EEN2 EIC

Call 3

**Open Call for Group Leaders and Local
Nodes
Seal of excellence (SoE) support
EIC Accelerator laureates**

24-01-2023

www.een2eic.eu

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Funded by
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1. ABOUT THE PROJECT

The EEN2EIC project aims to establish a stronger cooperation mechanism between the European Enterprise Network (EEN) and the European Innovation Council (EIC), supporting innovation and business scaling-up through financial support. In doing so, EEN network offices will be empowered to support potential EIC applicants and thereby increase the number of high-quality proposals to the EIC.

A special focus will be put on the promotion of female innovators and on Widening and Associated Countries that have submitted only few applications. Furthermore, the support of Seal of Excellence holders in accessing alternative sources of funding and ensuring a strong and profitable exchange of best practices within the EEN will be strengthened. EEN2EIC will make EU innovation support more efficient by improving the capacity of SMEs and avoiding overlapping with NCP activities.

EEN2EIC project is funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe programme under grant agreement No. 101075818.

1.1. ABOUT THIS CALL

The present Open Call aims at selecting one Organisation per each group of countries for the role of the Group Leaders and one Organisation per each EEN Consortium for the role of the Local Nodes.

As part of its actions, EEN2EIC will develop tight collaboration with local EEN nodes to provide the most adequate support to Seal of Excellence companies (Seal of Excellence laureates from EIC Accelerator, awarded no later than June 2021), based on context as well as to ensure the long-term sustainability of the activity. The consortium will provide a model blueprint of support activities as well as digital tools, know how, and its network, with EEN nodes organizing matchmaking activities for both public and private funding. EEN members will be involved as local nodes supporting the local beneficiary and/or at country or multi-country level organizing collective support activities (notably e-pitches towards investors).

In order to implement this action, EEN2EIC consortium will identify and select EEN members to manage certain services to SoE holders across countries and regions as Group leaders (GL) and Local Nodes (LN). The GL and LN will be identified either through a call for applications published on EEN2EIC Website (www.een2eic.eu) and the Call

and Tenders website of European Commission, and it is disseminated using EEN Intranet and Social Media channels. Always refer to the EEN2EIC website to make sure that you are referring to the latest version of the document.

These presented calls will be opened from 24.01.2023 and the closing time for Group Leaders is 27.03.2023 at 17:00 (Brussels Time) and closing time for Local Nodes is 26.04.2023 at 17:00 (Brussels Time). All the applications received before the deadline using the process as described in Section 2.5 and Section 3.5 of this call, will be considered eligible.

All the applications received after the deadline indicated above, and all the application manners other than the one officially described in Sections below not be considered eligible for this call.

2. GROUP LEADERS

2.1 SCOPE OF THE CALL OF THE GROUP LEADERS

ENN2EIC Coordination will work with twelve (12) EEN members as Group Leaders (GL). Five (5) GL were identified during the proposal phase of the project. Seven (7) EEN members will be selected during the launch phase. GL will be in charge of the management of SoE support services in the regions defined as their scope of action (See table below):

GROUP LEADERS (GL) designation of the EEN member responsible of certain regions	REGIONAL / COUNTRY / MULTI-COUNTRY LEVEL
B	Portugal, Spain
C	Israel, Turkey, Armenia
E	United Kingdom, Ireland
F	Netherlands, Denmark
H	Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland
I	Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
J	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia

2 TABLE – EEN2EIC : THE COUNTRIES / REGIONS GROUPED TO SPECIFIC GROUPS FOR WP3

1 FIGURE – EEN2EIC – THE MAP OF THE GROUPS IN WP3

2.2 WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS CALL

The present call for the Group Leaders is open exclusively for EEN members that are full partners of established EEN Consortium at the time of the present application. Further eligibility conditions are available in Section 2.2.1 below.

2.1.1 Eligibility conditions of the Group Leaders

To be eligible to participate in the present call for GL, each organisation shall fulfil all the following conditions:

- to be a member of Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) and be part of existing EEN Consortium at the time of application.
- to ensure appropriate track record in providing innovation support services to SMEs.
- to provide well-good network with other EEN consortium partners as well as a net-work of regional innovation ecosystems.

