

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

EUSPA/GRANT/04/2025

EGNOS maritime receiver implementing IEC 61108-7 standard

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1. CONTEXT

1.1. Overview

The present call for proposal (Call for Proposal) with its annexes provides the Applicants with the terms and conditions to be respected in order to submit a proposal and participate in the grant procedure.

NOTA BENE: Interested parties are invited to read carefully everything below in order to ensure that applications are complete and compliant with the call for proposal's terms and conditions when submitted.

1.2. Introduction

The mission of the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA) is defined by the EU Space Programme Regulation¹. EUSPA's mission is, *inter alia*, to be the user-oriented operational Agency of the EU Space Programme, contributing to sustainable growth, security and safety of the European Union.

The European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) provides an augmentation service to the Global Positioning System (GPS) Standard Positioning Service (SPS). Today, EGNOS augments GPS using the L1 (1575.42 MHz) Coarse/Acquisition (C/A) civilian signal function by providing correction data and integrity information for improving positioning, navigation and timing services over Europe. EGNOS will augment both GPS and Galileo in the future, using L1 and L5 (1176.45 MHz) frequencies.

The EGNOS Safety of Life (SoL) assisted service for Maritime users (ESMAS), was declared operational in 2024. It is provided openly and is freely accessible without any direct charge. The ESMAS offers a service tailored to maritime users to enable marine navigation in harbour entrances, harbour approaches and coastal waters of the European Union Member States and EGNOS contributing countries (Iceland, Norway and Switzerland) in line with IMO Resolution A.1046². The service is described in the applicable ESMAS Service Definition Document (SDD)³.

The Marine Equipment Directive (MED) 2014/90/EU⁴ refers to products related to Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), including life-saving appliances, navigation equipment and radio installations and applicable standards to ensure conformity assessment for ships registered under the flags of EU member states and European Free Trade Associations (EFTA) states.

The updated implementing regulation (EU) 2024/1975⁵ amending the MED 2014/90/EU entered into force on 4 September 2024. This updated implementing regulation included a new subitem (Row 3) related to Satellite Based Augmentation Systems (SBAS) equipment, within item 4.63 (i.e. GNSS Equipment). In particular, the new subitem included the standard IEC 61108-7:2024⁶ in the testing standards.

The 2024 edition of the standard IEC 61108-7 is in force at the time of the publication of this Call for Proposal and shall apply. However, any subsequent editions shall prevail. Accordingly, below reference is made to the standard IEC 61108-7 in general, without limiting to a specific edition.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32021R0696&from=EN>

² [https://wwwcdn.imo.org/localresources/en/KnowledgeCentre/IndexofIMOResolutions/AssemblyDocuments/A.1046\(27\).pdf](https://wwwcdn.imo.org/localresources/en/KnowledgeCentre/IndexofIMOResolutions/AssemblyDocuments/A.1046(27).pdf)

³ https://edas-maritime.gsc-europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/egnos_esmas_sdd_in_force.pdf

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2014/90/oj/eng>

⁵ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2024/1975/oj/eng

⁶ The IEC 61108-7 standard "Maritime navigation and radiocommunication equipment and systems - Global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) - Part 7: Satellite based augmentation system (SBAS) L1 - Receiver equipment - Performance standards, methods of testing and required test results (IEC 61108-7:2024)" was published on 3rd May 2024 and is available at <https://webstore.iec.ch/en/publication/68696>.

The target users for the ESMAS are maritime Single Frequency (SF) users who use receivers that:

1. are type-approved according to existing IEC-61108-1:2003 standard⁷ and the IEC 61108-7 standard⁸ on their vessels;
2. are compliant to the requirements defined in section 4.4 of the ESMAS SDD;
3. produce position, velocity and timing (PVT) data processing following the recommended principles and functions (i.e. Guidelines for Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) data processing, PVT output data stream in line with maritime interface standard⁹); and carry the on-board equipment required for the SOLAS ships to be able to receive Maritime Safety Information (MSI).

1.3. Legal basis of the call

This call is based on the EU Space Regulation¹⁰ and the Contribution Agreement concluded between the European Union, represented by the European Commission, and the European Union Agency for the Space programme (EUSPA) on the Implementation of the Union Space Programme and Horizon Europe signed on 22 June 2021.

In this framework, and in accordance with the Annual Work Plan as approved by the European Commission, and the EUSPA Single Programming Document published on the EUSPA website ([Microsoft Word - EUSPA-OED-SPR-RPT-A19471 1.0 Single Programming Document 2024-2026 \(with new Annex XV\).docx](#)), EUSPA is launching a call for proposals to develop an EGNOS maritime receiver tailored to the ESMAS service and implementing the IEC 61108-7 standard.

2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE CALL AND SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

2.1. Objective of the call for proposals

This Call for Proposals aims at designing, developing, testing, certifying and demonstrating an EGNOS based receiver, fulfilling the requirements defined in the IEC 61108-7 standard, suitable to be embedded within the vessel navigation equipment in order to fully use the ESMAS service, as described in the SDD.

The IEC 61108-7 standard specifies the minimum performance standards, methods of testing and required test results for Satellite based augmentation system (SBAS) shipborne receiver equipment, which uses L1 signals from GPS and satellite-based augmentation system (SBAS). The applicants shall use the published standard for preparation of the proposal as described in the sections below.

The applicants are requested to propose a solution that reaches the main objective by fulfilling the following subobjectives:

- (1) Design and develop a receiver that meet the requirements defined in the ESMAS SDD.
- (2) Execute the tests defined in the IEC 61107-8 standard in laboratory and assess the results against the criteria defined in the IEC 61107-8 standard.

⁷ <https://webstore.iec.ch/en/publication/4515>

⁸ See footnote 7 above.

⁹ <https://webstore.iec.ch/en/publication/63098>

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Union Space Programme and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013 and (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU.

- (3) Obtain certification in line with the MED referred to above.
- (4) Integrate the solution in an operational vessel and run a demonstration.

2.2. Scope of the project

In order to reach the above objectives of the call, applicants are expected to conduct the following activities within the scope of this call:

1. Technology selection to fulfil the following requirements, as described in the ESMAS SDD and IEC 61108-7 standard:
 - 1.1. The receiver shall be designed for specific applications within the maritime and/or inland waterways segment¹¹. The applicants shall identify the target market and application.
 - 1.2. The receiver shall be compliant with requirements defined in section 4.4 of the ESMAS SDD.
 - 1.3. The receiver shall implement the capability to enable the processing of GPS according to IEC-61108-1:2003 standard.
 - 1.4. The receiver shall implement the capability to enable the processing SBAS L1, according to IEC 61108-7 standard.
2. Technical design and implementation of the technology:
 - 2.1 The applicant shall develop the hardware and/or firmware and/or software level, as applicable for the intended receiver model.
- 3 Receiver testing and certification:
 - 3.1 The applicant shall perform the tests described in the IEC 61108-7 standard in a laboratory following the process for conformity assessment as defined in the applicable regulation available at the MED Portal¹², and obtain the MED certification.
 - 3.2 The applicant shall ensure the availability of the necessary equipment in a laboratory to execute the tests defined in the IEC 61108-7 standard, and acquire it and configure it as needed for the action.
 - 3.3 Optionally, the applicants could perform a pre-testing of the receiver for early identification of any misalignment with the requirements outlined in the standard or to identify any practical impairments that may arise during the execution of the tests in an internal/external laboratory.
- 4 The applicants shall perform dissemination activities during the implementation of the project with focus on vessels owners and classification societies. In particular, the project shall include the installation of the receiver in an operational vessel, validate the proposed solution with potential customers and implement a final demonstration, showcasing its benefits with the involvement and active participation of real maritime users (e.g. vessel operators, maritime authorities). The applicant shall also deliver, at the end of the project, a demonstration kit as specified in Section 2.4 **Error! Reference source not found.** with the aim for the EUSPA to be able to showcase the receiver benefits.
- 5 The developed ESMAS receiver shall be cost efficient and designed with its commercialization in mind in the short term. The applicants shall define and implement a business strategy to exploit and commercialize the results, involving representatives from across the whole value chain of the proposed

¹¹ https://www.cesni.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/CESNI_Test_St_Inl_AIS_en-1.pdf

¹² <https://portal.med.emsa.europa.eu/>

solution, including vessels owners and classification societies. The business strategy shall also address management of IPR and business risk assessment.

2.3. Core Activities

For the purpose of this call the following activities (belonging to one or more of the areas described above in section 2.3) are considered **core** to the project:

- Management and coordination
- Technical architecture definition and validation with the potential customers of the proposed solution
- Design and development of the innovative technology
- Business strategy definition and implementation, including management of IPR and business risk assessment
- Final demonstration.

2.4. Project Workflow

Each activity subject to the call shall follow standard system engineering lifecycle and foresee intermediate milestones which shall already be included, as detailed as possible, in the submitted proposal.

