



# Call for Applications 1: Pathways2Resilience (P2R) Application Guidance: How to Apply & Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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## Introduction

This document contains two important sections:

- 1. Application guidance on how to register to and apply on the application system; and
- 2. Questions from interested parties and answers to those questions.

Updates to this document will be posted on the <u>P2R website</u> and other publication sites.

Please note that since the last version, new sections have been added and efforts have been made to organise the sections by topic. However, if an answer is not found in one topic areas, please do a search of the entire document.

Questions related to system registration, application submittal, and technical issues will be answered until the call deadline.

All call and project related inquiries must be sent to: <u>pathways2resilience@climate-kic.org</u>. Please do not contact P2R Consortium members or EIT Climate-KIC staff outside of this designated contact.

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# Application Guidance: How to Apply

## 1 Submission Platform (Plaza)

#### 1.1 What is the submission platform?

As the coordinator of the P2R Consortium, EIT Climate-KIC is using its online submission platform, Plaza, for the first call.

#### 1.2 Must registration occur to use Plaza and apply?

Yes, interested parties, including all consortium members that will be part of an application, must register their organisation first, and then individual users must also register.

Should you wish to see the application form before registering, it will be posted on the <a href="Pathways2Reslience">Pathways2Reslience</a> and the <a href="EIT Climate-KIC">EIT Climate-KIC</a> websites. However, please note, as per section 6.1 Submission Format of the call 1 document, submissions outside of Plaza will not be accepted.

#### 1.3 What are the steps to register?

Interested parties, including any consortium partners, must first register their organisation in Plaza if it is not already registered.

Plaza links individual users to organisations, therefore, organisational registration must be successfully completed first. Please note that organisation registration may take longer than 48 hours to complete, as it is a manual process. It is recommended that users begin the registration process as soon as possible and no later than one week before the deadline.

#### 1.3.1 To register your organisation:

- 1. Designate a Master Contact<sup>1</sup>.
- 2. Go to the Plaza organisation registration page (EOI).
- 3. Enter the required information for your organisation<sup>2</sup>.
- 4. If you have your organisation's PIC, enter it.<sup>3</sup>
- 5. After initial registration, the Master Contact will receive an email from <a href="mailto:plaza@climate-kic.org">plaza@climate-kic.org</a>. Please check spam/junk folders.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> You will be reminded to enter it again prior to submitting your application. Please see section 2



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Master Contact is the main contact for the organisation and will have access to update particular organisation roles and information, including the Participant Identification Code (PIC).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Required information is indicated with a star.



- 6. Your registration will then be processed by Climate-KIC. You can view your registration through the above link and selecting "Find my registration". Un-submitted registrations are possible to be updated through this option as well.
- 7. When we have processed the registration, you will receive a confirmation email and prompt to set your password. This email is usually sent within two business days of registration.

Note that if you registered your organisation as the Master Contact, you do not need to register again as an individual user.

Note that you can save your registration, however, only submitted registrations will be processed. You can view your registration through <u>Plaza organisation registration page</u> and selecting *Find my registration*. Un-submitted registrations are possible to be updated through this option as well.

#### 1.3.2 To register individuals:

Once the organisation is registered, individuals within that organisation who needs to view or edit the application must register in Plaza.

- 1. Go to the Plaza User registration page.
- 2. Enter the required information (identification, personal data, registration, submit registration) indicated by a star.
- 3. When prompted under Registration Section > EIT Climate-KIC Entity Partner, enter your organisation name. The organisation will be matched based on email suffix, so please take care to enter the email associated with your organisation correctly and do not use a personal email.
- 4. When prompted under Relation Type, select Prospective Partner/Subgrantee.

#### Note that the individual registration process is a two-step process.

- 5. After registration, the individual will receive an initial confirmation email from <u>plaza@climate-kic.org</u> within two business days IF THERE IS A CLEAR ORGANISATIONAL MATCH. If we are unable to match the organisation, this will take longer and may require user follow up. Please check spam/junk folders.
- 6. The individual will receive a second confirmation email after the registration process has been successful with a code to set their password. Use the code provided in the email to set the password and complete registration.

## 1.4 Is the EOI registration the same as the organisation registration?

Yes, please see the details under 1.3.1.

## 2 Technical Application Questions

#### 2.1 When will the application be available in Plaza?

The Pathways2Resilience (P2R) call 1 form has been available since Wednesday 29 November 2023.

#### 2.2 Where can I view the application form?

The application may be viewed, edited, and submitted in <u>Plaza</u>. Please refer to the registration process above to access the application.

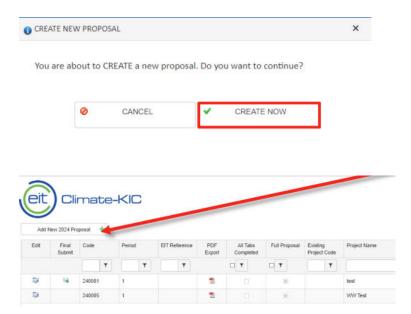




You may preview the questions in <u>sample form</u>, which is posted on the <u>Pathways2Reslience</u> and the <u>EIT Climate-KIC</u> websites. However, please note, as per section 6.1 Submission Format of the call 1 document, submissions outside of Plaza will not be accepted.

#### 2.2.1 To access the P2R call 1 in Plaza:

- 1. Log into Plaza
- 2. To begin an application, click Apply on the P2R banner
- 3. Select Add New 2024 Proposal. A new window will open
- 4. Select Create Now
- 5. Select P2R Pathways2Resilience Call 1 from Programme Type
- 6. Complete the required information as indicated with a star
- 7. For each tab, click Check and Save to ensure the information is complete and saved.



#### 2.3 Can applications be saved?

Yes, applications in Plaza may be saved and edited prior to submitting. However, we recommend use of either Note or Word for initial drafting and to check spelling. Note that long form text answer questions contain character limits of 5,000, which will need to be checked again prior to submittal. Make sure to check for any unwanted characters when copying/pasting from Word or Note into Plaza.

There are two types of saves in Plaza:

- Save: Saves your progress
- Check and Save: Checks for any missing or incorrect entry and displays resulting errors.
   Only when all information is correctly entered (checked and saved), you will be able to click submit. You will be able to edit your application until submittal.

#### 2.4 Can I edit an application that has already been submitted?

Yes. Applicants may request to un-submit a submitted application any time before the deadline. Applications will not be un-submitted after the deadline, as specified in section 6.3 Deadline of the call 1 document.

To request a submitted application to be un-submitted, please contact <a href="mailto:pathways2resilience@climate-kic.org">pathways2resilience@climate-kic.org</a> and provide your application ID and organisation IDs.





Your application ID is a 6-digit number that is auto-generated by Plaza. Your organisation ID is a number beginning with a P, followed by at least three digits (e.g. P or PY or PX-123), which is generated during registration.

Please note that applicants are responsible for re-submitting their application before the deadline.

#### 2.5 How do I add users to co-edit/view the application?

To add an editor to the application, the organisation and individual must be fully registered. The organisation must be added to the application first, then the individual may be added.

- 1. When in the application, go to the 1. CONTACTS tab.
- 2. Scroll down to Consortium Information.
- 3. Click the green + under the *Edit* column to select the "Climate-KIC Partner" to add to your list of involved partners<sup>4</sup>. Note that all organisations and individual users must be fully registered to complete this step. See the answer to Question 1.3 What are the steps to register? in this document for details.
- 4. Enter the Role of The Partner Organisation. Please ensure that the coordinator is specified.
- 5. Scroll down to Assign Co Editors.
- 6. Click the green + under the *Edit* column to select an individual user. Note that the individual user must first be registered in Plaza and must be correctly associated with the organisation that was added under *Consortium Information*. See the answer to Question 1.3 What are the steps to register? in this document for details.

## **2.6** Are the character limits inclusive of the space character? Yes.

#### 2.7 Can I export a PDF of my submitted application?

Yes.

- 1. Log into Plaza
- 2. Click the P2R Apply banner
- 3. You will see your application(s)
- 4. Click on the PDF Export icon



#### 2.8 What should applicants put in the budget section?

Budgets are an applicant's estimation of how much they will spend in each work package and cost category. The estimates are based on calculations of the cost categories.

