APPENDIX 8: ACTIVITIES LAUNCHED IN 2026 FOR THE CHIPS FOR EUROPE INITIATIVE PART

Version 1

CONTENTS

1 WORK PROGRAMME 2026: CHIPS FOR EUROPE INITIATIVE PART

The part of the Chips for Europe Initiative work programme 2023-2027 covers actions related to such Initiative: the pilot lines, the design platform, the competence centres, the quantum chips technology and activities around skills. This part of the programme covers both grants and procurements that are funded through Horizon Europe (for research and innovation) and Digital Europe Programme (DEP) (for capacity building).

The Chips for Europe Initiative part foresees the launch of eight calls in 2026.

Other operational activities include:

- the start of the projects selected under the Chips for Europe Initiative calls 2025,
- the monitoring of the projects selected in calls 2023, and 2024,
- the preparation of work programme updates for years 2027 and beyond, in particular the focus topics,
- various supporting activities to communication, administration & finance.

2 LAUNCH OF CHIPS FOR EUROPE INITIATIVE CALLS

The estimated maximum operational budget for the Chips for Europe Initiative part of the programme of the Chips JU is EUR 215 million for the calls, and an amount of EUR 1 Million (shared with Electronic Components and Systems calls) will be reserved for contracting experts involved in the evaluation of projects and monitoring of the project implementation. In 2026, the Chips JU will launch eight calls:

- A first call related to the Design platform, a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) for Design Enablement Teams (DET) to follow up the action launched in 2025;
- A second call, also related to the Design platform, a Grant for Procurement for AI chips and systems for EU compute infrastructure which aims at strengthening Europe's AI development;
- A third call for Skills Development, a Simple Grant action for the development of Skills Hubs of Excellence in Europe;
- A fourth call, also for Skills Development, a Simple Grant action for the creation of a Pilot Federation to network existing European Vocation Education and Training providers.
- A fifth call, also for Skills Development, a Coordination and Support Action for the creation of a comprehensive Chip Design Skills Programme aimed at inspiring new generations to pursue careers in the semiconductor sector;
- A sixth call, a Research and Innovation Action for Quantum Chips;
- A seventh call, a Research and Innovation Action for Enabling technologies for quantum chips;

- An eight call, a joint action between the EU and Japan on semiconductors.

Projects selected should demonstrate high industrial impact, along the value chain, Europe wide collaboration with a mixed participation of large enterprises, SMEs and academia.

3 ACTIVITIES 2026 CHIPS FOR EUROPE INITIATIVE PART

This appendix foresees the launch of the following call topics with an estimated EU expenditure of as below:

HE ACTIONS		
Call Activities		
Topic	**Description**	**Indicative EU budget M€**
HORIZON-JU-CHIPS-2026-QUANTUM-1-RIA	Quantum Chips Design: Driving Europe's Quantum Design Ecosystem and Enabling Quantum Design Tools Innovation	**30**
HORIZON-JU-CHIPS-2026-QUANTUM-2-RIA	Quantum Chips: Enabling Technologies	**20**
Other Activities		
DEP ACTIONS		
Call Activities		
Topic	**Description**	**Indicative EU budget M€**
DIGITAL-JU-Chips-2026-CSA-DET	Call for Design Enablement Teams	**5**
DIGITAL-Chips-2026-SG-SKILLS-HoE	Skills Hubs of Excellence	**20**
DIGITAL-Chips-2026-SG-SKILLS-PF	Pilot Federation	**10**
DIGITAL-Chips-2026-CSA-SKILLS-SCD	Stimulation of Chip Design	**15**
DIGITAL-JU-Chips-2026-SG-JAPAN	International collaboration - Joint call EU and Japan on semiconductors	**15**
Other Activities		
DIGITAL-Chips-2026-GfP-AI-DP	AI chips and systems for EU compute infrastructure	**100**
TOTAL		**215**

4 National Budgets for the Chips for Europe Initiative Calls 2026

Participating states	Chips-2026 -AI-DP-GfP	Chips-2026 -SKILLS-HoE-SG	Chips-2026 -SKILLS-PF-SG	Chips-2026 -SKILLS-SCD-SG	Chips-2026-QUANTUM-1-RIA	Chips-2026-QUANTUM-2-RIA	Chips-2026-SG-JAPAN	Total (M€)
AT								
BE-FL								
BE-BR								
BE-WL								
BG								
CH								
CY								
CZ								
DE								
DE TH								
DE SN								
DK								
EE								
EL								
ES AEI								
ES MAETD								
FI								
FR								

HR								
HU								
IE								
IL								
IS								
IT MIMIT								
IT MUR								
LT								
LV								
LU								
MT								
NL								
NO								
PL								
PT								
RO								
SE								
SI								
SK								
TR								
UK								
Total								

5 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL TOPICS

5.1 Design Platform

5.1.1 Call for Design Enablement Teams

Topic: DIGITAL-JU-CHIPS-2026-CSA-DET

Topic to be confirmed.

Type of Action	Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
Indicative EU budget	5 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 0.5 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	EU funding only One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	*07 Jul 2026*
Deadline FPP Phase	*17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time*

5.1.1.1 Context

Semiconductor circuit design is the process of creating integrated circuits (ICs) by defining the functionalities and characteristics of chips, capturing a substantial portion of the added value within the semiconductor value chain. The trend is moving towards more complex, application-specific, highly integrated semiconductors, making cutting-edge design crucial for competitiveness and differentiation in a wide range of applications. In this context, fabless semiconductor companies are well-positioned to drive technological advancements and meet the needs of diverse applications, reinforcing their pivotal role and growth in the semiconductor industry.

The Chips Act underscores the strategic importance of fostering chip design growth in Europe to enhance the competitiveness of the Union’s semiconductor industry. Pillar I of the Chips Act, the Chips for Europe Initiative, outlines an ambitious plan to strengthen the Union's resilience in semiconductor technologies, including promoting the growth of fabless semiconductor companies. This is especially pertinent given that the European share of global fabless semiconductor companies’ revenues has shrunk to critically low levels, highlighting the urgent need for strategic initiatives to bolster this sector and enhance Europe's

competitiveness. A critical mass of fabless companies is also key to generate further demand that would justify increased investment in semiconductor manufacturing capacity in Europe.

The Design Platform is at the heart of the Chips for Europe Initiative. It is envisaged as a key instrument for fostering the development of a strong semiconductor design ecosystem in the Union, by supporting the growth of highly innovative European fabless start-ups and SMEs. Considering the Union's limited fabless capacity, and the significant barriers to entry in chip design, the Design Platform will focus on nurturing emerging companies in the sector by enabling their access to a comprehensive chip design ecosystem from early stages up to tape-out.

This ecosystem includes a series of Electronic Design Automation (EDA) tools, Intellectual Property (IP) blocks and Process/Assembly Design Kits (P/ADKs) including standard cell libraries. This is coupled with either on-premise or cloud-based computing resources. Furthermore, access to foundries, packaging and test facilities is crucial. Each of these elements requires a separate acquisition process for the designer, often involving very significant costs and its own complex procedures.

5.1.1.2 Expected outcomes

The core functions of DETs include, but are not limited to:

1. **Deployment of Electronic Design Automation (EDA) tools on the cloud**: DETs will manage secured cloud instances facilitating access to essential design tools and simulation environments. To this end, DETs may contract with a cloud provider of their choice to setup this infrastructure.[1] It is expected that prospective DETs demonstrate experience in commercial designs using tools from established EDA vendors.
2. **Design flow support and customisation**: DETs will assist users in setting up and customising design environments and flows, ensuring smooth progression from initial setup to tape-out.
3. **Application engineering**: DETs will offer dedicated application engineering support, addressing specific user needs and challenges throughout the development process.
4. **Access to Process Design Kits (PDKs)**: DETs will provide users with access to the necessary PDKs and ADKs for their design projects. Each DET must have legal authorisation to use and/or provide its users access to PDKs/ADKs of at least one semiconductor foundry.
5. **Design expertise**: DETs will provide users with access to the necessary design expertise for their design projects, directly via the DET's resources and/or through partnerships with third parties.
6. **Prototyping and fabrication services**: DETs will facilitate prototyping and fabrication services including packaging and testing through partnerships with leading foundries

[1] Cloud services utilised by the DET shall comply with robust cybersecurity security requirements such as the CEN/TS 18026:2024 standard or equivalent.

or aggregators, the Chips for Europe Initiative pilot lines or other relevant pilot lines. Each DET must have already established direct or indirect relationships with at least one semiconductor foundry, enabling efficient communication and ensuring technology advice and support to its users.

Overall, it is expected that each DET should manage a cloud instance offering dedicated application engineering support to users, from setting up their design environment and design flows to tape-out. The level of security of that cloud instance should be commensurate to the categories of users and applications that are expected to be running on this instance. The DET will maintain a cloud-based connection to the PCT's central cloud to manage user access, extend its capacity with additional resources (open-source IPs, EDA Tools, PDK...) and deliver periodic monitoring data to increase the quality of service of the Design Platform.

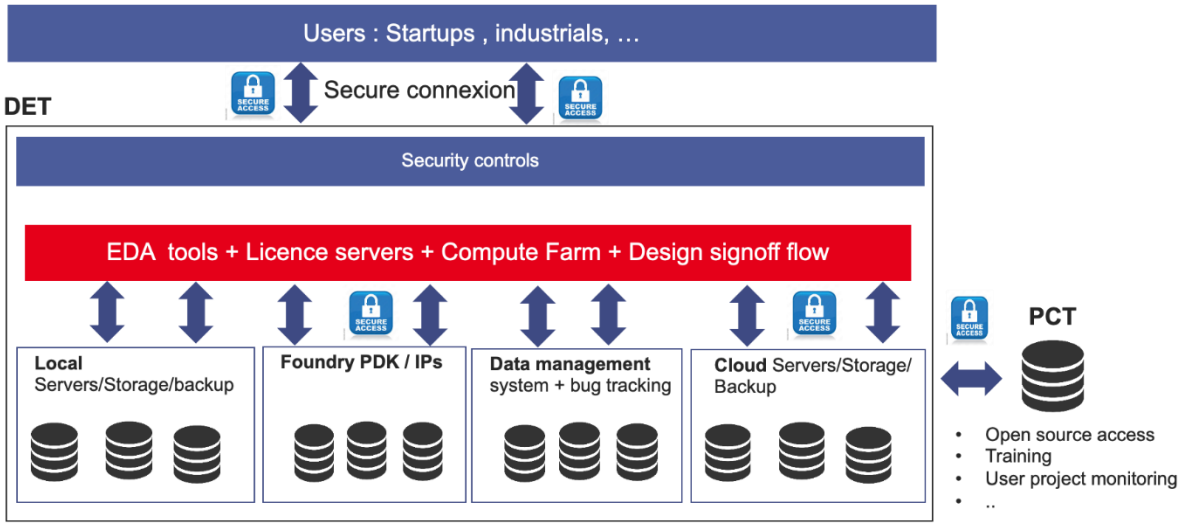


Figure 2 - High-level illustration of DET cloud-instance

DETs will be selected based on the extent of their technology expertise (e.g. digital, analogue, mixed-signal, photonics, etc.), ability to offer support across the end-to-end design flow, including PPA optimisation, access to fabrication services, and a proven track record of delivering high-quality services to users, among other characteristics.

These DETs could be public or private organisations that offer custom design support services, such as ASIC design houses and RTOs, with a demonstrated track record of expertise and experience in providing such services. Overall, the DETs should cover a wide variety of semiconductor technologies and can have different sectoral focuses (e.g. automotive, defence).

The only eligible costs for beneficiaries are those **directly related to the set-up and integration of DET's cloud services into the design platform**. This integration will be executed through a shared customer portal and the deployment of an Infrastructure as Code solution developed specifically for the Design Platform to ensure a consistent user experience. The PCT will give access to these solutions to the designated DETs, for instance through an API. Any costs related to the infrastructure of the cloud provider of choice or through on-premise infrastructure, are considered to be part of the standard business proposition and competitive offering of the DET; as such, these costs are not considered eligible.

During the initial phase, the central cloud infrastructure of the design platform is likely to be still under development and thus not yet available for integration with the DET cloud service. Nevertheless, a preliminary trial phase of the design platform involving a limited set of test users may commence, and the selected DETs should be prepared to provide support and enablement services directly to such users from their own infrastructure, until the central platform becomes available for full service integration.

The selection process will ensure that collectively the selected DETs cover a broad range of technologies (CMOS and more than Moore technologies) and design topologies (analog, digital, mixed-signal etc.), for various applications (e.g. automotive, aeronautics, consumer, health etc). Preference will be given to DET candidates that address in their proposal at least one of the following technologies: CMOS bulk, FDSOI, finFET or Photonics. Strategies to collaborate with the Chips for Europe Initiative pilot lines are highly valued.

Proposals should provide a detailed explanation of the cloud services to be used by the DET, including their performance specifications and cybersecurity measures. Cloud services utilised by the DET should comply with robust cybersecurity requirements.[2]

DETs should also demonstrate capacity to effectively serve users across all the participating states of the Chips JU.

Finally, DET proposals which include members of the PCT consortium should clearly demonstrate effective measures to establish and maintain a strict separation between the two entities, including separate personnel and controlled communication channels, in order to ensure the full neutrality and independence of the PCT.

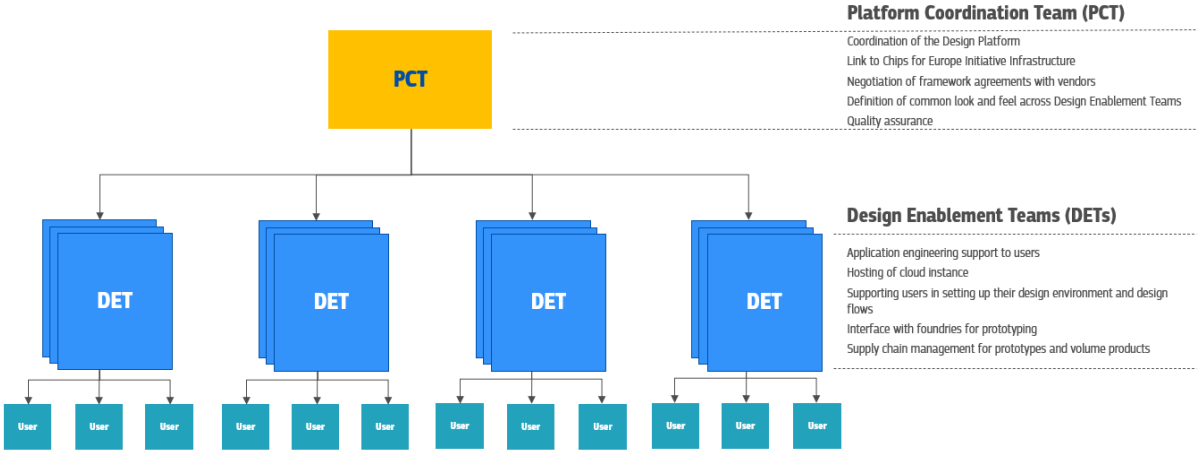
5.1.1.3 Scope

The Design Platform should act as a hub of services to support European companies engaged in chip design. The Design Platform is implemented via two main classes of entities:

- The **Platform Coordination Team (PCT)** which coordinates the Design Platform, establishes framework agreements with EDA/IP suppliers and provides access to a central cloud service encompassing a marketplace with open source or proprietary IPs/EDA tools/PDKs and trainings amongst other resources. The PCT also provides DETs with Infrastructure as Code to ease the deployment of cloud instances. Through internal expertise and, where necessary, sub-contracting, the PCT and DETs collaborate to design and implement the overarching technical implementation of the platform and design interfaces with the distributed services, as well as ensuring the overall neutrality of the platform
- The **Design Enablement Teams (DETs)** each of which is in charge managing a distributed cloud instance and providing dedicated application engineering support to users from setting up their design environment and design flows up to tape-out. A DET can be a single entity, or a consortium of entities selected among providers of chips design support services, such as design houses, RTOs or other entities currently

[2] Such as the CEN/TS 18026:2024 standard or equivalent.

providing design enablement services on a commercial basis. DETs should be selected based on their technology expertise (e.g., digital, analogue, mixed-signal, photonics, etc.), ability to offer support across the end-to-end design flow, access to fabrication services (foundries, packaging, test services) and a proven track record of delivering high quality services to users, amongst other characteristics.



A call (*DIGITAL-Chips-2024-CSA-CDP-1*) to select a Platform Coordination Team was launched in July 2024. The scope of the current call is to select a number of Design Enablement Teams.

5.1.1.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	FPP Phase
Relevance	10 pages
Implementation	40 pages
Impact	10 pages

Proposals with more pages are admissible and will be evaluated but the pages in excess of those maxima will not be considered for the evaluation.

5.1.1.5 Eligibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Legal entities that are established in EU Member States, Iceland or Norway, but are controlled from third countries may only participate on the condition that they guarantee the protection of the essential security interests of the Union and the Member States and that they ensure the protection of classified documents information. Where applicable, security guarantees need to be provided after proposal selection.

5.1.1.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial and operation capacity and exclusion conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

5.1.1.7 Evaluation procedure

Please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.1.1.8 Award criteria.

Please refer to Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

For more details, please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.1.1.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Relevance	0-5	1	3
Impact	0-5	1	3
Implementation	0-5	1	3
Total	0-15		10

(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

(**) the weight is only used to establish the ranking of the proposals.

5.1.1.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

Reimbursement rates as percentages of the eligible cost according to DEP.

Type of beneficiary	**Maximum EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to DEP (*)**
For profit organization but not an SME	100 %
SME (for profit SME)	100 %
University/Other (not for profit)	100 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

5.1.2 AI chips and systems for EU compute infrastructure

Topic: DIGITAL-JU-CHIPS-2026-AIDP-GfP

The text in this subsection should be seen as a placeholder. The exact manner in which the funding will be allocated will be defined in a later stage.

Type of Action	Grant for Procurement
Indicative EU budget	100 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of EUR 100 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	Co-funded with the NFA One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	*07 Jul 2026*
Deadline FPP Phase	*17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time*

5.1.2.1 Context

Global investments in AI compute infrastructure are escalating at an unprecedented pace, while Europe remains structurally dependent on foreign AI chips and integrated systems, resulting in significant capital outflow to import critical foreign AI technologies. Strengthening Europe's technological sovereignty therefore requires building competitive, home-grown capacity at chip level and across the entire compute stack. European policy underscores this priority: the Competitiveness Compass calls for support to design cutting-edge AI chips, stressing the need for Europe to be at the forefront of innovation; the AI Continent Action Plan foresees that AI factories will stimulate the design of AI processors in Europe .

Against this backdrop, the objective of this topic is to bring EU supply and demand closer together by linking European chip designers and system developers with key users, such as AI factories and public data centres, for hands-on testing and optimisation. End-to-end AI compute solutions (including AI processors, networking, boards/racks and the complete software stack) can be tested on dedicated experimental partitions and common EU testbeds. The goal is near-term deployment in European infrastructure, delivering high performance and energy efficiency, while reducing reliance on non-EU providers through mature, scalable, full-stack solutions.

To achieve this, the call requests proposals for a Grant for Procurement to be submitted by consortia of operators of AI/HPC facilities acting as contracting authorities/entities, in order to conduct a Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) for the design, development and prototype delivery of AI chips and compute systems (e.g. racks) based on advanced European technologies. This demand-driven approach will aggregate cross-border demand for AI chips in the EU, de-risk industrialisation, and deliver the solutions needed to enable timely, open deployment of energy-efficient, sovereign AI systems in Europe.

This topic contributes to the implementation of the Chips for Europe Initiative, specifically Objective 1 ("Extend design capabilities by fostering innovative developments, such as processors, accelerators…").

5.1.2.2 Expected outcomes

Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Reduced reliance on non-EU suppliers and increased technological sovereignty across the full AI stack, by an open, competitive 'pre-commercial procurement' (PCP) process that connects European AI chip and system developers with EU AI/HPC operators.
- Comparative evidence and validation of AI chips and compute racks (including AI accelerators, high bandwidth memory, boards, ultra-low-latency networking and full software stack) installed in dedicated experimental partitions of participating AI datacentres, and measured against transparent KPIs.
- Strengthened EU ecosystem for design, integration and optimisation of high-performance AI systems, with R&D activities, data handling and testing executed in the Union, anchoring skills, know-how and supply chains in Europe.
- Performance-based, open process that channels funds to the best-performing solutions via audited KPIs and competition to the end, enabling market-led consolidation while avoiding pre-selection and market distortion.
- Co-optimised EU hardware–software reference stacks for priority AI workloads, demonstrating competitive performance per watt, scalability, and manageability on EU sites.
- Increased participation of innovative EU fabless chip design companies and system houses, fostered by open market consultation and transparent benchmarking on common EU testbeds.

5.1.2.3 Scope

Proposals submitted to this call are expected to address the following elements:

- The consortium will form a buyers' group of procurers under EU law, that will set up and run a Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) in staged phases, ensuring competition to the end.

- The PCP process will lead to the comparative validation and selection of the best-performing systems. Indicative phasing, to be refined by the selected consortium in its proposal and to be reflected in the PCP tender documents, includes:
    - **Phase 1** – **Preliminary selection**: open competition for fabless chip design companies (up to ~10) with short fixed-price R&D contracts (e.g. 2M€ each, for ~6 months development) to deliver demonstrators of AI chip designs for comparative evaluation. In this phase, selected AI chip design companies that have already reached at least TRL 5, can develop a demonstrator (TRL 6), also leveraging existing assets and services from the Design Platform, Pilot Lines and Competence Centres of the Chips for Europe Initiative where applicable. The final prototype will be evaluated on a common testbed against a published benchmark suite, collecting auditable KPIs and ranking offers accordingly.
    - **Phase 2** – **System integration & rack-level trials**: down-selected competitors (e.g. 3–4) with fixed price R&D contracts (e.g. 20M€ each for ~12 months development) to develop full-rack AI system prototypes, delivered for comparative evaluation on agreed workloads. In this phase, the down-selected AI chip design companies will work with their partners (software, networking, integration, etc.) to develop rack-level system prototypes to be demonstrated on a common EU testbed (TRL 7). Any integration/testing support from the buyers group is standardised, time-capped and offered equally to all contractors. Final testing and scoring will use pre-published KPIs on common EU testbeds operated by a neutral facility.
    - **Phase 3** – **Prototype supplies**: purchase of a limited number of pilot racks from the competing suppliers, for further testing, optimisation and validation (targeting TRL 8). The aggregate value of supplies will be less than 50% of total PCP value (any follow-on commercial roll-out should be procured separately, e.g. via an open PPI). The buyers' group may place prototype rack orders with any of the final contractors, until the Phase-3 budget is exhausted, according to pre-defined criteria. In this phase, buyers and contractors may collaborate on site-specific integration and optimisation to target the buyer's architecture and workloads.
- Proposals shall define:
    I. transparent, auditable KPIs and benchmark protocols,
    II. one or more neutral EU-based benchmarking facilities and access procedures, and;
    III. common software/toolchain stacks to ensure reproducibility across sites.

The selected consortium will detail the precise phasing, budgets per phase, KPI set, and evaluation methodology in the PCP procurement documents, in accordance with applicable EU procurement rules and PCP guidance.

The selected consortium will need to consider the following conditions:

- The majority of R&D by contractors (e.g. not less than 70% of contract value and labour-hours) shall be performed in the EU; subcontracting outside the EU is permitted up to 30% with prior written consent by the beneficiaries. All design/test data, builds and logs, and KPI testing must be processed and stored in the EU; any non-EU access must use EU-operated, audited remote-access controls. Prototype fabrication at non-EU foundries may be permitted where justified and with export-control safeguards.
- Applicants may reserve up to 3% of the action budget to cover procurement preparation and management, neutral EU benchmarking, testing and evaluation, and legal/compliance. Where Phase 3 foresees operational collaboration with suppliers to optimise purchased prototypes for site-specific architectures and workloads, this envelope may be increased slightly with justification, provided all PCP rules are respected (including prototype supplies <50% of total PCP value).

Consortium, capacity & governance - Proposals should establish a small, focused buyers' group (e.g. 3–6 core beneficiaries) of contracting authorities/entities operating AI/HPC facilities, which may be led by a public Lead Procurer for simplicity and efficiency. The group shall include at least 3 independent contracting authorities from different Member States or EEA countries. Preference will be given to consortia anchored by public organisations to run the PCP (procurement management, neutral testing/benchmarking, legal/compliance) and to execute hands-on integration and optimisation of full-stack sovereign AI systems in dedicated experimental partitions. Additional facilities may participate as associated/observer sites or third parties (without increasing the number of beneficiaries). Commercial undertakings that do not qualify as contracting entities may join as supporting partners (e.g., hosting testbeds, benchmarking, integration), where duly justified, without PCP decision power and under confidentiality and conflict-of-interest safeguards.

The R&D services purchased through Pre-Commercial Procurement are expected to start at TRL 5 and should target TRL 8 at end of project.

5.1.2.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	PO Phase *[if applicable]*	FPP Phase
Relevance	x pages	x pages
Implementation	x pages	x pages
Impact	x pages	x pages

Proposals with more pages are admissible and will be evaluated but the pages in excess of those maxima will not be considered for the evaluation.

5.1.2.5 Eligibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Specific eligibility conditions:

Size limit	10 Participants

Legal entities that are established in EU Member States, Iceland or Norway,, but are controlled from third countries may only participate on the condition that they guarantee the protection of the essential security interests of the Union and the Member States and that they ensure the protection of classified documents information. Where applicable, security guarantees need to be provided after proposal selection.

5.1.2.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial and operation capacity and exclusion conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

5.1.2.7 Evaluation procedure

Please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.1.2.8 Award criteria.

Please refer to Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

For more details, please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.1.2.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal.

Criteria	**Range**	**Weight (**)**	**Threshold (*)**

Relevance	0-5	1	3
Impact	0-5	1	3
Implementation	0-5	1	3
Total	0-15		10

(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

(**) the weight is only used to establish the ranking of the proposals.

5.1.2.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

Reimbursement rates as percentages of the eligible cost according to DEP.