The proposed workflow shall in principle contain the following milestones:

- **Definition and submission of a Work plan**, as described in Section 3 of the B1 form, and following the project management best practices.
- **Definition and submission of a technology selection document**

The first project phase shall consolidate the system objectives and target challenges with the aim to detail the target performance, justification of the remaining operational limitations and constraints (if any). The user requirements, including operational constraints and their connection with the proposed solution's requirements, shall be clearly substantiated.

Building on the preliminary requirements defined in the proposal, the beneficiary shall further elaborate, justify and validate the proposed solution's requirements, which shall be consolidated at a *System Requirement Review (SRR)*.

In addition, the EGNOS role in the overall positioning/navigation solution shall be highlighted and justified. The hybridisation with other sensors (if selected) and its actual contribution to the target performance shall be defined.

- **Performance of the core Design** activity containing at least the following milestones:
 - a. *Preliminary Design Review (PDR)* to consolidate the conceptual prototype architecture and the verification and validation approach, before entering into the detailed design phase;
 - b. *Critical Design Review (CDR)* which shall finalise the system detailed design and architecture. The high-level architecture shall also be defined and broken down into the low-level design.

- **Development of the Receiver and positioning/navigation prototype(s)** (including one integrated within the demo kit to be delivered to EUSPA).

The development shall be carried out with respect to the specific application and market constraints in order to achieve adequate product maturity (TRL 7) in the shape of a close-to-market prototype ready to be fully validated and then demonstrated.

- Following a *Test Readiness Review (TRR)*, the functional and performance testing shall be performed both in laboratory and in a real environment, with an aim to verify the **prototype's compliance with the requirements** in IEC 61108-7 standard for what concerns the functionalities and the target performance.
- **Certification** demonstrating conformity with IEC 61108-7 standard, following the required tests and demonstrating suitability for use in SOLAS vessels according to the MED and regulation in force.
- **Dissemination activities**, including a final demonstration in a real environment involving final users.

The demonstration is expected to be run before completing the project, to effectively showcase the achieved performance and demonstrate the benefits enabled by EGNOS.

- **Commercialisation preparation activities**, made of a set of actions taken by the beneficiary to undertake to prepare the ground for commercialisation of the results, in accordance with the approved business plan.

The project shall be concluded with *Final Review (FR)*, where all remaining deliverables shall be reviewed and accepted.

The applicant can propose a different project workflow, if considered beneficial to better reaching of the project objectives. However, any deviations shall be duly justified and will be evaluated against the specified award criteria (section 10).

2.5. Deliverables

During the implementation of the action the beneficiaries are expected to submit a number of deliverables including documents and hardware.

The list of deliverables shall include at least the following:

- (1) Work plan (**preliminary version to be provided in the proposal – see below section 16.2.2**)
- (2) Receiver operational requirements document, including requirements as specified in sections 2.1 and 2.2.
- (3) Preliminary receiver architecture, including detailed specifications i.e. algorithm for protection level computation.
- (4) Final receiver architecture, covering hardware and/or software components
- (5) Test plan, cases and procedures (**preliminary plan to be provided in the proposal – see below section 16.2.2**)

- (6) Receiver test reports
- (7) Receiver prototype and relevant operation manual
- (8) MED certificate of the receiver (-s)
- (9) Dissemination plan **(preliminary version to be provided in the proposal – see below section 16.2.2)**
- (10) Business plan **(preliminary version to be provided in the proposal – see below section 16.2.2)**
- (11) Demonstration report, including vessels installation report
- (12) Dissemination documents and multi-media
- (13) Demonstration kit to be delivered to EUSPA, as described below in this section, including user manual

The applicant, in their proposal, shall assign each deliverable to a specific milestone indicated in Section 2.5.

The demonstration kit (deliverable no 13 mentioned above) shall include a dedicated hardware/software able to interface with the Receiver with the aim for the EUSPA to be able to run, after the project completion, a simplified demonstration showcasing the project's achievements and in particular the actual EGNOS contribution. The vessel(s) used during the project for testing and demonstration are not considered part of the demonstration kit.

The beneficiaries shall deliver to the EUSPA the fully functional demonstration kit (signing – at the time of delivery of the demonstration kit – a free of charge right of use Agreement for a 5 years duration – see Template under Annex X), along with permissions and licences for the uses defined in the draft Grant Agreement (Article I.9), and any related documentation, and shall also train EUSPA staff (deliverable number 9) in order to make the EUSPA able to reproduce the demo after the completion of the project at EUSPA or other EU institutions, bodies or agencies' premises.

EUSPA reserves the right to timely inform (e.g. at the Kick-Off meeting) the beneficiary about the place of delivery of the deliverable number (9) (either the EUSPA or other EU institutions).

At proposal stage, beneficiaries are expected to provide a matrix of deliverables and milestones, containing the deliverables requested above, as well as the additional ones proposed by the applicant, following the structure below. :

Deliverable	KOM	SRR	PDR	CDR	TRR	FR
Work Plan	X					
Receiver operational requirements document		X				
Preliminary receiver architecture including detailed specifications i.e. algorithm for protection level computation.			X			
Final receiver architecture, covering hardware and/or software components				X		
Test plan, cases and procedures				X		
Receiver test reports					X	

Deliverable	KOM	SRR	PDR	CDR	TRR	FR
Receiver prototype and relevant operation manual				X		X
MED certificate of the receiver (-s)						X
Dissemination plan		X			X	
Business plan			X			X
Demonstration report, including vessels installation report						X
Dissemination documents and multi-media			X		X	
Demonstration kit						X

3. TIMETABLE

This call for proposals shall be conducted according to the following timetable:

	Stages	Date/time or indicative period
a)	Publication of the call	11 July 2025
b)	Deadline for request for clarifications	15 September 2025
c)	Publication of the clarifications	30 September 2025
d)	Deadline for submitting applications	15 October 2025
e)	Evaluation period	October-February 2026
f)	Information to applicants on the outcome of the evaluation	March 2026
g)	Signature of the grant agreement	April 2026

Indicative duration of the action under (each) grant agreement: **2 years**¹³

Starting date for the action is the first day of the month following the signature of the grant agreement. The incurred costs will be considered eligible as of that date provided that they fulfil all eligibility conditions specified in the relevant article of the grant agreement.

Exceptionally, the starting date for the action can be before the grant agreement signature. In such a case the cost incurred may be considered eligible provided that the applicant(s) can demonstrate the need for starting the action prior to signature of the grant agreement¹⁴. In order for the granting authority to check that the above conditions are met the applicant(s) shall:

- notify EUSPA of the date when action needs to start

- justify reasons for 'early start of the action'

either directly in the proposal or in subsequent formal letter sent to the EUSPA (before the grant agreement signature).

Approval of the 'early start of the action', if granted, will be communicated to the applicant(s) through a formal EUSPA letter and the costs will be considered eligible only if the applicant will be awarded a grant, the

¹³ If duly justified, applicants may propose a longer duration of the action

¹⁴ Article 196(2) of the Financial Regulation

grant agreement will be signed by both parties and the eligibility conditions of the grant agreement are met. In the grant agreement the 'starting date' of the action will be set accordingly.

NOTA BENE: Only costs incurred after the date of the proposal submission can be considered eligible subject to the fulfilment of the conditions above.

4. EU FINANCING

Maximum budget allocated for EU financing under this action: **EUR 2.000.000**

Indicative number of projects: up to 2 projects

Indicative EU financing amount for a project: **Up to EUR 1,000,000.000**

Maximum EU co-financing rate of eligible costs: **70%**

Publication of the call does not guarantee the availability of funds for the above action and it places no obligation on EUSPA to award grants to any applicant.

EUSPA reserves the right to award a grant of less than the amount requested by the applicant. In such a case, the applicant(s) will be asked either to increase their co-financing, propose other co-financing means or to decrease the total costs without altering the substance of the proposal. Grants will not be awarded for more than the amount requested.

5. ROLES AND TASKS OF APPLICANT(S)

5.1. Entities involved in the activities subject to the proposal

The proposal shall clearly identify the entities (legal and/or natural persons) to be involved in the activities subject to the proposal, being the applicant (s) (including **coordinator and co-applicants**) as well as any third parties, such as **affiliated entities and subcontractors** and their contributions to the implementation of the proposal under the grant agreement. Parties' participation in the project will be subject to the requirements as laid down in this Call for Proposals.

5.2. Single Applicant

In case the proposal is submitted by a single applicant, it will be considered as mono-beneficiary grant if the proposal is selected for award.

5.3. Coordinator

If the proposal is submitted by a group of several co-applicants they will form a consortium and will become consortium members. The consortium members (multi-beneficiaries) should choose amongst them a lead organisation, referred to as the "Coordinator".

