CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO SELECT PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AIMED AT THE REALIZATION OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION INFRASTRUCTURE i-MATT (application n. ITEC0000016) WITHIN THE APPLICATION FOR GRANTING FUNDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OR UPGRADING OF TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION INFRASTRUCTURE


The Italian National Research Council (CNR), with registered office in Rome, Piazzale Aldo Moro 7, as the Proposing Entity of the project related to the MUR public notice for proposals submission for the implementation or upgrading of Technological innovation infrastructure with reference to the Investment 3.1 (Fondo per la realizzazione di un sistema integrato di infrastrutture di ricerca e innovazione”) of Mission 4 (“Istruzione e ricerca”) - Componente 2 (“Dalla ricerca all’impresa”) of PNRR. MUR notice n.3265 del 28.12.2021 – from now on “MUR ITEC notice”

INTENDS TO SOLICIT THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

of private subjects, through this Call for Expression of Interest (from now on CEI), aimed at the realization of the technological innovation infrastructure i-MATT related to the MUR ITEC notice according to the criteria specified below.

Preamble

The Italian National Research Council (CNR), within the framework of MUR ITEC notice, has presented an application (application n. ITEC0000016) as the Proposing Entity for the creation of a Technological Innovation Infrastructure within the topic of advanced materials and related industrial processes, consistently with the contents of the National Research Plan 2021-2027 and the Intelligent Specialization Strategies both at the National and Regional level.

As foreseen by the MUR ITEC Notice, the Technological Innovation Infrastructure will be organized with a governance structure that will see the proposing entity make use, in the implementation of the initiative, of the contribution of private, highly qualified organizations, that will co-finance the initiative itself, through a Public-Private Partnership operation.

The project will be aimed at the renewal / upgrading and / or the creation ex novo of a multifunctional infrastructure, conceived and built to offer advanced technological tools, solutions and services aimed at the academic, business and market in order to increase their competitiveness.

The infrastructure intends to act as a reference for services provision, in the field of Advanced Materials for different industrial sectors, including mechanics, packaging, health and energy, combining them with technologies and digital platforms for data management and the development of processes and protocols.

The goal is to create a multi site infrastructure throughout the territory that will deal, in particular, with the studying of new materials and processes in different application fields in which both companies and public and private research laboratories will be able to test processes, create components, semi-finished products and finished prototypes, thanks to equipment and innovative analysis and process systems. The services provided will have a transversal application, trying to anticipate the demand that may emerge from sectors such as advanced mechanics, packaging, energy, biomedical and health in general.

In line with the MUR ITEC Notice, the initiative will have multifunctional characteristics, able to cover various thematic sectors such as advanced materials, ii) artificial intelligence, iii) energy transition, iv) health.
On 25.02.2022 a first *Call for expression of interest* has been published on the URP CNR website for the selection of private organizations aimed at the definition of the project proposal relative to the MUR ITEC notice for the implementation or upgrading of Technological Innovation Infrastructure (MUR notice n. 3265 of 28.12.2021);

Following the output of the technical-scientific and economical evaluation of the project proposals, as well as of the negotiation phase held on 17.06.2022, the final ranking of the submitted project proposals has been approved and the issued Decreto Direttoriale 132 on 22.06.2022 certified that the i-MATT proposal (application n. ITEC0000016) has been selected with 112 points.

On 22.06.2022 the related Decreto Direttoriale n 148 for the granting of the funding, currently under evaluation of the deputed organisms for the proper law controls, has been published, and will be made available at the end of the validation and control processes.

In view of the positive outcome of the evaluation process, in line with transparency and equal opportunities principles it is deemed appropriate to open a new *Call for expression of interest* in order to further promote the participation of private organizations to the partnerships and offer the possibility to additional private organizations to take part to the initiative.

*Private organizations that replied to the previous Call for expression of interest do not have to reply to the current call, the previous Call for expression of interest maintaining full validity.*

**Art. 1 – Purposes**

The Italian National Research Council (CNR ) intend to collect, through this CEI, the expression of interest of highly qualified private entities, who co-finance the initiative itself through a Public-Private Partnership operation aimed to renovate / create an innovation technological infrastructure.

Private entities should represent an added value for the initiative and should be able to contribute to the project with skills, additional synergic activities and investment projects in line with the objectives of the infrastructure, according to the criteria above specified.

The expressions of interest presented by private subjects will have the sole purpose of communicating the willingness of private subjects to be subsequently invited to join the partnership covered by this initiative.

In any case, the CNR reserves the right to check in advance: the eligibility requirements, the assessment of technical-professional and organizational skills, the project proposals and co-financing initiatives, as well as the functionality of the contribution to the CNR proposal for renewal / renovation / creation of a technological innovation infrastructure about advanced materials covered by this CEI.

