

Call Guidelines

Business Plan 2023 – 2025

EIT Manufacturing Competition

LEADERS – Women Innovators in
Manufacturing at EIT RIS

EIT Manufacturing

Paris | 2024

eitmanufacturing.eu



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Abbreviations

BP	Business Plan
CLC	Co-Location Centre
EC	European Commission
ESR	Evaluation Summary Report
EU	European Union
IER	Individual Evaluation Report
KIC	Knowledge and Innovation Community
MGA	Model Grant Agreement
MT	Management Team
PMO	Programme Management Office
RIS	Regional Innovation Scheme
SO	Strategic Objectives

Keywords

Activity	Everything that EIT Manufacturing does is organized into Activities. Each Activity belongs to one Segment, and each Segment to one Area. Each Activity should contribute to the integration of the knowledge triangle of innovation, education, and business creation.
Activity Leader	The Activity Leader is the person nominated for each activity as the main contact point between the entities involved in the activity and EIT Manufacturing. This person is affiliated with the Lead Partner of the activity. The Activity Leader can nominate or revoke an unlimited number of contacts from the entities involved in the activity.
Area	EIT defines several areas in which it operates: Education; Innovation and Research; Entrepreneurship; Communication, Dissemination, and Outreach; Regional Innovation Scheme; and Management and Coordination.
Business Plan	The document specifies the detailed plan of EIT Manufacturing for the upcoming years. Based on the draft Business Plan submitted in September (and some other criteria) EIT decides on the budget available to EIT Manufacturing in the following years. The Business Plan will then be adjusted to match the assigned budget and forms the basis for the internal activity agreements of EIT Manufacturing with its partners.
Call Guidelines	Document where any call for proposals' terms, conditions, and criteria are defined and stated according to the principles of transparency, equal treatment, open competition, and sound procedural management.
Call Report	Document summarising the results of the call and its most important outputs, including the ranking list.
Co-Location Centre	Co-Location Centre/affiliate of EIT Manufacturing
EIT Manufacturing partner	A member of the EIT Manufacturing Association (Core or Associate Partner under the Article of Association conditions)
Evaluation Process	The process by which EIT Manufacturing examines the quality of a proposal to decide if it should receive EIT funding.
Evaluation Panel	Group of normally 3 evaluators + 1 rapporteur with specific expertise in a specific area/segment of the call, aiming to evaluate a set of eligible proposals submitted to a call.

Evaluation Report	A written report, covering all proposals and the process behind the individual evaluation results from the consensus meetings (an evaluation panel comprising evaluators and a rapporteur) that is forwarded to the EIT Manufacturing Management Team.
Evaluation results list	List of proposals in order of scoring, based on the evaluation process results.
Evaluation Summary Report	Following the completion of the evaluation process, a final Evaluation Summary Report is made for each proposal, summarising the proposal's strengths, weaknesses, risks, and commercial and social value. It is an expert deliverable drafted by the rapporteur and presents the consensus on a specific proposal.
Individual Evaluation Report	Applications to the calls are assessed individually by external expert evaluators according to the terms and criteria stated in the call for proposals text. Each evaluator issues individual reports for each eligible application.
KIC	“Knowledge and Innovation Community” – EIT Manufacturing is one of the 9 KICs that operate under the regulations of EIT.
Model Grant Agreement	Model Grant Agreement is used in the Horizon Europe programme financed by the European Commission.
Panel review	All the written external evaluations are discussed in a consensus meeting where the points of scoring, convergence, and divergence are discussed and debated. The evaluation panel reviews all the individual evaluations made on submitted proposals and reaches a consensus about their scoring and ranking. The results of the panel review are set out in the minutes and the call report.
Ranking list	Ranking of proposals selected for funding by the EIT Manufacturing Management Team.
Rapporteur	Member of the evaluation panel who facilitates the discussion during the consensus meeting by synthesizing the individual evaluations of the panel experts and writing the minutes and the evaluation summary report including the evaluation results for each proposal as per the conclusions of the panel.