The coordinator submits the application on behalf of the consortium and will be the intermediary for all communication between the co-beneficiaries and EUSPA as well as responsible for supplying all documents and information to EUSPA in due time upon request.

The grant agreement shall be signed by the coordinator of the successful consortium, provided that a mandate (Annex IV of the grant agreement) has been provided to it by each co-applicant. Such mandates shall be annexed to the grant agreement.

The coordinator will also be responsible for distribution of payments received from EUSPA to the co-beneficiaries.

5.4. Co-applicant(s)

Each co-applicant will be considered as co-beneficiary if the proposal is selected for award. Before signature of the grant agreement, all applicants within the consortium shall agree upon appropriate arrangements between themselves for the proper performance of the specific actions.

Co-applicants shall immediately inform the coordinator of any event which can substantially affect or delay the implementation of the action. The coordinator will inform EUSPA in accordance with the grant agreement and will ensure compliance with all the terms and conditions provided in the draft grant agreement.

The coordinator and all co-applicants forming the consortium must satisfy the eligibility criteria.

5.5. Affiliated entities

Legal persons having a legal or capital link with the applicant(s), which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation, may take part in the action as affiliated entities, and may declare eligible costs. For that purpose, the applicant(s) shall identify such affiliated entities in the application forms and in the proposal.

Each affiliated entity shall have to comply with the same eligibility and non-exclusion criteria as those applying to the applicant(s) and submit the same forms, including the forms proving the financial and operational capacity (see section 9.1 and 9.2 below).

5.6. Subcontractors

Subcontracting¹⁵ refers to contracts concluded for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the action.

The beneficiaries remain solely responsible for the implementation of the action. Subcontracting is not allowed among the beneficiaries in the project.

Please note that the applicants must have the necessary operational capacity to perform the project themselves. The operational capacity will be assessed at the time of the evaluation of the proposal (please see section 9.2 below).

¹⁵ Article 208 of the Financial Regulation

Subcontracting of specific tasks or activities (i.e. the externalisation) which form part of the action as described in the proposal must satisfy the conditions applicable to any implementation contract (as specified above) and in addition to them the following conditions:

- a. it may only cover the implementation of a limited part of the action and **shall in no case cover core activities as described in Section Error! Reference source not found.;**
- b. it must be justified having regard to the nature of the action and what is **necessary for its implementation;**
- c. it must be clearly **stated in the proposal.**

The beneficiaries must award the subcontract to the bid offering best value for money or the lowest price (as appropriate), avoiding conflicts of interests and retain the relevant documentation for the event of an audit. The sub-contract shall be awarded in accordance with the conditions set in the grant agreement. Entities acting in their capacity of contracting authorities in the meaning of Directive 2014/24/EC¹⁶ or contracting entities in the meaning of Directive 2014/25/EC¹⁷ shall abide by the applicable national public procurement rules.

The subcontracted tasks must be set out in the description of the action (i.e. form B1 and Annex I to the grant agreement) and the estimated costs of subcontracting must be stated in the estimated budget (Form C1 and Annex III to the Grant Agreement). However, approval of subcontracting by EUSPA (whether at the time of the evaluation of proposal or later during the implementation of the action) does not automatically mean that the related costs will be considered eligible and reimbursed. The costs will need to comply with the eligibility criteria indicated in the grant agreement (see also point 2.8 in section 12.2.3below) in order for them to be reimbursed.

Any recourse to subcontracting if not provided *ex ante* in the Description of the Action (Annex I to the Grant Agreement) shall be communicated to EUSPA for approval in accordance with the provisions of the signed Grant Agreement.

It is not necessary to have already selected subcontractors at the time the proposal is submitted.

6. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Applications must comply with all of the following conditions in order to be admissible:

- Applications must be sent no later than the deadline for submitting applications referred to in section 3 and 17,
- Applications must be submitted in writing, using the submission set described in section 16,
- Applications must be drafted in one of the EU official languages with a preference to English. For further information please refer to section 17 below,

¹⁶ Directive 2014/24/EC on public procurement and repealing Directive 2014/18/EC.

¹⁷ Directive 2014/25/EC on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC.

- Applications must respect the maximum rate for EU co-financing¹⁸.

7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

APPLICANTS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

7.1. Eligible applicants

- Legal persons established¹⁹ in and/or natural person(s) who is national of one of the following countries are eligible:
 - EU Member States
 - Switzerland, Norway, Iceland

Corporate bodies must be properly constituted and registered under their applicable law. When an applicant does not have a legal personality, a physical person must be designated to provide the legal responsibility.

The single applicant (see section 5.2), the coordinator (see section 5.3) and all co-applicants (see section 5.4) forming the applicant consortium, as well as the affiliated entities (see section 5.5) shall satisfy the same eligibility criteria.

7.2. Multi-beneficiary proposal - Structure of the consortium

In the case of multiple co-applicants, the coordinator will submit the proposal on behalf of the consortium.

The proposal must be submitted by a consortium composed of at least two (2) entities out of which:

- the coordinator shall be a legal person;
- the co-applicant(s) can be either a legal and/or a natural person(s).

The grant agreement shall be signed by the coordinator of the successful consortium, provided that a mandate (Annex IV of the grant agreement) has been provided to it by each co-applicant. Such mandates shall be annexed to the grant agreement.

Certain supporting documents proving compliance with the eligibility criteria need to be provided. For the list please see section 16 below.

Applicant(s) may participate in multiple applicant consortia if the actions covered in the respective Technical Proposals (B1 form) are different from each other in order to comply with the principle of non-cumulative financing and award.

¹⁸ Proposals exceeding the applicable maximum EU co-financing rate for this call (see section 4) shall not be considered further and will be rejected.

¹⁹ Established should be understood as having a registered office, central administration or principal place of business in one of these countries.

8. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

APPLICANTS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE EXCLUSION CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Article 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144 of the Financial Regulation²⁰ shall apply to applicants.

8.1. Exclusion from participation

Exclusion criteria are specified in the standard **Declaration of Honour (A4 Form)** of this call and apply to all applicants **and all affiliated entities** (see section 5.5).

8.2. Exclusion from award

Applicants will not be granted EU funds if, in the course of the grant award procedure, they:

- are in exclusion situation established in the A4 form;
- have misrepresented the information required by EUSPA as a condition of participation in the grant award procedure or fail to supply this information upon request by EUSPA;
- were previously involved in the preparation of the call for proposal documents where this entails a distortion of competition that cannot be remedied otherwise;
- are a Restricted Person and fall under the scope of subject to EU Restrictive Measures in the list published at www.sanctionsmap.eu. In case of discrepancies between 'sancitonsmap.eu' and the restrictive measures published in Official Journal of the EU, the latter prevails.

Administrative and financial penalties may be imposed on applicants that are guilty of misrepresentation.

Notice on the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary (complementing the participating conditions).

In accordance to the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 adopted on 15 December 2022 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary it's been established that, where Union budget is implemented in direct or indirect management pursuant to of Article 62(1) points (a) and (c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, no legal commitments shall be entered into with any public interest established on the basis of the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 (or any other entity maintained by such a public interest trust).

9. SELECTION CRITERIA

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

9.1. Financial capacity

²⁰ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509

Applicants must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the action is carried out. The applicants' financial capacity will be assessed on the basis of the following supporting documents to be submitted with the application by each applicant and affiliated entity (thresholds shall apply to each applicant):

- a) grant amount < EUR 750 000:
 - a Declaration of Honour (A4 Form) and,
 - a table provided for in the application form (A5 Form), filled in with the relevant statutory accounting figures, in order to calculate the ratios as detailed in the form. For newly created legal persons, a business plan might replace the above documents.
- b) grant amount ≥ EUR 750 000:
 - in addition to the above, an audit report produced by an approved external auditor, where it is available, and always in cases where a statutory audit is required by Union or national law, certifying the accounts for the last three available financial years. In all other cases, the applicant shall provide a self-declaration signed by its authorised representative certifying the validity of its accounts for the last three available financial year.

On the basis of the documents submitted, if EUSPA considers that financial capacity is not satisfactory and in any other case EUSPA may deem it appropriate, it may:

- request further information;
- propose a grant agreement without pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement with a lower percentage of a pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement with a pre-financing covered by a bank guarantee (see section 12.4 below);
- reject the application.

The verification of the financial capacity **shall not apply to**:

- public bodies, including Member State organisations;
- international organisations;
- natural persons in receipt of education support;
- natural persons most in need, such as unemployed persons and refugees, and in receipt of direct support;
- persons or entities applying for interest rate rebates and guarantee fee subsidies where the objective of those rebates and subsidies is to reinforce the financial capacity of a beneficiary or to generate an income.
- Low value grants.

9.2. Operational capacity (B2 Form)

The applicant(s) shall demonstrate a balanced expertise in the areas needed to carry out the activities defined in section 2 above.

