

AIBCA EUROCLUSTERS

Project funded under Grant Agreement no. 101074645 – SMP-COSME-2021-CLUSTER Call for proposals.

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

Open Call for Training & Skills



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GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIBC EUROCLUSTERS	Artificial Intelligence & BlockChain for a greener and more digital economy supported by EUROpean CLUSTERS
AI	Artificial Intelligence
BC	Blockchain
EC	European Commission
ECCP	European Cluster Collaboration Platform
EISMEA	European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency
EU	European Union
FPI	Fondazione Piemonte Innova (Project Coordinator)
FSTP	Financial Support to Third Parties
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SMP	Single Market Programme
TWIN TRANSITION	Green & digital transitions

1. ABOUT THE PROJECT

AIBC EUROCLUSTERS stands for Artificial Intelligence & BlockChain for a greener and more digital economy supported by EUROpean CLUSTERS. It is an EU funded project (Grant Agreement no. 101074645) under the “Joint Cluster Initiatives (Euroclusters) for Europe’s recovery” call for proposals - Open Strand, which invites proposals focused on cross fertilisation of various industrial ecosystems, hence with no specific focus on one industrial ecosystem.

Indeed, the AIBC EUROCLUSTERS Project is centred on the Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Blockchain (BC) technologies and aims to:

- Further support the development of AI and BC solutions, especially those that support digitalisation, by SMEs and start-ups located in the European Union and in countries associated to the EU Single Market Programme.
- Support the uptake of AI and BC applications by different industrial ecosystems (manufacturing, mobility, logistics, energy) in need of twin transition implementation in order to become more resilient.
- Help European AI and BC SMEs access third markets and generate growth from international activities.
- Contribute to the reskilling and upskilling of the human capital across the EU.

The AIBC EUROCLUSTERS Consortium is coordinated by Fondazione Piemonte Innova – FPI (IT), in partnership with bwcon research (DE), ICT Cluster (BU), Asociación Cluster de Movilidad y Logística de Euskadi – MLC (ES), Environment Park - ENVIPARK (IT) and Bydgoszcz Industrial Cluster - BIC (PL).

The AIBC EUROCLUSTERS support is targeted to European SMEs and start-ups working on the AI & BC technologies, from the manufacturing, mobility, logistics and energy industrial ecosystems, that are interested in adopting AI & BC solutions to be more digital, resilient and green. The project implements several Open Calls to select companies and projects and thus will provide Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP) for the following activities:

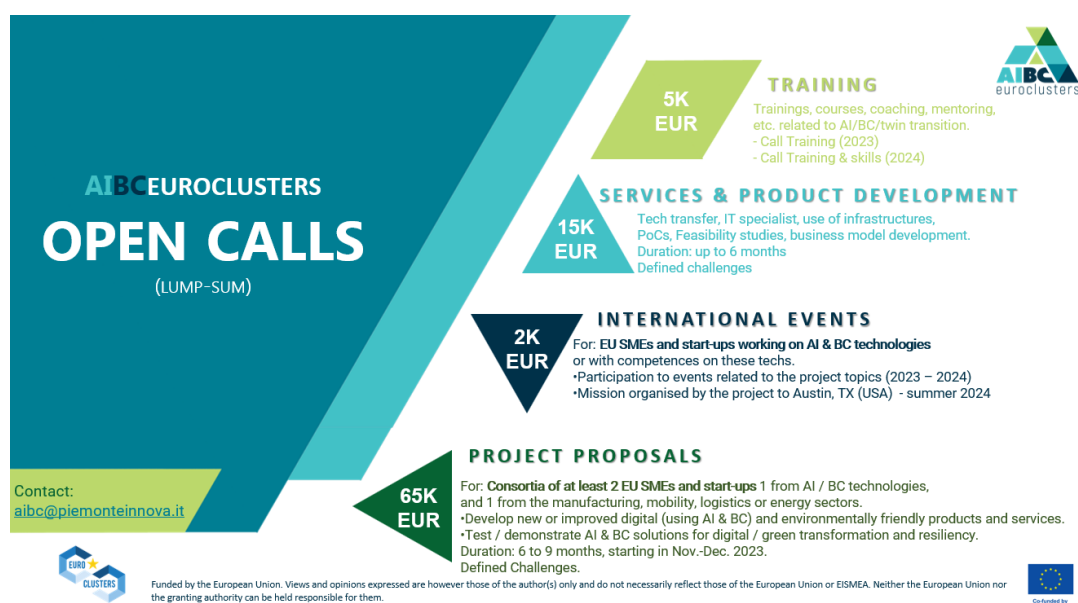


Figure 1. AIBC EUROCLUSTERS calls.

