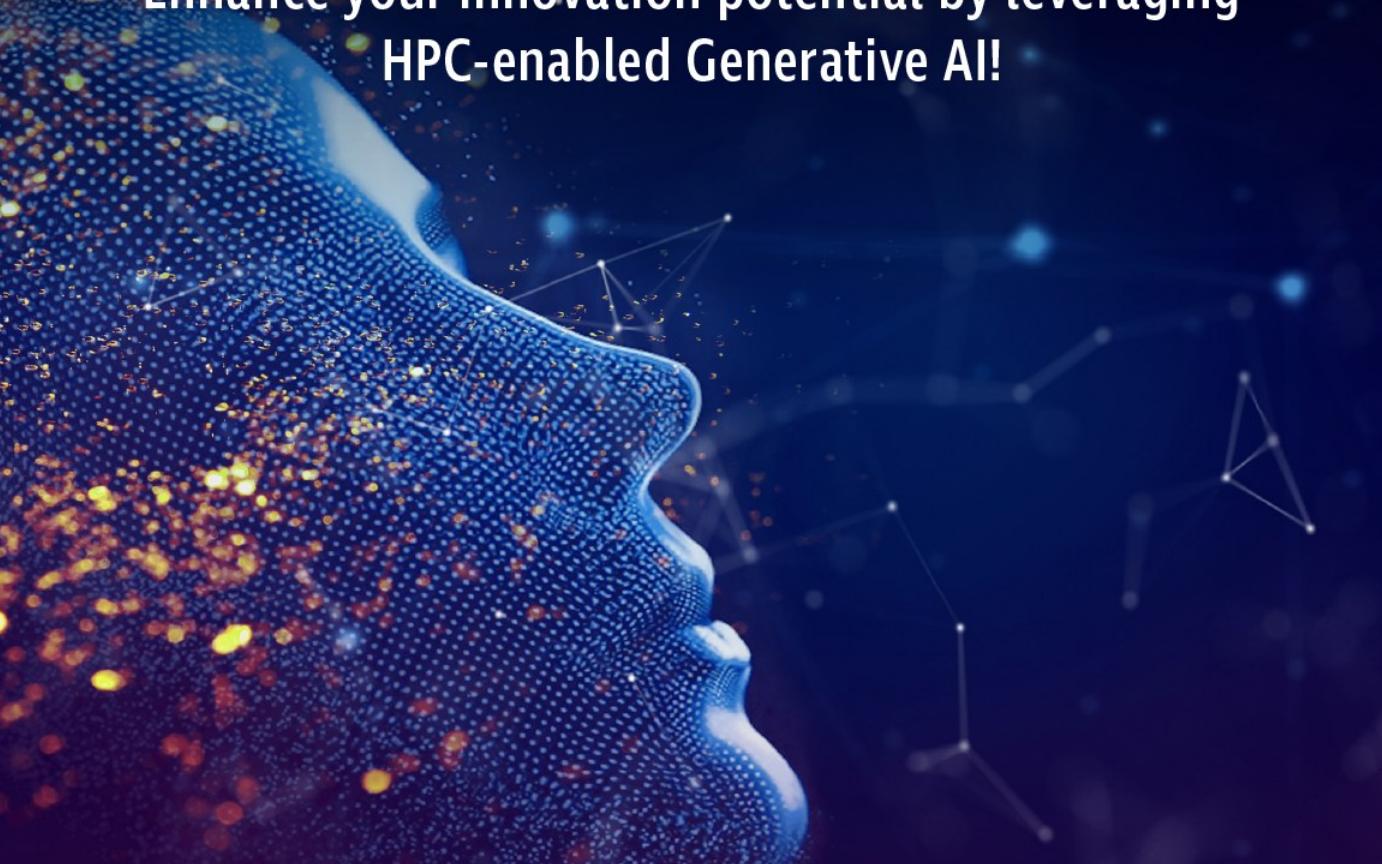
## Business experiments

will address the uptake of HPC by SMEs new to using HPC to solve specific business challenges

2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Business Experiments – 350 submissions (!), Evaluation ongoing, expect news on proposals selected Q2 2026.



Enhance your innovation potential by leveraging  
HPC-enabled Generative AI!



**Participate in the Open Call for Innovation Studies!**

## Innovation studies

will support European SMEs and Start-ups already active in the field of generative AI technology, which lack the necessary computational resources to scale up.



# OPEN CALL-1 STATS – Innovation Studies: Country Statistics



The Innovation Studies Call attracted **62 proposals from 24 countries**, involving 83 SMEs and 36 other organizations.

**18 innovation studies are funded**, including participants from **14 European countries**.

FFplus Open Call 1

## Innovation Studies Funded Proposals

**18** proposals funded

**14** countries\*

**20** SMEs and

**16** other organisations.

\*countries associated with the EU Digital Europe programme



Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Estonia, France, Greece, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Slovakia and Turkey.



# OPEN CALL-1 STATS – Innovation Studies: SME Involvement



Of the 36 organisations participating in the selected experiments, **20 (or 56%)** are **Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs)**.

This is significant since the main objective of the FFplus project is to demonstrate the business value for SMEs.



# OPEN CALL-1 STATS – Innovation Studies: End-User Domains



## Received proposals

In total, 62 proposals were received.

The Healthcare/Pharma/Life Sciences and ICT sectors each account for 10 proposals.

These are followed by Administration (Public, Finance, Recruitment) with 7 proposals and Film/Gaming/Media with 5 proposals.

## Funded proposals

Healthcare/Pharma/Life Sciences and ICT sectors together account for 8 sub-projects, with 4 funded sub-projects each. Administration follows with 3 funded sub-projects.