Type of beneficiary	**Maximum EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to DEP (*)**
For profit organization but not an SME	50 %
SME (for profit SME)	50 %
University/Other (not for profit)	50 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

5.2 Skills Development

A skilled workforce in semiconductors is recognized as vital to foster a thriving and resilient ecosystem. However, the persistent structural gap between an ageing workforce and the limited inflow of new graduates in semiconductor-related fields of study threatens the European ecosystem's ability to sustain its global competitiveness. According to the 2025 Skill Strategy update[3], the European semiconductor industry is expected to face an average shortfall of around 10,800 skilled workers per year across the value chain, resulting in around 65,000 missing workers in the sector by 2030.

In addition, workers in semiconductors are facing unprecedented changes in how work is organised. Continuous up/re-skilling is essential for industry and workers to respond to the rapidly changing needs of current jobs or to allow transition from industrial sectors experiencing surplus workforce to new jobs in expanding sectors.

Although the recent market slowdown has temporarily eased pressure and the talent gap has narrowed since the 2024 forecast, it remains a structural challenge for Europe, particularly as it is expected to widen beyond 2030. Europe's ability to meet future industrial targets will depend on sustained policy coordination, expanded training capacity, and effective mobility and attraction measures.

The objective of the following topics is to support initiatives to bridge the talent gap in semiconductors through coordinated efforts from relevant public and private stakeholders, to lower barriers in the sector and make labour more attractive, to empower youth and young adults to choose and continue to pursue a career development in this field, as well as to re- and up-skill the current workforce. Projects under these topics are expected to liaise with industry also through the Industrial Alliance on Processors and Semiconductor Technologies, notably its Working Group on Skills, as well as with the network of Chips Competence Centres as crucial entry points for regional and national needs, opportunities, and targeted actions.

All proposals submitted under these topics should foresee a time development along at least 5 years.

3 ECSA Skills Strategy 2025 - European Chips Skills Academy

5.2.1 Skills Hubs of Excellence

Topic: DIGITAL-JU-CHIPS-2026 -SKILLS-HoE-SG

The text in this subsection should be seen as a placeholder. The exact manner in which the funding will be allocated will be defined in a later stage.

Type of Action	Simple Grant
Indicative EU budget	20 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 10 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	Co-funded with the NFA One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	*07 Jul 2026*
Deadline FPP Phase	*17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time*

5.2.1.1 Context

Skilled professionals are essential for the success of the European semiconductor industry. Europe's ambitious plans will require a significant number of people with specialised knowledge in this field. However, Europe currently faces major challenges: a shortage of young talent interested in semiconductors, limited specialised training for advanced technologies, and insufficient well-equipped infrastructure to support education and lifelong training. Actions on all levels from increasing interest in general STEM topics and electronics/semiconductor in particular, to vocational and university education including re-skilling and up-skilling, and all the way to doctoral and post-doctoral levels can be supported through this call.

To sustain innovation and strengthen strategic autonomy, Europe needs to facilitate and support the access to expertise, training, and experimentation pathways closely linked to the industry needs, as well as to the strategic Chips Act design platforms and pilot lines. This call is looking for initiatives that operate as first-entry points for learners, STEM teachers and firms, connecting them with mentoring, hands-on training, and with the industry. These initiatives should be embedded with the European network of Competence Centres and act as access points to complementary nodes and initiatives.

5.2.1.2 Expected outcomes

Proposals submitted to this call are expected to address several of the following elements:

- Establishment of long-term excellence hubs for education in technology areas in semiconductors deemed crucial for European competitiveness. The hubs should focus on university and PhD courses to increase quality and quantity of highly specialized talents.
- Increased inflow into the sector of students and workers, notably females and underrepresented groups, by demystifying technical professions via public outreach events, role models, and impactful attraction measures.
- Enlarged pool of students and technicians in semiconductor related areas with proper skills in needs for European business.
- Increased intra-EU and extra-EU incoming mobility of both students and workers in semiconductor related areas, leveraging and further supporting existing international initiatives and channels.

5.2.1.3 Scope

Proposals submitted under this topic establishing a 'Hub of Excellence' should support high education topics for skills development to address talent shortages and increase capacities in targeted fields, deemed crucial for European industry: chips design, chips manufacturing, advanced packaging and testing, photonics.

Projects should include several of the following elements:

- Design educational programmes through partnerships among universities and business to align academic programmes more closely with industry needs. Such programmes should be delivered at Bachelor, Master and PhD level. Curricula should include courses addressing different topics in the above-mentioned areas for which courses should not be limited to elective ones.
- Projects should host and support, together with industry co-funding, educational infrastructures for students' access to modern processing equipment, thus allowing hands-on training in lab and business environments to large pools of tertiary students. Mobility to access the hub's infrastructure should be supported by proper internship programmes.
- Programmes should promote STEM and diversity inclusion, liaising with the STEM Coalition to build on known best practices and aligning with measures of the new European STEM Education Strategic Plan.
- Ease intra-EU mobility of students from countries with an historical surplus of graduates in semiconductor related studies, i.e. building on available initiatives at

European level such as the Alliances of the European Universities Initiative[4] or the network of Chips Competence Centres.

- Encourage cross-border collaboration while tailoring education to specific regional and national needs.
- Attract extra-EU migration of students from regions such as, but not limited to, Philippines, India, Egypt, i.e. building on available initiatives at European level such as the Gateway Offices[5] as part of the Talent Partnership[6] initiatives; and assure education and training actions aligning background and skills to business requirement.
- Establish accessible career-orientation platforms and public awareness campaigns across European countries, highlighting the diversity of careers in microelectronics and their role in Europe's technological sovereignty.

For intra-EU mobility aspects, consortia may want to consider including at least one organisation from a country experiencing talent shortages and at least one organisation from a country experiencing talent surplus in semiconductors.[7]

Proposals submitted under this topic should foresee a duration of at least 5 years.

5.2.1.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	FPP Phase
Relevance	20 pages
Implementation	40 pages
Impact	20 pages

Proposals with more pages are admissible and will be evaluated but the pages in excess of those maxima will not be considered for the evaluation.

4 European Universities initiative - European Education Area

5 European Commission, The Union of Skills (Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions) COM (2025) 90 final, 5 March 2025. eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX%3A52025DC0090

6 Talent Partnerships - Migration and Home Affairs - European Commission

7 ECSA Skills Strategy 2025 - European Chips Skills Academy

5.2.1.5 Eligibility

Eligibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Specific eligibility conditions:

Legal entities that are established in EU Member States, Iceland or Norway, but are controlled from third countries may only participate on the condition that they guarantee the protection of the essential security interests of the Union and the Member States and that they ensure the protection of classified documents information. Where applicable, security guarantees need to be provided after proposal selection.

5.2.1.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial and operation capacity and exclusion conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

5.2.1.7 Evaluation procedure

Please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.2.1.8 Award criteria.

Please refer to Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

For more details, please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.2.1.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Relevance	0-5	1	3
Impact	0-5	1	3
Implementation	0-5	1	3
Total	0-15		10

(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

(**) the weight is only used to establish the ranking of the proposals.

5.2.1.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

Reimbursement rates as percentages of the eligible cost according to DEP.

Type of beneficiary	**Maximum EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to DEP (*)**
For profit organization but not an SME	50 %
SME (for profit SME)	50%
University/Other (not for profit)	50%

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

5.2.2 Pilot Federation

Topic: DIGITAL-JU-CHIPS-2026 -SKILLS-PF-SG

Type of Action	Simple Grant
Indicative EU budget	10 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 10 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	Co-funded with the NFA One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)]
Call launch date	*07 Jul 2026*
Deadline FPP Phase	*17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time*

5.2.2.1 Context

As workers in semiconductors are facing unprecedented changes in how work is organised, continuous up/re-skilling is essential for industry and workers to respond to the rapidly changing needs of current jobs or to allow transition from industrial sectors experiencing surplus workforce to new jobs in expanding sectors.

The objective of the following topic is to support initiatives to bridge the talent gap in semiconductors through coordinated efforts from relevant public and private stakeholders, to lower barriers in the sector and make labour more attractive, to empower youth and young adults to choose and continue to pursue a career development in this field, as well as to re- and up-skill the current workforce. Projects under the topic are expected to liaise with industry also through the Industrial Alliance on Processors and Semiconductor Technologies, notably its Working Group on Skills, as well as with the network of Chips Competence Centres as crucial entry points for regional and national needs, opportunities, and targeted actions.

5.2.2.2 Expected outcomes

Proposals submitted to this call are expected to address several of the following elements:

- Establishment of a pilot federation of VET providers for education and training in technology areas in semiconductors. This initiative should lay down the foundation for

the first long-term VET provider network at European level targeted to semiconductor related areas.

- Increased inflow into the sector of students and workers, notably females and underrepresented groups, by demystifying technical professions via public outreach events, role models, and impactful attraction measures.
- Enlarged pool of students and technicians in semiconductor related areas with proper skills in needs for European business.
- Increased intra-EU and extra-EU incoming mobility of both students and workers in semiconductor related areas, leveraging and further supporting existing international initiatives and channels.
- Establishment of standardized curricula for in-demand technical career profiles such as maintenance technicians, process technicians, and others. Certification should be easily transferable across the EU.

5.2.2.3 Scope

Projects funded under this call establishing the 'Pilot Federation' should network, i.e. federate, European VET providers with focus on vocational training. The federation should manage and ease mutual recognition of international systems for training, qualification and certification for technicians in the semiconductor sector. It should help bridging the gap of technicians with proper background to support semiconductor facilities and optimizing the use of available workforce through re/up-skilling and life-long learning.

Projects should deliver several of the following elements:

- Provide a comprehensive overview of the micro-credential offer and the relevant providers in the semiconductor sector in Europe.
- Develop a pilot scalable network of VET providers and an industry-aligned micro-credentials ecosystem in Europe for the semiconductor sector, managed by the pilot federation, exploiting training potential to target specific regional and national needs and learner profiles.
- Design training programmes through partnerships among VET providers and business to align courses more closely with industry needs with focus on reskilling programmes for professionals transitioning from other industrial sectors experiencing surplus workforce.
- Place emphasis on micro-credentials, a flexible tool for rapid upskilling and lifelong learning, following the guidelines set in the 'Council Recommendation on micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability'.[8]

[8] Council Recommendation of 16 June 2022 on a European approach to micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability (2022/C 243/02). (available at: eur-lex)

- Encourage cross-border collaboration by offering recognized accreditation across member States, aligning to the Skills Portability initiatives.
- Attract extra-EU migration of workers from regions such as, but not limited to, Philippines, India, Egypt, i.e. building on available initiatives at European level such as the Gateway Offices[9] as part of the Talent Partnership[10] initiatives.

Proposals submitted under this topic should foresee a duration of at least 5 years.

5.2.2.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	FPP Phase
Relevance	20 pages
Implementation	40 pages
Impact	20 pages

Proposals with more pages are admissible and will be evaluated but the pages in excess of those maxima will not be considered for the evaluation.

5.2.2.5 Eligibility

Eligibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Specific eligibility conditions:

Legal entities that are established in EU Member States, Iceland or Norway, but are controlled from third countries may only participate on the condition that they guarantee the protection of the essential security interests of the Union and the Member States and that they ensure the protection of classified documents information. Where applicable, security guarantees need to be provided after proposal selection.

[9] European Commission, The Union of Skills (Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions) COM (2025) 90 final, 5 March 2025. eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX%3A52025DC0090

10 Talent Partnerships - Migration and Home Affairs - European Commission

5.2.2.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial and operation capacity and exclusion conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

5.2.2.7 Evaluation procedure

Please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.2.2.8 Award criteria.

Please refer Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

For more details, please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.2.2.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Relevance	0-5	1	3
Impact	0-5	1	3
Implementation	0-5	1	3
Total	0-15		10

(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

(**) the weight is only used to establish the ranking of the proposals.

5.2.2.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

Reimbursement rates as percentages of the eligible cost according to DEP.

Type of beneficiary	Maximum EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to DEP (*)
For profit organization but not an SME	50 %
SME (for profit SME)	50 %
University/Other (not for profit)	50 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

5.2.3 Stimulation of Chip Design

Topic: DIGITAL-JU-CHIPS-2026 -SKILLS-SCD-CSA

Type of Action	Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
Indicative EU budget	15 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 15 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	EU funding only One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)]
Call launch date	*07 Jul 2026*
Deadline FPP Phase	*17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time*

5.2.3.1 Context

A central objective of the Chips Act, under the Chips for Europe Initiative, is to strengthen Europe's advanced design capabilities in integrated semiconductor technologies. Achieving this goal requires a robust talent pipeline of highly skilled professionals in chip design. Building such a workforce is essential to make Europe a more attractive destination for semiconductor investment, to ensure an adequate supply of qualified labour for industry, and to lay the foundations for a new generation of competitive fabless semiconductor companies in Europe.

This call seeks to lower barriers to entry in chip design, tape-outs and enhance the overall attractiveness of the semiconductor sector. It aims to inspire and empower young people to pursue and sustain careers in this field, while also supporting the re-skilling and up-skilling of the existing workforce to meet emerging technological needs.

5.2.3.2 Expected outcomes

Proposals submitted to this call are expected to address the following outcomes:

1. Expanded hands-on education in microelectronics and semiconductor design across Europe, integrating practical design experience into university and vocational programmes.

2. Widespread access to fully funded and widely accessible tape-out programme (via multi-Project Wafers at mature nodes) targeting first or second cycle higher education programmes. Beneficiaries shall target at least 1000 students across Europe over 4 years.
3. Established and funded tape-outs in die-sharing (multiple designs from multiple end-beneficiaries in one die) programmes for undergraduate and high-school students.
4. Enhanced reskilling and upskilling opportunities for students in higher education in adjacent fields to electronics engineering (e.g. computer science, physics etc.) through workshops, short courses or other activities.
5. The establishment of an annual European Grand Chip Design Challenge with the involvement of industry targeting students at different levels of education, providing a prize to winning designs. Support national Competence Centres or other similar entities in running complementary national/regional/local challenges and hackathons.
6. Accessible training resources on chip design for students prior to University/VET and a train the trainer programme for teachers. These resources should be made widely available and may also be disseminated via the Competence Centres or other similar entities.
7. Strengthened support to Competence Centres on chip design training resources.
8. Improved access to Chips for Europe Initiative pilot lines and the Design Platform for students.
9. Strong collaboration with the Open-Source EDA projects stemming from the HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA-EDA call[11] to ensure easy access to and use of the developed open source tools in these calls.
10. User-friendly open-source digital design flows and starter kits for undergraduate and high-school settings.

In realising these outcomes, the beneficiaries shall ensure geographical distribution across the 27 EU Member States. Where viable, networking of end-beneficiaries is encouraged.

Proposals shall include mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of the programme beyond the lifetime of the project through for example integration into academic curricula, co-funding from industry.

5.2.3.3 Scope

The beneficiaries shall be responsible for organising and implementing a comprehensive Chip Design Skills Programme aimed at inspiring new generations to pursue careers in the semiconductor sector. The initiative seeks to make chip design and fabrication accessible

[11] Chips JU multi-annual work programme 2023-2027, "Appendix 6: activities launched in 2025 for the Chips for Europe Initiative part" (Decision GB 2023.58, as per the latest amendment)

learning experiences for students at both higher education institutions in relevant disciplines and secondary schools, particularly those preparing to choose their future career paths.

The programme's activities should be developed as part of a broader continuum of European semiconductor skills initiatives, ensuring strong complementarities and synergies with existing efforts such as EUROPRACTICE and the Design Platform. Beneficiaries are also expected to foster close collaboration among students, schools, universities, Competence Centres, industry, and other key stakeholders to create an integrated ecosystem that supports skills development and innovation in chip design.

Beneficiaries shall ensure that activities are widely disseminated and accessible to relevant parties in all EU 27 Member States. At least 60% of the budget shall be allocated to supporting students' tape-outs as set out in *Expected Outcomes* 2 & 3 below. Projects shall run for 4 years.

5.2.3.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	FPP Phase
Relevance	20 pages
Implementation	40 pages
Impact	20 pages

Proposals with more pages are admissible and will be evaluated but the pages in excess of those maxima will not be considered for the evaluation.

5.2.3.5 Eligibility

Eligibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

Specific eligibility conditions:

Subject to participation restrictions for the protection of European digital infrastructures, communication and information systems, and related supply chains, as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

5.2.3.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial and operation capacity and exclusion conditions are described in Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

5.2.3.7 Evaluation procedure

Please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.2.3.8 Award criteria.

Please refer Annex 2 "General DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

For more details, please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.2.3.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Relevance	0-5	1	3
Impact	0-5	1	3
Implementation	0-5	1	3
Total	0-15		10

(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

(**) the weight is only used to establish the ranking of the proposals.

5.2.3.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

Reimbursement rates as percentages of the eligible cost according to DEP.

Type of beneficiary	Maximum EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to DEP (*)
For profit organization but not an SME	50 %
SME (for profit SME)	50 %
University/Other (not for profit)	50 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

5.3 Quantum Chips and Enabling Technologies

5.3.1 Quantum Chips Design: Driving Europe's Quantum Design Ecosystem and Enabling Quantum Design Tools Innovation

Topic: HORIZON-JU-CHIPS-2026-QUANTUM-1-RIA

Type of Action	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Indicative EU budget	30 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 30 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	Co-funded with the NFA One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	*07 Jul 2026*
Deadline FPP Phase	*17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time*

5.3.1.1 Context

Europe's quantum chip design landscape is growing but remains fragmented across platforms, toolchains and methodologies. Europe's six Quantum Pilots, funded under the Chips JU, form a strategic infrastructure for developing quantum chips across all leading platforms, including superconducting, photonic, semiconducting, diamond, ion-trap, and neutral-atom technologies. To fully exploit these facilities and enable cross-platform innovation, Europe needs a coordinated community effort in developing quantum design facilities **that are fully integrated and provided as part of the European cloud-based semiconductor design platform** that is currently under development.

Such design facilities could include dedicated tools, IP libraries, modelling environments, and interoperability standards for quantum chip design and simulation. The aim is to develop such design facilities through dedicated R&D efforts, and validate and verify their usefulness and correctness for enabling an efficient design, simulation, verification, and layout of quantum chips across multiple technology platforms.

This topic aims at fostering the emergence of a pan-European quantum design community around quantum chip design, simulation, and verification libraries and tools. It will support

ecosystem-building and coordination, bridging across research organisations, Quantum Pilots, foundries, startups and SMEs, companies, and industrial design workflows.

Specific objectives include:

- Mapping and consolidating existing tools, methodologies, and needs in quantum device modelling, layout design, and fabrication-aware simulation.
- Researching, developing, verifying and validating a comprehensive suite of new European quantum design tools enabling efficient design, simulation, verification, and layout of quantum chips across multiple platforms.
- Aligning design environments with the Chips JU Quantum Pilots, ensuring interoperability and reusability across different platforms.
- Developing and promoting interoperability standards and shared reference architectures for quantum chip design workflows, possibly also open-source development.
- Integrating these quantum design environments under the European cloud-based semiconductor design platform.
- Launching training and open-access initiatives to broaden the use of the quantum design tools among academia, SMEs, and Quantum Pilot partners, fostering a sustainable European quantum design ecosystem.

To make quantum design a native extension of the European cloud-based semiconductor platform ecosystem, a Quantum Design Enablement Team (QDET) is needed. The QDET will integrate and maintain quantum design workflows, develop automation scripts and reusable workflow templates, for tasks such as simulation, verification, Multi-Project Wafer (MPW) submission, and project setup, train and support designers, and ensure interoperability across the six Quantum Pilots, facilitating MPW uptake.

5.3.1.2 Expected outcomes

- A new quantum design facility under the Chips JU, providing cloud-access, fully integrated with the European cloud-based semiconductor Design Platform and connected with the Quantum Pilots under the Chips JU.
- A validated, interoperable suite of European (open source) quantum design tools for multiple quantum platforms.
- Operational quantum design flows (front-to-back) and Quantum Design Enablement Team (QDET) support, lowering onboarding barriers for pilots and SMEs.
- A common quantum design framework for Europe, with harmonized PDK references, shared data/format specifications, and reference libraries integrated in the European Design Platform.
- Standardized workflows, efficient design practices, and seamless integration with existing semiconductor infrastructure, within a community-driven support framework building workforce capacity for quantum design.

- Operational Service Level Agreements and technical interfaces between the European cloud-based semiconductor Design Platform (QDET) and the relevant Chips JU pilot lines, enabling routine MPW/pilot-line submissions by academia, SMEs and Pilot partners.

The consortia should be coordinated by a Research and Technology Organisation (RTO) with strong experience in quantum hardware-software co-design, and include a balanced and inclusive network of key European actors. The participation of the strongest and most relevant stakeholders is essential to meet the ambitious objectives of the initiative.

5.3.1.3 Scope

Building on a strong European expertise and added value, the action will foster a pan-European community around quantum chip design, building on and closely integrating with the European Design Platform under the Chips for Europe Initiative, in coordination with the Quantum Pilots, European foundries and relevant Design Enablement Teams of the microelectronics sector.

The action will include research, development, and validation of European quantum design tools, covering chip design, layout, simulation, verification, and flow integration, including Process Design Kit (PDK) interface coding, software layers, APIs, and data structures that allow designers or tools to interact with PDK.

To ensure an effective progression from community alignment to operational deployment, the work should include: (i) surveying existing quantum design tools and workflows, defining common data/models and initial PDK requirements, identifying components for integration, and preparing basic reusable libraries and training materials; and (ii) integrating quantum-specific Electronic Design Automation (EDA) capabilities and PDKs into the European design platform, establishing end-to-end design flows and MPW access, enabling cloud-based tooling and user support, and delivering professional training.

This should include establishing formal interfaces and operating procedures with relevant Chips JU pilot lines (including quantum-focused Quantum Pilots) and European pilot lines in microelectronics and photonics. The QDET acts as a single-entry point (“one-stop shop”) in the European Design Platform for brokerage of MPW shuttles and pilot-line access, aligning with existing Chips JU access frameworks and avoiding duplication.

The action should ensure interoperability across platforms, reduce duplication of effort, and establish a sustainable repository of fully verified and validated design libraries, models, and toolchain components, supported by robust governance for versioning, quality assurance, data integrity and IPR management.

To connect design with fabrication, the action will establish collaboration channels with foundries and semiconductor or photonic pilot lines to support quantum-compatible fabrication access. The QDET will train and guide designers on foundry PDKs within the European cloud-based semiconductor Design Platform and develop reference flows and templates adapted for quantum design, lowering barriers and enabling MPW-ready submissions.

Proposals should document concrete access arrangements to at least one relevant pilot line/foundry (e.g. letters of intent) and demonstrate alignment with the European Design Platform onboarding process.

Proposals should include evidence of access/alignment with relevant pilot lines/foundries and (where digital assets are produced) the European Design Platform/QDET.

Proposals should also demonstrate collaboration with other regional, national, or European initiatives or programmes, notably the Quantum Pilots under Chips JU, to ensure alignment and mutual reinforcement of activities.

The duration of project proposals is expected to be between 36 and 48 months.

The granting authority (Chips JU) may, up to 4 years after the end of the action, object to a transfer of ownership or to the exclusive licensing of results, as set out in the specific provision of Annex 5 of the Model Grant Agreement for Horizon Europe.

STEP Seal

All proposals in this call that are eligible and exceed the evaluation thresholds will be awarded a STEP Seal and will be listed on the STEP portal. The STEP Seal is a recognition given to projects that contribute to STEP objectives and meet the minimum quality criteria set by this call for proposals. The Seal is a quality label and a facilitator for accessing EU funds, making it easier for projects to receive alternative, combined cumulative funding from various EU budgetary instruments.

5.3.1.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 1 “General HORIZON Europe conditions” of the WP General Annexes.

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	**FPP Stage**
Excellence	60 pages
Impact	80 pages
Quality and efficiency of the Implementation	80 pages

Proposals with more pages are admissible and will be evaluated but the pages in excess of those maxima will not be considered for the evaluation.

5.3.1.5 Eligibility

Eligibility conditions are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) “HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU”. The following exceptions apply:

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %
Consortium Size limit	NA

Proposals that do not comply to the above will be excluded.

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA countries, Canada, Israel, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (see Annex to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU").

In order to guarantee the protection of the strategic interests of the Union and its Member States, entities established in an eligible country listed above, but which are directly or indirectly controlled from a non-eligible country or from a non-eligible country entity, may not participate in the action unless it can be demonstrated, by means of guarantees approved by their eligible country of establishment, in so far this is a Member State or Associated Country, that their participation to the action would not negatively impact the Union's strategic, assets, interests, autonomy, or security (see Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU").

5.3.1.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial and operation capacity and exclusion conditions are described in Annex 1 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU" of the WP General Annexes.

5.3.1.7 Evaluation procedure

Please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

For the priority order of proposals with the same score, please refer to Annex 1 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU" of the WP General Annexes.

5.3.1.8 Award criteria.

Award criteria are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU" (General Annexes).

For more details, please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.3.1.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal. The score table is valid for PO and FPP.

Criteria	**Range**	**Weight (**)**	**Threshold (*)**
Excellence	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.0	3
Quality and efficiency of the Implementation	0-5	0.7	3
Total	0-15		10

(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

(**) the weight is only used to establish the ranking of the proposals in the FPP phase.

5.3.1.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

Reimbursement rates as percentages of the eligible cost according to HE.

Type of beneficiary	**Maximum EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to HE (*)**
For profit organization but not an SME	50 %
SME (for profit SME)	50 %
University/Other (not for profit)	50 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

5.3.2 Quantum Chips: Enabling Technologies

Topic: HORIZON-JU-CHIPS-2026-QUANTUM-2-RIA

Type of Action	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Indicative EU budget	20 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5 to 7 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	Co-funded with the NFA One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	*07 Jul 2026*
Deadline FPP Phase	*17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time*

5.3.2.1 Context

Quantum computing requires effective Quantum Processing Units (QPUs) in order to process information with computational power superior to classical processors.