All information about the Open Calls can be found here: [AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALLS](#) and information about the project is available here: [AIBC EUROCLUSTERS PROFILE](#)



Furthermore, the **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS** project will implement an analytic approach for supporting the:

- Integration and valorisation of information from SMEs, start-ups, local stakeholders from different ecosystems.
- Identification of the most promising opportunities related to AI, Blockchain and twin transition.
- Definition of support programmes and services to accelerate SMEs from digitalisation and development of new/improved products and services.
- Improvement of management, coordination and collaboration capacity of EU clusters among different industrial ecosystems in the EU single market.

2. OVERVIEW OF THIS OPEN CALL

This document presents the **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS**, which will support European companies (SMEs and start-ups) in their development of competences and solutions that enable digitalisation and greener transition through ICT (AI or BC), notably in the manufacturing, mobility, logistics and energy sectors.

AIBC has destined an overall budget of 86.085,00 EUR to support training services. For this call, 72.420,00 EUR are made available. Each beneficiary can receive up to 5.000,00 EUR in the form of a lump-sum (thus, it is foreseen that at least 15 companies will receive financial support through this call).

All training activities financed by this call must be linked to AI and/or Blockchain technology, must start after signing the agreement (April 2024) and be completed by September 2024.

2.1. TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES TARGETED BY THIS CALL

The **OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS** provides funding to support SMEs from the ICT (working on AI or BC), manufacturing, mobility, logistics or energy sectors, in improving specific digital capacities and skills by accessing training activities (in presence or online) such as coaching, mentoring, On-the-job training, courses, aimed at:

- Digitalisation planning related to Artificial Intelligence and/or Blockchain adoption.
- Specific implementation of AI and BC.
- Updates on Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain technologies.
- Learning how AI/BC can support the twin transition, sustainability, resilience.
- Acquiring new skills related to AI/BC technologies.
- Knowledge transfer mechanism in the fields of AI, BC, Green, Sustainability and Resilience.
- Development of business models implementing/adopting AI, BC, Green, Sustainability and Resilience.

The participation to any training activity must be validated by an attendance certificate issued by the training entity.



3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

3.1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The eligible applicants for AIBC open calls are companies and start-ups, both in the form of Small and Medium Companies (SMEs) defined by the EU.

Selected beneficiaries of the previous **AIBC Open Call for Training** are not eligible to apply to this call.

A SME will be considered as such if coherent with the [Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC](#) and the [SME user guide](#).

As a summary, the criteria which define an SME are:

- Headcount in Annual Work Unit (AWU): less than 250.
- Annual turnover: less or equal to €50 million or
- Annual balance sheet total: less or equal to €43 million.

The AIBC project Consortium has the right to request formal registration documents from the applicants. In case the Consortium request is not answered within 7 working days, the applicant will be considered as ineligible.

SMEs that are under liquidation, in difficulty, or excluded from the possibility of obtaining EU funding under the provisions of both national and EU law, or by a decision of both national or EU authority are not eligible to apply for funding.

Double funding shall be avoided! The applicants must not be or have been funded by national or European public funds for the same activities related to what they candidate to by applying to this call. This is a fundamental principle for public expenditure in the EU: no costs for the same activity can be funded twice from the EU budget.

3.2. ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

SMEs and start-ups established in the Member States of the European Union (EU) and Countries participating in the Single Market Programme (SMP) are eligible to apply to this call.

The list of SMP participating countries is available here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/smp/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation_smp_en.pdf

Information on specific countries

HUNGARIAN companies

According to Council Implementing Decision 2022/2506 it is prohibited to enter into legal commitments with specific entities involving Union funding. This prohibition applies to the entire chain of Union financing.

This Decision stipulates that legal commitments must not be signed with any public interest trusts established on the basis of the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 or any entity maintained by such a public interest trust. This applies as of 16 December 2022 for as long as the measures are in place.