Preferably, the applicant shall also fulfil the following conditions:

- to have enough personal resources to support Seal of Excellence holders (in case of Group Leaders (GL) it is coordination of Local Nodes (LN) and organization of e-pitches)

- to have knowledge of national innovation funding landscape/programs of several countries
- to have knowledge of Venture capital (VC) country/region landscape
- to have experience coaching and pitching enterprises to present in front of VC
- to have knowledge of Horizon Europe ecosystem

2.3 ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The role of GL is crucial for a successful implementation of EEN2EIC project and to guarantee a successful participation of high-quality companies from each region in the EIC funding framework.

The GL in fact will act as a connection between EEN2EIC project and its group of EEN countries. Within this role, the GL will:

- GL will be responsible for coordinating and supporting LNs within the designated region (see map). GL will provide support to LN in their cooperation with SOE SMEs in obtaining financing from private as well as public sources. GL will prepare and update on a regular base the list of possibilities of funding from public sources. Bpifrance will support the GL via webinars, EuroQuity platform and weekly calls before and during organization of e-pitches.
- GL will be responsible for adding local investors and public funders to e-community, adding and onboarding SoE companies to e-community, e-pitches planning, training and coaching services of selected SoE startups and logistic details.
- GL will be responsible for participating in onboarding webinars and coaching workshops organized by Bpifrance in the context of this project.
- GL will be responsible for supporting Bpifrance in preparation of the e-pitching calendar.
- GL will organize e-pitches (3 events minimum per year within the duration of contract for 3 years, so at least 9 events in total) with coordination of Bpifrance and LNs.
- GL will be responsible for selecting companies from nominations provided by LNs and provide the pre-pitch coaching for selected companies.
- GL will be responsible for inviting local and national investors to the e-pitches.
- GL will be responsible for monitoring and updating the information about the regional / national EU innovation funding programmes relevant to SOEs.
- GL will follow up the pitching companies and will provide additional matchmaking services for introduction the companies to the investors.
- GL will provide all necessary data and contacts needed for reporting to Bpifrance, European Innovation Council (EIC) and EEN.

- GL must be active in the implementation of the project and must coordinate their actions with Coordination office.
- GL will be a member of the selection committee for Local Nodes in their groups.

2.4 VOUCHERS FOR SELECTED GL

Under this Work Package that supports the Seal of Excellence companies, two sets of vouchers will be issued covering all tasks:

- Seal of Excellence Group Leader Voucher: 90 Vouchers will be provided to the Group Leaders at €9,406 per voucher.

Each voucher will be paid by EEN2EIC when the condition listed in Section 4.2 are reached each of the time. All the Vouchers into this strand will be paid up to the full capacity of this budget.

2.5 APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants shall submit their application using the online form available here before the deadline of 27th of March 2023 at 17:00 Brussels time, as defined in Section 1.1

Only applications submitted using the process described in the present Section before the deadline will be considered.

Only applications fulfilling the eligibility criteria as defined in 2.4 will be processed for evaluation.

Once the evaluation processes are completed (see Section 2.9 for more information about the evaluation criteria), the selected GL applicants will be contacted by the EEN2EIC to sign the sub-grant agreement.

2.6 SELECTION COMMITTEE OF THE GROUP LEADERS

The selection committee for selecting the Group Leaders from applicants will be composed by the representatives of the Coordination office, especially representants from APRE (as a coordinator of the project EEN2EIC) and Bpifrance (as a responsible member of the consortium for Seal of Excellence support).

2.7 SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM OF THE GROUP LEADERS

Application form will be open for online submission starting from the 24th of January 2023 and the deadline of the call is 27th of March 2023, 17.00 CET (Brussels time). Late

submissions will not be acceptable unless an extension of the closing of the call is officially communicated by the coordinator.

2.8 APPLICATION DOCUMENT

The process will take place fully online, and therefore no additional document needs to be prepared and submitted by the applicant. The online application form is accessible here.