1. Call summary

Disclaimer: This document provides the applicants with detailed information on the LEADERS – Women Innovators in Manufacturing at EIT Regional Innovation Scheme for the EIT Manufacturing Business Plan 2023-2025. The information given is subject to revision, according to new potential rules or requirements provided by EIT and/or by the EC.

Call for proposals main features	
Dates	<p>1st Phase:</p> <p>Call publication: 14th May 2024</p> <p>Call opening: 14th May 2024</p> <p>Call closing: 15th July 2024</p> <p>Eligibility and admissibility check: until 22nd July 2024</p> <p>Online pitch training for eligible applicants: early September 2024 (TBC)</p> <p>2nd phase:</p> <p>Online pitch submission: by 20th September 2024</p> <p>Evaluation of proposals: 21st September to 9th October 2024</p> <p>Communication of results: 11th October 2024</p> <p>Standstill period: October 18th – November 18th, 2024</p> <p>Awarding ceremony: second half of November 2024, in Budapest - TBC</p>
Introduction	The <i>LEADERS – Women Innovators in Manufacturing at EIT RIS</i> competition celebrates the women innovators behind solutions addressing manufacturing-related challenges.
The total budget allocated to this call	26.100 EUR
Links to the submission tool	Log in to the submission tool: link

List of documents to be submitted	Application form to be completed on the submission tool.
List of documents to take into consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement • EIT Manufacturing Strategic Agenda • Appeal and redress procedure • Participation Agreement • Finalist Agreement • Financial Prize Agreement • Declaration on honour
Evaluation criteria	<p><i>Evaluation criteria assessed by the independent experts:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellence • Impact • Implementation • Strategic fit

2. General conditions

2.1 EIT Manufacturing mission and strategic objectives

Mission

EIT Manufacturing will put Europe at the centre of a global revolution and boost manufacturing innovation in Europe by connecting people with skills, technologies with markets, and innovators with investors. Technological progress is now exponential, and it is changing the industrial, social and competitive landscape faster than ever before. Our aim is not only to adapt to this revolution but to lead it. To do so, we need to overcome value network fragmentation and bring stakeholders together. We need to make better use of our knowledge and our strengths to create value and deploy agile mechanisms to accelerate and steer innovation, shaping the future role of manufacturing in our society. With the needs, concerns, and ideas of the economy and society at its core, the mission of EIT Manufacturing is to empower its partners and stakeholders to fundamentally transform the manufacturing system and meet the global demands of present and future generations.

The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS) is designed for EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries in Europe that are modest and moderate innovators (according to the European Innovation Scoreboard). Strategically, the scheme is an additional offer to these countries to facilitate their engagement with the EIT Innovation Communities and enhance their innovation capacity. The EIT RIS serves the purpose of providing targeted support to individuals and entities from EIT RIS eligible countries to take part in KICs activities and benefit from KIC services and programmes.

Strategic objectives

EIT Manufacturing strategic objectives (SOs), as set out in the Strategic Agenda 2021-2027, which steer our activities and ambitions, and will help respond to major challenges shared by the manufacturing industry and society.

- Put people at the center of manufacturing.
- Accelerate green manufacturing.
- Foster sovereignty and competitiveness.

2.2 EU taxonomy for sustainable activities

The applications are expected to comply with the 'do no significant harm' principle as per Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 2020/852 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment (i.e. so-called EU Taxonomy Regulation^{8F}).

2.3 Ethics

For all activities co-funded by the EU, the ethical dimension is an integral part of the work from beginning to end, and ethical compliance is seen as pivotal to achieving real excellence. When preparing an application, it is required to read through the EU Ethics Self-assessment guide to check the compliance of your activities.

In case ethical issues concern your application, you shall describe how you will address them.

3. Call specific conditions

3.1 Call topic

The LEADERS – Women Innovators in Manufacturing at EIT RIS competition celebrates the women innovators behind solutions addressing manufacturing-related challenges.

The competition consists of 2 submission phases:

- In the first phase, applicants must submit an online written application form about their solution.
 - The eligible applicants (up to 60 applicants)¹ will receive online pitch training to prepare their video pitches for the second submission phase. The details of the training will be communicated to the eligible applicants.