In practical terms, regarding financial support to third parties, Hungarian entities receiving AIBC FSTP funds must demonstrate not being part of the entities linked to the Decision, starting from the ones listed in this [link](#) (list is not exhaustive).

3.3. ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

The [OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS](#) provides financial to support SMEs for training activities aimed at improving specific digital capacities and skills through Artificial Intelligence or Blockchain linked to the twin transition. The list of potential trainings is above in TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES TARGETED BY THIS CALL.

Training activities can be carried out in person or online. They can be custom-made ad-hoc trainings or already defined courses.

The training activities must begin after the signature of the agreement and be completed by the end of September 2024.

Training provider (if applicable)

In case the applicant SME opts for a custom-made training (being it coaching, mentoring, On-the-job training), the SME must provide the offer from the training provider already in the application stage, including the foreseen programme, timeline, previous experience of the training provider, and any other relevant information. The training provider must release a certificate at the end of the training.

The training provider must not be linked to the SME applying to this call. They must be two different entities without any conflict of interest.

An [online platform](#) is available for networking and matchmaking with potential partners, trainers, coaches, etc. We invite all interested organisations to visit the platform and use it for organising meetings, developing partnerships and collaborations, and requesting quotations for support services. The platform also has a session with [EVENTS & TRAINING Ideas](#) that can be checked for inspiration.

For more information check the following sections.

3.4. LANGUAGE

The application form must be filled in English, the official language for [AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALLS](#). Submissions done in any other language will not be evaluated. English is also the only official language during the whole execution of the programme. This means any requested documentation will have to be submitted in English in order to be considered eligible.



3.5. ABSENCE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Applicants shall not have any actual and/or potential conflicts of interest with the AIBC Consortium, during both the selection process and the whole project development. All cases of potential conflicts of interest must be declared and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Applicants cannot be AIBC Consortium partners or affiliated entities, nor their employees or co-operators under a contractual agreement.

Applicants shall not have any actual and/or potential conflicts of interest with the training provider in case they have one, i.e. they cannot be partners or affiliated entities, nor their employees or co-operators under a contractual agreement.

4. FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED

Each beneficiary SME of this call can receive up to 5.000,00 EUR in the form of a lump sum. It is foreseen that at least 15 SMEs will be selected and, therefore, supported. The proposed training activities must have a cost starting from 500,00 EUR and they can cover one or more training activities.

Lump sum funding is a fixed payment defined up-front and set out in the agreement. It is paid upon completion of activities, linked to deliverables (report on the training activities and certificate of attendances) and no financial reporting is needed.

The total amount to be paid to the selected SMEs will be established based on the submitted quotation for the training activities (i.e. course costs, tuition, training provider, etc.). Thus, it will be defined on a case-by-case basis, based on the documents provided at the application stage, and set out in the Agreement that will be signed by the consortium with each of the awarded SMEs. Please note that the final lump sum might be therefore lower than 5.000,00 EUR.

To be noted that beneficiaries can also apply to the other [AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALLS](#) and get additional funding for the various activities foreseen, but the same SME cannot receive more than 60.000,00 EUR overall from the AIBC EUROCLUSTERS project.

4.1. ELIGIBLE COSTS

The funding received will cover the costs for the training activities described in ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING and included by the company in the Application form. Only costs related to the training activities will be considered eligible.

Applications must explain which specific training activity/activities will be carried out and how (in person or online), the purpose and objectives of the training and the impact on the company and the person(s) attending, the training provider (if needed), the costs, and a timeline.

The total amount to be received will be set out in the agreement signed by the AIBC coordinator and the beneficiary.



Applications can include more than one training activity, as long as:

- The training activities are linked to each other, meaning there is a training plan to follow with a specific objective and impact for the SME.
- The total cost of the training activities altogether does not exceed 5.000,00 EUR, or if it does, the SME must declare that they will cover the remaining cost.
- The training activities proposed have a minimum value of at least 500,00 EUR.

5. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

5.1. APPLICATION FORM

The submission of the **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS** application must be done exclusively through the EU Survey platform at the following link:

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/AIBC_OpenCall_Training_Skills

A document outlining the information requested by the application form is available, to allow participants to prepare their application before introducing the information in the online form. Please note that this is a supporting document which will not be considered eligible if sent by email, as only the application form, duly filled in and submitted online, will be considered eligible.