The following questions will be presented to the applicants in the online form:

- General information about the organisation
  Name and contact information of the applying organisation, Gender Equality Plan, Gender of the person, upload CV of the main person responsible of EEN2EIC imple-mentation
- Eligibility Check
  Is the organization part of existing EEN Consortium (Y/N)
  If yes, please state the full name of the consortium you belong
  What role do you have in this consortium? (Partner/Coordinator)
  What geographical area does your consortium cover?
     Local (NUTS-2)
     Regional (NUTS-1)
     Cross-border (NUTS-3)
     Country (NUTS-0)
- Scope of the application
  Please select the group of countries in which you want to be a Group Leader:

  B   Portugal, Spain
  C   Israel, Turkey, Armenia
  E   United Kingdom, Ireland
  F   Netherlands, Denmark
  H   Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland
  I   Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
  J   Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia
- Section 1 – Relevance
  Please describe your organization, its role in the EEN and the knowledge or cooper-ation with others EEN members? Make sure to indicate any membership of EEN TG/SGs (with reference to the ones relevant for the target groups of the EEN2EIC

projects) as well as previous experiences with regards to the support of companies in applying to EIC Accelerator or a special services or trainings to support SMEs, and other support measures specifically targeted to EEN at consortium, national and international level.

- Section 2 – Implementation

  Please describe the capacity and motivation of your organization to implement the GL role? Make sure to describe also existing knowledge, expertise and experiences in your organization with reference to coaching of pitching companies, organization of the pitching sessions, knowledge of the VC ecosystem, knowledge of public funding landscape and access to European Funding frameworks in general and European Innovation Council in particular.

- Section 3 – Impact

  Please describe in which regional, national and international networks and initiative your organization is taking part, with particular reference to the ones covering the target groups of the project?

2.9 SELECTION CRITERIA

To ensure a smooth and timely implementation process of the project and facilitate the implementation of the services in WP3, it is strongly advised for each group of countries to submit only one application for the role of Group Leader, and to agree upon this application internally at consortium level. In the case two and more applications per each group are submitted, the EEN2EIC project will select only one (the best) application based on the criteria identified in the following table.

Criteria	Explanation	Threshold	Score
1 – Relevance of the submission			
Is the organisation member of the TG Research and Innovation and/or Seal of Excellence Sector Group or TG Access to Finance?			
Did the applicant provide appropriate track record in supporting R&D SMEs: - is it the NCP? / or has a track record of supported companies in EIC Accelerator / the organisation has some products or services for supporting SoE companies?			
Has the organisation a proven knowledge of Horizon Europe ecosystem?			

	3	5
2 – Implementation		
Has the organisation enough capacity/personnel resources to support the Seal of Excellence holders (in case of Group Leaders (GL) it is co-ordination of Local Nodes (LN) and organization of e-pitches: - has dedicated person who is enough experienced (CV of the person was uploaded)		
Has the organisation a proven knowledge of the European funding scheme and national innovation funding landscape/programs of several countries?		
Has the organisation an experience with coaching and pitching enterprises to present in front of VC or preparing companies for pitch in front of EIC Accelerator? - applicant emphasized his experiences with preparing and training companies		
Has the Applicant any experience with organizing pitching events in front of VC? - applicant mentioned some pitching events organized by himself		
Has the organisation a proven knowledge of Venture capital (VC) country/region landscape?		
	3	5
3 – Impact		
Is the organisation best positioned to provide added value in terms of the local innovation ecosystem?		
Is the organisation part of relevant networks, initiatives and/or projects that will help EEN2EIC to identify and support SoE holders?		
Did the applicant provide and introduce well-good network with other EEN consortium partners as well as a network of regional innovation ecosystems?: - the organisation has a wide cooperation with partners under EEN network - the applicant mentioned some contacts in regional innovation ecosystems		
	3	5
	Threshold	Max. score
	9	15

2 Table – EEN2EIC – GL Evaluation Criteria

Only eligible applications will be evaluated.

The selected applicants will be informed by email and a list of GLs will be published on the EEN2EIC website. The detailed evaluation results will not be published but it will be available to applicants requesting further information and clarifications.

3 LOCAL NODES

3.1 SCOPE OF THE CALL OF THE LOCAL NODES

ENN2EIC Coordination will work with local EEN members as the Local Nodes (LN). One EEN member supporting SoE holders in their region / EEN consortium will be selected as a Local Node for the WP3 – Support of Seal of Excellence holders. Local EEN members will be selected during the first phase of the project and will be completing the role of Local Node during the entire duration of the project. LN will closely cooperate with selected GLs in their groups (subject of this call point 2 Group Leader) and LN will be in charge of the direct communication and provide direct support of SoE companies in the regions defined as their scope of action (See map below):

2 FIGURE - EEN2EIC – The map of the groups in WP3.

3.2 WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS CALL

The present call for the Local Nodes is open exclusively for EEN members that are full partners of established EEN Consortium at the time of the present application. Further eligibility conditions are available in Section 3.2.1 below.

