



INNO4COV-19

Grant Agreement No. 101016203



Open Call for Proposal

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Application submission starts on: 2 November 2020

1st Cut-off is: 30 November 2020

2nd Cut-off is: 30 April 2021

WWW.INNO4COV19.EU/OPEN-CALL/



Project Contractual Details

Project Title:	Boosting Innovation for COVID-19 Diagnostic, Prevention and Surveillance
Project Acronym:	INNO4COV-19
Contract No.:	101016203
Project Start Date:	October 1, 2020
Duration:	24 months





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1. ABOUT INNO4COV-19 OPEN CALL

1.1 What is the aim of the Open Call?

INNO4COV-19 Open Call aims to provide financial support to companies with the aim of accelerating the development and commercialization of innovative solutions to tackle COVID-19 that have already been validated in relevant environments (TRL6-7 or higher) and that focus on one of the following technological domains: (i) Innovative diagnostic and screening systems; (ii) Environmental Surveillance; (iii) Sensors & Devices for Telemedicine and Telepresence and (iv) Protective equipment for People and safer Public.

1.2. What are the key benefits for a proposer/ consortium applying in the Open Call?

- Financial support of up to 100.000 EUR (100% funded)
- Tailored support and guidance from a network of experts at a technical, business and regulatory level aimed at bringing your COVID-19 innovations to the market
- Access to specific facilities and infrastructure providing added value to your innovations
- Media exposure

1.3. What are the Open Call dates?

The Call will be open from November 2020 to April 2021, and applicants will be able to apply anytime. Any submitted proposal will be evaluated in the nearest cut-off (deadline: 17:00 CET).

Cut-off Dates	
1 st cut-off	30 November 2020
2 nd cut-off	30 April 2021

1.4. Who can apply?





The accepted applicants for INNO4COV-19 Open Call are **companies and small consortia of companies** from EU member states or associated countries. The sectors of focus may include healthcare / medicine / biotech / biopharma, and IT and related (robotics, automation, electronics, nanotech etc.).

1.5. Can a UK based company receive financial support?

Yes, a company based in the UK can submit a proposal and receive cascade funding. UK entities remain eligible for grants and procurement procedures as if the UK was a member state for the entirety of the Horizon 2020 framework programme, being this is also applicable to financial support to third parties according to Article 204 FR (cascading grants).

1.6. I work for one of the INNO4COV-19 partners. Can I apply to the open calls?

No. To avoid conflicts of interest, applications will not be accepted from persons or organizations who are partners in the INNO4COV-19 consortium or who are formally linked to partners of the consortium.

1.7. Can a legal entity apply for two different projects?

There is no limit for the number of proposals you can submit, as long as the following are ensured:

- no single party may receive more than 100.000 EUR per Call;
- no project can be funded twice by INNO4COV-19.

1.8. How many projects will be selected?

The Open Call will support at least 30 projects. The exact number of selected proposals depends on the available budget envelope for each cut-off date:

- 1st cut-off: 1.800.000 EUR;
- 2nd cut-off: 1.200.000 EUR;

1.9. How long is the project set to run?



Projects are expected to have a maximum duration of 1 year. Exceptions may occur if sufficiently justified, as long as the end of the project is set until 31st of August 2022.

1.10. How will the IP work? Is there any NDA to be signed?

All results and IPR generated within the experiments are owned by the beneficiary that generates it. The Sub-Grant Agreement will introduce provisions concerning joint ownership of the results of the selected projects, if applicable. This will be assessed and negotiated case by case.

Each selected applicant will sign the Sub-Grant Agreement with the International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL), on behalf of the INNO4COV-19 consortium that will cover the confidentiality clauses.

In addition, and during the evaluation, the assigned evaluators of each Evaluation Committee have to sign a confidentiality agreement.

1.11. If a proposal is rejected, can the project be resubmitted?

Yes, if a proposal fails to reach the thresholds of the evaluation on a cut-off, applicants are invited to re-submit improved versions in upcoming cut-offs.

1.12. Are legal entities submitting proposals subject to the rules of the de minimis?

The de minimis rule takes no effect in this type of funding. Nevertheless, please consider that no single party may receive more than 100.000 EUR (as stated in Section 2.4 and 2.7 of INNO4COV-19 Guide for Applicants).

2. HOW TO APPLY





2.1. Where can I submit my proposal? What information is needed?

Proposals for the INNO4COV-19 Open Call are submitted in a single stage through F6S platform, available at <https://www.f6s.com/inno4cov-19opencall/apply>.

A complete proposal comprises two components:

- Application electronic form with general information on the project and administrative data;
- Proposal description document, written in English and submitted under PDF format through the electronic form.