FFplus Open Call 1

## Innovation Studies Funded: Application domains

Healthcare, Pharma, Life Sciences

ICT

Administration (Public, Finance, Recruitment)

Finance

Cartography, Geography

Film, Gaming, Media

Energy

Engineering & Simulation

4

4

3

2

2

1

1

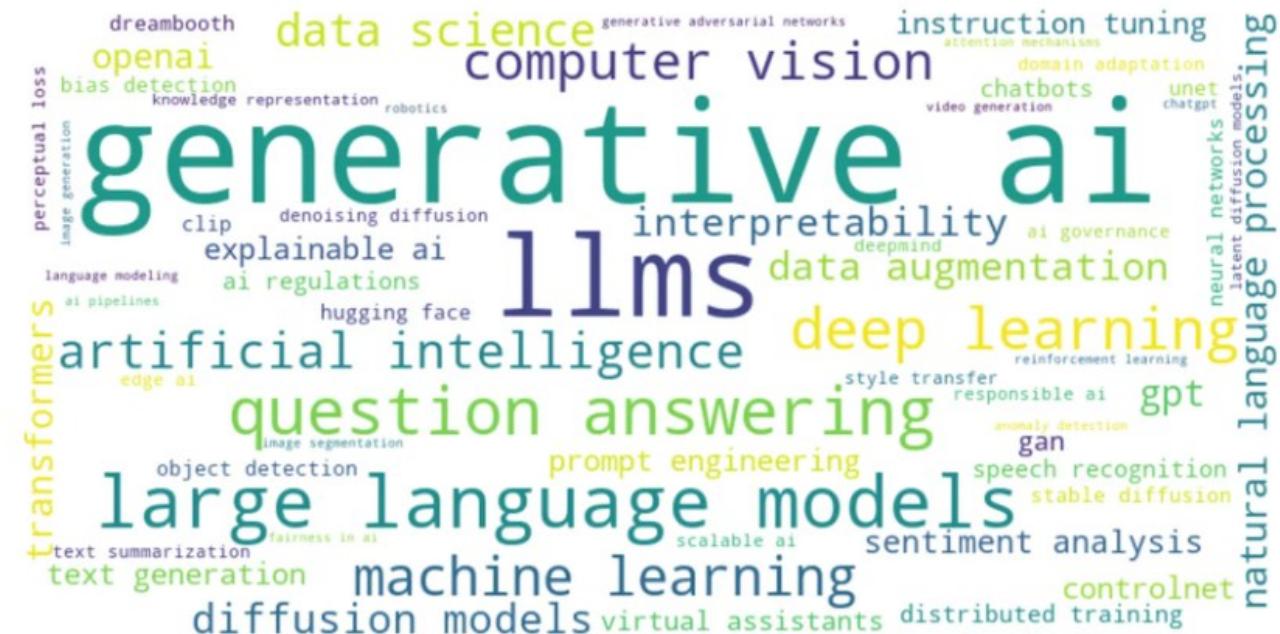
1



# OPEN CALL-1 STATS – Innovation Studies: Technologies



The different **generative AI technologies** that are used by the selected sub-projects: while all of them focus on LLMs, there are different applications of the employed technologies (e.g. **computer vision** or **speech recognition**). The innovation studies focus on different AI topics: **explainability**, **interpretability** or **data augmentation**.





## Second call for innovation studies for the development of generative AI models

- The call will be closed either when 250 proposals have been received or on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 17:00 Brussels local time, whichever point in time is earlier.
- Proposal submission will be possible commencing on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 at 9:00 Brussels time.
- Expected duration of innovation studies: 10 months, with targeted commencement September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026
- The indicative total funding budget for all innovation studies funded under this call is € 4M.

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 - Objectives



- Address the needs of SMEs and Start-ups proficient in generative AI and HPC for large-to extreme-scale computing resources → strengthen European SMEs in the area of generative AI.
- “Innovation Studies” driven by the business needs of SMEs and Start-ups highly competent in generative AI, professional software development, and data processing.
- The innovation study should enhance the innovation potential of the SME main participant.
- The innovation studies must use large-scale European HPC resources (e.g., pre-exascale and exascale supercomputers) to develop and customise generative AI models such as foundation and large language models.

# Potential Future Innovation Study Extensions



- It is expressly foreseen that the targeted SMEs may participate in more than one tranche of innovation studies: if developments and results of their initial innovation study are evaluated successfully, then they would be eligible to submit a proposal for an extension of the developments in a subsequent open call.
- It is a necessary condition for funding that the innovation study complies with the FFplus requirement for reporting of the results achieved up to the end of the 7th month of the innovation study to enable an evaluation of the impact potential, performed by external experts.
- SME Main participants from the top 70% of successful innovation studies (based on the ranking arising from the expert evaluation) will be eligible to submit a proposal for an extension of the study (should they wish to do so).
- More details are provided in the Announcement and Proposers' Guide

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Expectations 1/3



- Be fully aligned with the FFplus call objectives
  - Explain & justify the business challenge/prospect and why
    - Generative AI provides the solution
    - New model development is imperative
    - The development is timely
    - Identified obstacles can be overcome
  - Present the expected business impact of using large-scale HPC, the enhancement of the SME's innovation potential & the path to success(\*)
- (\*) potential value propositions and the process of value creation

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Expectations 2/3



- Define specific objectives to successfully address the business challenge and proposal work plan in terms of a machine-learning lifecycle
- Provide a detailed description and demonstrate the availability of a suitable training data set.
- Detail the characteristics of the models to be developed and outline their repercussions to training and exploitation.
- Explain performance metrics, describe benchmarks to establish baselines and specify methods to ensure experiment reproducibility.
- Identify potential risks considering EU guidelines for trustworthy AI and present means to address and mitigate them.