Several quantum technologies are being developed for the implementation of solid-state quantum qubits and processors, such as photonic integrated circuits, superconductors, semiconductors, trapped ions, neutral atoms and nitrogen vacancy centres in diamonds.

While entanglement and quantum superpositions in diamonds are observable and controllable also at room temperature, quantum states in other qubit technologies are disturbed and destroyed by environmental noise.

Low temperatures may help preserving the internal coherence of such states.

The leading approaches attempting to scale to million-qubit cryogenic quantum computers share the following issues: initializing, calibrating, controlling, reading out and amplifying single-photon microwave signals from millions of qubits, at cryogenic temperature.

To allow for the efficient and low-latency control and scaling of quantum circuits, innovative control and readout solutions are needed. This include both solutions operating at cryogenic temperatures (e.g. for superconductors and semiconductors) and solutions at room temperature (e.g. for diamonds).

The creation of classical control chips (e.g. CMOS-based) able to operate at cryogenic temperatures as well as the devising of fast classical superconducting control chips (e.g. single-flux-quantum logic, nano-cryotron, gate-actuated switches, …), as well as highly efficient single photon detectors, is critical for the development of quantum computing hardware with optimised signal routing and increased qubit readout speed and efficiency.

This topic aims at developing, integrating and pilot-line validating cross-platform enabling technologies that are essential to operate, scale and industrialise quantum systems, without however funding production of quantum chips themselves.

Enabling technologies include the electronics, cryogenics, packaging and interfacing subsystems that prepare, protect, control, interconnect and read-out core quantum devices across platforms (e.g. superconducting, semiconducting, photonic, ion-trap, neutral-atom, diamond).

5.3.2.2 Expected outcomes

Projects are encouraged to demonstrate:

- Platform-agnostic usability of enabling subsystems across ≥2 quantum platforms, with documented interfaces to foundries or pilot lines.
- Miniaturisation and subsystem assembling enabling higher-scale quantum systems via co-packaging, heterogeneous integration or monolithic integration
- Manufacturability and reliability gains, evidenced via pilot-line runs/MPWs, test reports and BoMs.
- Strengthened European supply capability and reduced dependency on non-EU sources for critical parts, through EU-based components and supply agreements.
- Compatibility with microelectronics infrastructure, New paradigms enabling low-power and low-size enabling technologies (e.g. control and readout electronics), up to monolithic integration if/where possible.

Common requirements (all proposals):

- Respect the boundary condition that this topic **does not fund the manufacturing of quantum chips/QPUs**; enabling subsystems may progress up to pilot-line validation/MPW tape-out where relevant, in alignment with Chips JU pilot-line access.
- Clearly state interfaces (e.g. LoIs/MoUs) to at least one EU foundry/pilot line and provide a bench-plus-pilot-line/MPW validation plan.
- Provide quantitative metrics/targets (e.g. noise figure, dynamic range, cryo power, thermal load, channel count, footprint, reliability) demonstrating **miniaturisation, integration and manufacturability** progress.
- Deliver reference designs, design kits or integration notes enabling **reuse across platforms** and uptake by SMEs and pilot lines, with IPR and supply-chain plans ensuring EU access.

- Coordinate with the CSA/QDET to onboard relevant digital assets (PDKs, decks, models) to the **European Design Platform**.

5.3.2.3 Scope

This topic focuses on enabling technologies that support, control, and read out quantum systems without funding the core quantum chips themselves. Proposals should develop components and subsystems that ensure stable, high-fidelity, low-latency operation, maintain coherence, mitigate errors, and enable scaling across multiple quantum platforms (e.g., superconducting, semiconducting, photonic, trapped-ion/neutral-atom, diamond).

Proposals should target system-level integration and interfaces and validate solutions in relevant environments, preferably via EU pilot lines/MPWs.

Solutions may include for example:

- Control and readout electronics across temperature stages including cryogenic
- Photonic/optical components for routing, modulation, detection and timing
- Transduction and networking technologies such as microwave-optical conversion
- Cryogenics, interconnects, packaging and heterogeneous integration for modular assemblies

The topic aligns with the roles defined by the European RTO community and covers two complementary categories of enabling technologies: Process Enabling Technologies and Operations Enabling Technologies.

This topic does not fund the manufacturing of core quantum chips/QPUs. It supports enabling subsystems up to pilot-line validation / MPW tape-out where relevant, in alignment with Chips JU pilot-line access.

The duration of project proposals is expected to be 36 months.

The granting authority (Chips JU) may, up to 4 years after the end of the action, object to a transfer of ownership or to the exclusive licensing of results, as set out in the specific provision of Annex 5 of the Model Grant Agreement for Horizon Europe.

STEP Seal

All proposals in this call that are eligible and exceed the evaluation thresholds will be awarded a STEP Seal and will be listed on the STEP portal. The STEP Seal is a recognition given to projects that contribute to STEP objectives and meet the minimum quality criteria set by this call for proposals. The Seal is a quality label and a facilitator for accessing EU funds, making it easier for projects to receive alternative, combined cumulative funding from various EU budgetary instruments.

5.3.2.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) “HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU”.

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	FPP Stage
Excellence	60 pages
Impact	80 pages
Quality and efficiency of the Implementation	80 pages

Proposals with more pages are admissible and will be evaluated but the pages in excess of those maxima will not be considered for the evaluation.

5.3.2.5 Eligibility

Eligibility conditions are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU". The following exceptions apply:

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %
Consortium Size limit	NA

Proposals that do not comply to the above will be excluded.

Legal entities that are established in EU Member States, EEA countries, Canada, Israel, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United Kingdom but are controlled from third countries may only participate on the condition that they guarantee the protection of the essential security interests of the Union and the Member States and that they ensure the protection of classified documents information. Where applicable, security guarantees need to be provided after proposal selection.

5.3.2.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial and operation capacity and exclusion conditions are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU".

5.3.2.7 Evaluation procedure

Please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

For the priority order of proposals with the same score, please refer to Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU".

5.3.2.8 Award criteria.

The proposals will be evaluated along the following three evaluation criteria.

Award criteria are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to Chips JU" (General Annexes).

For more details, please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.3.2.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal. The score table is valid for PO and FPP.

Criteria	**Range**	**Weight (**)**	**Threshold (*)**
Excellence	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.0	3
Quality and efficiency of the Implementation	0-5	0.7	3
Total	0-15		10

(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

(**) the weight is only used to establish the ranking of the proposals in the FPP phase.

5.3.2.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

Reimbursement rates as percentages of the eligible cost according to HE.

Type of beneficiary	**Maximum EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to HE (*)**
For profit organization but not an SME	50 %
SME (for profit SME)	50 %

University/Other (not for profit)	50 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

5.4 International collaboration - Joint call EU and Japan on semiconductors

Topic: DIGITAL-JU-Chips-2026-SG-JAPAN

The text in this subsection should be seen as a placeholder. The exact manner in which the funding will be allocated will be defined in a later stage.

Type of Action	Simple Grant (SG)
Indicative EU budget	15 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	Co-funded with the NFA One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	*07 Jul 2026*
Deadline FPP Stage	*17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time*

5.4.1 Context

The global semiconductor industry is undergoing a period of rapid and transformative change, driven by the dual imperatives of advancing AI-enabled technologies and scaling chip architectures to node sizes below 2nm. These developments are reshaping the competitive landscape, demanding breakthroughs in both design and manufacturing. In response, the **EU-Japan coordinated call** has been launched to address these challenges through collaborative research, with a particular focus on two critical areas: **fostering a robust chiplet ecosystem to enable heterogeneous integration for the AI stack, and advancing process technologies for next-generation, cutting-edge nodes.**

The context surrounding these challenges is diverse and complex. AI is becoming integral to enabling innovative semiconductor solutions across various applications, though the existing reliance on vertically integrated ecosystems poses challenges in leveraging the full potential of a diverse semiconductor landscape. Achieving the necessary balance between high performance and power efficiency at node sizes beyond 2nm requires not only advanced elementary building blocks, but also continuous improvements in materials, equipment, and process technologies.

Collaboration is key in this coordinated initiative. It aims to strengthen these critical areas by pooling expertise and resources to drive advancements in innovation and technological development.

Proposers are expected to work closely with consortia selected under the Japanese national programme. Both the EU and Japanese calls will be open at the same time, and proposers have to include in their project proposals and work descriptions the involvement of their counterparts.

5.4.2 Expected Outcomes

Projects are expected to contribute to the following expected outcomes:

- Advanced heterogeneous integration, particularly in 2.5D and 3D packaging, to support AI functionalities.
- Standardised chiplet interfaces, enabling interoperability and fostering a dynamic chiplet ecosystem.
- Process technologies for device structures beyond 2nm, such as CFET, enabling high-performance and energy-efficient solutions that meet next-generation demands.
- Contributions to international standard setting for chiplet integration.

Expected outcomes need to have direct and immediate impact on European industry.

Furthermore, proposed projects need to demonstrate solutions across laboratory and pilot environments, with verification in semiconductor manufacturing use cases. Technology Readiness Level 5-7. They also need to facilitate knowledge transfer and promote stakeholder engagement through industry workshops, publications, and networking events.

5.4.3 Scope

The scope includes, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- Develop methods for chiplet co-optimization, interface design, and 2.5D/3D integration processes, including through-silicon vias, interposers, and bonding techniques.
- R&I on advanced fabrication processes such as thin film deposition, etching, and doping for devices that incorporate CFET or vertically stacked GAA switches, to enhance performance and reduce power consumption.
- Engage material scientists, chemical engineers, semiconductor manufacturers, and AI experts to bridge research and industrial applications, supporting broad adoption and commercial viability.

Proposals should encourage partnerships across industry, academia, and research organizations to foster breakthroughs in semiconductor manufacturing and contribute to advancing global semiconductor standards.

The total targeted budget for the EU and Japanese side contribution is estimated at **EUR 5–15 million**, with a comparable commitment expected from the Japanese government. The final version of the call will be published following the conclusion of these negotiations and the formal agreement between the EU and Japan.

5.4.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" of the WP General Annexes.

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	FPP Stage
Relevance	20 pages
Implementation	40 pages
Impact	20 pages

Proposals with more pages are admissible and will be evaluated but the pages in excess of those maxima will not be considered for the evaluation.

5.4.5 Eligibility

Participant eligibility conditions are described in Annex 2 "DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" of the WP General Annexes.

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %
Consortium Size limit	N/A

Legal entities that are established in EU Member States, Iceland or Norway, but are controlled from third countries may only participate on the condition that they guarantee the protection of the essential security interests of the Union and the Member States and that they ensure the protection of classified documents information. Where applicable, security guarantees need to be provided after proposal selection.

5.4.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial and operation capacity and exclusion conditions are described in Annex 2 "DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" of the WP General Annexes.

5.4.7 Evaluation procedure

Please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

For the priority order of proposals with the same score, please refer to Annex 2 "DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" of the WP General Annexes.

5.4.8 Award criteria.

Please refer to Annex 2 "DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME conditions" of the WP General Annexes.

For more details, please refer to the Governing Board Decision on the evaluation and selection procedures related to the calls launched by the Chips JU (GB 2024.71).

5.4.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Relevance	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.5	3
Implementation	0-5	1.0	3
Total	0-15		10

(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

(**) the weight is only used to establish the ranking of the proposals.

5.4.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

Reimbursement rates as percentages of the eligible cost according to DEP.

Type of beneficiary	EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to DEP (*)
For profit organization	50%
SME (for profit SME)	50%

University/Other (not for profit)	50%

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

6 Annex: Country specific eligibility rules applicable to the Chips for Europe Initiative calls 2026

The conditions and rules expressed in the next Participating State' sections apply only to the participants of that Participating State in particular as to their eligibility for national funding or as to the attribution of national funding.

Austria

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First name	Tel	E-mail
AUSTRIA	Hartmann	Olaf	+43 (0)5 7755 4902	olaf.Hartmann@ffg.at
AUSTRIA	Ristanic	Daniela	+43 (0)5 7755-5137	daniela.ristanic@ffg.at

National Funding Agency for Austria: FFG

The full version of the national eligibility criteria can be found at the national homepage of the Call www.ffg.at/chips/as2025.

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

Type or nature of participants

Legal entities, partnerships and sole traders that are not part of the Austrian federal administration are eligible to receive funding.

The following are eligible for funding:

- Companies of any legal form
- Institutions of research and knowledge dissemination
  - Universities[12]
  - Universities of applied sciences
  - Non-university research institutions
  - Technology transfer institutions, innovation agents and other research-oriented organisations such as associations with a relevant purpose
- Other non-commercial institutions
  - Local authorities and autonomous bodies (Note: Activities of local authorities falling within
  - their statutory mandate are not eligible for funding)

[12] The smallest possible unit of a university is an institute of the university or a organisation comparable to a UOG 2002/§20 organisation unit. It is a precondition that the participating organisation unit (institute or comparable unit) is authorised with corresponding mandate according to UOG 2002/§ 27. Units below (for example working groups) can not act as project partners.

- Non-profit making organisations such as NPOs("Non-profit making organisations" do not distribute profits to their owners, members or other natural persons or legal entities in accordance with their legal status or articles of association.)

Legal, administrative, and financial conditions

The national application of Austrian partners has to be submitted electronically via eCall before the deadline of the project submission.

Formal correctness and completeness of the application are examined in a formal check.

FFG experts will check the financial viability (credit rating and liquidity) of the participating enterprises. It is not possible to provide funding to undertakings in difficulty (as defined in the General Block Exemption Regulation (OJ L 187/19 in its current version, Art. 2 subpar. 18). Austrian enterprises have to provide the following documents:

- Annual statement of accounts (balance sheet, profit and loss account) from the past 2 financial years;
- Declaration of SME Status for associations and sole traders
- The company size is to be determined according to the SME definition as specified by EU competition law: information on SME definition.

Criteria on project composition for the Austrian participants

The ratio of the personnel resources (persons*months allocated) between Austrian companies and Austrian research organisations has to be 1.5 to 1 or higher within each project bundle in the national contract preparation phase and throughout the entire project duration. All national submissions belonging to the same transnational (Chips JU) project are considered as a project bundle.

Other conditions

Under ECS Call the following Topics are eligible for national funding in the research category of experimental development:

- **HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA:** Global call according to SRIA 2024 (IA)
- **HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA FT1:** Focus topic on "RISC-V Automotive Hardware Platform"
- **HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA FT2:** Focus topic on "AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Engineering Automation"

The following Topic is eligible for national funding in the research category of industrial research:

- **HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-RIA**: Global RIA call

Under the Chips for Europe Initiative the following Topic is eligible for national funding in the research category of experimental development:

HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA-EDA: Call on Open-source EDA tools development

The planned distribution of the national budget to the different topics is outlined below:

Table 1 Budgetaufteilung (Indikative Werte) - Call 2025-1(IA)

Call 2025-1 (IA)	National Budget
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA **Global call according to SRIA 2024 (IA)**	3.0 Mio. EUR
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA FT1 **Focus topic on "RISC-V Automotive Hardware Platform"**	2.0 Mio. EUR
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA FT2 **Focus topic on "AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering Automation"**	1.4 Mio. EUR

Table 2 Budgetaufteilung (Indikative Werte) - Call 2025-1(RIA)

Call 2025-1 (RIA)	National Budget
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-RIA **Global call according to SRIA 2025 (RIA)**	3.6 Mio. EUR

Table 3 Budgetaufteilung (Indikative Werte) - Open-source EDA tools development

Open-source EDA tools development	National Budget
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA-EDA	0.5 Mio. EUR

Austria aims to reach a good balance between hardware-oriented projects and software oriented projects. Furthermore, the objective of the national funding programme is to prioritise projects that demonstrate a compelling impact in Austria, particularly those that strengthen the Austrian research and Industrial community in the field of Electronics and Software based Systems (see e.g. Technical Position Paper 2023 of the ESBS-Austria Association). Applicants are requested to take into consideration the total national commitment per topic (available national funding budget) when defining their participation in this Call. In order to support a reasonable balance in the distribution of national funding, single organisations should avoid applying for an excessive total national funding amount. Project participations of Austrian partners are eligible for national funding only if they comprise mainly R&D activities.

Eligibility of the costs and funding

Eligibility of costs

The eligibility of costs is in accordance with the national rules on eligible costs. For details on the eligibility of costs, see the Cost Guidelines Version 3.1. Eligible costs must be allocable directly to the project. This means that:

- they are incurred additionally to the normal operating costs during the funding period
- they are in accordance with the Funding Contract
- they can be evidenced by receipts or other type of valid documentation (e.g. timesheets, equipment use records, etc.)

Non-deductible value added tax paid by the beneficiary which is not refunded according to national legislation is eligible. The earliest possible date for the start of the project is after submission of the application for funding.

Funding rates

The maximum funding rates depend on the research category, the type and size of organisation and the call topic.

Percentage of the national subsidy to the beneficiaries

Table 4: Maximum funding rates

Research Category	Call and Topic8	Large enterprise	Medium-sized enterprise	Small enterprise	Research institutions and other institutions (non-commercial activities)
Experimental development	**HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA** Global call according to SRIA 2024 (IA)	up to 20 %	up to 20 %	up to 30 %	up to 30 %
Experimental development	**HORIZON- Chips-2025-IA FT1**	up to 15 %	up to 15 %	up to 25 %	up to 30 %
Experimental development	**HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA FT2**	up to 15 %	up to 15 %	up to 25 %	up to 30 %
Industrial Research	**HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-RIA** Global RIA call	up to 25 %	up to 35 %	up to 40 %	up to 35 %
Experimental development	**HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA-EDA**	up to 15 %	up to 20 %	up to 30 %	up to 30 %

To determine the company size see information on SME Definition. In addition, the following needs to be considered:

- If the contributions to the project involve a commercial activity, the funding rates for research institutions and other institutions are the same as those for enterprises.
- The centre of gravity of individual Austrian partner's project participation has to be within the type of action that the overall project addresses (RIA/IA).
- Experimental development does not extend beyond the system completion and validation (TRL 8). Exception: commercially usable prototypes and pilot projects,

if the developed product would be too expensive for demonstration and validation purposes alone.

Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

- Registration (national submission) at the eCall System
- Completion of all relevant forms
- Upload of relevant documents in the eCall: balance sheets, **"Chips 2025 Project Contribution for Austrian partners"**, etc.

Belgium

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First name	Tel	E-mail
BELGIUM				
Flanders	DEPREZ	Francis	+32 494 589672 +32 2 432 4301	francis.deprez@vlaio.be
	MONTE	Ann	+32 473 363600 +32 2 432 4207	ann.monte@vlaio.be
Brussels-Capital Region	MAAS	Stijn	+32 2 600 5067	smaas@innoviris.brussels
Wallonia	MORANA	Cedric	+32 81 33 45 37	cedric.morana@spw.wallonie.be

Funding authority websites: Flanders: www.vlaio.be
Brussels: www.innoviris.brussels
Wallonia : www.recherche.wallonie.be

Additional for Chips JU (Flanders):

- www.vlaio.be Chips JU specific pages
- https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/subsidies-voor-ooi-een-internationaal-consortium/netwerken/chips-ju-chips-joint-undertaking Chips JU specific pages

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

1) Type or nature of participants

For Flanders:
The participant must be a company established in Belgium, with a sustainable economic activity in Flanders, based upon a sound business model.
Flemish Strategic Research Centres (SOC) can be independent legitimate participants.
Research centres and universities can only be legitimate participants in projects compliant to the Flemish O&O-subsidy conditions (Research Partner)
For Brussels:
Participants in CHIPS JU projects wishing to receive funding from Innoviris must be companies, universities or research organisations (in accordance with the definitions provided for by the General Block exemption Regulation for State Aid and the Brussels legislation

regulating the action of Innoviris) established on the territory of the Brussels-Capital Region and performing RDI activities within the project.
Please note that no individual partner alone is allowed to support more than 70% of the project's cost.

For Wallonia:

Participants in CHIPS JU projects must be companies, universities/Colleges or accredited research centres established in the Walloon Region and performing RDI activities within the project.

2) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

For Flanders:

Any double public funding of activities is prohibited.
In case of a multinational company, the application needs to be done by the Belgian legal entity or subsidiary.
For the independent project participation of a research centre or university, the legitimate status of Strategic Research Centre (SOC) is mandatory. A specific agreement with VLAIO is compulsory and Flemish governmental funding outside "Fonds voor Innoveren en Ondernemen" applies.
For enterprises "State Aid for Rescuing and Restructuring Firms in Difficulty" is applicable, according Europea definitions (holding level).

For Brussels:

For Brussels enterprises wishing to benefit from Innoviris funding, the financing conditions are as follows:

- develop all or some of its R&D activities within the territory covered by the Brussels-Capital Region
- present an innovative RDI project likely to have a favourable impact on employment and/or sustainable development of the Brussels-Capital Region
- show one's ability to finance one's share in the projecto
- the company is not in difficulty, in accordance with the European legislation
- have fulfilled its obligations in the context of previous support initiatives allocated by the Region.

No other public funding (except the European contribution provided by the JU) can be received by the beneficiaries for the activities performed within the project. Any other funding must be declared to Innoviris.

For Wallonia:

The Walloon decree on RDI support (25/06/2008) is the Walloon legal basis to determine the funding of the participants. Participants must be based in Wallonia and the Walloon company(ies) must have a business unit in Wallonia.
The companies have to present an innovative RDI project with a favourable impact on the Walloon economy and/or in terms of employment in alignment with the Walloon S3, as well on sustainable development in Wallonia.
The participants cannot benefit from any other public funding for the same activities.

The participants have fulfilled their obligations in the context of previous support allocated by the Region.
The companies in difficulty, in accordance with the European legislation, cannot not be funded.

3) Consortium configuration

For Flanders:
Project application is done by either an enterprise with a legal entity in Belgium and effective operations in Flanders or a legitimate Strategic Research Centre.
Project participation needs to be primarily executed to the benefit of the applying entities.
Participation of research organisations is only possible as research partner (legal subcontracting) to the participation of an enterprise with co-funding by the enterprise.
Applications compliant to the status of Strategic Research Centre need to be done independently.
For Brussels:
Participants in CHIPS JU projects wishing to receive funding from Innoviris must be a company or a research organisation.
For Wallonia:
The Walloon partners of the consortium must include at least one company and the research budget of the Walloon partner company(ies) must correspond to at least 40% of the total budget of all Walloon partners.

4) Other conditions

For Flanders:
Enterprises need to prove adequate (financial) means to execute the project and a potential to use the results.
The project should yield socio-economic effects which can be quantified by activities or investments after the completion of the project, by exploitation in Flanders based entities, in accordance with the ruling detailed in the document (except for project applications by Strategic Research Centres). Conditions are compliant to the impact conditions of O&O, detailed on:
www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject/voorwaarden-om-aanmerking-te-komen-voor-de-subsidie (RIA-projects)
www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/ontwikkelingsproject/wie-komt-aanmerking-en-onder-welke-voorwaarden (IA-projects)
Project qualification ‘research’ or ‘development’ will follow Chips JU call rationale (IA, RIA or additional calls).
In case of potential military applications (including dual use), funding can be restricted.
For Brussels:
Exploitation and valorisation conditions:
Brussels-based participants must demonstrate their capability to carry out the tasks assigned to them in the project, exploit the results of the latter and the project's likelihood to have a positive impact on the Brussels-Capital Region from a social, environmental and the regional ecosystem

perspective 's (economy, employment, and/or sustainable development, inequalities, working conditions, well-being, …).
In case of potential military applications (including dual use), funding can be restricted.

For Wallonia:

The participants must demonstrate their capability to carry out the tasks assigned to them in the project, exploit the results of the latter and have positive impacts on Wallonia from a socio-economic and sustainable development perspective.
Projects must be targeted at civilian technologies, products, processes and services only.

5) Eligibility of costs

For Flanders

Eligibility of costs is in accordance with the ruling of the O&O bedrijfssteun of Flanders, detailed in the documents available on:
https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject/welk-bedrag-kan-je-krijgen-de-subsidie-onderzoeksproject
www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/ontwikkelingsproject/financiele-steun-voor-een-ontwikkelingsproject
Eligible cost calculation will be done on the costs formulated in the CHIPS JU application. The cost model applicable is the Chips JU eligible cost system (Horizon Europe)
In case of stand-alone Strategic Research Centre projects, CHIPS JU eligible cost system (Horizon Europe) is applicable for both Chips JU and SOC funding.

For Brussels

For Chips JU projects, the Brussels-Capital Region will align on the JU and will therefore not apply additional rules, such as the regional rules applicable for individual RDI projects, on the eligibility of costs. The eligible costs will therefore be those retained by the JU for the European contributions in accordance with the Horizon Europe Rules for Participation.

For Wallonia:

The eligibility of costs is in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Public Service of Wallonia available on:
Guide-des-dépenses-admissibles_aides.pdf

6) Funding rates

For Flanders

	Percentage of the national subsidy to the beneficiaries			

Type of Organisation / Type of activity	Large Enterprises, Groups and Associations of Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Public Research Institutes and Universities (2) (3)
Industrial/Applied Research projects	65%-JU	70%-JU	70%-JU	= JU (1:1 ratio)
Experimental development projects	40%-JU	50%-JU	60%-JU	= JU (1:1 ratio)

Notes:

1. These percentages are maxima and given under the constraints that the project proposal fulfils the Chips JU eligibility criteria and that no participant in the Chips JU project holds more than 70% of the total (international) Chips JU project budget.
2. The funding of stand-alone Strategic Research Centre contributions is determined by specific project related agreement with VLAIO. These projects have no specific funding limit. The eligible costs for these projects may be set equal to the Chips JU eligible costs.
3. The funding of public research institutes and universities in projects initiated by enterprises in Belgium, is determined by the general principles of O&O-bedrijfsprojecten as published on the websites
   www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject/wat-houdt-de-subsidie-onderzoeksproject
   www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/ontwikkelingsproject/wat-is-een-ontwikkelingsproject

In case of non-SOC RTO participation, the funding level of the participating (initiating) enterprise applies. The participating (initiating) enterprises are to cover the non-funded costs. Except for stand-alone Strategic Research Centre projects, funding is limited to € 3M per project. Total funding for FIO funded projects (non SOC) may be limited to € 4M. Funding to enterprises may be limited if combined R&D funding (national and Joint Undertaking) to an enterprise exceeds VLAIO applicable ruling, part of the extended eligibility criteria.