Applicants must show they have the **operational (technical) capacity** to complete the activities of this Call for Proposal.

In particular:

- Applicant(s) shall have a high degree of specialisation in the areas pertaining to the activities subject to the proposal, especially they shall demonstrate their knowledge and relevant expertise in the applicable market, e.g. maritime, inland waterways, port operations, etc;

- Applicant(s) must have relevant experience in design, development, integration, demonstration and/or manufacturing of GNSS-based products or solutions.

The above requirements apply also to every affiliated entity.

10. AWARD CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria. When assessing the below award criteria, the evaluation committee shall use the elements indicated below for each criterion.

AWARD CRITERIA	MAX. SCORE
1. Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the call, credibility of the proposed approach and innovation level of the solution proposed	60
<i>Comprehensiveness of the proposed solution including critical analysis of the standard requirements and proposed innovation</i>	30
<i>Approach to design, development and testing of the proposed solution, including conformity assessment and the obtaining of the MED certification</i>	30
2. Impact in terms of economic and public benefits derived from the proposal	30
<i>Effectiveness, coherence and viability of the business plan including plan for the commercialisation of the results, and management of IPR and business risk assessment</i>	20
<i>Credible and effective dissemination plan for the results in the best interest of the EU and robustness of the business risk assessment</i>	10
3. Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources - the level of the effort involved and its distribution within the proposed tasks and consortium participants, including complementarity of the proposed resources' skills	10
Maximum total score	100

If a total score lower than **60** points or a score lower than **60%** for any of the above four criteria is obtained, the proposal will not be evaluated further and will be rejected.

11. LEGAL COMMITMENTS

Applicants are reminded:

The successful applicants shall be bound by the special and general conditions of the draft grant agreement. Submission of a grant application (proposal) implies the acceptance of these special and the general conditions (see Annex 2 of the grant agreement). This also includes the obligation of the provision of accurate, sincere and complete information within the context of this grant procedure including but not limited to filling out the provided forms with true, correct and complete data representing the real status of the applicant.

In the event of a grant awarded by EUSPA following this call, a grant agreement drawn up in Euro and detailing the conditions and level of funding will be sent to the mono-beneficiary or coordinator of the consortium (as the case may be), alongside a description of the procedure in view to formalise the obligations of the parties.

In case of a consortium, the coordinator, representing the awarded consortium, on the basis of duly provided powers of attorney (Mandate – Annex IV of the grant agreement) shall sign 2 (two) copies of the original agreement.

In case EUSPA requests the below documents²¹ the applicant shall make them available to EUSPA within the relevant deadlines. EUSPA reserves the right to cancel the award and/or the grant agreement signature process and re-allocate the budget in case of untimely submission. In particular:

- (1) All supporting documents pertaining to the Declaration of Honour (A4 form) for each co-applicant (and affiliated entity if the case may be) in due time upon request by EUSPA after the receipt of such request;**
- (2) Signed grant agreement by the coordinator accompanied by the mandate – Annex IV of the grant agreement for each co-applicant at the latest 1 (one) month after the coordinator's receipt of the grant agreement for signature.**

12. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

When preparing their proposal, applicants shall observe the elements described in the following sub-sections for calculating the required budget for the implementation of their project.

12.1. General principles

Non-cumulative award

Each action may give rise to the award of only one grant from the budget to any applicant.

In no circumstances shall the same costs be financed twice by the European Union budget.

Applicants have to inform EUSPA immediately of any multiple applications and multiple grants relating to the same action. The applicants shall inform about sources and amounts of EU funding received or applied for the same action or for part of the action. Applicants shall indicate if they receive EU funding for their functioning during the financial year in which the action takes place.

Non-retroactivity²²

No grant may be awarded retroactively for actions already completed.

A grant may be awarded for an action which has already begun, provided the applicant can demonstrate the need to start the action before the grant agreement is signed. In such cases, costs eligible for financing may not have been incurred prior to the date of submission of the grant application.

Co-financing²³

Grants shall involve co-financing, which implies that the resources necessary to carry out the action shall not be provided entirely by EU contribution. EU financing may not cover 100% of the total costs of the action.

Co-financing of the action may take the form of:

- the awarded beneficiary's own resources,
- income generated by the action,

²¹ Please refer to section 16.4

²² Article 196 of the Financial Regulation

²³ Article 193 of the Financial Regulation

- financial contributions from third parties.

Co-financing may also take the form of in-kind contributions from third parties, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties to the awarded consortium as the corresponding costs are not eligible.

No-profit rule²⁴

EU grant may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit within the framework of the action or the work programme of the beneficiary²⁵.

For this purpose, **profit is defined as a surplus of the receipts over the eligible costs incurred by the beneficiaries**, when the request is made for payment of the balance. Where such a surplus occurs, EUSPA is entitled to recover the percentage of the profit corresponding to the EU contribution to the eligible costs actually incurred by the beneficiaries to carry out the action.

Balanced budget²⁶

The estimated budget of the action is to be attached in excel format to the application form following the model provided in the Form C1.

It must have revenue and expenditure in balance. The amounts must be expressed in **Euro** with maximum two decimals.

Applicants (and affiliated entities) with general accounts in a currency other than the euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into euro at the average of the daily exchange rates published in the C series of *Official Journal of the European Union*, determined over the corresponding reporting period (available at <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/exchange/eurofxref/html/index.en.html>).

If no daily Euro exchange rate is published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* for the currency in question, conversion must be made at the average of the monthly accounting rates established by the Commission and published on its website determined over the corresponding reporting period.

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/infoeuro/infoeuro_en.cfm

Applicants and affiliated entities with general accounts in Euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into Euro according to their usual accounting practices

For awarded projects, the final payment will be based on the final financial report at the end of the project and supporting documents, taking into account any previous pre-financing and interim payment(s).

Financial support to third parties

The applications for this action may not envisage provision of financial support to third parties.

12.2. Funding form

EUSPA grants are calculated on the basis of a detailed estimated budget indicating clearly the costs that are eligible for EU funding. The grant amount may neither exceed the eligible costs nor the amount requested. Amounts are indicated in euro.

²⁴ Article 195 of the Financial Regulation

²⁵ The no-profit principle shall not apply to actions indicated in Article 192 (3) of the Financial Regulation.

²⁶ Article 199 (1) e) of the Financial Regulation

12.2.1. *Maximum amount requested*

The EU grant is limited to a maximum co-funding rate of 70% of eligible costs incurred in the implementation of the specific actions taking into account the maximum grant amount referred to in section 4.

Consequently, part of the total eligible expenses entered in the estimated budget must be financed from sources other than the EU grant.

12.2.2. *Eligible costs of the grant*

A) Costs actually incurred by the beneficiary of a grant which meets all the following criteria:

- they are incurred during the duration of the action, as indicated in the grant agreement, with the exception of costs relating to the preparation of the final reports and audit certificates;
- they are indicated in the estimated budget of the action;
- they are necessary for the implementation of the action, in accordance with the description of the action, attached to the grant agreement;
- they are identifiable and verifiable, in particular being recorded in the accounting records of the beneficiary and determined according to the applicable accounting standards of the country where the beneficiary is established and according to the usual cost accounting practices of the beneficiary;
- they comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation;
- they are reasonable, justified, and comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency.

The same criteria apply to the affiliated entities.

B) Costs declared on the basis of an amount of EUR per unit as specified in Annex X of this Call for Proposals for the beneficiaries which satisfy any of the following two criteria:

- personnel costs of owners of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) who do not receive a salary;
- personnel costs for natural persons who do not receive a salary

The beneficiary's internal accounting and auditing procedures must permit direct reconciliation of the costs and revenue declared in respect of the action/project with the corresponding accounting statements and supporting documents.

Please note that the exact scope of the eligibility of costs is defined in the grant agreement, which will be signed by the successful applicant(s).

12.2.3. *Eligible direct costs*

The eligible direct costs for the action are those costs which, **with due regard for the conditions of eligibility set out above**, are identifiable as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action.

