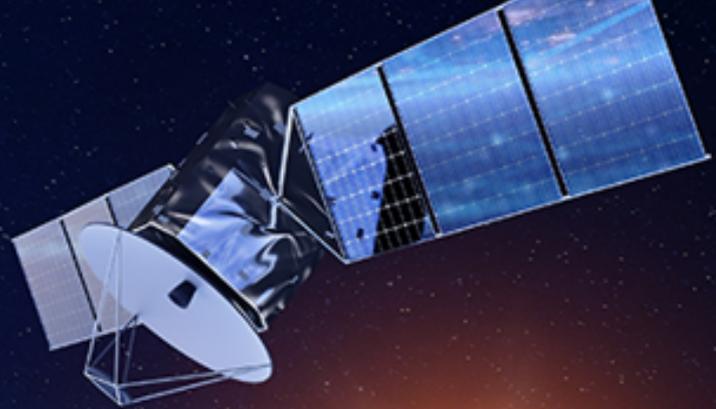


UDENE



UDENE FSTP OPEN CALLS

ANNEX I – Call Fiches



The project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 101131190



Document Information	
Project Number	101131190
Project Title	Urban Development Explorations using Natural Experiments
Acronym	UDENE
Start Date	1 January 2024
Duration	24 months
Call identifier	HORIZON-EUSPA-2022-SPACE
Topic	HORIZON-EUSPA-2022-SPACE-02-56 Strategic autonomy in developing, deploying and using global space-based infrastructures, services, applications and data 2022
Instrument	HORIZON-RIA
Project URL	www.udene.eu
EU Project Officer	Valeria CATALANO
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UDENE project CONSORTIUM

1	WEGLOBAL SRL (WEGLOBAL SRL)
2	ASSOCIATION TUNISIAIENNE DE L'ESPACE (TUNSA)
3	TOBB EKONOMI VE TEKNOLOJI UNIVERSITESI (TOBB ETÜ)
4	ASSOCIATION EUROPEENNE EURISY (EURISY)
5	BIOSENSE INSTITUTE – RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES IN BIOSYSTEMS (BIOS)
6	INOSENS DOO NOVI SAD (INO)
7	POLITECNICO DI MILANO (POLIMI)
8	SINERGISE LABORATORIJ ZA GEOGRAFSKEINFORMACIJSKE SISTEME DOO (SINERGISE)
9	NIK INSAAT TICARET LIMITED SIRKETI (NIK SYSTEM)



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Abbreviations and Acronyms

Abbreviations/Acronyms	Description
EO	Earth Observation
SDG(s)	Sustainable Development Goal(s)
PCDE	Plan for Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation (Activities)
CDE	Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation
CET	Central European Time
WP(s)	Work Package(s)
EAB	External Advisory Board
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
NGOs	Nongovernmental Organisations
OC	Open Call
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
VAT	Value Added Tax



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Introduction and UDENE project background

Urban populations are growing rapidly, driven by climate change, inequality, and conflict. Yet in many regions, urban development still lacks data-driven planning, straining infrastructure and public services. The **UDENE Project** addresses these challenges by using Earth Observation (EO) data—from Copernicus satellites and local sources—to support smarter urban development, especially in international partner countries.

Aligned with **UN SDG 11**, UDENE creates a virtual lab where planners and innovators can test ideas using multi-dimensional models of urban areas. By enabling comparisons with similar cases elsewhere—so-called “natural experiments”—the platform helps identify what works and why.

The **UDENE project (Urban Development Explorations using Natural Experiments)** is a Horizon Europe-funded initiative. As European cities face mounting challenges related to climate adaptation, energy transition, and urban sustainability, UDENE develops a modular, user-oriented digital platform that turns complex data into actionable strategies for local decision-makers.

UDENE brings together municipalities, SMEs, researchers, civil society, and service providers into a collaborative innovation ecosystem. It offers a set of powerful tools - most notably the **Exploration** and **Matchmaking tools** - that support evidence-based planning, matchmaking between local challenges and digital solutions, and active engagement of stakeholders in shaping and using the platform.

The **Exploration Tool** developed in UDENE offers urban planners a virtual space to test and analyze development scenarios using real-time and historical Earth Observation (EO) data. By comparing similar projects in different cities, users can identify patterns and make evidence-based decisions grounded in “natural experiments.”