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Expectations 3/3



- Define the resources & the associated costs
  - Demonstrate how the allocated resources (personnel, IT/computing, ..) address and fill current gaps in the processes needed to implement the proposed action.
  - Potentially including HPC resources – discussed in the following slides
- Data Management Plan:
  - cover policies for data access, usage, sharing, retention, and disposal;
  - outline methods for protecting sensitive or personal data;
  - incorporate FAIR principles and their implementation (when applicable).
- Support the FFplus project in the generation of publishable success stories – including in multi-media form – which discuss how the SME's real-world problems were addressed and clearly identify the business benefits realised or obtained.
- Provision of the pre-final results and potential impact report

# HPC Computing Resources – 1 / 2



- There is an expectation that FFplus sub-projects make use of the HPC resources provided under the EuroHPC JU access schemes, which services are provided free of charge. The use of nationally provisioned HPC resources is considered equivalent.
- Please refer to the EuroHPC JU website for regularly updated information about the various access calls, which are organised in the two areas “supercomputers access” and “AI Factories access”. The latter scheme is considered to be the most appropriate choice for the FFplus Innovation Studies  
[https://eurohpc-ju.europa.eu/ai-factories/ai-factories-access-calls\\_en](https://eurohpc-ju.europa.eu/ai-factories/ai-factories-access-calls_en)
- The NCCs may be able to aid with the selection of appropriate resources and the application process.

# HPC Computing Resources – 2 / 2



- FFplus cannot provide computing resources itself, nor does it have any special allocation of time on the EuroHPC JU systems.
- The use of 3rd party commercial HPC resources is permissible - when suitably justified and the costs included in the proposed budget.
- Similarly, the use of resources provided by an organisation, such as an HPC centre, included within the sub-project consortium as supporting participant (\*) is permissible when:
  - the costs of charged HPC resources are based on actual costs and not commercial rates;
  - the costs are included in the experiment's budget as “other direct cost” of the partner providing the HPC resources to the experiment consortium.



**EuroHPC**  
Joint Undertaking

# **EUROHPC JU** **ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES**

KLARA MESTROVIC, Peer-Review Sector

17 June 2024



# OVERVIEW



INFRASTRUCTURE PROCUREMENT



SUPERCOMPUTERS, AI FACTORIES,  
QUANTUM COMPUTERS



INFRASTRUCTURE ACCESS



ACCESS MODES

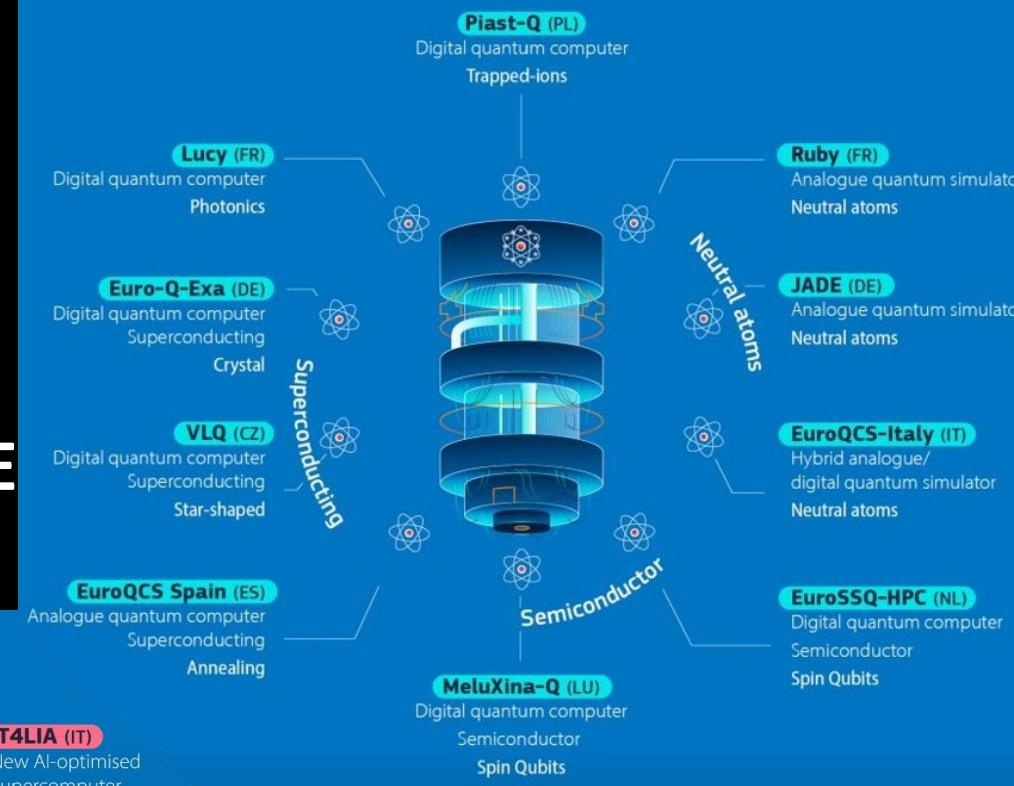
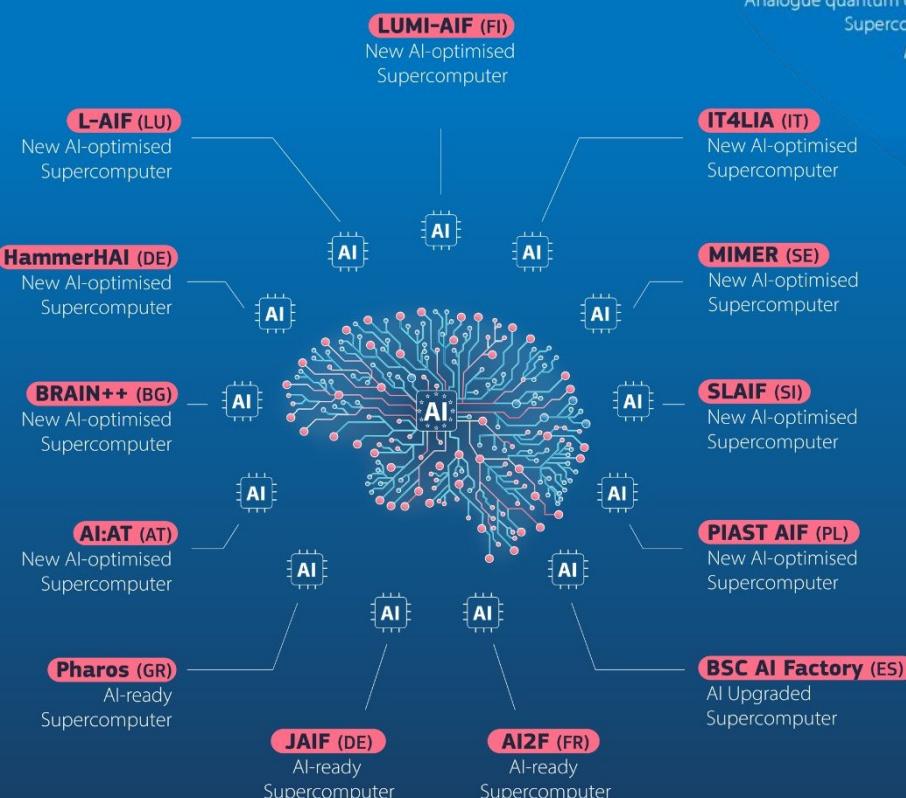


