EU4Health Programme 2021-2027 – AWP 2026

Administrative aspects of Operating Grants

European Health and Digital Executive Agency – HaDEA

EU4Health Unit A.1.

Brussels, 16th November 2026

Legal framework



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Legislation

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Contents

I *Legislative acts*

REGULATIONS

★ Regulation (EU) 2021/522 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing a Programme for the Union's action in the field of health ('EU4Health Programme') for the period 2021-2027, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 (1) 1

Regulation (EU) 2021/522 – EU4Health Programme



2026 EU4Health Work Programme

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Activities

Operating grants provide support to the functioning of Health NGOs during 2027 for activities including awareness raising on various health aspects, communication and dissemination, capacity building and training, expert collaboration and networking.



Available budget

Call topic/sub-topic	Indicative call publication	Indicative Budget
Call for proposals – OA-g-26-91	Q4/2026	EUR 1 800 000
Procedure type	**Implemented by**	**Type of applicants targeted**
Open call for proposals (operating grants for 2027)	HaDEA	Health NGOs

Process and indicative timeline

Publication of the call / Open for submission	**4 November 2026**
Deadline for submission	**19 January 2027**
Proposal evaluation	**January –February 2027**
Grant Agreement Preparation	**March – April 2027**
Grant Agreement signature	**30 April 2027**

External experts

At the latest

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Time-to-grant and starting date of the action

***From* FINANCIAL REGULATION APPLICABLE TO THE GENERAL BUDGET OF THE UNION**

Article 196 Principle of non-retroactivity

[…]

4. *In the case of operating grants, the grant agreement shall be signed within four months of the start of the beneficiary's financial year. Costs incurred before the grant application was submitted or before the start of the beneficiary's financial year shall not be eligible for financing.*

Starting date and operating grant duration

The operating grant starting date and duration will be fixed in the Grant Agreement. Normally, the starting date will be after grant signature. Retroactive application can be granted exceptionally for duly justified reasons — but **never earlier than the proposal submission date**.

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Time-to-grant and starting date of the action

- **If the application is submitted after the beginning of the financial year of the beneficiary, the eligibility period can start no earlier than the date of submission of the application**; this implies that the eligibility period under the operating grant will not cover the entire financial year of the beneficiary
- **If the application for an operating grant is submitted before the beginning of the financial year of the beneficiary, the eligibility period can start at the earliest at the beginning of this financial year.**
- The duration of proposals **may not exceed the applicant's financial year, up to 12 months.**

Admissibility requirements & documents

- ❑ Proposals must be submitted before the call deadline
- ❑ Proposals must be submitted electronically via the Funding & Tenders Portal
- ❑ Proposals must be submitted using the forms provided inside the Submission System
- ❑ Application Form Part A
- ❑ Application Form Part B
- ❑ Mandatory annexes and supporting documents (*see call document*)

Mandatory annexes and supporting documents

- *Templates to be downloaded from the Portal Submission System, completed, assembled and re-uploaded*
  - detailed budget table/calculator
  - CVs (standard) of core project team
  - list of previous projects (key projects for the last 4 years) *(template available in Part B)*

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Other mandatory annexes

- Statutes of the NGO
- Extract from the register of associations or the relevant registration authority except where national law provides that registration is not obligatory
- Declaration of absence of conflict of interest from industry (free format)
- Annual financial report of the last two years;
- Annual activity reports of the last two years;
- Minutes of the last general assemblies of the last two years;
- List of members of the NGO
- Self-assessment of the effectiveness of previous actions carried out by the NGO playing an effective role at Union level (free format)
- Justification provided by the applicant organisation (free format) of the financial support need for the implementation of the one or more of the specific objectives of Regulation (EU) 2021/522 as per the content of the proposal submitted

Eligible participants



The call for operating grants is open for applications by a single entity only and only health non-governmental bodies are eligible

Proposals must relate to activities taking place in the eligible countries

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Eligible participants

- ❑ Be legal entities
- ❑ Be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
  - EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))
    - eligible non-EU countries
    - **listed EEA** countries and **countries associated** to the EU4Health Programme
- ❑ Applicants are required to comply with the criteria set out in Article 13(1)-(4) and (8) of Regulation (EU) 2021/522, including the specific criteria detailed below, and relevant criteria set out in the Financial Regulation (See eligibility section 6 in the call document).