When preparing the proposal, applicants shall observe the elements described in the following sub-sections for calculating the necessary budget for the implementation of their project. The following categories of costs can be considered as **eligible direct costs**:

1. **Personnel costs** are:
 - 1.1 cost of personnel working under an employment contract
 - 1.2 costs of natural persons working under a contract with the beneficiaries other than an employment contract
 - 1.3 unit costs of owners of SMEs who do not receive a salary or natural persons who do not receive a salary

2. **Other direct costs** are:
 - 2.1 cost of travel and related subsistence allowances
 - 2.2 costs for equipment and other assets specifically procured for the action
 - 2.3 costs for equipment or other assets not procured specifically but directly used for the action – depreciation costs
 - 2.4 the costs for rental or lease of equipment or other assets
 - 2.5 the cost of using technical facilities or laboratories
 - 2.6 costs of consumables and supplies
 - 2.7 costs arising directly from requirements imposed by the grant agreement
 - 2.8 costs entailed by subcontracts
 - 2.9 costs of financial support to third parties [not-applicable]
 - 2.10 duties, taxes and charges

1. Personnel costs

- 1.1 the **costs of personnel** working under an employment contract with the beneficiaries or an equivalent appointing act and assigned to the action (including civil servants and other personnel of national administrations to the extent that they relate to the cost of activities which the relevant public authority would not carry out if the project concerned were not undertaken), comprising actual salaries plus social security contributions and other statutory costs included in the remuneration, provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiaries' usual policy on remuneration. Those costs may also include additional remunerations, including payments on the basis of supplementary contracts regardless of the nature of those contracts, provided that they are paid in a consistent manner whenever the same kind of work or expertise is required, independently from the source of funding used;

Personnel costs must be calculated by the applicants/beneficiaries as follows:

{(Hourly rate multiplied by a number of actual hours worked on the action), plus for non-profit legal entities: additional remunerations to personnel assigned to the action}.

The total number of hours declared in EU or Euratom grants, for a person for a year, cannot be higher than the annual productive hours used for the calculations of the hourly rate. Therefore, the maximum number of hours that can be declared for the grant are:

{Number of annual productive hours for the year minus the total number of hours declared by the beneficiaries, for that person for that year, for other EU or Euratom grants}

The 'hourly rate' is calculated as follows:

{actual annual personnel costs for the person divided by the number of annual productive hours}

The beneficiaries must use the annual personnel costs and the number of annual productive hours for each financial year covered by the reporting period concerned. If a financial year is not closed at the end of the reporting period, the beneficiaries must use the hourly rate of the last closed financial year available.

For the 'number of annual productive hours', the beneficiaries may choose one of the following:

- (i) 'fixed number of hours': 1720 hours for persons working full time (or corresponding pro-rata for persons not working full time);
- (ii) 'individual annual productive hours': the total number of hours worked by the person in the year for the beneficiaries *{annual workable hours of the person plus overtime worked minus absences}*. If the contract (or applicable collective labour agreement or national working time legislation) does not allow to determine the annual workable hours, this option cannot be used;
- (iii) 'standard annual productive hours': the standard number of annual hours generally applied by the beneficiaries for its personnel in accordance with its usual cost accounting practices. This number must be at least 90% of the 'standard annual workable hours'. If there is no applicable reference for the standard annual workable hours, this option cannot be used.

'Annual workable hours' - means the period during which the person must be working, at the employer's disposal and carrying out his/her activity or duties under the employment contract, applicable collective labour agreement or national working time legislation.

For all options, the actual time spent on parental leave by a person assigned to the action may be deducted from the number of annual productive hours.

Important:

Activities that **cannot** be deducted for the calculation of the annual productive hours and that cannot be charged to the project are Sales and marketing; Preparation of proposals; Administrative time (often means "unsold" time).

1.2 The costs of natural persons working under a contract with the beneficiaries other than an employment contract (e.g. in-house consultants) may be assimilated to such costs of personnel, provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:

- there must be a **direct contract** between the natural person (individual) and the beneficiaries;
- the natural person works under the instructions of the beneficiaries and unless otherwise agreed with the beneficiaries through a teleworking agreement, in the premises of the beneficiary;
- the result of the work belongs to the beneficiaries;
- the costs are not significantly different from the costs of personnel performing similar tasks under an employment contract with the beneficiaries; and
- The remuneration must be based on working hours, rather than on delivering specific outputs/products. (This implies that the beneficiaries must keep records of the hours worked for the action.) Costs of natural persons working under a direct contract for a beneficiary must be calculated according to the formula: hourly rate multiplied by the number of actual hours worked on the action where hourly rate:
 - a. if the contract specifies an hourly rate: this hourly rate must be used;

- b. if the contract states a fixed amount for the services of the natural person and the number of hours to be worked: this global amount must be divided by the number of hours to be worked for the beneficiary under that contract.

1.3 unit costs of **owners of SMEs who do not receive a salary** or **natural persons who do not receive a salary**

The eligible direct personnel costs declared by beneficiaries that are SMEs for their owners not receiving a salary and by beneficiaries that are natural persons not receiving a salary shall be based on a unit cost per day-equivalent worked on the *action* to be calculated as follows:

{Unit rate multiplied by a number of actual day-equivalents worked on the action}.

Each country has its own unique unit rate. These rates are specified in Annex X to this Call for proposals.

The total number of day-equivalents declared in EUSPA grants, for a person for a year, cannot be higher than 215.

Important:

Timesheets have to be kept from the very beginning of the project to justify the declared actual day-equivalents worked on the *action*. EUSPA may require them to verify the request for payment validity.

2. Other direct costs

Other costs in general: **only costs of those items which are directly linked to the performance of the operation, identifiable and assigned to the action shall be considered under this heading.**

Those costs should include the costs of implementation contracts for ancillary services, goods etc. needed to carry out the project (e.g. dissemination of information, specific evaluation, translations, reproduction...), including the purchase of consumables and supplies. They do not cover contract that implies any externalisation of activities included in the action described in the proposal, which should be included instead as subcontracting in the relevant form.

Please note that the fact that the costs are specific to the action is the key factor that makes these costs eligible for European Union funding. More general office supplies, stamps or other stationary is comprised of the indirect costs and cannot be considered under this heading.

All documents supporting the above costs (e.g. invoices, timesheets for the use of equipment, technical facilities or laboratories) have to be kept from the very beginning of the project. The EUSPA will require them to verify the request for payment validity.

2.1 **costs of travel** and related subsistence allowances for employees provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiaries' usual practices on travel;

Only the costs for the employee's travel and subsistence allowances can be introduced in the budget form. Travel costs of external service providers, if applicable, are to be included in their contracts.

Subscription fees to conferences or events, where relevant, should be included in C1 form (section 2.1) Travel costs.

Reimbursement of travel costs can be requested for meetings, European conferences, etc. provided that they are in line with the usual practices of the beneficiaries and pre-approved by EUSPA. The travel policy of the beneficiaries must be made in writing and apply to all business trips of the organisation. Alternatively, in the case when a beneficiary has not formalised an internal travel policy or established travel practice, they should not exceed the scales approved annually by the European Commission. These European Commission rates can be consulted on this address: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/per_diems/index_en.htm_en

In all cases, the costs reported should comply with the principle of economy and efficiency, meaning that travelling should be performed by the most direct and most economical route;

The costs reported should comply with the following:

- travel by the most direct and most economical route;
- travel by rail: first class;
- travel by air: economy class, unless a cheaper fare can be used (e.g. Apex);
- travel by car: reimbursed on the basis of the equivalent first-class rail fare.

Flat-rate subsistence allowances cover all subsistence expenses during travel, including hotels, restaurants and local transport (taxis and/or public transport). They apply for each day of a mission at a minimum distance of 100 km from the normal place of work in the context of the project forming the subject of the grant agreement.

Please note that tips will not be considered as eligible costs.

Beneficiaries who want to declare travel costs as eligible costs of the project will have to provide the following information for each travel:

- Names or functions of the people involved;
- Journey and dates (even tentative);
- Purpose of the travel (this must refer clearly to one activity of the project);
- Subsistence costs: the total number of days of the travel x flat rate subsistence allowance (per diem) or an estimate of the real costs per day (per person);
- Cost of travel (estimation).

All necessary supporting documents, in accordance with the beneficiaries' travel policy, have to be kept from the very beginning of the project (e.g. travel tickets, boarding passes, invoices from the travel agency, etc.) EUSPA will require them to verify the validity of the request for payment. For the per diem allowances, no supporting documents are required; only a declaration of the applicant on the applicable per diem in its organisation is needed.

2.2 **for equipment and other assets** (new or second-hand) **procured** specifically for the action and in accordance with Article II.10 of the grant agreement:

a) **the full purchase costs** provided that they are treated as capital expenditure in accordance with the tax and accounting rules applicable to the beneficiaries and are recorded in the fixed assets account of its balance sheet OR the purchase in itself is the purpose of the action [**not-applicable to this call**]

or

b) **the respective depreciation costs** provided that the asset has been purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to implementation contracts and that it is written off in accordance with the international accounting standards and international financial reporting standards, IAS/IFRS, regardless whether the beneficiary has to apply them or otherwise has diverging accounting practices.

2.3 **costs for equipment or other assets** (new or second-hand) not procured specifically but **directly used** for the action in **proportion to the usage for the action and only during its duration** as **depreciation costs** recorded in the accounting statements of the beneficiaries over the period of implementation of the action, provided that the asset is written off in accordance with the international accounting standards and the usual accounting practices of the beneficiaries.

