



TERMS OF REFERENCE 2ND OPEN CALL

Innovate Boost Grant in Consortia

EuroBoosTEX

Joint European Initiative in Textile Industry for Europe's recovery boosting digital and green transition.

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1. Introduction

1.1. EuroBoostTEX Project

EuroBoostTEX aims to accelerate the twin green and digital transition of European SMEs and other organisations, build their resilience and boost recovery within their network. To reach this objective the project is articulated around cascade fundings.

«EuroBoostTEX will support green and digital transition innovation and prospecting for new markets and business partners for EU textile SMEs with a cascade funding mechanism».

EuroBoostTEX is designed to build an EU strategic and scalable partnership focused on collaboration between companies (mainly SMEs), regional authorities, research organizations, Vocational education and training (VETs) and Universities and Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) & Research and Development centres (R&D) around greening and digital tools ideas concerning the Textile.

The main objective of this alliance is to connect the textile ecosystems across, to develop activities and a portfolio of services to attract talent to the textile industry and to develop digital tools ideas concerning the Textile Sector.

To achieve those goals, EuroBoostTEX needs to provide to SMEs, tools to improve their innovation potential, technological uptake, skills, and internationalization.

1.2. EuroBoostTEX partners

ID	Organization name	Location
1.	ASOCIACIÓN DE EMPRESARIOS TEXTILES DE LA COMUNIDAD VALENCIANA- ATEVAL	 <u>SPAIN</u>
2.	ASSOCIACIÓ AGRUPACIÓ D'EMPRESES INNOVADORES TÈXTILS- AEI Tèxtils	 <u>SPAIN</u>
3.	Cluster Têxtil: Tecnologia e Moda/ Centro Tecnológico das Indústrias Têxtil e do Vestuário de Portugal (CITEVE) Portuguese Textile Cluster / CITEVE	 <u>PORTUGAL</u>
4.	NEXT TECHNOLOGY TECNOTESSILE SOCIETA NAZIONALE DI RICERCA R L- NTT	 <u>ITALY</u>
5.	ASSOCIATION TECHTERA- TECHTERA	 <u>FRANCE</u>



1.3. Open call contacts

For any enquiries regarding the EuroBoosTEX project, please contact the project Coordinator:

Julia Vercher, ATEVAL, E-mail: julia@ateval.com

For any enquiries regarding information and/ or clarification about the present call for proposals, please contact: julia@ateval.com

For any other enquiry, please contact one of the EuroBoosTEX Helpdesk contacts listed in Annex I. EuroBoosTEX SMEs Helpdesk aims to the better support and preparation of the applications through the provision of information, clarifications and answers concerning the EuroBoosTEX call. The Helpdesk will cover not only the basic issues of the EuroBoosTEX call, but also specific issues.

2. EuroBoosTEX grants background and ambition

This Call for Proposal is supported by the EuroBoosTEX Project Consortium and is co-funded by the European Union, under the Joint Cluster Initiative – *Euroclusters* – call, managed by the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA).

The activities of the EuroBoosTEX project will support European SMEs to identify growth opportunities in Europe and Worldwide by raising their innovation capacities in a global ecosystem. Textile industry sustainability is based on the innovation process that brings new products, applications, markets, production processes, and services.

2.1. Target audience

The target audience of EuroBoosTEX Call for Proposal are innovative **SMEs (including start-ups)** active in the Textile ecosystem. Also Advanced manufacturing SMEs are part of the target audience, if they provide support to textile enterprises towards digital transition. SMEs, to be eligible, must be established or have a branch office in one of the 27 EU Member States.

Consortia composition must take one of the following forms:

- A consortium consisting of two textile SMEs.
- A consortium that includes one Textile SME and one Advanced Manufacturing SME.

Regardless of the configuration, the participating SMEs must be based in one of the 27 EU Member States.

SMEs shall comply with the European Commission Definition: https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/smes/sme-definition_en.



2.2. The TEXTILE Ecosystem

The **textile industry** covers a complex range of activities - from the transformation of natural or synthetic fibres into yarns and fabrics, to the production of a wide variety of products such as:

- Clothing for the Fashion segment of the industry.
- Home furnishing products.
- Textile based materials and composites and
- technical textile products as high-tech synthetic yarns, bedlinens, industrial filters; the most innovative segment of the industry.

