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APPENDIX 7: ACTIVITIES LAUNCHED IN 2026 FOR THE ECS PART

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2 WORK PROGRAMME 2026: ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND SYSTEMS (ECS) PART

The part of the Electronic Components and Systems (ECS) work programme 2023-2027 covers collaborative actions funded through the Horizon Europe (HE) programme, Cluster 4 and is the continuation of the actions launched under the precedent Joint Undertakings[1]. This part of the programme will fund bottom up and top-down calls, the top-down calls are the so-called focus topics. The ECS part foresees the launch of seven calls in 2026. Other operational activities include:

- the start of the projects selected under the Chips JU ECS calls 2025;
- the monitoring of the projects selected in Chips JU calls 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025;
- the monitoring of the projects selected in the ECSEL JU Calls 2019-2020;
- the preparation of work programme updates for years 2026 and beyond, in particular the IA Resilience topics;
- various supporting activities to Public Authorities Board and Governing Board and members;
- various supporting activities to auditing bodies;
- various supporting activities to communication, administration & finance.

3 LAUNCH OF CHIPS JU CALLS ECS PART

The estimated maximum operational budget for the ECS part of the programme of the Chips JU is EUR 179 million for the calls, and an amount of EUR 1 million (shared with the Chips for Europe Initiative 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 ten calls for proposals:

- A first Innovation Action (IA) (higher TRLs) global call according to SRIA 2026;
- A second IA call “Resilience”[2] on Power Electronics;
- A third IA call “Resilience” on Photonics;
- A fourth IA call “Resilience” on Health;
- A fifth IA call on AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering Automation
- A sixth Research and Innovation Action (RIA, lower TRLs) global call according to SRIA 2026;

[1] Artemis and ENIAC, ECSEL Joint Undertaking

[2] The IA Resilience calls prioritise reinforcing Europe's strength by capitalising those areas where it can gain a competitive edge or take the lead in key strategic sectors.

- A seventh RIA call “Resilience” on 6G radio communication systems;
- A eighth RIA call for a joint call with Digital Partnership and TTC countries;
- A ninth call for Coordination and Support Action (CSA) on Supply chain resilience;
- A tenth call for Coordination and Support Action (CSA) “Preparing a European autonomous driving stack ecosystem building on next-generation SDV software and hardware computing architectures” .

The two global call topics, on selected chapters of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda 2026[3] (hereinafter, “SRIA”), aim at the reinforcement of the industrial competitiveness, stimulating industrial innovation and transfer of innovation from research environments (RTOs and Universities) to SMEs and Large Enterprises. Research and Innovation Actions (RIA) and Innovation Actions (IA) differ by the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and therefore by the reimbursement rates.

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

Expected outputs are novel technologies and applications, pilots, large scale demonstrators, and platforms for innovative product developments.

[3] https://ecssria.eu/2026

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4 EU INDICATIVE BUDGET FOR THE CHIPS JU ECS CALLS 2026

Action	**Topic**	**EU indicative budget (M€)**
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-IA	IA Global call according to SRIA 2026	40
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT1-IA	IA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in power electronics	20
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT2-IA	IA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in photonics	20
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT3-IA	IA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in health	20
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-IA-FT4	AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering Automation	20
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-RIA	Global call according to SRIA 2026 (RIA)	50
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-2-RIA	RIA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in 6G radio communication systems	20
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-3-RIA	Call with Digital Partnership and TTC countries	5
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-CSA	Supply chain resilience (CSA)	2
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-SDV-CSA	Preparing a European autonomous driving stack ecosystem building on next-generation SDV software and hardware computing architectures	2
	Total	**199**

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5 NATIONAL BUDGETS FOR THE ECS CALLS 2026

Participating states	Chips-2026-1-IA	Chips-2026-FT1-IA	Chips-2026-FT2-IA	Chips-2026-FT3-IA	Chips-2026-IA-FT4	Chips 2026-1-RIA	Chips 2026-2-RIA	Chips 2026-3-RIA	Total (M€)
AT	3.5	1.5	1.5		1.4	2.5	1.0		11.4
BE-FL									12
BE-BR									
BE-WL									
BG									
CH									
CY									
CZ									
DE	7.0	6.0			5.5	7.0	4.0		29.5
DE TH									
DE SN									
DK									7.3[4]
EE									
EL									
ES AEI					Not Funded				4.0
ES MAETD									

[4] Budget shared between the calls DIGITAL-JU-Chips-2025-SG-LFA; DIGITAL-JU-Chips-2025-SG-SSOI; Electronic Components and Systems actions and Chips for Europe Initiative actions of 2026

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FI									11.0
FR					2.5				11.5
HR									
HU	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1			1.6
IE									2.0
IL									1.75
IS									
IT MIMIT	10.0								10.0
IT MUR						2.25			2.25
LT									
LV									1.2
LU									
MT									1.5
NL	14.0	5.0			1.0	9.0			29.0
NO									2.0
PL									
PT									
RO									
SE	1.68	0.60			0.70	1.59	0.56		5.14
SI									2.0
SK									0.8[5]

[5] Budget shared with the Chips for Europe Initiative (C4EI) calls of 2026

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TR									6.0
UK									11.5[6]
Total									163.44

[6] Budget shared with the Chips for Europe Initiative calls of 2026, the amount was reported in UK Pound Sterling (10 Milion £) and converted with the exchange rate applicable on the 13th of February 2026 (Currency converter | ECB Data Portal)

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6 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CALLS

6.1 ECS GLOBAL IA

Topic: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-IA

Type of Action	Innovation Action (IA)
Indicative EU budget	40 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	Co-funded with the NFA Two stage Call, with submission of Project Outline (PO) and of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	03 Feb 2026
Deadline PO	07 May 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time
Deadline FPP Stage	17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.1.1 Context

This topic is the IA-part of the bottom-up programming. The topic will be open to the major challenges addressed in the current version of the Chips JU Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA), excluding the topics addressed in the IA Resilience call and in the focus topics of all the Horizon Europe Chips JU calls in 2026 (ECS and Chips for Europe calls).

Aspects of ECS value chain integration are important for the Chips JU programme and the whole European ECS sector, across applications and across capabilities, as well as cutting across disciplines, supporting platform building, interoperability, establishing open standards.

The participation of SMEs in the developments allowing them to play effective roles while working on solutions that can be taken exploited by SMEs is important in view of the SBA.

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6.1.2 Expected Outcomes

A Chips JU Innovation Action (IA) primarily consists of activities aiming at technology or method introduction, pilot lines, test beds, demonstrators, innovation pilots and zones of full-scale testing. These activities produce plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered, or improved products, processes, methods and tools or services. For this purpose, they may include prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication.

A 'technology or method introduction' aims at the development, testing, and implementation of new technologies, tools or methods, which are a critical element of innovative products, which will be created in subsequent projects.

A 'demonstration or pilot' aims to validate the technical and economic viability of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution in an operational (or nearly operational) environment, whether industrial or otherwise, involving, where appropriate, a larger scale prototype or demonstrator.

A 'market replication' aims to support the first application/deployment in the market of an innovation that has already been demonstrated but not yet applied/deployed in the market due to market failures/barriers to uptake. 'Market replication' does not cover multiple applications in the market of an innovation that has already been applied successfully once in the market. 'First' means new at least to Europe or new at least to the application sector in question. Often such projects involve a validation of technical and economic performance at system level in real life operating conditions provided by the market.

The activities have their centre of gravity at the TRL 5-8. An IA proposal in Chips JU is characterized by one or more of the following:

- Execution by an industrial consortium that may consist of large enterprises and SMEs but also including universities, institutes, public organizations.
- Using innovative technology
- Establishment of a new and realistic innovation environment connected with an industrial environment, such as:
    - a pilot line facility capable of manufacturing
    - a zone of full-scale testing
    - a development of new processes or tools and their introduction in several domains
    - the development of frameworks or platforms together with the usage of these frameworks or platforms in innovative products.
- Having a deployment plan leading to short to midterm economic value creation in Europe.

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To maximize effective implementation of the Chips JU top-level objectives, the list of IA proposals to be retained for public funding should constitute a balanced portfolio of projects developing innovative technologies (as defined in the SRIA in the functional technology layers and cross-sectional technologies sections) and applying them in different domains (as defined in the SRIA in ECS key application areas section). The domains represent the demand side of technologies, and the development of new technologies represents the supply side of technologies.

The size of the proposal is not an evaluation criterion. Chips JU is looking at a balanced portfolio of small and large projects.

6.1.3 Scope

The global topic will be open to the following major challenges as defined in the SRIA:

Topics and Major Challenges		Open/Closed
1.1 - Process technology, equipment, materials and manufacturing		
	Major Challenge 1: Advanced computing, in-memory, neuromorphic, photonic, and quantum computing concepts	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Novel sensor, actuation and other devices that enable advanced functionality	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Advanced integration solutions	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Advanced wafer fab equipment and manufacturing solutions	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Advanced packaging, assembly & test equipment solutions	Open
	Major Challenge 6: Sustainable semiconductor manufacturing	Open
1.2 - Components, modules and systems integration		
	Major Challenge 1: Functionality	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Advanced Integration solutions	Open

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	Major Challenge 3: Heterogenous integration	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Sustainability	Open
1.3 - Embedded software and beyond		
	Major Challenge 1: Efficient engineering of embedded software	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Continuous integration and deployment	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Lifecycle management	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Embedding data analytics and Artificial Intelligence	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Support for Sustainability by embedded software	Open
	Major Challenge 6: Software reliability and trust	Open
	Major Challenge 7: Hardware virtualization for efficient SW engineering	Open
1.4 - System of Systems		
	Major Challenge 1: Open SoS architecture and infrastructure	Open
	Major challenge 2: SoS interoperability	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Evolvability of SoS composed of embedded and cyber-physical systems	Open
	Major Challenge 4: SoS integration along the life cycle	Open
	Major Challenge 6: SoS monitoring and management	Open
2.1 - Edge Computing and Embedded Artificial Intelligence		
	Major Challenge 1: Increasing energy efficiency	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Managing the increasing complexity of systems	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Supporting the increasing lifespan of devices and systems	Open

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	Major Challenge 4: Ensuring European sustainability	Open
2.2 – Connectivity		
	Major Challenge 1: Strengthening the EU connectivity technology portfolio to maintain leadership, secure sovereignty and offer an independent supply chain	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Investigate innovative connectivity technology (new spectrum or medium) and new approaches to improving existing connectivity technology to maintain the EU's long-term leadership	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Autonomous interoperability translation for communication protocol, data encoding, compression, security and information semantics	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Architectures and reference implementations of interoperable, secure, scalable, smart and evolvable IoT and SoS connectivity from edge to cloud	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Network virtualisation enabling run-time and evolvable integration, deployment and management of edge to cloud network architectures	Open
2.3 - Architecture and design: methods and tools		
	Major Challenge 1: Enabling cost- and effort-efficient Design and Validation Frameworks for High Quality ECS. The ever-increasing functionality of ECS, usage and integration of new technologies to enable these functions and the high demands for validation and testing to ensure their quality drive the need for efficient, framework- and tool-supported design and validation processes and frameworks.	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Enabling Sustainable Design for Sustainability. Methods and tools to support the design and validation of sustainable ECS as well as supporting a sustainable design and validation process.	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Managing complexity. This challenge deals with methods to handle the ever-increasing complexity of ECS-based systems.	Open

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	Major Challenge 4: Managing diversity. Handling diversity in all aspects of developing ECS-based systems is the key objective of this challenge	Open
2.4 - Quality, reliability, safety and cybersecurity		
	Major Challenge 1: Ensuring HW quality and reliability	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Ensuring dependability in connected software	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Ensuring cyber-security and privacy	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Ensuring of safety and resilience	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Human systems integration	Open
3.1 – Mobility		
	Major Challenge 1: SDV hardware platforms: modular, scalable, flexible, safe & secure	Closed
	Major Challenge 2: SW platforms for SDV of the future: modular, scalable, re-usable, flexible, safe & secure, supporting edge2cloud applications	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Green deal: enable climate and energy optimal mobility	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Digitalisation: affordable and safe automated and connected mobility for passengers and freight	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Edge2cloud mobility applications: added end-user value in mobility	Open
	Major Challenge 6: AI enabled engineering tool chain: agile collaborative SDV SW development and SDV as well as ADAS/AD validation	Closed
3.2 – Energy		

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	Major Challenge 1: Smart & Efficient - Managing Energy Generation, Conversion, and Storage Systems	Closed
	Major Challenge 2: Energy Management from On-Site to Distribution Systems	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Future Transmission Grids	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Achieving Clean, Efficient & Resilient Urban/ Regional Energy Supply	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Cross-Sectional Tasks for Energy System Monitoring & Control	Open
3.3 - Digital Industry		
	Major challenge 1: Responsive and smart production	Open
	Major challenge 2: Sustainable production	Open
	Major challenge 3: Artificial Intelligence in digital industry	Open
	Major challenge 4: Industrial service business, lifecycles, remote operations and teleoperation	Open
	Major challenge 5: Digital twins, mixed or augmented reality, telepresence	Open
	Major challenge 6: Autonomous systems, collaborative robotics	Open
3.4 - Health and wellbeing		
	Major Challenge 1: Enable digital health platforms based upon P4 healthcare	Closed
	Major Challenge 2: Enable the shift to value-based healthcare, enhancing access to 4P’s game-changing technologies	Closed

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	Major Challenge 3: Support the development of the home as the central location of the patient, building a more integrated care delivery system	Closed
	Major Challenge 4: Enhance access to personalised and participative treatment for chronic and lifestyle-related diseases	Closed
	Major Challenge 5: Ensure more healthy life years for an ageing population	Closed
3.5 - Agrifood and natural resources		
	Major Challenge 1: Food security	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Food safety	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Environmental protection and sustainable production	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Water resource management	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Biodiversity restoration for ecosystems resilience, conservation, and preservation	Open
3.6 - Digital Society		
	Major Challenge 1: Facilitate individual self-fulfilment	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Facilitate empowerment and resilience	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Facilitate inclusion and collective safety	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Facilitate supportive infrastructure and a sustainable environment	Open

Detailed descriptions of all major challenges can be found in the SRIA.

Aspects of ECS value chain integration are important for the Chips JU programme and the whole European ECS sector, across applications and across capabilities. Consortia are encouraged to submit proposals that take this aspect into account.

Proposals that cut across disciplines, support platform building, interoperability, establishment of open standards are particularly encouraged; even outside the regular ECS sector.

Proposals should encourage SMEs to participate in the developments, in particular paying attention to the needs of SMEs, allocate SMEs effective roles in project execution, and develop solutions that can be taken up and/or exploited by SMEs.

Proposals should attempt to establish links with other projects and consortia from the Horizon Europe family (within cluster 4 or in other clusters) working on topics related to the proposal.