Complementing this, the **Matchmaking Tool** connects planners with EO service providers and tailored solutions. It uses insights from the Exploration Tool to recommend relevant technologies, products, and services, streamlining collaboration and accelerating the adoption of EO-based strategies.

Together, these tools create a powerful, data-driven framework for smarter, more sustainable urban planning.

To extend its reach and ensure the tools meet real-world needs, UDENE organizes **2 Open Calls** from **June to August 2025**. These calls invite third-party participants to join as **beta testers and early adopters** of the platform.

Applicants can access the **UDENE website** to find key resources supporting their participation in the Open Calls. Among them, the **Practical User Guidelines** serve as a central reference, tailored to different user needs and experience levels. These guidelines are regularly updated throughout the project, incorporating feedback from the External Advisory Board (EAB) to ensure they remain clear, relevant, and useful.

In addition, applicants can benefit from **video tutorials** and **dedicated webinars** designed specifically to guide Open Call participants in preparing their proposals and navigating the platform effectively.

UDENE Open Call Details

Call #1

The general objective of this call is to position UDENE tools as practice software for applied courses in related domains. With this impact pathway, not only the project’s outcome (including the open-source software) will be exploited but also competencies in using Copernicus related products and services will be spread in the Copernicus International Partner Countries.

Call Information

Call Title: UDENE Tools Integration in Geodata Science Education

Opening Date: 18th June 2025



The project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 101131190

Deadline Model: Single-Stage

Call Deadline: 17th August 2025

Expected Duration of Participation: 2 Months

Total Funding Available: 60.000 €

Submission and Evaluation Process

UDENE Project is a Research and Innovation Action funded by EUSPA under the Horizon Europe Programme. It leverages Copernicus Earth Observation (EO) data to discover occurrences (natural experiments) of urban development interventions intended for an Area of Interest (Aoi) elsewhere in the world which are similar to the Aoi in terms of causally related properties to the intended outcome of the intervention. Existing use cases target the effect of green spaces on urban heat islands, the effect of transportation infrastructure on air quality, and the effect of the built environment on earthquake resilience. By integrating EO data, machine learning, and advanced causal modelling, UDENE provides robust tools enabling evidence-based urban planning and decision-making. The project supports international collaboration, promoting the uptake of Copernicus services through validation of practical urban development solutions across Copernicus International partner countries such as Serbia, Tunisia, and Türkiye.

Purpose of the Call: To expand the skilled practitioners of Geodata Science in Copernicus International Partner countries by using UDENE open-source tools as a practice platform in vocational courses.

The Call Specific Objectives: 1) To expand the skilled user base of Copernicus Earth Observation System 2) To demonstrate the value of geodata science in public services for maximizing societal impact 3) To enable hands on training by embedding UDENE tools into educational curricula and training programs

Expected outcomes (applies to all Copernicus International Partner countries): The grant receivers are expected to deliver an educational plan with the following components **1) Curriculum design** for geodata science as an applied discipline, **2) Educational modules or course content** integrating UDENE tools into practical geodata science curricula, ready to be adopted by vocational and higher educational institutions and/or training programs. **3) Demonstrative case studies** suitable for the intended skill levels showcasing the use of UDENE tools and Copernicus products in solving specific urban development challenges relevant to the partner countries.

Submission Process: Interested parties can use the guidelines available at the UDENE website Open Calls page to prepare proposals and the winners will be compensated to get to use the UDENE tools in October-November to implement their proposed workplans.

Funding: There will be two winners per call per country, each of which will receive 10.000€ lump sum funding upon completing their educational plans.

The Evaluation Process: The evaluation will be a two-stage process

Stage 1 - The Screening Procedure for Eligibility and Feasibility Checklist: SMEs, start-ups, Local authorities, NGOs, Associations, Education and Training Organizations, Research Performing Institutions, individuals, and teams of individuals, based in one of the target countries and as defined in Horizon Europe rules for participation can be applicants. Only single applicants shall be eligible (no consortia). The proposed work



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should be reasonably feasible within the available time frame given the functionalities of the UDENE tools as shown in the UDENE Practical Guidelines.