The TEXTILE sector is one of the most important in the European manufacturing industry in terms of size, quality, competitiveness, and it has a huge story to tell. The sector has faced serious challenges in recent years (e.g. financial crisis 2007-2008, COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the textile supply chain and the increased costs of energy due to Ukrainian war).

Digitalization plays a crucial role in the textile sector, offering numerous benefits and opportunities for businesses. The inclusion of innovative SMEs, start-ups, and advanced manufacturing SMEs in the EuroBoosTEX Call for Proposal specifically targets the digital transition of the textile industry.

The inclusion of innovative SMEs and advanced manufacturing SMEs in the EuroBoosTEX Call for Proposal is crucial for promoting the digital transition of the textile sector. These companies often bring fresh ideas, novel technologies, and agile approaches that can drive innovation and transform traditional practices.

By supporting these target audiences, the EuroBoosTEX initiative aims to foster digitalization in the textile sector, ultimately enhancing its global competitiveness, sustainability, and resilience in the digital era.

3. EuroBoosTEX GRANT SCHEME - CALL ADDRESSED TO SMES

3.1. Which is the Grant offered in this call?

In the framework of this EuroBoosTEX project, several grants will be offered to SMEs. The call currently open is **INNOVATE BOOST GRANT IN CONSORTIA**.

Scope: This grant is aimed to support the **adoption of processes and technologies** by SMEs to become more competitive and resilient **with a focus on green and digital transition** to ensure more sustainability and/or connectivity in the value chain. While this grant will not fund technology acquisition, the goal is to raise awareness with small newly conceived pilots to test and adapt business processes to facilitate the twin transition, particularly technologies that can drive both green and digital simultaneously.

Goal: to innovate through technologies and adapt business processes to enable the green and digital transition to make SMEs more resilient and competitive.



Duration: from 4 months till 6 months

Total budget: 720.000€

Expected number of beneficiaries: 24 SMEs in 12 projects

Consortia required to apply: minimum 2 SMEs from eligible sectors

Financial support per SME: 30.000€

Maximum financial support per consortia (project): 60.000€

Exhaustive list of activities eligible for funding:

- **Digital assessments.** These assessments aim to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, security, or performance of digital infrastructure, software applications, or online platforms.
- **Green assessments.** These assessments aim to measure and assess the carbon footprint, energy efficiency, waste management, resource consumption, and overall environmental performance of an SME.
- viability studies,
- technical feasibility,
- prototype development including materials/services,
- technical prototyping,
- Prototype/system integration design and development, including materials, technical testing, and market testing,
- **Training on digitalization,** to acquiring knowledge, skills, and competencies related to digital technologies, tools, and practices. It involves the use of digital platforms, online resources, and virtual learning environments to facilitate learning experiences.
- **Green training** on topics related to environmental sustainability, conservation, and green practices, to promote awareness, knowledge, and skills necessary to adopt environmentally friendly behaviors and contribute to a more sustainable future.

Business plan for exploitation and revision of the business model presented in the proposal (compulsory)

Eligible costs:

- Direct staff costs.
- Other direct costs such as supplies and small prototype services.
- Subcontracting from other innovation actors (duly justified).
- And indirect costs (flat rate of 7% of total costs).

Note: purchase and installation of advanced technologies is not eligible

3.2. What financial support is offered?

Three EuroBoosTEX open calls for proposal are launched during the project.

The EuroBoosTEX budget for the **three calls is 1.050.000€.**

The budget will be distributed as described below:

- **First call:** 150.000€
- **Second call:** 720.000€



- **Third call:** 180.000€
-

The third call is planned to be launched in June 2024. The first call closed on 7th June and had a budget allocation of 150,000€.

The maximum amount to be granted per SME by EuroBoostTEX project shall not exceed €60.000 in total even in the case of multiple grants awarded to the same SME during the lifetime of EuroBoostTEX. This applies for the 3 calls in case one SME participating in the 1st call would apply to the second and third call as well.

