Open Call

Partners Review Committee

Project Website: www.evolve2care.eu

Open Call platform: https://accelup.eu/home

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1. Introduction

The EVOLVE2CARE project aims to foster collaboration between innovators and Living Labs (LLs) across Europe to drive advancements in HealthTech innovation. Through this Open Call, we seek to identify and engage innovators with groundbreaking ideas and certified Living Labs that can provide the facilities and expertise to test and validate these innovations. This initiative is enabling Living Labs to open their facilities to selected innovators for experimentation purposes.

2. Objective

The purpose of this document is to define the selection process and evaluation methodology for the **Partners' Review Committee** responsible for assessing proposals in Task **T2.2: LLs, Innovators, and Researchers Scouting and Selection**. The committee will ensure the selection process is transparent, objective, and aligned with the goals of the **EVOLVE2CARE** project.

3. Overview of the process

As explained in the guidelines, the Technical Evaluation by the Partners' Review Committee will be conducted on the [Sploro platform](). Each partner should open an account on Sploro's Platform as an evaluator. A conflict-of-interest document will be signed automatically during this process.

The process of the Technical Evaluation is as follows:

1. After matchmaking on the Accelup platform, the mini-consortia teams will receive an automatic email informing them that they need to register on the Sploro's platform for the evaluation steps. This email will include a link to Sploro's Platform and further instructions on how to register.
2. Once the mini consortia register on Sploro's platform, the Eligibility Check process will take place. This evaluation will be conducted entirely by Sploro. Please refer to the guidelines for the Eligibility Check criteria.
3. The output of this Eligibility Check is "eligible proposals."
4. The "Eligible Proposals" will proceed to the Technical Evaluation Process, which will be conducted by the Partners' Review Committee.
5. The output of the Technical Evaluation Process will be "The Ranked List of Projects."
6. "The Ranked List of Projects" will be evaluated by an External Ethics expert.

7. Announcement of the awardees.

Please refer to the guidelines of the Open Call for further information related to the Open Call process. Please bear in mind that the entire process will be conducted based on the CUT-OFF periods until the end of the Open Call.

4. Partners' Review Committee Composition

The **Partners' Review Committee** will consist of representatives from the following organisations, each responsible for evaluating specific aspects of the proposals:

Table 1. Partners' Role in Evaluation

Partner	Partners as per team	Role in Evaluation
Team 1	**AUTH & AV**	Evaluates the: • **alignment** and **excellence** aspects of the mini-consortia proposals • **impact** and **innovation** potential of the proposals • **feasibility** and **Implementation** applied in the proposals
Team 2	**AUTH & ViLabs**	Evaluates the: • **alignment** and **excellence** aspects of the mini-consortia proposals • **impact** and **innovation** potential of the proposals • **feasibility** and i**mplementation** applied in the proposals

The committee will consist of two evaluator teams from the EVOLVE2CARE team, each bringing complementary expertise to assess the impact and innovation potential, implementation and feasibility, excellence, and alignment with EVOLVE2CARE objectives.

After each cut-off, within the established period of the Technical Review, Sploro will assign each team a specific number of proposals. The number of proposals assigned depends on how many mini-consortia teams pass the eligibility check.

Each team will evaluate the assigned proposals individually, to avoid being influenced by other evaluators from the same team.

At the end of each technical evaluation period, there will be a score normalisation. If there is a tie in scores, the other team will evaluate the proposal that was initially assessed by the assigned team. If the tie persists, the consortium partners will follow the rules outlined in section 5.9, Final Selection of the Open Call guidelines.

The evaluation process is closely linked to the Application Form document. The evaluation will be conducted through the Sploro's Platform. Each mini-consortia team needs to provide information related to impact and innovation potential, implementation and feasibility, excellence, and alignment, as clearly defined in the Application Form.

As per the Grant Agreement, the partners should focus on the established KPIs:

- 30 innovators submit application (50 innovators show intention by opening applications on the platform), 10 innovators selected, 10 Services provided.
- Impact: For 10 innovators: reducing by 3 months the time to market, and/or lowering development costs of products/services by 5%.
- For 10 innovators: improved investment and commercialization pathways resulting from the activities performed, assessed in the beginning and in the end of the experimentation process.

This monitoring activity should be carried out by AUTH for the AccelUP platform and by SPLORO for the Accelerator App platform (Sploro's Platform).

5. Evaluation Criteria and Scoring System

The **Partners' Review Committee** will assess the proposals based on predefined criteria, ensuring consistency and transparency. The evaluation includes a structured **scoring system** from **0 to 5**, as outlined below:

Table 2. Scoring Scale Meaning

Score	Meaning

0	Not addressed or very poorly addressed
1	Poorly addressed, significant improvements needed
2	Somewhat addressed but lacks detail or clarity; improvements needed
3	Adequately addressed, but could be improved
4	Well addressed, only minor improvements needed
5	Excellently addressed, no improvements needed

Each proposal will be scored based on the following criteria:

Table 3. Scoring Criteria

Criteria	Description	Weight on the Score	Threshold
Excellence and Alignment with Project Objectives	How well the proposal aligns with the goals of **EVOLVE2CARE**	20%	3
	How well the proposal aligns with the Use Cases of **EVOLVE2CARE**		
Impact and Innovation Potential	The novelty, impact, and added value of the proposed solution	50%	3
	The strength of the research methodology and evidence provided		
Implementation and Feasibility	The clarity and robustness of the plan for carrying out the project	30%	3
	The practical execution and implementation of the project		
	The adequacy of facilities, infrastructure, and expertise for execution		

The established threshold requires a minimum score of 3 points in each of the three evaluation sections, with a total combined score of at least 10 points across all sections.

Important note: Although each Evaluation Committee partner will specialise in one of the evaluation criteria sections, it is essential that every evaluator reads the entire proposal, and assesses and scores all sections, not just their area of

expertise identified above. To ensure a comprehensive evaluation, each evaluator must also include a concluding comment providing a holistic assessment of the proposal, including include a justification for the assigned score, highlighting key strengths, weaknesses, and any recommendations for improvement (Length: Max. 500 words & Min. 100 words).

6. Review Process

1. **Proposal Submission**: Mini-Consortia Proposals will be collected and distributed among the **Partners' Review Committee** by Sploro.

2. **Initial Individual Assessment**: Each committee member evaluates proposals based on their designated criteria and assigns scores.

3. **Consensus Meeting**: A joint meeting will be held to discuss the evaluations, address discrepancies, and finalise scoring.

4. **Ethics Review**: After the technical evaluation, the evaluated proposals will undergo an ethics review by an external expert.

5. **Final Selection**: Innovators and Living Labs (Mini Consortia teams) will be selected based on cumulative scoring and alignment with the project goals.