**Art. 2– Private subjects invited to present the expression of interest**

The expression of interest can be submitted by highly qualified private subjects who carry out industrial, research and innovation activities in the sector of advanced materials, digital, advanced mechanics, packaging, energy, and health.

Companies on the date of submission of the expression of interest, must be duly constituted and registered in the Register of Companies;

Furthermore, in compliance with the provisions of Article 5, paragraph 4) of the D.M 1314 of 14 December 2021, companies must not be in one of the following conditions:
a) be among the companies that have received and, subsequently, not returned the aids identified as illegal or incompatible by the European Commission;

b) be in conditions such as to be a difficulty as identified in Regulation (EU) no. 651/2014 and by the Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial companies in difficulty, referred to in Communication 2014 / C 249/01 of 31 July 2014 and subsequent amendments.

Companies must also own any additional specific requirements required by the European or national legislation with reference to their business.

It should be noted that the aforementioned requirements must be owned within the deadline of this CEI and further certified at the time of submission of the project to the MUR.

**Art. 3 – How to take part in this selection**

Those interested in the selection must submit the following documents:

1. istanza di partecipazione, (Attachment «EoI») digitally signed;
2. copy of the identity card (currently valid) of the person who sign the application;
3. for companies, substitutive declaration of the affidavit related to the requirements presented in the Article 3 of this Notice drawn up according to the attached scheme (Attachment «DSAN requisiti»);
4. data sheet indicating the impact projects and the lines of activity consistent with the infrastructure as described in the introduction, the technical-organizational skills and qualities and the lines of activity in the field of research and innovation projects to which the participant intends contribute.

The documentation must be sent no later than 12 noon, 15 September 2022 to the National Research Council, exclusively via certified e-mail to the following address: protocol-ammcen@pec.cnr.it. It must also report the following object:

AVVISO PNRR: CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST- Infrastrutture Tecnologiche di Innovazione sui Materiali Avanzati

Sending the application implies full acceptance of all the rules of this call.

**Art. 5 – Applications criteria evaluation**

The following criterion will be taken into account in evaluating the applications:

1. Experience in advanced materials, digital, advanced mechanics, packaging, energy, health
2. Project proposal and contribution to the infrastructure

The indication of the following data will be considered as a further evaluation criterion:

1. turnover / overall balance sheet; employees; international collaborations; patents or property rights deriving from the development of Key Enabling Technologies;
2. indication (optional) of the amount and type of investment provided by the company to the infrastructure

The registration of companies in the legality rating register, established by the Antitrust Authority (Article 5-ter Decree-Law January 24, 2012, n.1, converted with amendments by the Law March 24, 2012, 27 and Article 8 of Resolution 24075 of 14 November 2012 of the Antitrust Authority) will represent a preferential evaluation criterion.
The Italian National Research Council reserves the right not to consider any proposals that are deemed incompatible with the institutional role of the infrastructure or that may cause prejudice or damage to the image of the organization or the partnership itself.

Furthermore, the publication of this Call for Expression of Interest and the receiving of the requests do not imply any obligation or commitment of CNR to proceed with the procedure with regard to the private subjects who express an interest and / or any rights towards CNR which reserves the right to withdraw from the procedure at any time and to suspend, interrupt and / or modify the relative terms and conditions, without the parties having expressed an interest being able to make any claim for reimbursement, compensation for damages or compensation or for any other reason, also in relation to any expenses incurred in relation to participation in the procedure.

Art. 6 – Inquiries

Any requests for clarifications can be sent to the following e-mail address: michele.muccini@cnr.it

Art. 7 – Public notice

This Call for Expression of Interest is published in the URP section of the CNR website www.urp.cnr.it.

Art. 9 – Personal data processing

All personal data that this Administration will collect during this proceeding will be treated in compliance with the Legislative Decree of 30 June 2003 n.196 (Code regarding the protection of personal data), in the form amended by the legislative decree 10 August 2018 , no. 101, as well in compliance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and the provisions contained in Article 22 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 and will not be disclosed to third parties and may be communicated or made accessible, exclusively for the purposes illustrated in this proceeding and under the conditions established by law, as reported in detail in the enclosed information (Annex 4) provided pursuant to art. 13 of Regulation (EU) no. 2016/679 - GDPR

Art. 10 – Norma Finale

For anything not provided for in this Call for Expression of Interest, please refer to the legislation referred to in the MUR ITEC Notice mentioned in the introduction.

Attachments

1. Avviso MUR ITEC
2. Abstract of project i-MATT
3. Istanza EoI
4. Dichiarazione sostitutiva d’atto notorio relativa ai requisiti di accesso per le imprese (DSN Requisiti)
5. Dichiarazione riguardante le capacità tecnico-organizzative dell’Ente/imprese (DSAN capacità)
6. Informativa trattamento dati ex art.13 Regolamento (UE) n. 2016/679-GDPR