## 2.9 Is there a particular way the budget should be split among the consortium?

No. Please see the answer to question 2.8 in this document.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In this case, Partners indicates consortium members. Note that to add the organisation, it must first be registered in Plaza.





#### 2.10 What is the expectation for the budget section?

The budget section focuses on providing an overview of how costs will be allocated for each eligible activity. You may see a sample of a completed budget <a href="here">here</a>. To add a budget line item:

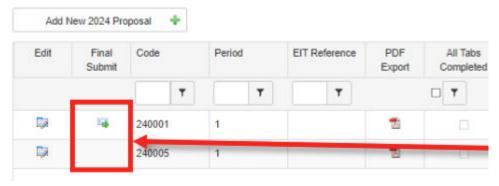
- 1. Go to the 7. Budget tab in Plaza
- 2. Click the green +



- 3. A pop-up window will open
- 4. Complete the fields in the window (shown below)
  - a. Select the consortium partner for which the line item applies from the drop down
  - b. Select the Work Package (e.g. Eligible Activity) for which the line item applies from the drop down
  - c. Select the Cost Category for the Work Package for which the line item applies from the drop down
  - d. Enter the amount for the line item
  - e. Provide a description of the line. A simple one sentence description is sufficient.
- 5. Click Check and Save
- 6. Repeat for each line item in the budget

#### 2.11 How do I submit my application?

To submit, you must *Check and Save* for all tabs of the application and then go to the application list view and press the icon in the *Final Submit* column. When the final submission is successful, you will no longer see the *Final Submit* icon for your application. See below.



## 2.12 How can I get help on application related issues, such as assigning a co-editor?

For questions related to the content of the call, please contact <a href="mailto:pathways2resilience@climate-kic.org">pathways2resilience@climate-kic.org</a> and provide your application and organisation IDs. Your application ID is a 6-digit number that is auto-generated by Plaza. Your organisation ID is a number beginning with a P, followed by at least three digits (e.g., P-123), which is generated by the system during registration.

## 3 Participant Identification Code (PIC)





#### 3.1 What is a PIC?

A PIC is a 9-digit number that serves as a unique identifier for legal entities participating in European funding programmes.

#### 3.2 Why do applicants need a PIC?

The PIC will be validated during the P2R call 1 award phase prior to finalising awards.

#### 3.3 How can applicants obtain a PIC?

- If you already have an EU Login Account, go to the <u>EU PIC website</u>. If you do not yet have an EU Login Account, you will need to create an account by going visiting the <u>EU Login</u> page.
- 2. Check whether your organisation already has a PIC by using the Search a PIC function.
- 3. If your organisation does not have a PIC, select *Register your organisation* and follow the steps.

Please note this process is not owned by EIT Climate-KIC or the P2R Consortium and we are unable to provide technical assistance on this process. Please use the help features on the EU page for help.

#### 3.4 How can applicants update their PIC in Plaza?

Note that only the Master Contact of each organisation can update their PIC. To update your own organisation's PIC:

- 1. The Master Contact for the organisation must log onto Plaza. Note that individuals without the Master Contact role will not be able to see the PIF option.
- 2. Click on the green Partner Information Form (PIF) button in the General Tools section.
- 3. In the *Partner ID* column, search for your organisation's identification number, which begins with a P and is followed by at least three digits (e.g., P, PX, PY XXX)
- 4. Press enter or the filter icon
- 5. Select the correct organisation ID and click the edit icon
- 6. Scroll to the 9-digit PIC code with EC field
- 7. Enter the new value for the 9-digit PIC
- 8. Click Save

## 3.5 I am unable to edit anything in the Partner Information Form (PIF), what should I do?

Only Master Contacts can edit the PIF. If you are a Master Contact and still cannot edit anything in the PIF, please contact <a href="mailto:pathways2resilience@climate-kic.org">pathways2resilience@climate-kic.org</a> and provide your organisation name in English, the organisation number which begins with a P and is followed by at least three digits (e.g., P, PX, PY XXX), and the PIC number. A P2R team member will enter it for you.

## 3.6 Is any other information required in the Partner Information Form (PIF)?

No, applicants only need a valid PIC and have a Master Contact. No other information is required in the PIF.





# Frequently Asked Questions (Call Content Questions)

## 4 Application Questions, and Resilience Maturity Curve (RMC)

#### 4.1 Are the questions in the application related to the consortium?

Each application must pertain to a specific NUTS 1, 2, 3, or LAU level. The questions that are answered should pertain to that level (the region/community).

## 4.2 Are the questions in the RMC and application related to the current situation?

Please carefully read the questions and instructions. Some relate to the current situation.

## 4.3 Is the RMC part of the application information an applicant needs to provide before submission date?

The RMC self-assessment is *part* of the application questions. You may preview the questions in <u>sample form</u>, which is posted on the <u>Pathways2Reslience</u> and the <u>EIT Climate-KIC</u> websites. However, please note, as per section 6.1 Submission Format of the call 1 document, submissions outside of Plaza will not be accepted.

#### 4.4 Where can I learn more about the RMC?

You may preview the questions in <u>sample form</u>, which is posted on the <u>Pathways2Resilience</u> and the <u>EIT Climate-KIC</u> websites. You may also see how the RMC will be scored <u>here</u>.

#### 4.5 Does a high RMC score indicate low adaptive capacity?

Yes. A high RMC score indicates a low adaptive capacity. The RMC self-assessment questionnaire score will be inversed.

## 4.6 The call 1 document says "A high RMC score indicates a low adaptive capacity" which is in conflict with the scoring method explained in the RMC Self-Assessment Guidance. why?

Please see the answer to question 4.5 in this document.



## 4.7 How will P2R evaluate the accuracy of the answers to the "strongly agree" responses in the RMC?

The responses will not be validated, as it is a self-assessment and applicants are expected to answer the questions honestly. Additionally, the self-assessment will be an integral part of the future P2R deliverables (e.g., Baseline Report) so deviations might lead to non-acceptance of deliverables and associated funding. Please also see the RMC Self-Assessment Guidance.

4.8 In the RMC, how should applicants answer; is it meant to describe the actual situation or is it meant to describe what it should be?

Applicants should answer based on the current satiation for the region.

4.9 In the case of consortia applications, should the regions within a consortium complete their own RMC?

No. Applicants should answer one RMC self-assessment per application for the NUTS 1, 2, 3, or LAU level (region/community).

4.10In the application section 4. CAPACITY TO ACT, it refers to the coordinator. Therefore, only one province can provide a self-description. Section 5. IMPACT may offer some space to describe the other province and highlight the value of the co-application, but not as extensively as in section 4. Since in the call says that "Consortia applications, also referred to as multi-beneficiary applications, among regions/communities are encouraged" which expectations are there on how the application should be completed, in a way that it retains its value and effectively communicates the nature of the co-application?

Information on the partnership may be highlighted in the narrative section of the application. Please also see the answer to question 4.9 in this document.

4.11 If a community of municipalities is applying together, for all questions in the application form that begins with "your region / community"; should the answer be on behalf of the region authority or municipal collective (e.g. the regional authority we belong to have signed the Charter, but none of the municipalities have; what do we answer?

Please see the answer to question 4.9 in this document.

4.12In the application, item 40, "region/community's planned knowledge sharing activities beyond the target region/community"; should these other regions/communities also be involved in P2R, or can they be any other region with which we are sharing knowledge?

They are not expected to be part of the consortium. Please also see the answer to questions 4.9 and 4.11 in this document.



# 4.13 If a public body has a regional plan of adaptation to climate change but it still must go through two political approval steps, how should question 21 in the RMC be answered?

It seems C. would be the best option. Please answer what best matches the current situation though.

## 4.14When completing the RMC, will using the JRC INFORM database be sufficient or is it also OK to use local data?

The RMC is a self-assessment and should be answered based on the current situation of the region and knowledge of the applicant, therefore local data may be used.

4.15 In the RMC, question 3 asks: "In the context of climate adaptation, how much of a priority are the following Key Community Systems (KCS) for your region/community?" Should this priority be defined according to the vulnerability or to the regional public policies progress?