Moreover, the following documents must be uploaded to access the evaluation step:

- Documentation containing information about costs, duration and timeline. i.e.: Training catalogue, brochure, course programme.
- (if applicable) expert/company providing the training: programme to follow and quotation.
- CV of personnel that will be attending the training (maximum 5 per company).

Please, be sure of having all documents completed and signed, if required, before proceeding with the online application. The template of the application form is available here:

https://piemonteinnova.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/AIBC-Training-and-Skills-application-form_final.docx

Only the application form filled and submitted online will be considered eligible.

We warmly suggest you download a copy of the submitted application form, as it will support the project development in case you are selected and might as well be useful in case of complaints.

Gender Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion

The AIBC EUROCLUSTERS project seeks gender balance, diversity protection and social inclusion. Therefore, applicants to **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALLS** are invited to take all measures to promote equal opportunities within their staff in the implementation of the action as well as address diversity.



Please include information on how you plan to address these aspects directly in your application.

5.2. NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

Only one application per SME will be evaluated (and possibly selected for funding). In the case of multiple submissions by the same applicant, only the last one received (as per timestamp of the IT system) will enter the evaluation process, the rest will not be considered, meaning, they will be declared non-eligible.

It is reminded that beneficiaries selected under the previous AIBC Open Call for Training are not eligible to apply to this call.

If the submitted application is declared non-eligible or fails to reach the thresholds needed to proceed to the evaluation, the applications that were submitted earlier by the same applicant will not be considered for evaluation either.

5.3. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

This [OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS](#) has one deadline: 15th February 2024 at 17:00 CET.

The AIBC Consortium reserves the right to add a cut-off date in case there is still budget available.

Only applications submitted before the deadline will be accepted. After the call closure, no additions or changes to received applications will be considered.

Further details about timeline and deadlines are available in the following section.

6. EVALUATION PROCESS

6.1. PROCEDURE AND TIMELINE

The [AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS](#) will be open for submission until 15th February 2024.

Only applications drafted in English and submitted via the link provided in Section 5.1 will be considered eligible.

The following table shows all the main dates for the open call management.

Table 1. Main dates for AIBC Open Call for Training

Open Call	Date
Publishing date	13 th December 2023, from 17:00 CET



Open Call	Date
Deadline for submission	15 th February 2024 at 17:00 CET
Evaluation period	~5 weeks from deadline
Information to applicants	Mid-March 2023
Acknowledgement of the selection outcome and acceptance of funding agreement terms and conditions (successful applicants) via email to aibc@piemonteinnova.it	Within 5 working days of receiving communication By the end of March 2023
Preparation and signature of the Agreement (deadline)	By the end of March 2023
Payment of the lump-sum	After the training has been carried out/attended and documentation from the beneficiary (attendance certificate and report of the training activities attended) has been received The payment will be carried out by FPI, coordinator of AIBC EUROCLUSTERS, and will be done within 60 days (2 months) after receiving the reporting documents.

Questions can be asked via email to aibc@piemonteinnova.it from the day the call is published until 5 working days before the deadline, meaning until 6th February 2024.

6.2. SELECTION AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

SMEs must fill the online form (available [here](#)) that will allow the profiling of the company and its competences, as well as and the reason and scope to participate in the selected training.

Companies applying to **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS** will be ranked according to the evaluation criteria shown in the table below.

Only full points will be awarded, no half points.



Table 2. Evaluation criteria for AIBC Call for Training.

Evaluation criteria	Threshold	Max Points
SECTION 1 – Relevance	12	15
Specific and general objectives that will be tackled by the training	12	15
SECTION 2 – Coherence	16	20
Training activity suitability and quality, related to the competences and expertise that the SME wants to acquire through the training	8	10
Coherence of the training proposal with AIBC objectives and goals	8	10
SECTION 3 – Impact	12	15
Contribution to enhance the innovation/digitalisation level of the staff participating in the training activity	12	15
TOTAL SCORE	40	50

To be considered for funding, a minimum overall score of 40 points is required to be admitted to the final selection stage.

It is expected that at least 15 SMEs will be selected to be supported.

