

DigitalHealthEurope Twinning Call

Frequently Asked Questions

Last update: 2 July 2019

<p>Q: Is there a maximum number of adopters? (ID 4)</p>	<p>A: The call does not specify a maximum number of Twinning Adopters per twinning.</p>
<p>Q: Can our institution apply as Twinning Adopter in 2-3 different projects? (ID 24)</p>	<p>A: An organisation may participate in more than one twinning tender, so long as the twinning solutions and the twinning activities are both significantly different.</p>
<p>Q: With reference to Twinning Contract I read that “for Twinning Personnel, the Twinning Contractor must provide, in the tender application, the details of individuals foreseen to contribute to its twinning activities and be able to conclude a contract directly with the Acting Procurer”.</p> <p>If we submit the application as twinning adopter is it correct that both the planned experts involved in the twinning activities (2 members of the organization) will have, each, an Empirica contract for Expert Services?</p> <p>Is it practicable, in alternative, to have only one contract directly with the organization? (ID 23)</p> <p>If an adopter buys a piece of equipment, does it falls under “Direct costs” or “Subcontracting”? (ID 26)</p>	<p>A: For personnel costs, individuals contributing to a twinning activity conclude a contract directly with the Acting Procurer using template TD5.</p> <p>It follows that direct contract between each individual concerned and the Acting Procurer must be put in place. The contract cannot be with an organisation.</p>
<p>Q: If a twinning solution is suitable for both national and regional institutions, would it be possible to have a mix of national and regional entities as "adopters"? (ID 1)</p>	<p>A: Twinning Originator and Twinning Adopter(s) must be from different countries. In case of multiple Twinning Adopters, at least one must be from a country different to this of the Twinning Originator.</p>
<p>Q: Do UK partners still qualify for this programme, given the Brexit? (ID 2)</p>	<p>A: Participation in this Request for Twinning Tenders is open on equal terms to legal entities established in a Member State (MS) of the European Union (EU). A specific note on UK participants is provided on page 14 of the Request for Twinning Tenders (TDO).</p>
<p>Q: Can the originator be a single healthcare provider in a European Reference Network that wished to extend their solution to other healthcare providers in their network? (ID 3)</p>	<p>A: Twinning activities must involve the transfer of digital know-how to at least one Twinning Adopter region from another region or organisation (Twinning Originator). Twinning Originator and Twinning Adopter(s) must be from different countries.</p>

<p>Q: I don't understand the "price" criteria...how can you compare? (ID 5)</p>	<p>A: The contract will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender as described in the Request for Twinning Tenders (TDO).</p>
<p>Q: Will there be another twinning call in 2020? (ID 6)</p>	<p>A: At this point in time we are not aware of further twinning calls planned for 2020.</p>
<p>Q: May the digital solution already be used in a prototype version in a research project (before twinning)? (ID 7)</p>	<p>A: Twinning Solutions should not have been used in the adopting region(s) before the twinning takes place.</p>
<p>Q: Is more than 1 "twin" possible? (ID 8)</p>	<p>A: An organisation may participate in more than one twinning tender, so long as the twinning solutions and the twinning activities are both significantly different.</p>
<p>Q: Do you expect only (or mainly) authorities as twinings? (ID 9)</p>	<p>A: The focus of twinning is on local, regional and national health and care providers in Europe that wish to adopt innovative solutions which are available for transfer from elsewhere.</p>
<p>Q: Which TRL level will be the best for such a project? (ID 10)</p>	<p>A: The twinning scheme does not discuss TRL levels. Maturity is an award criterion in the call, with the evidence of effectiveness required to be clearly described in the technical section.</p>
<p>Q: Could IT providers be originators? Or best subcontractor to originators (e.g. via health care organisations)? Can an ecosystem can be a twinning or does it has to be a legal entity that takes the lead? (ID 11)</p> <p>Are there opportunities for SMEs to participate in the twinning projects? For example, a company managing health data analysis projects is able to pass on its expertise to originators or public authorities. (ID 14)</p> <p>Could University Hospitals be Twinning Adopters? (ID 17)</p> <p>Are Twinings open only to hospital-based or "official" healthcare entities, such as national health systems and pharmaceutical bodies, or can health tech and machine learning start-ups working outside the immediate clinical environment also take part? (ID 18)</p> <p>Is it possible for a private not-for-profit organisation (a rehabilitation centre) to answer the call under the "full adoption / acquisition" scheme? (ID19)</p>	<p>A: A Twinning Contractor can be a Twinning Originator, a Twinning Adopter region or a Third Party. Participation is open to legal entities established in a Member State of the European Union. Twinning subcontracting is an eligible cost category.</p>
<p>Q: Would the twinning be accepted if we have adopters from Europe and worldwide? And if only Europe, Should they be EIP on AHA RS? (ID 12)</p>	<p>A: Participation in this Request for Twinning Tenders is open on equal terms to legal entities established in a Member State (MS) of the European Union (EU).</p>