For Brussels:

Type of Organisation / Type of activity	Percentage of the national subsidy to the beneficiaries			

	Large Enterprises, Groups and Associations of Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Public Research Institutes and Universities
Industrial/Applied Research projects	65%-JU%	75%-JU%	80%-JU%	100%-JU%
Experimental development projects	40%-JU%	50%-JU%	60%-JU%	100%-JU%

Notes:
These percentages are maxima and given under the constraints that the project proposal fulfils the Chips JU eligibility criteria and that no participant in the Chips JU project holds more than 70% of the total (international) Chips JU project budget.
Project funding for Brussels may be limited to € 0,5M.

For Wallonia:

Type of Organisation / Type of activity	Percentage of the regional subsidy to the beneficiaries				
	Large Enterprises, Groups and Associations of Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities	Accredited Research Centers
Industrial/Applied Research projects	65%-JU%	75%-JU%	80%-JU%	100%-JU%	75%-JU%
Experimental development projects	40%-JU%	50%-JU%	60%-JU%	100%-JU%	75%-JU%

Notes:

1.These percentages are **maxima** and given under the constraints that the project proposal fulfills the Chips JU eligibility criteria and that no participant in the Chips JU project holds more than 70% of the total (international) Chips JU project budget.

2. The proposed research activities will be qualified 'industrial research' or 'experimental development' according to the above-mentioned Walloon decree. The funding of Experimental Development projects might be carried out by means of recoverable advances (Taux de financement des projets internationaux_2021.pdf).

Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions

For Flanders:

Additional information is mandatory as of the FPP-phase. Application according the Chips JU application form www.vlaio.be/nl/media/739 is mandatory (endorsing the application compulsory by Chips JU FPP closing date). European application format is requested. Starting the application procedure (without endorsement) is recommended as of the Chips JU PO phase.

For Brussels

The submission of a Part C containing additional information is compulsory for all Brussels partners. The Part C template is available on the INNOVIRIS website https://innoviris.brussels/ (get-funded/ Collaboration/ECSEL).

For Wallonia:

The submission of a Part C containing additional information is compulsory for all Walloon partners. The Part C template is available on the website (www.recherche.wallonie.be).

Czechia

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Czechia	Vávra	Michal	+420 773 793 439	Michal.Vavra@msmt.cz

(Web site or any other information source of the national funding authority as a reference to the applicants.)

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (https://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/spolecne-technologicke-iniciativy-5-1**)**

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

Public universities, public research institutes, private research organisations and/or other legal entities that can be classified as **"research and knowledge-dissemination organisations"** (hereinafter referred to as the "research organisation") in accordance with the Commission Regulation (EU) No 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (Chapter I, Article 2, Paragraph 83).

"Enterprises" – Small, medium and/or large-sized enterprises as defined by the Commission Regulation (EU) No 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (Chapter I, Article 2, Paragraphs 2 and 24), listed in Business Register of the Czech Republic and performing research, development and innovation in the Czech Republic.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

Public funding of research, development and innovation in the Czech Republic is provided pursuant to the **Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on the Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from Public Funds** and on the Amendment to Some Related Acts (hereinafter referred to as the "Act on the Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation").

c) Consortium configuration

The Czech fraction of a Chips JU project consortium in the ECS R&I calls must be configured from at least one enterprise registered in the Czech Republic and at

least one research organisation, both these entities fulfilling the requirements stipulated in the clause 1 "Type or nature of participants", thus complying with the Public-Private-Partnership principle. For Chips for Europe Initiative calls, due to a different type of the calls, such a condition is not foreseen.

d) Other conditions

It is obligatory that a Czech participant involved in a Chips JU project consortium proves its compliance with the eligibility criteria and fulfilment of the conditions stipulated by § 18 of the Act on the Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation by the means of a **Statutory Declaration**. The required procedures are described and the Statutory Declaration template is available on the website https://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/spolecne-technologicke-iniciativy-5-1.

Furthermore, applicants that seriously breached their obligations towards the MEYS, acting as the NFA, stemming from the applicable legislation or the Grant Agreement issued by the MEYS during validity of the Chips JU programme or any of its predecessors, shall be considered ineligible for the national funding.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

Eligible costs for a Czech participant involved in a Chips JU project consortium are defined by:

Either Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013; Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012. In such a case the **maximum indirect costs** are 25 % (flat rate) of the direct costs without the sub-contracting.

or Regulation (EU) 2021/694 of the European parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the Digital Europe Programme and repealing Decision (EU) 2015/2240. In such a case the **maximum indirect costs** are 7 % (flat rate) of the direct costs without the sub-contracting.

The legislative framework defined for the eligibility of costs reflects the EU funding programme from which the EU support is provided and the rules of eligibility that are applied by the European Commission (either Horizon Europe, or Digital Europe).

b) National public funding rates

The MEYS consider the Research and Innovation Actions (RIA) being industrial research projects and the Innovation Actions (IA) being experimental development projects. Given these circumstances, the maximum intensity of the MEYS aid will be derived from the Commission Regulation (EU) No 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (Chapter III, Section 4, Article 25, Paragraph 5).

The maximum aid intensity for industrial research and experimental development will not be increased by the MEYS although the Czech participants in a Chips JU project consortium meet the conditions stipulated by the Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (Chapter III, Section 4, Article 25, Paragraph 6). The maximum aid intensities stipulated in the table below are definitive.

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**Small and medium sized enterprises**	**Research organisations***
Research and Innovation Actions (RIA) projects = **Industrial Research**	50 % including EU contribution	70 % including EU contribution	100 % including EU contribution
Innovation Actions (IA) projects = **Experimental Development**	40 % including EU contribution	50 % including EU contribution	100 % including EU contribution

* **The aid intensity for research and development activities carried out by the research organisation might be at the level of 100 % (EU and the Czech national contribution included)** only if the research organisation entirely complies with the requirements stipulated by the Article 2.1.1 "Public funding of non-economic activities" of State aid framework for research and development and innovation (2022/C 414/01) and proves it by the means of a **Statutory Declaration** submitted to the MEYS using the form available on website https://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/spolecne-technologicke-iniciativy-5-1.

If a legal entity does not comply with all the requirements stipulated for the research organisation, it will be considered as an enterprise (small, medium or large) and the aid intensity will be then adjusted appropriately by the MEYS.

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

All the information concerning additional requirements stipulated by the MEYS for the Chips JU programme are available on website https://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/spolecne-technologicke-iniciativy-5-1.

Cyprus

Total Budget for WP 2024 (ECS): € 2.000.000
Max. Funding Per Project: € 500.000
Funding Agency: Research and Innovation Foundation (RIF)

National Contact Points for KDT/Chips JU Programme

Country	Surname	Name	Email	Tel.
CYRPUS	Portokallides	Marinos	mportokallides@research.org.cy	+35722205052

A. Specific Restrictions and Conditions for Participation

All general rules and procedures for the participation of organisations and individuals, the eligible activities and costs, as well as the specific information regarding the «Innovation Vouchers» Programme, as well as the other RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes, are included in the RIF's Work Programme for the «RESTART 2016-2020» Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation, which is the main reference document and an important information source for interested parties.

Furthermore, specific information for each Call can be found in the relevant National Call Documents:

- **EP/KDT-CHIPS-IA/0324**
- **EP/KDT-CHIPS-IA-FT/0324**
- **EP/KDT-CHIPS-RIA/0324**

1) Beneficiaries

Host Organisation (of the Cypriot Consortium) could be an Enterprise, a Research Organisation or an Other Private or Public Organisation.

Research Organisations, Enterprises and Other Private or Public Organisations can participate as Partner Organisations (in the Cypriot Consortium).

Maximum number of organisations in the Cypriot Consortium should be between one to three (1-3).

Participation of Large Enterprises is only permitted when an SME is also participating in the Cypriot Consortium.

Participation of startups is not allowed except for those with marketable products/services, with a record for sales and turnover and audited financial statements for at least two (2) years.

Each Enterprise can receive funding from the RIF for a maximum of two (2) Projects in the frame of «European Partnerships – Key Digital Technologies» Programme during the 2021-2027 period.

For Innovation Actions:

- The participation of an SME in the Cypriot Consortium is obligatory.
- At least 30% of the Cypriot consortium's participants budget should be allocated to Enterprises.

2) National Application

The Coordinator of the Cypriot Consortium should also submit a Proposal on the RIF's IRIS Portal (https://iris.research.org.cy). The Project Coordinator and all local participating organizations of the Cypriot Consortium, should register in advance on the IRIS Portal.

Potential applicants are advised to read the **«Guide for Applicants»**, which contains guidelines and clarifications regarding the Submission procedure and the **«IRIS Portal User Manual»** which can be found on the IRIS Portal (https://iris.research.org.cy/#/documentlibrary).

The Proposal submitted to the RIF includes only general information regarding the Transnational Proposal (Title, Acronym etc), the Coordinator of the Cypriot Consortium and the partner organisations of the Transnational Consortium (including the Cypriot organisations) as well as detailed budget for each partner participating in the Cypriot Consortium. The budget of each organization should be the same with the budget to be included in the Proposal submitted to the EU.

The Project Proposal consists of the following parts:

1. Part A – General Information & Budget (electronic form (fields) to be completed online through the IRIS Portal).
2. ANNEX II – Call Specific Information to be disclosed to the Evaluators – **Mandatory Submission** (document to be uploaded as an Annex on the IRIS Portal in PDF format and includes the «SMART SPECIALISATION SECTORS (S3Cy 2023-2030)» Table for the selection of the Priority Sector/ of the Smart Specialisation Strategy that the Proposal is applied to). *The relevant document is available in IRIS Portal, under the specific Call (Call Documents). The selection is obligatory and should be limited to only one Priority Sector.*
3. ANNEX III – Call Specific Information – **Mandatory Submission** (document to be uploaded as Annex on the IRIS Portal in PDF format): *Financial Statements: Audited Financial Statements of the Host Organisation for the previous financial year or the year preceding it, for the purposes of preliminary and financial viability check – Obligatory Submission. Organisations undergone a financial viability check by the RIF in the frame of previous contract preparation, with valid financial viability check results, are exempted.*

Eligibility of Costs and Funding

National Calls will be co-financed by the Republic of Cyprus and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), in the frame of the Operational Programme «ΘΑλΕΙΑ» 2021-2027 under Priority 1: «Competitive, Smart and Digital Economy» and the Specific Objective

(1i): «Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies».

1) Eligible Costs

Personnel costs, Instruments and Equipment Costs, Costs for External Services, Costs for Travelling Abroad, Consumables, Other Specific Costs, Overheads.

It is noted that, all beneficiaries that have not previously participated in the RESTART 2026-2020 Programmes, should make use of the simplified cost Method «Standard Scales of Unit Costs» for the calculation of personnel costs.

Eligible Costs are described in the RIF's Work Programme for the «RESTART 2016-2020» Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation.

2) Funding Rates

	Small Enterprise	**Medium Enterprise**	**Large Enterprise**	**«Research Organisations» and «Other Public and Broader Public Sector Organisations»**
HORIZON-Chips 2024-1-IA T1 ***(Experimental Development Activities)***	30%	20%	20%	65%
HORIZON- Chips 2024-1-IA T2 **HORIZON- Chips 2024-1-IA T3** ***(Experimental Development Activities)***	30%	20%	15%	65%
HORIZON- Chips 2024-2-RIA T1 **HORIZON- Chips 2024-2-RIA T2** ***(Industrial Research Activities)***	45%	40%	40%	65%

Denmark – Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD)

National contact persons for Chips JU program

For specific questions regarding eligibility to national co-funding or the national application procedure, please contact **Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD)**:

Country	Last Name	First name	Telephone	E-mail
Denmark	G. Marques	Daniel	+45 6190 5006	daniel.g.marques@innofond.dk
	Bruun Gunnestrup	Klaus	+45 6190 5046	klaus.bruun.gunnestrup@innofond.dk
	General contact		N/A	internationale@innofond.dk

For specific questions regarding Danish interested groups and international consortia, please contact the **Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science (UFS)**:

Country	Last Name	First name	Telephone	E-mail
Denmark	Lange	Alexandra	+45 7231 7937	alel@ufm.dk
	Humer	Matthias	+45 7231 8710	matu@ufm.dk

Unless otherwise specified in this Annex, the IFD's Guidelines for International Projects apply. Please find **IFD's Guidelines for International Projects**, templates for required documentation, and additional supporting information here (full link below):

- https://innovationsfonden.dk/en/p/international-collaborations

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project for calls in the Work Programme 2025

1. Type or nature of participants

- All Danish organizations directly involved in activities in the projects are eligible as applicants to IFD.

2. Legal, administrative and financial conditions

- Please refer to IFD's Guidelines for International Projects (link at the top).

3. Consortium configuration

- No national requirements regarding consortium configuration, unless specified under conditions for maximum national funding. Innovation Fund Denmark encourages Danish applicants to maximize impact in Denmark, as well as cross-sectoral collaborations.

4. Other conditions

- Danish applicants must access the national e-grant system and provide the requested documentation.
- Usually 2-4 weeks after the central submission deadline, Danish applicants will receive a request to access their case in the national e-grant system. Applicants will be requested to:
    - Upload the international project proposal, including annexes and budgets.
    - Further mandatory documentation will be requested to non-public organisations via e-grant. The templates for the mandatory documentation can be found under Documents (link also at the top).
- In case the application is selected for funding, Danish applicants are required to submit a consortium agreement signed by all project participants before the start of the project, according to IFD's Guidelines.

Eligibility of the costs and funding for calls in the Work Programme 2025

1. Eligibility of costs

The eligibility of costs is regulated by the IFD's Guidelines for International Projects. Eligible costs:

- Salaries
- Travel
- Subcontracting
- Materials
- Communication and knowledge sharing
- Other expenses
- Overhead (according to the applicable rates, see below).

2. National funding

Both maximum and minimum funding *amounts* and maximum funding *rates* apply.

Maximum national funding amounts

Maximum national funding of **650.000 EUR** per project (if there is more than one Danish partner) and maximum **650.000 EUR** per Danish partner. If the coordinator is a Danish organisation, then the maximum national funding is **1.300.000 EUR** per project and **650.000 EUR** per Danish partner. These are higher maximum funding amounts than the standard indicated in the Guidelines for International Projects. The minimum funding amount is **50.000 EUR** per partner. EU co-funding is not included in the maximum and minimum national funding amounts.

Maximum national funding rates

The maximum national funding rates are regulated by the Guidelines for International projects. Maximum national funding rates depend on the applicant's type of organisation. In addition, applicants may be eligible for EU co-funding according to the Chips JU criteria and maximum co-funding rates.

Maximum national funding rates are given in the table below in relation to the national eligible costs.

Maximum national funding rates[13]					
	Call	**Large Enterprises***	**SMEs***	**GTS and other Research Institutes**	**Universities and other public entities**
ECS	Global RIA Call (Industrial Research)	40 %	40 %	25 %	55 %
ECS	Global IA Call (Experimental Development)	20 %	20 %	25 %	55 %
ECS	IA Focus Topics Calls FT1 and FT2 (Experimental Development)	20 %	20 %	25 %	55 %
Chips	Heterogeneous integration for high-performance automotive computing Call (Experimental Development)	15 %	15 %	25 %	55 %
Chips	Low power Edge AI Chips Call (Experimental Development)	15 %	15 %	25 %	55 %

[13] Contact IFD before application for information on the maximum national funding rates for approved Danish national cluster organisations and requirements for organisations with the special status of research and knowledge dissemination institutions, as defined in IFD's Guidelines (link at the top).

Accelerator for Advanced sSOI (Experimental Development)				
Open-source EDA tools development Call (Experimental Development)	20 %	20 %	10 %	40 %

*All organisations carrying out economic activities in the project are considered as enterprises.

National maximum funding rates are adjusted to Chips JU maximum EU co-funding rates so that the total maximum funding rates (national and EU co-funding) follow IFD's standard maximum funding rates according to the Guidelines for International Projects[14].

Special funding rules for the calls for Quantum Pilots (SGA-QAC1 and SGA-QAC2)

For these specific calls, the funding is regulated by the **Annex to the Guidelines for International projects** published at IFD's call announcement.

The **maximum national funding rate is 50% for all types of organisations**. No maximum national funding amounts apply per partner or per project besides the available budget for the calls. In addition, applicants may be eligible for EU co-funding according to the Chips JU criteria and maximum co-funding rates.

Rates for indirect costs (overhead)

Applicable overhead rates according to the Guidelines for International Projects. Costs with subcontracting are not eligible for overhead.

Rates for indirect costs (overhead)[1]			
Universities and public research institutions	**Approved Danish National Cluster Organisations**	**Danish GTS**	**Others[15]**
44 %	20 %	0% (salaries are multiplied by the GTS cost factor)	0 %

[14] National funding will be subject to conditions in current state aid rules (Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014). If other public funding, besides the EU funding, will be granted for the project, the listed maximum rates for national funding will be reduced if required to ensure that aid intensity limits in the state aid rules are respected. Beneficiaries must submit declarations regarding company size and financial situation.

[15] For Public Hospitals the overhead rate is 3,1 %.

Estonia

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Estonia	Vedina	Rebekka	+372 56976673	rebekka.vedina@etag.ee
	Suuroja	Margit	+372 731 7360	margit.suuroja@etag.ee

Estonian Research Council www.etag.ee

The full version of the national eligibility criteria can be found at: Lisa_Vastavusnõuded RV ühiskonkurssidel (etag.ee)

1. **Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project**

a) Type or nature of participants

The Host Institution could be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia and has an Estonian bank account.

The Host Institution (the final recipient) is the institution to which the grant will be allocated.

The Principal Investigator is a researcher who acts as the Estonian team leader in the project proposal. The Principal Investigator will be responsible for how the grant is used and how the Estonian part in the project is executed.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

The Host Institution:

After the submission deadline (in case of two-stage application, after the preproposal deadline) and upon the notice from the Estonian Research Council, the Host Institution must confirm to the Council in the written form that the project can be carried out on their premises in Estonia and that they will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding.

If the Host Institution is a for-profit institution, the State aid and de minimis aid regulations must be taken into account. For details on State aid and de minimis aid please see the full version of the national eligibility criteria at Lisa_Vastavusnõuded RV ühiskonkurssidel (etag.ee)

If the State aid or de minimis aid regulations apply, the funding will not be granted to a Host Institution who has been subject to a funding withdrawal decision pursuant to a previous European Commission decision that deemed the aid illegal and incompatible with the common market, if that decision has not been complied with.

In case of a positive financing decision the Host Institution and the Estonian Research Council will enter into a bilateral agreement. Information on the transnational project must be entered into ETIS once the agreement has been signed.

The Principal Investigator:

- must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline;

- must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded by the submission deadline of the grant application;

- must have published at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to the proposal submission deadline. International patents are equalled with publications specified under Clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS Clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications specified in Clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or fewer.

If the Principal Investigator has received the PhD degree outside Estonia, its correspondence to an Estonian doctoral degree must be recognised by either the Estonian ENIC-NARIC Center or the Host Institution in accordance with the Regulation of the Government of the Republic of April 6, 2006, No. 89 "Evaluation and academic recognition of documents proving foreign education and the name of the qualification awarded in the foreign education system terms and conditions of use". The Estonian Research Council may ask for a relevant Evaluation Report[16].

If several Estonian institutions participate in a proposal, all institutions must have a Principal Investigator who meets the national eligibility criteria.

c) Consortium configuration

Each partner in a funded project will be funded by their national Funding Organisation. It is mandatory for all Estonian applicants to follow the national eligibility criteria. Please note that if one of the partners is not eligible, the entire proposal might be considered ineligible.

The Consortium Agreement should be signed at the latest six months after the grant agreement has been signed. If one year has elapsed and the CA has not been signed, the next instalment of funding will not be paid out.

d) Other conditions

If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Estonian Research Council by the start of the relevant activities.

By applying for funding by the Estonian Research Council, the applicants agree to consider the relevance of the Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration, if applicable.

Following the restrictions laid down in Article 7 of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council No 2021/1058 of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund[17] research and other activities related to fossil fuels and their use, as well as other activities not eligible as per Article 7 of the Regulation, cannot be funded from the European Regional Development Fund (Mobilitas 3.0) resources.

[16] The required documents and procedure, including the application form can be found on the web page https://www.harno.ee/en/enicnaric. The evaluation period can take up to 30 days.
[17] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R1058

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

i. Eligibility of costs

Research expenses consist of direct costs (personnel costs, travel costs and other direct costs) and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be separately identifiable.

Direct costs

1. Personnel costs are monthly salaries with social security charges and all the other statutory costs of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution.

2. Travel costs may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel insurance only for travels abroad.

3. Other direct costs are:

- consumables and minor equipment related to the project;
- publication and dissemination of project results;
- organising meetings, seminars or conferences (room rent, catering);
- fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events related to the project;
- patent costs;
- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, etc.) and comply with the eligible costs.

Subcontracting costs should cover only the additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs.

Indirect costs (overhead) may not exceed **15% of the personnel costs** and should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (a copy machine or a printer that is publicly used, phone bills, copy service, etc.) should be covered from the overhead.

Double funding of activities is not acceptable.

If several Estonian institutions participate in one proposal, the sum of their requested budgets may not exceed the maximum contribution of the respective national Funding Organisation indicated in the call documents.

ii. National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	yes	yes	yes
Innovation Action	yes	Yes	yes

Estonian Research Council funds a successful participant with up to 300 000 EUR for consortium coordinator or up to 150 000 EUR for consortium partner. The total funding for ECS calls 2024 is 300 000 EUR.

Finland

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Finland	Ahola	Kimmo	+358 50 5577 756	kimmo.ahola@businessfinland.fi
	Ihanus	Veli-Pekka	+358 40 7046 362	veli-pekka.ihanus@businessfinland.fi

Finland's national public funding authority is *Innovation Funding Agency Business Finland*.
The evaluation of each participant's eligibility for funding is carried out using the criteria for Business Finland national R&D funding.

Business Finland funding principles can be found at:
www.businessfinland.fi/en (English)
www.businessfinland.fi (Finnish)

1. **Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project**

a) Type or nature of participants

- Companies (enterprises)
- Industry associations
- Universities and polytechnics
- Public research institutes and similar research organizations.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

- A company has considerable industrial or R&D&I activities in Finland.
- A company has a clear financial record and has the financial capability to cover its own expenses during the project
- Funding cannot be granted to a company that is a 'firm in difficulty' according to the EU definition.

c) Consortium configuration

- Research and Innovation Actions (RIA) projects: A public research institute, university or a polytechnic shall be accompanied in the project by at least three companies (Partner or Associated) in Finland. The project volume (costs) of public research institutes, universities and polytechnics from Finland combined shall not

exceed 70 % of the total volume (costs) of Finnish participants based on national Business Finland funding rules.

- Innovation Action (IA) projects: A public research institute, university or a polytechnic shall be accompanied in the project by at least two eligible (Partner) companies in Finland. The project volume (costs) of public research institutes, universities and polytechnics from Finland combined shall not exceed 30 % of the total volume (costs) of Finnish participants based on national (Business Finland) funding rules.

d) Other conditions

- The project participation must aim for significant business and export growth as well as have sufficient positive impact on the Finnish economy or society.
- Priority is given to topics that are not covered by already funded projects.
- Priority is given to projects that facilitate and implement strong international cooperation between companies.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

- Eligibility of the costs is in accordance with the national (Business Finland) funding rules.

b) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	20 % grant	35 % grant	38 % grant
Innovation Action	20 % grant	35 % grant	38 % grant

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

Every participant from Finland must submit a separate Business Finland funding application within 14 days of the call Full Proposal closure date.

France

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First name	Tel	E-mail
France	RITOU	Arnaud	+33 1 53 18 36 16	arnaud.ritou@finances.gouv.fr
	BEDOUET	Loane	+33 1 53 18 20 97	loane.bedouet@finances.gouv.fr

Website reference: https://www.entreprises.gouv.fr/fr/numerique/enjeux/soutien-la-nanoelectronique

Exigences légales pour l'éligibilité d'un partenaire ou d'un projet.

The items published in French in the following text are the official national eligibility criteria for funding. The following items published in English are a translation. The text in French takes precedence over the text in English.

Les porteurs français d'une proposition de projet pour un appel à projets Chips JU en 2025 doivent, pour être éligibles, avoir été retenus pour ce projet par un mécanisme de financement national, avant la sélection des projets Chips JU par le comité des autorités publiques de l'entreprise commune :

- au titre du **volet français** du PIEEC électronique et connectivité, s'ils en sont bénéficiaires et dans les conditions prévues par le programme ;
- au titre d'un appel à projets national ou régional, en respectant les conditions spécifiques à cet appel.

Les partenaires doivent impérativement contacter les correspondants nationaux indiqués au début de cette annexe avant le dépôt de la « Project Outline » (pour les appels en deux phases) ou de la proposition finale (pour les appels en une seule phase).

L'objectif de ce contact est d'orienter le demandeur vers le guichet le plus adapté, de préparer l'examen des critères d'éligibilité nationaux, et pour les chefs de file du PIEEC électronique et connectivité, de préciser les démarches à mener afin de déterminer la conformité du projet avec les axes stratégiques du programme.

Financement dans le cadre du volet français du PIEEC électronique et connectivité

Les critères suivants ne s'appliquent qu'aux porteurs de projets retenus au titre du programme national (sans nom à date) dans le cadre du **volet français du** PIEEC électronique et connectivité et ne préjugent

pas de l'application des règles légales et règlementaires en vigueur concernant l'attribution de subventions par l'État français.

Pour les partenaires ayant déposé une demande de financement au titre d'un appel à projets national ou régional, ils doivent se référer au cahier des charges de l'appel à projets en question.

