

# ATTRACT– Open Call for Proposals



This ATTRACT Open Call offers a unique opportunity for providing seed funding to projects aiming at breakthrough innovation in detection and imaging technologies that could be achieved in the next decade and have a solid starting point today.

Interested legal entities are requested to submit proposals for projects to be realised in ATTRACT, targeting such breakthrough innovation in the fields of detection and imaging.

**Proposals for projects are requested in the following domains: sensors, front and back end electronics, data acquisition systems and computing, software and integration.**

## **ATTRACT**

The goal of ATTRACT is to establish a systematic framework to transform breakthrough technologies, developed for fundamental research purposes into breakthrough innovations that can be turned into sound industrial applications and provide added value for society.

ATTRACT has been initiated by nine public European organisations (the ATTRACT Consortium):

- European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN),
- Aalto Korkeakoulusaatio (AALTO),
- ESADE Ramon Llull University (ESADE),
- ESRF – The European Synchrotron (ESRF),
- European X-Ray Free-electron Laser GmbH (XFEL),
- European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL),
- European Southern Observatory (ESO),
- Institut Max von Laue Langevin – Paul Langevin (ILL),
- European Industrial Research Management Association (EIRMA).

CERN is the ATTRACT Coordinator.

More information on ATTRACT and the ATTRACT Consortium can be found at: <https://www.attract-eu.org/>

The ATTRACT Consortium considers as breakthrough innovations highly novel technology concepts, or combinations of existing technology concepts that lead to a significant increase of their performance or of their usability with respect to existing ones. They also have the potential to create an entire new range of applications and markets that can change our society.

The ATTRACT Open Call does not target at incremental innovations understood as continuation of existing technologies or practices. For example, in this context, a 20% performance increase or cost reduction is still considered as incremental.

Applying organizations should show in the proposal their potential co-innovation connections (email contacts, etc) with European Research Infrastructures and/or industry in case they are not industrial organizations.

### **European Union funding**

ATTRACT receives funding under the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme under the Horizon 2020 grant agreement No ATTRACT-777222. However, the European Union is not involved in the ATTRACT Open Call.

The ATTRACT Open Call should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- ATTRACT Third-Party Project Agreement
- Grant Agreement no ATTRACT-777222<sup>1</sup>
- ATTRACT Open Call Proposal Template
- ATTRACT Open Call Evaluation Criteria

### **A. Funding and project duration**

The funding for each project is 100.000 Euros (lump sum), granted at the start of the project, on the condition that it has been selected for funding under the procedure set out in this Call for Project Proposals and following the signature of the ATTRACT Third-Party Project Agreement (<https://www.attract-eu.org/>).

The funding should be used to generate the deliverables set out below, including any travel costs. Costs incurred beyond the funding granted for each project will not be reimbursed.

Each funded project will have a duration of twelve months starting on the signature of the Third Party Project Agreement (TPPA).

### **B. Deliverables and presentation of funded projects**

All funded projects are required to generate the following deliverables:

1. A final project summary in PDF format of maximum 2000 characters, including spaces.
2. A poster and Power Point presentation (format to be announced at least two months prior to the ATTRACT Final Assessment Conference).
3. A “scientific journal-type” article summarizing the main project results and methodology used to achieve them.

All funded projects are required to present their results at the ATTRACT Final Assessment Conference in Brussels.

In addition, some participants may be invited to briefly present their projects to groups of master level students selected by the ATTRACT Consortium. For more details, please consult the ATTRACT project website (<https://www.attract-eu.org/>).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.attract-eu.org/>

## **C. Project monitoring**

The ATTRACT Project Administrative Office (PAO) will perform project monitoring actions for each project in periodic intervals throughout the project duration.

## **D. Open Access and dissemination of deliverables**

All participants must ensure Open Access to any publications concerning their projects. Notwithstanding any intellectual property rights in the deliverables by the participants, all participants agree to the dissemination of the deliverables, in whole or in part, by the ATTRACT Consortium at the ATTRACT Final Assessment Conference in Brussels and beyond.

## **PART 2 – Participation Criteria and administrative instructions**

### **A. Participation criteria**

Participation in the ATTRACT Open Call is **open to all legal entities** having their seat in EU or H2020-Associated Countries<sup>2</sup>.

- Participation is subject to each legal entity having a **validated Participant Identification Code (PIC)** granted by the European Commission under its registration process at <https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/organisations/register.html>, **at the time of the signature of the ATTRACT Third-Party Agreement.**

In the event that at the time of the launch of the ATTRACT Open Call a legal entity does not yet have a PIC, it is advised to immediately start the process of obtaining such PIC from the European Commission<sup>3</sup>. Please note that the process for obtaining a validated PIC may take up to three months.

- This ATTRACT Open Call will only accept proposals that have peaceful purposes.
- Project proposals shall be submitted as a **joint proposal** by a group of at least two independent legal entities (group of participants). A legal entity may participate in more than one proposal across the above domains, and the same group of participants may submit more than one project proposals in the same or other domains.