Each interested SME can apply to one or more EUROBOOSTTEX calls but can only receive the maximum financial contribution of 60.000€ cumulatively.

The maximum amount of €60.000 per SME includes the costs of any specialized subcontractor. Subcontractors can typically be innovation actors such as Research Technology Organizations (RTO), Universities, Research Institutes, living labs and similar, but could be also public research centres or others, like large companies, specialized SMEs and similar.

3.2.1 Maximum funding offered in the 2nd call

INNOVATE BOOST GRANT IN CONSORTIA	
Maximum Grant	Lump sum of 30.000€ per SME (60.000€ per consortium)
Number of funded projects expected	12 Projects in consortia (24 SMEs)
Grant duration	From 4 months till 6 months
Eligible organisations	Consortia composition must take one of the following forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A consortium consisting of two textile SMEs.- A consortium that includes one Textile SME and one Advanced Manufacturing SME. The participating SMEs must be based in one of the 27 EU Member States.
2nd call Innovate Grant Budget	720.000€

3.2.2 Eligible activities

INNOVATE BOOST GRANT In CONSORTIA aims to fund the following activities (the list is exhaustive):

- **Digital assessments.** These assessments aim to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, security, or performance of digital infrastructure, software applications, or online platforms.
- **Green assessments.** These assessments aim to measure and assess the carbon footprint, energy efficiency, waste management, resource consumption, and overall environmental performance of an SME.
- viability studies,
- technical feasibility,



- prototype development including materials/services,
- technical prototyping,
- Prototype/system integration design and development, including materials, technical testing, and market testing,
- **Training on digitalization**, to acquiring knowledge, skills, and competencies related to digital technologies, tools, and practices. It involves the use of digital platforms, online resources, and virtual learning environments to facilitate learning experiences.
- **Green training** on topics related to environmental sustainability, conservation, and green practices, to promote awareness, knowledge, and skills necessary to adopt environmentally friendly behaviors and contribute to a more sustainable future.

The development of a business plan for exploitation and revision of the business model presented in the proposal is compulsory.

Each Consortium should select the different activities to achieve the goals detailed in section 3.1.

Consortium must justify the selection of activities to reach their goals in line with the scope of the call.

3.2.3 Eligible costs

Successful proposals shall receive the requested financial contribution in the form of a lump sum. The grant will be of 30.000€/SME with financial support of 60.000€ per project in consortia.

A lump sum is a fixed amount of money which can be used by beneficiaries for several purposes related to the achievement of the project objectives. It is necessary to provide an explanation in the application on how the lump sum will be used including a clear budget proposal (personnel, subcontracting, travels, equipment, and consumables). Since the granting of a lump-sum does not foresee the delivery of a detailed financial reporting and timesheets, the use of the project budget will be controlled considering the technical advancements by the technical reviewers. The final technical evaluation will assess the coherence of the spent money with the achieved results. However, since beneficiaries will have to keep the original documents of their expenses (timesheets, invoices, contracts) in case of an audit, the following rules and limitations of the grant must be respected.

Only costs generated during the lifetime of the project can be eligible. Period of costs' eligibility is from the contract signature date until the end of the project.

Costs described in the submitted budget must be determined in accordance with the usual accounting and management principles and practices of the beneficiary.

The financial contribution for the eligible costs under Innovate Boost Grant in Consortia, will be given to the selected SMEs in a form of a **lump sum**.

Applicant will provide an indicative budget allocation in Excel format in order to allow the evaluators to clearly understand the organization and implementation of the project. The Excel Budget sheet has to be uploaded with the application form in the submission platform.