Question 23 refers to priority, not vulnerability or progress. Please also note that the document posted <a href="here">here</a> is only for viewing and preparing.

#### 4.16 What is the difference between questions 26 and 27 in the RMC?

26 is asking whether the KECs from question 25 are currently being addressed as priorities. 27 is asking to what extent your region/community had progress in addressing the KECs from question 25.

## 4.17 Is the RMC an assessment of organisational adaptive capacity or regional in its widest sense?

It is for the region for which you are applying.

## 4.18 If the questionnaire is a Likert scale without supporting evidence, how will the P2R team score the applications?

The five-point Likert scale range is matched to a score, which is outlined in the call document.

#### 4.19 Should I edit the Work Packages?

No, per the instructions, please do not edit the titles or descriptions of the work packages. We pre-populated them, but were unable to lock the section. Applicants do not need to enter any additional information here. In the Budget tab, Applicants will be asked to describe their line items.





## 4.20 Where in the application form can applicants provide details on the project?

This is more of an application to patriciate in the RRJ, which is why there is not a lot of room for project descriptions. We are looking for vulnerable regions and their existing capacities. Furthermore, in the 5. IMPACT questions, it is possible to link your project to the questions (e.g. how your project is aligned with the adaptation mission approach, what's the role of stakeholder engagement, justice, etc).

## 4.21 For the evaluation questions, it says 5000 characters limit. What would be the ideal length?

We have no opinion on this. We ask that applicants be concise, clear, and accurate in their responses.

# 4.22Should the RMC be filled based on the current state of the municipality/region or based on what the municipality/region aims to achieve?

The RMC must be filled in based on the current state.

## 4.23 When answering RMC on current capacity: this can vary as we have 14 municipalities and our region is the size of Austria. Can we still answer with these conditions?

Yes, the RMC questions must correspond to your region/community situation.

## 5 Eligibility

#### 5.1 Which countries are eligible for funding under call 1?

Regions and communities within the following countries are eligible under call 1:

Albania Georgia Northern Ireland Armenia Germany North Macedonia Austria Greece Norway Belgium **Poland** Hungary Bosnia and Herzegovina Iceland **Portugal** Ireland Bulgaria Romania Scotland Croatia Italy Serbia **Cyprus** Kosovo Czechia Latvia Slovakia Denmark Lithuania Slovenia **England** Luxembourg Spain Estonia Malta Sweden Faroe Islands Moldova Türkive Finland Montenegro Ukraine France **Netherlands** Wales

#### 5.2 Where is the NUTS/LAU list posted?

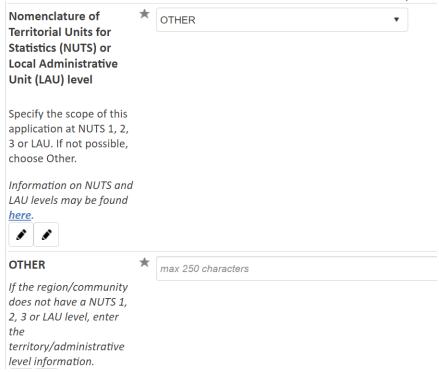
Please see the list <u>here</u>. Note that England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales are listed together as the United Kingdom (UK) in the EU's NUTS/LAU list.





## 5.3 My country is eligible, but I do not see my NUTS/LAU listed in the drop down list in Plaza; what should I do?

We are working to correct this, however, in the meantime, if the country and region are eligible and you do not see it in the NUTS/LAU list in Plaza, please select "other" and enter *NUTS1,2,3* or *LAU* and the code in the Other text box. For example, *NUTS3 UKL21*.



#### 5.4 Which type of entity is eligible to apply?

Eligible sole applicant or consortium coordinator applicants are:

- a) Public authorities at NUTS 1, 2 and 3 level, and LAU;
- b) Bodies governed by public law in compliance with Article 2.4 of the Directive 2014/24/EU. Please refer to the EU Directive <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

If the Consortium Coordinator is *not* a local/regional/national organisation, they will need to upload a signed commitment letter from the specific region during the application process.

Note that the P2R Consortium cannot advise on how to choose the consortium coordinator other than to share the eligibility requirements.

Eligible consortium members are c) Private non-profit bodies; d) Small and Medium Enterprises following the EU definition by the Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC and in the SME user guide 2.

See information in Section 5 Admissibility and Eligibility of the call 1 document.

#### 5.5 Is a letter of support required?

If the Consortium Coordinator is *not* a local/regional/national organisation, they will need to upload a signed commitment letter from the specific region during the application process. The application platform will prompt them to add it based on the responses in the application.





#### 5.6 What is a body governed by public law?

Bodies governed by public law must follow Article 2.4 of the Directive 2014/24/EU. Please refer to the EU Directive <a href="here">here</a>. Public bodies have a resolution, law, decree, or decision establishing the public body that documents its status as a public body Please see how the European Commission validates entity type <a href="here">here</a>.

## 5.7 Are private-public entities eligible under Article 2.4 of the Directive 2014/24/EU?

It depends. If the body has a resolution, law, decree, or decision establishing the public body that documents its status as a public body, then yes. Please refer to the EU Directive <a href="here.">here.</a>

#### 5.8 What is an SME?

Please see the European Commission's definition here.

## 5.9 Is the United Kingdom (UK) eligible to apply for funding under the P2R call?

Yes. Following the accession of the UK to the Horizon Europe Programme, UK\* regions are eligible for funding.<sup>5</sup>

#### 5.10Is P2R open to Northern Ireland?

Yes. See the answer to question 5.9 in this document.

#### 5.11Are overseas countries and territories eligible?

Please see the answer to question 5.1 in this document.

#### 5.12 Are the Caribbean islands linked to Netherlands eligible?

Please see the answer to question 5.1 in this document.

## 5.13 Are other countries that are ineligible to apply?

Yes, restrictive measures exist for non-government-controlled territories of Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and Hungary. Please see section 5. Admissibility and Eligibility of the call 1 document for details.

#### 5.14 What if the region in question is both Atlantic and Arctic. Is that ok?

Please see the answer to question 5.1 in this document.

## 5.15 Are Ukrainian regions eligible for P2R?

Yes, but with restrictions. Please see section 5 Admissibility and Eligibility of the call 1 document and the response to question 5.13 in this document.

#### 5.16Who is the ideal applicant?

Please refer to section 3, Scope, in the call document for a full description.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Considering the UK's status as a HE associated country as of January 1st, 2024, it is hereby affirmed that regions in the UK are eligible to be awarded funding from the cascade calls funded under HORIZON-MISS-2021-CLIMA-02-02, provided that they meet the other eligibility requirements of the call.





#### 5.17 Which regions are eligible and how they will be selected?

Please see the answers in section 5 Eligibility in this document and section 5 Admissibility and Eligibility in the call 1 document. Please refer to the section 7 Review Process in the call 1 document for details on selection.

## 5.18 Was a response to the expression of interest by 15 September 2023 a requirement to be eligible to call 1 for applications?

No. This is not a requirement to be eligible for call 1.

## 5.19 Is Mip4Adapt only for the adaptation mission signatories and P2R is open to all regions?

The P2R Consortium cannot speak on behalf of MIP4Adapt. Being a mission signatory is not a requirement for P2R call 1. Please see section 5 Admissibility and Eligibility of the call 1 document. Consult the MIP4Adapt website for further information.

## 5.20 Why is P2R not open to island regions and how can they conform with the Horizon funding regulations?

Call 1 focuses on European biogeographical regions. Please consult the external reference on European biogeographical regions <u>here</u>.

## 5.21 Why are French outermost regions excluded, but Portuguese and Spanish outermost regions are not?

Please see the answer to question 5.20 in this document.

### 5.22Is it possible to apply as municipality alone or must the application be part of a whole region? Would it be advisable for a medium-size city to answer on its own or in cooperation with the regional level?

A municipality may apply alone. Please see section 5 Admissibility and Eligibility of the call 1 document for details. Please also see the answer to question 5.3 and answers in section 6. Consortium of this document.

# 5.23 Could a municipality be a suitable public authority to be a consortium coordinator, with a consortium of local SMEs and non-profit actors?