	EIP on AHA Reference Site status is not a requirement in this call.
<p>Q: You have proposed numbers of twinning arrangements per type of adoption e.g., 15 for full adoption. Do you foresee, however, any "ceiling" on the way the number of priorities will be supported e.g., "citizen empowerment"? (ID 13)</p>	<p>A: The twinning scheme does not foresee ceilings related to the three EC priorities described in the twinning call.</p>
<p>Q: What are the financial budgets? (ID 15)</p>	<p>A: The total budget for all twinings to be funded in this call is €932,000. Twinning contracts will be awarded based on the available budget, i.e. contracts will be awarded until the remaining budget is insufficient to fund the next best twinning tender that has passed the evaluation threshold. The maximum allowed budgets for each twinning type are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Knowledge exchange & training, digital skills: €5,000 ▶ Adaptation: €9,500 ▶ Partial adoption: €17,000 ▶ Full adoption / acquisition: €43,000
<p>Q: For full adoption, the adopter and the originator could both apply for 43K each? (ID 16)</p>	<p>A: A twinning tender must be submitted by a single organisation. The budgets provided in Table 1 in TD0 are per twinning.</p>
<p>Q: Which costs can be directly invoiced to empirica (i.e. training sessions)? Where can we find the list of eligible costs "conforming to Horizon 2020 eligibility rules for the Acting Procurer's use of this cost category in financial submission" (i.e. travel/accommodation)? (ID 20)</p>	<p>A: For the Twinning Personnel budget, eligibility criteria are specified in Grant Agreement 6.2 A.2: "The costs for natural persons working under a direct contract with the beneficiary other than an employment contract are eligible personnel costs, if: (a)the person works under conditions similar to those of an employee (in particular regarding the way the work is organised, the tasks that are performed and the premises where they are performed);(b)the result of the work carried out belongs to the beneficiary (unless exceptionally agreed otherwise), and(c)the costs are not significantly different from those for personnel performing similar tasks under an employment contract with the beneficiary."</p> <p>For the Twinning Direct Costs, eligibility criteria are specified in Grant Agreement 6.2 D.1: "Travel costs and related subsistence allowances(including related duties, taxes and charges such as non-deductible value added tax (VAT) paid by the beneficiary) are eligible if they are in line with the beneficiary's usual practices on travel".</p>
<p>Q: Adopters may have equipment to buy. How can these costs be covered if the contracting party is the originator? (ID 21)</p>	<p>A: Twinning Subcontracting can be used. Twinning Subcontracting is a fixed sum due on completion of the twinning activities and acceptance of the invoice for funding by the Commission. Twinning Subcontracting can cover not only subcontracting taking place for the twinning itself, but also other costs incurred by Originator and Adopter(s) which cannot be invoiced directly to the</p>

	Acting Procurer either as Twinning Personnel or Twinning Direct Costs.
Q: Is a legal entity from Switzerland eligible? (ID 25)	A: See answer to question with ID 12.
Q: Can the originator-contractor directly invoice Empirica for a training session organised by the Originator for the benefit of the adopters? (ID 27)	A: Any such cost must fall under eligibility criteria specified in the Grant Agreement, such as in Article 6.2 D.3: "Costs of other goods and services (including related duties, taxes and charges such as non-deductible value added tax (VAT) paid by the beneficiary) are eligible, if they are:(a)purchased specifically for the action and in accordance with Article 10.1.1 or(b)contributed in kind against payment and in accordance with Article 11.1.Such goods and services include, for instance, consumables and supplies, dissemination (including open access), protection of results, certificates on the financial statements (if they are required by the Agreement), certificates on the methodology, translations and publications."
Q: Can a contractor also be a sub-contractor? (ID 28)	A: Twinning Subcontracting is a fixed sum due on completion of the twinning activities and acceptance of the invoice for funding by the Commission. Twinning Subcontracting can cover not only subcontracting taking place for the twinning itself, but also other costs incurred by Originator and Adopter(s) which cannot be invoiced directly to the Acting Procurer either as Twinning Personnel or Twinning Direct Costs.