

PIANOFORTE - Frequently Asked Questions

May 2024 - Addendum n°1 to FAQ version 1.0

1. Can Associated Partner in the consortium be from the EU Country or the status is reserved only for the non-EU/non-EURATOM member states?

An Associated Partner in Horizon Europe is **usually** [but not necessarily] an entity (company, university, etc) from a state which is not member of the European Union.

<https://eufunds.me/what-is-an-associated-partner-in-horizon-europe/>

2. What can be the status of a consortium partner who is not BEN or AE, and wants to carry out action?

Apart from the “BEN” and the “AE”, participants who want to carry out action will have to choose between the following statuses:

- A Third Party (Recipient of the financial support)
- Associated Partner (**cannot** request any financial support from the Programme)
- Subcontractor

A Third Party (Giving In-Kind contribution) refers to the legal entity (and not to the resources made available to the beneficiary) and **does not** implement the action.

[In-Kind Contributions in Horizon Europe - Innovarum](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/other/events/20230202/4_legal-financial-issues_en.pptx)

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3. Does the status of a 3rd party giving in-kind contribution mean that the 3rd party cannot conduct any research by itself and cannot have its own principal investigator – although its resources (staff, equipment etc.) can be used by other principal investigators from the consortium?

The legal entity “giving In-Kind contribution⁽¹⁾” does not participate in the action and cannot conduct any research by itself, but as a project partner, an In-Kind contributor should “be represented by one principal investigator” (call text, page 12).

The In-Kind contributor will make its resources at the disposal of the beneficiary (or AE) to which it is linked. Such beneficiary or AE – which is also represented by one principal investigator – will use the In-Kind contributor’s resources as if they were its own⁽¹⁾.

*(1) Whether the third party gives an in-kind contribution “free of charge” or “against payment”:
The beneficiary benefits from a loan of human or material resources from the third party (by means of an ad-hoc agreement) either against reimbursement (in-kind contribution “against payment”, the amount to be reimbursed by the beneficiary to its third party being specified in the agreement), or without charge (in-kind contribution “free of charge”, the beneficiary does not reimburse its third party), that it uses as if it were its own resources and which it budgets and declares in its own financial statement.*

4. Are there any geographical limitation for the 3rd parties giving in kind contributions? Or is the status open for everyone?

The geographical criterium applies for the “IK contributor” partner in the same way as for the other participants whatever the status. In other word, the call is open to any entity from any country in the world, except if the country is subject to EU sanctions.

Please note that only entities established in an EU member state or in a EURATOM associated countries (as of today only Ukraine) will count towards the minimum consortium composition.