Note that National priorities may be applicable to specific topics (refer to Annex 1 "Country specific eligibility rules for ECS calls").

Actions targeted by the submitted proposals should consider contributing to building trustworthy electronics. Trusted electronics forms a foundation for a trustworthy and secure digital ecosystem, as applications need to be rooted in trustworthy components and systems. Building upon trusted and trustworthy electronics, cybersecurity techniques can be developed and relied upon to protect assets in digital systems. Electronics in this sense includes also analog functionalities to influence and sense the environment of the system e.g. by using light and photonics or other physical means. Trusted electronics can be relied upon to perform its intended functions without any unauthorized or malicious actions.

The electronic components or systems targeted by the proposed actions should meet high levels of quality and reliability, comply with known and complete specifications, and be sufficiently hardened against attacks. Technologies that are expected to increase the trustworthiness of electronics and hence the cybersecurity of embedded devices include, *inter alia*, open-source hardware, cryptographic hardware implementations combined with cryptographic software libraries, etc.

Furthermore, proposals should consider targeting key EU industrial sectors such as health, industrial automation, aerospace, or automotive.

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.

6.1.4 Admissibility

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

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	PO Stage	FPP Stage
Excellence	60 pages	60 pages

Impact	60 pages	80 pages
Quality and efficiency of the Implementation	60 pages	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.

6.1.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %

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

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA Countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway), Associated Countries, OECD and Mercosur countries (see Annex 1 to the General Annexes to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the 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 the Chips JU").

Entities assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment within the meaning of 'restrictions for the protection of European communication networks' as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes). (or entities fully or partially owned or controlled by a high-risk supplier) cannot submit guarantees.

In line with Article 23 of the Single Basic Act, in order to ensure a coherent application of Article 22(5) Horizon Europe Regulation[7], eligibility of participants in this proposal submitted to this Call will take into account any application of Article 22(5) of HE triggered for topics from other HE Work Programmes (including the Chips JU's work programme) for calls for proposals with similar scope. This may be of particular relevance to proposals submitted to bottom-up RIA/IA topics, in case such proposals address areas covered under other HE work programme topics with a stricter application of Article 22(5) HE (for example, in the particular case of Quantum Actions as described in Appendix 8 of the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 for the Chips for Europe Initiative Part for 2026).

6.1.6 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.1.7 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 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.1.8 Award criteria.

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

Evaluation Criteria	Project Outline Stage	Full Project Proposal Stage
Excellence	The following aspects will be taken into account, to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the relevant description in the SRIA, and complies with the scope outlined in section 6.1.3 (Scope) on trustworthy electronics:	The following aspects will be taken into account, to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the relevant description in the SRIA, and complies with the scope outlined in section 6.1.3 (Scope) on trustworthy electronics:

[7] 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

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	Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state of the art. Soundness of the proposed methodology.	Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state of the art. Soundness of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, inter-disciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.
Impact	The extent to which the outputs of the project should contribute at the European and/or international level to: Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the SRIA.	The extent to which the outputs of the project should contribute at the European and/or international level to: Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the SRIA. Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.
Quality and efficiency of the implementation	The following aspects will be taken into account: Quality and effectiveness of the work plan.	The following aspects will be taken into account: Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks,

	Extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.	and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall. Capacity and role of each participant, and the extent to which the consortium brings together the necessary expertise

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).

6.1.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal. They are valid both for PO and FPP.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Excellence	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.5	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.

6.1.10 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	20 %
SME (for profit SME)	30 %
University/Other (not for profit)	35 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

6.2 ECS IA Resilience

The IA Resilience call prioritises reinforcing Europe's strength by capitalising those areas where it can gain a competitive edge or take the lead in key strategic sectors.

The **healthcare** sector is considered one of such strategic areas in Europe, and it is undergoing a significant transformation driven by the integration of advanced digital technologies across the entire continuum, from scientific research into the causes and mechanisms of diseases to diagnostics, treatment and prevention.

In addition, Europe's manufacturing industry is the backbone of the European economy, and **power electronics** are essential for key sectors of the Europe's industry: mobility, power conversion, motor control, power quality, automation, and integration of renewable energy.

Photonics is recognised as a key enabling technology supporting Europe's digital and industrial sovereignty. It underpins critical capabilities across a wide range of sectors, including AI datacentres, high-performance computing, advanced telecommunication, automotive systems, healthcare, defence, and environmental monitoring.

6.2.1 Call for Reinforcing Europe's strength in the power electronics;

Topic: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT1-IA

Type of Action	Innovation Action (IA)
Indicative EU budget	20 M€
Expected EU contribution per project up to:	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
Call launch date	7 Jul 2026
Deadline FPP Stage	16 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.2.1.1 Context

European leadership in power electronics has been driven by strategic EU initiatives, industry partnerships, and collaborative R&D networks focused on energy efficiency, e-mobility, and

advanced materials. Chips JU has also played an important role by strengthening collaboration between industry, academia, and public authorities to develop next-generation, high-density, and cost-effective power electronic solutions. While the global power electronics market is projected for steady expansion (8.7% CAGR until 2030 according to Yole group), the European power electronics industry faces significant geopolitical and economic challenges. Key challenges include navigating an unstable global supply chain and geopolitical instability, facing intense competition from low-cost Asian manufacturers (especially in China, who benefit from low manufacturing costs and strong government support), and addressing economic headwinds like high energy costs and unpredictable demand.

Technical hurdles involve improving energy efficiency and power density, managing thermal issues, and developing domestic manufacturing capabilities to reduce dependence on foreign suppliers for critical components. The power electronics industry stands at a critical juncture, and reinforced and coordinated efforts across all value chain are needed to preserve Europe's competitive edge in power electronics, regain costs competitiveness, strengthen its ability to innovate and lead in the next generation technologies. Maintaining and enhancing Europe's leadership in Power Electronics (PE) is crucial for ensuring prosperity, resilience, and competitiveness.

6.2.1.2 Expected Outcomes

- Reinforce the ecosystem resilience by
  - ***Securing WBG material supply*** at cost, quality and delay,
  - ***Securing Europe's strength*** at power semiconductor ***device level*** (infrastructure, know-how),
  - ***Enhance and Modernize EU collaboration*** in value chains and reduce dependence on non-EU countries,
  - ***Strengthening the upstream industry*** including applications, and ensuring this strength translates into leadership at the full system level. This includes fostering capabilities in designing and manufacturing integrated power electronics, such as advanced inverters and compact eAxles, which are critical for vehicle performance and cost.
  - ***Sustainability and resource efficiency*** as a mindset, explore inter-domain 2nd life, synergy with railway, aerospace, energy.
- ***Paradigm shift for an agile and accelerated approach: shorter iterative development cycles to obtain yearly market results*** 1st year market results, 2nd year market results, 3rd year market results: achieve 3 times market results in the project lifetime. Consequently, some actions in the proposed projects are expected to reach TRL 6-7 already after the first year, some actions to reach TRL 6-7 during the second year, and some actions to reach TRL 6-7 at the end of the third year.

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- ***Accelerate design and development phase*** and accelerate product methods & tools qualification & testing benefiting from: e.g. AI, introduction of advanced methodologies and sophisticated tools based on data analytics, virtualization, innovative testing and validation methodologies.
- Target industrialization at each segment leading to sovereignty and promote the market entry and prepare for the production of new power components based on new power semiconductor devices in Europe (near to the market) with increased functionality and robustness, capable of enabling innovation in power electronics application solutions.
- Regain cost competitiveness by addressing one or more of the following aspects:
  - ***design to cost*** at each segment of the value chain: a design to cost approach which is associated with more sustainable process at all the levels of the value chain.
  - scaling up to 300 mm WBG device production.
  - developing more advanced and intelligent power semiconductor solutions.
  - heterogenous and functional integration on device but also on component level.

6.2.1.3 Scope

Cross innovations fields focusing on crucial topics should address one or more of the several domains:

- ***WBG substrates*** to reduce EU dependency on material and provide more sustainable, industrially compatible solutions.
- ***WBG platform*** for cost effectiveness, available in 300mm for GaN and/or SiC to improve yield and power density and close gaps in the value chain.
- ***A toolbox*** (e.g. wafer cut, smart stacking, thin layer transfer, epitaxy, UWBG materials) for further innovation schemes.
- Next generation or optimised new power semiconductor devices fitting their application.

- Adding ***intelligence*** to power semiconductor devices on control and/or sensor side.
- ***Facilitate*** the propagation of ***EU Packaging/Integration excellence*** along the entire value chain e.g. pre-packages or power semiconductor device packaging solutions to enable power device/system integration and strengthen Europe's competitiveness in advanced packaging.
- Explore the use of heterogeneous and functional integration for ***improved performance, reliability, robustness and cost competitiveness***. Rising operative voltage, frequency, current and thermal features that are common challenge on power electronics across the different application sectors. Provide stable and clean power supply that minimises disruptions, equipment failures, and data corruption.
- ***Advanced characterization techniques*** for new materials, devices, and systems.
- ***Implement AI at system level*** and/or make ***use of AI methods*** to increase the innovation speed.

Proposals should address priorities for strengthening the European power electronics ecosystem, building on existing projects and anticipating future market needs. They should also consider engagement with the WBG (Wide Band Gap) pilot line. Synergies with other actions such as the other pilot lines and the Competence Centres established within the framework of the Chips Act's Chips for Europe Initiative are welcome.

Actions targeted by the submitted proposals should consider contributing to building trustworthy electronics. Trusted electronics forms a foundation for a trustworthy and secure digital ecosystem, as applications need to be rooted in trustworthy components and systems. Building upon trusted and trustworthy electronics, cybersecurity techniques can be developed and relied upon to protect assets in digital systems. Electronics in this sense includes also analogue functionalities to influence and sense the environment of the system e.g. by using light and photonics or other physical means. Trusted electronics can be relied upon to perform its intended functions without any unauthorized or malicious actions.

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.

6.2.1.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (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.

6.2.1.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %

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

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA Countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway), Associated Countries, OECD and Mercosur countries (see Annex 1 to the General Annexes to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the 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 the Chips JU").

Entities assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment within the meaning of 'restrictions for the protection of European communication networks' as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) (or entities fully or partially owned or controlled by a high-risk supplier) cannot submit guarantees.

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6.2.1.6 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.2.1.7 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).

6.2.1.8 Award criteria.

The proposals will be evaluated along the award criteria described in the Global IA call above.

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).

6.2.1.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal. They are valid both for PO and FPP.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Excellence	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.5	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.

6.2.1.10 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	25 %
SME (for profit SME)	35 %
University/Other (not for profit)	35 %

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(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

6.2.2 Call for Reinforcing Europe's strength in photonics;

Topic: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT2-IA

Type of Action	Innovation Action (IA)
Indicative EU budget	20 M€
Expected EU contribution per project up to:	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
Call launch date	7 Jul 2026
Deadline FPP Stage	16 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.2.2.1 Context

While Europe holds a strong position in photonics research, there is an urgent need to translate this leadership into industrial capacity and market-ready solutions. Global competition is intensifying, and the EU risks falling behind unless manufacturing capabilities of high-value components and systems are secured within its own ecosystem.

The objective of this topic is to support the industrial scale-up of advanced photonic technologies. To this end, the call targets actions that accelerate the uptake of high-performance photonic platforms by bridging from research and prototyping to pre-commercial production. The focus is on high-TRL activities that consolidate Europe’s position in key parts of the photonics value chain, enable strategic autonomy in critical components and systems, and foster a resilient, EU-based supply base.

6.2.2.2 Expected Outcomes

Projects funded under this call should aim to deliver industrial-grade demonstrators of advanced photonic technologies, representative of future market products, showing scalability, reliability, and integration-readiness at TRL 7-8. In addition, projects should have several of the following elements:

- Pre-production capabilities that can transition from pilot-scale manufacturing to industrial deployment, including validated workflows for key processes (e.g. wafer-scale production, advanced packaging, heterogeneous integration).
- Design-for-manufacturing approaches that improve yield, testability, and time-to-market for complex photonic systems and components.
- Supply chain reinforcement, including access to qualified European manufacturing infrastructure and reduced dependency on non-EU suppliers for critical photonic elements.
- Technology roadmaps for industrial deployment beyond the project, outlining a clear strategy for commercialisation, standardisation, and scaling, with involvement of relevant end-users or system integrators.
- Contribution to EU strategic priorities, including digital sovereignty and security of supply in photonics-enabled applications.

6.2.2.3 Scope

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

- **Scaling of wafer-level photonic processes** for key materials (e.g. SiN, InP, GaAs), including process integration, yield optimisation, and manufacturability at high volumes.
- **Development of packaging and test solutions** that are scalable, automated, and compatible with co-packaged optics and advanced photonic-electronic integration.
- **Integration of heterogeneous materials and components**, such as on-chip lasers, modulators, and detectors, using advanced packaging and assembly approaches.
- **Design-process-equipment co-optimisation**, enabling repeatable, cost-effective production of complex photonic circuits and systems, including use of PDKs and validated building blocks.
- **Demonstration of system-level functionality** through application-relevant use cases in strategic sectors (e.g. AI, sensing, telecommunication, mobility, health, defence), with quantified performance metrics and clear market relevance.

The call is platform-agnostic and supports diverse approaches across material systems and integration schemes, provided they address industrial scalability and relevance to European strategic interests.

Consortia can span the full value chain from materials and design to manufacturing, packaging and end-use, and include actors capable of industrialising the developed technologies. Participation of SMEs is encouraged.

Projects should demonstrate a credible path to Manufacturing Readiness Levels (8-9), where processes are proven to work at full production scale and are ready for commercial deployment. Proposals should include a clear industrial roadmap beyond the project horizon.

Actions should be aligned with EU objectives on technological sovereignty, and supply chain resilience.

Actions targeted by the submitted proposals should consider contributing to building trustworthy electronics. Trusted electronics forms a foundation for a trustworthy and secure digital ecosystem, as applications need to be rooted in trustworthy components and systems. Building upon trusted and trustworthy electronics, cybersecurity techniques can be developed and relied upon to protect assets in digital systems. Electronics in this sense includes also analogue functionalities to influence and sense the environment of the system e.g. by using light and photonics or other physical means. Trusted electronics can be relied upon to perform its intended functions without any unauthorized or malicious actions.

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.

6.2.2.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (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.

6.2.2.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %

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

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA Countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway), Associated Countries, OECD and Mercosur countries (see Annex 1 to the General Annexes to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the 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 the Chips JU").

Entities assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment within the meaning of 'restrictions for the protection of European communication networks' as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) (or entities fully or partially owned or controlled by a high-risk supplier) cannot submit guarantees.

6.2.2.6 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.2.2.7 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).