The evaluation of the application will start after the deadline of the call, with an eligibility check of the Application Form that will take maximum 10 working days. The eligibility check will be carried out by the AIBC EUROCLUSTERS project coordinator (Fondazione Piemonte Innova). The applicants will receive an email about the outcome of the eligibility check after it is finalised.

The applications of eligible SMEs, following the eligibility checks, will be evaluated by an Evaluation Panel, consisting of 2 representatives of the **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS** project consortium not belonging to the country of the applicant. The Evaluation Panel will take into consideration the defined criteria and will take up to 15 working days from the communication of eligibility. The evaluation process is presented in Figure 2.

Once the evaluation process is completed, the applicants will receive an e-mail about their final results.

The selected applicants (beneficiaries) will be requested to sign an Agreement with the **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS** project coordinator (Fondazione Piemonte Innova) within 5 working days from the notification of the project approval.

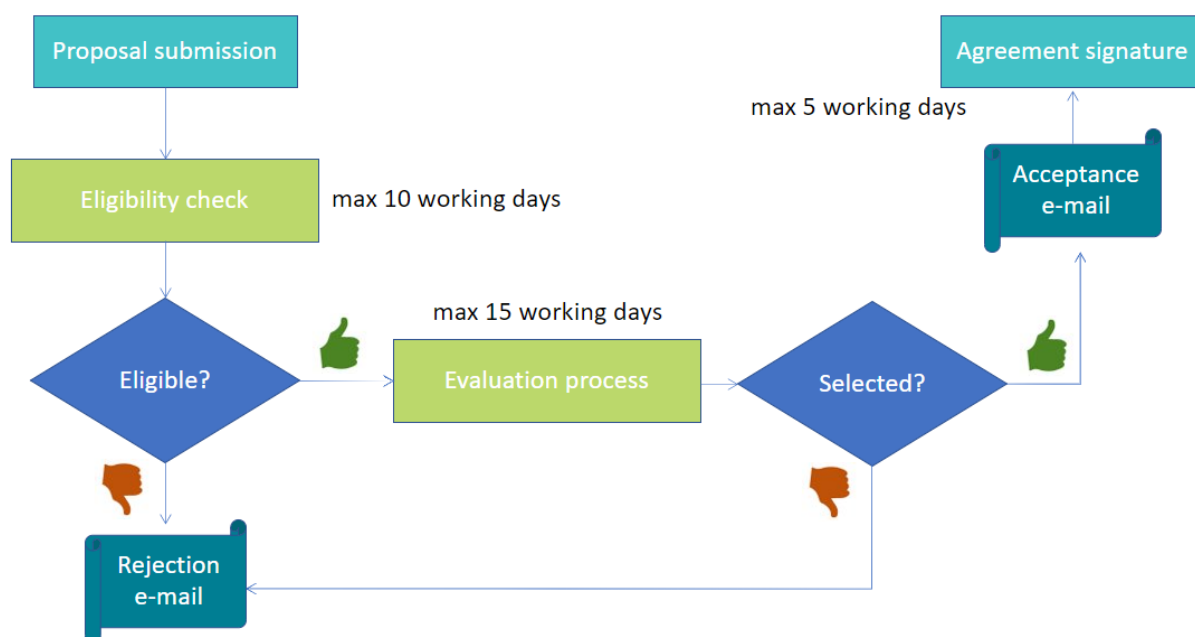


Figure 2. AIBC Call for Training and Skills evaluation stages

Following the evaluation process, the ranking of applications will be generated according to the highest obtained scores. In cases where the scores from the Evaluation Panel representatives for the same application differ significantly, a meeting will be organised to present each evaluation and support it with specific comments. 2 more representatives of the AIBC consortium partners will also participate to provide their additional opinion about the proposal in question, in case the original representatives of the Evaluation Panel fail to reach a consensus.

The applications with the highest score according to the award criteria will be selected and funded until the budget limit of the [AIBC OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS](#) is reached.

Prioritisation in case of equal scores

In case a group of applicants score equal points, the prioritisation will be carried out as follows:

- 1st criterion: Applications ranked based on the scores obtained under the IMPACT section (higher to lower).
- 2nd criterion: Applications ranked based on the less represented countries, to assure a balanced participation from companies coming from different EU Member States and SMP Associated countries.
- 3rd criterion: Gender balance in staff being trained.