1) *Type ou nature des participants*

- Entreprises privées ou publiques de toutes tailles
- Universités
- Instituts de recherche

2) *Conditions légales, administratives et financières*

Les travaux ne doivent pas déjà avoir fait l'objet d'un soutien public (hors mesures fiscales génériques) ni être en redondance avec des travaux similaires financés par les autorités françaises, ni avoir été engagés avant la date de début du projet indiqué dans la « *Full Project Proposal* »

La situation financière de chaque partenaire privé doit être validée (structure financière, flux de trésorerie, compte d'exploitation) et jugée compatible (volume d'activité, moyens humains, moyens financiers) avec le montant et le contenu de l'assiette des dépenses ainsi qu'avec le montant de l'aide sollicitée et des aides publiques déjà accordées par ailleurs.

3) *Cohérence avec le PIEEC électronique et connectivité et le plan France 2030*

Les porteurs de projets doivent s'intégrer dans les objectifs globaux du PIEEC électronique et connectivité, et contribuer à lever un ou plusieurs verrous technologiques significatifs en vue de concevoir ou d'améliorer des produits, services ou procédés, ainsi que mettre en place les moyens de réalisation de ces produits et procédés. Ceux-ci doivent présenter pour eux des perspectives suffisantes de retombées sur le territoire de l'Union européenne, et notamment en France, en termes d'emplois, de compétitivité, de création de valeur et d'activité économique à court ou moyen terme.

Les propositions doivent comporter la participation d'au moins un chef de file français du PIIEC électronique et connectivité. Néanmoins, la coordination et le dépôt de la proposition peuvent être confiés à un autre partenaire du consortium.

Les travaux réalisés par les porteurs doivent être bien spécifiés et pouvoir être considérés comme « développement expérimental » ou « recherche industrielle » au sens de l'encadrement des aides d'Etat à la RDI. Conformément à ce régime d'aide, l'aide à chaque entreprise doit avoir un effet d'incitation sur ses activités de RDI.

Les partenaires doivent remplir les conditions d'éligibilité propres aux partenaires du PIEEC électronique et connectivité :

- déposer un dossier complet, au format imposé, sous forme électronique via la plateforme de Bpifrance,
- dont les modalités d'accès seront précisés par le contact national indiqué en début de cette

annexe ;

Intégrant les priorités de France 2030, l'aspect « émergent » ou « en développement » est un point particulier de sélection des partenaires de projets dans la mesure où France 2030 vise à faire émerger de nouveaux acteurs économiques.

Ainsi, les projets intégrant des acteurs tels que des entreprises de moins de 12 ans ou des PME/ETI opérant un pivot stratégique radical, les amenant à développer de nouveaux produits très innovants en rupture ou qui concernent des marchés émergents, ou en très forte croissance, ou procédant à des opérations de *build-up* avec des entreprises de moins de 3 ans ou encore en consortium de R&D collaborative avec des start-ups seront privilégiés.

4) Coûts éligibles

Les coûts éligibles français seront basés sur le montant obtenu en remplissant les annexes financières disponible sur la plateforme de Bpifrance, pour chaque partenaire français.

5) Taux de soutien

Type d'entreprise / Type de recherche	Grande entreprise (GE et ETI)	PME	Organisme de recherche en coûts marginaux	Organisme de recherche en coûts complets
Research and Innovative Action (RIA) **&** **Innovative Action (IA)**	20 %	30 %	100 % moins aide demandée à la JU	35%

6) Informations nécessaires à la soumission

Pour les porteurs éligibles au programme national (sans nom à date) dans le cadre du volet français PIEEC électronique et connectivité, et en complément du dossier de soumission du projet, transmis à l'entreprise commune, le responsable français de chaque projet doit adresser aux autorités françaises, un dossier sur la plateforme de Bpifrance consacrée dont le contact national lui précisera les modalités d'accès.

Le dossier soumis doit **présenter les éléments permettant aux autorités françaises d'apprécier et de justifier l'admissibilité de l'aide** demandée par le porteur et ses partenaires. En particulier, le dossier doit comprendre, outre les documents requis au titre de l'appel à projets de l'entreprise commune, les documents spécifiés sur la plateforme mentionnée précédemment.

Financement dans le cadre d'appels à projets nationaux ou régionaux

Les partenaires ayant déposé une demande de financement au titre d'un appel à projets national ou régional, doivent se référer au cahier des charges des dispositifs en question pour connaitre leurs critères d'éligibilité et conditions de financements.

Des documents supplémentaires pourront être demandés, dans les conditions desdits appels à projets afin de permettre aux autorités décidant de l'octroi de l'aide, d'apprécier et de justifier l'admissibilité de l'aide demandée par le porteur et ses partenaires.

Les taux d'aide dépendront des conditions propres aux dispositifs dont les financements seront issus, et à la prise en compte par ces dispositifs de l'existence d'un cofinancement européen.

1) *Précisions relatives aux dispositifs s'inscrivant dans le cadre de France 2030*

Suivant les priorités du plan France 2030, l'aspect « émergent » ou « en développement » est un point particulier de sélection des partenaires, dans la mesure où France 2030 vise à faire émerger de nouveaux acteurs économiques.

Ainsi, les projets intégrant des acteurs tels que des entreprises de moins de 12 ans ou des PME/ETI opérant un pivot stratégique radical, les amenant à développer de nouveaux produits très innovants en rupture ou qui concernent des marchés émergents, ou en très forte croissance, ou procédant à des opérations de *build-up* avec des entreprises de moins de 3 ans ou encore en consortium de R&D collaborative avec des start-ups seront privilégiés.

Est notamment concerné, l'appel à projet I-Démo Europe.

À titre d'information, pour les projets dont le financement national serait obtenu au titre de l'appel à projets « I-Démo Europe », les taux prévus sont les suivants :

Type d'entreprise / Type de recherche	**Grande entreprise** (GE et ETI)	**PME**	**Organisme de recherche** (coûts complets)	**Organisme de recherche** (coûts marginaux)
Research and Innovative Action (RIA)	25 %	35 %	25%	65%
Innovative Action (IA)	20 %	30 %		

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

The items published in French in the following text are the official national eligibility criteria for funding. The items published in English are a translation. The text in French takes precedence over the text in English.

The indicative commitment previously indicated in this work programme, in the subpart *National Budgets for the call 2024*, is not a budget to allocate to French applicants to Chips JU calls, but an estimation of the ability of French partners to obtain national funding through mechanisms described below.

Consequently, **the French applicants of a Chips JU 2024 project proposal must, to be eligible, have been selected for this project to a national funding schemes, before the selection of Chips JU projects made by the Public Authorities Board of the JU:**

- through national program such as the French framework (successor of Nano 2022, not yet named) in the context of the upcoming IPCEI Microelectronics and Communication Technologies, if they are beneficiaries of it, and under the conditions of the program:.
- through a national or regional call, with respect to the specific conditions of this call.

Partners must contact the national correspondents before the Project Outline submission (for 2-stage calls) or before the final proposal submission (for single stage calls).
The aim of this contact is to direct the requestor to the most relevant financing mechanism, to prepare the national eligibility criteria examination, and for the French direct partner of the IPCEI ME-CT, to precise procedures to check the conformity of the project with the strategic lines of the program.

I. Funding through the French framework of the upcoming IPCEI Microelectronics and Communication Technologies

The following criteria are valid only for the applicants selected trough the French framework (not yet named) in the context of the upcoming IPCEI Microelectronic and Communication Technologies and are without prejudice to the application of legal rules and regulations concerning the allocation of public funding by the French State.
For partners who have submitted an application for funding under a national or regional call for projects, they must refer to the terms of reference of this call.

1) Type or nature of participants

- Private and public companies of all sizes
- Universities
- Research Institutes

2) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

The work to be done by the partners must neither have already benefited from public funding (excluding generic fiscal aid) nor be redundant with similar projects already funded by French authorities, nor engaged before the start date of the project indicated in the Full Project Proposal

The financial situation of each private partner must be validated (financial structure, cash flow, operating accounts) and considered compatible (activity volume, workforce, financial capability) with the amount and the content of the eligible costs as well as with the amount of the demanded aid and of the already granted public aid.

3) Coherence with the IPCEI Microelectronics and Communication Technologies and the French investment plan FRANCE 2030

The applicants must contribute to the global objectives of the IPCEI Microelectronics and Communication Technologies and achieve one or several significant technological breakthroughs with the objective of designing or improving products, services or processes, and must set-up a capability to make these products or processes. These ones must have a sufficient potential impact on their activity in the European Union and in particular in France, in terms of employment, competitiveness, value creation and growth at short or medium-term.

The proposals shall include the participation of at least one direct partner of the IPCEI Microelectronics/Connectivity. Nevertheless, the coordination and the submission of the national proposal can be entrusted to another partner of the consortium.

The tasks assigned to applicants must be well specified and should consist in « experimental development » or « industrial research » as defined in the R&D&I framework. In accordance with the R&D&I framework, the aid to each company must have an incentive effect on its R&D&I activities.
Partners of the project have to fulfil the proper eligibility criteria of French partners of the IPCEI Microelectronics and Communication Technologies:

- Submit a complete file, in the required format, in electronic form via the Bpifrance platform. The terms of access to this platform will be provided by the national contact indicated in the beginning of this annex;
- For partners not being direct partners of the upcoming IPCEI ME/CT, fulfil conditions regarding the amount of expenses on human resources and “new jobs”:
    - Partners must present a level of human resources expenditures equivalent to at least 40% of the total eligible costs of the project.
    - Among these 40%, it is expected that new jobs (permanent, temporary, apprentices, etc.) represent at least 20% of the eligible costs of the project.

Following France 2030 support plan’s priorities, the “emerging” or “developing” aspect of the project’s partners is a key point of selectivity of the projects, France 2030 aiming at fostering new/emerging economic actors.
Project integrating companies less than 12 years old or project integrating companies operating a significant market or strategic reorientation towards new particularly innovative products or towards emerging markets, or experiencing an intense growth, or conducting external growth acquiring companies not older than 3 years on the relevant market or in a research and development consortium with start-ups, will be prioritized.

4) Eligibility of costs

The French eligible costs will be based on the amount obtained using the financial data sheets that can be found on the Bpifrance online platform, for each French partner.

5) Funding rates

Type of beneficiary / Type de project	Large enterprises	SMEs	RTOs (Incremental costs)
Research and Innovative Action (RIA) & Innovative Action (IA)	20 %	30 %	100 % minus aid requested to the JU

6) Additional information to be provided at submission

Applicants eligible to the French framework (not named yet) in the context of the upcoming IPCEI Microelectronic and Communication Technologies and in parallel to the documents sent to the Chips JU, the French leader of each submitted project will have to send to the French public authorities a set of documents through the dedicated platform of Bpifrance. The French national contact will precise the terms of access of this platform to the French leader of the project.

The application submitted must c**ontain all elements which will allow French authorities to assess and justify the eligibility of the aid** asked by the applicants. In particular, the application must include, besides the documents required for application to the Joint Undertaking call, all documents listed on the dedicated platform of Bpifrance previously mentioned.

II. Funding through national or regional calls

Partners who have submitted an application for funding under a national or regional call for projects must refer to the terms of reference of this call to know their eligibility criteria and conditions for funding.

Additional documents may be asked, as per the conditions of the relevant program, in order to allow decisional bodies to assess and justify the eligibility of the aid asked by the applicants.

Rates for funding will depend on the conditions of these calls, who could also take into account the existence of a European co-funding.

1) Details regarding calls set up under the French investment plan France 2030

According to the priorities of the French investment plan France 2030, the “emerging” or “developing” aspect of the project’s partners is a key point of selectivity of the, France 2030 aiming at fostering new/emerging economic actors.

Project integrating companies less than 12 years old or project integrating companies operating a significant market or strategic reorientation towards new particularly innovative products or towards emerging markets, or experiencing an intense growth, or conducting external growth acquiring companies not older than 3 years on the relevant market or in a research and development consortium with start-ups, will be prioritized.

The I-Démo Europe call is particularly concerned.

For information, for projects whose national public funding originate from “I-Demo Europe” scheme, the support rates are as follows:

Type of beneficiary / **Type of project**	**Large enterprises**	**SMEs**	**RTO** (Full costs)	**RTO** (Incremental costs)
Research and Innovative Action (RIA)	25 %	35 %	25%	65%
Innovative Action (IA)	20 %	30 %		

Germany

National contact persons

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Germany	**General information on funding under Horizon Europe**			
	Hauke	Alrun	+49 228 3821-2505	alrun.hauke@dlr.de ; nks-dit@dlr.de
	Specific information on national funding applications for the Chips JU			
	Schwartz	Gregor	+49 351 486797 47	Gregor.Schwartz@vdivdeit.de
	Rittner	Johannes	+49 30 310078 230	Johannes.Rittner@vdivdeit.de
	Specific information on calls related to quantum technologies			
	Klein	Claudius	+49 221 6214 903	klein_c@vdi.de
	Hiltscher	Bastian	+49 221 6214 441	hiltscher@vdi.de

Applicable documents and further information are available via the website www.elektronikforschung.de/foerderung/bekanntmachungen/chipsju

For calls related to quantum technologies specific information is available via www.quantentechnologien.de

Federal funding will be awarded by the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF). Partners from Thuringia and Saxony may receive combined funding from the BMBF and the respective Land.

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

- Commercial companies in Germany
- State and non-state institutions of higher education and non-university research establishments

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

- A German partner's contribution is eligible for national funding by the BMBF if it focuses on research in electronics including interdisciplinary topics (e.g. cyber-physical systems, integrated photonics, electronics for quantum technology, embedded software) or in quantum technologies as specified in the national calls (see above).

c) Consortium configuration

- To be eligible for national funding, the overall effort of any project with participants from Germany should be at least 50 person years. Additionally,

German participation in this project should be at least 10% of the overall effort. Moreover, each German partner should contribute substantially to the effort of the German consortium.

- Each consortium has to reflect an appropriate balance between industrial companies, RTOs and academia: the ratio of efforts (in person months) between companies and research institutions from Germany in any given project should be 2:1 or higher.
- Germany aims at a high participation of SMEs and supports the Horizon Europe goal that a minimum of 20 % of the total public funding should be awarded to SMEs.
- If a proposal is not coordinated by a German partner, the German consortium shall appoint a contact person to the German funding authorities. This contact person has to be marked in the National Grant Table.

d) Other conditions

- None

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

- The eligibility of costs is regulated in the BMBF's standard terms and conditions for grants on expenditure or cost basis and the administrative regulations under sections 23 and 44 of the Federal Budget Code (BHO).

b) National public funding rates

- Financial BMBF support is awarded in the form of project funding as non-repayable grants to participants.
- Complete information on the national application process can be found in the national calls "Richtlinie zur Förderung der Mikroelektronik-Forschung von Verbundpartnern im Rahmen des Gemeinsamen Unternehmens Chips" and "Richtlinie zur Förderung der Forschung zu Quantentechnologien im Rahmen des Gemeinsamen Unternehmens Chips" respecitively.
- National grant applications shall not be handed in before they are requested by the national funding authority. In case the FPP is selected to be funded nationally, the national funding authority will contact each partner individually in order to request a national grant application.
- The national funding aims at mirroring the funding which a participant actually receives from the Joint Undertaking in absolute amounts (EUR), matching up to 1:1. Funding decisions and reimbursement rates also depend on budgetary and policy considerations. The national funding may therefore be below a 1:1 ratio per partner.

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

- If the funding requests for BMBF exceed the available funding, projects with greater contributions to the strategic objectives of the Microelectronics Framework programme are a greater priority for BMBF funding, potentially leading to different national funding priorities than the ranking for EU funding. The evaluation criteria are stated in the national calls (see above).
    - ECS part of the Chips JU:

        - The BMBF strives to ensure high synergies between IPCEI Microelectronics & Communication Technologies and Chips JU activities. Therefore those companies and projects in the Innovation Actions of the ECS part of the Chips JU have a higher funding priority that aim for innovation beyond the R&D-topics for which they are funded already through the IPCEI.
        - The focus topic IA Automotive Chiplets has the highest priority for the BMBF.
        - Potential applicants for the focus topics are urged to contact the national contact persons (see above) before the Project Outline is submitted to the Chips JU.
    - Chips for Europe Initiative part of the Chips JU:
        - How the call "Support to start-ups and SMEs making use of the Design Platform" will be supported by BMBF is to be determined.

- The BMBF funding aims at strengthening the innovation capabilities of project partners and companies located in Germany who intend to exploit research results in Germany and Europe, as well as to accelerate technology transfer into practical applications.
- Funding may be awarded for high-risk pre-competitive industry-driven research and development projects with an application-oriented approach and a high level of innovation which could not be accomplished without public funding. Projects should illustrate the added value of R&D&I results on the basis of an appropriate application, e.g. a demonstrator.
- The Project Outline (PO) and Full Project Proposal (FPP) submitted to the CHIPS JU shall include a fully completed "National Grant" table. The "National Grant" table shall include the budget (including national funding request) established according to the rules for cost eligibility and amounts applicable in Germany for purely national funding. If a single legal entity ("organisation" in Part A of the application form) requests funding for activities to be carried out at one or several organisational units ("departments") that have a high degree of autonomy and/or are located in a different Land from the organisation, the budget for each such department shall be listed separately in the "National Grant" table. Please refer to https://www.elektronikforschung.de/foerderung/bekanntmachungen/chipsju where a template for the "National Grant" table is available. The eligibility of German project partners cannot be evaluated without the "National Grant" table.

Greece

GSRI – General Secretariat for Research and Innovation,

Ministry for Development

National contact person for CHIPS JU programme

Country	Name	First name	Tel	E-mail
Greece	KOTSIAS	Michael	+30 2131300102	m.kotsias@gsrt.gr
	KARAISKOU	Elisavet	+30 2131300098	e.karaiskou@gsrt.gr
	ANOUSAKI	Georgia	+30 2131300128	g.anousaki@gsrt.gr

National Funding Agency for Greece: General Secretariat for Research and Innovation (GSRI), Ministry for Development and Investments (www.gsri.gov.gr)

1) Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

GSRI potentially supports all private and public legal entities legally operating in Greece (not natural persons) namely:

i. Research and knowledge-dissemination organizations (e.g. Higher-education Institutions or Research Centers/Institutes).

ii. Undertakings (a private and/or public sector unit, regardless of its legal status or size, engaged in economic activity).

iii. Other entities that will be considered as Research and knowledge-dissemination organizations, if respective requirements are met, or undertakings.

Besides natural persons, the following categories of undertakings are also not eligible:

- An "undertaking in difficulty" (according to art.2 of Reg. (EU) 651/2014[18]).
- An undertaking which is subject to an outstanding recovery order following a previousCommission decision declaring an aid illegal and incompatible with the internal market.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

Eligible activities

i) All funded activities must comply with the National RIS 3 (https://gsri.gov.gr/ethniki-

[18] Reg, (EU)651/2014 as amended by Reg.(EU) 2021/1237 & Reg.(EU) 2023/1315

stratigiki-exypnis-exeidikefsis-2021-2027/ ; https://www.espa.gr/el/Pages/RIS3.aspx).

ii) In case of participants falling under category (b) the main part of the project should fall within the categories of industrial research or experimental development or feasibility studies (according to the provisions of art 25 of Reg. EU 651/2014[19]). For SMEs funding for innovation activities (art. 28 of Reg. EU 651/2014[20]) may also be provided.

c) Consortium configuration:

No restrictions.

d) Other conditions

All applications should be accompanied by all elements and relevant documents that allow the Greek authorities to assess the eligibility criteria, and particularly those with regard to Article 2 of GBER Regulation, 651/2014 for undertakings in difficulty and the size of undertakings/enterprises.

Companies (business partner in the project) must provide specific information on the possible industrial and commercial impact of the project to the country and in Europe and justify that they have the necessary means to exploit the project results.

Following the final approval of the list of beneficiaries by the CHIPS JU, a national call will be published by GSRI. At national level, only legal and financial eligibility check is conducted and not a full peer review.

2) Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

i) Double funding

The project submitted for funding must neither have already benefited from public funding nor be redundant or overlap with projects or part of projects already funded.

ii) Co-founding source

National Strategic Reference Framework -NSRF 2021-2027.

b) *National public funding rates*

Public Research Institutes and Universities: the aid intensity can reach 100% for performing non-economic activities (less the contribution of the JU) in accordance with

[19] Reg, (EU)651/2014 as amended by Reg.(EU) 2021/1237 & Reg.(EU) 2023/1315
[20] Reg, (EU)651/2014 as amended by Reg.(EU) 2021/1237 & Reg.(EU) 2023/1315

point 19, article 2.1.1 of the «Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation» (2014/C 198/01).

Private Sector: (a) 50% of the eligible costs for industrial research; (b) 25% of the eligible costs for experimental development; (c) 50% of the eligible costs for feasibility studies.

The aid intensities for industrial research and experimental development may be increased up to a maximum aid intensity of 80 % of the eligible costs in accordance with points (a) to (d), where points (b), (c) and (d) must not be combined with each other:

(a) by 10 percentage points for medium-sized enterprises and by 20 percentage point for small enterprises;

(b) by 15% points if one of the following conditions is fulfilled:
(i) the project involves effective collaboration:

- between undertakings among which at least one is an SME, or is carried out in at least two Member States, or in a Member State and in a Contracting Party of the EEA Agreement, and no single undertaking bears more than 70 % of the eligible costs, or
- between an undertaking and one or more research and knowledge-dissemination organisations, where the latter bear at least 10 % of the eligible costs and have the right to publish their own research results;

(ii) the results of the project are widely disseminated through conferences, publication, open access repositories, or free or open source software;
(iii) the beneficiary commits to, on a timely basis, make available licences for research results of aided research and development projects, which are protected by intellectual property rights, at a market price and on non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis for use by interested parties in the EEA;
(iv) the research and development project is carried out in an assisted region fulfilling the conditions of Article 107(3), point (a), of the Treaty;

(c) by 5 percentage points if the research and development project is carried out in an assisted region fulfilling the conditions of Article 107(3), point (c), of the Treaty;

(d) by 25 percentage points if the research and development project:

(i) has been selected by a Member State following an open call to form part of a project jointly designed by at least three Member States or contracting parties to the EEA Agreement; and

(ii) involves effective collaboration between undertakings in at least two Member States or contracting parties to the EEA Agreement when the beneficiary is a SME, or in at least three Member States or contracting parties to the EEA Agreement when the beneficiary is a large enterprise; and

(iii) if at least one the two following conditions is fulfilled:

- the results of the research and development project are widely disseminated in at least three Member States or contracting parties to the EEA Agreement through conferences, publication, open access repositories, or free or open source

software; or

- the beneficiary commits to, on a timely basis, make available licences for research results of aided research and development projects, which are protected by intellectual property rights, at a market price and on non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis for use by interested parties in the EEA."

The aid intensity for feasibility studies may be increased by 10 percentage points for medium-sized enterprises and by 20 percentage points for small enterprises.

Maximum aid intensity for undertakings is calculated according to paragraphs 5,6,7 of article 25 and art. 28 of Reg. (EU) 651/2014 (table 1).

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**Medium Enterprise**	**Small Enterprises**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	25-50% (-JU%)	35-60% (-JU%)	45-70% (-JU%)	100% (-JU%)
Innovation Action	50-75% (-JU%)	60-80% (-JU%)	70-80% (-JU%)	100% (-JU%)

Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

VAT eligibility: Only non-reclaimable VAT is eligible

Hungary

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Hungary	CSESZNOK	Flora		ncp@nkfih.gov.hu

(Web site or any other information source of the national funding authority as a reference to the applicants.)

https://nkfih.gov.hu/about-the-office

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

Legal entities established in Hungary or in the European Economic Area with a registered office and a branch in Hungary may apply for funding as follows:

a) Legal entities, non-profit-making companies and other economic entities with GFO codes 113, 114, 141, 572, 573, which meet all of the following criteria:

- have at least one closed, approved, full (365 days) fiscal year,
- maintain double-entry bookkeeping

b) Non-profit and other not-for-profit organisations with GFO codes 551, 552, 559, 562, 563, 569, 599, 931, which are designated as a state-recognised, non-state higher education institution (ecclesiastical or private higher education institution) in Annex 1 to Act CCIV of 2011 on National Higher Education and are also classified as a research and knowledge intermediary organisation4 according to Article 2, point 83 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/20143.

c) Bodies with GFO codes 311, 312, 322, 341, 342, 381, 382 which are classified as research and knowledge intermediary organisations according to Article 2(83) of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014.

Applications for funding can be submitted individually or in the form of a national consortium of national partners in an international project. For the purposes of this Call, the applicant is understood to be the organisation implementing the project specified in the grant application on its own or, in the case of a consortium application, the leader of the research consortium organised to implement the project specified in the grant application, and the other members of the research consortium are understood to be the consortium members. The applicant and the consortium members are hereinafter referred to collectively as the applicant(s) or, in the case of a grant decision, the beneficiary(ies).

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

d) Eligibility of costs

Amount of the grant: the maximum amount of non-repayable grant that may be requested by a national organisation submitting a grant application under this Call is the part of the grant

amount in euros to be financed from national resources, as specified in the international decision taken on the basis of the international evaluation, converted into forints.

e) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	up to 70%	up to 80%	100%
Innovation Action	up to 50%	up to 70%	100%

f) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

All Hungarian entities listed under Section 1. are eligible to participate in the calls. Hungarian entities that are maintained by public trusts under Act 2021/IX, thus subject to the Council Implementing Decision 2022/2506 are also eligible to participate, the EC budget share will be covered by the Hungarian Government's Guarantee Fund.

Ireland

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Ireland	O'Reilly	Stephen	+353879281449	Stephen.oreilly@enterprise-ireland.com

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

Companies that are eligible to receive R&D funding from one of the following agencies will be considered for funding; Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland or Údarás na Gaeltachta.

Irish third level research performing organisations will also be considered for national funding.

It is important to note that a successful application to Chips JU does not guarantee funding by a national agency. Participants from Ireland are strongly advised to discuss applications with their national agency contact prior to submission to Chips JU

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

The relevant national funding agency should be satisfied that a company seeking national funding has the potential to derive a benefit, proportionate to the national funding being sought, through the exploitation of the results of the proposed project or otherwise. Companies applying for National R&D support will need to be EBITDA positive for 9 consecutive months prior to any approval. Companies that are classified as 'High Potential Start-Up' (HPSU) are not normally eligible.