PEER-REVIEW PROCESS

# EUROHPC SUPERCOMPUTERS



# EUROHPC AI FACTORIES



# EUROHPC QUANTUM COMPUTERS



**EuroHPC**  
Joint Undertaking



# EUROHPC JU ACCESS MODES

## TRADITIONAL HPC – ACCESS CALLS

BENCHMARK

DEVELOPMENT

REGULAR

EXTREME SCALE

## AI APPLICATIONS – AI FACTORY ACCESS CALLS

AI FOR SCIENCE

AI FOR SCIENCE AND  
COLLABORATIVE EU  
PROJECTS



AI FOR INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION

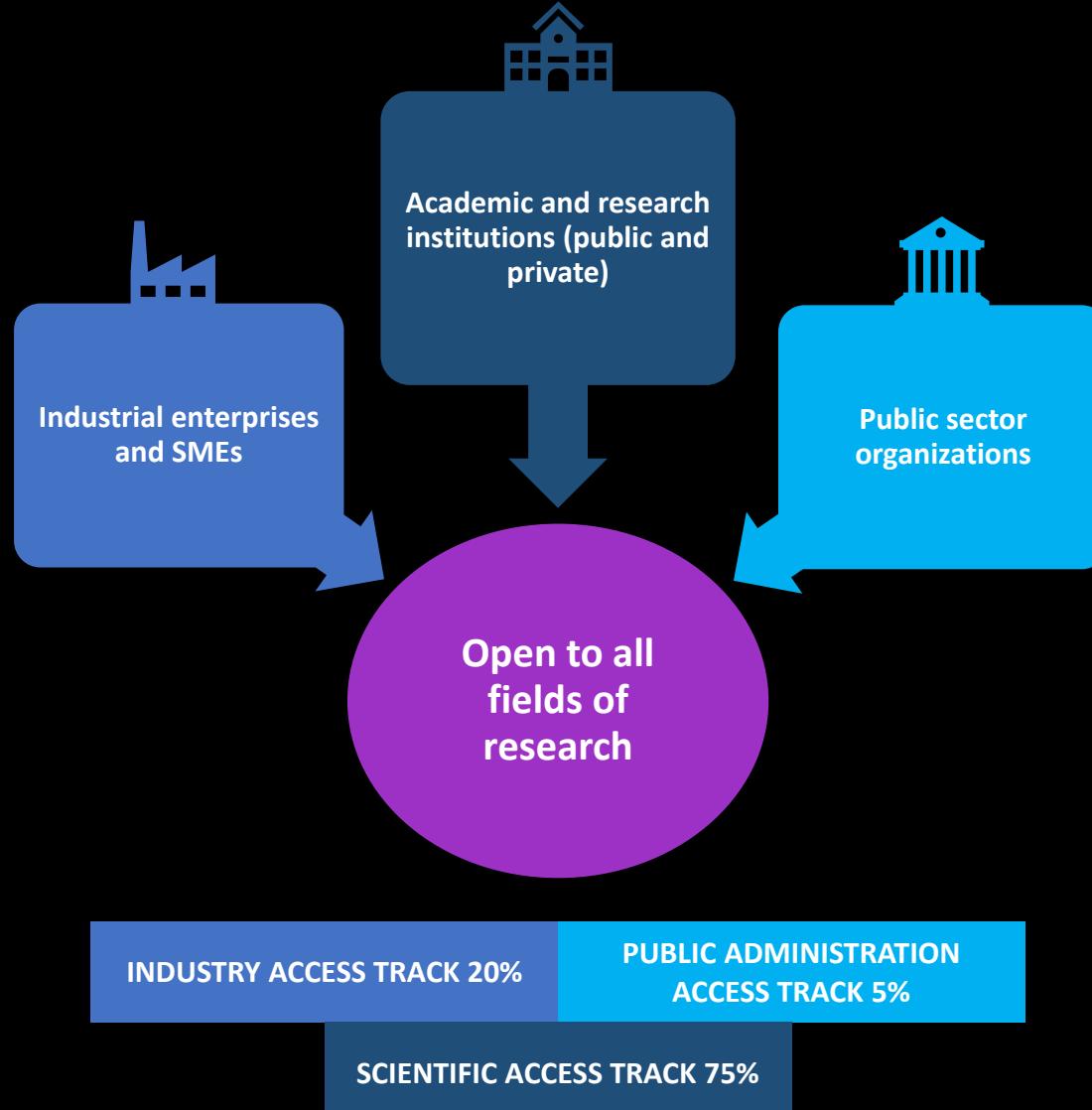
PLAYGROUND

FAST LANE

LARGE SCALE

# EUROHPC JU ACCESS MODES

## ELIGIBILITY



# EUROHPC JU ACCESS MODES

## ELIGIBILITY

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?