Yes. See the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

#### 5.24 Are research institutes (non-profit) eligible as applicants?

Non-profits are eligible as consortium members. If public bodies, they are potentially eligible as lead applicants/coordinators. Please also see the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

#### 5.25 Is a legal entity with NGO status eligible to apply?

Please see the answers to questions 5.24 and 5.3 in this document.

#### 5.26 Are cities eligible to apply or is it just for regions?

All public authorities at NUTS 1, 2 and 3 level, and LAU are eligible, including cities. Please also see the answer to question 5.3 in this document.





#### 5.27 ls civil society eligible to apply?

Please see the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

5.28 If a university was established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest (not having an industrial or commercial character) has legal personality and approximately 80% of its budget comes from the national a state/government institution, it is eligible?

Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

5.29 Is it possible for a community (province/municipality) to apply, with a university.

Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

5.30Is it possible to apply to foundation universities in Türkiye in accordance with the application conditions?

Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

#### 5.31Can a public university be an applicant?

Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

5.32 Would a private foundation, which is promoted by a municipality, and which follows rules of public bodies, be eligible as applicant?

Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

5.33 If a public university can be an applicant, it is mandatory to have a public authority part of the consortium? How we demonstrate the implication of the public authorities?

If the applicant is not a local/regional/national organisation, then the applicant will be asked to upload a signed commitment letter from the specific region in the application. Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

5.34The Caen Metropole Urban Agency is a French "association". It is a specific private non-profit body because all the members are local and regional public authorities. The French state is also member. The agency is ruled and controlled by his public members in the same way that local authorities are.

Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.



5.35 Can Local Action Groups, like that from Northeast Romania, from the Botosani county; eligible to apply? The Local Action Group is a legal form of public-private partnership at a local level that operates through the drafting of a Local Action Plan, which is as an ensemble of actions and goals that valorise and develop a specific rural territory.

Please see the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

5.36Can a cooperative (a non-profit research cooperative) be a lead applicant? If a consortium of a research cooperative, a university, and a local community NGO is to be formed, how should they choose the lead applicant?

Please see the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

5.37 Could an applicant (coordinator or partner) submit more than one application?

Technically yes. Please also see the answer to question 6.10 and 6.11.

#### 6 Consortium

6.1 Can a consortium of regions or any other type of consortium apply for P2R call 1?

Yes. See the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

- **6.2** Must applicants be part of a consortium?
- 6.3 Is it possible to collaborate/offer expertise and knowledge to potential applicants (not only at the same territorial level)?

Yes. See the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

6.4 Would a consortium formed by a municipality, (coordinator) a development agency, and SME be an appropriate consortium structure?

Yes. See the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

6.5 Are universities, that are public or a state-owned research centre eligible to be the consortium coordinator, or must the coordinator always be a city or region?

If the university or research centre are bodies governed by public law then, yes. Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.



#### 6.6 How can applicants establish a consortium?

Consortiums are formed by the applicants themselves. Consortiums may consist of several regions and/or communities constructed in a way that works for an applicant's particular municipality/region/community.

#### 6.7 What would a possible consortium composition look like?

See the answers to questions 5.3, 6.6, 6.8, and 6.9 in this document.

## 6.8 Would P2R be willing to assist in connecting applicants with other (potential) applicants?

Unfortunately, the P2R Consortium cannot share applicant information, as they have not consented to sharing it. However, do note that consortia should be local, so we recommend doing stakeholder mapping at the relevant geographic level to identify potential partners.

## 6.9 What is the limit of the number of consortium partners or the type of partners? Is there a recommended number of partners?

There is no limit to the number of partners. The types of partners are listed in the call 1 document under section 5 Admissibility and Eligibility. There is no recommended number of partners. See also the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

## 6.10Can an SME be a consortium partner in more than one application simultaneously?

The P2R Consortium sees no issue with this if the same costs are not claimed twice, as per Horizon Europe rules.

## 6.11Can the same legal entity participate in multiple applications or subgrants?

Yes, there is no limitation to the number of applications or subgrants that each entity can take part in if the same costs are not claimed twice, as per Horizon Europe rules.

#### 6.12 Can national agencies be eligible as consortium members?

Yes, as consortium members. Please also the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

# 6.13Can a region apply jointly with another region, or does it make more sense to apply separately for the call since the region is a joint mission region?

A joint application is technically possible, but the scope of the application and consequent subgrant would be one of the two regions, as it is not possible to have a scope that includes both (as the unit of analysis is NUTS3, one NUTS2, one NUTS1, one LAU). If applying jointly, there must be one designated consortium coordinator. The P2R Consortium cannot advise on what would be best for a specific region. Something to consider that if applying separately, and only one is awarded a subgrant, the awarded project could continue to collaborate with the other region through bilateral agreement.



# 6.14If there is a region that has two NUT3 areas in the same biogeographic region, same hazards, and similar RMC, but with autonomous power, how should the application be formulated (e.g. consortium or two applications)?

The P2R Consortium is not able to recommend what is the ideal consortium. But each application should only have one scope: either one NUTS3, one NUTS2, one NUTS1, one LAU level.

# 6.15 Would two regions at the NUTS/LAU level be allowed to apply as their own consortium coordinators with one regional organization represented in each of their consortiums?

Yes, they may be involved in both applications and any subsequent subgrants if the same costs are never claimed twice. Each application would need to have its own region/community specified at the NUTS 1, 2, 3, or LAU level. Each application would also need its own consortium coordinator.

# 6.16 If several regions want to cooperate in their application, this means each will have to apply. Can applications somehow be linked or refer to each other's?

The cooperation may be referenced in the narrative section of the application.

## 6.17 Is there a model or a template for completing the consortium agreement between the consortium coordinator and partners?

This may be a useful <u>resource</u>. Of course, consortium member's respective legal teams must review, modify, and finalize. Please note that the P2R Consortium and EIT Climate-KIC are not responsible for reviewing the consortium agreements among consortia.

## 6.18 Can a private company, 100% owned by the public local authority, participate in the consortium as partner?

See the answer to question 5.3 in this document.

# 6.19 If working on a project that can be managed with an SME, what will be the liability if the SME becomes a consortium partner? What is the difference between an SME being a partner and a subcontractor in terms of liability?

That is a good question to consider, but not something that the P2R Consortium can answer for potential applicants. It would be useful consider the work to be done in the subgrant and determine whether the definition of work fits under a consortium partner or subcontractor. Usually, a subcontractor is providing a service to an organisation, such as consultancy, while a consortium partner is providing services to deliver the subgrant. Please also refer to the Horizon Europe rules.

## 6.20 Can a municipality apply solely, or should it apply with NGOs from its country?

Sole applicants and consortia are both equally welcome. See the answer to question 5.3 in this document. The P2R consortium cannot advise on what would be best for a specific region.



## 6.21 it possible to apply both as an international and a national consortium?

It is unclear what is meant by international or national consortium: what is key is that each application works on one single scope at the NUTS1, NUTS2, NUTS3 or LAU level.

## 6.22 Could regions from two different countries that are bordering apply as a consortium?

Please see the answer to question 6.13 in this document.

## 6.23In the case of an international consortium, what type of partners are expected? Is it recommended to participate as a consortium?

Please see the answers to questions 6.9, and 6.21 in this document.

# 6.24Do consortia have to be European (partners from different countries), or can they include partners from the same territory only?

Please see the answer to questions 5.13, 6.21, 6.22, 6.23 in this document.

#### 6.25 Can a university be a consortium coordinator?

Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

## 6.26Can a municipality-local authorities be the consortium coordinator with NGOs as the co-applicants?

A municipality may be the sole applicant or consortium coordinator and the NGOs can be the consortium partners. Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

# 6.27 Is it possible to have regional municipalities and research centre (research centre based outside the region) among consortium partners?

Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

## 6.28 Can a region collaborate with a research centre for support?

Yes. Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

# 6.29 Is it possible for a regional council to apply on behalf of seven local communities? If it is possible, are commitments required of each of the partners?

A regional council can apply at its regional level without needing signed commitment from each of the partners. Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.



## 6.30If a university has four branches across different regions of Armenia, is it possible that the university serves as a coordinator?