The training will be offered to the applicants to boost their skills and allow them to practice with the help of experts and peers, with the aim to maximize the likelihood of success of their future pitching paths. This activity will also facilitate the creation of collaborations among the participants.

- In the second submission phase, eligible applicants must submit a recorded video pitch about their solution.

¹ If there are more than 60 eligible applications, a pre-selection might be organized to select the best 60 to pass to the next phase. Otherwise, all eligible applications will pass directly to the next phase. The pre-selection panel and the evaluation panel might have different compositions, but the evaluation panel members may participate in the pre-selection panel. The pre-selection panel will evaluate each application against the evaluation criteria of paragraph 5.2.

The complete submission (written application and video pitch) will be evaluated, and the results will be communicated to applicants. The 6 top-ranked finalists will be invited to an awarding ceremony to present their projects and enhance their visibility and international publicity through EIT Manufacturing's communication channels. Among the six finalists, the top three winning applicants will receive prize money during the ceremony.

Purpose

The purpose of the "LEADERS – Women Innovators in Manufacturing at EIT RIS" competition is to support and highlight women researchers and innovators who have played a main role in developing solutions addressing manufacturing-related challenges.

The prize is awarded to the three most talented women innovators in EIT RIS-eligible countries who have significantly impacted the innovation ecosystem by transforming ideas into new and advanced solutions that benefit people and/or the planet. With this prize, EIT Manufacturing seeks to raise awareness of the need for more women innovators in manufacturing and create role models for women and girls everywhere.

Topic description

"LEADERS – Women Innovators in Manufacturing at EIT RIS" is open to applications from women innovators who have developed a solution fitting one of the following EIT Manufacturing strategic objectives (SOs), as set out in the Strategic Agenda 2021-2027. These are the following:

- ***Put people at the center of manufacturing***, as for example:
 - Enhance work environment to make manufacturing jobs more attractive, safe, and inclusive.
 - Accelerate digital adoption across the manufacturing sector, enhancing competitiveness through improved efficiency and innovation.
- ***Accelerate green manufacturing***, as for example:
 - Promote circularity principle by shifting to a servitization model
 - Accelerate Net-Zero emissions principle with a value-chain decarbonization approach.
 - Improve resource efficiency to start a shift towards zero-waste processes.
- ***Foster sovereignty and competitiveness***, as for example.
 - Long-term industry transformation, with manufacturers developing new business models and revenue streams based on where continuous innovation, adaptability, and entrepreneurial thinking are the norm.
 - Strengthened collaboration within the European manufacturing ecosystem, especially with RIS countries, enhancing overall resilience and innovation capacity.

Expected impacts

The applications submitted are expected to contribute to the RIS objective of increasing the innovative capacity of countries and regions in Europe where the pace of innovation is modest or moderate. The activities impact should address some of all of the following RIS-related aspects:

- Increased awareness of EIT and EIT Manufacturing to women researchers and innovators from EIT RIS countries.
- Increased attractiveness of manufacturing after showcasing modern, novel solutions developed by the female candidates.
- a higher proportion of women involved in EIT Manufacturing RIS activities and EIT Manufacturing activities in general.
- in the long term, more women to be interested in pursuing a career in European manufacturing.

3.2 Applicants profile

All applicants must comply with the following eligibility criteria to participate:

- **must be a woman²**
- must hold citizenship in the following EIT RIS-eligible countries:
 - **EU Member States:** Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia
 - **Horizon Europe Associated Countries:** Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, Ukraine
 - **Outermost Regions:** Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Réunion, Martinique, Mayotte and Saint-Martin (France), the Azores and Madeira (Portugal), and the Canary Islands (Spain).
- In case of a team invention, the applicant must be the leader or co-leader within the team that invented the innovative solution. In this case, their leadership role must be clearly described in the application form, and in any case, only one person from the team can apply for this competition.

Applicants who have already received a LEADERS – Women Innovators in Manufacturing at EIT RIS prize cannot receive a second prize for the same activity.

² This competition celebrates women in all their diversity. The word 'woman' equates to a cis woman or a transgender woman who is legally defined as a woman.

3.3 Budget and funding

The total maximum EIT funding allocated to this call is **22.500 EUR**³ in the form of prizes and **3.600 EUR** daily allowance in the form of a lump sum. The amounts will be allocated according to the below estimation.