#### INDUSTRY TRACK OR INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION PROPOSALS:

Principal Investigator/Project Lead **MUST** be affiliated with an industry organization; commercial company, SME or startup

Principal Investigator/Project Lead and Team Members whose organization is:

- Established or located in a Member State or in a third country associated to **Horizon 2020** for accessing the supercomputers acquired by the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking established by Regulation (EU) 2018/1488.
- Established or located in a Member State or in a third country associated to the **Digital Europe Programme** or to **Horizon Europe** for accessing the supercomputers acquired by the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking after 2020.

Principal Investigators/Project Leads that have an employment contract in the organisation at the time of proposal submission and valid for at least 3 months after the end of the allocation period.

# TRADITIONAL HPC ACCESS MODES

## PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES

### BENCHMARK ACCESS

Designed for code scalability tests  
Access duration: **2 or 3 months**

### DEVELOPMENT ACCESS

Designed for code development and optimization  
Access duration: **6 or 12 months**

Assessment time: **2 weeks from cut-off date**

## PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

### EXTREME SCALE ACCESS

Designed for high-impact, high-gain research applications  
requesting extremely large allocations

Access duration: **12 months**, evaluation time: **6 months**

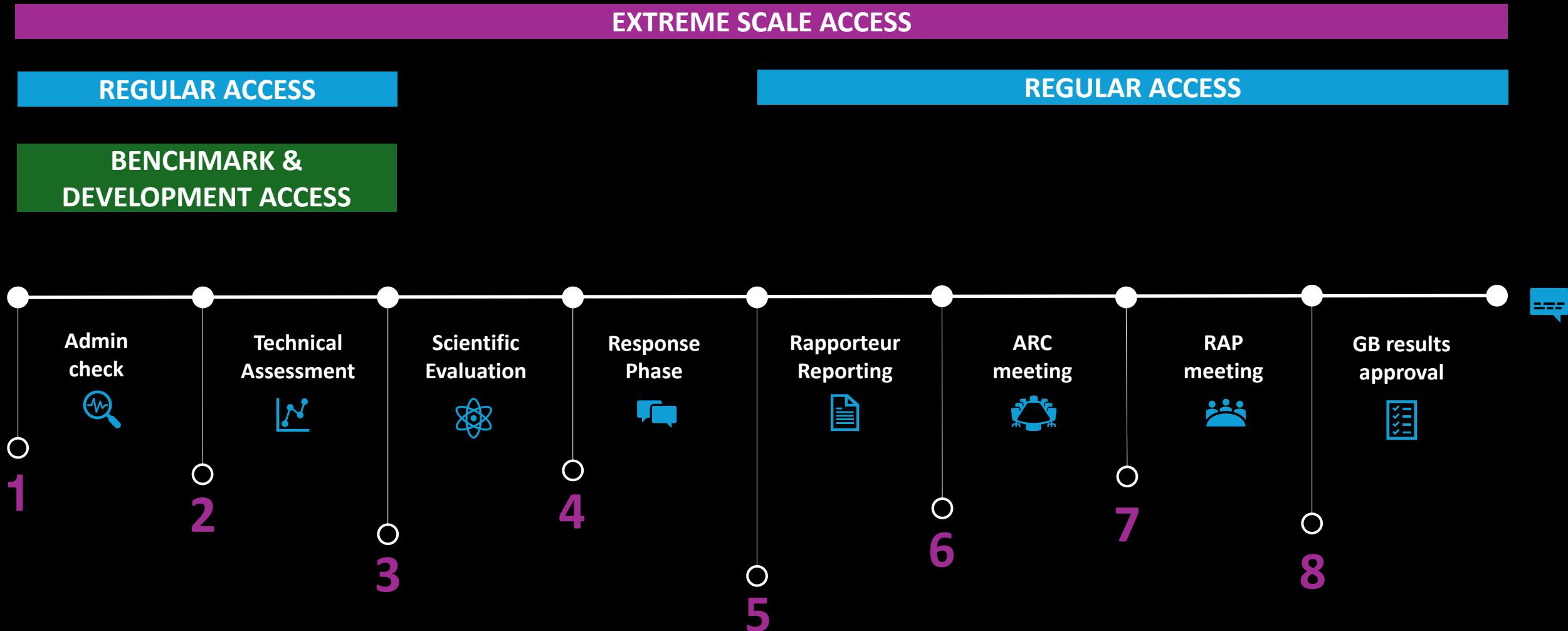
### REGULAR ACCESS

Designed for research applications requesting large allocations

Access duration: **12 months**, evaluation time: **4 months**

# TRADITIONAL HPC ACCESS MODES

## THE PEER-REVIEW PROCESS





# TRADITIONAL HPC ACCESS MODES

## CUT-OFFS

### REGULAR ACCESS:

- December 2021
- March 2022
- July 2022
- November 2022
- March 2023
- July 2023
- November 2023
- March 2024
- September 2024
- **March 2025 (under evaluation)**