Universities are eligible as coordinators if they are considered public bodies and have secured support from the relevant public authority for the geographical scope selected as the focus of the application. Please see the answers to questions 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, and 5.8 in this document.

## 6.31Do applicants have to upload a copy of the consortium agreement with the application?

No.

## 6.32 Does the P2R consortium need to approve the consortium agreement?

No, P2R is not responsible for checking the consortium agreement among subgrantee consortium members.

6.33 Should the application project be at the scale of the geographic scope (NUTS/LAU) we represent or can it be either smaller (e.g. climate adaptation plan process for a concrete area) or can it be larger (e.g. process to provide input to larger regional/geographical administrative units paying attention to the particularities of the NUTS/LAU we represent)?

If you have the support/consent of the relevant public authority level (whether higher or lower), then the implementer can be at a different scale.

## 6.34Do inter-governmental organizations count as private non-profit bodies?

Please see the responses to questions 5.6 and 5.7 in this document.

## 6.35 Does the non-profit entity need to be registered within the target region of the project?

No, but it cannot be part of the countries with restrictions.

6.36Can an application be submitted by a partnership of public authorities (e.g. three neighbouring local authorities who wish to work together to develop a regional Adaptation Strategy (where there is not a regional authority)?

Yes, usually applicants just need the regional authority to provide their support in writing - but since there is not one, joint expression of interest in developing a regional adaptation strategy will be enough.

## 6.37 Is it a good idea for three very different cities in one region to submit one application?

If the size and maturity of the cities are different, it does not make sense to submit one application. In this case it would probably be more useful to submit three different applications since the result will be one adaptation plan.



## 7 Cost Eligibility and Budget

## 7.1 What is the range of budget that can be considered per subgrant project?

Subgrantees will be able to claim up to 210,000€ in costs related to eligible activities and eligible costs.

## 7.2 Can the funding received from the P2R programme be combined with funding from other EU programmes?

A region or community may combine several sources of funding when developing their resilience pathways. However, costs or contributions declared under other EU grants **cannot** be claimed under the subgrant received by P2R. In other terms, subgrantees may not claim the same cost twice to different funding sources.

#### 7.3 Which costs are eligible under call 1?

Please see section 4. Eligible Subgrant Costs in the call 1 document for details. Please also see the Cost Category Guidance.

#### 7.4 Are the costs 100% reimbursable or is co-funding required?

Eligible costs are 100% reimbursable for up to 210,000€ and based on successful completion of deliverables. Please see section 4. Eligible Subgrant Costs in the call 1 document for details. Please also see the Cost Category Guidance.

#### 7.5 Are subgrants 100% funded?

Please see the answer to question 7.4 in this document.

#### 7.6 Is co-financing a requirement?

No. Please also see the answer to question 7.4 in this document.

## 7.7 Must the region financially participate in the project within its own funds?

No. See the answer to question 7.4 in this document.

## 7.8 Would subgrantees be able to use the subgrant funds for external consultants and/or subcontracting?

Yes. Please see section 4. Eligible Subgrant Costs in the call 1 document for details. Please also see the <u>Cost Category Guidance</u>.

#### 7.9 Are subcontracting costs eligible?

Please see the answer to question 7.8 in this document.

#### 7.10 Is there any limit on subcontracting for the budget?

No. Tasks to be subcontracted and the total budgeted amount per the consortium partner must be set out in the budget and spending will be measured against the budget.





## 7.11Can awarded applicants use the subgrant to subcontract specialists on communications?

Yes. See the response to question 7.8 in this document.

## 7.12 Must subgrantees report how much time staff is working with the project?

Yes, time accounting of staff is compulsory and essential to prove the daily rate calculation during cost reporting. Please see the directions found within Article 20 of the <a href="Horizon">Horizon</a> Annotated Grant Agreement.

#### 7.13 Is VAT considered an eligible cost?

It is only eligible if non-deductible. Please see the Cost Category Guidance.

#### 7.14 Would a consortium application/bid increase the budget?

No. The total amount eligible for reimbursement for any subgrant is 210,000€.

## 7.15 In a consortium, is there any indication or limit on how the budget should be distributed between the partners?

That is not something the P2R Consortium can advise on. Applicants should create a realistic budget based on the work to be implemented.

#### 7.16 Will the costs of participating in the training sessions be covered?

Yes, costs for subgrantees to participate in the trainings are eligible expenses.

## 7.17 If part of a project is the creation of an IT tool, should the cost for the tool go under the "other" expenditures item?

If the creation of an IT tool is part of the project, it is direct cost and the costs will be distributed depending on its nature (e.g., Personnel, Other Goods, Works and Services). If the IT tool is a shared cost across an organisation, it may be considered an indirect cost. Please note that depreciation costs need to be considered depending on the usual accounting practices. Please also see the <a href="Cost Category Guidance">Cost Category Guidance</a>. Finally, the Horizon Europe Annotated Grant Agreement also has useful information on cost categories:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/aga\_en.pdf.

## 8 Funded Activities and Scope

#### 8.1 Which activities will be funded by P2R?

Eligible subgrant activities will follow the provision for activities under Horizon Europe (HE) costs categories, and will be organized along the following:

- Activities to develop regional pathways, plans and innovation portfolios towards climate resilience building on existing assessments of trends and projections of future climate change risks.
- Activities supporting the process of developing the pathways as specified in the scope topic text including relevant stakeholder engagement and capacity building.
- Activities related to communication, dissemination and exploitation and project management activities.





Note that activities related to demonstration and deployment of climate adaptation solutions are **not eligible** for funding under this call.

See more details in Section 3.3 of the call 1 document.

#### 8.2 What are some examples of eligible activities?

Please see the answer to question 8.1 in this document.

#### 8.3 What are some specific examples of projects to be supported?

Please see the answer to question 8.1 in this document.

# 8.4 Please further explain "Activities related to demonstration and deployment of climate adaptation solutions are not eligible for funding under this call" with examples.

Examples of non-eligible activities include paying for retrofit of buildings, installing renewable energy capacity, planting of flood defences or any other concrete implementation. Activities such as installing flood defences, disaster response services or solar panel investments would all be considered demonstration or deployment, and thus not within scope of this call.

# 8.5 Please give an example of activity related to demonstration and deployment of climate adaptation solutions which is not eligible for funding under this call?

Please see the answer to question 8.4 in this document.

## 8.6 Is it better for applicants to focus on planning activities rather than on implementation ones?

Yes. Only planning activities are eligible for P2R funding. Please see the answer to question 8.4 in this document.

## 8.7 Is the development and demonstration of a solution considering an eligible activity?

No. Please see the answer to question 8.4 in this document.

## 8.8 How much time will selected regions and communities have to design their resilience pathway?

Each funded subgrant project will have an 18-month term to work towards the objectives.

## 8.9 What is the impact of an applicant's contribution in the Mission Implementation Platform (MIP4Adapt)?

The P2R Consortium cannot speak on behalf of the MIP4Adapt. Please see the call 1 document for details on all requirements and scope. Consult MIP4Adapt <u>website</u> for further information.



## 8.10Consequences of climate change in other parts of the world will affect Europe. Will topics like that be a part of the P2R project?

Call 1 focuses on increasing the resilience of European regions and communities. As climate resilience is complex and intersectional, the regions' consideration for climate justice is part of the selection process. Please see section 7.4 of the call 1 document.

## 8.11Who will be part of the supported activities, the applicants, or the subgrantees that have been selected for the subgrant?

The support activities will be available to the awarded subgrantees. See section 2 P2R Methodology of the call 1 document.

- **8.12**Is this 18-month for project for learning and knowledge exchange? Learning and knowledge exchange are only one of the several activities under the scope of the subgrantee projects. Please see call 1 document section 3.1 and 3.2 for details.
- 8.13The deliverables of the project is demonstrating the progress in work on four documents: Baseline report, Climate Resilience Strategy, Climate Resilience Acton Plan, and Climate Resilience Investment Plan, not finished documents?

Correct. Finished documents might or not represent progress, depending on if they were finished before or after the support. See section 3 Scope of the call 1 document for more details.