3.2.1 Eligibility conditions of the Local Nodes

To be eligible to participate in the present call for GL, each organisation shall fulfil all the following conditions:

- to be a member of EEN and be part of existing EEN Consortium at the time of application.
- to ensure appropriate track record in supporting R&D SMEs.
- to provide well-good network with other EEN consortium partners as well as a network of regional innovation ecosystems.

Preferably, the applicant shall also fulfil the following conditions:

- to have enough personal resources to support Seal of Excellence holders in their region
- to have knowledge of national innovation funding landscape/programs of own region / country
- to have knowledge of Venture capital (VC) country/region landscape
- to have knowledge of Horizon Europe ecosystem

3.3 ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The role of LN is crucial for a successful implementation of EEN2EIC project and to guarantee a successful supporting of high-quality SoE companies from each region in the EIC funding framework.

The LNs in fact will act as a connection between EEN2EIC project and each SoE holder and regional innovation ecosystems. Within this role, the LN will:

- LN will be responsible for adding local investors and public funders to e-community, adding and onboarding SoE startups to e-community.
- LN will be responsible for participating in onboarding webinars and coaching workshops organized by Bpifrance in the context of this project.
- LN will be responsible for selecting companies with GL and provide the contact of selected companies.
- LN will be responsible for inviting local investors to the e-pitches.

- LN will recommend national public possibilities to SoE companies and support them if they decide to apply.
- LN will follow up the pitching companies and will provide additional matchmaking support for introduction the companies to the investors.
- LN must be active in the implementation of the project and must coordinate their actions with GL.

3.4 VOUCHERS FOR SELECTED LN

Under this Work Package that supports the Seal of Excellence companies, two sets of vouchers will be issued covering all tasks:

- Seal of Excellence Local Node Voucher: 900 Vouchers will be provided to local nodes at €1.100 per voucher.

Each voucher will be paid by EEN2EIC when the condition listed in Section 5.2 are reached each of the time. All the Vouchers into this strand will be paid up to the full capacity of this budget.

3.5 APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants shall submit their application using the online form available here before the deadline of 26th of April 2023 at 17:00 Brussels time, as defined in Section 1.1

Only applications submitted using the process described in the present Section before the deadline will be considered. Only applications fulfilling the eligibility criteria as defined in 3.9 will be processed for evaluation.

Once the evaluation processes are completed (see Section 3.9 for more information about the evaluation criteria), the selected LN applicants will be contacted by the EEN2EIC to sign the sub-grant agreement.

3.6 SELECTION COMMITTEE OF THE LOCAL NODES

The selection committee for selecting the Local Nodes from applicants will be composed by the representatives of the Coordination office, especially representants from APRE (as a coordinator of the project EEN2EIC), Bpifrance (as a responsible member of the consortium for Seal of Excellence support) and selected Group Leader for specific group.

3.7 SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM OF THE LOCAL NODES

Application form will be open for online submission starting from the 24th of January 2023 and the deadline of the call is 26th of April 2023, 17.00 CET (Brussel time). Late submissions will not be acceptable unless an extension of the closing of the call is officially communicated by the coordinator.

EEN members interested to be a Local Node can apply:

* Submit the online application available at this link: Application Forms

3.8 APPLICATION DOCUMENT

The process will take place fully online, and therefore no additional document needs to be prepared and submitted by the applicant. The online application form is accessible here.

The following questions will be presented to the applicants in the online form:

* General information about the organisation
  Name and contact information of the applying organisation, Gender Equality Plan, upload CV of the main person responsible of EEN2EIC implementation
* Eligibility Check
  Is the organisation part of existing EEN Consortium (Y/N)
  If yes, please state the full name of the consortium you belong
  What role do you have in this consortium? (Partner/Coordinator)
  What geographical area does your consortium cover?
  >   Local (NUTS-2)
  >   Regional (NUTS-1)
  >   Cross-border (NUTS-3)
  >   Country (NUTS-0)
* Scope of the application
  Please select the group of countries in which you want to be a Local Node?