Eligible costs are:



- **Direct staff costs:** hourly cost multiplied by the hours of the staff of the beneficiary dedicated to the actual work for the project implementation.
- **Other direct costs:** further direct incurred costs directly related to the implementation of the action can be claimed for travel costs for project team meetings, equipment, consumables etc. Only the part of equipment costs used for the project, and the usual depreciation rules of the company have to be applied for the equipment purchase.
- **Subcontracting costs** such as expert services by Research Technology Organizations (RTO), Universities, Research Institutes, living labs and similar, but could be also public research center or other, large companies, other specialized SMEs and similar. Those costs are the services/products carried out by a provider-subcontractor via a legal agreement between them, which set out the rights and obligations of both parties for the sake of the project completion.
Subcontracting may cover only a limited part of the action. Beneficiary must justify it properly.
- **Indirect costs:** costs incurred within the context of a project that cannot be attributed directly to a specific project activity, e.g. room rent, energy costs or general administration costs. A flat rate of 7% of the eligible costs shall be applied.

Period of costs' eligibility

Period of costs' eligibility starts from the contract signature date until the end of the project. Expenditures incurred before submission date of the proposal are not eligible. Expenditures incurred after reporting period are not eligible.

3.3. Application

3.3.1 Eligibility conditions

Proposals will be eligible only if **all** the following conditions are met:

1. Applicants must be an SME and declare their SME status in accordance with the SME definition of the European Union as part of the application via [this link](#); In cases of partner or linked companies, consult the guide of the SME definition via [this link](#).
2. Applicants must be established in one of **the 27 EU Member States**.
3. Consortia composition must take one of the following forms:
 - A consortium consisting of two textile SMEs.
 - A consortium that includes one Textile SME and one Advanced Manufacturing SME.



4. Applications must be fully written in English (applications partially written in another language are not eligible) and must not exceed maximum number of characters stated in each text box of the application form.
5. Application must be complete and readable.
6. Applications must be submitted through the web-based system by 17:00 CEST (Brussels time) of the 8th November 2023, 17.00 CEST.
7. SMEs applying to the call as a consortium should fill in one (1) proposal. Only one application is eligible per SME and Consortium, in case of multiple submissions detected only the latest submitted proposal will be considered.

Only applications in consortia are allowed.

3.3.2 Where to apply and how?

SMEs will need to apply via the following link: <https://euroclusters.grantplatform.com/>

We will evaluate only proposals submitted through the EuroBoostEX submission tool within the **deadline (November 8th, 2023, @17.00 CEST)**. Upon receipt of each proposal, the system will send you a confirmation of your submission. Proposals may be re-edited and re-submitted until the deadline. The last submitted proposal before the deadline will be considered as the final one.

After submission, the applicant will receive an e-mail which states the date and time of the submitted proposal.

3.3.3 When to apply?

The second EuroBoosTEX I Innovate Boost Grant in Consortia Call is launched **on September 6th, 2023**, and will be open until November 8th, 2023, @ **17.00 CEST**.

Indicative timeline of the 2nd EuroBoosTEX call:

INNOVATE Boost Grant in Consortia Call	Timeline
Opening date for the proposal submission	September 6 th , 2023
Closing date for the proposal submission	November 8 th , 2023, at 17h CEST
Evaluation period	November 2023
Notification of funded proposals	December 2023
Agreement signature date	December 2023
Expected starting date of the project.	2 nd January 2024

4.FUNDING SCHEME

4.1. General payment terms

- All payments will be made in Euros (€).
- Expenditures incurred before the contract signature date, or after the project duration period are ineligible.
- Costs incurred for the implementation of the project must be used for the sole and close purpose of achieving the objectives of the project and its expected results, in a transparent manner consistent with the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- Submission of an application does not constitute an entitlement for funding.
- The recipients of the (financial) support from EuroBoosTEX (“Beneficiaries”) must ensure that the [European Commission](#), the [European Anti-fraud Office \(OLAF\)](#), the [Court of Auditors \(ECA\)](#) and the [European Public Prosecutor’s Office \(EPPO\)](#) under Regulation



2017/1939 can exercise their powers of control, on documents, information, even stored on electronic media, or on the final recipient's premises.

4.2 Beneficiaries' obligations

Supporting documentation

The SME must -for a period of five-years after the payment of the balance- **keep records and other supporting documentation in order to prove the proper implementation of the action.**

They must make them available upon request or in the context of checks, reviews, audits or investigations.

If there are on-going checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims under the contract (including the extension of funding), the SME must keep the records and other supporting documentation until the end of these procedures.