Stage 2 - The Quality Assessment Procedure: 1) Concept and Contemporaneity (Progressiveness and feasibility of the proposed courses and their learning outcomes; The design of the curriculum including prototype syllabus as well as inclusivity issues; Level of performance challenges demanded) 2) Impact (Economic and societal impact; European dimension, cross-sector/-border scalability; Offering as open courseware or not) 3) Applicant expertise (Capacity to perform the task; Knowledge and technological expertise in learning design; Financial viability/stability; Allocation and justification of resources)

Further Information

Eligible organisations or individuals should be established in Türkiye, Serbia or Tunisia. [\[MAT1\]](#) Additional eligibility criteria can be found in the Call documentation. All eligible applicants and partners must respect the fundamental rights and values as well as HE IPR regulations on which the EU is founded.

More info about UDENE Project is at: <https://udene.eu/>

More information about UDENE FSTP Open Calls is at: <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>

UDENE Help Desk: info@udene.eu

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/udene_project/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/UDENE/61556171654905/>

Online Webinars: 9th July 2025 for Serbia; 10th July 2025 for Tunisia; and 28th July 2025 for Türkiye

The submission link and the links to the webinars will be provided at: <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>

Regular weekly FAQ updates will be accessible on sub-web pages.

Applications for UDENE Open Call must be done in **English**.

Applicants will need to sign a **Declaration of Honour**, an **Ethics, Intellectual Property and Security Declaration** and an **SME Declaration** if applicant is an SME.

Task Description

At least 2 person-months of work that would be committed during the October-November 2025 timeframe, delivering the final report by 15th December, the latest.

The output of this work will be an educational plan that describes the implementation of a vocational geodata science skills development course enabled by the Copernicus system as used in UDENE tools.

If the subgrantees introduce new data sets to be used in course assignment that involve UDENE, then they will need to report the data, its use, behaviour of the tools, and learning outcomes. A complete feasibility report is expected to meet Erasmus Quality Standards for educational programmes, and it includes:

1. **Learning Outcomes** in terms of acquired skills and competencies in geodata science.



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2. **A curriculum** of lesson plans that is equivalent to 3 ECTS credits (75-90 hours of study). This curriculum must emphasize the application of EO data, Copernicus products, and specifically incorporate the UDENE tools into teaching methodologies.

3. **A list of competency development assignments** and corresponding performance assessments that involve practicing with UDENE tools. The assignments are expected to consume at least half of the study time.

4. **At least 3 Demonstrative Case Studies** that the course material would align with, covering preferably urban development challenges that could be addressed by Copernicus EO solutions. They should be clearly structured, showing the process from problem identification, data integration, analysis, and ultimately proposing solutions or interventions supported by empirical evidence derived using the UDENE tools.

Call #1 Timeline

The phases and timeline of the UDENE Open Call #1 is shown in Table 1. UDENE Open Call #1 Gantt Chart and Important Dates.

Table 1. UDENE Open Calls Gantt Chart and Important Dates

Activity		2025									
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Open Call I	Submission phase - Support to applicants										
	Evaluation & Winners announcement										
	Contract conclusion & payments										
	Monitoring, implementation & reporting										
Post-implementation	Implementation Monitoring										
	Feasibility Report										

Call #2

The general objective of this call is to position UDENE tools as a part of business-oriented solutions that would involve partnerships between European providers and local SMEs to enhance the adoption of Earth Observation-based solutions globally.

Call Information

Call Title: UDENE Tools for Global Business Solutions that Accelerate Copernicus Adoption

Opening Date: 1st July 2025

Deadline Model: Single-Stage

Call Deadline: 30th August 2025

Expected Duration of Participation: 2 Months

Total Funding Available: 60.000 €



The project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 101131190

Submission and Evaluation Process

UDENE Project is a Research and Innovation Action funded by EUSPA under the Horizon Europe Programme. It leverages Copernicus Earth Observation (EO) data to discover occurrences (natural experiments) of urban development interventions intended for an Area of Interest (Aoi) elsewhere in the world which are similar to the Aoi in terms of causally related properties to the intended outcome of the intervention. Existing use cases target the effect of green spaces on urban heat islands, the effect of transportation infrastructure on air quality, and the effect of the built environment on earthquake resilience. By integrating EO data, machine learning, and advanced causal modelling, UDENE provides robust tools enabling evidence-based urban planning and decision-making. The project supports international collaboration, promoting the uptake of Copernicus services through validation of practical urban development solutions across Copernicus International partner countries such as Serbia, Tunisia, and Türkiye.