8.14Our city is a member of Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy, which has environmental objectives. In this sense, we must create a reference inventory of emissions and an assessment of risks and vulnerabilities related to climate change and to create an action plan regarding sustainable energy and climate. Are these activities eligible for this call? Are they eligible for subcontracting services?

Based on the information available, these activities sound like they can support the development of the required RRJ deliverables, so they would most likely be eligible. Regarding subcontracting: yes, please see section 4. Eligible Subgrant Costs in the call 1 document for details. Please also see the <u>Cost Category Guidance</u>.

8.15 If subgrantees do not have any of the documents: Baseline report, Climate Resilience Strategy, Climate Resilience Acton Plan, and Climate Resilience Investment Plan and in the end of the project we will have finished first only two of them; is this ok?

Most likely yes, but of course to be analysed on a case-by-case basis. See section 3 Scope of the call 1 document for more details.

8.16 If an applicant already has an adaptation strategy, would it be taken up at a later stage if awarded?

Yes. The key will be the progress achieved by implementing the RRJ methodology.





8.17 If an applicant already has a climate adaptation plan and needs to update it, would it be ok to work with that or is the call looking for regions which do not have climate adaptation plans at all?

Please see the answer to question 8.16 in this document.

## 8.18 Will it be possible for an applicant to use their own tools while implementing the RRJ?

Yes, but some RRJ tools will be mandatory for the region to test and provide feedback on.

8.19 If an applicant would like to develop a study of hydrological hydraulics for the most flood-prone part of a town, would this be in scope?

Based on the given information, this would be out of scope for this call.

8.20If an applicant would like to create a project of planting forest/afforestation and/or reforestation, is that within scope?

Please review RRJ and see if it would make sense to apply that methodology to the project. It is possible that it is too small in scope.

8.21 Please advise if reforestation activities would be within the scope of this funding.

Please see the answer to question 8.20 in this document.

8.22 Is an ongoing climate change adaptation project on practical biodiversity-oriented vineyard adaptation on high elevation land masses eligible or does it fall under demonstration/adaptation?

The project sounds to be a demonstration. P2R supports the development of climate resilience strategies and action plans, which typically come before such projects.

8.23 Should the project cover all aspects of climate resilience, or can it be about a subsystem?

Subgrantees should be able to implement the RRJ methodology; so, if the RRJ is relevant to the subsystem, then it is suitable.

8.24 If an applicant region has many different responsibilities, (e.g., mobility, healthcare provision, environmental protection) would it be possible to focus on one of these tasks in P2R or must the region apply for the region as a whole?

Please see the answer to question 8.23 in this document.

8.25 If an applicant's plan on adaptation (approved from regional committee) suggests development of a plan on a specific sector (e.g. health) would it be eligible?

Please see the answer to question 8.23 in this document.



8.26Where regions already have a resilience plan in place, can they apply to use the funding to develop specific projects to pre- and feasibility stage, with a focus on accessing finance from other sources or are they obliged to deliver a baseline report, climate resilience strategy, action plan, investment plan?

Awarded subgrantees can use the funding for all eligible activities that lead to progress in the mandatory deliverables. If these specific projects make, for example, the action plan more detailed; then this could be considered as progress and thus be eligible as long as these projects are *not* demonstration or implementation activities.

8.27 Would this be in scope for P2R: para-public bodies that study attenuation, decarbonation, and adaptation measures for a territory and the financial evaluation of this strategy or an action plan estimating the costs of this plan/costs of measures that the public authorities could apply?

Yes, this could be considered as two key deliverables of the RRJ: the action plan and the investment plan, which determines how much the actions cost and how to fund them.

## 8.28 Is climate downscaling modelling with CMIP 6 within the scope of this call?

Assuming that the result of this activity will be explicit in the deliverables owed by subgrantees, yes, this would be within scope.

8.29 As a team of researchers, we are planning to work on a project on the design of grazing plans for the mobile pastoralist pathways in Southern Anatolia. This would involve the coordination of scientists, public officials, and local communities (pastoralists) in designing participatory mechanisms for extensive grazing plans as part of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies. Would this topic be eligible to apply? In other words, would the governance of extensive grazing be considered as part of RRJ?

Subgrantees should be able to implement the RRJ methodology; so, if the RRJ is relevant to the subsystem, then it is suitable.

#### 8.30Is an initial risk analysis a prerequisite?

No. Risk analyses may be implemented during the subgranting period.

8.31 Does the call focus on a specific risk or should applicants describe a process for working broadly on making the region more resilient and describe interventions in several realms?

Applications may be focused on a specific risk or overall resilience in one or more realms. P2R's intention is to improve a region/community's resilience maturity, as described on page 9 of the call 1 document. The region/community will address its specific risk(s) through the RRJ process. To understand the impact of these choices on the selection process, pay specific



attention to the diversity criteria within the 7.3 Strategic Selection phase, as described on page 17 of the call 1 document.

8.32The "prepare the ground" phase of the RRJ includes "Assess risks and vulnerabilities", please confirm that risk and vulnerability assessment activities (e.g. developing climate impact chains) are included among the eligible activities.

Yes, risk and vulnerability assessments are considered in scope.

8.33 Are the activities to be undertaken with the funding prescribed? How much scope is there to focus on elements if we have done more prior work in some areas and less on others (e.g. could we focus in more on the financing aspects, and less on overall pathway if more has been done on that)?

While we expect feedback on the whole capacity building and RRJ materials across the steps - it is possible to focus on elements according to local needs (e.g. focusing more on financing aspect), if adequately justified (e.g. given resource constraints and local needs).

8.34Can the scope be focused on specific themes, for example, transport and energy or transport and economy/business at a regional level? or should it be covering as many themes are possible?

Yes, the scope can be focused on specific themes, as long as it is possible/sensible to apply the RRJ framework to it.

8.35 How much leeway there is to focus the scope of our projects for a sector such as transport, energy, and climate risk such as heat or flooding; or theme such as data or finance?

Please see the response to question 8.34 in this document.

8.36Is it possible to focus on one specific topic, such as water (vulnerability of territory to water scarcity and flooding, impact on agriculture and tourism, potential conflicts on resource, installing a water local committee) or should the application have a multi-topic oriented?

Please see the responses to questions 8.31 and 8.34 in this document.

#### **9 Selection Process**

9.1 Will the call process be a two-step application (first step is preselection a second step is full application)?

No, the application is not a two-step process. Interested parties must submit one application before the deadline. The information in the submitted application will be used to make decisions based on the processes described in section 7 Review Process of the call 1 document.



#### 9.2 Are there limited "places" per country?

The Pre-Screening phase, if triggered with more than 80 applicants, will allocate a limited number of "places" per country; the actual number of places will depend on how many applications are received from each country. Please refer to section 7.1.1 of the call 1 document.

#### 9.3 How is the RMC used in the selection process?

Please refer to section 7 Review Processes of the call 1 document. Additionally, the RMC results will be used to monitor progress if awarded a subgrant agreement.

## 9.4 How can applicants enable/ensure a holistic approach in the applications?

Please see Section 7 Review Processes of the call 1 document for full details.

## 9.5 Is it advisable as a smaller territory (e.g., LAU) to apply at a larger scale (e.g., NUTS2) in a multi-beneficiary-application?

All territories at all different scales are considered equally in the selection process. Applying at either smaller or larger scales confers no advantage or disadvantage. Consult section 7 Review Processes in the call 1 document for the full understanding of the selection process.

## 9.6 Where do applicants find information on how many regions per country will be awarded a subgrant?

Call 1 was not designed to award based on a certain number of regions per country. Please see section 7 Review Processes of the call 1 document for full details on how decisions will be made.

# 9.7 Is it the case that from every country that applies, it is very likely that at least one region will be selected from each country to ensure diversity?

Yes.

## 9.8 During evaluation, how will the selection differentiate between NUTS levels or between local or regional bodies applying?

Where equivalence is necessary, the following three population scales will be used for comparability:

- 1. Over 3 million inhabitants
- 2. 3 million to 800,000 inhabitants
- 3. Less than 800.000 inhabitants

Please see section 7 Review Processes of the call 1 document for full details on how decisions will be made.

#### 9.9 Is a bigger area/population ranked over small ones?

No. Please see section 7.1.1 Step 2: Region's Population size assessment of the call 1 document for details.