The SME must keep the original documents. Digital and digitalised documents are considered originals if they are authorised by the applicable national law. Non-original documents may be accepted if they offer a comparable level of assurance.

Financial capacity

The SME must have the financial capacity to carry out the actions described in their proposals and to properly manage the financial support granted to them.

Each SME applying **must be** in alignment with the following situations:

- Is not bankrupt or being wound up, is not having affairs administrated by the courts, has not entered into an arrangement with creditors, has not suspended business activities, is not the subject of proceedings concerning those matters or is not in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations.
- Is in compliance with its obligation relating to the payment of social security contributions and the payment of taxes, in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which it is established.
- Is not subject to a conflict of interest in connection with the grant.

Selected SMEs should be able to provide some basic information of their financial standing.

The following documents could be asked after the selection procedure:

- Copy of the profit and loss account.
- Balance sheet for the last two years for which accounts have been closed. Failing that, appropriate statements from banks shall be submitted.

In case of SMEs (or start-ups) without a financial history or track-record, an audit of their current fiscal period (certified by an external auditor) or a self-declaration, including a Business Plan for the on-going financial year could be required.

Exceptionally, when it would be considered and justified by EuroBoostTEX Steering Board, if a participant is unable to provide the above documents, it may prove its economic and financial capacity by any other document which the EuroBoostTEX Steering Board considers appropriate. Nevertheless, this entity must at least be notified of the exceptional reason and its justification in the proposal; and it reserves the right to request any other document enabling it to verify the participant's financial capacity.

4.2 Which are the payment terms per grant?

Payment scheme	INNOVATE BOOST GRANT IN CONSORTIA
	<p>✓ <i>Lump sum of 60.000€ per project in Consortium (2 SMEs) with 30.000€/SME</i></p> <p>2 instalments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - pre-financing: within 30 days from the signature of the contract (50% of the granted lump sum). Payment to each individual SME in consortium. - final: within 30 days from the approval of the final progress performance report (50% of the granted lump sum)

The payments will be made directly to each SME individually.

Payments will not be made to the subcontractors by the EuroBoostTEX project. The SME or SMEs of the consortium are responsible to pay the subcontracting services based on their internal agreement.

5. EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

5.1 Criteria

Submitted applications will be evaluated in a one evaluation procedure (remote evaluation by internal experts). Two evaluators from different partners of the consortium will evaluate proposals. In this sense, no evaluator will be entitled to evaluate proposals coming from companies located in their own region. Then we will have a second review by EuroBoosTEX Steering Board consisting of representatives of EuroBoosTEX partners. Prior to assigning proposals to evaluate, EuroBoosTEX partners will perform an eligibility check according to previously defined criteria (see section 3.3.1 Eligibility conditions).

The evaluation and ranking of the applications are based on a set of criteria. The following table explains the different aspects which will be considered for each evaluation criterion.

Evaluation criteria	Sub-criteria	Score	Weighted Score
1. Excellence (30%)	Degree of innovation at consortia level	5	1.5
	Degree of innovation at ecosystem level	5	0.5
	Feasibility of the project	5	1
Total 'Excellence level'			3
2 Implementation (30%)	Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan	5	1.5
	Team	5	1
	Risk management	5	0.5
Total 'Implementation'			3
3. Impact-Ambition (40%)	Economic impact	5	1,5
	Route to market	5	2
	Social impact	5	0,5
Total 'Impact-Ambition'			4
TOTAL Score			10

5.2 Scoring mechanism

Evaluation scores will be awarded based on the criteria mentioned in the section above. The maximum weighted score for *Criterion 1* will be 3 points, for *Criterion 2* will be 3 points and for *Criterion 3* will be 4 points.

Each sub-criterion is rated between 0 and 5 points; no half-points are allowed (decimal points may arise during normalization, but not as an individual evaluation grade). The threshold for each individual criterion (excellence, implementation and impact-ambition) is 60% of maximum score. Each sub-criterion has a dedicated weight for the final score as detailed in the table above. Score per criterion is the sum of the individual sub-criteria weighted scores.

Proposals failing to pass the individual criteria will not be recommended for funding.