6.3. ENQUIRIES AND COMPLAINTS

If, after receiving the results of the evaluation, you consider that a mistake has been made, you can submit a complaint in English to aibc@piemonteinnova.it, including at least the following information:



- contact details (including email address).
- the subject of the complaint.
- explanation and evidence regarding the complaint.
- Copy of the submitted application form (downloadable in pdf from the application website).

Companies will have five calendar days to submit their complaint starting from the day after the communication of the results was sent. The AIBC Consortium will review complaints within no more than seven calendar days from their reception. If more time is needed to assess a complaint, the relevant applicants will be informed by email about the need for an extension.

Anonymous complaints, or complaints with incomplete information, will not be considered or reviewed.

6.4. COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS

Once all applications are evaluated, **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS** will send an email detailing the evaluation results (score and short comment from evaluators). This email will also contain the decision to fund/not to fund the proposal.

Each selected company will be then requested to sign a contract, defined as an “agreement”, with the **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS** project coordinator (Fondazione Piemonte Innova). The contract must be signed within 5 working days from the notification of the project approval. The agreement will state all the requirements and conditions to be fulfilled in order to receive the lump-sum.

For timeline, please check PROCEDURE AND TIMELINE.

6.5. CONTACT POINT

For any information, please send an email to aibc@piemonteinnova.it specifying the topic of the request and the question/doubt/information needed.

Information about the project, its objectives and activities can be found on the AIBC EUROCLUSTERS webpage <https://clustercollaboration.eu/eu-cluster-partnerships/euroclusters/aibc-euroclusters>

7. AGREEMENT

7.1. Preparation and Signature of the Agreement

Once the beneficiaries have been selected, they will receive the agreement proposed by the AIBC EUROCLUSTERS defining the total lump sum to be received and the timeline for reporting and payments.



The agreement will also contain all the relevant information related to the company, and about AIBC EUROCLUSTERS' coordinator. It will also include principles and obligations¹ to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries SMEs, related to:

- **Conflict of interests:** The beneficiaries must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement could be compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other direct or indirect interest ('conflict of interests'). They must formally notify the AIBC Consortium without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation. The AIBC Consortium may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.
- **Confidentiality and security - Sensitive information:** The beneficiary SME must keep confidential any data, documents or other material (in any form) that is identified as sensitive in writing ('sensitive information') – during the implementation of the action and for at least until the time-limit set out in the [Privacy policy](#). Unless otherwise agreed between the parties signing the agreement, they may use sensitive information only to implement the Agreement. The beneficiaries may disclose sensitive information to their personnel or other participants involved in the action only if they: (a) need to know it in order to implement the Agreement and (b) are bound by an obligation of confidentiality. The AIBC Consortium may disclose sensitive information to its staff and to other EU institutions and bodies. It may moreover disclose sensitive information to third parties, if: (a) this is necessary to implement the Agreement or safeguard the EU financial interests and (b) the recipients of the information are bound by an obligation of confidentiality. The confidentiality obligations no longer apply if: (a) the disclosing party agrees to release the other party (b) the information becomes publicly available, without breaching any confidentiality obligation (c) the disclosure of the sensitive information is required by EU, international or national law. Specific confidentiality rules (if any) will be set out in the agreement.
- **Classified information:** The parties must handle classified information in accordance with the applicable EU, international or national law on classified information (in particular, Decision 2015/44417 and its implementing rules). Deliverables which contain classified information must be submitted according to special procedures agreed with the granting authority. Action tasks involving classified information may be subcontracted only after explicit approval (in writing) from the granting authority. Classified information may not be disclosed to any third party (including participants involved in the action implementation) without prior explicit written approval from the granting authority. Specific security rules (if any) will be set out in the agreement.
- **Ethics:** the activities must be carried out in line with the highest ethical standards and the applicable EU, international and national law on ethical principles. Specific ethics rules (if any) will be set out in the agreement.
- **Values:** the beneficiary must commit to and ensure the respect of basic EU values (such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and

¹ Following the requirements of the Grant Agreement (Art. 9.4) signed by the AIBC Consortium related to providing financial support to third parties (FSTP).



human rights, including the rights of minorities). Specific rules on values (if any) will be set out in the agreement.