All participants are advised to contact the relevant national funding agency before committing to participate in any proposal.

Higher Education Institutions will be eligible only if there is also at least one Irish based company that meets the national eligibility criteria in the consortium, and the national

funding agencies are satisfied that there will be a benefit from the participation of the

Higher Education Institution, proportionate to the funding being sought, for an Irish based company or companies that the agencies are satisfied to support.

c) Consortium configuration

Projects should be introduced by companies and primarily executed to the benefit of these entities.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) National public funding rates

All Grant funding to companies is provided on a scale, depending on company size and can reach a max of 50% of eligible expenditure for Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta clients. Funding available to IDA Ireland clients can vary and exact levels should be confirmed with the company contact.

Funding to 3rd level institutions is provided as a grant of 100% eligible expenditure less JU contribution up to the value of €250,000 (excluding overhead)

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	Up to 30%	Up to 50%	65%
Innovation Action	Up to 30%	Up to 50%	65%

b) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

Please note that each Irish participant must create a PDF file indicating how they meet the national eligibility criteria for funding as indicated in the Irish section of the Eligibility Criteria document published in the Call. You must upload this in the Chips JU Proposal Submission system as Part C of the Project Proposal (one file for each participant).

Note that Irish companies must clearly state in the proposal the following points:

1. From which of the three Irish agencies (Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland or Udaras na Gaeltachta) it is eligible to receive national R&D funding

2. Explain how it has the potential to derive a benefit, proportionate to the national funding being sought, through the exploitation of the results of the proposed project or otherwise.

Israel

Israel national contact persons for Chips JU programme

Name	First	Phone	email
Seker Loutaty Avrahami	Dan Rachel Moshe	00972527334127 00972528913774 00972545882322	Dan@iserd.org.il Rachel.l@iserd.org.il Moshe.Avrahami@innovationisrael.org.il

Web sites:

Israel Innovation Authority – Procedure 22.11.23

MAGENT CONSORTIA PROCEDURES

How to apply:

Please contact Israel Innovation Authority – ISERD for further information

1) **Legal requirements for the eligibility for national funding of a partner**

i. Israeli Corporate engaged in R&D activity for commercial purpose and meets Israel Innovation Authority regulations for funding ii. Israeli Research Institute, involved in R&D activity in cooperation with Israeli corporate as part of the consortium.

iii. Approved as a partner in the relevant consortium by an IIA research committee

2) **Legal, administrative and financial conditions**

As detailed in Procedure 22.11.23 above and inter alia:

I. Eligibility for national funding is subject to **prior local submission**, review and IIA committee decision
II. Financial conditions as per Chips-JU regulations
III. An entity may apply to Chips-JU call without requesting national funding

3) Eligibility of the costs and funding

I. Eligibility of costs

Eligible costs and expenses – in line with the CHIPS JU European rules

II. National funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	Equal to the Chips-JU decision or 33% (the lowest)		Equal to the Chips-JU decision or 40% (the lowest)
Innovation Action	Equal to the Chips-JU decision or 33% (the lowest)		Equal to the Chips-JU decision or 40% (the lowest)

The IIA grant under this program is exempt from royalties.

Italy

Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy (MIMIT) which is committing 18 million euro as grants. MIMIT supports the calls: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA, HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA FT1
The specific eligibility criteria and funding rules for each funding organization are described the following paragraphs.

Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy (MIMIT)

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Italy - MIMIT	Milazzo	Valentina		valentina.milazzo@mise.gov.it
	Lippolis	Massimiliano		massimiliano.lippolis@mise.gov.it
	Alvino	Christian		christian.alvino@mise.gov.it

Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy www.mimit.gov.it

1. **Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project**

a) Type or nature of participants

The following entities are eligible:

- Enterprises;

- Research Centers

- Universities and research organizations - only in collaboration with enterprises with which to set up a Consortium or a Network of Companies. The lead partner of the joint project must be an Italian enterprise.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

Article 11-bis of the Decree-Law of August 9, 2024, No. 113, converted with amendments by Law No. 143 of October 7, 2024, allocated financial resources for the intervention "Partnerships for Research and Innovation - Horizon Europe" for the years 2025-2026.

The projects will be financed by respecting what is established in the Regulation (EU) GBER n.651/2014 and Regulation (EU) 2021/1237 of the Commission amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty.

The projects financed by the Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy (MIMIT) shall comply with the acts related to the specific measure (ad hoc Ministerial Decree, and the following DGIAI Directorial Decree).

The applicants must ensure that the implementation of project activities complies with the "do no significant harm" (DNSH) principle as set out in Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 and in accordance with the technical guidelines on the application of the principle (European Commission Communication 2021/C58/01).

The applicants are expected to comply with the principle of gender equality in relation to Articles 2, 3 (3) of the TEU, 8, 10, 19 and 157 of the TFEU, and 21 and 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and the obligation of protection and enhancement of young people, under penalty of the possibility of suspension or revocation of the loan in the event of ascertaining the violation of these general principles.

The Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy (MIMIT) will exclude from funding any activity included in the Annex V, point B of the Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the InvestEU programme and amending the Regulation (EU) 2015/1017.

c) Consortium configuration

The Italian consortium must include at least one Italian company. The project shall be executed primarily to the benefit of the company/es. The Ministry will apply the Virtual Common Pot by financing national applicants.

d) Other conditions

Companies must have the financial means to execute the project and a potential to use the results.

The participant should foresee, after the end of the project, the exploitation of the results of the project so to guarantee the return of the investment.

Calls supported, budget available and maximum funding per project

MIMIT committed a budget of 18 million euro as grant.

The calls supported by MIMIT, the budget tentatively allocated to each call and the maximum funding per project that can be requested by Italian participants are shown in the following table:

Call	Total budget for the call	Maximum funding per project
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA	5,000,000	3,000,000
HORIZON-JUChips-2025-IA FT1	13,000,000	13,000,000

HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA-EDA	2,000,000	2,000,000

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

All costs incurred during the lifetime of a project under the following categories are eligible: personnel, equipment, subcontracting, consumables, and overheads. Overheads are calculated as a fixed percentage 25% of eligible costs of the project, as established by art. 20 of the delegated regulation (EU) n 480/2014 and by art. 29 of the regulation (EU) n. 1290/2013, in line with the provisions of art 53.3 lett. c of Regulation (EU) 1060/2021 as referred to in art. 10 paragraph 4 of Decree 121/2021. They include also communication, dissemination and travel expenses.

b) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	Not funded	Not funded	Not funded
Innovation Action (General) (T1)	20% 25%	30% 35%	35% 35%

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

All Italian participants must submit a national application to the following email address: dgiai.div06@pec.mimit.gov.it. These documents must be submitted to MIMIT by the same deadline of the Chips JU calls *(17 September 2025, 17:00).* Any participant who does not send its national application by this deadline, will be considered ineligible.

Latvia

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Latvia	Sīka	Lauma	+371 67047981	lauma.sika@izm.gov.lv
Latvia	Mickeviča	Sarmīte	+371 67047984	sarmite.mickevica@izm.gov.lv
Latvia	Asmuss	Jūlija	+371 28345627	julija.asmuss@lzp.gov.lv

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

1) Type or nature of participants

Following legal persons (as defined under the Latvian law) are eligible for funding, except natural persons:

- enterprises, companies and/or industry associations, when they form part of consortia with R&D institutions;
- R&D institutions - research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, their institutes and research centres etc.

2) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

The funding of RTD activities is provided pursuant in accordance with the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia No 259 on the procedure for providing support for participation in international cooperation programs for research and technology (adopted on 26 May 2015). This includes amendments, which include a reference to the Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013 (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021), Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe and repealing Regulations (EC) No 219/2007, (EU) No 557/2014, (EU) No 558/2014, (EU) No 559/2014, (EU) No 560/2014, (EU) No 561/2014 and (EU) No 642/2014 (OJ L 427, 30.11.2021) and European Partnerships under Horizon Europe.

R&D institution (research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, research centres etc.) must be listed in the Registry of Research Institutions operated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia.

Private entities must be registered in the Registry of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia and provide most of its R&D&I activities in the Republic of Latvia.

The principle of forbidding double funding will be applied when granting National funding.

3) Consortium configuration

Enterprises, companies and/or industry associations participate in the projects, when they form part of consortia with Latvian R&D institutions.

If there is no Latvian enterprise involved as a partner in the project, the industrial relevance of the involvement of a R&D institution must be justified by declaration from the Latvian Information and Communications Technology Association (LIKTA) or from the Latvian Electrical Engineering and Electronics Industry Association (LEtERA) confirming the relevance of the project outcomes to the national economy, which are included as a part C of the full project proposal. If there is no research organisation involved as a partner in the project, Enterprises and industry associations must provide declaration on the possible industrial impact and justify that they have the necessary means to exploit the project results which is included as a part C of the full project proposal.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

1) Eligibility of costs

1. Direct costs:

1.1. Personnel costs – R&D related personnel costs should reach 80% of person/months,

1.2. Other direct costs such as consumables, equipment (only depreciation costs), materials and etc., 1.3. Subcontracts (up to 25% of total participant's direct costs),

1.4. Travels costs (up to € 18,000 per participant per project),

1.5. Project management costs,

2. Indirect costs (can reach a maximum of 25% of the total direct costs).

*2) Funding rates**

Type of activity	*Large Enterprises*	*Small and Medium Enterprises*	*Public Research Institutes and Universities*
Research and Innovation action	*up to 50%*	*up to 60%***	*up to 100%****
Innovation action	*up to 35%*	*up to 50%***	*up to 100%****

* total public funding including National and EU contribution;

** may be increased by 20%, if it is approved by National Funding Authority prior the proposal submission to Chips JU Call;

*** the aid intensity for research and development activities carried out by Public Research Institutes and Universities might be at the level of 100% only if the organisation entirely complies with the requirements set by the Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014.

National funding for eligible Latvian partners is up to € 100 000 per partner, per year, per project.

Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions

The national funding committed for the Chips JU 2025 is EUR 1 200 000.

Lithuania

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Lithuania				

(Web site or any other information source of the national funding authority as a reference to the applicants.)

<Name of the agency/ministry> www.<xxx>.<xx>

3. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

To be confirmed at later stages

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

To be confirmed at later stages

c) Consortium configuration

To be confirmed at later stages

d) Other conditions

To be confirmed at later stages

4. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

To be confirmed at later stages

b) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action		40 % SME	65% RTO
Innovation Action		40 % SME	65% RTO

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.
The information is preliminary - subject to formal approval, budget availability and eligibility, at later stages.

Malta

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Malta	VASSALLO PARNIS	Josephine	+356 2542 3427	josephine.vassallo@maltaenterprise.com

Type and nature of entities that may be supported

All enterprises that are eligible to receive support from Malta Enterprise will be considered for funding.

Malta Enterprise will consider supporting academic and research organisations if they do not engage in economic activities.

Academic and research organisations are required to articulate the national industrial relevance of the project, particularly highlighting exploitation opportunities for enterprises having an operational presence in Malta.

Legal, Administrative and Financial conditions

For an enterprise to the considered for funding, it must meet the criteria established in the National Rules. The enterprise must have a permanent establishment in Malta and provide evidence to Malta Enterprise that it possesses the financial resources necessary to carry out the project.

Support to academic and research organisations will be considered if they have a permanent establishment in Malta capable of carrying out Research and Development activities.

Malta Enterprise shall require ALL applicants to demonstrate how the proposed project shall support national economic development targets.

Consortium configuration

Malta Enterprise does not impose specific consortium configuration requirements however, it may require that projects submitted by large enterprises include at least one SME with a permanent establishment in Malta or an academic or research organisation established in Malta.

Eligibility of the Costs

It is recommended that the project and its budgeted costs be discussed in advance with Malta Enterprise. For enterprises, eligible costs must be structured in accordance with the National Rules and should align with those outlined in the Grant Agreement with Chips JU, as well as with the costs reported to Chips JU.

National public funding rates

All funding to enterprises shall depend on the enterprise size and other parameters that are detailed in the National Rules. The funding rates specified hereunder reflects the total public funding allowed and hence the funding rate approved by Chips JU will have to the deducted from these percentages.

Type of Action/Type of Beneficiary	Large enterprise	SME	Public Research Institutes and Universities
Research and Innovative action	up to 50%*	up to 70%*	Up to 100%***
Innovation Action	up to 50%**	up to 50%**	Up to 100%***

* Support for enterprises shall be awarded in terms of the Research and Development - Incentive Guidelines (the National Rules).

** Support for enterprises may be provided in accordance with State Aid rules applicable to the project.

*** Funding for academic and research organisations may be provided at a rate of up to 100% provided the organisation does not carry out economic activity and meets the definition of a research and knowledge dissemination organisation as set out in the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER).

Other conditions

Applicants seeking funding from Malta Enterprise must submit a separate request, independent of the project proposal submitted to Chips JU. All requests for national funding are to be made directly to Malta Enterprise.

Applicants will be required to describe the project's expected impact on Malta's economic development. Those intending to apply for national funding are strongly encouraged to liaise with the national contact point as early as possible.

A formal funding request must be submitted to Malta Enterprise before the project commences. If approved, applicants will be required to sign a grant agreement with Malta Enterprise in order to receive national co-funding.

Netherlands

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Netherlands	van der Bijl	Bob	+31 6 21839477	chipsju@rvo.nl
	de Boer	Jacob Jan	+31 6 23311252	

Background documents and other information can be downloaded from the website of Netherlands Enterprise Agency: https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/chips-ju. The Dutch text on this website takes precedence over the English text below.

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

1) Admission conditions

The Netherlands will support the Dutch partners in projects selected by the Chips Joint Undertaking ECS part and Chips IA-LEAI call when:

- the project concerns industrial research, experimental development or a combination of these;
- in the project one or more Dutch partners are involved which include minimal one industrial partner. In the case of only a single Dutch partner participating in a project, it has to be an SME;
- the industrial partners of the Dutch consortium provide the major contribution to the Dutch part of the project in such a way that the major part of the public funding (Chips JU + NL) involved goes to the industrial partners of the Dutch consortium;
- the objectives of the Dutch part of the project fit within the Innovation Contract High Tech Systems and Materials (HTSM) and its underlying Roadmaps (https://hollandhightech.nl/innovatie/technologieen);
- the project complies with the “Algemene wet bestuursrecht” and the “Kaderwet EZK- en LNV-subsidies”.

Dutch partners in a proposal must include in the Project Outline (PO) sent to the Joint Undertaking the following information:

- Explanation of the contribution to the objectives of the Innovation Contract High Tech Systems and Materials (HTSM) and its underlying Roadmaps (https://hollandhightech.nl/innovatie/technologieen)

Dutch partners in a proposal must include in the Full Project Proposal (FPP) sent to the Joint Undertaking the following information:

- Authorisation form;
- Explanation of the contribution to the objectives of the Innovation Contract High Tech Systems and Materials (HTSM) and its underlying Roadmaps (https://hollandhightech.nl/innovatie/technologieen)
- Model overview of the costs.

Note that in case that there are several Dutch partners in the proposal, the Dutch partner coordinating them (the so-called "Dutch coordinator") will be in charge of submitting the above information on their behalf. The information and forms will be submitted as the **National Part** of the FPP in a ZIP file through the Chips Proposal Submission system. There will be only one ZIP file for all Dutch participants in a given proposal.

The required forms can be downloaded from the website of Netherlands Enterprise Agency: https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/chips-ju.

2) Rejection conditions

An application for support of the share of Dutch participants of a project is rejected when:

- the partner that submits the application on behalf of all Dutch partners (the "Dutch coordinator") is not an enterprise;
- only a single Dutch partner is participating in a project that is not an SME;
- it is not credible that the Dutch partners can finance their share in the project;
- it is credible that the project would have been finished without substantial delays without subsidy;
- there is insufficient trust that Dutch partners have the necessary capacities to fulfil the project as submitted;
- the project has insufficient positive effects on the Dutch economy;
- the Dutch part of the project contributes insufficiently to the objectives of the Innovation Contract High Tech Systems and Materials (HTSM) and its underlying Roadmaps (https://hollandhightech.nl/innovatie/technologieen).

Eligibility of the costs and funding

1) Eligibility of costs

- The **eligible costs for subsidy** are in compliance with the R&D&I State Aid Rules, the “Algemene wet bestuursrecht” and the “Kaderwet EZK- en LNV-subsidies”.
- The Dutch subsidy percentages are indicated below in the section Funding Rates.
- In case another Dutch administrative body has already granted a subsidy for the eligible costs of the Dutch part of an Chips project or part of such project, the contribution by the Ministry of Economic Affairs will be granted so that the total amount of subsidy will not exceed the before-mentioned Dutch subsidy percentages.

- In case that a contribution has been already granted for the eligible costs for subsidy to the Dutch part of an Chips project or part of it on the basis of a subsidy scheme of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, no additional subsidy will be granted by the Ministry of Economic Affairs for the already subsidized part.
- Per individual Dutch partner the subsidy percentages will be applied according to the activities. The project eligible costs per partner will be defined and the corresponding percentages will be applied.
- Per Chips JU ECS project or Chips IA-LEAI project in which a Dutch consortium takes part a total national maximum of € 5.000.000 funding for the Dutch consortium will be initially applied.
- The Dutch budget for the Chips JU ECS and Chips IA-LEAI Calls 2025 is in total € 25.150.000 (subject to parliamentary approval) and will initially be split as follows:
    - A joint budget for the focus topics HORIZON-Chips-2025-IA FT1, HORIZON-Chips-2025-IA FT2 of € 3.160.000
    - A budget for the call HORIZON-Chips-2025-IA HIA of € 1.000.000.
    - A joint budget for the global calls HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA and HORIZON-Chips-2025-RIA is € 20.000.000.
    - A budget for the call DIGITAL-Chips-2025-1-IA-LEAI of € 990.000.
- RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency) will be in charge of the project administration of all projects of the Chips JU Calls.

2) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	20%	30%	25%
Innovation Action	20%	30%	25%

In case the EU funding rates and/or conditions are modified the national funding rates may be amended.

Norway

National contact point

Country	Name	First name	Tel	E-mail
Norway	Liv	Furuberg	(+47) 93059326	Lfu@rcn.no
Norway	Waqar	Ahmed	(+47) 47297558	wah@rcn.no

The Research Council of Norway

Applicants are advised to consult the national contact point for a pre-eligibility check

ECS CALLS

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

1.1. Type or nature of participants (project partners)

a) Norwegian companies: Commercial enterprises registered in Norway in The Register of Business Enterprises.
b) Norwegian research organisations approved by the Research Council of Norway. Approved research organisations (forskningsradet.no)

1.2. Legal, administrative, and financial conditions

a) General eligibility criteria and conditions for receiving project funding from the Research Council of Norway will apply (i.e., the beneficiary must be a registered legal entity, have credible capacity to execute the project activities, demonstrate financial viability, and provide transparency as to funding requested or received from other sources).
b) Companies must be established with a considerable business activity in Norway within the scope of the Chips JU project.
c) All project partners must possess relevant research & technology development capabilities.

1.3. Consortium configuration

a) At least one Norwegian company must be involved as a partner in the project.
b) For Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs) at least 30 % of the efforts (eligible costs) of Norwegian partners in the project must be from business partners.
c) For Innovation Actions (IAs) at least 50 % of the efforts (eligible costs) of Norwegian partners in the project must be from business partners.
d) In case of equal score, national co-funding priority will be given to a project with company partners that are new to Chips JU including its predecessor KDT JU.
e) The industrial relevance of the participation of a research organisation must be justified by declarations from the Norwegian company partner(s) in the project.
f) Companies must provide specific information on the possible industrial and commercial impact of the project and justify that they have the necessary means to exploit the project results.
g) Research organisations must specify national industrial impact in terms of exploitation opportunities for Norwegian companies.

2. Eligibility of the costs, national budget and funding rates

2.1. Eligible costs

a) Horizon Europe rules and guidelines on eligible costs will apply.

2.2. Budget

a) The total 2025 Norwegian funding budget for the Chips JU Calls is NOK 31,000,000.
b) The budget is exclusive for the non-initiative (previous KDT) part of the 2025 Chip JU work programme. There is no pre-allocated distribution of the Norwegian funding budget between the Calls in the work programme.
c) Norwegian applicants should consider NOK 11,000,000 as a maximum amount of national co-funding for one single project. In case of a single Norwegian participant, the maximum national co-funding can be NOK 4,000,000. In case if the project is coordinated by a Norwegian participant, the maximum national co-funding can be NOK 15,000,000.
d) For the project budgeting at application stage, use the NOK/€ conversation rate from a specified date close to the call deadline.

2.3. National public funding rates

a) The maximum funding rates for the national co-funding provided by the Research Council of Norway will be as listed in the table below.

Action	Large enterprises	SMEs	Research organisations
All Types	25 %	35 %	65 %

b) National co-funding will be subject to conditions in current state aid rules. See more details at: State aid (forskningsradet.no).

3. National part to be submitted as an annex to the application

Information providing the justifications required according to the requirements above must be provided as a separate attachment named "National Part" in the proposal submission tool, both at the Proposal Outline (PO) and at the Full Project Proposal (FPP) submission stage.

Information necessary to confirm whether eligibility criteria mentioned in item 2) above are fulfilled shall be submitted to the Research Council of Norway on request, before a National Grant Agreement can be established.

HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-SGA-QAC1-2: Supporting developing Quantum Chip Technology for photonic stability Pilot.

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

1.1. Type or nature of participants (project partners)

a) Norwegian research organisations approved by the Research Council of Norway. Approved research organisations (forskningsradet.no)

1.2. Legal, administrative, and financial conditions

a) General eligibility criteria and conditions for receiving project funding from the Research Council of Norway will apply (i.e., the beneficiary must be a registered legal entity, have

credible capacity to execute the project activities, demonstrate financial viability, and provide transparency as to funding requested or received from other sources).

b) All project partners must possess relevant research & technology development capabilities.

2. Eligibility of the costs, national budget and funding rates

2.1. Eligible costs

a) Horizon Europe rules and guidelines on eligible costs will apply.

2.2. Budget

a) The total 2025 Norwegian funding budget for the Chips Quantum pilot line Quantum Calls is EUR 2,000,000.

b) The budget is exclusive for the SGA quantum chip pilot line of the 2025 Chip JU work programme and the call

c) Norwegian applicants should consider EUR 2,000,000 as a maximum amount of national co-funding for one single project.

2.3. Infrastructure

a) Parts of the national funding may be used to finance research infrastructure. In that case, the RCN requirements for "research infrastructures of national importance" must be followed. The infrastructure must be made available to relevant research groups and industries.

b) National co-funding will be subject to conditions in current state aid rules. See more details at: State aid (forskningsradet.no).

3. National part to be submitted as an annex to the application

Not Applicable

Poland

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Poland	Nowak	Paulina	T: +48 22 25 66 735 M: +48 502 052 237	paulina.nowak@ncbr.gov.pl

(Web site or any other information source of the national funding authority as a reference to the applicants.)

National Centre for Research and Development: https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

- Research organizations;
- Micro, Small, Medium and Large Enterprises;
- Groups of entities consisting of research and knowledge organisations/entrepreneurs (in any configuration).

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

All proposals must be aligned with National regulations, inter alia:

1. The Act of 20 July 2018 on the Law of Higher Education and Science, published in Journal of Laws item 742, 2023, as amended;
2. The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 2279, 2022;
3. The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1456, 2020, as amended.

c) Consortium configuration

Groups of entities consisting of research and knowledge organisations/entrepreneurs (in any configuration).

d) Other conditions

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

Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

A detailed information (in Polish) will be available for applicants at COMPETITION PLATFORM when the call is published.

The costs eligible for funding or state aid in the case of basic research, applied research and experimental development are the costs included in the **Cost Eligibility Guide**, which is an annex to the NCBR call announcement.

Activities related to project promotion and project management cannot be a separate package work (WP/task). Costs related to these activities may be included in the WP/tasks research.

The eligible costs shall be the following:

1. **personnel costs** (researchers, technicians and other supporting staff employed on the research project);

2. **costs of subcontracting, costs of consultancy and equivalent services** used exclusively for the research activity; this cost category shall not exceed 70% of all eligible costs of a project; subcontracting a consortium partner is allowed only in justified cases, which shall be verified by a national panel of experts

3. **operating costs including** (depending on the type of eligible institution):

Research Organisations:

Costs of instruments and equipment, technical knowledge and patents are eligible only to the extent and for the period when they are used for the research project; if such instruments or pieces of equipment are not used for their entire useful life within the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;

• costs for buildings and land, to the extent and for the period when they are used for

the research project; with regard to buildings, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice shall be considered eligible; for land, costs of commercial transfer or actually incurred capital costs shall be eligible;

• other operating costs including: costs of materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity; training costs; travel costs including conference fees; cost of required external audit, costs of project promotion (e.g. articles, project webpage);

Enterprises:

• costs of instruments and equipment, technical knowledge and patents to the extent and for the period when they are used for the research project; if such instruments or pieces of equipment are not used for their entire useful life within the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;

• costs for buildings and land, to the extent and for the period when they are used for the research project; with regard to buildings, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice shall be considered eligible; for land, costs of commercial transfer or actually incurred capital costs shall be eligible.

4. **additional overheads** incurred indirectly as a result of the research project (depending on the type of eligible institution);

Research Organisations:

additional overheads for research organizations should account 25% of all eligible direct costs; That costs (4) are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above (called x%) and the rest of direct costs for research organizations, excluding subcontracting (2); It means 4=(1+3)*25%.

Enterprises:

additional overheads for enterprises include also other operating costs, e.g. costs of materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity, training costs; travel costs including conference fees; cost of required external audit, costs of project promotion (e.g. articles, project webpage). That costs should account 20% of all eligible direct project costs; Additional overheads (4) are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above (called x%) and the rest of direct costs for enterprises; It means 4=(1+2+3)*20%.