6.2.2.8 Award criteria.

The proposals will be evaluated along the award criteria described in the Global IA call above.

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).

6.2.2.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal. They are valid both for PO and FPP.

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Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Excellence	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.5	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.

6.2.2.10 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	25 %
SME (for profit SME)	35 %
University/Other (not for profit)	35 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

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6.2.3 Call for Reinforcing Europe's strength in health;

Topic: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT3-IA

Type of Action	Innovation Action (IA)
Indicative EU budget	20 M€
Expected EU contribution per project up to:	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 20 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
Call launch date	7 Jul 2026
Deadline FPP Stage	16 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.2.3.1 Context

A key element of this transformation is the strategic use of Electronics Components and Systems (ECS), such as chips, sensor technologies, and (embedded, application and data analysis) software, as foundational building blocks to realize integrated systems and solutions and increase research, development and engineering efficiency that are essential for delivering future advanced healthcare. The resulting scientific research tools, equipment, devices, applications and services will enable faster treatment development, real-time health monitoring, remote patient supervision, and proactive healthcare delivery. By accelerating the digital health ecosystem ***"from chips to healthcare services"***, this area of the Resilient call aims to enhance healthcare delivery, support advanced scientific research, and contribute to shaping future healthcare strategies and policy. Activities will be aligned with and add differentiated value by complementing areas served by other European initiatives such as the European Health Data Space (EHDS), IHI, Digital Europe and IPCEIs Med4Cure and Tech4Cure. The call in this area will also contribute to delivering the recently announced EU Life Sciences strategy that encompasses Healthcare.

This area of the Resilient call promotes the collaborative involvement of diverse stakeholders across the electronics and healthcare ecosystems, from technology providers and industry representatives to scientists, doctors, care givers, healthcare practitioners and patients, and aims to implement innovative healthcare solutions that emphasize enabling medical research and development, prevention, swift recovery, and personalized treatment, encapsulating the holistic

approach of P4 medicine (Predictive, Preventive, Personalized, and Participatory). This requires a "connected and intelligent continuity of healthcare" spanning the entire value chain, (from translational research embedded in clinical innovation through the hospital to ambulatory settings and the home), centred on patient Care Pathways, which orchestrates and personalizes every stage of diagnosis and treatment.

The core motivation behind this shift is to improve health outcomes while optimizing healthcare resources, thus effectively addressing the challenges posed by an aging population, by the healthcare systems, and the increasing prevalence of chronic conditions and risk of future pandemics. The involvement of diverse stakeholders aims at ensuring innovative and impactful healthcare solutions ready for widespread adoption and integration into everyday clinical practice.

This area of the Resilient call will target hardware- and software-driven technology stacks in three priority domains of the healthcare continuum, supported by dedicated digital infrastructure and technologies tailored to healthcare needs. These are key domains where Europe already holds, or has the potential to build, a unique or leading position, but where substantial additional investment is needed to accelerate innovation and secure or strengthen this position:

1. Diagnosis (imaging and analytical solutions) & treatment: advanced ECS-based imaging, diagnostic, and analytical platforms enabling precision medicine, minimally invasive procedures, and early detection of diseases.
2. Continuity of care at home (personal devices): personalized, connected, and intelligent systems supporting prevention, independent living, and continuous health monitoring.
3. Prevention & Treatment (high-performance scientific instrumentation and clinical translation): direct, demonstrable translation of results into personalized treatment protocols, powered by high-performance instrumentation and automation solutions accelerating medical research and therapy development. Crucially, the essential purpose of this acceleration is to ensure that scientific findings are readily integrable into the patient Care Pathways, covering the integrated continuum (hospital, ambulatory, and homecare).

Together, these three pillars will drive the realization of integrated, secure, and scalable digital-health ecosystems, enabling Europe to lead the transition from chips to healthcare services.

By leveraging electronics components, software, systems and full solutions, the action funded under this area of the Resilient call is expected to deliver focused impactful solutions for the healthcare continuum, from sensors and edge computing devices, research and healthcare equipment and complementary tailored cloud-based services and analytics. The expected outcomes include highly personalized monitoring and care treatments and solutions tailored to individual patient needs, technology for the enhanced detection and treatment of illness affecting large cohorts, such as pandemics, improved operational efficiency and cost

effectiveness of healthcare enabled by the required data-driven decision-making processes, and reinforced data security measures ensuring patient privacy and compliance with regulatory frameworks specific for healthcare.

The development of healthcare solutions based on ECS is challenged by high complexity and by the need for tailored solutions to meet specific clinical and operational requirements. These factors drive up development costs and significantly slow the pace of innovation. As a result, patients may experience delays in accessing personalised diagnostics, monitoring, or treatments that could improve health outcomes and quality of life. Caregivers and healthcare professionals face limitations in delivering efficient, preventive care due to a lack of adaptable and interoperable tools. From a system-level perspective, healthcare providers struggle with integrating new technologies into legacy infrastructures, further increasing operational costs and reducing scalability. To address these challenges, projects should promote modular, standards-based solutions, support faster validation and deployment, and reduce complexity, enabling a more agile, cost-effective healthcare ecosystem that can better serve both patients and providers.

6.2.3.2 Expected Outcomes

- ***Enhanced personalized monitoring, care and treatments,*** focusing on the development of highly customized healthcare solutions, including the required research and diagnostic tools, tailored to individual needs, covering various scenarios such as chronic disease management, physiotherapy, precision diagnosis, personalized medicine/treatment, pre- and postoperative care, and daily assistance in homes and common spaces. It also targets effective management of chronic diseases and elderly care through personalized monitoring and interventions facilitated by advanced sensor technologies and edge-to-cloud solutions. This includes the development and integration of solutions for Hospitalization at Home, enabling patients to receive complex, remotely supervised care using intelligent medical devices capable of sensing, analysing, and transmitting real-time data. This requires a continuum, from in-hospital diagnostics to robust, long-term patient support at home via AI-driven care pathways and hospitalization at home.
- ***Prevention and treatment of diseases***, allowing the improved scientific understanding, early detection and proactive prevention of diseases through scientific research, continuous monitoring, predictive analytics, and timely alerts, possibly powered by AI algorithms. This preventive approach enables early intervention and significantly reduces risks associated with many illnesses such as viral infections (e.g. epi- and pan-demics), cardiovascular diseases, diabetes complications affecting the health of the young and old.
- ***Efficient, scalable, and cost-effective healthcare,*** demonstrating how ECS-based technologies can streamline clinical workflows, reduce administrative burdens, and improve resource allocation in healthcare systems. This includes automation and

intelligent operations management across clinical, diagnostic, and homecare settings, ultimately improving cost-effectiveness and scalability.

- ***Secure and compliant healthcare continuum***, including solutions that ensure robust data protection and regulatory compliance (e.g. GDPR), particularly in handling sensitive health data. Projects should adopt privacy-by-design principles and implement secure data handling architectures using localized edge computing, encryption, authentication, and anonymization strategies within both clinical and assisted living environments.
- ***Seamless interoperability across devices, systems, and platforms***, addressing the integration of heterogeneous systems across the edge-to-cloud continuum. Solutions should rely on open standards and modular architectures to ensure interoperability, flexibility, and adaptability across various healthcare settings and use cases, fostering a unified European health-tech ecosystem.

6.2.3.3 Scope

- Integrated technologies for monitoring, imaging and biomedical research:
  - ***Advanced wearable health technologies and integrated solutions*:** continuous vital sign recording/monitoring, microfluidic patches, biopotential electrode wearables, continuous glucose monitoring, wearable biosensors, sensor-embedded smart fabrics, epidermal technology, continuous AI signal processing, AI patient monitoring and AI-driven predictive analysis, and hyper-personalized solutions.
  - ***Personalized imaging technologies*:** innovative imaging methods aimed at minimizing treatment invasiveness, accelerating patient recovery, and facilitating quicker de-hospitalization. These technologies benefit patients by enabling more personalized and accurate diagnostics, supporting tailored treatments, and facilitating real-time recovery monitoring, ultimately reducing hospital stays, accelerating healing, and lowering healthcare costs. For example, addressed technologies include Data & AI enabled medical imaging, high-resolution ultrasound, high quality imaging with ultra-fast exams, portable MRI devices, and minimally invasive optical imaging tools for precise medical interventions.
  - ***Advanced laboratory and scientific solutions:*** advanced instruments enabling medical testing and research into the underlying causes of disease and infection, along with treatment development at the molecular scale, and validation of other medical techniques or equipment. The result should be faster and broader investigations and quicker identification or development of effective treatments, leading to, amongst other benefits, more successful medical outcomes at the personal and cohort levels, pandemic preparedness, etc. Examples include cryo-electron microscopy, NMR, X-ray and other spectroscopies, genetic sequencers and PCR tools, for both lab testing and research into

structural biology, as used to investigate e.g. viral infections (e.g. COVID, zika virus, novavirus, influenza), virus mutations, vaccine development and gene related illnesses.

- Key digital technologies enabling digital healthcare transformation

  Where relevant to maximise impact and ensure successful project outcomes, proposals are encouraged to address the following key technological enablers for next-generation healthcare solutions:

  - ***Edge-to-cloud architectures*** enabling distributed data processing and decision-making across the healthcare continuum.
  - ***Embedded and edge intelligence*** for real-time analysis and adaptive system behaviour closer to the point of care.
  - ***Robust data protection frameworks*** ensuring patient privacy and compliance with healthcare regulations.
  - ***Interoperable platforms and interfaces*** to support seamless integration across devices, systems, and care settings.
  - ***AI-driven methods and tools*** for diagnostics, monitoring, prediction, and clinical decision support.
  - ***Automation and autonomous systems***, including robotics, to enhance operational efficiency and assist care delivery.

To ensure tangible outcomes, the action should be supported by a broad and long-term vision involving relevant stakeholders from the electronics and healthcare ecosystems. A dedicated committee should be established to provide recommendations throughout the project execution to ensure the feasibility and exploitation of the developed solutions.

Actions targeted by the submitted proposals should consider contributing to building trustworthy electronics. Trusted electronics forms a foundation for a trustworthy and secure digital ecosystem, as applications need to be rooted in trustworthy components and systems. Building upon trusted and trustworthy electronics, cybersecurity techniques can be developed and relied upon to protect assets in digital systems. Electronics in this sense includes also analogue functionalities to influence and sense the environment of the system e.g. by using light and photonics or other physical means. Trusted electronics can be relied upon to perform its intended functions without any unauthorized or malicious actions.

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.

6.2.3.4 Admissibility

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

Appendix 7

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.

6.2.3.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %

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

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA Countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway), Associated Countries, OECD and Mercosur countries (see Annex 1 to the General Annexes to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the 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 the Chips JU").

Entities assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment within the meaning of ‘restrictions for the protection of European communication networks’ as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) (or entities fully or partially owned or controlled by a high-risk supplier) cannot submit guarantees.

6.2.3.6 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 “HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU” (General Annexes).

6.2.3.7 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).

6.2.3.8 Award criteria.

The proposals will be evaluated along the award criteria described in the Global IA call above.

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).

6.2.3.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal. They are valid both for PO and FPP.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Excellence	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.5	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.

6.2.3.10 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	25 %

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SME (for profit SME)	35 %
University/Other (not for profit)	35 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

6.3 AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering Automation

Topic: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-IA-FT4

Type of Action	Innovation Action (IA)
Indicative EU budget	20 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	20 M€
Mode	Co-funded with the NFA One stage Call with submission of a Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	03 Feb 2026
Deadline FPP stage	03 March 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time
Technology Readiness Level	The activities must have their centre of gravity at TRL 6-7 at the end of the project.

6.3.1 Context

This Focus Topic is part of the European Digital Vehicle[8] initiative.

Modern ECS are a highly complex combination of hardware and software components that exhibit intricate configurations, dependability constraints and interoperability needs. The trend toward ever-growing digitalization and connectivity in a knowledge-intensive society leads to a widening gap between ECS complexity and productivity. As a consequence, Europe is already facing a massive talent shortage and a significant increase in ECS development costs, which calls for much more efficient, streamlined and creative engineering processes.

While engineering automation frameworks have already been deployed upwards of hundreds of software tools used by large teams of engineers, there are a number of barriers to their massive adoption in the ECS industry, and in particular in the high-assurance ECS market. The emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) opens new possibilities for overcoming these barriers, from substantially scaling the ability of handling complexity, to improving the capability to

[8] Previously called 'Vehicle of the Future' initiative. For more information, consult https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/vehicle-future-initiative

manage multi-risk assurance problems and providing much better guidance and experience to engineers. ***AI offers a paradigm shift to focus the scarce human engineering resources in more creative and innovative tasks***.

The vision behind this topic is to ***massively accelerate ECS engineering efficiency through software engineering automation based on an expanded use of AI-assisted methods and tools***, by building upon a cohesive collaboration between humans (with their ability to innovate and create intuitive solutions) and AI (with its ability to propose solutions exploring huge search spaces and recognizing statistical patterns from large data). This focus topic shall lead to a stronger competitive position of Europe in ECS engineering worldwide and stimulate the uptake of AI-powered methods and tools for improved engineering efficiency, by still helping with better understanding and broader acceptance of such technologies.

This trend is particularly strong in the automotive industry, where the complexity of software and electronic hardware is surging due to the growing automation, electrification and demand for advanced in-vehicle experience. In the era of software-defined vehicles (SDVs), the industry has to shift to different ways to build software and electronic hardware to gain agility and development speed. Currently, automotive suppliers and manufacturers spend a lot of resources and time to adapt ECS systems to different automotive platforms, which is reducing their productivity and competitiveness. Standardisation and collaborative ecosystems based on open platforms, architectures and processes are essential to allow multiple different companies to work together seamlessly, facilitating the integration of systems and components from multiple vendors. Being safety-critical systems, vehicles need to fulfil stringent safety and security standards and legislation. This creates specific issues for all stages of the ECS development processes, notably regarding verification, validation and preparation for certification.

This focus topic is part of the Software-defined Vehicle Focus Area of the European Digital Vehicle Initiative. Selected actions will be implemented as '**linked actions**', i.e. they are linked with other actions selected under '*SDV Vehicle of the Future'* topics in past calls, this call and future calls, e.g. HORIZON-KDT-JU-2023-2-RIA ***Focus-Topic 2 on Hardware abstraction layer for a European Vehicle Operating System*** and HORIZON-Chips-2024-1-IA Focus-Topic 3 **on Software-define vehicle middleware and API framework for the vehicle of the future**. The notion of "linked actions" may as well be extended to other EU-supported actions, e.g. HORIZON-Chips-2024-1-IA Focus-Topic 3 on **High Performance RISC-V Automotive Processors supporting SDV,** or actions under the CCAM and 2ZERO partnerships. A **collaboration agreement** with other selected projects and future projects should be established, that sets out requirements for **IP sharing**, a **common governance model**, and **conformity** with specifications set by suitable industry bodies. Respective options under Article 3 and Article 7 of the Model Grant Agreement will be used to this end.