Only depreciation for equipment which is strictly necessary for the purposes of carrying out the action can be charged as direct costs. This thus excludes any computer equipment, office material, furniture, etc. that the applicant needs for his daily activities and that will be normally covered by indirect costs.

Only the portion of the equipment's depreciation corresponding to the duration of the project and the rate of actual use for the purposes of the project can be taken into account by EUSPA.

2.4 **the costs for rental or lease of equipment or other assets only to the portion of use and limited to the duration of the action**, provided that these costs do not exceed the depreciation costs of similar equipment or assets and are exclusive of any finance fee;

2.5 when **using technical facilities or laboratories the above rules (2.2) to (2.4) for eligibility of costs apply accordingly**;

2.6 **costs of consumables and supplies**, provided that they are purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to the award of contracts necessary for the implementation of the action and are directly assigned to the action;

2.7 **costs arising directly from requirements imposed by the grant agreement** (dissemination of information, specific evaluation of the action, audits, translations, reproduction), including the costs of requested financial guarantees, provided that the corresponding services are purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to the award of contracts necessary for the implementation of the action;

2.8 **costs entailed by subcontracts**, concluded for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the action **as described in the proposal**, provided that the conditions applicable to implementation contracts are met;

Please refer to Section 5.6 for further details.

2.9 **costs of financial support to third parties** within the meaning of Article II.12 of the grant agreement provided that the conditions laid down in that article are met [**not-applicable to this call**];

2.10 **duties, taxes and charges** paid by the beneficiaries, notably non-deductible value added tax (VAT), provided that they are included in eligible direct costs, and unless specified otherwise in the Grant Agreement. In particular, only non-deductible VAT is eligible, except for the activities which the beneficiaries that are public bodies engage in as public authorities (prerogatives of public powers under national law).

12.2.4. *Eligible indirect costs*

A flat-rate amount of 7% of the total eligible direct costs of the action excluding subcontracting costs²⁷ is eligible under indirect costs, representing the beneficiary's general administrative costs which can be regarded as chargeable to the action/project.

Indirect costs may not include costs entered under another budget heading.

Indirect costs are not eligible for beneficiaries that receive an operating grant.

12.2.5. *Non-eligible costs*

In addition to any other costs which do not fulfil the conditions set out above, the following costs shall not be considered eligible:

- a. return on capital or return generated by an investment;
- b. debt and debt service charges;
- c. provisions for future losses or debts;
- d. interest owed;
- e. doubtful debts;
- f. currency exchange losses;
- g. bank costs charged by the beneficiary's bank for transfers from the EUSPA;
- h. costs declared by the beneficiaries in the framework of another action receiving a grant financed from the EU budget (including grants awarded by a Member State and financed from the EU budget and grants awarded by the European Commission or other EU bodies than EUSPA for the purpose of implementing the EU budget); in particular, indirect costs shall not be eligible under a grant for an action awarded to a beneficiary which already receives an operating grant financed from the EU budget during the period in question;
- i. contributions in kind from third parties;
- j. excessive or reckless expenditure;
- k. deductible VAT;
- l. participation by any staff of the European Union institutions in the action
- m. costs incurred during the suspension of the implementation of the action;
- n. cost categories explicitly excluded in the work programme/call.

²⁷ Indirect costs = 7% * (total eligible direct costs - subcontracting)

12.2.6. Calculation of the final amount of the grant

The draft grant agreement annexed to this Call for proposals specifies the calculation of the final grant and the payment arrangements. Applicants' attention should particularly focus on the General Conditions of the draft agreement, where the eligibility conditions of costs are described. The EU grant may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit²⁸ within the framework of the action.

The final amount of the grant to be awarded to the consortium is established after completion of the action and upon approval of the request for payment containing the following documents²⁹ *[including relevant supporting documents where appropriate]*:

- a final report providing details of the implementation and results of the action;
- the final financial statement of costs actually incurred,
- *[where applicable, a certificate on the financial statements of the action and underlying accounts³⁰]*.

The authorising officer may also waive the obligation to provide a certificate of the financial statements and underlying accounts where an audit has been or will be directly done by EUSPA's own staff or by a body authorised to do so on its behalf, which provides equivalent assurances about the costs declared.

12.3. Payment arrangements

Arrangements for pre-financing payment corresponding to 30% of the grant amount will be further detailed in the grant agreement (see Article I.5.2).

An interim payment shall be paid to the applicant or to the coordinator (in case there is a consortium the coordinator receives the interim payment on behalf of the consortium) and is intended to cover the expenditure on the basis of a request for payment when the action has been partly carried out.

The interim payment must clear 50% of the amount of the pre-financing payment previously made. The interim payment shall not exceed 30% of the maximum grant amount. The cumulative amount of pre-financing and of the interim payment altogether must not exceed 60% of the *maximum amount of the grant*.

Payment	Amount	Reporting period	Note
Pre-financing payment	30%	N/A	
Interim payment	max 30%	Interim Review	Based on the actual requested contribution (i.e. actual expenditure).
Final payment	Balance between total requested EU contribution and previous payments	Final Review	Based on the actual requested contribution (i.e. actual expenditure).

EUSPA will establish the amount of the final payment to be made to the mono-beneficiary OR the coordinator (who receives it on behalf of the consortium) on the basis of the calculation of the final grant amount (see section 12.2.6 above). If the total of earlier payments is higher than the final grant amount, the applicant or

²⁸ See section 12.1 of this Call for Proposal.

²⁹ Art. 205 and 206 of the Financial Regulation

³⁰ Art. 206 (4) of the Financial Regulation

the coordinator (in case of consortium) will be required to reimburse the amount paid in excess by EUSPA through a recovery order³¹.

Please refer to the grant agreement for the terms and conditions of the payment arrangements (see Article I.5).

12.4. Pre-financing guarantee

A pre-financing guarantee for up to the same amount as the pre-financing may be requested, on a case by case basis, in order to limit the financial risks linked to the pre-financing payment. The financial guarantee, in euro, shall be provided by an approved bank or financial institution established in one of the Member State of the European Union. When the beneficiary is established in a third country, the authorising officer responsible may agree that a bank or financial institution established in that third country may provide the guarantee if he considers that the bank or financial institution offers equivalent security and characteristics as those offered by a bank or financial institution established in a Member State. Amounts blocked in bank accounts shall not be accepted as financial guarantees.

The guarantee may be replaced by a joint and several guarantee by a third party or by an irrevocable and unconditional joint guarantee of the beneficiaries of an action who are parties to the same grant agreement.

The guarantee shall be released as the pre-financing is gradually cleared against interim payments or payments of balances to the beneficiary, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the grant agreement.

13. PUBLICITY

13.1. By the Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries must clearly acknowledge the European Union's contribution in all publications or in conjunction with activities for which the allocated grants are used.

In this respect, beneficiaries are required to give prominence to the name and emblem of EUSPA and of the European Union on all their publications, posters, programmes and other products realised under the grant agreement.

If this requirement is not fully complied with, the grant may be reduced in accordance with the provisions of the grant agreement.

13.2. By EUSPA

EUSPA will publish the following information:

- a. name of the awarded applicant (in case of multi-beneficiaries- name of the consortium) and its beneficiary/beneficiaries;
- b. address of the beneficiary (legal persons) or reference to the region (natural persons);
- c. the subject of the grant agreement;
- d. amount awarded.

³¹ Article 101, 115 and 203 of the Financial Regulation

Upon a reasoned and duly substantiated request by the applicants (or coordinator representing the consortium in case of multi-beneficiary project), the publication shall be waived if such disclosure risks threatening the rights and freedoms of individuals concerned as protected by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union or harm the commercial interests of the beneficiary.

14. OWNERSHIP

The attention of the applicants is drawn to the draft grant agreement, which stipulates the ownership regime of the results generated by the action.

15. DATA PROTECTION

Personal data gathered for the purpose of the present procedure will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. This data will be processed by EUSPA as indicated in the privacy statement published on the Agency's website:

(https://www.euspa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/privacy_statement_relating_to_euspa_procurement_procedures_grants_prizes_and_selection_of_experts.pdf).

Any request regarding your personal data should be addressed to the data controller responsible for the call for proposals: Head of Market Downstream and Innovation Department, market@euspa.europa.eu.

You may also contact the Agency's Data Protection officer (DPO) at DPO@euspa.europa.eu. If your request has not been responded to adequately by the data controller and/or DPO, you can lodge a complaint with the European Data Protection Supervisor at edps@edps.europa.eu.

16. PREPARATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSAL, FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

16.1. Preparation of the Proposals

Proposals shall be prepared in accordance with the scope of the Call (section 2.3), with a clear definition of the roles (Form A1), demonstrating that the consortium is composed of all the necessary competencies needed to achieve the objectives of the Call (i.e. fulfilling the operational capacity of the call – section 9.2).