  A   Germany
  B   Portugal, Spain
  C   Israel, Turkey, Armenia
  D   France, Tunisia, Morocco
  E   United Kingdom, Ireland
  F   Netherlands, Denmark
  G   Italy, Malta
  H   Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland

I   Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

J   Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia

K   Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine

L   Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Kosovo, Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania

- Section 1 – Relevance

  Please describe your organisation, its role in the EEN and the knowledge or cooperation with others EEN members? Make sure to indicate the previous experiences with regards to the support of companies in applying to EIC Accelerator or a special services or trainings to support SMEs, and other support measures specifically targeted to EEN at consortium, national and international level.

- Section 2 – Implementation

  Please describe the capacity and motivation of your organisation to implement the LN role? Make sure to describe also existing knowledge, expertise and experiences in your organisation with reference to coaching of pitching companies, organization of the pitching sessions, knowledge of the VC ecosystem, knowledge of public funding landscape and access to European Funding frameworks in general and European Innovation Council in particular.

- Section 3 – Impact

  Please describe in which regional, national, and international networks and initiative your organisation is taking part, with particular reference to the ones covering the target groups of the project.

3.9 Selection Criteria

To ensure a smooth and timely implementation process of the project and facilitate the implementation of the services in WP3, it is strongly advised for each EEN consortium to submit only one application for the role of Local Node, and to agree upon this application internally at consortium level. In the case two and more applications per each consortium are submitted, the EEN2EIC project will select only one (the best) application based on the criteria identified in the following table.

Criteria	Explanation	Threshold	Score
1 – Relevance of the submission			
Is the organisation active member of the EEN network?			
Did the applicant provide appropriate track record in supporting R&D SMEs in their region of actions?			

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(The organisation has a track record of supported companies in EIC Accelerator / or some products or services for supporting SoE companies at the regional level?)		
Has the organisation a proven knowledge of national actions designed by Horizon Europe programme?		
	3	5
2 – Implementation		
Has the organisation enough capacity/personnel resources to support the Seal of Excellence holders (in case of Local Nodes (LN): - has dedicated person who is enough experienced (CV of the person was uploaded)		
Has the organisation a proven knowledge of the national funding scheme and regional innovation funding landscape/programs?		
Has the organisation an experience with coaching and pitching enterprises to present in front of VC or preparing companies for pitch in front of EIC Accelerator? - applicant emphasized his experiences with preparing and training companies		
Has the organisation a proven knowledge of Venture capital (VC) region landscape?		
	3	5
3 – Impact		
Is the organisation best positioned to provide added value in terms of the local innovation ecosystem?		
Is the organisation part of relevant national networks, initiatives and/or projects that will help EEN2EIC to identify and support SoE holders?		
Did the applicant provide and introduce well-good network with other EEN consortium partners as well as a network of regional innovation ecosystems?: - the organisation has a wide cooperation with partners under EEN network the applicant mentioned some contacts in regional innovation ecosystems		
	3	5
	Threshold	Max. score
	9	15

3 Table - EEN2EIC - LN Evaluation Criteria

Only eligible applications will be evaluated.

The selected applicants will be informed by email and a list of LNs will be published on the EEN2EIC website. The detailed evaluation results will not be published but it will be available to applicants requesting further information and clarifications.

4   EVALUATION PROCESS

4.1 EVALUATION COMMITTEE

After the deadline of each call, and provided that the application fulfils the eligibility criteria for the programme, a pool of selected EEN2EIC evaluators will be in charge of evaluating all the eligible proposals according to the criteria defined in Section 2.9 for GL and Section 3.9 for LN.

Each proposal will be evaluated by at least 2 evaluators selected from the Evaluation Committee. The Evaluation Committee consists of experts from EEN2EIC consortium's partner organisations. If necessary, additional capacity will be added to the Evaluation Committee by mobilising existing experts' groups established by the project, such as the project's Advisory Board.

All eligible applications passing the overall threshold of 9 points will then be ranked and sorted by highest score. The final score of each proposal is the mean of the total score of the experts, divided by the number of experts.

The higher scoring application for each selected group will be declared eligible for funding, and they will be contacted by the EEN2EIC Consortium to finalise their application and sign the Sub-Grant Agreement with the project. The names and the brief summary of the selected GLs and LNs may be also published on the EEN2EIC for publicity and communication purposes.

All the other eligible applications passing the threshold will not automatically qualify for the role of GL or LN, but they will be inserted in a reserve list which may be used, should the GL or LN initially awarded funded withdraw.