6.3.2 Expected Outcomes

The project is expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- ***Advanced AI-assisted methods and tools***, including generative AI, for the automation of software engineering tasks, from enhancing human efficiency and optimizing resource utilization to enabling complex data/problems analysis/interpretation and supporting intelligent decision-making. Such engineering tasks often involve multiple domains (e.g., modelling, control, data management, communication, mechatronics, etc.) and stakeholders, with the burden of daunting legacy integration, refactoring (e.g., to re-design and replace obsolete technology), and the compliance with specific standards, regulations and certifications.
- ***Open and extensible AI-assisted integrated platform,*** based on methodologies including AI-support, AI-based tools and toolchains, following a well-defined engineering process, including the integration with legacy tools. The platform shall provide flexible usage in small and large multi-domain and multi-stakeholder engineering teams, impacting existing and upcoming ECS engineering automation tools and their usage.
- ***Showcasing and evaluation*** for software-defined vehicles of efficiency enhancements in terms of cost and time for complex data/knowledge management, resource optimization, energy consumption, interoperability, product/process quality/trustworthiness, learning curve and usability, over the whole lifecycle, from design, through deployment, operations, and maintenance, to the product end-of-life and recycling, and its evolution.
- ***Best practices and small proof-of-concept studies for other sectors***, e.g. medical/pharmaceutical and/or digital industry.

6.3.3 Scope

Proposals should particularly address the following aspects:

- The targeted ECS-based products to be engineered by the AI-assisted engineering solutions shall focus on embedded and cyber-physical systems and system of systems that operate in (safety, security and reliability) high-assurance, regulated domains. The common aspects between these ECS-based products are: (i) a lifecycle requiring HW/SW/multi-physical co-engineering, and (ii) their highly complex and potentially distributed nature, e.g. impacting on the necessity to holistically handle the explosion in the number of design parameters and constraints as well as the components and their combination.
- Adoption of generative AI in the software engineering process, to automate repetitive tasks, creating software models and architectures (model-driven development and design tools), generating code snippets (code generators, automated refactoring and code optimization, assisted code completion), test and debugging (automated testing and test case generation, automated debugging and bug detection), documentation (NLP for documentation editing

and requirements elicitation) and providing support for software lifecycle (AI-driven DevOps and deployment/commissioning optimization).

- AI-based engineering solutions should be largely domain independent but shall be adopted and showcased primarily in the software layers of the European Digital Vehicle technology stack (SDV). Showcasing and demonstration shall cover test, validation and evaluation in the domain of the SDV and shall also identify best practices for other vertical domains (e.g. medical/pharmaceutical and/or digital industry).
- AI shall ensure assistance in two main stages of the engineering process, potentially extending to the entire lifecycle of ECS-based products: (i) design, development, customisation, and maintenance, and (ii) verification and validation (including simulation, co-simulation, test, etc.), and certification. AI-assisted methods, tools and integrated platform aim at alleviating engineers' work in routine activities, supporting them in complex tasks, facilitating/ensuring the consolidation and growth of their expertise, and supporting multidisciplinary multistakeholder team-work, e.g.:
    - requirement engineering and their refinement,
    - embedded and cyber-physical systems modelling, simulation and co-simulation,
    - (real or near real-time) data management, e.g., data cleaning, analysis, enrichment, classification, labelling,
    - visual interpretation of high-dimensional data,
    - code generation, debugging and refactoring (e.g., using generative AI),
    - search of the design/validation/verification spaces for multi-criteria optimization,
    - generation of test datasets along continuous testing,
    - best-design practice guidance,
    - professional training,
    - interoperability along the continuous engineering life cycle,
    - seamless interaction with/between designers and other stakeholders.
- The dimension of human-AI integration in the engineering process shall improve efficiency and productivity, facilitate collaborative discovery, adaptivity, and continuous co-learning from perspectives that are not only technical but also human centred such as new creation fashions, higher comfort, stress and effort reduction, higher satisfaction, ethics compliance, etc. Cooperation between multidisciplinary partners with background in AI/automation, tooling development and the specific system to be engineered, is required to succeed.
- The proposed AI-assisted methods and tools must handle multi-risk problems in a way that are digestible by the engineers in the domain. The evolutionary nature of advanced ECS products (likely containing AI) could potentially generate safety, security, privacy, and

other trustworthiness risks that are a big concern of regulatory, certification and/or quality assurance bodies. The involvement of regulators, certification and standardisation bodies is encouraged to understand regulatory limits of using such AI-assisted engineering solutions.

- The architecture of the proposed engineering solutions and the targeted open and extensible AI-assisted integrated platform shall support service-oriented business models and model-based engineering approaches to avoid fragmentation and unnecessary overlapping, facilitate tools and toolchains interoperability and integration (including legacy tools and toolchains), and ensure the platform evolution. This platform shall include guidance for selecting and using the tools, continuous monitoring/assessment of the maturity and new features of the tools, proper governance targeting sustainability, and support for education and training. Particular focus is expected on the identification, inception and proposal of de facto or de jure standards covering procedures, models, taxonomies and APIs for AI-based engineering processes.
- While the developments at the end of the project have their centre of gravity at TRL 5-6, the project can also target lower TRLs for some specific activities if they are well justified in terms of concrete innovation opportunities.

Relevant aspects:

- Involve in the project a significant and - at each level - representative number of actors across the European automotive value chain from OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers to general and sector-specific engineering tool providers – large and small.
- Ensure a strong participation of SMEs and start-ups in solution developments, paying attention to developing solutions that can be taken up and/or exploited with fast and simple access to standardized and business-friendly open-source solutions.
- Include leading universities and research and technology organisations bringing the newest advances in SW engineering tolls as well as AI and generative AI.
- Allocate tasks to cohesion activities with the project(s) selected under the call HORIZON-KDT-JU-2023-2-RIA Focus-Topic 2 on Hardware abstraction layer for a European Vehicle Operating System, HORIZON-Chips-2024-1-IA Focus-Topic 3 on Software-define vehicle middleware and API framework for the vehicle of the future, and HORIZON-Chips-2024-1-IA Focus-Topic 3 on High Performance RISC-V Automotive Processors supporting SDV.

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.

6.3.4 Admissibility

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

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	**PO Stage**	**FPP Stage**
Excellence	60 pages	60 pages
Impact	60 pages	100 pages
Quality and efficiency of the Implementation	60 pages	100 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.

6.3.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA Countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway), Associated Countries, OECD and Mercosur countries (see Annex 1 to the General Annexes to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the 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 the Chips JU").

Entities assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment within the meaning of 'restrictions for the protection of European communication networks' as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) (or entities fully or partially owned or controlled by a high-risk supplier) cannot submit guarantees.

6.3.6 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.3.7 Evaluation procedure

The proposals will be evaluated along the award criteria described in the Global IA call above.

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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.3.8 Award criteria.

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

6.3.9 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	1.5	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.

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6.3.10 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)	25 %
SME (for profit SME)	35 %
University/Other (not for profit)	35 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

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6.4 ECS GLOBAL RIA

Topic: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-RIA

Type of Action	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Indicative EU budget	50 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 12 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 Two stage Call with submission of Project Outline (PO) and of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	03 Feb 2026
Deadline PO	07 May 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time
Deadline FPP Stage	17 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.4.1 Context

This topic is the RIA-part of the bottom-up programming. The topic will be open to the major challenges addressed in the current version of the Chips JU Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, excluding the topics addressed in the IA Resilience.

Aspects of ECS value chain integration are important for the Chips JU programme and the whole European ECS sector, across applications and across capabilities, as well as cutting across disciplines, supporting platform building, interoperability, establishing open standards. The participation of SMEs in the developments allowing them to play effective roles while working on solutions that can be taken exploited by SMEs is important in view of the SBA.

6.4.2 Expected outcomes.

A Chips JU Research and Innovation Action (RIA) primarily consists of activities aiming to establish new knowledge and/or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service, method, tool or solution. For this purpose, they may include applied research, technology development and/or method/tool and integration, testing and validation on a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment. The activities have their centre of gravity at TRL 3-4.

A RIA proposal is characterised by:

- Execution by a consortium that may consist of SMEs, large enterprises, universities, institutes, public organizations;
- Developing innovative technologies and/or using them in innovative ways;
- Targeting demonstration of the innovative approach in a relevant product, service or capability, clearly addressing the applications relevant for societal challenges;
- Demonstrating value and potential in a realistic lab environment reproducing the targeted application;
- Having a deployment plan showing the valorisation for the Chips JU ecosystem and the contribution to the Chips JU goals and objectives.

In order to maximize effective implementation of the Chips JU top-level objectives, the list of RIA proposals to be retained for public funding shall constitute a balanced portfolio of projects developing innovative technologies (as defined in the SRIA in the functional technology layers and cross-sectional technologies sections) and applying them in different domains (as defined in the SRIA in key application areas section). The domains represent the demand side of technologies, and the development of new technologies represents the supply side of technologies.

6.4.3 Scope

This topic is the RIA part of the bottom-up programming. The topic will be open to the following major challenges as defined in the SRIA:

Topics and Major Challenges		Open/Closed
1.1 - Process technology, equipment, materials and manufacturing		
	Major Challenge 1: Advanced computing, in-memory, neuromorphic, photonic, and quantum computing concepts	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Novel sensor, actuation and other devices that enable advanced functionality	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Advanced integration solutions	Open

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	Major Challenge 4: Advanced wafer fab equipment and manufacturing solutions	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Advanced packaging, assembly & test equipment solutions	Open
	Major Challenge 6: Sustainable semiconductor manufacturing	Open
1.2 - Components, modules and systems integration		
	Major Challenge 1: Functionality	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Advanced Integration solutions	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Heterogenous integration	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Sustainability	Open
1.3 - Embedded software and beyond		
	Major Challenge 1: Efficient engineering of embedded software	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Continuous integration and deployment	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Lifecycle management	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Embedding data analytics and Artificial Intelligence	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Support for Sustainability by embedded software	Open
	Major Challenge 6: Software reliability and trust	Open
	Major Challenge 7: Hardware virtualization for efficient SW engineering	Open
1.4 - System of Systems		
	Major Challenge 1: Open SoS architecture and infrastructure	Open
	Major challenge 2: SoS interoperability	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Evolvability of SoS composed of embedded and cyber-physical systems	Open
	Major Challenge 4: SoS integration along the life cycle	Open
	Major Challenge 6: SoS monitoring and management	Open
2.1 - Edge Computing and Embedded Artificial Intelligence		

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	Major Challenge 1: Increasing energy efficiency	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Managing the increasing complexity of systems	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Supporting the increasing lifespan of devices and systems	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Ensuring European sustainability	Open
2.2 – Connectivity		
	Major Challenge 1: Strengthening the EU connectivity technology portfolio to maintain leadership, secure sovereignty and offer an independent supply chain	Closed
	Major Challenge 2: Investigate innovative connectivity technology (new spectrum or medium) and new approaches to improving existing connectivity technology to maintain the EU's long-term leadership	Closed
	Major Challenge 3: Autonomous interoperability translation for communication protocol, data encoding, compression, security and information semantics	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Architectures and reference implementations of interoperable, secure, scalable, smart and evolvable IoT and SoS connectivity from edge to cloud	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Network virtualisation enabling run-time and evolvable integration, deployment and management of edge to cloud network architectures	Open
2.3 - Architecture and design: methods and tools		
	Major Challenge 1: Enabling cost- and effort-efficient Design and Validation Frameworks for High Quality ECS. The ever-increasing functionality of ECS, usage and integration of new technologies to enable these functions and the high demands for validation and testing to ensure their quality drive the need for efficient, framework- and tool-supported design and validation processes and frameworks.	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Enabling Sustainable Design for Sustainability. Methods and tools to support the design and validation of sustainable ECS as well as supporting a sustainable design and validation process.	Open

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	Major Challenge 3: Managing complexity. This challenge deals with methods to handle the ever-increasing complexity of ECS-based systems.	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Managing diversity. Handling diversity in all aspects of developing ECS-based systems is the key objective of this challenge	Open
2.4 - Quality, reliability, safety and cybersecurity		
	Major Challenge 1: Ensuring HW quality and reliability	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Ensuring dependability in connected software	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Ensuring cyber-security and privacy	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Ensuring of safety and resilience	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Human systems integration	Open
3.1 – Mobility		
	Major Challenge 1: SDV hardware platforms: modular, scalable, flexible, safe & secure	Open
	Major Challenge 2: SW platforms for SDV of the future: modular, scalable, re-usable, flexible, safe & secure, supporting edge2cloud applications	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Green deal: enable climate and energy optimal mobility	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Digitalisation: affordable and safe automated and connected mobility for passengers and freight	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Edge2cloud mobility applications: added end-user value in mobility	Open
	Major Challenge 6: AI enabled engineering tool chain: agile collaborative SDV SW development and SDV as well as ADAS/AD validation	Open
3.2 – Energy		

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	Major Challenge 1: Smart & Efficient - Managing Energy Generation, Conversion, and Storage Systems	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Energy Management from On-Site to Distribution Systems	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Future Transmission Grids	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Achieving Clean, Efficient & Resilient Urban/ Regional Energy Supply	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Cross-Sectional Tasks for Energy System Monitoring & Control	Open
3.3 - Digital Industry		
	Major challenge 1: Responsive and smart production	Open
	Major challenge 2: Sustainable production	Open
	Major challenge 3: Artificial Intelligence in digital industry	Open
	Major challenge 4: Industrial service business, lifecycles, remote operations and teleoperation	Open
	Major challenge 5: Digital twins, mixed or augmented reality, telepresence	Open
	Major challenge 6: Autonomous systems, collaborative robotics	Open
3.4 - Health and wellbeing		
	Major Challenge 1: Enable digital health platforms based upon P4 healthcare	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Enable the shift to value-based healthcare, enhancing access to 4P’s game-changing technologies	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Support the development of the home as the central location of the patient, building a more integrated care delivery system	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Enhance access to personalised and participative treatment for chronic and lifestyle-related diseases	Open

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	Major Challenge 5: Ensure more healthy life years for an ageing population	Open
3.5 - Agrifood and natural resources		
	Major Challenge 1: Food security	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Food safety	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Environmental protection and sustainable production	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Water resource management	Open
	Major Challenge 5: Biodiversity restoration for ecosystems resilience, conservation, and preservation	Open
3.6 - Digital Society		
	Major Challenge 1: Facilitate individual self-fulfilment	Open
	Major Challenge 2: Facilitate empowerment and resilience	Open
	Major Challenge 3: Facilitate inclusion and collective safety	Open
	Major Challenge 4: Facilitate supportive infrastructure and a sustainable environment	Open

Detailed descriptions of all major challenges can be found in the SRIA.