Applicants compete for the following:

- **Up to 60⁴ eligible applicants** will receive online pitch training.
- **The 6 top-ranked finalists** will have access to the in-person awarding ceremony and will receive visibility and international publicity through EIT Manufacturing's communication channels.
- **The 3 top-ranked finalists** in addition to the visibility, will receive also prize money. The Prizes for the 3 top-ranked finalists are the following:

1st 10,000 EUR

2nd 7,500 EUR

3rd 5,000 EUR

The six finalists are invited to the in-person awarding ceremony, if they accept the invitation, are entitled to the reimbursement of incurred expenses for accommodation, meals, and travel. **This is paid as one lump-sum amount known as a daily allowance. The allowance is capped at 600 EUR per finalist.**

The information above is provided for information only and does not constitute any kind of commitment on behalf of EIT Manufacturing. Final EIT funding allocated might vary significantly based on the number of proposals evaluated and selected and other factors.

The exact number of activities to be funded will depend on the quality of the applications received and total funding available.

Funding will be allocated to successful applicants provided that the relevant (Model) Grant Agreement between EIT Manufacturing and EIT is in place.

³ EIT Manufacturing reserves the right to add prizes funded by additional co-organizers. In this case, this document will be updated accordingly.

⁴ If there are more than 60 eligible applications, a pre-selection might be organized to select the best 60 to pass to the next phase. Otherwise, all eligible applications will pass directly to the next phase. The pre-selection panel and the evaluation panel might have different compositions, but the evaluation panel members may participate in the pre-selection panel. The pre-selection panel will evaluate each application against the evaluation criteria of paragraph 5.2.

3.4 Activity monitoring

Before EIT Manufacturing awards the prize money, the winning applicants must provide their *bank account validation* and *regularity of social security payment* documentation.

In case of applicants subjected to EU administrative sanctions⁵ or in one of the exclusion situations listed in the “Declaration of Honour” that ban them from receiving European funding, EIT Manufacturing **reserves the right to withdraw the award of the prize at any step of the competition.**

Please note that all shortlisted applicants participating in the awarding ceremony must sign the “Declaration of Honour” and the finalist agreement (see also section 6.8 of this document).

In order to receive the daily allowance, the 6 top-ranked finalists **MUST**:

- Have received the invitation to the awarding ceremony and accepted it within 1-week of receiving it.
- Sign the attendance list on the day of the ceremony.
- Submit a completed travel reimbursement request as soon as possible and not later than 15 calendar days after the end of the ceremony, including copies of all invoices/receipts.

For audit purposes, following national and/or institutional regulations the finalists may be requested to provide original documents.

3.5 Reporting

The 6 top-ranked finalists must report within one (1) month after the completion of support from EIT Manufacturing. This reporting must contain a manufacturing-related motivational story about their leading role in the manufacturing sector based on guiding questions that will be provided by EIT Manufacturing.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02018R1046-20221214>

4. Application preparation and submission

4.1 Guidance and support on proposal preparation

To guarantee the maximum support from EIT Manufacturing to both current and potential partners and stakeholders, two different support offers will be provided during the proposal preparation process: the call information event and the EIT Manufacturing call contact points.

Call information event

The EIT Manufacturing will carry out an event after the publication of the call to ensure open, free, and fair access to the wider manufacturing community. The overview is provided in the table below.

Event type	Date
Call online Info Session	7 June 2024

Call Contacts

All applicants may contact EIT Manufacturing to ask questions and clarify any points on general/technical aspects and call content by contacting ris@eitmanufacturing.eu.

With a view to equal treatment, EIT Manufacturing staff cannot give prior opinion on the admissibility, eligibility, quality or any other relevant element of a specific application. Applicants are strongly discouraged from approaching any member of the Selection Committee to seek for specific advice or support regarding their application.

4.2 Application submission process

All applications must be submitted in English using the submission tool. The submission platform will be available as of 14 May 2024, 12:00 AM CEST.

Applicants must register and validate their account if this is their first time accessing the platform. If applicants have already created an account, they can proceed to log in. Once logged in, start a new application. During the application, all compulsory fields must be filled.