The meaning of the **scores** with respect to the sub-criteria are as follows:

- **1: Poor.** The sub-criterion is addressed in an inadequate manner, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- **2: Fair.** While the proposal broadly addresses the sub-criterion, there are significant weaknesses.
- **3: Good.** The proposal addresses the sub-criterion well, but with at least one moderate weakness.
- **4: Very good.** The proposal addresses the sub-criterion very well, although with minor weaknesses.
- **5: Excellent.** The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the sub-criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.

In case of proposals with **equal overall scores**, the prevailing one is one that has the higher score in the criterion of “Impact-ambition”, then “Excellence” and then “Implementation” in this order.

5.3 Evaluation procedure

Submitted applications will be assessed by the EuroBoostTEX Steering Board consisting of representatives of the EuroBoostTEX partners.

The assessment period shall take max. 40 working days, starting from the closing date of the call. The applicants will receive an e-mail about the outcome of the assessment directly after the assessment is finalised along with instructions for the next steps in case the applicant is awarded. The successful applicants will be requested to upload administrative and financial documents to the EuroBoostTEX platform within 7 working days from the notification of the project approval, and within 15 working days to sign a formal contract from the notification of the project approval. Failure to comply with these timeframes might result in the rejection of the proposal.



Individual Evaluation will be done remotely by two members of EuroBoostTEX Steering Board (EuroBoostTEX partners). After individual evaluation, the result will be a preliminary ranking list.

The final ranking list will result from the decision of the EuroBoostTEX Steering Board.

Important note to applicants: Terms and Conditions described in this Guide for Applicants / Call for Proposals, should be considered as mandatory terms and any incompliance may lead to proposal disqualification.

Examples for proposal disqualification (indicative and not exhaustive):

- Applicants request budget higher than 60.000€.
- Applicant is not within territorial scope of the EuroBoostTEX project (27 EU Member State Countries).

6.CONTACT DETAILS AND COMPLAINTS

For any enquiries regarding the EuroBoostTEX scheme, please contact julia@ateval.com or your local contact point (Annex I).

For any complaints regarding the EuroBoostTEX Open Call results, please contact your local contact point (Annex I) within 5 days after the announcement of the Open Call results. Your email should include the following information:

- Platform username and application name
- Lead contact name and details
- Object of your complaint
- Information and evidence of the alleged breach

The EuroBoostTEX Steering Board, which consists of representatives of the EuroBoostTEX partners, will examine the complaint on the basis of the information brought forward by the applicant, will assess the case and decide whether the complaint is justified or not and will inform the applicant and the consortium on the decision taken. If the complaint is considered justified, the EuroBoostTEX Steering Board will re-evaluate the project application and the related assessment part, subject to the complaint. The evaluators will then provide the Consortium an updated assessment. The final decision on the complaint will be communicated by EuroBoostTEX Steering Board to the applicant in writing within **20 working days** from the date of submitting the complaint. This decision will be final, binding to all parties and not subject to any further complaint proceedings within the programme if the complaint is based on the same grounds.

For technical issues concerning the submission procedure, please contact julia@ateval.com or your local contact point.



7. MONITORING AND REPORTING PROCESS

Maximum 1 (one) month after the end of the reporting period, as it will be defined in the contract, the EuroBoosTEX beneficiaries shall provide an overall performance progress report for the Project along with the respective deliverables validating the work as well as a brief financial statement with the expenses for the period according to the contract.

The purpose of the above is to evaluate:

- The degree of fulfilment of the project work plan and of the related deliverable(s).
- The continued relevance of the objectives and breakthrough potential with respect to the scientific and industrial state-of-the-art.
- The expected potential impact in economic, competition and social terms, and the EuroBoosTEX Beneficiary's cooperation to elaborate a dissemination of foreground plan.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

A.- Confidentiality among applicants

All information in whatever form or mode of communication, which is disclosed by a Party (the "Disclosing Party") to any other Party (the "Recipient") in connection with the project during its implementation and which has been explicitly marked as "confidential" at the time of disclosure, or when disclosed orally has been identified as confidential at the time of disclosure and has been confirmed and designated in writing within 15 calendar days from oral disclosure at the latest as confidential information by the Disclosing Party, is "Confidential Information".