Criterion	Sub-criterion	Conditions to fulfil	Proof
Non-for-profit	n/a	The applicant must be organised and operated for collective, public or social benefit; any revenues that exceed expenses must be committed to the organisation's purpose, not taken by private parties	– Statutes – Annual financial reports of the last two years

Independence of industry, commercial and business	Financial independence	The applicant must, at submission stage, demonstrate that is financially independent by: a) submitting proof that not more than 30% of the core funding[5] of the applicant organisation is received from private sector donors; or b) if the above core funding threshold is exceeded, but is below 50%, demonstrating that private sector donors do not exercise influence on the decision and regular activities of the applicant organisation.	a) Annual financial reports of the last two years b) Supporting documents such as minutes and attendee lists of recurrent meetings, brochures and other communication (including exchanges with the Commission), annual activity reports and a mandatory declaration on honour; internal procedures/policies/mitigating measures to safeguard independence
	Legal independence	The applicant must provide proof of the absence of direct or indirect holding of decision-making powers, de facto or in law, by another legal entity or natural person	– Statutes – Extract from the register of associations or the relevant registration authority except where national law provided that registration is not obligatory – Minutes of the general assemblies of the last two years
	Absence of conflict of interest	The applicant must prove the absence of conflict of interest of board of management or similar governing body	– Declaration on honour (free format)

Active in the public health area and pursue at least one of the specific objectives of Regulation (EU) 2021/522	n/a	The applicant must demonstrate being active in the public health area and pursuing at least one of the specific objectives laid down in Article 4, of Regulation (EU) 2021/522	– Statutes – Extract from the register of associations or the relevant registration authority except where national law provided that registration is not obligatory (or similar) – Annual activity report from the last 2 years – Supporting documents such as minutes and attendee lists of recurrent meetings, brochures and other communication (including exchanges with the Commission)
Being active at Union level in at least half of the Member States with a balanced geographical coverage of the Union.	n/a	The applicant must provide proof of being active at Union level and, through its statutory member organisations, in at least half of the Member States, in a geographically balanced	– Statutes – List of members of the NGO – Annual activity reports from the last two years

Play an effective role at Union level	n/a	The applicant must provide proof of effectiveness at Union level	– Self-assessment of the effectiveness of previous actions (free format)
Financial support necessary for the implementation of one or more of the specific objectives of Regulation (EU) 2021/522	n/a	The applicant must justify why the financial support of the Union is needed for the achievement of one or several of the specific objectives of Regulation (EU) 2021/522.	– Justification provided by the applicant organisation (free format)

Selection criteria

Operational capacity,

Applicants must have the **know-how, qualifications** and **resources** to successfully implement the projects and contribute their share (including sufficient experience in projects of comparable size and nature).

This capacity will be assessed together with the 'Quality' award criterion, on the basis of the competence and experience of the applicants and their project teams, including operational resources (human, technical and other) or, exceptionally, the measures proposed to obtain it by the time the task implementation starts.

If the evaluation of the award criterion is positive, the applicants are considered to have sufficient operational capacity.

Financial capacity,

Applicants must have **stable and sufficient resources** to successfully implement the projects and contribute their share. Organisations participating in several projects must have sufficient capacity to implement all these projects.

Exclusion criteria

- Bankruptcy
- In breach of social security or tax obligations
- Convicted of an offence concerning professional conduct
- Committed fraud, corruption, links to a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes, child labour or human trafficking
- Shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under an EU procurement contract, grant agreement, prize, expert contract, or similar
- Guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No 2988/95
- Created under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin or created another entity with this purpose
- intentionally and without proper justification resisted15 an investigation, check or audit carried out by an EU authorising officer

Exclusion from granting procedure:

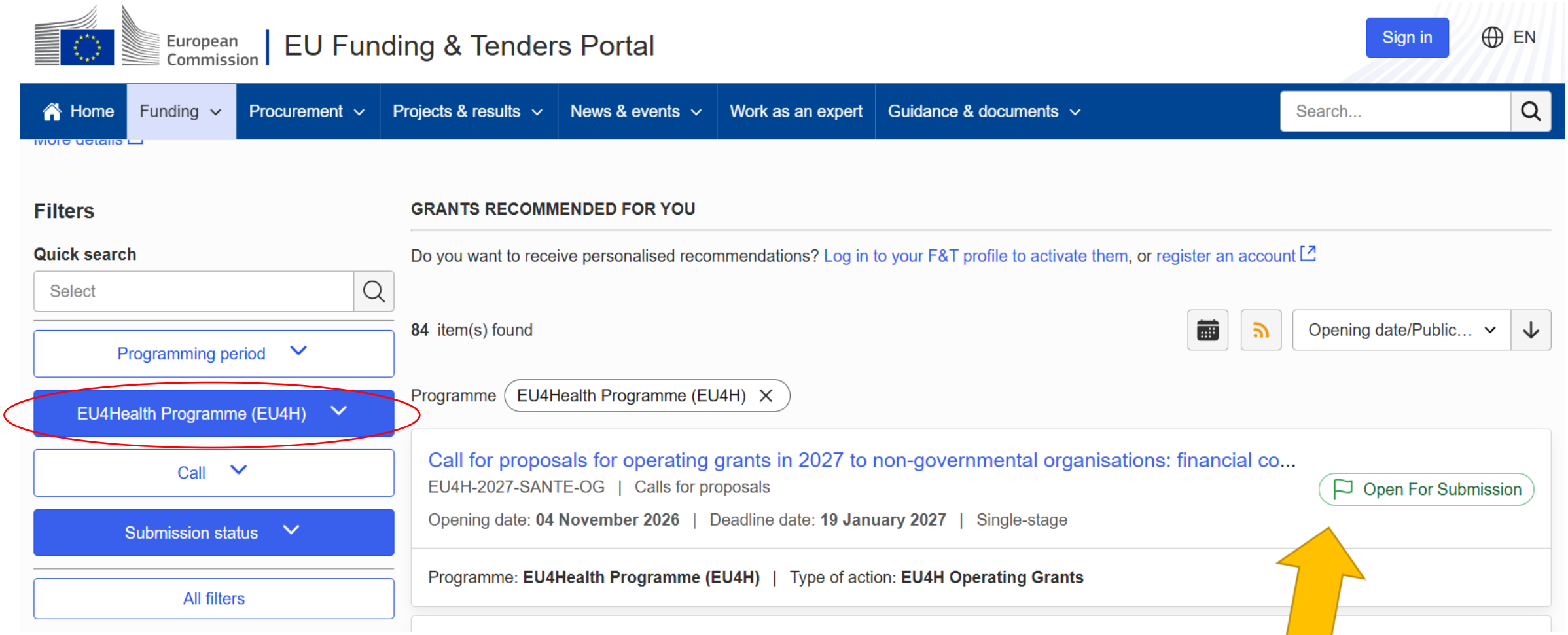
- Conflict of interest
- Guilty of misrepresenting the information required by the Agency

Exceptional utility

Criterion	Sub-criterion	Conditions to fulfil	Proof
Exceptional Utility	n/a	At least 30 % of the budget of the operating grants is allocated to activities in (*one or more*) Member States whose Gross Net Income per inhabitant is less than 90% of the EU average.	Appropriate financial proof