The group of participants shall designate and mandate a lead participant who shall be authorised by all participants to act in their name and on their behalf as regards the

- Submission of the project proposal
- Signature of the ATTRACT Third-Party Project Agreement<sup>4</sup>
- All matters arising in the context of and relating to the ATTRACT Third-Party Project Agreement

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<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants\\_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-3cpart\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-3cpart_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/faqs/faq-1055.html>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.attract-eu.org/>

The lead participant shall have the authority to bind all members and shall act as the sole intermediary between the other group participants and the ATTRACT Coordinator, as established in the power-of-attorney and to be completed and signed by each consortium member.

Project proposals by groups of participants not meeting the above participation criteria will not be evaluated.

## **B. Project proposal length and format**

- Project proposals shall use the ATTRACT proposal template<sup>5</sup>
- Project proposals shall be maximum 4 A4 pages, not including the title page and the public summary. Scientific or Technical Annexes are not allowed except for the signed Powers of Attorney documents.
- The font type shall be Times New Roman with a minimum font size of 11.
- The page margins shall be 1.5 cm on all sides.

Project proposals not complying with the length, font size and format conditions will not be evaluated.

## **C. Project proposal submission process and deadline**

Project proposals and the powers of attorney shall be submitted by the lead participant in one single PDF document, exclusively through the ATTRACT electronic submission system (<https://www.attract-eu.org/>).

**Deadline for submission of the project proposals: October 31<sup>st</sup> at 23:59 hrs (CET)**

Project proposals by participants not complying with the submission process, or submitting their project proposal after the deadline, will not be evaluated. Please note that it will not be possible to upload project proposals after the deadline.

## **D. Administrative assistance**

Enquiries regarding administrative assistance during the submission process shall be raised exclusively to the ATTRACT Project Administrative Office (PAO) at ([questions@attract-eu.com](mailto:questions@attract-eu.com)).

# **PART 3 - Proposal Evaluation**

## **A. Evaluation process, evaluation criteria and scoring**

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.attract-eu.org/>

All project proposals received by the prescribed deadline will be evaluated in two steps, in a transparent and non-discriminatory manner:

### **Step 1: Compliance with the participation criteria and administrative instructions**

Compliance of the participants and their project proposals with the participation criteria and administrative instructions set out will be evaluated by the ATTRACT Project Administrative Office (PAO)

The PAO is composed of administrative staff of the ATTRACT Consortium members.

Proposals that do not meet the participation criteria, or do not comply with the prescribed administrative instructions, will not be evaluated further as regards their contents.

### **Step 2: Evaluation of the contents of the project proposals**

Project proposals that have successfully passed evaluation step 1 will proceed to step 2 in which their contents will be evaluated by the Independent R&D&I Scientific Committee (IC), in accordance with the criteria and the scoring modalities set out in the ATTRACT Open Call Evaluation Criteria.

The IC is composed of 12 top scientific and technical experts in the above mentioned domains that are independent from the ATTRACT Consortium members<sup>6</sup>. The list of IC members and information about their fields of expertise can be found here: <https://www.attract-eu.org/>

## **C. Project proposal ranking**

Based on the evaluation of each proposal, the Independent R&D&I Scientific Committee (IC) will give a final score for each project, establish a ranking of the projects for funding and produce a Summary Evaluation Report.

## **D. Notification of evaluation results**

The lead participant of a group of participants whose project proposal has been selected for funding will be notified by the ATTRACT Project Administrative Office, within 3 months after the closure of the ATTRACT Open Call submission deadline, by email. Each ATTRACT Open Call group of participants will receive an Evaluation Summary Report which will not be made public.

The final list of funded proposals will be made available on the ATTRACT website following the signature of the ATTRACT Third-Party Project Agreement.

Evaluation results, including the ranking for funding, may not be appealed.

## **PART 4 - ATTRACT Third-Party Agreement**

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<sup>6</sup> The number of IC members can be re-evaluated based on the amount of proposals received.

Together with the notification of funding, the ATTRACT Project Administrative Office will send to the lead participant of the group of participants the ATTRACT Third-Party Project Agreement. The ATTRACT Third-Party Project Agreement establishes the terms and conditions concerning the implementation of the project proposal by the respective groups of participants. These terms and conditions cannot be negotiated and must be accepted at the time of the submission of the project proposal as part of the Open Call.

The lead participant shall sign the ATTRACT Third-Party Project Agreement on behalf of all group participants within 14 calendar days of receipt.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT DOUBLE FUNDING**

All applicants should be aware that their project proposals or activities are not eligible for the ATTRACT Open Call if they are already receiving EU funding. It should also be equally noted that beneficiaries of newly funded or extended current EU-projects might be excluded; i.e. projects such as AIDA, LEAPS, and others, operating in the domain of detection and imaging R&D whose timeline overlaps with the tentative start of ATTRACT Phase 2 in 2020 (assuming that ATTRACT funding is available at that time).

In case of doubt, the ATTRACT Consortium encourages the applicants to consult with the coordinators of the EU projects within their organizations.

For further information about double funding, applicants should consult:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=1922&langId=en>