Purpose of the Call: To stimulate international business collaboration by integrating UDENE tools into market-driven solutions developed jointly by European Earth Observation based products and services providers and local SMEs or other entities, thereby accelerating global adoption and commercialization of Copernicus Earth Observation-based applications.

The Call Specific Objectives: 1) To establish sustainable partnerships between European providers and local entities (in particular SMEs) in Copernicus International Partner countries 2) To demonstrate the commercial viability and scalability of business solutions integrating UDENE tools for urban planning and environmental management. 3) To facilitate knowledge transfer and capacity building, enhancing the capabilities of local entities and SMEs to independently adopt and market Earth Observation-based solutions globally.

Expected outcomes (applies to all Copernicus International Partner countries): The grant recipients are expected to deliver a feasibility report that provides evidence for the feasibility arguments they have about the business cases they have submitted. Software, model, or algorithm development can be a part of the feasibility report as in proof of concept, but not necessarily. The reports should include at least the following components: **1) Market-ready business-oriented solutions** integrating UDENE tools that are developed collaboratively by European EO providers and local entities, addressing specific urban and environmental challenges. **2) Feasibility studies** or pilot implementations demonstrating tangible benefits and commercial potential of EO-based solutions in international partner countries. **3) Business cases** illustrating scalability, sustainability, and the potential for broader global market adoption of integrated UDENE tools and Copernicus data-driven applications.

Submission Process: Interested parties can use the guidelines available at the UDENE website Open Calls page to prepare proposals and the winners will be compensated to get to use the UDENE tools in October-November to implement their proposed workplans.

Funding: There will be two winners per call per country, each of which will receive 10.000€ lump sum funding upon completing their feasibility reports.

The Evaluation Process: The evaluation will be a two-stage process

Stage 1 - The Screening Procedure for Eligibility and Feasibility Checklist: SMEs, start-ups, Local authorities, NGOs, Associations, Industrial Organizations, Research Performing Institutions, individuals, and teams of individuals, based in one of the target countries and as defined in Horizon Europe rules for participation can be applicants. **Only single applicants shall be eligible** (no consortia). The proposed work should be



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reasonably feasible within the available time frame given the functionalities of the UDENE tools as shown in the UDENE Practical Guidelines.

Stage 2 - The Quality Assessment Procedure: 1) Concept and Innovation (Novelty and feasibility of the proposed business cases and their commercial impact; The expected ROI, reliability and quality of the business solution and its expected Market Readiness Level(MRL); Level of technological challenges addressed) 2) Impact (Economic and societal impact; European dimension, cross-sector/-border scalability; Offering the application as open source or not) 3) Applicant expertise (Capacity to perform the task; Knowledge, technological and business expertise; Financial viability/stability; Allocation and justification of resources)

Further Information

Eligible organisations should be established in Türkiye, Serbia or Tunisia. Additional eligibility criteria can be found in the Call documentation. All eligible applicants and partners must respect the fundamental rights and values on which the EU is founded.

More info about UDENE Project is at: <https://udene.eu/>

More information about UDENE FSTP Open Calls is at: <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>

Regular weekly FAQ updates will be accessible on sub-web pages.

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LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/udene_project/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/UDENE/61556171654905/>

Online Info Sessions: 11th August 2025 for Serbia; 13th August 2025 for Türkiye; and 15th August 2025 for Tunisia.

The submission link and the links to the online info sessions will be provided at: <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>

Applications for UDENE Open Call must be done in **English**.

Applicants will need to sign a **Declaration of Honour**, an **Ethics, Intellectual Property and Security Declaration** and an **SME Declaration** if applicant is an SME.