### EXTREME SCALE ACCESS:

- December 2022
- May 2023
- October 2023
- April 2024
- October 2024
- **April 2025 (under evaluation)**

### AI AND DATA INTENSIVE APPLICATIONS ACCESS:

- April 2024
- June 2024
- October 2024
- November 2024
- February 2025
- April 2025

### UPCOMING CUT-OFFS IN 2025:

**EXTREME SCALE ACCESS – 17 October 2025**

**REGULAR ACCESS – 05 September 2025**

**AI AND DATA INTENSIVE APPLICATIONS ACCESS – discontinued**



# AI FACTORY ACCESS MODES FOR INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION



## PLAYGROUND ACCESS

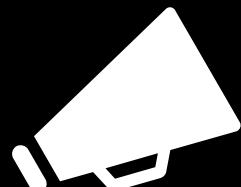
- Fixed allocations of 5,000 GPU hours
- Evaluations on rolling basis
- Results within **2 working days** after the proposal submission
- Duration: 1-2-3 months

## FAST LANE ACCESS

- Allocations up to 50,000 GPU hours
- Evaluations on rolling basis
- Results within **4 working days** after the proposal submission
- Duration: 1-2-3 months

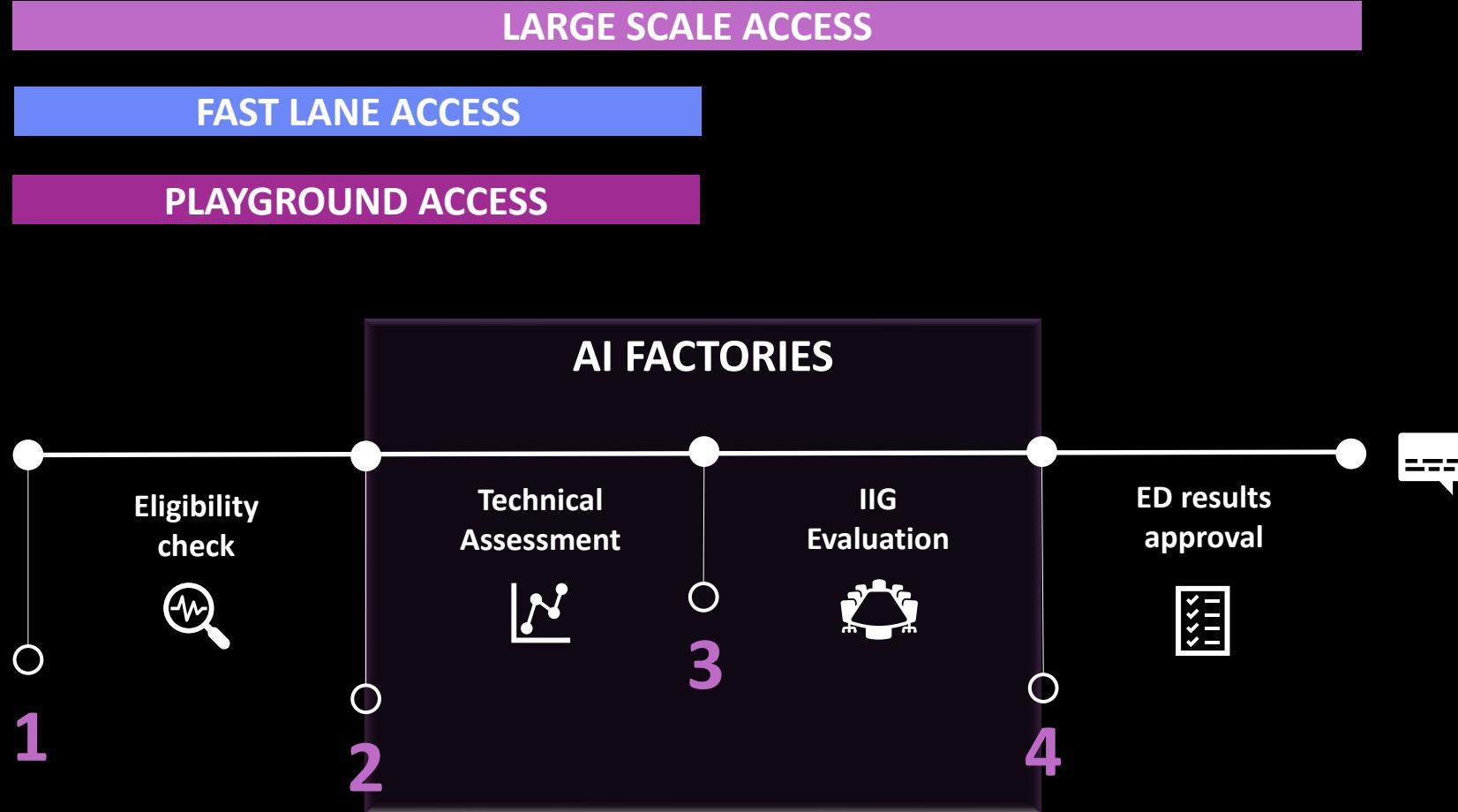
## LARGE SCALE ACCESS

- Allocations larger than 50,000 GPU hours
  - 2 cut-off dates/month
- Results within **10 working days** after the cut-off date
- Duration: 3-6-12 months