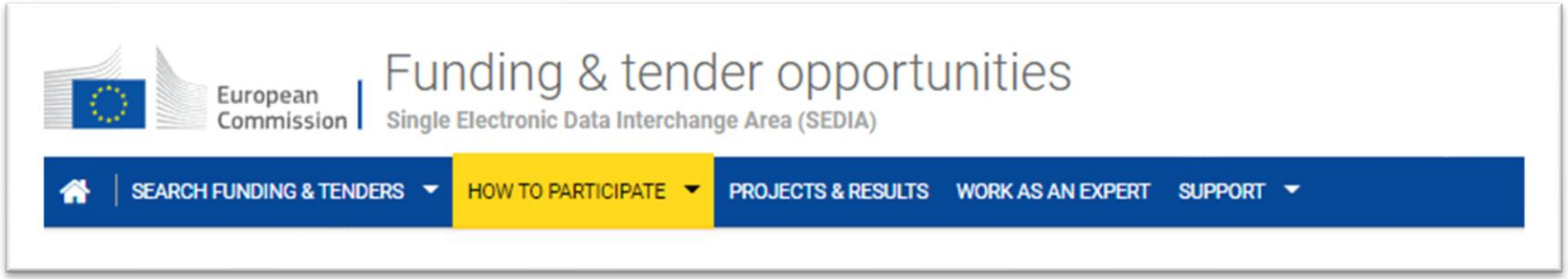
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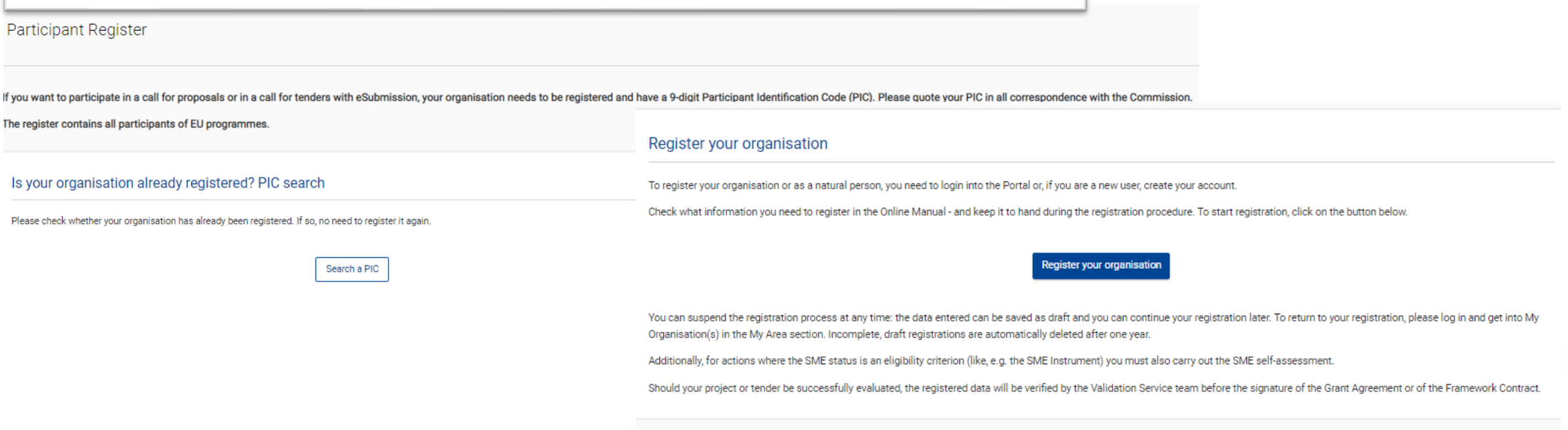
Submission of proposals



Submission of proposals

EU Login account — unique identifier for individuals. All you need to open an EU Login account is your work e-mail address.
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number — unique identifier for organisations. This 9-digit number is received after you register in the **Portal Participant Register.**





Submission of proposals

Home | Funding | Procurement | Projects & results | News & events | Work as an expert | Guidance & documents

described in section 10 of the call document.

Call document and annexes:

Call document

Application form templates

Standard application form (EU4H OG) — the application form specific to this call is available in the Submission System

Detailed budget table (EU4H OG) — the application form specific to this call is available in the Submission System

Model Grant Agreements (MGA)

Operating Grants MGA

Additional documents:

EU4H Work Programme

EU4H Regulation 2021/522

EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509

Rules for Legal Entity Validation, LEAR Appointment and Financial Capacity Assessment

Interpretative note on the definition of non-governmental organisations under Article 2(49) of the Financial Regulation