Task Description

At least 2 person-months of work that would be committed during the October-November 2025 timeframe, delivering the final report by 15th December, the latest. The output of this work will be a feasibility report that describes the implementation of a business case enabled by the Copernicus system as used in UDENE tools, or an innovative solution based on the tools, algorithms, or models, delivered by UDENE. If the subgrantees introduce new data sets to be used then they will report the data, its use, behaviour of the tools, and relation to business outcomes. The identified European EO product and service providers are expected to join voluntarily as a part of their marketing effort or in absentia. A complete feasibility report includes:

1. **Detailed Business Case** including clearly defined value proposition, target market segments, competitive analysis, and demonstrated scalability of the EO-based solution integrating UDENE tools.



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2. **Partnership Documentation** outlining roles, responsibilities, and contributions of European EO providers and local SMEs or other entities, emphasizing mutual capacity building and knowledge transfer achieved through the collaboration.

3. **Pilot Projects** plans showcasing at least two successfully implemented business-oriented pilot solutions. Each pilot must demonstrate practical application of UDENE tools, measurable outcomes, and a clear assessment of effectiveness in addressing specific urban or environmental challenges along with their Proof of Concept (PoC) implementations in the international partner countries.

4. **Market Entry and Sustainability Plan**, presenting the roadmap for scaling, sustained commercial viability, identified funding or revenue models, and potential pathways for broader global market adoption.

5. **Recommendations and Lessons Learned** highlighting barriers encountered, strategies for overcoming them, and insights beneficial for future partnerships and similar initiatives aimed at accelerating global EO datasets and tool adoption.

In the case of delivering an innovative solution, the provider will also deliver a white paper and user guide, describing the intended usage of the solution and its purpose.

Call #2 Timeline

The phases and timeline of the UDENE Open Call #2 is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. UDENE Open Calls Gantt Chart and Important Dates

Activity		2025									
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Open Call 1	Submission phase - Support to applicants										
	Evaluation & Winners announcement										
	Contract conclusion & payments										
	Monitoring, implementation & reporting										
Post-implementation	Implementation Monitoring										
	Feasibility Report										

IMPORTANT NOTE: The dates may change due to unforeseen events and situations. Therefore, these are an indication of what is initially expected; the dates are to be confirmed by the UDENE consortium along the process and are not restrictive. The UDENE consortium reserves the right to cancel the Open Call at any point due to unforeseen circumstances. The UDENE consortium also reserves the right to extend the call and/or launch an additional call in case not enough applications of sufficient quality have been received.

General Information

Means of submission

The UDENE website will provide the entry point for all Applicants' proposal submissions to UDENE Open Calls. Applications received by any other channel will be automatically discarded. Documents required in subsequent stages will be sent to the UDENE Coordinator managing the Open Calls.

Any additional documents that may be required in later stages will be submitted through specified channels as communicated by the UDENE Project Consortium during the contracting phase.



Funded by
the European Union

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Language

Applications for UDENE Open Call must be done in **English**.

Submissions done in other languages will be considered ineligible and will not be evaluated. The official language of the Project is English and all process documents in UDENE Open Call Kit (Annex I-VIII) are in English.

Submission process and Mandatory Documents & Formats

There are 3 steps to application.

- **STEP 1:** Fill out the provided form in the UDENE Webpage <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/> and upload **mandatory annex documents**. The form fill be used for Eligibility check. If the application is deemed eligible the process is continued. The Eligibility criteria are provided in chapter **Eligibility Criteria**.
- **STEP 2:** Evaluation process begins, more detail in chapter **Evaluation Process and Criteria**.
- **STEP 3:** Winners of Open Calls are announced and Contracting process begins.

As part of your proposal submission, you must upload the following mandatory documents:

- **Annex III: Declaration of Honour** (signed by the lead participant),
- **Annex IV: Ethics, Intellectual Property and Security Declaration** (signed by all entities and/or partners, merged into single PDF),
- **Annex V: SME Financial Stability** (if an SME is submitting the application as individual entity).

You can download the document templates from the Call Page at <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>.

All documents requested in any of the phases must be sent electronically in **PDF format** without printing restrictions.

Any additional document requested must be submitted electronically in PDF format without restrictions for printing.

Application Submission

The UDENE Open Calls are meant to select 12 proposals that would use the UDENE tools and hence validate the value of Exploration and Matchmaking Tools developed through UDENE project. All participants of the Open Calls need to fulfil the eligibility criteria stated in Application Eligibility Criteria, sign and submit the documents provided as annexes to their proposals. Winners must also provide: Annex VI (Subgrantee Agreement). Figure 1 presents the UDENE Open Call Application Evaluation Process.