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the formal requirements and by the deadline set out under section 17.

Applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the selection process.

16.2. Structure of the Proposals

Proposals shall include the following:

Administrative Proposal (A1-A5)	Technical Proposal (B1, B3)	Financial Proposal (C1)
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A1: Consortium Composition A2: Coordinator profile A3: Co-Applicant profile A4: Declaration of honour A5: Financial capacity ratios Relevant supporting documents	B1: Technical proposal B2: Operational capacity form	C1: Preliminary estimated Budget
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16.2.1. *Administrative Proposal (A1-A5)*

Administrative Proposal (A1-A5):

- A1 – Consortium Composition
- A2 – Coordinator profile
- A3 – Co-Applicant profile
- A4 – Declaration of honour
- A5 – Financial capacity ratios

The A5 form shall be submitted as both PDF (.pdf) and excel (.xls) formats. For the PDF, please fill in the A5 form in excel provided, print it, sign each sheet of the excel and create a PDF.

The following supporting documents shall be provided:

The single applicant and the coordinator:

- Financial information form (FIF) and corresponding supporting documents:
 - FIF can be downloaded from the following website:
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/financial_id/financial_id_en.cfm
 - FIF must either include the bank's stamp and signature on the form itself or FIF must be accompanied by the relevant bank statement

All applicants and any affiliated entities:

- Legal entity form (LEF) and corresponding supporting documents:
 - A specific LEF form in all official languages of the EU can be downloaded from the following website (use of the English form is preferred):
https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/legal-entities_en
 - In addition to the above:
 - **private legal person(s) shall provide:** extract from the official journal, copy of articles of association, extract of trade or association register and a copy of the certificate of liability to VAT (if, as in certain countries, the trade register number and VAT number are identical, only one of these documents is required);
 - **public legal person(s) shall provide:** a copy of the resolution, law, decree or decision establishing the public body, or as an alternative, any other official document establishing the public legal person by the national authorities may be submitted;
 - **a natural person(s):** legible photocopy of identity card and/or passport OR an official VAT document (if applicable).

16.2.2. *Technical Proposal (B1-B2)*

- B1 – Technical Proposal
- B2 – Operational capacity form

Technical Proposal (B1-B2):

B1 – Technical proposal. The applicant(s) are requested to outline in their proposal, and describe/specify how they plan to carry out in the project, the following:

- (a) Critical assessment of the requirements set by the IEC 61107-8 standard and ESMAS SDD, with respect to users navigation performance, state-of-the-art, covering the technology analysis including the accuracy limitations, as well as the analysis of the target market;
- (b) Determination of the means to attain the overall project objectives including in terms of the proposed innovation, defining and precisising how EGNOS will be implemented, i.e. what is the receiver architecture, hardware/software development and test procedures. The proposal shall include a preliminary description of the planned architecture and test schedule, as well as target final users and expected contribution and potential limitation of EGNOS. The proposals are expected to describe how the project will deliver a solution that can be realistically commercialised in short term;
- (c) Critical assessment of the user requirements pertaining to the solution already defined by the industry, including the ones identified in the outcomes of the EUSPA User Consultation Platform³², with the views of at least 2 potential final users of the proposed solution, in order to meet the objective in point b. above. In the case of a proposal including a final integrator, user or laboratory, as part of the consortium, applicants could consider the specific requirements of such partner.
- (d) High level specifications of the tests in laboratory and real environment, approach to complete conformity assessment and high level schedule to obtain MED certificate within the project timeframe.

The proposal shall also include the description of the plan for the following transversal activities:

- **Dissemination:** the beneficiary shall take measures to disseminate the achievements of the project among relevant stakeholders in the appropriate phases of the project. The dissemination plan shall define the strategy to engage those stakeholders with the aim of fostering the innovation created in the frame of the action and creating market awareness of the project's results.

The dissemination task shall also include a final demonstration execution of one or more representative scenarios/use cases (in addition to the tests required above) with the aim to effectively showcase the use of EGNOS.

Other expected dissemination means are specialised user groups, with focus on receivers manufacturers, vessels owners, classification societies, as well as magazines and sector press, presentations, leaflets and brochures, public event(s), promotional video(s), websites, social networks, etc. The progress of the actions taken during the implementation of the project shall be reported in the deliverable "Report on the status of implementation of the dissemination plan" (see deliverables list in section 2.4). A preliminary version of the dissemination plan shall be also included in the proposal.

- **Commercialisation:** the beneficiary shall define a preliminary version of a business plan as part of the proposal, describing the strategy to exploit the results and including management of IPR and business risk assessment. It shall identify actions that the beneficiary will take to commercialise the receiver, approach potential customers such as vessels owners as well as relevant stakeholders, such as

³² Report on Maritime User Needs and Requirements:

https://www.euspa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/report_on_maritime_user_needs_and_requirements.pdf or later versions

classification societies.. In order to fulfil this requirement, the consortium optionally should involve representatives from across the whole value chain of the proposed solution, starting from the chipset manufacturers until vessel owners and operators.

As part of the proposal, the applicant(s) are requested to:

- Assign each deliverable to a specific milestone indicated in Section 2.5
- Provide the preliminary documents, as specified in Section 2.4.

B2 – Operational capacity form:

Applicants must show they have the **operational (technical) capacity** to complete the activities of this Call for Proposal as indicated in Section 9.2 above.

The technical proposal (B1-B2 Forms) constitutes the core of your proposal. These forms shall be submitted using the template provided with this call, consisting of a list of headings. It is recommended to follow this structure when presenting the technical content. The templates are designed to highlight those aspects that will be assessed against the evaluation criteria. They cover, among other things, the nature of the proposed work, the participants and their roles in the proposed project, and the impact that might be expected to arise from the proposed work. Additional information or descriptive documents may be provided by applicants as an annex.

16.2.3. Financial Proposal (C1)

C1 – Preliminary Budget

The C1 form shall be submitted in excel (.xls) format.

Please note that figures shall be indicated in C1 form. In case figures are indicated in other forms, please include a cross reference only. If inconsistencies are present between C1 and other forms the figures in C1 form will prevail.

16.3. Forms and Supporting Documents

The following documents need to be signed by the authorised representative: form A4.

The signature can be either:

- blue ink on paper
- Qualified electronic signature: please see conditions specified in section 17.2.

The table below provides an overview of Forms which shall be **submitted by the applicants**. Every **actor specified below is responsible to fill them duly in** (coordinator and/or co-applicants and/or an affiliated entity). The table below reflects on who has to fill out what kind of forms. This information shall be reflected in the cover page of the A forms prepared by the single applicant/coordinator.

Forms/Documents	Single applicant/Coordinator	Co-applicant	Affiliated entity
A1 – A2 –B1	X		

A3		X	
A4 – A5 – B2 – C1	X	X	X
FIF and supporting documents	X		
LEF and supporting documents	X	X	X

16.4. Documents which may be requested during the course of the evaluation or after award by EUSPA

Supporting documents related to Declaration of Honour (Form A4):

- For situations described in point (5) (a), (c), (d), (f), (g) and (h) of the Form A4, a recent extract from the judicial record or, failing that, an equivalent document recently issued by a judicial or administrative authority in the country of establishment of the entity showing that those requirements are satisfied.
- For the situations described in point (5) (a) and (b) of the Form A4, recent certificates issued by the competent authorities of the country of establishment. These documents must provide evidence covering all taxes and social security contributions for which the entity is liable, including for example, VAT, income tax (natural persons only), company tax (legal persons only) and social security contributions. Where any document described above is not issued in the country concerned, it may be replaced by a sworn statement made before a judicial authority or notary or, failing that, a solemn statement made before an administrative authority or a qualified professional body in its country of establishment.

17. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the formal requirements and by the deadline set in this section.

The applicants are not allowed - in any respect - to change the scope and the content of the proposal(s), till the signature of the grant agreement. However, if there is a need to clarify certain aspects or for the correction of clerical mistakes, EUSPA may contact the applicant for this purpose during the evaluation process.

The proposal may be submitted in any of the official languages of the European Union with a preference to **English version**.

17.1. Means of submission of the proposal

The proposal can be submitted in one of the 2 ways by the deadline specified below.

1. in a paper version
2. in electronic version

1. Paper submission

The proposals submitted on paper shall always also contain 2 (two) copies of USB storage devices containing the full set of proposal documents in machine-readable format (standard Office 2003 and Adobe PDF 2008 or later). In case of doubt or outright divergence between the physically submitted proposal and the content provided in electronic format (on the USB-storage devices), the physical documents shall always take precedent.

2. Electronic submission

The applicant may submit its proposal only electronically on 3 (three) CD-ROM, DVD or USB sticks with the full set of documents. The documents on these media must be identical and they shall be in machine readable format (MS Office 2003 or later, or Adobe Reader Version 8.0 or later). These medias must be inserted in a sealed envelope as described below.