Aspects of ECS value chain integration are important for the Chips JU programme and the whole European ECS sector, across applications and across capabilities. Consortia are encouraged to submit proposals that take this aspect into account.

Proposals that cut across disciplines, support platform building, interoperability, establishment of open standards are particularly encouraged; even outside the regular ECS sector.

Proposals should encourage SMEs to participate in the developments, in particular paying attention to the needs of SMEs, involve SMEs in project execution, and develop solutions that can be taken up and/or exploited by SMEs.

Proposals should attempt to establish links with other projects and consortia from the Horizon Europe family (within cluster 4 or in other clusters) working on topics related to the proposal.

Note that National priorities may be applicable to specific topics (refer to Annex: “Country specific eligibility rules for ECS calls”).

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.

6.4.4 Admissibility

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

Regarding page limits:

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

6.4.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %

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

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA Countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway), Associated Countries, OECD and Mercosur countries (see Annex 1 to the General Annexes to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the 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 the Chips JU").

Entities assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment within the meaning of 'restrictions for the protection of European communication networks' as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) (or entities fully or partially owned or controlled by a high-risk supplier) cannot submit guarantees.

In line with Article 23 of the Single Basic Act, in order to ensure a coherent application of Article 22(5) of Horizon Europe Regulation[9], eligibility of participants in a proposal submitted to this Call will take into account any application of Article 22(5) of HE triggered for topics from other HE Work Programmes (including the Chips JU's work programme) for calls for proposals with similar scope. This may be of particular relevance to proposals submitted to bottom-up RIA/IA topics, in case such proposals address areas covered under other HE work programme topics with a stricter application of Article 22(5) HE (for example, in the particular case of Quantum Actions as described in Appendix 8 of the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 for the Chips for Europe Initiative Part for 2026).

6.4.6 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.4.7 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 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

[9] 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

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6.4.8 Award criteria.

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

Evaluation Criteria	Project Outline Stage	Full Project Proposal Stage
Excellence	The following aspects will be taken into account, to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the relevant description in the SRIA, and complies with the scope outlined in section 6.4.3 (Scope) on trustworthy electronics: Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state of the art. Soundness of the proposed methodology.	The following aspects will be taken into account, to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the relevant description in the SRIA, and complies with the scope outlined in section 6.4.3 (Scope) on trustworthy electronics: Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state of the art. Soundness of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, inter-disciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.
Impact	The extent to which the outputs of the project should contribute at the European and/or international level to:	The extent to which the outputs of the project should contribute at the European and/or international level to:

	Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the SRIA.	Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the SRIA. Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.
Quality and efficiency of the implementation	The following aspects will be taken into account: Quality and effectiveness of the work plan. Extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.	The following aspects will be taken into account: Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall. Capacity and role of each participant, and the extent to which the consortium brings together the necessary expertise.

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).

6.4.9 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

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(*) threshold applies to unweighted score.

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

6.4.10 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	25 %
SME (for profit SME)	35 %
University/Other (not for profit)	35 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

6.5 RIA "Resilience": Call on the 6G Front End Module;

Topic: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-2-RIA

Type of Action	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Indicative EU budget	20 M€
Expected EU contribution per project up to:	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 20 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
Call launch date	7 Jul 2026
Deadline FPP Stage	16 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.5.1 Context

R&I for future 6G radio communication systems is progressing worldwide with Europe being one of the strong contenders as global supplier of 6G networks whose early deployment is expected from 2030 onwards. The 6th generation mobile communications ("6G") is the near-term future of digital connectivity and therefore essential to deliver on the European AI continent strategy.[10] 6G will be "AI-native", requiring the development of AI solutions as part of the overall network architectures. Moreover, 6G will provide AI support capabilities in specific use cases, e.g. in automotive, industrial or healthcare scenario, which rely on ultra-reliable and low latency digital communication. Notably, 6G will support the emergence of Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC) capabilities, where huge data volumes collected by the network are used to derive intelligence from the environment. In that context, using the FR3 upper mid band spectrum range (7 – 15 GHz) is high on industry agenda as it allows to integrate multiple use cases such as cellular use cases currently served in the FR1 range (below 6GHz), the Fixed Wireless Access use case currently served by 'mmWave' bands above 20 GHz, and "radar like" use cases to implement ISAC functionalities with good resolution performances. Developing the corresponding Front End Module (FEM) is hence critical for the competitiveness of European suppliers, but requires to address a multiplicity of

[10] AI Continent Action Plan, doc COM (2025) 165 final, section 3.1.

technological challenges, as the FR3 FEM should enable extreme massive MIMO antenna array systems (AAS) in a compact form factor. The number of antenna elements expected to be integrated in the same size as the current 3.5 GHz massive MIMO AAS used in current 5G networks may reach 1000 antenna elements or beyond, with the higher number of antenna elements boosting the antenna gain, compensating for increased path loss and hence allowing reuse of existing 5G cell sites. Such a huge increase of antenna elements requires critical disruptions of the chipsets that constitute the front-end radio, as it is expected that the RF processing capability requires a dramatic increase compared to actual commercial implementations in lower bands and the complexity of the processing for enhanced capacity should also significantly increase. In addition, the front-end IC should also be designed to support 6G use cases such as sensing and various full duplex modes with specifications that significantly differ from the traditional cellular broadband TDD mode operation. This calls for a highly reconfigurable front-end solution and the chipset building blocks will consequently have to cover a multiplicity of functions, such as base band and data conversion (including RF DAC and RF ADC for the lower part of FR3), beam forming ICs, analog front-end ICs (Mixers/PA/LNA/TRX-Switch),[11] and require integration in a SiP with multiple integrated technologies calling for advanced packaging requirements. Depending on the antenna fan-out and needed output power level a combination of CMOS technology and GaN/Si may be envisaged though other technologies might also be contemplated with cost-performance trade off driving the eventual FEM SoC.

Against this background, the SNS JU has launched a FEM call under its WP 2025,[12] to accelerate the necessary design and validation activities at Tx/Rx level, potentially addressing two use cases that dimension the FEM radio design - SBFD/ISAC and HBF/TDD.[13] Given the call constraints, a limited fabrication activity may be envisaged to make it possible to validate some sub-systems and the initial integration/packaging approach. Further comprehensive validation of technological building blocks, system integration and evaluations of a scaled AAS demonstrator require complementary work to derisk a FEM module whose development (including the digital frontend) for a new wireless technology would eventually require much larger efforts - excluding the chipset fabrication supply chain.

The target work of this call should hence address the main building blocks constituent of an integrated FEM with already heterogeneous technologies integration at subsystem level, paving the way towards a future complete system validation. It should closely align with the work of the afore SNS call to complement it in a synergistic manner. Collaboration between the two

[11] DAC: Digital to Analog Converter; ADC: Analog to Digital Converter; IC's: Integrated Circuits; PA: Power Amplifiers; LNA: Low Noise Amplifier; SoC: System on a Chip; SiP: System in a Package)

[12] HORIZON-JU-SNS-2025-STREAM-B-05: Microelectronic – Front-End Module (FEM)

[13] SBFD : Sub Band Full Duplex ; ISAC: Integrated Sensing and Communications; HBF: Hybrid Beam Forming; TDD: Time Division Duplex.

consortia that will be selected under the SNS JU FEM call and this Chips JU FEM call is hence strongly encouraged.

6.5.2 Expected Outcomes

The main outcome of the work is the design/specification and implementation/testing of the key microelectronics building blocks of an FR3 FEM paving the way towards their future integration into a complete integrated FEM system and based on the architecture defined under the SNS project, which:

- Progresses the State of the art to optimise the cost-performance trade off to serve the target ITU IMT 2030 specifications, notably for what concerns maximum data rate, user data rate, spectral efficiency, whilst enabling 50% mobile transmission system energy consumption;
- Allows operational implementation of spectrum sharing with other spectrum users within the selected FR3 sub-band;
- Enables large arrays integration for increased path loss compensation at FR3 frequencies with very compact, low power, high efficiency FEM integration;
- Enables high bandwidth for carrier aggregation with broadband RF transceivers;
- Enables SBFD (Sub-Band non overlapping Full-Duplex) for UL coverage extension (Rel.-19 5G-Advanced in 3GPP) with appropriate interference cancellation techniques;
- Enables ISAC (Integrated Sensing and Communications) supporting monostatic as well as bistatic radar functionality, and addressing interference management, bandwidth, and potentially different waveforms (if appropriate) for communication and sensing functions;
- Builds up on core technologies and IP blocks in view of their further in package integration for the various functionalities to be implemented, including as a minimum i) computing ii) RF iii) power generation technologies: iv) beam forming technologies;
- Is based on semiconductor technology development supporting at least characterised models for RF, standard cell support for compute, interconnect and memory, and supported with relevant PDK and EDA support (analog/digital).
- Enables base die development for implementation of the most critical functions and subsystem integration and paves the way towards their future complete integration enabling validation in real environment (outside of this project)
- Enables FEM system integration with packaging;
- Allows to progress European know-how in microelectronics domains where Europe is today less advanced, notably in the field of digital technologies, and with advances at least from the design perspective;

- Paves the way towards the emergence of an alternative European ecosystem of technology suppliers for FEM modules as needed by EU vendors;
- Stimulates related progresses in the field of design tools, notably for Process Design Kits (PDKs).
- Extent to which the project results contribute to reinforce a European ecosystem of microelectronic suppliers for the telecom industry.
- Extent to which the consortium creates synergies with the FEM project of the SNS JU and leverages its work.
- Collaboration with the relevant Pilot Lines is encouraged and a plan for further pre industrialisation of an integrated FEM SiP is part of the target outcomes.

6.5.3 Scope

Proposals submitted to this call should address the following set of FEM constituent technologies in priority including challenges issues such as:

- **Transmitter and Power amplification:** High power with high efficiency and linearity in transmitters; design of efficient PA architectures, e.g. Doherty, (load-modulated) balanced PAs; efficiency enhancement techniques for transmitter power amplifiers; intermodulation control e.g. through digital predistortion (DPD), hybrid digital/analog pre distorter; circuits for bias generation and control like power-on sequencing, power back-off mode and temperature sensing; minimised out of band emissions;
- **Receiver:** Very low noise and high dynamic range in receivers e.g. Low Noise Amplifiers (LNA's) with wide bandwidth for carrier aggregation and low insertion loss;
- **Filters:** advanced technologies such as active circulators and tunable notch filters; RF Filter technologies; Antenna / filter co-design; filter and packaging integration
- **TRX:** Phase shifters with power combining/splitting (and frequency up/down conversion); circuits for LO generation; PLLs with high spectral purity, both for clocking and for local oscillator; Wide bandwidth/high resolution low energy consumption AD/DA converters (for RF-sampling, …), e.g. Data converters in advanced CMOS nodes that directly sample RF signals; hybrid beamforming for TDD modes; FDD mode may be considered as appropriate.
- **Integration/packaging:** Heterogeneous integration of different functionalities – and hence different semiconductor technologies as appropriate (GaN, CMOS, SiGe, FD-SOI, BCD, …); paving the way towards antenna integration and over-the-air testing;
- **Sustainability:** Thermal modeling/optimization of chips modules; energy efficient designs, e.g. low back off amplifiers or energy efficient antenna tiles; possible applications of neuromorphic computing;
- **Advanced Antenna System:** Antenna Array for Base-Station with double polarization & reduced coupling; advanced architecture and Compact multiport BS antenna for scalable massive MIMO; Integration of beam shaping/beam forming / beam switching, low power solution (optical technologies may be considered as appropriate for low power beam forming solutions). Beam forming and antenna control as function of traffic/spectrum characteristics is

expected to be driven by data driven processes like AI, as part of the overall RAN control; distributed MIMO networks with multi-static 3D imaging capabilities; architectures and technologies for duty-cycle and power-level optimized (massive MIMO) FEMs: Fast power, frequency and phase calibration methods, system design supporting such fast calibration, adaptive PAs with high efficiency at all power levels; Reconfigurable TX/RX panels for high TX->RX isolation to support SBFD and ISAC.

- **ISAC:** technology for ISAC native waveforms, and showcasing practical ISAC; RF-multifunctional & sensing HW. The choice of the sensing/radar waveform, OFDM based as the communication waveform, or else is left to proponent but need to be duly justified.
The work includes the required digital processing at baseband level, beyond the D/A stages, as needed to perform all the control and adaptation functions of the FEM under operational conditions, which covers technologies like CMOS or other equivalent. It is expected to visibly reinforce European capabilities in this domain, in addition to domains like analog technologies where European positions are more developed.

For these elementary technologies, IP blocks are expected to be already available at TRL level about 3, with in lab maturity, such that research on these blocks may be streamlined and the effort can bear more on the integration level, at least at subsystem level, towards a TRL level of about 5 for the target outcome. In that context, the work should also include algorithmic R&I and validation of the key FEM compute functionalities. As functional integration is already expected at least at subsystem level, a clear linkage with the APECS Pilot Line would bring a clear added value to the work.

Regarding the needed design and development environment, it is expected that it would be compatible with the design of FEM technologies at TRL 5/6. Therefore, a TRL level of development tools like PDK is expected to be stimulated up to level 7/8.

The development under this initiative is purely pre-competitive in nature but is expected to have a clear perspective towards eventual commercialization by European industry. The results shall include tangible silicon FEM constituent technologies that can be deployed in an integrated SiP. Proposals submitted to this call should clearly target the requirements of the connectivity industry. Where appropriate, proposals submitted in response to this call may consider the potential application of the above technologies in other use cases.

Consortia submitting applications to this call should include key stakeholders across the microelectronics and connectivity value-chains duly complemented with academic and research organizations (RTO's) as appropriate. It should also pave the way for increased participation of SME's and possibly start ups when moving into the subsequent full integration and OTA testing phases.

Proposals should include well focused and measurable objectives with each partner having a clear contribution and exploitation plan. . They should also explain how they plan to coordinate the project's activities with the SNS JU FEM call of SNS JU R&I WP 2025 and how they plan to contribute, through this project as an intermediate step, to the final target of final system-

level integration/validation at TRL levels 7/8, including OTA testing. Other MS initiative of relevance may also be considered in the overall FEM development roadmap as appropriate.

Collaboration with other relevant Chips JU projects in this domain is encouraged and collaboration with the SNS JU FEM project from the SNS JU R&I WP2025 is needed.

Actions targeted by the submitted proposals should consider contributing to building trustworthy electronics. Trusted electronics forms a foundation for a trustworthy and secure digital ecosystem, as applications need to be rooted in trustworthy components and systems. Building upon trusted and trustworthy electronics, cybersecurity techniques can be developed and relied upon to protect assets in digital systems. Electronics in this sense includes also analogue functionalities to influence and sense the environment of the system e.g. by using light and photonics or other physical means. Trusted electronics can be relied upon to perform its intended functions without any unauthorized or malicious actions.