For detailed procedure consult **Annex II Guide for Applicants**.

Applicants Registration

The central interface for managing the proposal applications for the remainder of the open calls will be announced at the UDENE Webpage <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>.

Proposals reception

Submissions will be done **ONLY** via the submission link at the UDENE Webpage <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>. A full list of proposers will be drafted containing their basic information for statistical purposes and clarity (which will be also shared with EC for transparency).

There will not be any deadline extensions unless a major problem caused by the submission platform (and not by the proposers), makes the system unavailable.



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Applicant Eligibility Criteria

In terms of UDENE Open Calls the following grant eligibility criteria include:

- The applicant is a ‘freelancer’ or legal entity established and based in Türkiye, Serbia or Tunisia as Copernicus International Partner and Horizon Europe Associated countries as defined in HE rules for participation.
- Signed Declaration of Honour stipulating that the entity is eligible for financing in line with eligibility rules of Horizon Europe, with the possibility for requests for additional documentation if/when required.
- The applicant provides (or intends to provide) services and/or data that can be integrated into the UDENE Exploration and Matchmaking tools environment.
- Each applicant may submit or participate in only one (1) application. In case an applicant submits or participates in more than one application in the one or both UDENE Open Call processes, only the application that was submitted first will be accepted. As indicative example, without excluding other cases, it is not allowed for an individual to be in the project team or the advisory board of more than one proposal. Moreover, it is not allowed for an individual to have a legal, administrative, technical, advisory or financial position or capacity in more than one applicant or is in the position to access or influence in any way more than one proposal. Applicants that will be accepted via Open Call #1 are automatically excluded from participating in Open Call #2 even if they submit a different proposal and the proposal will be automatically rejected.
- The applicants must demonstrate that there is no risk of double funding. The fundamental principle underpinning the rules for public expenditure in the EU states that no costs for the same activity can be funded twice from the EU budget, as defined in the Article 111 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation. In the case of applications submitted by linked SMEs, all must clearly state the differences between them including but not limited to, technical aspects, market strategy and team composition, so that no doubt remains that there is no risk of double funding. In order to properly assess these concerns UDENE may assign all applications to the same set of evaluators and, should any doubt remain, exclude all applications.
- The maximum amount of funding that a project or experiment can receive via the UDENE Open Call process is 10,000€.
- Entities that have been awarded in the previous UDENE Open Calls cannot be selected for funding in the second one and their applications will be considered as ineligible.
- Proposals must have a **clear European dimension** and contribute towards promotion EU digitization, **targeting clear economic and societal impact**.



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Evaluation Process and Criteria

Evaluation Procedures

External remote evaluation

Two (2) evaluators external to UDENE consortium will evaluate each proposal, scoring it based on the following evaluation criteria:

Table 3: UDENE Open Call applications evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Description
Concept and Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Innovation, novelty and feasibility of the proposed objectives.– Design, reliability, feasibility, and quality of the proposed idea.– Level of innovation and technological challenges addressed.
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Economic and societal impact.– European dimension, cross-sector/-border business scalability.– Offering the application as open source or not.
Applicant expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Capacity to perform the task.– Knowledge, technological and business expertise.– Financial viability/stability and capacity.– Allocation and justification of requested resources.

- **1-2: Fail.** The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.
- **3-4: Very poor.** The criterion is addressed in an unsatisfactory manner.
- **5: Poor.** There are serious inherent weaknesses.
- **6-7: Good.** While the proposal broadly addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses that would need correcting.
- **8-9: Very Good.** The proposal addresses the criterion well, although certain improvements are possible.
- **10: Excellent.** The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.

The threshold for each criterion will be **six (6)**, while the overall score threshold will be **eighteen (18)**. It means that **if a proposal receives less than 6 in one criterion or less than 18 overall score it is automatically rejected.**

Each evaluator will record his/her individual evaluation/opinion of each proposal on an Individual Evaluation Report. After individual evaluation, the experts will communicate to prepare a single consensus Proposal Evaluation Sheet (PES) for each proposal, representing opinions and scores on which the evaluators agree and which they will sign.