The official language of the competition is English (i.e., all required documentation must be submitted in English and the applicants must pitch in English if they will be selected for participation in the awarding ceremony).

First phase: The *written application* form must be submitted by the applicants through the submission tool **no later than the call deadline of 15 July 2024**.

NB: Only applications submitted through the submission tool (as noted above) before the deadline will be accepted and considered. The organizers reserve the right to extend the submission deadline; any extension of the deadline will be communicated to the public on the competition website.

Any documentation missing or considered incomplete may be a reason for application rejection.

Second phase: after completing the online pitch training, a *recording of a video pitch* in English must be submitted by the eligible applicants in line with procedures that will be detailed by EIT Manufacturing.

Only the eligible applicants who will submit both the written application and the recorded video pitch will be considered for the evaluation.

5. Applications evaluation and selection process

5.1 Admissibility and Eligibility check

Applications must be:

- submitted before the **call deadline** (*see Call Summary*);
- submitted in **English**;
- submitted **electronically** via the submission tool. Paper submissions are NOT possible; and
- **complete** and contain all the mandatory information in the online application form and all mandatory documentation.

Admissible submissions will be considered **eligible** if:

Applicant profile	The applicant’s profile is in line with the requirements presented under point 3.2 “Applicants profile”.
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Applications containing one or more inadmissible or ineligible elements will be **rejected** and will receive an official communication from EIT Manufacturing setting out the outcome of the admissibility and eligibility check and explaining why the application failed to meet the criteria.

The applicant deemed **ineligible** who disputes the ineligibility decision may appeal. This appeal must be made within 5 working days from the official EIT Manufacturing notification of ineligibility by sending an email to support@eitmanufacturing.eu according to the Appeal procedure document linked to the Call (see paragraph 5.6).

5.2 Evaluation of proposals

Applicants’ complete submissions (written application and recorded video pitch) are evaluated and scored against 4 criteria: Excellence, Impact, Implementation, and Strategic Fit.

The evaluation process will be carried out by two independent external evaluators and 1 internal evaluator supported by one independent external rapporteur.

Evaluators will assess each evaluation sub-criteria will be assessed according to the following scores on a scale **from 1 to 5**.

Score	Description
1	<i>Extremely poor or None</i> The information provided is considered irrelevant or inadequate compared to the specific call provisions

2	<i>Bad</i>	The information provided lacks relevant quality and contains significant weaknesses, compared to the specific call provisions
3	<i>Average</i>	The overall information provided is adequate, however, some aspects are unclearly or insufficiently detailed, compared to the specific call provisions
4	<i>Good</i>	The information provided is adequate with sufficiently outlined details, compared to the specific call provisions
5	<i>Excellent</i>	The information provided is outstanding in its details, clarity, and coherence, compared to the specific call provisions

The scores shall be given at sub-criterion level and are then averaged together to come with a final score per criteria.

Thresholds apply to individual criteria and the total score. The maximum score for a complete submission is 20. The default threshold for individual criteria is 3 and the default overall threshold is 12.

The detailed criteria evaluation grid is provided here below.

Excellence	Max. scoring 5 (Threshold: 3/5)
The proposal clearly describes an innovative solution for enhancing manufacturing through technological, applicative, or business model advancements.	1-5
The applicant showcases the solution added value features, highlighting what sets it apart from other existing solutions.	1-5
Impact	Max. scoring 5 (Threshold: 3/5)
The proposal identifies relevant industrial needs and/or market demands that the solution addresses.	1-5
The proposal describes how it contributes towards the direct and indirect social and/or environmental impact.	1-5
Implementation	Max scoring 5 (Threshold: 3/5)

The applicant has personally played a pivotal role in the development of the solution and explained why she consider herself a role model with the willingness to lead and inspire other women and girls.	1-5
The recorded video pitch was easy to follow with a clear storyline.	1-5
Strategic fit	Max. scoring 5 (Threshold: 3/5)
The proposal contributes to the EIT Strategic Objectives.	1-5
The proposal described the expected outcomes and how the solution addresses the RIS aspect (the impact generated in RIS countries by the exploitation of the solution).	1-5