Template for the proposal description can be found at www.inno4cov19.eu.

2.2. Can my company submit the project proposal in our native language?

No. English is the official language for INNO4COV-19 project open calls. The proposal must be in English in all its mandatory parts in order to be eligible. English is also the only official language during the whole length of the third-party grant process. This means that all communication will be in English and all deliverables will only be accepted if in English.

2.3. How will my proposal be evaluated?

The selection of the open call proposals will be realised in a three-stage process and will start immediately after the submission. Stage one will consist general eligibility check against the rules and conditions established in Section 2 of the Guide for Applicants.

Proposals considered eligible will be evaluated by a panel composed of 3 members with wide expertise in the technological areas envisaged in INNO4COV-19. For each cut-off deadline, 4 evaluation panels will be composed upon decision by the Project Management Committee. In a first step, an in-depth analysis of the proposal will be made by each evaluator against 4 criteria (Impact of the innovative technology and the anticipated result; Excellence of the idea and approach; Quality and efficiency of the implementation; Added value contribution from the INNO4COV-19 Platform).

In the second step, applicants are invited to provide further information to clarify the project concept and impact and help the evaluation panel establish its final ranking list and scores. Starting with the highest-scoring proposal and in descending, sequential order, proposals are passed to the second step, until, as a batch, either the total amount of EU funding requested is as close as possible to





twice the grant budget available, or all proposals eligible for funding have been accounted for. In addition, the actual threshold to pass to the second step will therefore be dynamic and depend on the volume of proposals received that pass all quality thresholds.

Priority will be given to projects that are framed within the technology domain of Environmental Surveillance and/or those related to the identification and detection of new SARS-Cov-2 variants

The applications will be ranked according to the overall score in descending order and, on a third stage, the results will be submitted to the Project Management Committee for a review and decision.

2.4. What is the expected timeline for the evaluation?

The evaluation process is meant to last 30 working days. Then the evaluation report is submitted to the EC for review of the selected projects by the European Commission for 1 week. Therefore INNO4COV-19 will communicate the result of each proposal back to applicant 40 working days after each cut-off date.

2.5. My proposal has been selected for funding, now what?

You will be contacted by the INNO4COV-19 team to sign a sub-grant agreement. Selected applicants will be requested to present a detailed plan with respect to deliverables, milestones and associated costs. This will be done in close collaboration with the INNO4COV-19 consortium in order to reach a mutually acceptable plan.





3. HOW DOES THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT WORKS?

3.1. How much money can an applicant ask to support the proposed project? What types of costs are eligible?

The maximum amount of financial support that a legal entity can receive during the Open Call is 100.000 EUR. The financial support includes only the following type of costs:

- Personnel resources needed to implement the project (e.g. define technology challenge, discuss implementation options, develop specific activities, validate results, etc.);
- Consumables, components and materials for product/technology development;
- Necessary travel, accommodation and subsistence costs for meetings and validations;
- Support services for product/technology development/validation (examples listed below);
- Overheads (15% of the total costs excluding subcontracting).

3.2. What are the schedule and the size of the cascade funding payments for the third party?

The financial support will be paid in separate instalments which will be linked to the acceptance of deliverables agreed. By default, the instalments will be the following:

- 50% of the financial support with the signature of the Sub-Grant Agreement;
- 50% of the financial support with the completion of the project workplan and achievement of the final deliverables.

The schedule and the size of these payments will be established on the Sub-Grant Agreement.

3.3. What are the criteria for calculating the exact amount of financial support?

The exact amount of the maximum financial support will be calculated on the basis of the cost that are specified by the third parties. The subcontracting costs will be calculated on the basis of user



fees defined for the services required by the third parties. Each party has to provide personnel direct cost (w/o overhead) and the planned effort, as well as to specify other cost such as consumables and travel cost.

In order to be eligible for funding, costs must meet the following criteria:

- be incurred by the beneficiary during the duration of the action, with the exception of costs relating to final reports and audit certificates;
- be indicated in the estimated overall budget of the action attached to the grant agreement;
- be necessary for the implementation of the action which is the subject of the grant;
- be identifiable and verifiable, in particular being recorded in the accounting records of the beneficiary and determined according to the applicable accounting standards of the country where the beneficiary is/are established and according to the usual cost accounting practices of the beneficiary;
- comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation;
- be reasonable, justified and comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency.

3.4. Who is invoiced by the granted company?

The INNO4COV-19 Coordinator, International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL), will be the one in charge of transferring the financial support, according to the payment conditions set in the Sub-Grant Agreement.

3.5. Is it possible to use the financial support for retroactive payments?

No. The financial support cannot be used for retroactive payments. It must correspond to work developed during the timeline of the project (as submitted).