Ranking and Selection Procedure

The criteria for the ranking of the proposals will be semi-automatic following the rules below:

- **Rule 1: The proposals will be ranked based on their overall score (sum of criterion 1 to 3 scores).**
- **Rule 2: In case following Rule 1 there are proposals in the same position, priority will be given to innovation/contemporaneity of the concept (Evaluation Criterion 1).**
- **Rule 3: In case following Rule 2 there are proposals in the same position, priority will be given to proposals with better impact (Evaluation Criterion 2).**
- **Rule 4: In case following Rule 3 there are proposals in the same position, priority will be given to proposals that have higher score for applicant entity/team capacity (Evaluation Criterion 3).**
- **Rule 5: In case following Rule 4 there are proposals in the same position, priority will be given to the number of female researchers participating in the project team.**



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In case following Rule 5 there are still proposals in the same position, which are in the top ranked proposals and may get funding, the UDENE consortium will invite at the observer to evaluate the specific proposals and break the conflict by re-evaluating them.

In case that doesn't resolve the issue an online Consensus meeting and interview (**Consensus evaluation**) with the applicants will be organised and the UDENE project Consortium partners and all external evaluators will take an anonymous vote to reach a decision.

At the end, and based on the requested funding, 12 proposals will be selected (6 per Open Call process), while 4 additional proposals will remain in a reserve list (2 per Open Call process). In case one of more selected proposals fail during contract preparation, the list of accepted proposals will be filled with proposals from the reserve list.

All proposals will receive an acceptance or rejection letter together with an anonymized version of the Proposal Evaluation Sheet (PES) or Consensus Evaluation Report in case of a two or more applications being scored and ranked the same by external evaluators and/or observer.

Notification

All applications will receive an acceptance or rejection letter together with an anonymized version of their application's Proposal Evaluation Report or Consensus containing the average score for each criterion, overall score and synthesis of the comments from both the evaluation and the ethics and data protection screening process, if their application was subject to this screening process.

Redress process

Within 3 working days of the delivery of any notification or process information documentations regarding the Open Call process (Rejection letter or Acceptance Letter with Proposal Evaluation Sheet or Consensus Evaluation Report), applicant may submit a request for redress. In that case the UDENE Coordinator and Treasure will examine the request for redress. The committee's role is to ensure a coherent interpretation of such requests, and equal treatment of applicants.

Requests must be:

- Related to the evaluation process or eligibility checks.
- Clearly describe the complaint.
- Received within the time limit (3 working days) from the reception of notification.
- Sent by the applicant coordinator legal representative that has submitted the proposal.

The committee will review the complaint and will recommend an appropriate course of action. If there is clear evidence of a shortcoming that could affect the eventual funding decision, it is possible that all or part of the proposal will be re-evaluated.

This procedure is concerned only with the evaluation and/or eligibility checking process. The committee will not call into question the scientific, technical or impact judgment of appropriately qualified experts.

A re-evaluation will only be carried out if there is evidence of a shortcoming that affects the final decision on whether to grant a sub-project to the application consortium or not. This means, for example, that a problem relating to one evaluation criterion will not lead to a re-evaluation if a proposal has failed anyway on other criteria.

The evaluation score following any re-evaluation will be regarded as definitive. It may be lower than the original score.

Only one request for redress per proposal will be considered by the committee. All requests for redress will be treated in confidence and must be sent to Project Coordinator via the email: info@udene.eu.

If more requests for redress are submitted, only the first request sent will be taken into consideration.

The application that is approved for re-evaluation will be re-evaluated prior to the contract preparation phase.



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In case an application under the redress procedure is re-evaluated and the new evaluation score is higher, it will be included in the final overall ranking. In case the application under the redress procedure ranks higher than the last application on the initial list set to receive funding, then the application under the redress procedure will be determined the winner.

Contacts

The UDENE consortium will provide information to the applicants only via the UDENE Website, so that the information (question and answer), will be visible to all participants.

No binding information will be provided via any other means (e.g. telephone or email).

More info at: <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>

Apply via: <https://udene.eu/open-fstp-calls/>

Q&A: info@udene.eu

Other support: info@udene.eu



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