Projects requesting more than PLN 3 million funding are entitled to claim the cost of the audit. For more details on eligible costs, applicants are advised to check the guidelines in the call announcement on NCBR webpage.

b) National public funding rates

Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for research organisations. In the case of enterprises, funding quota will be decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the size of the company, type of research/development, risk associated with the research activities and commercial perspective of exploitation. Funding quota of Polish participants apply to Research and Innovation Action and Innovation Action. Organization must be registered in Poland.

	Large Enterprises	**Medium Enterprises**	**Micro/Small Enterprises**	**Research organization**
Fundamental/Basic Research	0%	0%	0%	0%
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 50+5/15/25 (max 75%)	Up to 50+10+5/15/25 (max 80%)	Up to 50+20+5/15/25 (max 80%)	Up to 100%
Experimental Development	Up to 25+5/15/25 (max 50%)	Up to 25+10+5/15/25 (max 60%)	Up to 25+20+5/15/25 (max 70%)	Up to 100%

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

National phase of application procedure

After international evaluation has been completed and the ranking list established, Polish participants from consortia recommended for funding will be invited to submit the National Application Form (NAF). All eligible entities invited to submit the NAF are obliged to use the rate of exchange of the European Central Bank of the day of call opening (published on the call announcement).

The Director of the National Centre for Research and Development subsequently issues a funding decision and signs national grant agreements with Polish participants providing that they have signed Chips JU grant agreements first.

Partner Search Tool

We encourage you to learn about and use our "PartFinder" (Partner Search Tool), which

allows you to match science and industry entities from around the World with each other. The search tool is available at: https://partfinder.ncbr.gov.pl/.

Portugal - Agência Nacional de Inovação

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Portugal	Duarte	Afonso	-----	Afonso.duarte@ani.pt
	Azevedo	Sofia	-----	Sofia.azevedo@ani.pt

Agência Nacional de Inovação, S.A. (*ANI*)
Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation and Ministry of Economy and Territorial Cohesion
www.ani.pt

The National Strategy for Semiconductors (Council of Ministers Resolution 12/2024) aims to boost the microelectronics and semiconductor industry in Portugal. This will be achieved through the establishment of mechanisms that strengthen business capacity and national research and development, as well as the promotion of synergies with international partners and participation in sector-specific European programs. This strategy aligns with the Integrated Circuits Regulation (European Chips Act), which primarily seeks to invigorate Europe's capabilities in this area, spanning chip design, production, and assembly, along with the training of professionals in these fields. This aims to reverse the gradual decline in Europe's market share within the semiconductor sector.

This resolution, to be further densified through an order (*portaria*), to be approved by the government in Q3 2025, establishes the framework for allocating national support for co-financing projects falling under Pillar 1, known as the Initiative (or CHIPS for Europe), of the Integrated Circuits Regulation (European Chips Act). For the Initiative part of work programme 2025, a total amount of 6.000.000 Euro is committed to co-fund Portuguese beneficiaries covering all topics from the Initiative calls.

Except for non-profit legal entities, the national co-funding must also comply with State aid rules, specifically when granted to entities that develop an economic activity.

In this setting the General Block Exemption Regulation (Regulation (EU) 651/2014) (GBER) shall be activated by Portuguese authorities, with the potential application, conditions met and as deemed required, of the subsequent aid categories to beneficiaries that perform an economic activity, albeit with a particular focus on GBER Article 25c as we are before European R&D initiatives:

- Article 25, Aid for research and development projects;
- Article 25c, Aid involved in co-funded research and development projects;
- Article 26, Investment aid for research infrastructures; and
- Article 26a, Investment aid for testing and experimentation infrastructures.

The potential application of the *De Minimis* regulation (Regulation (EU) 2023/2831) is also foreseen.

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

All proposals must include at least one Portuguese organization, these can be:
a) Companies of any nature and under any legal form that operate within the national territory;
b) Non-business entities within the research and innovation system (ENESII), or other public and private non-profit institutions, that develop, promote, or, through effective participation, conduct scientific research and technological development activities, and operate within the national territory.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

As a rule, eligible expenses include those defined in the European programs that will fund the CHIPS JU specifically the Chips for Europe (Initiative) calls, in articulation, when legally required, with the relevant eligibility provisions of the GBER, as detailed in TABLE 1, infra. Particular focus may be given to GEBR's Article 25c (Aid involved in co-funded research and development projects), as these are European based R&D projects.

b) National public funding rates

In the case of non-profit legal entities, the maximum funding is up to **100% of the relevant eligible costs**. For profit legal entities (SMEs and large companies), and for the purpose of determining the applicable national co-funding rates, Article 25c GBER shall apply to grants awarded under Horizon Europe, whereas Article 25 shall apply to grants awarded under the Digital Europe Programme (DEP). The maximum national co-funding rates for Portuguese undertakings in articulation with the applicable aid categories are described in TABLE 1 below.

Table 1 – Eligible costs and funding rates

Aid category	Maximum funding rates
Research and Development Projects (GBER, Article 25)	Rates of support: **100% Fundamental research**. **50% industrial research.** **25% experimental development**. Increases possible for industrial research and experimental development, in accordance with Article 25(6) of the GBER, up to a maximum of 80%: Medium-sized enterprises **10%**; Small companies **20%**. These increases may be cumulative with a **15%** increase in cases of: Effective collaboration, or Wide dissemination, or Availability of licences for the project results, or If the investment is made in assisted regions that meet the conditions of Article 107(3)(a) TFEU (abnormally low standard of living or serious unemployment, regions under Article 349 TFEU). **5%** increase if the project is carried out in assisted regions that meet the conditions of Article 107(3)(c) TFEU (where they do not adversely affect trading conditions to an extent contrary to the common interest). **25%** increase if the project has been designed by several Member States or parties to the EEA Agreement (in accordance with Article 25(6)(d) of the GBER). Support rate: **50%** for feasibility studies. Increases: Medium-sized enterprises **10%** and micro and small enterprises **20%**.
Aid included in co-financed research and development projects (GBER, Article 25c)	The categories, maximum amounts and methods of calculation of the eligible costs of the action are those defined as eligible under the rules of Horizon Europe programme. Article 34 (Funding rates) of the Horizon Europe Regulation provides in this context that a single funding rate per action shall apply for all activities it funds. The maximum rate per action shall be fixed in the work programme. Up to **100%** of total eligible costs of an action under the programme may be reimbursed, except for: (a) innovation actions were, up to 70% of the total eligible costs may be reimbursed, except for non-profit legal entities where up to 100% of the total eligible costs may be reimbursed.
Research Infrastructure (GBER, Article 26)	Maximum support rate: **50%**. May be increased up to **60**% provided that at least two Member States grant public funding, or a research infrastructure is evaluated and selected at European Union level.
Testing and experimentation infrastructure	Base rate: **25%** Increases up to a maximum aid intensity of **40%**, **50%** and **60%** of the eligible investment costs of large, medium-sized and small enterprises, respectively, as provided in the GBER.

(GBER, Article 26a)	
De minimis aid [Regulation (EU) 2023/2831]	Other costs not financed under the above-mentioned categories of aid under the GBER. Maximum limit of € 300,000.00 over 3 years per single company.

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

Once projects are approved and grants agreements signed with the CHIPS JU, the Portuguese entities benefiting from them will be invited by ANI – under objective, non-discriminatory and transparent conditions –, to submit their national grant application.

This grant application is for the purpose of allocating the national co-funding, under the terms and conditions to be defined in the national call or invite for application.

Portugal - Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Portugal	Coelho	Filipa	+351 213924450	filipa.coelho@fct.pt

Foundation for Science and Technology/ Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation

https://www.fct.pt/

For the ECS R&I part of the Work Programme 2025, a total amount of up to **3 500 000 Euro** from state budget is committed to co-fund Portuguese beneficiaries covering all topics under calls HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA and HORIZON-JU-Chips 2025-RIA. The total national co-funding amount of each national beneficiary in each project cannot exceed **250 000 Euro**.

National co-funding is compatible with the internal market in the sense of article 107, paragraph 3, of the Treaty of Functioning of the European Union, being for that reason exempt from the obligation of notification foreseen in article 108, paragraph 3, of the referred Treaty, since it fulfils the conditions established in article 25-C and chapter I of the Regulation (EU) 2014/651 of the Commission of 17 June 2014.

The eligibility rules of Horizon Europe Regulation (EU) 2021/695 apply to Portuguese participation in the Chips JU 2025 R&I calls for proposals ("ECS" part), with the exceptions indicated below.

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

All proposals with national applicants **must include at least one Portuguese company** (large company or SME). Consortia consisting solely of non-entrepreneurial entities of the national research and innovation system (ENESII – "*entidades não-empresariais do sistema nacional de I&I*"), also designated as RTO, will not be considered eligible for Portuguese co-funding.

Funding rates

Maximum national co-funding rates for Portuguese applicants are described in the table below.

Maximum national co-funding rates			
Type of action / Type of entity	Large company	SME	RTO/ENESII
Innovation Actions	**30%**	**25%**	**65%**
Research and Innovation Actions	**25%**	**30%**	**65%**

Eligibility of the costs

Cost eligibility applicable to national co-funding will be determined based on Horizon Europe (Regulation (EU) 2021/695).

Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions

National participants in selected proposals will have to sign a national grant agreement ("*Termo de Aceitação*") with FCT in order to receive national co-funding.

Romania

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
ROMANIA	ANANIA DINU	CRISTINA ELENA	+40722 238 877 +32492 922 349 + 40.21.303.21.23/ 416	cristina.anania@mcid.gov.ro elena.dinu@mcid.gov.ro

RDI national funding Programmes

I. ***PNCDI IV - Programme 5.8.1 - European and International Cooperation, Partnerships and European Missions:*** *https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/pncdi-iv-program-8*
II. ***Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRF), C9 - Business support and R&D&I, Investment 7 - Consolidating excellence and supporting Romania's participation in partnerships and missions under the Horizon Europe Programme:*** *https://www.mcid.gov.ro/programe-europene/pnrr/componenta-9-suport-pentru-sectorul-privat-cercetare-dezvoltare-si-inovare/*

Institutions in charge:

I. **Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation:** https://www.mcid.gov.ro/
II. **Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI):** https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/?we=module.org.uefiscdi.home&wtok=&wtkps=TYxLEoIwEETvkrXgJAESh41HsMoTAIkxJb+CBCwp7m5AF+x65nW/AlNcRuRIRqtIPmLKkKStSD5loYRrtH+VzmTUwBN0fXnPgxfV1DLoaaR9aWQXGTPprN22YTrrLfCQmk75WsfdYGKvH3aslI0nq+e4GJytunrrUSR27yOhifwrro7kRUDLzpvjEcoWJYVLvq7hIZAo1be3+5kLYJJJSH8Suvmo5MBAwukI1y8=&wchk=4764e818dd96d739de369aefd03761e4e7505fb7

5. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

e) Type or nature of participants

PNCDI IV - Programme 5.8.1 & RRF, Component 9, Investment 7

Entities specified in Chapter II, Section 1, Article 6 of Ordinance no. 57 of August 16, 2002, concerning scientific research and technological development, with later amendments and additions, are eligible. These include universities, national research and development institutes, research-development institutes, centers or stations under the Romanian Academy, the Romanian Academy of Scientists or branch academies, other research-development institutes, SMEs, companies, etc., registered in Romania.

f) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

Research and innovation projects, both RIA (Research and Innovation Actions) and IA (Innovation Actions), from research organizations and the business sector, selected for funding by Chips Joint Undertaking under the Horizon Europe Programme.

PNCDI IV - Programme 5.8.1

- The funds allocated from the State Budget for Romanian partners in an Institutionalized Partnership are capped at 2,000,000 EUR per project, but not more than 1,500,000 EUR/Romanian partner.
- Call duration: February 8, 2024 – December 31, 2027.

RRF, Component 9, Investment 7

- The maximum funding granted from RRF funds for a project under the call for projects PNRR-III-C9-2024-I7-P1 is EUR 300,000 EUR.
- Call duration: May 8, 2024 – June 28, 2024 (currently requesting an extension).

g) Consortium configuration

Romanian partners are allowed to participate in projects either individually or as part of a consortium, as follows:

PNCDI IV - Programme 5.8.1

- An institution can participate in competitions as a project coordinator, project partner, or affiliated institution. Additionally, an institution can participate in the national competition organized within a Partnership either as the sole partner (single partner from Romania) or in partnership with other institutions from Romania.

RRF, Component 9, Investment 7

- If multiple Romanian participants are in a European consortium implementing a project funded under European partnerships, each must submit a separate funding request under the current call for projects, only for the activity or activities they are involved in.

h) Other conditions

RRF, Component 9, Investment 7

- Will provide complementary funding to research, development, and innovation projects under the Framework of European partnerships and EU missions, prioritizing project proposals with a strong "green" and "digital" component.

6. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

For both schemes, the level of funding is determined based on the types of activities and the category of institution, in accordance with the State Aid scheme – Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 (Order 21324/02.11.2023 & Order 20396/06.02.2024).

i. PNCDI IV - Programme 5.8.1

(a) Direct costs:

- Personnel costs.
- Logistics:
  - Other direct costs such as consumables, and similar products necessary for research activities according to current legislation
  - Capital expenditures (for public research organizations that are not beneficiaries of state aid, 100% of the costs of equipment purchased during the project implementation period are funded. For institutions benefiting from state aid only depreciation costs). Capital expenditures cannot exceed 30% of the funding amount from the National budget
- Subcontracts (up to 25% of the funding amount from the National budget)

- Travels costs.

(b) Indirect costs (can reach a maximum of 25% of the total direct costs, excluding capital expenditures and expenses incurred by third parties).

ii. RRF, Component 9, Investment 7

(a) Direct costs:

- Personnel costs.
- Logistics:
  - Other direct costs such as consumables, and similar products necessary for research activities according to current legislation
  - Capital expenditures (for public research organizations that are not beneficiaries of state aid, 100% of the costs of equipment purchased during the project implementation period are funded. For institutions benefiting from state aid only depreciation costs). Capital expenditures cannot exceed 30% of the funding amount from the National budget
- Subcontracts (up to 25% of the funding amount from the National budget)
- Travels costs.

(b) Indirect costs (can reach a maximum of 25% of the total direct costs).

b) National public funding rates

PNCDI IV - Programme 5.8.1

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**Medium enterprises**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	Up to 65%	Up to 75%	Up to 80%	Up to 100%
Innovation Action	Up to 25%	Up to 35%	Up to 45%	Up to 100%

The maximum aid intensities granted through this scheme range from a minimum of 25% to a maximum of 80% of the total eligible project cost, as follows:

(a) 100% of eligible costs for fundamental research;
(b) 50% of eligible costs for industrial research;
(c) 25% of eligible costs for experimental development;
(d) 50% of eligible costs for feasibility studies.

The aid intensities for industrial research and experimental development can be increased:

(a) by 10 percentage points for medium-sized enterprises and by 20 percentage point for small enterprises;
(b) by 15 percentage points if one of the following conditions is fulfilled:
(i) the project involves effective collaboration:
— between undertakings among which at least one is an SME, or is carried out in at least two Member States, or in a Member State and in a Contracting Party of the EEA Agreement, and no single undertaking bears more than 70 % of the eligible costs, or

— between an undertaking and one or more research and knowledge-dissemination organisations, where the latter bear at least 10 % of the eligible costs and have the right to publish their own research results;

(ii) the results of the project are widely disseminated through conferences, publication, open access repositories, or free or open source software;

(iii) the beneficiary commits to, on a timely basis, make available licences for research results of aided research and development projects, which are protected by intellectual property rights, at a market price and on non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis for use by interested parties in the EEA;

(iv) the research and development project is carried out in an assisted region fulfilling the conditions of Article 107(3), point (a), of the Treaty;

(c) by 5 percentage points if the research and development project is carried out in an assisted region fulfilling the conditions of Article 107(3), point (c), of the Treaty;

(d) by 25 percentage points if the research and development project:

(i) has been selected by a Member State following an open call to form part of a project jointly designed by at least three Member States or contracting parties to the EEA Agreement; and

(ii) involves effective collaboration between undertakings in at least two Member States or contracting parties to the EEA Agreement when the beneficiary is a SME, or in at least three Member States or contracting parties to the EEA Agreement when the beneficiary is a large enterprise; and

(iii) if at least one the two following conditions is fulfilled:

— the results of the research and development project are widely disseminated in at least three Member States or contracting parties to the EEA Agreement through conferences, publication, open access repositories, or free or open source software; or

— the beneficiary commits to, on a timely basis, make available licences for research results of aided research and development projects, which are protected by intel lectual property rights, at a market price and on non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis for use by interested parties in the EEA.

The aid intensities for feasibility studies may be increased by 10 percentage points for medium-sized enterprises and by 20 percentage points for small enterprises.

RRF, Component 9, Investment 7

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	Minimum of 30% to a maxi. of 70% of the total eligible costs. Variation depends on the intensity of aid provided under European partnerships	Minimum of 30% to a maxi of 70% of the total eligible costs. Variation depends on the intensity of aid provided under European partnerships	Up to 100%
Innovation Action	Minimum of 30% to a maxi of 70% of the total eligible costs. Variation depends on the intensity	Minimum of 30% to a maxi of 70% of the total eligible costs. Variation depends on the intensity	Up to 100%

	of aid provided under European partnerships	of aid provided under European partnerships	
The maximum funding granted from PNRR funds for a project within the call for projects PNRR-III-C9-2024-I7-P1 is <u>EUR 300,000 regardless of the type of institution!</u>			

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

Slovakia

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Slovakia	Kontrík	Martin	-	martin.kontrik@minedu.sk

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

SME, large enterprise, University, Research institution registered in the Slovak Republic are eligible.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

The national co-funding of CHIPS JU projects is provided according to:

- The Act No 172/2005 Coll. On the Organization of State Research and Development Support and Supplementation of Certain Acts
- The Act No 523/2004 Coll. on the budgetary rules of public administration and Supplementation of Certain Acts
- Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2006/C323/01)
- Eligible to ask for national co-funding is an R&D organization from every sector according to §7 of Act No 172/2005 Coll. And legal entity to §2 art. 2 of the Slovak Code of Commerce.

c) Consortium configuration

Slovak partners are allowed to participate in project alone or in cluster.

d) Other conditions

-

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

all personal costs, material costs, services, travel expenses, equipment amortization costs, indirect costs related to project solution within a period of project duration.

b) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	50%	70%	100%
Innovation Action	40%	60%	100%

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

The proposed projects should be within the scope of the national RIS3 initiative.

Slovenia

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Slovenia	Kern	Špela	+386 40273392	spela.kern@gov.si

The National Funding Authority (NFA) of Slovenia is the Ministry of Digital Transformation (https://www.gov.si/en/state-authorities/ministries/ministry-of-digital-transformation/).

1. **Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project**

a) Type or nature of participants

SMEs, LE, research organisations.

b) Legal, administrative, and financial conditions

Following the publication of the Chips JU call, the Ministry issued an invitation for applicants to submit their requests for a letter of support by 1 September at 14:00. Applicants were required to complete a form providing basic information about the applicant, the project, and the potential financing. The Ministry subsequently issued letters of support. Those selected by Chips JU will receive national co-financing, as previously committed. The legal basis for this procedure is the Act on the Support Environment (ZPOP), the Ministry's Programme of Measures, and the strategic document Digital Slovenia 2030.

c) Consortium configuration

Consortia were established on the initiative of the applicants without the involvement of the Ministry.

d) Other conditions

Not Applicable.

2. **Eligibility of the costs and funding**

a) Eligibility of costs

Following types of costs are covered by national funding:

- Personnel costs Subcontractor costs
- Procurement costs
- Other costs
- Indirect costs.

b) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	25%	35%	35%
Innovation Action	20%	30%	35%
Simple Grants	-	-	-

c) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

Not Applicable.

Spain

Two funding organizations will grant Spanish applicants to the **Chips JU- ECS R&I** and **Chips for Europe** 2025 calls:

1. The Ministry for Digital Transformation and Civil Service (MDTCS) will support enterprises and other private agents.

2. The Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI, State Research Agency) depending on the Ministry of Science and Innovation and Universities (MCIU) will support research centers, universities and non-profit private research entities.

Each Spanish participant in a **Chips JU** Consortium needs to request the national funding from the corresponding funding entity at a later stage, in case the project is approved.

It is strongly recommended that all the possible applicants inform national contact person at the beginning of the proposal preparation.

National contact persons for Chips JU Programme

Country	Name	Tel	E-mail
SPAIN	MDTCS: Guillermo Gómez Fontecha Sonia Juan Vindel Jesús Marcos Morell Álvaro Pereda Arce David de Francisco Marcos Juan Miguel Ibáñez de Aldecoa Quintana Adriel Taboada Villanueva		chipsju@digital.gob.es
	AEI: Beatriz Gómez Miguel	+34 916038707	Beatriz.gomez@aei.gob.es
	CDTI Enrique Pelayo	+34 915815566	enrique.pelayo@cdti.es

Shared conditions between the MDTCS and AEI

It will be mandatory to fulfill all European current legal requirements for applying for public grants:

- Marco Comunitario sobre Ayudas Estatales de Investigación y Desarrollo e Innovación (OJ 2014/C198/01).
- **Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 establishing** Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe (Single Basic Act) and its amending Council Regulation (EU) 2023/1782 of 25 July 2023
- Applicable rules or regulations governing the Chips JU and its 2023-2027 Multiannual Work Program including Appendix 5
- GBER and RDI framework

Moreover, regarding any aspect not included in European regulation, it is mandatory to fulfill other Spanish current applicable legal requirements ruled in the following legal texts:

- Ley 38/2003, de 17 de noviembre, General de Subvenciones.
- Real Decreto 887/2006, de 21 de julio, por el que se aprueba el Reglamento de la Ley 38/2003, de 17 de noviembre, General de Subvenciones.
- Leyes anuales de Presupuestos Generales del Estado.
- Ley 47/2003, de 26 de noviembre, General Presupuestaria.
- Ley 39/2015, de 1 de octubre, del Procedimiento Administrativo Común de las Administraciones Públicas.
- Ley 40/2015, de 1 de octubre, de Régimen Jurídico del Sector Público.
- Ley 9/2017, de 30 de octubre, de Contratos del Sector Público.
- Ley 14/2011 de 1 de junio, de la Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación
- Ley 28/2022, de 21 de diciembre, de fomento del ecosistema de las empresas emergentes,
- Ley Orgánica 2/2023, de 22 de marzo, del Sistema Universitario.

The Spanish legal texts can be found on http://www.boe.es

MDTCS
Requirements by the Ministry for Digital Transformation and Civil Service

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

1) Type or nature of participants

The Ministry for Digital Transformation and Civil Service (MDTCS) is the national authority in charge of funding Chips JU calls from the following participants:

- Spanish enterprises (SME, LE, GE[21], RDL 1/2010, de 2 de julio, Texto refundido de la Ley de Sociedades de Capital)
- Private Technology Centers (TC, RD 2093/2008 29th December)
- Private Universities (LOSU 2/2023)

According to the Spanish Regulation, enterprises and Technology Centers (RD 2093/2008 29th December) should follow the rules and procedures for loans and grants.

2) Legal and administrative requirements

Every national participant should be established in Spain, satisfy the Art. 13 of Ley 38/2003, de 17 de noviembre, General de Subvenciones (LGS) and not be in bankruptcy or not have requested the declaration of bankruptcy.

For that reason, every national participant should sign a Statement of Compliance.

Therefore, every national participant should authorize the access and consultation of tax obligations, Social Security payments, fiscal residence, and Full Statement of National

[21] Group of Enterprises

Insurance contributions of the workers assigned to the project and/or the verification of any other data provide during the granting and monitoring of the aid.

In case the participant does not authorize the consultation, the participant shall submit the corresponding documentation.

At the Project Outline (PO) stage, the following documentation shall be submitted to the Chips JU:

- Part C (one per project, sent by the coordinator of the national sub-consortium)

Regarding the Full Project proposal (FPP) stage, the following documentation shall be submitted to the Chips JU:

- Part C (one per project, sent by the coordinator of the national sub-consortium).

Templates for the aforementioned documents will be available at the website of the Secretariat of State for Telecommunications and Digital Infrastructures or upon request.

3) Legal and administrative procedures

After signing the Grant Agreement, MDTCS will contact every beneficiary to assist in the fulfillment of forms and documents requested by the Spanish Public Authorities, to sign the National Grant Agreement document.

Payment of the national contribution will proceed regarding national rules in force.

A payment in advance is carried out after the establishment of the National Grant Agreement. This option requires collaterals of 100% of the amount. Collaterals shall be in the form of guarantees provided by credit institutions or mutual guarantee societies.

Proposals may be rejected when:

- It is not considered credible by the Spanish Public Authorities that consortium members could adequately co-finance the project.
- Project deadlines are not considered realistic by the Spanish Public Authorities
- Accredited Technical or financial capacities of Spanish consortium members are not considered realistic to fulfil the project as submitted.
- Spanish partners do not provide enough proof of their capabilities.
- The effect or positive impact on selection and evaluation criteria is considered insufficient by the relevant authorities.
- Not enough relevance of Spanish consortium share.

Eligibility of the costs and funding

1. **Consortium configuration**

To be eligible, there is no minimum Spanish participation. However Spanish relevance should be detailed and will be assessed by MDTCS: projects considered not relevant for Spain may be rejected.

Participants shall set up a national sub-consortium with the following rules:

1) All members shall prove knowledge and expertise, and relevant contributions to the project in their relative project matters.
2) There shall be at least one SME in the Spanish consortium.
3) Each national sub-consortium will send its own form C
4) Each participant shall comply with the stated conditions to be a beneficiary at the moment national grant is awarded.

2. Solvency and Financial Conditions

- **MDTCS** will check if the participants are eligible monitoring that they are not in crisis as defined by EU regulation 651/2014.
- Each Spanish private partner has the necessary financial capacity to carry out the project, and the Spanish Public Authorities will assess it. **MDTCS** shall perform a financial analysis.
- **MDTCS** requires collaterals of 100% the national funding amount.