In case of two (or more) application scores or an ex-aequo result, the following conditions will be considered to create the final ranking:

- Highest score awarded in Criteria 1 – Relevance of the submission
- Highest score awarded in Criteria 2 – Implementation
- Highest score awarded in Criteria 3 – Impact

In case there is still a tie after this process, the time of submission of the proposals will be considered as further criteria. The timestamp is automatically generated by the included in each application will be used to determine the actual time of submission. The Evaluation Committee will prepare an Evaluation Report for internal use only. Only the appointed GLs and LNs will be published.

5 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

According to the scope EEN2EIC project, the support to innovation will be provided by EEN selected members as GL and LN which are not members of the Coordination Office.

These EEN members selected as GL and LN will receive financial support as third parties under an appropriate scheme. In countries/regions in Associated Countries where there are no EEN members, for these specific regions the Local Node supporting SoE in scope of the project could be an EEN member from neighbouring country. The most appropriate way to ensure efficiency, speed and transparency in the implementation, is the voucher scheme and the coordinator (APRE) will be managing its award.

The voucher will be offered as a lump sum for the services provided, which will be properly documented at the IT Tool of the project. EEN selected members as GL and LN, delivering the services must demonstrate a high quality in the context of delivering the services.

5.1 VOUCHER'S SCHEME
The voucher will be offered as reimbursement for the services provided, which will be properly documented:
- partners delivering the services must demonstrate a high quality in the context of delivering the services
- the consortium will make sure that funding is given to all partners who follow the procedure set and described in the WPs, whereas all third parties will be requested to provide adequate feedback on the outcome of the evaluation of the proposals and contribute to the statistics.
- all EEN partners will be treated fairly and impartially, irrespective of their origin or the identity of the applicants.
- all proposals and related data, knowledge and documents are treated in confidence.

Under this Work Package that supports the Seal of Excellence companies, two sets of vouchers will be issued covering all tasks:

- Seal of Excellence Group Leader Voucher: 90 Vouchers will be provided to the Group Leaders at €9,406 per voucher.
- Seal of Excellence Local Node Voucher: 900 Vouchers will be provided to local nodes at €1.100 per voucher.

5.2 REPORTING AND PAYMENTS

5.2.1 Reporting and payments of Group Leaders

The Group Leaders cover an area that gathers between 40 and 110 SoE, on one country (example: Group A / Germany) or several (example: Group K/ Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine and Poland).

The voucher for GL will be accessible after they will organize the e-pitching session and support of 10 SoE companies with required work from GL side:

Tasks of Group Leader for receiving one voucher:	Estimated numbers of working days:
1. Common tasks / Onboarding process	6,5
Adding local investors and public funders to e-community	2
Adding SOE startups to e-community + onboarding (webinar)	2
On boarding webinar – GL	0,5
On boarding webinar – LN	2
2. Organization of e-pitch session and logistic details	11,5
Planning calendar of epitches and all logistic details	1
Training session for GL (support of Bpifrance)	0,5
Selecting of startups with Local Nodes (10 companies/epitch in average)	1
Contacting startups to invite them to pitch and plan the dry-run sessions	1
Coaching startups pre-pitch	3
Organizing a pitch	1
Sending invitation to local and regional investors	2
3. Public funding support	2
Compiling regional / national EU innovation funding programmes relevant to SOEs	2

4. Personalized support and follow-up after the e-pitch:	3,5
GLs communicate survey results to LNs and coordinate with them	0,5
Personalized support and follow-up SoE after the pitch	1
Complementary local support including further tailored match-making	2
Estimated working days in TOTAL	**23,5**

4 Table – Estimated working days of GLs

Vouchers Beneficiaries: 12 group leaders (GL), except consortium members STEINBEIS (Germany), Bpifrance (France, Tunisia, Morocco), APRE (Italy, Malta), LIC (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine), PRAXI (Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Kosovo, Moldova, North Macedonia and Romania).

The Group Leaders will receive a voucher under conditions stated in the contract with Consortium:

The voucher for GL will be disbursed after they organize the e-pitching session and support of 10 SoE companies with required work from GL side (please, see in Table Tasks of Group Leader for receiving one voucher). After completing these tasks, GL will receive the voucher, according to the instructions specified in the contract.

5.2.2 Reporting and payments of Local Nodes

The Local Nodes will make a registration in IT Tool of the project for each SoE holder.