- **Visibility of the EU emblem:** conditions and requirements will be included in the agreement following what stated in Communication obligations.
- **Specific rules** for carrying out the action, settled in the agreement.
- **Keeping records and supporting documents:** the beneficiaries must – at least until the time-limit set out by the AIBC Consortium in the Agreement (5 years after the end of AIBC project, i.e.: 31/12/2024) – keep records and other supporting documents to prove the proper implementation of the action (meaning, the participation to the event). In addition, the beneficiaries must – for the same period – keep the following to justify the amounts declared: adequate records and supporting documents to prove proper implementation and fulfilment of the conditions as described in the agreement.
- **Consequences of non-compliance:** If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under the agreement, the lump-sum may be reduced or terminated.

The beneficiaries must complete the agreement with the required information and all the legal representatives must sign it.

The agreement must be signed using a certified electronic signature (encrypted digital signatures, such as those produced using e-signature software) and sent via email to aibc@piemonteinnova.it within 5 working days after its reception. It will then be counter-signed by Piemonte Innova, and a fully signed copy will be sent back via email to the company.

In case the company prefers to sign the contract by hand, this must be notified to Piemonte Innova when the communication of selection is received, thus before receiving the agreement. In this case, the signed Agreement must be sent by post.

In all cases mentioned above, a signature indicates acceptance of the agreement and all its terms.

A template of the agreement is available at this link: <https://piemonteinnova.it/bandi/aibc-euroclusters-open-call-for-training-skills/?lang=en>

7.2. Certificate of participation and final reporting

In order to receive the lump-sum, beneficiaries have to provide a certificate of attendance, proving their participation in the training activity, and a short report about the achievements resulting from the participation in the training activities, based on the objectives and goals stated in the application form and according to the conditions set out in the agreement. This dossier (certificate of attendance plus short report) can also be supported by extra material the SME collects, as e.g. the validation of presences during the training, the positive results of the final examination (if and when scheduled), the validation by the trainer of the total hours attended and signed by the participants (if required by the training).



7.3. Payments

The lump sum, as set in the agreement, will be paid after the company has participated in the training and has presented the reporting documents with proof of participation.

The payment will be carried out by Fondazione Piemonte Innova, coordinator of AIBC EUROCLUSTERS, within 60 days (2 months) after receiving the reporting documents.

7.3.1. General payment terms and obligations of beneficiaries

- All payments will be made in Euro.
- Submission of an application does not constitute an entitlement for funding.
- Expenses linked to training activities must be made with the sole purpose of achieving the objectives and expected results stated in the agreement, in a transparent manner consistent with the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

AIBC EUROCLUSTERS will not be responsible for paying any costs applied for and incurred by the beneficiaries in case of non-compliance with the terms and conditions of the AIBC Open Call.

7.4. Communication obligations

For dissemination of the activities funded by AIBC, the recipients must credit the AIBC EUROCLUSTERS project through proper citation and appearance of the AIBC logo, the EUROCLUSTERS logo and the EU emblem, with the disclaimer “This activity has received funding from the AIBC EUROCLUSTERS project that is co-funded by the European Union”.

The AIBC project will provide a communication package to all beneficiaries and this information will be also included in the agreement.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND GDPR DATA PROTECTION

By submitting the application, the company consents that the content of the application form will be shared with AIBC EUROCLUSTERS partners. The privacy policy is available [here](#) as well as linked in the application form.

AIBC EUROCLUSTERS consortium has the right to use non-sensitive information relating to the activities, materials and documents received from the beneficiaries for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes – during the project implementation and afterwards. All this information will be included in the agreement that will be signed by the beneficiary and a partner of AIBC EUROCLUSTERS.



9. ANNEX: SMEs checklist

For a complete application to **AIBC EUROCLUSTERS OPEN CALL FOR TRAINING & SKILLS**, SMEs must present the following documentation:

1. Application Form.
2. CV of staff participating in the training.

A document of the application form is available as a support document to help participants to organise and develop the application to be presented to this call.

All the call related information is also available here: <https://piemonteinnova.it/bandi/aibc-euroclusters-open-call-for-training-skills/?lang=en>

All documents can be download at this link: https://piemonteinnova.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/AIBC-Training-and-Skills-application-form_final.docx