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.

6.5.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (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.

6.5.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %

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

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA Countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway), Associated Countries, OECD and Mercosur countries (see Annex 1 to the General Annexes to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the 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 the Chips JU").

Entities assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment within the meaning of 'restrictions for the protection of European communication networks' as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) (or entities fully or partially owned or controlled by a high-risk supplier) cannot submit guarantees.

6.5.6 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.5.7 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).

6.5.8 Award criteria.

The proposals will be evaluated along the award criteria described in the Global RIA call above.

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).

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6.5.9 Scores

The scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal. They are valid both for PO and FPP.

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Excellence	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.5	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.

6.5.10 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	25 %
SME (for profit SME)	35 %
University/Other (not for profit)	35 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

Appendix 7

6.6 ECS International collaboration - Call with Digital Partnership and TTC countries

Topic: HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-3-RIA

Type of Action	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)
Indicative EU budget	5 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of between EUR 2 and 2.5 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	No co-financing by Chips JU Participating States following Article 141(2) SBA One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	7 Jul 2026
Deadline FPP Stage	16 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.6.1 Context

Geopolitical uncertainty and the growing complexity of semiconductor supply chain demand that the EU partners with close partner countries that are leaders in certain parts of the semiconductor value chain while safeguarding its own technological, economic and security interests. The EU will continue engaging with countries where collaboration in areas like pre-competitive research and development and supply chain resilience is mutually beneficial.

This initiative seeks to foster international collaboration with Digital Partnership countries on low-TRL research and innovation in chip design and manufacturing. Relevant countries are those with which no joint call has yet been launched—specifically India and Singapore. Additionally, Taiwan will be included, although it is not formally a Digital Partnership country, in line with the upcoming Digital Dialogue at services level.

6.6.2 Expected Outcomes

The focus would be on areas where Digital Partnership countries bring strong complementary expertise, including advanced packaging, heterogeneous integration, and photonic chip technologies. The topic would aim to foster collaboration between European and Digital Partnership countries' R&I communities.

Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Innovative design and integration concepts for neuromorphic computing systems supporting very low energy consumption, connectivity, embedded functions for mobile applications.
- Alternative manufacturing process technologies for semiconductor chips including frontend or backend for heterogenous integration. The technologies should sustain in the mid- and long-term the fast-paced evolution of device performance, miniaturisation and cost, while reducing the environmental footprint.
- Very advanced packaging solutions aiming heterogeneous integration of multiple functions and materials for applications in communication (RF, mmW or THz), sensing, actuating, power management and active/passive integration.

6.6.3 Scope

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

- Address research reaching TRL 4 with high potential not yet demonstrated in the design, fabrication process and/or packaging segments of the micro-nano-electronics and integration technologies value chain.
- Focus innovation on materials, physical concepts or device architecture building on neuromorphic or integration technologies.
- Provide a projection of the expected gains and main figures of merit of the proposed approaches.

Multi-disciplinary research activities should address part of the semiconductor value chain from materials, processes, equipment, metrology, back-end processing to packaging, integration and tests.

Consortia should demonstrate concrete cooperation with organisations from the targeted countries. Such organisations may be included in consortia but should participate as associated partners, without EU funding.

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.

6.6.4 Admissibility

Admissibility conditions are described in Annex 1 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (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.

6.6.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Conditions	Limit
Max Contribution per partner (% of the total EU funding)	30 %
Consortium Size limit	20

Participation is limited to legal entities established in EU Member States, EEA Countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway), Associated Countries, OECD and Mercosur countries (see Annex 1 to the General Annexes to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the 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 the Chips JU").

Entities assessed as high-risk suppliers of mobile network communication equipment within the meaning of 'restrictions for the protection of European communication networks' as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes) (or entities fully or partially owned or controlled by a high-risk supplier) cannot submit guarantees.

6.6.6 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.6.7 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.6.8 Award criteria.

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

6.6.9 Scores

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

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.

6.6.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

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

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

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

Appendix 7

6.7 ECS Supply chain resilience CSA

Topic: HORIZON-JU-CHIPS-2026-2-CSA

Type of Action	Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)
Indicative EU budget	2 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 2 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Mode	No co-financing by Chips JU Participating States following Article 141(2) SBA One stage Call with submission of Full Proposal (FPP)
Call launch date	7 July 2026
Deadline FPP Stage	22September 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.7.1 Context

Supply chain resilience is of paramount importance for all innovation actions on electronics and semiconductor technologies. Supply shocks and geopolitical developments since 2021 have exposed the fragility of the global semiconductor value chain and the vulnerabilities of the EU. In response, governments around the world started deploying industrial policy tools to strengthen resilience. Such interventions carry the risk of weakening the private sector's incentive to invest in its preparedness, if companies expect public intervention during crises. A holistic strategy to enhance resilience, and ultimately preparedness, is to focus on prevention by balancing public intervention with industry-led solutions, ensuring preparedness is proportionate and does not undermine competitiveness.

This action aims to enable a better understanding of how the semiconductor supply chain reacts to disruptions, ultimately contributing to more resilient supply chains in the EU and improving the global competitiveness of EU companies in the semiconductor industry. With this aim, it will support the development of a digital twin of the semiconductor supply chain, encompassing all its segments and end users, as well as support conducting stress tests of the supply chain.

6.7.2 Expected Outcomes

The action establishes a supply chain data platform, as a digital twin of the semiconductor supply chain, which should:

- Gather secure, anonymized data shared by companies, coming from both upstream and downstream industries.
- Possibly make use of an existing digital reference[14] of the semiconductor supply chain (based on semantic web technologies).
- Be managed by a trusted intermediary and hosted on a trusted data sharing infrastructure (potentially leveraging secure Multi-Party Computation).
- Provide access to each participating company (providing its data) to its own data and aggregate anonymised data.

The action should support the data gathering from the companies involved.

The action should support a global mapping of the semiconductor value chain, as regards to the capabilities and the products of each main company and its supply chain relationships.

The action should also support conducting stress tests of the supply chain and develop risk analysis of the EU semiconductor supply chain. Finally, the action needs to support issuing early warnings and recommendations for proactive measures to the Commission and Member States to avoid any potential crisis activation according to Article 23 of the Chips Act.

6.7.3 Scope

The action supports the data gathering from companies (potentially leveraging API based surveys and automated tools such as web crawling to gather publicly available information), providing them with the respective incentives to participate. Data should include both public and restricted industry data. The public data can be used to create an online catalogue of companies, products, and services in the European semiconductor supply chain.

The action also should support conducting stress tests of the supply chain (based on specific risk scenarios developed by the action) and develop risk analysis of the EU semiconductor supply chain to detect its critical dependencies and systemic vulnerabilities over time, as well as potential disruptions.

Finally, the action should provide a) periodic reports to help monitor and address ongoing, real-time supply chain challenges, and b) recommendations to companies, Member States authorities and the Commission on how to enhance supply chain resilience (e.g. industry-led preparedness actions such as targeted reserves of critical materials, end users having standby

[14] Digital Reference: the Semantic Web for Semiconductor and Supply Chains Containing Semiconductors. https://ifx-dr.github.io/DigitalReference/

production agreements with suppliers for reserve capacity at times of crisis, end users' contingency planning and responsible purchasing behaviour etc.).

Consortia need to bring together the necessary expertise to cover the full value chain from materials and design to manufacturing, packaging and end-use. Participation of SMEs is encouraged.

Proposals should include a clear business model ensuring the action's continuation beyond the project horizon.

Proposals should include increased networking and collaboration of stakeholders from the EU and international partners (through regional and international workshops and the respective communication and dissemination actions), and/or cooperate with relevant actions that can act as multipliers.

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.

6.7.4 Admissibility

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

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	FPP Stage
Excellence	30 pages
Impact	30 pages
Quality and efficiency of the Implementation	60 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.

6.7.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

6.7.6 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.7.7 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 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" (General Annexes).

6.7.8 Award criteria.

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

6.7.9 Scores

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

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Excellence	0-5	1.0	3
Impact	0-5	1.0	3
Quality and efficiency of the 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.

6.7.10 Reimbursement rate for establishing the EU contribution.

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

Type of beneficiary	EU Contribution as % of the Eligible Cost according to HE (*)

Appendix 7

For profit organization	100%
SME (for profit SME)	100%
University/Other (not for profit)	100%

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

Appendix 7

6.8 Preparing a European autonomous driving stack ecosystem building on next-generation SDV software and hardware computing architectures

Topic: HORIZON-JU-CHIPS-2026-SDV-CSA

Type of Action	Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
Indicative EU budget	2 M€
Expected EU contribution per project	The JU estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 2 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	22 Sep 2026 at 17:00 Brussels Time

6.8.1 Context

Modern ECS are a highly complex combination of hardware and software components that exhibit intricate configurations, dependability constraints and interoperability needs. European vehicle manufacturers and suppliers are at risk of losing their competitive edge compared to their International counterparts, who are innovating at higher speed and scale.

AI-enabled autonomous (or automated) driving (AD) technologies have made major progress and are already being deployed outside Europe. Commercial deployments are happening faster in other global regions, giving non-EU companies a competitive edge. By 2026, the integration of Level 4 autonomous vehicles—capable of self-driving in specific conditions—promises to redefine road transport across other geographies.

Appendix 7

The ecosystem in the Chips JU has set a framework for future R&I collaborations on the Autonomous Driving Stack, building on existing initiatives in the field of Software-Defined Vehicles and Automotive Hardware. Within this framework, advancing a European AD stack requires a systemic SW/HW co-design approach across the full technology stack from semiconductor devices and components through centralized and zonal E/E architectures and middleware, to AI-enabled applications and cloud integration in order to jointly optimise performance, safety, energy efficiency and upgradability from software and hardware.

From this ecosystem, the European Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Alliance (ECAVA) was launched as a discussion and advisory forum in 2025 to bring together stakeholders across the entire automotive value chain in dedicated working groups on (i) Data Pooling, AI and the Autonomous Driving Technology Stack, (ii) Software-defined Vehicle, (iii) Autonomous Driving Deployment, and (iv) automotive hardware, A fourth working group on Automotive Hardware is coordinated jointly between ECAVA and the Alliance on Processors and Semiconductor Technologies.

A successful EU initiative promoting an European automotive driving stack and a vibrant supporting European ecosystem requires the participation of key actors representing the whole automotive chain and R&I ecosystem of the Chips JU (OEMs for passenger cars, trucks and busses, offroad vehicles etc., suppliers, tech companies, chip manufacturers, data and cloud companies, development and test/homologation tool and engineering providers, cities and mobility service providers, universities and research and technology organisations, SMEs and start-ups). Making such a wide collaboration between diverse actors sufficiently agile and effective requires a strong coordination and governance as a pre-requisite. Particular attention should be given to synchronising the differing innovation cycles of hardware and software with the fast-pace development of AI through coordinated roadmapping across computing platforms, middleware and AD applications.

The Coordination and Support Action shall explore and identify the core requirements and methodologies essential for advancing a a European AD stack, in close collaboration with ongoing and future actions such as but not limited under the Chips Joint Undertaking, the CCAM Partnership and Member-State driven initiatives on Software-Defined Vehicles and Automotive Hardware as well as relevant Open Source Software (OSS) initiatives. This focus topic shall lead to a stronger European ecosystem on software, data, tools and electronic components and system engineering to stimulate the development of European AI-powered Autonomous Vehicle Driving Stacks.

This action will focus on identifying and validating the potential for a collaborative European AD solution, which aims to synergize various technological and data domains into a cohesive developmental strategy. The initiative intends to conceptualize programme management and analytical support, clustering, networking and governance structures assisting all four ECAVA Working Groups to ensure coherent and outcome-oriented development of common SDV, HW, AI and autonomous driving deployment initiatives and enable structured cross-WG interaction,

in close cooperation with the ECAVA Secretariat (Call DIGITAL-2026-AI-09-AUTOMOTIVE)

It is the goal to try to foster agreement on a common open reference architecture for non-differentiating elements of the autonomous driving stack ensuring coherence of the developed platform and a envisoned reference stack. Such a reference architecture draw upon open-source collaboations in the SDV stack (chips, E/E architecture, middleware, AI application, cloud) and explicitly address SW/HW co-design principles, abstraction layers, and standardized interfaces enabling portability across heterogeneous platforms. Building a dynamic community is crucial to ensure solutions are rapidly brought to the market, scalable and economically profitable. It will be essential to identify initiatives and projects working already on the described goal and work on an alignment of the intiatives and projects to shorten the time of first usable results as much as possible.

In addition, necessary additional collaborative projects shall be identified, which are vital to achieve the vision of an European automotive (OSS) driving stack and a vibrant supporting European ecosystem.

In particular, the Coordination and Support Action should closely liaise with and build upon the momentum of collaboration in the fields of SDV and automotive hardware fostered by the Chips JU in the following projects:

- **FEDERATE (Grant agreement ID: 101139749),** the outgoing Coordination and Support Action in the Chips JU to stimulate a open Software-defined vehicle ecosystem
- **HAL4SDV (Grant agreement ID: 101139789)**, a Chips JU initiative to create a hardware-abstraction layer for Software-defined Vehicles
- **RIGOLETTO (Grant agreement ID**: **101194371)**, a Chips JU initiative on developing a next-generation automotive hardware platform based on the RISC-V instruction set architecture (ISA);
- **Shift2SDV (Grant agreement ID: 101194245)**, a Chips JU initiative on creating a middleware and API framework for Software-defined vehicles;
- **CHASSIS (Grant agreement ID: 101252788),** a Chips JU initiative on pioneering chiplet-based Hardware Architectures for Software-Defined Vehicles.
- Projects to emerge from the 2026 calls under the Chips JU WP, e.g. **AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering Automation**, HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-IA-FT4.
- And many more of the running Chips JU project including technology bricks for future SDV architectures and components.