Reference table for the determination of the exceptional utility

EU Grants AGA — Annotated Model Grant Agreement

Funding & Tenders Portal Online Manual

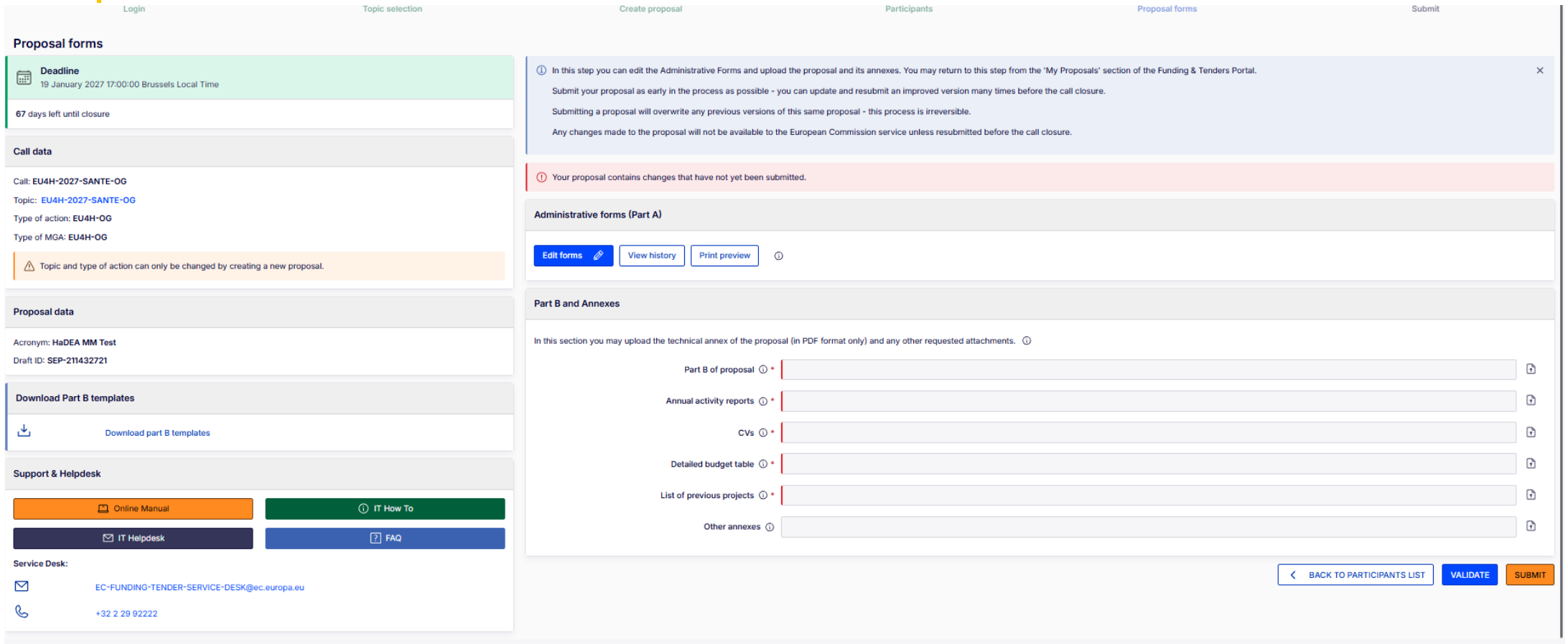
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Submission of proposals



Fill Part A directly in the portal and validate it !!!

Upload Part B once is filled!!!!

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Award criteria

Award criteria	Min pass score	Max score
Relevance	21	30
Quality — Project design and implementation	21	30
Quality — Project team and cooperation arrangements	21	30
Impact	7	10
Overall (pass) scores	**70**	**100**

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Award criteria

9. Award criteria

The **award criteria** for this call are as follows:

1. **Relevance:** clarity and consistency of project, objectives and planning; extent to which they match the themes and priorities and objectives of the call; contribution to the EU strategic and legislative context; justification why the financial support is necessary for the implementation of one or more of the specific objectives of Regulation (EU) 2021/522; European/trans-national dimension; impact/interest for a number of countries (EU or eligible non-EU countries); possibility to use the results in other countries; potential to develop mutual trust/cross-border cooperation (30 points)

2. **Quality:**

   - **Project design and implementation:** quality; logical links between the identified problems, needs and solutions proposed (logical frame concept); methodology for implementing the project (concept and methodology, management, procedures, timetable, risks and risk management, monitoring and evaluation); feasibility of the operating grant activities within the proposed time frame; cost effectiveness (sufficient/appropriate budget for proper implementation; best value for money) (30 points)

   - **Project team and cooperation arrangements:** quality of the activities teams; appropriate procedures and problem-solving mechanisms for cooperating within the operating teams (30 points)

3. **Impact:** ambition and expected long-term impact of results on target groups/general public; appropriate dissemination strategy for ensuring sustainability and long-term impact; sustainability of results after EU funding ends (10 points).

Process for an open call for proposals



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Thank you



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