# 9.10Regarding the Pre-Screening step, will each country applying get an equal (or, as equal as possible) number of slots? Pre-Screening finds the most vulnerable regions within the country, and is given slots accordingly?

Priority will be given to countries with the highest vulnerability. For example, a country with a higher vulnerability will be allocated a larger number of slots in the pool compared to a less vulnerable country.

9.11Concerning the step 2 of Pre-Screening, as we participate as a LAU and apply the RRJ for our project on our LAU do we have less chances to be chosen as subgrantee than as we apply the RRJ on a NUTS 1 (or 2 or 3)?

No, there is no preference.

9.12Is the evaluation of vulnerability based on the applicant's RMC self-assessment?

Vulnerability is assessed via external climate risk data and the applicant's RMC self-assessment. Please see section 7 of the call 1 document.

9.13 Is the vulnerability index on a national scale only?

Vulnerability can be assessed at a local level/different NUTS levels.

9.14 How will vulnerability of the regions be assessed in the prescreening stage?

Please refer to section 7.1.1 of the call 1 document.

9.15 If a country like Türkiye checks their vulnerability index and there is no value, how will the vulnerability index for such a region in be calculated?

For "within country" vulnerability comparison, where data is unavailable, the RMC score will be used; as described in section 7.1.1 of the call 1 document.

9.16 Will only vulnerability be used as a criterion or will the commitment of the region to transition also be considered?

Diversity, vulnerability, and commitment are some of the criteria considered in the selection processes. Please see section 7 Review Processes of the call 1 document for full details.

9.17The INFORM Climate Change Risk Index does not consider extreme heat as one of the natural hazards. Is this considered in some way for the selection process? (to provide also equal opportunities to regions and communities subject to such hazard)?

While the INFORM Climate Change Risk Index does not consider heat, the selection process also considers the Vulnerability Index produced by the JRC Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC), which uses data from the following hazards: Coastal flood, Cold wave, Drought, Earthquake, Wildfire, River flood, Flash flood, Heat wave, Landslide, Tsunami,



Volcano, Windstorm. Please see section 7 Review Processes of the call 1 document for full details.

9.18 Two vulnterability indexes will be used: INFORM Climate Change Risk Index and Vulnerability Index produced by the JRC Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC); are there any smaller-scale indexes considered, that address the specificities of cities (heat waves, etc.)?

The two indexes mentioned are the main ones affecting the Pre-Screening phase. However, ESPON data will also be used, where available, to look at diversity of climate risk types. Please see Section 7 Review Process in the call 1 document for full details.

# 9.19 Is vulnerability in this call the IPCC AR6 definition (in the evaluation process of excess of applications, the Climate Change Risk Index is referenced)?

In section 1 "Call Summary" of the <u>main call document</u> the following footnote can be found: The IPCC AR6 defines vulnerability as the propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected. Vulnerability encompasses a variety of concepts and elements, including sensitivity or susceptibility to harm and lack of capacity to cope and adapt.

If more than 80 applications are received, the Pre-Screening phase will be implemented, which includes giving priority to countries with the highest INFORM Climate Change Risk Index values. Consult section 7.1.1 for full understanding.

#### 9.20 Will resilience maturity be a criterion in the selection process?

Yes, resilience maturity of regions and communities will be a criterion in P2R call 1 measured by the RMC. See section 7 Review Processes of the call 1 document for full details.

- **9.21** How will adaptive capacity be measured in the context of the call? Please refer to section 7.1.2 of the call 1 document and to the Resilience Maturity Curve (RMC) self-assessment guidelines, which is posted <a href="here">here</a>.
- 9.22Could the participation of a regional government in other missions represent a positive/negative factor for territories selection as participants to this call?

Possibly. There is a question that will be evaluated related to a region/community's Commitment. Please see section 7 of the call 1 document.

9.23 How strong of an advantage is it if a region demonstrates a strong commitment to the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change, either as mission charter signatory or by committing to become signatory?

While it is not a requirement, it is considered during the evaluation phase in the Commitment category. Please see section 7.4 Instructions and Admissibility/Eligibility, Evaluation, and Selection Criteria of the call 1 document for details.



## 9.24Will it be possible to be chosen in the first call without taking part in and be signatory in MIP4Adapt mission?

Yes. This is not a requirement. Please also see the answer to question 9.23 in this document.

## 9.25 Under Strategic Selection, will the main criteria be diversity within the region?

No. Please refer to section 7.3 Strategic Selection of the call 1 document. The diversity criteria are inclusive of six considerations.

#### 9.26 How will the 100 regions be chosen?

Call 1 will award up to 40 regions/community subgrantees. Call 2 will award up to 60. Please refer to Section 7 Review Process of the call 1 document for details on how the first 40 subgrantees will be chosen.

# 9.27 Is it considered an advantage or disadvantage if a region is targeting to expand the deliverables not only to four reports but also to tools that the regional authority will use to achieve the goals of the project?

Please refer to section 7 Review Process, especially, section 7.4 Instructions and Admissibility/Eligibility, Evaluation, and Selection Criteria of the call 1 document to see how the applications will be reviewed, scored, and selected.

## 10Subgrant Agreement Award, Deliverables, and Reporting

#### 10.1 What terms and conditions will a subgrantee adhere to if awarded?

Please see the <u>P2R model subgrant agreement</u>. Note that some items are non-negotiable. Please see section 10. Awarded Subgrant Agreement Requirements of the call 1 document for details.

# 10.2What can subgrantees expect? Will they create their own process, or will they take part in a "ready-made" process and "fill" it with their content and topics?

First, subgrantees are expected to implement the P2R methodology, by taking part in the capacity building process, and provide feedback on the sessions, resources and contribute to the enrichment of the climate resilience toolbox. Secondly, subgrantees are expected to demonstrate progress through a set of deliverables, which include a Climate Resilience Strategy, Action Plan, and Investment Plan (templates and guidelines will be provided). This progress will be decided and implemented at the subgrantee's discretion.

Please see section 2 P2R Methodology and section 3 Scope of the call 1 document for details.

## 10.3 What the degree of freedom is in terms of adopting the RRJ methodology within P2R?

The RRJ is a non-linear, iterative process; each step may be revisited, and the process may be executed in a different order by each region/community. The RRJ is designed for





regions/communities of varying maturity and capacity levels allowing them to set more ambitious or realistic goals for each phase according to their specific needs. The RRJ will provide guidance for subgrantees on how to address the Key Community Systems (KCS) affected by climate change, as well as develop the needed Key Enabling Conditions (KEC) to support their transformative adaptation needs. More information on KCS, KEC, and the full RRJ methodology may be found on P2R's website.

# 10.4Will the work delivered by subgrantees be in English or the official language of the region? Must the deliverables be translated to English?

The region's work will likely occur in whatever the dominant or official language is of the region. The deliverables do not need to be translated into English. The application is required to be in English.

## 10.5 What will the language of the workshops, innovation practice groups, and one-on-one support be?

Workshops, innovation practice groups and one-on-one support will be delivered in English by default. Support might be made available in other languages, to be decided depending on the specific case and available capacity.

## 10.6 Is the 210,000€ for supporting the development of deliverables in addition to technical support from P2R?

Yes. P2R offers technical and financial support.

## 10.7 Will the planned support meetings be held online or be place based?

Most capacity building will take place online, and budget two on-site mandatory meetings.

#### 10.8What is the estimated time commitment for the training sessions?

The commitment to be requested is still to be determined. Applicants will be notified before signing the subgrant agreement. Preliminarily, there will not more than two mandatory on-site trainings and no more than 10 online half-day trainings sessions.

## 10.9 How many hours will subgrantees be required to spend on capacity building activities?

Please see the answer to question 10.8 in this document.

#### 10.10How intense will the project work be?

Each region's work will differ based on their specific needs. Please see the answer to question 10.8 in this document for information on the support sessions.



# 10.11Are there expectations from P2R to how climate adaptation plans, action plans and investment plans look like. This in the context that some EU directives (e.g. water related questions already shape parts of the plans) and are there additional expectations from P2R-project?

It is expected that each region's plans will differ based on their specific needs, however templates and guidance material will be provided. Please see the answers to questions 10.2 and 10.3 in this document.