6.8.2 Expected outcomes

Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Steer a European agenda to catalyse the development of a full software defined and hardware-enabled vehicle AD stack "built in Europe", from onboard-compute architecture and software in-vehicle up to the cloud. This includes promoting systemic and agile optimisation of high-performance computing platforms, functional and heterogeneous integrated controller and processors (including e.g. chiplets), middleware orchestration and AI applications through coordinated SW/HW co-design methodologies.
- Establish structured intersectoral linkages between software, AI/data, hardware and deployment actors, ensuring that architectural decisions in the European AD stack are aligned across computing platforms, AI models, validation frameworks and real-world deployment environments.
- Promote a European R&I roadmap establishing pathways for the accelerated development of a European AI-powered AD stack, notably in close liaison with the four ECAVA Working Groups and relevant OSS initiatives.
- Ensure the engagement of key stakeholders across the Automotive value chain (including relevant OSS initiatives) toward an open-source software autonomous driving stack, including required industrial partners (such as OEMs, suppliers, tool-providers), and innovative R&I stakeholders (RTOs, universities, start-ups. If useful, already existing OSS AD stack initiatives together with the reference stacks (as S-CORE) from the Digital vehicle platform initiative plays an important role.
- Promote the cross-pollination of a collaborative ecosystem and testing infrastructure for an Open Source (OS) AD SW stack among industry, Member States, road operators and the EU in line with the Chips Act and AI Act.
- Support coordination of relevant actions on automotive hardware and software in the chips JU the CCAM, and flagship actions in Member States partnership towards a European AD stack and ensure coherence and complementarity of newly emerging actions.

6.8.3 Scope

The action should address the following tasks:

- Primary focus on supporting the ECAVA Working Group on AI, Data and the AD stack steering and coordinating a Focus Area on Autonomous Driving for promoting a European R&I stack and required development and verification/validation/homologation tools, notably focusing on governance, collaboration and coordination;
- Reinforce collaboration and exchange between innovations on the European AD Stack with coordination on European computing platforms and semiconductor components, facilitate structured interaction with ADACities and Large-Scale Cross-Border Testbeds, and promote smart systems integration approaches

supporting the transition toward centralised and zonal E/E architectures with the other ECAVA Working Groups.

- Identify relevant already existing collaborative RDI projects in EU, Member States or OSS initiatives, which are willing to participate in and speeding up the creation of an largley open source Autonomous (or automated) Driving AD reference stacks and ecosystem as well as supporting development, verification, validation and homologation tool AI supported components and reference tool chains;
- Follow and align with related Chips JU, Member States projects and other EU funding instruments and partnerships (e.g. CCAM, 2ZERO, new partnerships under FP10, relevant Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI) and support the development of an EU-wide investment roadmap;
- Positioning vis-à-vis automotive initiatives such as the ECLIPSE Working Group on SW-defined vehicle (e.g. S-CORE, SOVD), COVESA VSS projects, and others.
- Address lifecycle-oriented validation and trust frameworks, including AI-enabled system validation, digital twins and continuous in-operation monitoring, ensuring alignment between functional safety standards (e.g. ISO 26262, SOTIF) and AI-enabled non-deterministic system behaviour.
- Help platform participants to develop and agree on opportunities for collaboration in the AD Stack.
- Steer consensus on in OSS or public funded projects developed open source elements of an open source AD reference software stack, drawing from the outcomes of these related projects under the focus topic “common OS AD SW stack”, and co-ordinating with related initiatives to support convergence;
- Organise a annual European conference on AD R&I, targeting software engineers and developers, building on the open-source projects stemming actions in partnership with leading European industrial players.

In addition to its close ties to existing Chips JU RIA and IAs on Software-Defined Vehicles and Automotive Hardware, the CSA will work in close collaboration with two initiatives closely related to ECAVA.

- **DIGITAL-2026-AI-09-ECAVA**: On a Secretariat for the European Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Alliance
- **DIGITAL-2026-AI-09-AUTOMOTIVE**: Collaboration platform for the European connected and autonomous vehicle of the future.

The consortium should include at least a representative set of associations of the automotive and motor vehicle industry representing a significant numbers of OEMs and suppliers across the European Union and Associated Countries. It should include members with a capacity to

act as neutral mediators, such as leading automotive consultancies and research and technology organisations. The consortium should demonstrate a strong capacity to mobilise the whole ecosystem (OEMs, suppliers, tech companies, semiconductor manufacturers, data and cloud companies, cities and mobility service providers, universities and research and technology organisations, SMEs and start-ups). It should include partners with the experience and capacity to set up and steer pre-competitive industrial collaboration initiatives in the field of AD. It should include broad technical expertise on automotive software, hardware and AI models.

6.8.4 Admissibility

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

Regarding page limits:

Chapter	FPP Phase
Excellence	30 pages
Impact	30 pages
Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation	30 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.

6.8.5 Eligibility

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

Specific eligibility conditions:

Specific conditions	Limit
Size limit	10 Participants

Subject to restrictions for the protection of European communication networks as described in Annex 4 to the multiannual work programme 2023-2027 (General Annexes).

6.8.6 Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

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

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6.8.7 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).

6.8.8 Award criteria.

Please refer to Annex 1 "HORIZON Europe conditions applicable to the Chips JU" 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).

6.8.9 Scores

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

Criteria	Range	Weight (**)	Threshold (*)
Excellence	0-5	1	3
Impact	0-5	1	3
Quality and Efficiency of the 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.

6.8.10 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	100 %
SME (for profit SME)	100 %
University/Other (not for profit)	100 %

(*) beneficiaries may ask for a lower contribution.

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7 ANNEX: COUNTRY SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR ECS 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[15]
  - 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

[15] 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.

- their statutory mandate are not eligible for funding)
- 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-2026-1-IA** Global call according to SRIA 2026
- **HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT1-IA** Focus topic on “IA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in power electronics”
- **HORIZON-JU-Chips2026-FT2-IA** Focus topic on “IA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in photonics”
- **HORIZON-JU-Chips2026-FT4-IA** Focus topic on “AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering Automation”

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

- **HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-RIA** Global call according to SRIA 2026 (RIA)
- **HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-2-RIA** Focus topic on "RIA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in 6G radio communication systems"

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

Table 1: Budget distribution (indicvative values) - Call 2026-1 (IA)

Call 2026-1 (IA)	National Budget
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-IA **Global call according to SRIA 2026 (IA)**	3.5 Mio. EUR
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT1-IA **Focus topic on "IA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in power electronics"**	1.5 Mio. EUR
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT2-IA **Focus topic on "IA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in photonics"**	1.5 Mio. EUR
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT4-IA **Focus topic on "AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering Automation"**	1.4 Mio. EUR

Table 2: Budget distribution (indicative values) - Call 2026-1 (RIA)

Call 2026-1 (RIA)	National Budget
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-RIA **Global call according to SRIA 2026 (RIA)**	2.5 Mio. EUR
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-2-RIA **Focus topic on "RIA Resilience call reinforcing Europe's strength in 6G radio communication systems"**	1.0 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 3.2. 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

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Table 3: 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-2026-1-IA** Global call according to SRIA 2026 (IA)	up to 15 %	up to 20 %	up to 30 %	up to 30 %
Experimental development	**HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT1-IA**	up to 15 %	up to 15 %	up to 25 %	up to 30 %
Experimental development	**HORIZON-JU-Chips2026-FT2-IA**	up to 15 %	up to 15 %	up to 25 %	up to 30 %
Experimental development	**HORIZON-JU-Chips2026-FT4-IA**	up to 15 %	up to 15 %	up to 25 %	up to 30 %
Industrial Research	**HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-RIA** Global RIA call	up to 25 %	up to 35 %	up to 40 %	up to 35 %
Industrial Research	**HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-2-RIA**	up to 25 %	up to 35 %	up to 40 %	up to 35 %

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 2026 Project Contribution for Austrian partners"**, etc.

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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

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 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.

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5) Eligibility of costs

For Flanders:

Eligibility of costs is in accordance with the Horizon Europe or Digital Europe Programme costing.

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 or Digital Europe Programme)

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:

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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:

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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.

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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).

Appendix 7

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

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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

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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.

Appendix 7

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).

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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:

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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

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	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%

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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
	Holm Tveen	Mathias	+45 6190 5073	mathias.holm.tveen@innofond.dk
	General contact		N/A	internationale@innofond.dk

Country	Last Name	First name	Telephone	E-mail
Denmark	G. Marques	Daniel	+45 6190 5006	daniel.g.marques@innofond.dk
	Holm Tveen	Mathias	+45 6190 5073	mathias.holm.tveen@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 organisations directly involved in project activities are eligible as applicants to IFD. For example, private companies, universities, RTOs, and national clusters.

2. Legal, administrative and financial conditions

Please refer to IFD's Guidelines for International Projects (link at the top). For specific calls the Annex to the Guidelines applies where explicitly noted. Note that national funding under *de minimis* is not applicable.

3. Consortium configuration

No national requirements regarding consortium configuration, unless specified under conditions for maximum national funding. IFD 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).

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 co-funding

Both maximum and minimum funding *amounts*, maximum funding *rates* and overhead 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[16]			
Calls with national co-funding from IFD		**Large Enterprises***	**SMEs***	**GTS (Non-economic activities)**	**Universities and other public entities**
ECS Part	ECS Global RIA	40 %	40 %	25 %	55 %
	RIA "Resilience": Call on the 6G Front End Module				
	ECS Global IA Call	20 %	20 %		
	ECS IA Resilience Call on Power Electronics	15 %	15 %		
	ECS IA Resilience Call on Photonics				
	ECS IA Resilience Call on Healthcare				
	AI-assisted Methods and Tools for Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering Automation				

[16] 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 for International Collaborations, please contact IFD.

	Other calls: funding rates will be announced before call launch

*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[17].

Rates for indirect costs (overhead)

Applicable overhead rates according to the Guidelines for International Projects. Costs with subcontracting are not eligible for overhead. Please note that overhead is not an eligible cost for private companies in regards to IFD's national co-funding.

Rates for indirect costs (overhead)[1]				
Companies, Others	**Universities and public research institutions**	**Approved Danish National Cluster Organisations**	**Danish GTS**	**Public Hospitals**
0 %	44 %	20 %	0% (salaries are multiplied by the GTS cost factor)	3,1 %

[17] National funding will be subject to conditions in current state aid. 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.

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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[18].

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[19] research and other activities related to fossil

[18] 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.

[19] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R1058

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.

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**

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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.

Appendix 7

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

- Maximum national funding % or up to EU Contribution amount when EU Contribution is over 35%.

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.

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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/priorites-et-actions/autonomie-strategique/soutenir-linnovation-dans-les-secteurs-strategiques-de-9

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 2026 doivent, pour être éligibles, avoir été retenus pour ce projet par un mécanisme de financement national :

- 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.

I. 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.

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

Appendix 7

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 %		

D'autres possibilités de cofinancement existent au sein du guichet CORAM – les points de contact nationaux doivent être approchés pour examiner les possibilités.

Appendix 7

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.

Consequently, **the French applicants of a Chips JU 2026 project proposal must, to be eligible, have been selected for this project to a national funding schemes:**

- 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;

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.

Appendix 7

5) Funding rates

Type of beneficiary / Type of project	Large enterprises	SMEs	RTOs (Incremental costs)	RTOs (total costs)
Research and Innovative Action (RIA) & Innovative Action (IA)	20 %	30 %	100 % minus aid requested to the JU	35 %

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

Appendix 7

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 %		

Other co-financing possibilities exist within the CORAM funding instrument – reach out to the points of contact to know more.

Appendix 7

Germany

National contact person for Chips JU programme

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

Germany	Specific information on national funding applications for CHIPS			
	Schwartz	Gregor	+49 351 486797 47	Gregor.Schwartz@vdivde-it.de
	Müller	Mathias	+49 30 310078 5471	Mathias.Mueller@vdivde-it.de

further information is available via the **www.elektroniforschung.de/forderung/bekanntmachungen/chipsju**

Federal funding will be awarded by the Bundesministerium für Forschung, Technologie und Raumfahrt (BMFTR).

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

- Complete information can be found in the **national call** "Richtlinie zur Förderung der Mikroelektronik-Forschung von Verbundpartnern im Rahmen des Gemeinsamen Unternehmens Chips". It is available via the web page linked above.
- A German partner's contribution is eligible for national funding by the BMFTR if it focuses on research in electronics including interdisciplinary topics (e.g. cyber-physical systems, integrated photonics, electronics for quantum technology, embedded software).
- If the funding requests for BMFTR exceed the available funding, projects with greater contributions to the strategic objectives are a greater **priority for BMFTR funding**,

potentially leading to different national funding priorities than the ranking for EU funding. The evaluation criteria are stated in the **national calls**.

- The BMFTR 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.**

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

Appendix 7

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

- The eligibility of costs is regulated in the BMFTR'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 BMFTR support is awarded in the form of project funding as non-repayable grants to participants.
- 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.

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation Action	1:1 with EU max 50% total	1:1 with EU max 80% total	1:1 with EU max 100% total
Innovation Action	1:1 with EU max 50% total	1:1 with EU max 80% total	1:1 with EU max 100% total
Simple Grants	1:1 with EU max 50% total	1:1 with EU max 80% total	1:1 with EU max 100% total

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

- 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".
- **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.

Appendix 7

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[20]).
- An undertaking which is subject to an outstanding recovery order following a previous Commission decision declaring an aid illegal and incompatible with the internal market.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

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

Appendix 7

Eligible activities

i) All funded activities must comply with the National RIS 3 (https://gsri.gov.gr/ethniki-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[21]). For SMEs funding for innovation activities (art. 28 of Reg. EU 651/2014[22]) 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 point 19, article

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

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

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

Appendix 7

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 according to the national requirements in the Hungarian call.

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

a) 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.

b) National public funding rates

For national funding rates, applicants should refer to the Hungarian call.

c) 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.

Appendix 7

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

d) Other conditions

Appendix 7

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

Travel and subsistence costs are not eligible for companies

b) National public funding rates

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%

c) 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.

Appendix 7

Israel

Israel national contact persons for Chips JU programme

Name	First	Phone	email
Shechner Loutaty Avrahami	Assan Rachel Moshe		Assaf.s@iserd.org.il Rachel.l@innovationisrael.org.il Moshe@innovationisrael.org.il

The Chips-JU calls are managed by ISERD, the Israeli directorate for the Horizon Europe framework program, supervised by the Israeli Innovation Authority (IAA)

Site of the Israeli Call

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

a) Type or nature of participants

The Call for proposals is open to Israeli companies and researchers from Israeli academia in the field of chips who will conduct joint research with Israeli companies (and for which an Israeli company will commit to funding at least 10% of their budget).

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

The grant for an approved Israeli partner will be at a rate of: (a) the grant rate approved for the Israeli partner by the sub-program administrator; or (b) a grant rate that supplements the grant rate approved for the Israeli partner by the sub-program administrator – the lower of the two - to the maximum grant rate that can be given to the same type of Israeli partner, industrial corporation or research institution, according to the benefits program (the maximum grant rate for an industrial corporation is 66% from the Innovation Authority and the Chips JU administrator, and the maximum grant rate for academia is 80% from the Innovation Authority and the Chips JU administrator).
*The total grant budget designated by the Innovation Authority for all approved Israeli participants in this call in 2026 is 3.5 million EUR. The above constitutes no obligation to pay this amount, in whole or in part. Period of implementation – as determined by the sub-program administrator.

c) Consortium configuration

As per the Chips-JU regulation

d) Other conditions

Minimum Requirements:

The Innovation Authority's minimum requirements are detailed in the procedure for implementing international agreements related to the European Framework Program. Further information regarding the conditions of the European program can be found in the sub-programs Submitters' Guide (pay particular attention to pages 5-6)

Application Evaluation Criteria:

The criteria for evaluation by the Innovation Authority are detailed in the procedure for implementing international agreements related to the European Framework Program.