CALLS OPEN FROM 9 APRIL 2025

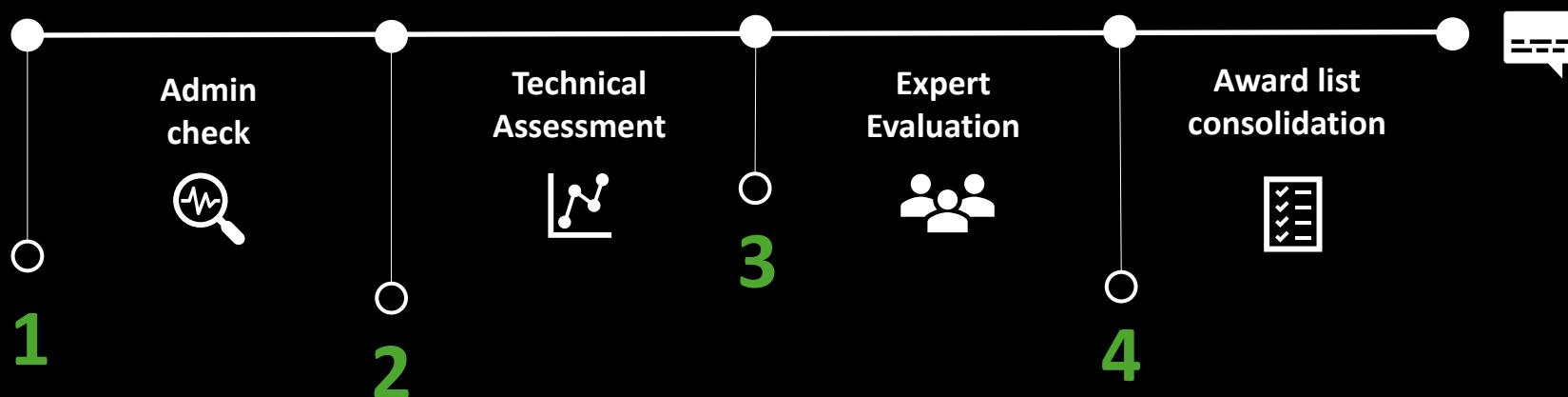
# AI FACTORY ACCESS MODES FOR INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION



# AI FACTORY ACCESS MODES FOR SCIENCE AND COLLABORATIVE EU PROJECTS

## AI FOR SCIENCE AND COLLABORATIVE EU PROJECTS ACCESS

- Supporting AI applications for science, with a focus on ethical AI, Machine Learning, and cutting-edge foundation Models and Generative AI, including LLMs
- Results within **1 month** after the cut-off date
- Allocations are granted for **6 months**



# AI FACTORY ACCESS MODES

## CUT-OFFS

### PLAYGROUND ACCESS

Continuously open from 9 April 2025 with no cut-off dates

### FAST LANE ACCESS

Continuously open from 9 April 2025 with no cut-off dates

### AI FOR SCIENCE AND COLLABORATIVE EU PROJECTS:

Continuously open with 6 cut-off dates per year:

- **20 June 2025 (submission period)**
- 08 August 2025
- 10 October 2025
- 12 December 2025

### LARGE SCALE ACCESS

Continuously open with 2 cut-off dates per month:

- **30 April 2025 (awarded/closed)**
- **15 May 2025 (awarded/closed)**
- **30 May 2025 (awarded/closed)**
- **16 June 2025 (under evaluation)**
- **30 June 2025 (submission period)**
- 15 July 2025
- 31 July 2025
- 14 August 2025
- 01 September 2025
- 15 September 2025
- 30 September 2025
- 15 October 2025
- 31 October 2025
- 14 November 2025
- 01 December 2025
- 15 December 2025
- 05 January 2025



# SUPPORT SERVICES



EuroHPC  
Joint Undertaking

## THE EPICURE PROJECT

Proposals applying to all access calls can request additional support for application porting, optimization and scalability improvements.

Details are available at the EPICURE website:

<https://epicure-hpc.eu/>



## THE MINERVA PROJECT

Training, customization and management of AI applications.

Integration of HPC infrastructure in the AI/ML workflows: porting AI applications, pre-training, support for open-source foundation models.

Project started in January 2025; details are available at the MINERVA website: <https://minerva4ai.eu/>

# GUIDELINES & ADVICE



**Pay attention to the JU website for regular updates**



**Pay attention to the eligibility criteria – organization country and organization type**



**Provide a valid VAT number of the organization**



**Fill-in the application form/proposal templates with all relevant details, so that the experts have all necessary information for evaluation**



**Team members listed will have access to the machine so try to limit this to a considerable number**



**To ensure that the codes can run on the system, applicants are advised to test their codes on the desired system**



**Please plan the resources usage carefully and try to have homogenous usage throughout the award period**



**Take the provided feedback from the ARC/Industrial Innovation Group as well as the technical experts into consideration**



**Communicate any issues or concerns in a timely manner to the centers and the JU**



**Submit the Final Report on time – 3 months after the end allocation date**

# Thank you!

For more information, feel free to visit our website  
and social media:



[/eurohpc-ju.europa.eu](https://eurohpc-ju.europa.eu)



[/eurohpc-ju](https://www.linkedin.com/company/eurohpc-ju/)



[@EuroHPC\\_JU](https://twitter.com/EuroHPC_JU)



[/eurohpc-ju](https://www.youtube.com/@eurohpc_ju)

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Eligibility Criteria -1/3



Only organisations established in

- a) an EU Member State or
- b) (non-EU countries:) listed EEA countries and countries associated to the Digital Europe Programme where the association agreement entered into force before the submission deadline of this call

are eligible to receive funding.

Natural persons (individuals) are not eligible to receive funding

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Eligibility Criteria -2/3



- **Main Participant** = SME or Start-up whose business challenge (relating to the development of generative AI) is addressed.
- **Supporting participants** = organisations supporting the main participant to complete activities foreseen for the innovation study.
- SME participation in the FFplus HPC business experiments and in the innovation studies for generative AI development covered by this open call are mutually exclusive. That is, for the SMEs whose business challenge defines the business experiment or innovation study, funding may only be provided for one type of action.