## 10.12Can you distinguish between workshops for project management and workshops for additional partners?

Workshops, if understood as capacity building, are eligible if supporting the development of the required deliverables (e.g.: Climate Resilience Strategy or Action Plan), regardless of their target audience.

## 10.13Would the subgrants be given directly to be managed by subgrantees?

Awarded subgrants will be given to the Sole Applicant or the Consortium Coordinator. The Consortium Coordinator will have the responsibility of handling the budget according to the signed subgrant.

#### 10.14Are all P2R deliverables mandatory?

Yes, but not all deliverables will be expected to be fully developed. Subgrantees will be expected to demonstrate progress, not necessarily within each deliverable. Only exceptionally may subgrantees be able to justify not presenting one deliverable.

10.15Can you confirm that the application must be designed in such a way that it will produce the following four reports on the topic applicants suggest: 1) Baseline report, 2) Climate Resilience Strategy,
3) Climate Resilience Action Plan, 4) Climate Resilience Investment Plan.

To clarify, the application should include the items included <a href="here">here</a>. Note that is a sample application and the actual application must be submitted through the online platform. The items listed in the question are the expected deliverables of an awarded subgrant. See page 10 of the call 1 document for details.

## 10.16What are the deliverables, and should they be completed at the end of the project?

Please refer to Section 3.1 Deliverables in the call 1 document. Please also see the answer to question 10.15 in this document.

## 10.17How do grantees document their participation in capacity building activities?

If documentation from subgrantees relative to participation is necessary, guidance will be provided during the onboarding stage, after signing the subgrant agreement.





#### 10.18How will final financial reporting be done?

Financial reporting and final financial reporting will be done through cost reporting, whereby the subgrantee will report on their actual costs against their budgeted items. Instructions and templates will be sent in advance of the reporting due dates. To prepare, subgrantees must ensure they are following all Horizon Europe rules and may refer to the <a href="Cost Category Guidance">Cost Category Guidance</a>.

#### 10.19Can subgrantees change the budget amounts after award?

The budget may be adjusted if this does not imply any substantive or important change to the subgrant award and does not exceed the total subgrant award amount.

#### 10.20Will a Certificate on Financial Statements (CFS) be required?

Certificates on the financial statements are only required when EU subgrant award amounts are over 430,000 EUR.

10.21 Madeira has had a climate change adaptation strategy since 2015 and that strategy is now being updated. The regional government has started some tasks to update the climate change adaptation strategy, which may include some work that is on the P2R project's list of deliverables. AREAM can contribute to the development of the strategy for resilience and action plan, but some deliverables will not be a direct deliverable of the P2R. There are several activities that will be necessary to promote the participation of stakeholders in the development and implementation of the strategy and that we can develop within the framework of the P2R, including awarenessraising, capacity-building and the deepening of some adaptation and resilience studies. The fact that Madeira is in the process of updating its climate strategy does not allow us to present some of the deliverables set out in the P2R, but it is also an excellent opportunity to deepen the stakeholders' commitment and promote the strategy's implementation. In this context, we would like to know if AREAM is eligible for the P2R and if it is possible to adapt the work and deliverables to complement the work that is already being carried out by the regional government.

Subgrantees are expected to demonstrate progress in the different deliverables (e.g.: Climate Resilience Strategy, Climate Resilience Action Plan). Based on the information provided, AREAM will be contributing to advance Madeira's climate strategy, which counts as progress towards P2R's deliverables. Assuming that all other eligibility conditions are met (e.g.: having the support of the relevant public authority to apply, presumably the Regional Government in this case), this application would be encouraged.



## 10.22Do the same reporting rules apply as with other Horizon Europe projects or is it different when it is a subgrant?

The P2R consortium is responsible for collecting information from subgrantees to report. Many of the HE rules that we have in our grant will be passed along to the subgrantees. In many ways it is the same, but different in that the P2R consortium submits reporting.

# 10.23Do you expect awarded subgrantees to make progress on all the deliverables? Do awarded subgrantees expect us to use the funding to make these progresses or can our project focus on one subject (for example, making progress on data)?

Yes, it is feasible to focus progress on one subject, if it's reasonably justified (e.g.: by pointing out it's the best use of the resources in relation to the local needs).

#### 11Other

## 11.1 Will the slides from the Kick Off event be shared? Will the Kick Off session be recorded and published?

Yes. Please see the following:

- Recording on YouTube
- Presentation: <u>Introduction to Pathways2Resilience</u>, <u>Regional Resilience Journey</u>, and <u>first</u> call for applications
- Presentation: Pathways2Resilience services

#### 11.2 Will the Call 1 Information Session PowerPoint be shared?

The presentation may be viewed <u>here</u>. It has been updated with the amended call information.

#### 11.3 Will the recordings from the information sessions be shared?

No, the videos of the sessions will not be posted. For clarity, we have compiled all questions from those sessions into this document. The materials presented are available here.

#### 11.4When will the second call be published?

At this time, we anticipate call 2 to be released in 2025.

#### 11.5 Will the second P2R call be the same as call 1?

We are unable to comment on that currently.

## 11.6 Has the P2R consortium managed to involve private funding or stakeholders to address climate adaptation into projects?

This question is outside of the scope of the call's FAQ.

#### 11.7 How is a "pathway" different from a "roadmap"?

In the case of the call, pathway indicates progress toward a plan. P2R's full definition of pathway, along with guidance materials, will be part of the Regional Resilience Journey to be shared with subgrantees and beyond, please consult the webpage <a href="here">here</a>.





## 11.8 What is the difference between what the P2R proposes and what the MIP4Adapt platform proposes?

The P2R Consortium cannot speak on behalf of the MIP4Adapt platform/process. Please see the call 1 document on the call and visit the <u>P2R website</u> for more information on P2R.

## 11.9 Where do financing risk management fall in reduction of loss and damage and response to climate emergencies?

This question is outside of the scope of the call's FAQ. Please consult the P2R <u>webpage</u> on the methodology.

# 11.10Could the "Guide to the Regional Resilience Journey (RRJ)" be published in a more "user-friendly" format such as a standalone PDF?

Yes, the guide will be published as a standalone PDF in upcoming versions. The website will also continuously be updated.

## 11.11After the call has closed, will the number of applications received from each country be published?

There will be a public summary of the key statistics of the open call.

## 11.12How can regions summarize the benefit from the P2R call in terms of human resources and time to determine whether to apply?

It is recommended that the call be carefully read to consider whether the call is worth applying to. With that said, the application process is light and does not require a lot of effort. The region must determine whether it meets the criteria and whether it has the commitment.

## 11.13How can applicants commit to become signatories of the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change?

Please see the answers to questions 9.23, and 9.24 in this document. Being a signatory is not an eligibility requirement. Consult the <u>EU Mission Adaptation website</u> for information on how to apply.

11.14When it comes to P2R, the fact it is supporting the EU Mission confusing for the region on top of the EU Adaption Mission. The local authorities within the region have joined as signatories and have been advised that they need to engage in a process that begins with technical assistance, prior to accessing funding for large scale projects that make an impact at the national level in respect to performance on resilience. P2R seems to circumvent that. Can the P2R consortium advise?

The P2R Consortium is not able to respond for how the Mission should work, that would be the role of MIP4Adapt. However, in our interpretation, it is not the case that regions must start with technical assistance before accessing funding. P2R does require it. We recommend contacting them to clarify: <a href="https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/mission/community-of-practice">https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/mission/community-of-practice</a>.



11.15Is there a reference document that describes what "climate proofing of critical public infrastructure" in the KCS means? Are buildings included in critical infrastructures?

Please consult the Mission Adaptation documents.

- 11.16Where can a country's Climate Change risk indexes be viewed? Please visit INFORM Climate Change and DRMKC Risk Data Hub.
- 11.17Will P2R facilitate workshops/knowledge sharing activities for subgrantees so that regions/communities can share their experience in using the tools and framework? Or will it be up to the subgrantees to facilitate such knowledge sharing?

Yes, there will be some knowledge exchange activities facilitated by P2R. The full scope of the P2R support is still being defined and will be presented in a few months.