The total scoring of 20 points is distributed as follows:

Excellence	Max score 5 Threshold: 3/5
Impact	Max score 5 Threshold: 3/5
Implementation	Max score 5 Threshold: 3/5
Strategic Fit	Max score 5 Threshold: 3/5
Total	20 points Threshold 12/20

The three evaluators will evaluate each proposal and produce an Individual Evaluation Report (IER)- each proposal is evaluated 3 times. The evaluators will meet in a consensus meeting chaired by a rapporteur to discuss and build an agreement. The rapporteur will address any notable divergences between them and will develop the final Summary Evaluation Reports (ESRs).

The 6 top-ranked finalists will be shortlisted, and the 3 top-ranked applicants will be the winners of the monetary prizes.

The final ranking list will be sent to the Thematic Director in charge who will have to approve the ranking.

The 6 top-ranked finalists will be invited to the awarding ceremony in Budapest (TBD). The agenda for this in-person ceremony will be announced on the competition website. It is the participants' responsibility to keep track of announcements and information on the EIT Manufacturing webpage. All shortlisted finalists will also receive an invitation email that they shall reply to.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Finalists who, for whatever reason, fail to confirm their attendance/attend the in-person final ceremony at the given time and venue will be disqualified and will not be entitled to any award/ daily allowance.

5.3 Call Report and Stand-still period

At the end of the evaluation process and when the selection portfolio is completed, EIT Manufacturing sends the Call Report & the Final ranking list to the granting authority (EIT) and applies a stand-still period of 30 days before signing agreements with the selected recipients, in order to allow the granting authority to verify compliance with the procedural requirements.

5.4 Communication of results

EIT Manufacturing will inform by email all applicants once the evaluation is completed. Results will be communicated with a rejection letter or email to non-qualified applicants or an invitation letter or email to awarding ceremony. Results will include the evaluations. The 3 winners will be publicly announced during the awarding ceremony.

5.5 Procedure for complaints and appeal

The applicant of a rejected complete submission who disagrees with the decision may request an evaluation review. Only procedural aspects of an evaluation may be the subject of a request for an evaluation review, for example process errors or technical problems. The evaluation of the merits of a proposal shall not be the subject of an evaluation review. In this case, the applicant will have 5 working days after receipt of the final evaluation results to submit an appeal to EIT Manufacturing by sending an email to ris@eitmanufacturing.eu according to the Appeal procedure document linked to the Call (see document Appeal procedure).

5.6 Selected applicants and follow-up

Eligible applicants will have to diligently collaborate to:

- Sign a participation agreement for attending the pitch training.
- Collaborate with the RIS Team of EIT Manufacturing during the delivery of the pitch training.
- Submit a recorded video pitch to complete the full application and be eligible for the selection process.

The 6 top-ranked finalists will have to diligently collaborate to:

- Sign a Declaration of Honour which can be downloaded from the competition website and the finalist agreement.
- Provide EIT Manufacturing with the required banking and fiscal details.
- Signature of the Financial Prize agreement (applicable to the 3 winners only).

Within one month from the end of the Competition and no later than January 10th, 2025, finalists must submit a manufacturing-related motivational story.

6. Other Terms and Conditions

6.1 Communication, Dissemination and Visibility of Funding

Prize winners must promote the prize and its results, by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public) in a strategic and effective manner. Communication activities related to the prize (including media interviews, press statements, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), must acknowledge EU support and display the EIT Manufacturing logo (emblem) and text. The emblem must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands or text. Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight the EIT Manufacturing support. When displayed in association with other logos (e.g., of winners or sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

For the purposes of these obligations, the winners may use the emblem without first obtaining approval from EIT Manufacturing. This does not, however, give them the

right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means. Any communication or dissemination activity related to the prize must use factually accurate information.

The EIT Manufacturing may use, for their communication and publicising activities, information relating to the prize, as well as photos or audio-visual material that they receive from the applicants (including in electronic form), and photos and videos taken either in preparation of the award ceremony or during the award ceremony. The EIT Manufacturing will publish the name of both the finalist/s and the selected applicants their origin, the amount of the prize and its nature and purpose.