The voucher for LN will be accessible after they support SoE company with required work from LN side:

Tasks of Local Node for receiving one voucher:	Estimated numbers of working days:
1. Common tasks / Onboarding process	**0,75**
Adding local investors and public funders to e-community	0,25
Adding SOE startups to e-community + onboarding (webinar)	0,25
On boarding webinar for LN	0,25
2. Organization of e-pitch session	**0,5**
Selecting, Sending names & contacts of startups to GL (1 company/epicth in average)	0,25
Sending invitation to local investors	0,25
3. Public funding support	**0,75**
Recommend programme(s) to local SoE EEN	0,25

Contact the SoE SME, recommend programme(s) and support application(s)	0,5
4. Personalized support and follow-up after e-pitch	0,5
Personalized support and follow-up	0,25
Complementary local support including further tailored matchmaking	0,25
Estimated working days in TOTAL	**2,5**

5 Table – Estimated working days of LNs

6 DURATION OF THE CONTRACT

The duration of the contract between GL and Coordination office will be specified in the contract, with an end date planned to be on August 31st 2025.

The same model will be applicable for LN – they will be selected and supporting SoE companies until August 31st 2025.

7 EXCLUSION CONDITIONS AND LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY

7.1 EXCLUSION CONDITIONS AND LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY OF THE GROUP LEADERS

In case the [PARTY 2] cannot fulfil the role of Group Leader anymore due to objective and documented reasons (e.g. the organization withdraw from the EEN or one of the conditions listed in Section 2.2 Call of applications are not met anymore) the applicant should immediately contact the EEN2EIC project consortium.

Since each selected group should have a Group Leader, in case the one selected with the present Open Call withdraws, the following steps are foreseen:

- The previously selected GL immediately communicates in written to EEN2EIC coordination office that the conditions as set out in 2.2 have ceased to exist.
- If more applications were submitted for the given Group, the EEN2EIC coordination office will appoint a new GL by selecting the second highest scored proposal submitted for the present Call.

- If only one application was submitted for the given Group, the EEN2EIC coordination office will promptly contact the EEN Local Nodes members in the Group, for appointing the new Group Leader.

7.2 EXCLUSION CONDITIONS AND LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY OF THE LOCAL NODES

In case the [PARTY 2] cannot fulfil the role of Local Node anymore due to objective and documented reasons (e.g. the organization withdraw from the EEN or one of the conditions listed in Section 3.2 Call of applications are not met anymore) the applicant should immediately contact the EEN2EIC project consortium.

Since each EEN consortium should have one Local Node dedicated to support SoE holders, in case the one selected with the present Open Call withdraws, the following steps are foreseen:

- The previously selected LN immediately communicates in written to EEN2EIC coordination office that the conditions as set out in 3.2 have ceased to exist.
- If more applications were submitted for the given EEN Consortium, the EEN2EIC coordination office will appoint a new LN by selecting the second highest scored proposal submitted for the present Call.
- If only one application was submitted for the given EEN Consortium, the EEN2EIC coordination office will promptly contact the EEN members in the Group, for appointing the new Local Node dedicated to support SoE holders.

8   CONFIDENTIALITY

Applicants shall be aware that the information submitted under the present Call will be used by the EEN2EIC consortium and other entities directly involved in the project. Specifically, selected applicants must be aware that the EEN2EIC will keep internal records of, among others:

- A list of applications received, identifying the name and address of applicants.
- All communications with applicants before call closure.
- For each application, a copy of the filled forms used in the evaluation.
- A record of all incidents which occurred prior, during and after the implementation of the measure and any deviation from the standard procedure.
- Copy of requests for payment and attached documents.

Subject to the conditions established in the implementing agreements, decisions or contracts, any data, knowledge, and information communicated as confidential in the framework of an action shall be kept confidential, taking due account of European Union law regarding the protection of and access to classified information.

The selected applicants shall comply with national legislation, regulations and ethical rules in the countries where the present action will be carried out, as well as any other requirements as defined by the participation to EEN consortia.

8.1 PRIVACY

Personal data shall be collected, processed and published in accordance with regulation (EU) 2016/679, also known as GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation). Please refer to Annex 2 for a complete Privacy Statement.

9 CONTACTS

For any further information please contact: een2eic@bpifrance.fr.

If you want to contact us for a technical problem in relation to the online application form, please ensure that you contact the EIC coordination office: een2eic@apre.it in advance of the deadline for submission.