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Eligibility Criteria -3/3



- Applications are to be submitted by the main participant providing a business case/challenge and optionally (if well justified) up to two supporting participants. All participants must have a clearly-defined role.
- Maximum number of consortium partners (main participant and supporting participants) = 3
- For supporting participants, only engineering activities are eligible for funding. Activities such as business consultancy, marketing initiatives, administrative tasks, and other non-engineering activities are not eligible for funding.
- FFplus beneficiaries are ineligible to participate as either main or supporting participants.

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Funding Conditions – 1/2



- Third Parties will receive 100% funding of incurred, eligible direct costs necessary for the completion of experiment activities; no indirect costs or overheads will be funded.
- The maximum duration of the experiments is 10 months, with a maximum funding budget of 200 K€ for the SME (main participant). The maximum funding for an innovation study including supporting participants is 300 K€.
- Funding limits for supporting participants: a maximum of 150 K€ under this open call (i.e. FFplus Call-2-Type-2); a maximum of 300 K€ over all FFplus innovation studies.
- At least 50% of the funding requested should be allocated to the main participant. Any deviations from this principle must be duly justified.

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Funding Conditions – 2/2



Budget module	Additional details
Personnel	Personnel costs need to be commensurate with the work to be performed
Equipment	Depreciation costs only. Only specialized equipment necessary for conducting the innovation study is permitted. Costs for common-use equipment such as laptops, monitors, etc., are not eligible.
Travel	Travel must be justified in terms of the necessity for performance of the proposed innovation study work plan.
HPC compute capacity	Compute Resources need to be justified. Ideally, EuroHPC systems will be used for the work. A decision not to apply for access to the EuroHPC systems should be duly justified.
Material	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Costs for acquiring specialised SW licenses for conducting the innovation study (licenses for general office software, for example, are not eligible).</li><li>2. Costs for acquiring or using data sets or collections needed to conduct the innovation study.</li></ol>

Please note that costs for sub-contracting are not included (and thus ineligible for funding)

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Evaluation Criteria – 1/2



1. Impact: covering the proposed innovation study's prospects for innovation, commercial viability and potentially also societal relevance, vision of success and value creation/proposition taking the SME's business models and exploitation plans into account, alignment with the objectives of the call.
2. Excellence: covering both conceptual and technical excellence.
  - a. Conceptual excellence includes conceptual soundness, cohesiveness, and articulation of plans for bridging gaps to ensure successful innovation study implementation and impact.
  - b. Technical excellence includes clear definition of technical requirements, justifying technology choices; articulation of performance metrics for model evaluation, scaling, and optimization; activities for establishing baseline performance and ensuring experiment reproducibility.
3. Implementation: covering the quality of the project's workplan and data management plan, the distribution of resources to additional organisations (where applicable), capacity of the applicant(s) to carry out the proposed work, the justification for computation resources required.

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Evaluation Criteria – 2/2



Each criterion will be assigned a score between 0 and 5.

The overall acceptance threshold (summed over all criteria) is set to 10, while a minimum score of 3 must be achieved for each criterion.

All criteria are equally weighted. However, in case of a tie in the overall score ranking, proposals are ranked based on the individual criteria scoring applying the following priority: Impact, Excellence, Implementation, and finally total requested funding.

# FFplus\_Call-2-Type-2 – Proposal Submission



- Submission Dates:
  - **Proposal submission will be possible commencing on February 3rd, 2026 at 9:00 Brussels local time**
  - **The call will be closed at the earliest of either**
    - (a) the point in time when 250 proposals have been received, or**
    - (b) 17:00 Brussels local time, February 25th 2026.**
- Submissions in English
- Electronic submission using the tool accessible via the FFplus website:  
<https://www.ffplus-project.eu/en/open-call/innovation-studies/>
- Upload of a spread-sheet containing administrative information and a PDF-document (whose size must not exceed 5.0 MB) compliant with the instructions on proposal structure; budget information must be consistent.
  - **Details in the call announcement (website & document)**
  - Only requested information should be included in Part A, conform with the template spreadsheet provided. Additional extraneous information will be deleted before evaluation. Please do not make any changes to the template (e.g. no deletion or renaming of work sheets, rows or columns); major deviations from the template may lead to the proposal being rejected without further evaluation.
  - Proposals submitted with a Part B whose length (excluding the cover page) exceeds the 13-page limit will be rejected without further evaluation.

# Submission and Evaluation Procedure



The proposal submission and evaluation procedure consists of the following steps:

1. proposal submission;
2. admissibility/eligibility check of the proposal;
3. first-stage evaluation (initial ranking) of proposals (if applicable);
4. final selection (second-stage evaluation) of the proposals;
5. funding decision.

Funding eligibility  
constraints & proposal  
constraints

# Evaluation Procedure

1. proposal submission;
2. admissibility/eligibility check of the proposal;
3. first-stage evaluation (initial ranking) of proposals (if applicable);
4. final selection (second-stage evaluation) of the proposals;
5. funding decision.

In case the number of received admissible/eligible proposals exceeds 100 proposals, a two-stage selection procedure will be applied.

1<sup>st</sup> stage: An initial ranking of proposals will be created based on the individual assessments and scores of the experts.

Top proposals representing up to the cumulative funding that exceeds three times the number of proposals that can be funded within the available budget → 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage

2<sup>nd</sup> Stage: consensus review process



- Open Call area of the FFplus Website:  
<https://www.ffplus-project.eu/en/open-call/innovation-studies/>
- Documents provided:
  - Call Announcement & Proposers' Guide
  - Proposal Templates
- Within the web-page:
  - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
  - Proposer-Evaluator check-list
  - **Access to the proposal submission tool**



Still have questions about the  
call for innovation studies?  
ffplus-call2-t2@scapos.eu



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# → Q&A Session



EuroHPC  
Joint Undertaking

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