

Demand-side 3C pilot demonstrators on converged Telco Edge Cloud Infrastructure (IA)

Horizon Europe

● PENDING

Code

HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-08

Scope

International

Location

Europe

Curator

Marlene Faria

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Support type

Non-Refundable

Maximum Funding Rate

100%

Budget

38M€

Eligible Project Value

Up to 19M€

DATES & DEADLINES

Publication Date

November 17, 2026

Opening Date

November 17, 2026

Fase única

March 18, 2027 at 05:00 PM GMT+1

DESCRIPTION

Objectives

This incentive aims to enable demand-side driven validation of open orchestration platforms across the telco-cloud edge continuum, exploiting the transformative value of artificial intelligence for European businesses. Its ultimate goal is to enhance the sustainability and competitiveness of key strategic European industries by integrating 3C/telco-edge-cloud features such as API aggregation, slicing, automation, latency reduction, security (including resistance to quantum threats), and increased quality of service. Projects must foster ecosystems involving SMEs, start-ups, and other stakeholders, contributing to digital sovereignty and reinforcing EU industrial competitiveness. Eligible applicants are international consortia from both the demand (user) and infrastructure supply side, with a strong focus on practical implementations in sectors like mobility, automotive, energy, smart communities, industrial virtual worlds, health, agrifood, or manufacturing.

Funding

Funding is provided under a Horizon Europe Innovation Action (IA) within Cluster 4 – Digital, Industry and Space. The topic has an indicative budget of €38 million, with the European Commission expecting to fund two projects. The expected EU contribution is around €19 million per project, although proposals requesting different amounts may be considered where appropriately justified.

As a Horizon Europe Innovation Action, the funding rate is generally up to 70% of eligible costs for for-profit entities and up to 100% for non-profit organisations, in accordance with Horizon Europe funding rules.

The funding is intended to support the development and large-scale deployment of demand-side pilot demonstrators on a converged Telco Edge Cloud Continuum (3C) infrastructure, validating the integration of cloud, edge and telecommunications capabilities across strategic European sectors. Projects are expected to demonstrate solutions in real operational environments, involving both infrastructure providers and end-users.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Personnel Costs
- Travel costs
- Equipment costs
- Other goods, works and services costs
- Subcontracting
- Indirect Costs

BONUSES & MAJORATIONS

- Projects involving a high degree of SME and start-up participation may be favoured

ELIGIBILITY

Application Mode
Consortium / Copromotion

Eligible Sectors

- Agro-Food
- Industry
- Energy & Environment
- ICT & Software
- Health & Life Sciences
- Mobility & Transport
- Logistics
- Other

Company Typologies

- SME
- Large
- Private non-profit entities
- Public entities

Action Types

- AI-enabled networks
- Telco edge cloud pilots
- Open-source platform integration
- Vertical sector innovation
- Prototype demonstration
- Data governance
- Security and privacy by design

EU PROGRAMME DETAILS

Call ID

HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-08

Cluster

Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space

Destination

D2. Developing an agile and secure single market and infrastructure for data services and trustworthy artificial intelligence services

Submission Mode

Single-stage

EU Contribution

Around €19.000,000.00 per project

Expected Projects

2

Funding Rate Rule

Up to 70% for Innovation Actions (up to 100% for non-profit entities only)

OFFICIAL LINKS

Official Regulation

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-08?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=relevance&keywords=HORIZON-CL4-2027-04-DATA-08&isExactMatch=true&status=31094501,31094502,31094503>

Grantavia page

<https://grantavia.com/en/incentives/demand-side-3c-pilot-demonstrators-on-converged-telco-edge-cloud-infrastructure-ia>

Schedule a meeting

<https://calendly.com/sandra-cardoso-epsa/reuniao>