The electronic version of the proposal is considered as original.

Applicants must ensure that the electronic medias and files are readable. In particular, they must take all the necessary measures to protect them during the transport to avoid any damage to them.

Applicants are advised to:

- use, and include into the sealed envelope, different types of media (e.g. DVD and different types of USB sticks) in order to eliminate the risk of non-readable media and files.
- create hashes of submitted files (in the form of algorithm MD5, SHA-256 or higher) and insert them, preferably as a paper printout, into the sealed envelope, together with the media.
- ensure that the data on these media cannot be altered.

If the submitted media and files are not readable, the applicant will have the possibility to resubmit the media upon condition that:

- hashes of the original files have been created;
- hashes of the re-submitted files are created and such hashes are strictly identical to the hashes of the original files inserted into the sealed envelope.

If the submitted media and files are not readable and the applicant does not resubmit media and files which are strictly identical to the original ones and related hashes, within a reasonable delay upon notification by EUSPA that the files submitted cannot be read, the proposal will be rejected.

17.2. Possibility to sign the documents electronically

The documents which must be signed according to the call for proposals (section 16.2) may be signed electronically with a qualified electronic signature (QES) of the applicant. Please note that only QES within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 (eIDAS Regulation) will be accepted.

This electronic signature must be provided by a provider which has a qualified status granted by a national competent authority of an EU Member State and which is listed in the national eIDAS Trusted Lists and the EU List of eIDAS Trusted Lists (LOTL) (available at <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tl-browser/#/>).

Therefore, before sending to EUSPA your electronically signed document(s), we recommend you to check the signature and validity of the certificate with one of the following tools:

- DSS Demonstration validation tool available at <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-building-blocks/DSS/webapp-demo/validation> can help you check the validity of a certificate by indicating the number and type of valid signatures in a document.
- EU Trusted List Browser can be consulted in order to check whether the electronic signature provider and the trust service it provides are part of European Union Trusted List: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tl-browser/#>

To make sure you use a QES compliant to eIDAS Regulation, you need to check that both the service provider and the qualified certificate generation service used are included in the EU Trusted List Browser.

17.3. Deadlines for submission

The deadline for the submission of the proposals will be considered met when the proposal is sent by post mail, express mail or commercial courier not later than 23:59 of the date indicated in section 3 above as well as below. This deadline is therefore respected even if the proposal is received by the EUSPA after this deadline under the condition that it was sent before the deadline.

The proposals shall be submitted as indicated above:

- a. by post or by courier not later than **15/10/2025**, in which case the evidence of the date of dispatch shall be constituted by the postmark or the date of the deposit slip, to the address indicated below
- b. delivered by hand not later than **15/10/2025 at 16:00** Prague local time to the address indicated below. In this case, a receipt must be obtained as proof of submission, signed and dated by the EUSPA personnel who took delivery.

For cases where the proposal is submitted in a paper version:

EUSPA is open from 09.00 to 17.00 Monday to Thursday, and from 9.00 to 16.00 on Fridays. It is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays.

Proposals must be placed inside a sealed envelope. The envelope, addressed as indicated below, should be marked as follows: **"CALL FOR PROPOSALS EUSPA/GRANT/04/2025 – NOT TO BE OPENED"**. If the self-adhesive envelope is used, it must be sealed with adhesive tape and the sender must sign across this tape.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

EUSPA/GRANT/04/2025

EGNOS MARITIME RECEIVER IMPLEMENTING IEC 61108-7 STANDARD

EUSPA – Legal and Procurement Department

Janovského 438/2, 170 00 Prague 7- Czech Republic

18. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS, AWARD AND RESERVE LIST

18.1. Evaluation of Proposals

All applications will be examined and assessed by an Evaluation Committee. The assessment of each proposal will be based on the information provided by the applicants in the proposal submitted in reply to the call for proposals. The information will be assessed in light of the admissibility, eligibility, exclusion, selection and award criteria set out in the Call for Proposals.

The Evaluation Committee may ask an applicant to provide additional information or to clarify the supporting documents submitted in connection with the application, in particular in the case of evident material errors.

At the end of the evaluation:

- the best proposal(s) will be proposed for the award,
- placed on the reserve list in case of not available funding,
- rejected, stating the reasons for rejection.

After the completion of the evaluation, applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the evaluation.

18.2. Award of the grant agreement

EUSPA may invite the applicant(s), whose proposal has been recommended for the award by the Evaluation Committee, to introduce minor adjustment to the proposal. In that case, the applicant would receive a letter setting out the proposed modifications. The modified proposal shall address the modification proposed by EUSPA **only**. This phase will not lead to a re-evaluation of the proposal.

A decision to reject an application can be based on the following grounds:

- the application does not comply with the admissibility criteria as set out in section 6 above;
- the application does not comply with the eligibility criteria as set out in section 7 above;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the exclusion criteria as set out in section 8 above;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the financial capacity as specified in section 9.1 above;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the operational capacity as specified in section 9.2 above;
- the proposal has not reached the minimum scores as indicated in the award criteria detailed in section 10 above;
- the score obtained by the proposal is not ranked amongst the best proposals considered for the award.

If the applicant believes that there was maladministration he can lodge a complaint to the European Ombudsman for alleged maladministration within two years of the date when he became aware of the facts on which the complaint is based (see <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu>).

The court responsible for hearing annulment procedures is the General Court of the European Union:

General Court
Rue du Fort Niedergrünwald
L-2925 Luxembourg
tel.: (+352) 4303 1 fax: (+352) 4303 2100
e-mail: GeneralCourt.Registry@curia.europa.eu
URL: <http://curia.europa.eu>

18.3. Reserve list

EUSPA may place proposals – which were not considered for award of the grant due to inferior score or lack of budget – on a reserve list. Should additional budgetary appropriations become available, the applicants will be informed according to their ranking on the reserve list about the potential award of the grant.

19. CONTACTS

Contacts between EUSPA and potential applicants can only take place in certain circumstances and under the following conditions:

Before the final date for submission of proposals:

- At the request of the applicant, EUSPA may provide additional information solely for the purpose of clarifying the nature of the call. The deadline for such requests is indicated in section 3 above.
- Any requests for additional information must be made in writing only to the contact details stated below.
- EUSPA may, on its own initiative, publish corrigenda in case of inaccuracy, omission or other clerical error in the text of the call for proposals.
- Any additional information including that referred to above will be published on EUSPA internet page (<https://www.euspa.europa.eu/opportunities/grants>) on which the call for proposals is published.

After the deadline for submission of proposals:

- If clarification is requested or if obvious clerical errors in the proposal need to be corrected, EUSPA will contact the applicant provided the terms of the proposal are not modified as a result.
- If EUSPA finds that the proposal, chosen for the award, could be improved by minor adaptations (see Section 18.2 above).

Contact details for the call:

EUSPA: Legal and Procurement Department

E-mail address: EUSPA-Grants@euspa.europa.eu

Office address: EUSPA, Janovského 438/2, 170 00, Prague 7, Czech Republic

REMINDER: when sending any correspondence to EUSPA, please refer in the subject (of the email or of the letter) to the relevant reference number of the Call: **EUSPA/GRANT/04/2025** – the failure of doing so might delay the timely response of EUSPA.

20. ANNEXES

ID	Document Title
Annex I	A1-A4 forms
Annex II	A5 Form
Annex III	B1-B2 forms
Annex IV	C1 form
Annex V	Mono-beneficiary draft Grant Agreement
Annex VI	Multi-beneficiaries draft Grant Agreement
Annex VII	Model financial statement (Annex V to Mono GA and Annex VI to Multi GA)
Annex VIII	Model ToR for Certificate on the financial statements (Annex VI to Mono GA and Annex VII to Multi GA)
Annex IX	Unit costs rates (Annex X to Mono GA and Annex XI to Multi GA)

Annex X	Free of charge right of use Agreement Template
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21. DEFINITIONS, ABBREVIATIONS

Term/Abbreviation	Description/Definition
CDR	Critical Design Review
EGNSS	European Global Navigation Satellite System
ESMAS	EGNOS Safety of Life (SoL) assisted service for MARitime users
EUSPA	European Union Agency for the Space Programme
FOC	Full Operational Capability
FR	Final Review
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
GPS	Global Positioning System
ICD	Interface Control Document
JRC	Joint Research Centre
KOM	Kick Off Meeting
LEF	Legal Entity Form
MED	Marine Equipment Directive
NTRIP	Network Transport of RTCM via Internet Protocol
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturer
PDR	Preliminary Design Review
PNT	Positioning, Navigation and Timing
PVT	Position, Velocity and Timing
SDD	Service Definition Document
SiS	Signal in Space
SRR	Solutions Requirement Review
TRL	Technology Readiness Level
TRR	Test Readiness Review