3. Funding rates

Maximum percentage of costs covered by **MDTCS**
as a percentage of the eligible costs for the ECS calls Chips JU 2024

Type of Organization Type of activity	Large Enterprise / RTO	Medium Enterprise / RTO	Small Enterprise / RTO
RIA (EPS) Research and Innovation Action	Up to 65% - JU%	Up to 75% - JU%	Up to 80% - JU%
IA (EPS) Innovation Action	Up to 40% - JU%	Up to 50% - JU%	Up to 60% - JU%

These percentages are maxima according to the funding provided by the Chips JU and the conditions stated by annex I and articles 25 and 28 of Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 related to definition of enterprise categories and maximum aid intensity.

MDTCS will provide the same funding percentage than the Chips JU if possible, never surpassing the aforementioned limits in any case.

4. **Amount of required collateral by MDTCS**

MDTCS requires collaterals of 100% of the national funding amount.

5. **Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions**

MDTCS will specifically encourage projects:

- Coordinated by a Spanish entity.
- Where there are SMEs working in the core of the project.
- Contributing to the territorial cohesion in semiconductor sector and industry, according to the III axis of the Spanish Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan
- Promote the presence and participation of women in semiconductor sector and industry, according to the IV axis of the Spanish Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan
- Where Spanish entities that have never participated in previous ECSEL or KDT calls are integrated in order to broaden the range of participants in Chips JU.

AEI
Legal requirements for eligibility of a partner or a project and eligibility of the costs and funding

1. **Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project**

a) Type or nature of participants

The AEI is the national authority which funds non-profit public R&D organizations such as:

- Public Research Centres
- Public and Private Universities
- Other non-profit R&D organizations, in which R&I activities are defined as the main objective.

The AEI has not defined any limit to the number of Spanish participants per project in the Chips JU calls.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

About the proposal and project

2025 Chips JU ECS R&I and Chips for Europe calls will be managed by the "Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia".

Applicants requesting national funds from AEI shall comply with the following regulations on grants:

- General Subsidies Law (Ley 38/2003)
- Science Law (Ley 14/2011)
- AEI Statutes (Real Decreto 1067/2015)
- All other regulation that apply to national PCI calls (National PCI call)

The projects granted by the AEI must be aligned with the main objectives described in the latest State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation (more information at: MICIU).

The instrument for funding the Spanish groups will be the call "Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional" (PCI). As a reference, applicants are advised to read the call PCI 2024-1.

Participation in this program means acceptance and compliance with all the conditions stated on this document.

Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge AEI funding even after the end of the project, according to national PCI call (see article 12.2 in the call text of PCI2024-1 for reference).

Calls supported by AEI in 2025 are according to Work Programme 2023-2027 – Version 10.0

- ECS R&I Calls · Chips Ju
  HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA

  HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA FT1

  HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA FT2

  HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA-HIA

  HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-RIA
- Chips For Europe · Chips Ju
  HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-IA-EDA

  HORIZON-Chips-2025-1-IA-LEAI

  HORIZON-JU-Chips-2025-RIA-SUP (TBC)

Additional document. AEI Annex – "Declaración Responsable"

Applicants have to send to the AEI (to: era-ict@aei.gob.es cc: beatriz.gomez@aei.gob.es) the document "Declaración responsable" duly signed by the Spanish Principal Investigator. They must send it until one week after the deadline of the Project Outline (PO) stage of the call.

Bellow you can find the content of the document to be signed. It is available on the web site Convocatorias Internacionales | Agencia Estatal de Investigación for download.

c) Consortium configuration

Spanish Principal Investigators must demonstrate experience as investigators in projects funded by the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2013-2016, or subsequent plans or other relevant national or international programmes.

Incompatibility (read carefully)[22]**:**

- Principal Investigators can only apply for funding in only one proposal in 2025 ECS R&I Chips and Chips for Europe Calls funded by AEI, including RIA, IA and others. If one PI submits two or more proposals, he/she will be declared ineligible in all but one.
- Principal Investigators will not be eligible for funding in more than one proposal in a PCI call of the same year or consecutive years. This should be taken into account when participating in other ERA-NETS or international programmes funded through the PCI call.
- Principal Investigators must remain unchanged between the proposal in PO stage to this transnational call and the PCI call. Only force majeure reasons will be accepted to change a principal investigator (see point one of incompatibilities).
- To this end, and to avoid any issue, the Principal Investigator must be clearly identifiable in the Chips JU documents as main contact point, when possible, and always with "leading" in "Role of researcher (in the project)" field of the proposal template and must comply with these rules. Otherwise, he/she will be declared ineligible for funding by the AEI.

d) Other conditions

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

d) Eligibility of costs

[22] See the below "Declaración responsable".

AEI will fund those tasks in the work packages indubitably related to research and technology development and innovation, not considering as such if only mere communication or dissemination or similar activities. Please contact AEI in advance to check eligibility.

AEI grants follow the rules of marginal costs, with a maximum request of 350.000 € (including direct + indirect costs) per participant or 50% of the total costs of the Spanish applicant part of the project (whichever amount is lower). In any case, the total grant (AEI + Chips JU) will be a maximum 100% of the total project costs.

Eligible costs are:

1. Personnel costs: Contracts (gross remuneration and contributions to social security) exclusively intended to the funded project implementation. Fellowships are not eligible.
2. Current costs, disposable materials, travelling expenses and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
3. Indirect costs (overheads), 25% of the direct eligible costs (see points 1 and 2).

If the Spanish participant is the Chips project coordinator, the maximum request can be up to 500.000€ (including direct + indirect costs) or 50% of the total costs of the Spanish part of the project (whichever amount is lower).

Centers formed by different Spanish legal entities will be considered as a unique entity, and thus the maximum funding should not exceed the limits per proposal established above (f.i. mixed centers).

Chips projects are granted by the Chips JU and AEI on the basis of a single budget per project, but with two complementary funding sources. This means that both the Chips JU and AEI finance the total project, not item by item. Double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding) will be avoided and projects or parts of projects already funded will be not granted. Final funding will take into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the benefit of the international collaboration, the participation of the industrial sector, and the resources available.

Every institution funded by the AEI should justify the total costs of the project regardless of the origin of grants (Chips JU or AEI). Therefore, every institution funded by the AEI must submit a valid audit certificate with the total costs of the project.

*e) National public funding rates (**N/A**)*

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research**

			Institutes and Universities
Research and Innovation action			
Innovation Action			

"Declaración responsable" to be sent to AEI (to: era-ict@aei.gob.es cc: beatriz.gomez@aei.gob.es**)**

Available on the web site Convocatorias Internacionales | Agencia Estatal de Investigación for download.

NOTA IMPORTANTE
La presente declaración responsable se atendrá a lo establecido en el artículo 69 de la Ley 39/2015, de 1 de octubre, del Procedimiento Administrativo Común de las Administraciones Públicas.

Según el citado precepto, la inexactitud, falsedad u omisión, de carácter esencial, de cualquier dato o información que se incorpore a una declaración responsable o a una comunicación, o la no presentación de la documentación que sea en su caso requerida para acreditar el cumplimiento de lo declarado, determinará la imposibilidad de continuar con el procedimiento dando lugar a la desestimación de la ayuda o en su caso su revocación, sin perjuicio de las responsabilidades penales, civiles o administrativas a que hubiera lugar.

Asimismo, se recuerda que tal y como establece el artículo 58.a) de la Ley 38/2003, de 17 de noviembre, General de Subvenciones, se considerará falta muy grave la obtención de una subvención falseando las condiciones requeridas para su concesión u ocultando las que la hubiesen impedido o limitado.

DECLARACIÓN REPONSABLE

D/Dña.……., NIF.:……., con domicilio en…….……..……, teléfonos de contacto: ……..…… en nombre propio y como investigador(a) principal español(a) de la propuesta con título ……..…….…….…….…. y acrónimo ……..…. de la

convocatoria …..…… del año …… en la que participa la Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) como agencia financiadora española.

DECLARO RESPONSABLEMENTE EN NOMBRE PROPIO Y COMO INVESTIGADOR(A) PRINCIPAL DE LA PROPUESTA QUE:

1. Estoy en posesión del grado de doctor/a, o
2. Pertenezco a un centro contemplado en el *Directorio de centros tecnológicos y centros de apoyo a la innovación tecnológica regulados por el Real Decreto 2093/20228*, estoy en posesión de la titulación universitaria de licenciado/a, ingeniero/a, arquitecto/a o graduado/a, y, además, cumplo con una de las siguientes condiciones:
    a. Tengo acreditada experiencia en actividades de I+D+i durante al menos cinco años.
    b. He dirigido proyectos de investigación en el marco de las convocatorias de proyectos de I+D+i del plan estatal de I+D+i 2013-2016 o posteriores
3. Cuento con autorización expresa de la entidad beneficiaria para participar en la solicitud de la propuesta ……(ACRONIMO).
4. No estoy contratado/a con cargo a los fondos obtenidos en ninguna convocatoria de los planes estatales de I+D+i actual o anteriores, *con excepción* de las correspondientes al Programa Estatal de Promoción del Talento y su Empleabilidad en I+D+i o equivalentes en las que se requiera estar en posesión del grado de doctor/a, o de las ayudas «Severo Ochoa» y «María de Maeztu» de la AEI.
5. Tengo una relación funcionarial, estatutaria, laboral u otro vínculo profesional con la entidad beneficiaria de la ayuda o con otra entidad que cumpla los requisitos de elegibilidad de las ayudas durante toda la duración de la acción[23], o
6. En el caso de que el vínculo profesional con la entidad beneficiaria sea menor a la duración de la acción, aporto una declaración de la entidad beneficiaria comprometiéndose a mantener la vinculación durante toda la duración de la acción.
7. En el caso de que mi vinculación laboral no sea con la entidad beneficiaria sino con otra, cuento con la autorización expresa de ésta para participar en la solicitud presentada por la entidad beneficiaria.

[23] La expectativa de nombramiento o contratación con motivo de haber superado un procedimiento de selección de personal en concurrencia competitiva convocado por cualquier entidad del sector público, según la definición del artículo 2 de la Ley 40/2015, de 1 de octubre, se considerará vinculación suficiente

8. Cuento con experiencia (no necesariamente como investigador principal) en proyectos financiados por alguno de los Planes Estatales desde 2013, en proyectos del Programa Marco Europeo de I+i, incluidas las ayudas del Consejo Europeo de Investigación u otros programas nacionales o internacionales relevantes tal y como muestran las referencias de proyectos concedidos en los que he participado que se incluyen en el anexo[24].
9. No soy beneficiario de un ayuda de Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional del año 2025[25].
10. Solo presento una propuesta a la presente convocatoria[26].
11. No he presentado otra propuesta (incluso que no haya sido evaluada) en convocatorias transnacionales (proyectos bilaterales, ERA-NET, partenariados europeos o *partnerships*, u otros programas internacionales como CRCNS de la *National Science Foundation* estadounidense, los grupos de interés EIG-Concert-Japan y EU-CELAC, entre otros), que puedan ser financiadas por las convocatorias de "Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional" de 2025 o 2026 de la AEI.
12. No he presentado otra propuesta a la convocatoria de "Proyectos de Generación de Conocimiento 2024. **Proyectos tipo I (PID-I)"[27].**

Anexos:

- Anexo 1. Lista de proyectos más relevantes financiados por los planes nacionales o/y estatales, así como de los programas marco de investigación e innovación de la Unión Europea u otros relevantes en los que he participado.
- Anexo 2. Declaración de la entidad beneficiaria comprometiéndose a mantener la vinculación del investigador principal durante toda la duración del proyecto. *Solo para los investigadores principales que tengan una vinculación con la entidad beneficiaria menor a la duración del proyecto.*

En ……..…… a …….. de ……..…….…… de ……...

[24] En caso de no tener experiencia en proyectos de los planes estatales y nacionales mencionadas, puede informar de proyectos en los que haya participado para su valoración.
[25] No es compatible tener dos ayudas Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional del mismo año o de dos años consecutivos: 2024-2025, 2025-2026, 2026-2027.
[26] Si un mismo investigador principal presenta dos o más propuestas a la presente convocatoria, todas podrán ser declaradas no elegibles, sin posibilidad de cambio de IP.
[27] Los otros tipos de proyectos de PID (no encuadrados en I) no tienen ninguna incompatibilidad con PCI.

Fdo.: (Nombre completo y dos apellidos).

Anexo 1.

Listado de proyectos financiados por planes nacionales o/y estatales, así como de los programas marco de investigación e innovación de la Unión Europea u otros relevantes en los que ha participado.

Referencia proyecto	Acrónimo	Título

Anexo 2.

Declaración de la entidad beneficiaria comprometiéndose a mantener la vinculación del investigador principal durante toda la duración de la acción.

Solo para los investigadores principales que tengan una vinculación con la entidad beneficiaria menor a la duración del proyecto.

Sweden

National contact persons for Chips JU

Country	Name	First name	Tel	E-mail
Sweden	Saavedra Granholm	Adela	+46 8 473 31 50	adela.saavedragranholm@vinnova.se
Sweden	Gustafsson	Lars	+46 8 473 32 12	lars.gustafsson@vinnova.se
Sweden	Brundin	Sverker	+46 8 473 31 97	sverker.brundin@vinnova.se

Detailed information for Swedish applicants in Chips JU is available at:

Chips Joint Undertaking – Vinnova

Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

Type or nature of participants

Calls are open for public and private companies of all sizes as well as for universities and research institutes in Sweden.

Funding conditions

The costs of all partners specified in the project budget and in the reporting to Vinnova shall harmonize with costs in accordance with the Grant Agreement with Chips JU and the costs reported to Chips JU, respectively.

Only legal entities are eligible for funding, natural persons will not be funded.

Consortium configuration

The total eligible project costs of participating Swedish companies must amount to at least 60% of the aggregated eligible project costs of all Swedish participants in the project consortium.

Legal, administrative and financial conditions

Participating companies must have fulfilled fiscal obligations and must be able to cover their own expenses for the duration of the project.

- Participating companies must be registered as a limited company in Sweden

(Aktiebolag).

- Participating companies must have a permanent establishment in Sweden.
- Project activities must be conducted at sites that belong to a participating company. Project costs must belong to the participating company.
- Participating companies must be registered for employer's contribution.
- Participating companies must have submitted at least two annual reports to the Swedish Companies Registration Office (Bolagsverket).
- The company's most recent annual report/ financial statement should show that net sales or equity correspond to at least 50% of the public funding applied for from Vinnova and Chips JU.

Swedish SMEs must also show when submitting the full project proposal (FPP) that they:

- Have an annual net turnover of at least 1 million SEK according to the latest annual report.
- Have a minimum of three full time employees.

Net turnover does not include public funding from, for example, Vinnova or the EU Commission.

To calculate how big a company is, the EU's definition of small and medium-sized companies is applied: Användarhandledning om definitionen av SMF-företag (vinnova.se)

Other conditions

Vinnova helps to build Sweden's innovation capacity, contributing to sustainable growth. We make it possible for organisations to address challenges together by enabling innovation that makes a difference. All projects that Vinnova funds within Chips JU are expected to contribute to this mission.

Vinnova will check if the Swedish applicants are eligible considering the national eligibility rules, including Vinnova's terms and conditions for grants. In addition to that, Vinnova will assess the national relevance of the international project proposal based on the information about the Swedish applicant's contribution to the project, Vinnova's projects portfolio and national priorities.

Swedish applicants to Chips JU Calls 2025 **must** submit a joint National Part with the international full project proposal (FPP). In case the applicants fail to submit the National Part with the international FPP, they will be considered **not eligible for national funding**. In the National Part, participating companies are required to provide a credible description of the project's impact on the company's technological knowledge, economic growth and future assets in Sweden. Participating universities or research institutes are required to

provide a credible description of the project's impact on the university's or research institute's scientific and technological knowledge base and positive impact on Swedish society in general. It is important that each partner clearly describes their role in the project, their goals with the project, how they will benefit from the project and added value from international collaboration. The Swedish consortium needs to specify in the National Part to which goals of Agenda 2030 the project contributes to and how the Swedish consortium contributes to the integration of gender equality aspects in the project.

A template for the Swedish National Part is available at Vinnova's website for the Chips JU Calls 2025.

If the international project proposal is selected for funding in Chips JU Calls 2025, the Swedish consortium must submit one joint national application to Vinnova. The project description attached to the national application should be based on the National Part submitted together with FPP application to Chips JU. After PAB decision on projects selected for funding in Chips JU Calls 2025, Vinnova will contact the Swedish applicants to provide a template for the national application för funding and specific information about the submission process.

Vinnova obtains information about the credit status of all applicant companies prior to the national funding decision. The applicants must comply with the national rules and special conditions for participation in Chips JU

on the date of the national decision.

Vinnova uses information we receive from credit reports, currently from Dun & Bradstreet.

For us to grant funding, the following applies:

- Organizations seeking funding for personnel costs must be registered as employers with the Swedish Tax Agency (Skatteverket).
- Organizations must not be insolvent or undergoing liquidation or corporate restructuring. They must also not have unpaid debts with the Swedish Enforcement Authority (Kronofogdemyndigheten).
- Limited liability companies must not have used up half or more of their share capital.
- If requested, SMEs must be able to demonstrate that they have the financial means to carry out the project according to their budget in the application. They cannot use public grants or own funds intended for other projects to cover project costs in this call.

Eligible costs and funding rates

Vinnova's terms and conditions

§ 6.1 (Eligible costs) in Vinnova´s terms and conditions for funding is replaced by the eligible costs and the calculation of these specified in the Grant Agreement with Chips JU. Otherwise Vinnova's general terms and conditions for national funding applies. In addition, observe Vinnova's national rules and special conditions for participation in Chips JU applies. For further details, please see the full version of the national eligibility rules in the Vinnova website for the Chips JU Calls 2025.

Funding rates

In the table below the national funding rates for Swedish participants in Chips JU are presented. The funding rates must be within the limits given by State Aid Rules. Vinnova grants funding in accordance with Article 25 of the EU Commission's General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER). In this call, we provide companies with support for industrial research.

In this the call for proposals Vinnova also provides support to organisations that do not engage in economic activities. This means that they do not offer a service or product on a market. This usually includes universities, research institutes and other organisations. The maximum funding rate is 65% for participating universities and research institutes in Chips JU Calls 2025.

Please be aware that EU contribution doesn't count as state aid.

	Large Enterprises	Small and Medium Enterprises	Universities and Research Institutes
RIA - Research and Innovation Action	25%	35%	50%
IA - Innovation Action	20%	30%	50%
Focus Topics	20%	30%	50%

Project Coordinator	Large Enterprises	Universities and Research Institutes
RIA - Research and Innovation Action	40%	65%
IA - Innovation Action	35%	65%
Focus Topics	35%	65%

Additional information and other conditions

- Maximum Vinnova contribution to one project is limited to 2 000 000 €
- The maximum funding from Vinnova for a single large enterprise, university and research institute is equivalent to 730 000 €.
- The maximum funding from Vinnova for a small and medium enterprise is equivalent to 450 000 €.
- Vinnova use the exchange rate for Euro/SEK of the ECB on the date of Chips JU call FPP phase deadline.

Switzerland

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Switzerland	**Euresearch (NCP)**			
	Llewellynn	Timothy	+41 31 380 60 18	timothy.llewellynn@euresearch.ch
	Bøgelund	Eva	+41 31 380 60 24	eva.bogelund@euresearch.ch
	SERI (national cofunding)			
	Rusconi	Giudy	+41 58 463 27 95	giudy.rusconi@sbfi.admin.ch

Contact Euresearch with general questions regarding Swiss participation in the Chips JU calls.

The State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) is providing national cofunding. Information on the Chips JU national cofunding is found here and here.

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

All Swiss entities are eligible to request funding for their research and innovation activities in Switzerland related to a Chips JU project.

b) Consortium configuration

No national requirements on consortium configuration.

c) Other conditions

The research and innovation activities for which funding is requested need to take place in Switzerland.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

d) National public funding rates

Listed below are the maximum national funding rates per action type. The total available Budget for 2025 will be evenly distributed across successful Swiss participants.

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprises**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation Action	up to 10%	up to 30%	up to 35%
Innovation Action	up to 10%	up to 35%	up to 35%

Türkiye

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Türkiye	GEZİCİ KOÇ	Özlem	+903122981772	ncpdis@tubitak.gov.tr
Türkiye	TİFTİK	Hasan Burak	+903122981752	ncpdis@tubitak.gov.tr

TUBITAK, www.tubitak.gov.tr

The National Funding Authority (NFA) of Türkiye for Chips JU is the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK). Principal legal regulations and documents on the public funding of research, development and innovation in Türkiye are available on the TUBITAK websites.

1. Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or a project

a) Type or nature of participants

Calls are open for public institutions and private companies of all sizes as well as for universities and research institutes in Türkiye.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

Eligible participants can be funded via TUBITAK 1071 Programme. The national rules and the procedure for application will be available on TUBITAK website.

c) Consortium configuration

There is no limitation for the consortium configuration.

d) Other conditions

Only legal entities are eligible for funding. Natural persons will not be funded.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

e) Eligibility of costs

- Personnel cost
- Travel costs
- Expenditures for consumables

- Expenditures for instruments, equipment, software that would be used for R&D purposes
- Expenditures for subcontracting and other services need for R&D work

f) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation action	%60-EU Contribution	%75-EU Contribution	%100-EU Contribution
Innovation Action	%60-EU Contribution	%75-EU Contribution	%100-EU Contribution

g) Additional Information to be provided at submission and other conditions.

- The total Turkish funding budget for Chips 2025 NI Call (including Initiative call IA-EDA is TBD) is 6 000 000 €.
- There is no pre-allocated distribution of the Turkish funding budget between the NI Calls in 2025, nor to specific topics of any of the NI Calls in 2025.
- While determining the project budget in national applications, the international project budget and the exchange selling rate of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey on the date of national application are taken as basis.
- Participants are subject to TUBITAK 1071 Programme rules.

United Kingdom

National contact person for the Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First Name	Tel	Email
United Kingdom	Sharp	Craig	+44 7920 750631	craig.sharp@iuk.ukri.org
	Morris	Ben	+44 7795 641229	ben.morris@iuk.ukri.org

National Funding Agency: Innovate UK

Innovate UK provides funding to support and stimulate innovation in the UK economy and the wider international CR&D&I ecosystem. We do this by encouraging businesses to work with other commercial and research organisations. We largely require that projects are led by businesses. Other types of organisations can apply in collaboration with a business partner.

1) Legal requirements for the eligibility of a partner or project Type or nature of participants

The UK will support UK participants, as listed, in projects selected by the Chips Joint Undertaking Non- Initiative.

- registered business of any size
- academic institution
- public sector organisation
- research and technology organisation (RTO)

Only legal entities will be funded, natural persons will not be funded.

2) Legal, administrative and financial conditions Consortium configuration

- must contain at least one UK registered business of any size
- can collaborate with other UK registered organisations

More information on the different types of organisation can be found in our Funding rules. Academic institutions cannot lead or work alone.

Innovate UK will assess the financial viability (liquidity) and eligibility of UK applicants. As this is a joint undertaking, then those entities who fail the Undertakings in Difficulty test will be deemed ineligible for funding. EUR-Lex - 02014R0651-20210801 - EN - EUR-Lex

(europa.eu)

3) Other conditions

UK applicants to Chips JU Calls 2024 must submit a joint National Part with the international full project proposal (FPP). In this National Part, participating UK companies must provide a credible description of the project's impact on the company's technological knowledge, capability, economic growth and benefits to the UK. Participating universities or research organisations must provide a credible description of the project's impact on the university's or research organisation's scientific and technological knowledge and benefit for the UK. It is important that each UK partner clearly describes their role and goals with the project, how they will benefit from it and the added value from this international collaboration.

On successful evaluation and receipt of the project approval, from the Chips JU, Innovate UK will send successful applicants documentation to complete for national processes.

4) Eligibility of the costs and funding Eligibility of costs

The eligibility of costs is in accordance with Innovate UK national rules on eligible costs. For details on the eligibility of costs see the national Cost Guidelines can be found here on the Innovate UK Costs Guidance webpage.

UK funded work must be carried out in the UK and your project costs must be incurred in the UK.

5) Funding and funding rates

Innovate UK has a budget of up to £5,000,000 for UK participation in the Chips JU

UK applicants can apply for total grant of up to £750,000 or the intervention rate, whichever is lower. If your total grant is greater than £750,000, then you must provide justification by email to support@iuk.ukri.org as soon as possible before you start your application and at least 10 working days before the competition closes, where we will decide whether to approve your request.

Subcontracting is limited to 20% of total UK eligible costs.

In the event that the UK receives more successfully approved project from Chips JU, then Innovate UK reserves the right to take a portfolio approach.

Funding from Innovate UK will equal the following:

Action	Topic	Large	Medium	Small	RTO*/Uni
HORIZON-Chips 2024-1-IA T1	Global call according to SRIA 2024 (IA)	50%-JU	60%-JU	70%-JU	100%-JU

HORIZON-Chips 2024-1-IA T2	Focus topic on "High Performance RISC-V Automotive Processors supporting SDV"	50%-JU	60%-JU	70%-JU	100%-JU
HORIZON-Chips 2024-1-IA T3	Focus topic on "Service Oriented Framework for the Software Defined Vehicle of the future"	50%-JU	60%-JU	70%-JU	100%-JU
HORIZON-Chips 2024-2-RIA- T1	Global call according to SRIA 2023 (RIA)	50%-JU	60%-JU	70%-JU	100%-JU
HORIZON-Chips 2024-2-RIA T2	Focus topic on "Sustainable and greener manufacturing"	50%-JU	60%-JU	70%-JU	100%-JU

UK research organisations undertaking non-economic activity as part of the project can share up to 30% of the total UK eligible project costs. If your consortium contains more than one UK research organisation undertaking non-economic activity, this maximum is shared between them. Of that 30% you could get funding for your eligible project costs of up to:

- 80% of full economic costs (FEC) if you are a Je-S registered institution such as an academic
- 100% of your project costs if you are an RTO, not for profit organisation, public sector organisation or research organisation.

Academic institutions will receive 80% of their FEC of the combined Chips JU and Innovate UK contributions.