The criteria for evaluation by the European Sub-Program Administrator are detailed in the following links under Scores and Award criteria: Submitters' Guide to the Electronic Components and Systems (ECS) of the sub-program. Chips for Europe initiative (CEI) submitters' guide for the sub-program

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

a) Eligibility of costs

Please refer to section 1b. above

Rules of cost as per Horizon Europe calls

b) National public funding rates

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation Action	Equal to the EC grant and up to 33% (66% in total – EC + IIA)	Equal to the EC grant and up to 33% (66% in total – EC + IIA)	Equal to the EC grant and up to 40% (80% in total – EC + IIA) + 10% by Industry partner
Innovation Action	Equal to the EC grant and up to 33% (66% in total – EC + IIA)	Equal to the EC grant and up to 33% (66% in total – EC + IIA)	Equal to the EC grant and up to 40% (80% in total – EC + IIA) +

			10% by Industry partner

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

In calls subject to a two-stage review process by the Chips JU administrator, the Innovation Authority will first confirm principle eligibility for participation and receipt of a grant from the Innovation Authority. An approved budget and grant rate will be determined only after a decision has been made by the sub-program administrator as to which projects will be approved for funding.

Appendix 7

Italy

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

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

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Innovation Action (General)	20%	30%	35%
(T1)	25%	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. Any participant who does not send its national application by this deadline, will be considered ineligible.

Appendix 7

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:

- R&D institutions: state research institutes, universities, their research institutes, higher education establishments, research centres.
- Private entities: SMEs, large enterprises, companies.

R&D institutions 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.

2) *Legal, administrative and financial conditions*

The funding for R&D activities is provided in accordance with the:

- Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia no. 259 on the procedure for granting support for participation in international cooperation programs for research and technology (adopted on 26 June 2015),
- provisions of Commission Regulation (EU) No651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the common market in application Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (Article 25),
- 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.

The principle of forbidding double funding will be applied when granting National funding.
Each Latvian project participant can request funding of up to EUR 100,000 for each year of project implementation (12-month period).
The national funding for the Chips JU Call 2026 is EUR **1 200 000**.

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Further information on the conditions for receiving funding can be found on the Latvian Council of Science website: https://www.lzp.gov.lv/lv/atbalsts-starptautiskas-programmas-projektiem

3) Consortium configuration

No more than two partners from Latvia may participate in the project.

4) Other conditions

Private entity must be able to submit its financial statements for the last two closed financial years and must have a bank account in a Latvian bank.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

1) Eligibility of costs

Direct costs:

- Personnel costs,
- Travel costs,
- Equipment (only depreciation costs),
- Materials, consumables etc.,
- Subcontracts (up to 25% of total participants direct costs),
- Other costs (open access, meetings etc.).
Indirect costs: can reach a maximum of 25% of the total direct costs

2) *National Funding rates*

Type of action/Type of Beneficiary	**Large enterprise**	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
Research and Innovation Action	up to 65%*	up to 80%*	100%**
Innovation Action	50%	50%	100%**

* - in accordance with the rates of state aid intensity determined in Article 25
** - the funding for research and development activities carried out by Public Research Institute or University may be at the level of 100% if it meets the status of a research and knowledge dissemination organization

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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

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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.

Appendix 7

Malta

National contact person for Chips JU programme

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

Malta Enterprise (ME) is Malta's national economic development agency, tasked to promote sustainable economic growth and enhance the country's competitiveness. Its core role is to attract and facilitate foreign direct investment while supporting Malta-based enterprises to innovate, expand, and move towards higher value-added activities.

To achieve these objectives, ME designs and administers a range of financial support measures aimed at encouraging investment, research and development, digitalisation, skills development, and sustainable business practices. These measures are complemented by advisory and facilitation services, enabling enterprises to grow, internationalise, and strengthen their contribution to Malta's economic ecosystem.

www.maltaenterprise.com

1. **Type and nature of entities that may be supported**

All enterprises that are eligible to receive support from ME, business, academic and/or research focused will be considered for funding.

ME will also consider supporting academic and research organisations that do not engage in economic activities. These organisations are required to articulate the national industrial relevance of the project, particularly highlighting exploitation opportunities for enterprises having an operation presence in Malta.

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

For an enterprise to be considered for funding, it must meet the criteria established in the National Rules. The enterprise must have a permanent establishment in Malta (or demonstrate strong intentions to establish one in the coming months) and provide evidence to ME that it has the necessary financial resources 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.

ME requires that ALL applicants demonstrate how their proposed project fits into Malta's landscape and national economic development targets.

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3. Consortium configuration

ME does not impose specific consortium configuration requirements. However, projects submitted by large enterprises must include at least one SME or an academic or research organisation established in Malta.

4. Eligibility of the Costs

It is recommended that the project and its budgeted costs are discussed in advance with ME. To be awarded national funding, eligible costs must be structured in accordance with the national rules while remaining aligned with the costs outlined in the Grant Agreement as well as with the costs reported to Chips JU.

5. 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 reflect the total national funding allowed, yet these rates will have to be adjusted to ensure that the total funding from all sources including the funding from Chips JU does not exceed the maximum public intervention as allowed by the applicable rules.

Large enterprise	**SME**	**Public Research Institutes and Universities**
up to 50%*	up to 70%*	up to 100%**

*Support for enterprises shall be awarded in terms of the Research and Development Incentive Guidelines (National Rules) https://maltaenterprise.com/researchanddevelopment. Such support 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 that 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 Regulations (GBER).

6. Other conditions

Applicants based in Malta (or those with a strong intention to do so) who intend to apply for Chips JU projects are strongly encouraged to contact the national coordinator in advance. This will help streamline the overall process, including access to and approval of dedicated national funds administered by ME, which compliment the funding allocated by the Chips JU.

Applicants seeking funding from ME must submit a separate national funding request and application (to be provided by ME) alongside the project proposal submitted to the Chips JU,

and prior to the signing of the consortium agreement. All applications for national funding must be submitted directly to ME.

Appendix 7

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 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) and the National Technology Strategy (https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2024/06/07/nationale-technologiestrategie);
- the project complies with the “Algemene wet bestuursrecht” and the “Kaderwet EZK- en LNV-subsidies”.

Dutch partners in a proposal must include the following information in the project description (PO) sent to the Joint Undertaking or send it separately to chipsju@rvo.nl:

- 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) and the National Technology Strategy (https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2024/06/07/nationale-technologiestrategie);

Dutch partners in a proposal must include the following information in the Full Project Proposal (FPP) sent to the Joint Undertaking or send it separately to chipsju@rvo.nl:

- 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) and the National Technology Strategy (https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2024/06/07/nationale-technologiestrategie);
  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) and the National Technology
  Strategy(https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2024/06/07/nationale-technologiestrategie).

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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 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 2026 is in total € 28.000.000 (subject to parliamentary approval) and will initially be split as follows:
    - A budget for the global call HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-IA of € 14.000.000;
    - a joint budget for the focus topics HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT1-IA, HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT2-IA and HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT3-IA of € 5.000.000;
    - a budget for the focus topic HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-IA-FT4 will be announced at a later date;
    - a budget for the global call HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-RIA of € 9.000.000;
    - a budget for HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-2-RIA will be announced at a later date.
- 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%**

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Innovation Action	**20%**	**30%**	**25%**

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

Appendix 7

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

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

a) 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)

b) 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. Due to state aid rules, the company cannot be "an enterprice in difficulty").

b) Companies must be established with a considerable business activity in Norway within the scope of the Chips JU project.

c) All project partners, also companies, must possess and contribute with relevant research & technology development capabilities.

c) Consortium configuration

a) At least one Norwegian company must be involved as a partner in the project. (Exception 2026: the "Skills" and "Quantum" calls do not require a Norwegian company as partner.)

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

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

a) Eligible costs

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

b) Budget

a) The total 2026 Norwegian funding budget for the Chips JU Calls is at least NOK 40,000,000.

b) The budget is for all Calls of the 2026 Chip JU work programme. There is no pre-allocated distribution of the Norwegian funding budget between the Calls in the work programme.

c) Maximum national co-funding for one singe project:

- NOK 11 000,000 is a maximum amount of national co-funding for one single project.
- For the 2026 “Skills” and “Quantum” calls the maximum amount of national co-funding is lower: NOK 8 million.
- In case of a single Norwegian participant, the maximum national co-funding is 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 proposal stage, use the NOK/€ conversation rate from a specified date close to the call deadline.

c) 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: RIA and IA and LFA	Large enterprises	SMEs	Research organisations
All Types	25 %	35 %	65 %

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Action: Skills and Quantum	Large enterprises	SMEs	Research organisations
All Types	0 %	20%	50 %

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.

Appendix 7

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.

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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/.

Appendix 7

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.

Appendix 7

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.

Appendix 7

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%**.

Appendix 7

	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.
Aid included in co-financed research and development projects (GBER, Article 25c)	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 (GBER, Article 26a)	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.
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.

Appendix 7

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%

Appendix 7

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.

Appendix 7

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 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%
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.

Appendix 7

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.

Appendix 7

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.

Appendix 7

Slovenia

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
Slovenia	Pajntar	Radovan	+386 070 468 477	radovan.pajntar@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/about-the-ministry).

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**

Appendix 7

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%

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

Not Applicable.

Appendix 7

Spain

National contact person for Chips JU programme

Country	Name	First	Phone	email
SPAIN	Gómez Miguel	Beatriz	+34 916038947	beatriz.gomez@aei.gob.es
	Pelayo	Enrique	+34 915815566	enrique.pelayo@cdti.es
	Juan Vindel Marcos Morell	Sonia Jesús		chipsju@digital.gob.es

Agencia Estatal de Investigación www.aei.es

Calls supported by AEI in 2026 in Chips Initiative (APPENDIX 7: ACTIVITIES LAUNCHED IN 2026 FOR THE ECS PART)
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-IA
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT1-IA
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT2-IA
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-FT3-IA
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-1-RIA
HORIZON-JU-Chips-2026-2-RIA

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 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.

It is strongly recommended that all the possible applicants inform national contact person at the beginning of the proposal preparation.

b) Legal, administrative and financial conditions

2026 Chips JU ECS R&I calls will be managed by the "Subdirección de Programas Horizontales e Internacionalización"

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, Real Decreto 1122/2025)
- All other regulation that apply to national PCI calls (National PCI calls, International calls funded by AEI)

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 2025-1.

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 PCI 2025-1 for reference).

c) Consortium configuration

Entities and Principal Investigators (PIs) must comply with the requirements included in the resolution Resolución de la Presidencia de la AEI por la que se establecen requisitos generales de participación en convocatorias competitivas internacionales y en los Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional

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)[23]:

- Principal Investigators can only apply for funding in only one proposal in 2026 ECS R&I Chips JU calls, 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.

Each Principal Investigator must fill in and sign electronically a "declaración responsible del investigador principal " in this respect. The corresponding template will be available at Chips JU section in Convocatorias Internacionales | Agencia Estatal de Investigación

d) Other conditions

IMPORTANT and NEW!

Submission of proposals at the AEI are required at PO phase in Two stage Calls and at FPP phase in one stage calls. Each PI from an AEI eligible institution requesting funding from AEI must complete the submission procedure App Solic Internacional and his/her entity Legal Representative must register the proposal submission within ten days after the submission deadline. All the information regarding this process will be available and permanently updated at Convocatorias Internacionales | Agencia Estatal de Investigación.

The PI must upload a copy of the international joint pre-proposal, and the "Declaración responsable del investigador principal" by the AEI submission tool App Solic Internacional.

2. Eligibility of the costs and funding

[23] See the "declaración responsable".

Appendix 7

a) Eligibility of costs

AEI will fund those applicants involved in tasks indubitably related to research and technology development and innovation, not considering as such if the applicant only participates in 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 among others: (see Article 8 in PCI2025-1 for reference)

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).

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 not be 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.

*b) National public funding rates **(N/A for AEI)***

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

Appendix 7

Innovation Action			

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

Appendix 7

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
In Innovation Action calls (IA) 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.

In Research and Innovation Action calls (RIA) the total eligible project costs of participating Swedish companies must amount to at least 50% 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 2026 **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 2026.

If the international project proposal is selected for funding in Chips JU Calls 2026, 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 2026, 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 2026.

Funding rates

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 2026.

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 €.

Appendix 7

- 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.

Appendix 7

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

Appendix 7

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%

Appendix 7

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

(https://ufukavrupa.org.tr/tr/haberler/chips-ortak-girisimi-2026-yili-cagrilari-ulusal-surec-dokumani-yayinlandi***)***

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 at:

https://ufukavrupa.org.tr/tr/haberler/chips-ortak-girisimi-2026-yili-cagrilari-ulusal-surec-dokumani-yayinlandi

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**

a) 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

b) 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

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

- The total Turkish funding budget for Chips 2026 ECS Call is 6 000 000 €.
- There is no pre-allocated distribution of the Turkish funding budget between the ECS Calls in 2026, nor to specific topics of any of the ECS Calls in 2026.
- Turkish applicants should consider 1.5 Million Euro as a maximum amount of national funding for one single project, and that more than one Turkish partner should be involved to reach this level of national funding.
- 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 Türkiye on the date of national application are taken as basis.
- Participants are subject to TUBITAK 1071 Programme rules.

Appendix 7

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.

It is important to note that a successful application to Chips JU does not guarantee funding by Innovate UK. UK participants are strongly advised to discuss applications with their Innovate UK contacts prior to submission to Chips JU.

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

- 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.

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)

Appendix 7

Other conditions

UK applicants to Chips JU Calls 2026 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.

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.

Funding and funding rates

Innovate UK has a budget of up to £10,000,000 for UK participation in the Chips JU 2026 Horizon Europe call(s) (ECS and Chips for Europe Initiative)

UK applicants can apply for a total UK co-funding grant of up to £750,000 in a single proposal (note this does not preclude a request for a higher amount). If your total UK co-funding 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 projects from Chips JU, then Innovate UK reserves the right to take a portfolio approach.

Co-Funding rates from Innovate UK in the 2026 Chips JU Horizon Europe co-funded ECS calls are:

Action	Large	Medium	Small	RTO/Uni
IA calls	50%-JU%	60%-JU%	70%-JU%	100%-JU%

RIA calls	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.

For further information on the Chips for Europe Initiative and ECS calls please get in touch with the UK National Contacts.