6.2 Exclusion Criteria

Applicants will be excluded from participating in the call if they are in any of the situations of exclusion defined in Article 136 of the EU Financial Regulation⁶. Applicants shall sign a Declaration of Honour in order to confirm that they respect the above-mentioned criteria at the application stage. Successful Applicants shall provide, if requested by EIT Manufacturing, relevant recent documentation substantiating the Declaration of Honour at the latest before signing the agreements mentioned under point 5.6. Failure to provide adequate documentation may result in the exclusion of the applicants and the proposal concerned.

6.3 Confidentiality

EIT Manufacturing undertakes to use any Confidential Information shared by the entities solely for the purposes of the RIS LEADER Competition. Confidential information shall mean data and/or information that is proprietary to, or possessed by the entities and not generally known to the public, or that has not yet been revealed whether in tangible or intangible form, whenever and however disclosed and might also be included in the application form. Confidential information must be expressly labelled as such in the application form.

Applicants agree that EIT Manufacturing and its subsidiaries can disseminate, publish, and make use of non-confidential information regarding the call, to promote the activities of EIT Manufacturing or establish reports or other necessary documents for EIT.

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32018R1046&from=EN>

The applicants agree that data and information in the application form not labelled as confidential may be disclosed in connection with the activities of EIT Manufacturing.

Considering the confidential nature of the data and information referred to above, EIT Manufacturing also undertakes to (i) not disclose them in any way and in any form, without prior written authorization of the entity concerned; and (ii) not to use them for purposes other than those strictly necessary for the purposes of this Call for Proposals.

Confidential Information may be shared among EIT Manufacturing and its subsidiaries (e.g. CLCs) solely for the purposes of the Call. EIT Manufacturing undertakes to impose this confidentiality obligation on its employees and the employees of its subsidiaries and its collaborators, as well as on Rapporteurs and independent experts and all subjects who, by virtue of participating in the call for proposal as members of the Selection Committees or Jury, will take knowledge of or may have access to such confidential data and information.

6.4 Intellectual Property

Participating entities agree to respect IPR Rules (Article 16) of the (model) Grant Agreement⁷.

Participating entities also agree to respect the EIT Manufacturing IP Policy available on this link⁸.

6.5 Disclaimers

EIT Manufacturing denies all liability from an applicant participation to the call.

Submitting application does not establish a grantor-grantee relationship between applicant and the EIT Manufacturing as final decision will be made after the evaluation process and the final confirmation of acceptance of the application and all other procedure mentioned herein.

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/agr-contr/general-mga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

⁸ <https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/EIT-Manufacturing-IP-Policy-final.pdf>

These call guidelines may be subject to changes/update. In such a case, the changes will be communicated publicly (published) in a transparent and clear manner. Applicants having already applied will also be informed.

6.6 Processing of Personal Data

EIT Manufacturing ensures that any processing of personal data shall be performed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and in accordance with Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation). As a data subject you have the right of access, the right to rectification, the right to erasure, the right to restrict processing, the right to data portability, the right to object and the right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing. If you have a question about personal data processing or want to exercise your data subject rights, you can contact our Data Protection Officer on dpo@eitmanufacturing.eu. In the case of complaints, you can address them to the French regulator CNIL.

The collected personal data will be used solely for the procedure and assessment of the call applications and the management, completion, organisation, dissemination of information and publicity of the call. The data controller is EIT Manufacturing and its subsidiaries.

By submitting your application for this call, you consent that EIT Manufacturing will collect, transfer, process, store and delete your data in accordance with the aforementioned conditions.

Details concerning the processing of your personal data are available in the privacy statement in the submission tool.

6.7 Applicable Law

The present call is governed by the applicable European Union laws (i.e. the EIT Regulation, the EU Financial Regulation and the Horizon Europe Regulation) and is complemented, where necessary, by the laws of France. The applicants agree to observe the obligations set forth in the (Model) Grant Agreement⁹ signed between the EIT and EIT Manufacturing and particularly Articles 12 (conflict of interest), 13

⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/agr-contr/general-mga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

(confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping). These obligations will also be mentioned in the contracts to be signed if the application is successful.