The Recipients hereby undertake in addition and without prejudice to any commitment on non-disclosure under the EuroBoosTEX Project, for a period of 4 years after the end of the Project:

- Not to use Confidential Information otherwise than for the purpose for which it was disclosed.
- not to disclose Confidential Information without the prior written consent by the Disclosing Party.
- to ensure that internal distribution of Confidential Information by a Recipient shall take place on a strict need-to-know basis; and
- to return to the Disclosing Party, or destroy, on request all Confidential Information that has been disclosed to the Recipients including all copies thereof and to delete all information stored in a machine readable form to the extent practically possible. The Recipients may keep a copy to the extent it is required to keep, archive or store such Confidential Information because of compliance with applicable laws and regulations or for the proof of



on-going obligations provided that the Recipient comply with the confidentiality obligations herein contained with respect to such copy for as long as the copy is retained.

The recipients shall be responsible for the fulfilment of the above obligations on the part of their employees, or third parties involved in the Project and shall ensure that they remain so obliged, as far as legally possible, during and after the end of the Project and/or after the termination of the contractual relationship with the employee or third party.

The above shall not apply for disclosure or use of Confidential Information, if and in so far as the Recipient can show that:

- the Confidential Information has become or becomes publicly available by means other than a breach of the Recipient's confidentiality obligations.
- the Disclosing Party subsequently informs the Recipient that the Confidential Information is no longer confidential.
- the Confidential Information is communicated to the Recipient without any obligation of confidentiality by a third party who is to the best knowledge of the Recipient in lawful possession thereof and under no obligation of confidentiality to the Disclosing Party.
- the disclosure or communication of the Confidential Information is foreseen by provisions of the EuroBoosTEX Project.
- the Confidential Information, at any time, was developed by the Recipient completely independently of any such disclosure by the Disclosing Party.
- the Confidential Information was already known to the Recipient prior to disclosure.

The Recipient shall apply the same degree of care regarding the Confidential Information disclosed within the scope of the Project as with its own confidential and/or proprietary information, but in no case less than reasonable care.

Each Party shall promptly advise the other Party in writing of any unauthorised disclosure, misappropriation, or misuse of Confidential Information after it becomes aware of such unauthorised disclosure, misappropriation, or misuse.

If any Party becomes aware that it will be required, or is likely to be required, to disclose Confidential Information in order to comply with applicable laws or regulations or with a court or administrative order, it shall, to the extent it is lawfully able to do so, prior to any such disclosure.

- notify the Disclosing Party, and
- comply with the Disclosing Party's reasonable instructions to protect the confidentiality of the information.



B.- Data Protection

GDPR compliance: The General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679/EU) guarantees that the processing of data is carried out in compliance with the fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as the dignity of the data subject with particular reference to confidentiality, personal identity and the right to data protection. By applying, the applicant agrees on the storage and use of its personal data for the execution of the EuroBoostTEX objectives and work plan.

The processing of data that EuroBoostTEX intends to carry out will be based on lawfulness and correctness in the full protection of its rights and its confidentiality pursuant to the general principles of the GDPR and its art.24. Therefore, the competitors are informed of the procedure that the data provided by the applicants will be treated exclusively with reference to the procedure for which they submitted the documentation.

Data controller: ATEVAL.

ADDRESS: C/ Els Telers, 20 46870 Ontinyent Valencia – Spain

VAT number: ESG-46108569

Contact details: julia@ateval.com

Data we process: The EuroBoostTEX consortium will be processing mainly data coming from:

- Representatives and contact person from the applicants to EuroBoostTEX Call for proposals.
- Representatives and contact person from the partners of EuroBoostTEX Consortium
- As part of carrying out the projects, the partners and the applicants transfer personal data to EuroBoostTEX consortium, making it possible to identify and contact (first & last name, organisation, function, business e-mail address, message, consent) their employees due to their job titles. In this case, the partner remains responsible for supplying the legal information to the people involved in the processing operations prior to or when the data are collected.
- Information about successful EuroBoostTEX Grant applications that will be made publicly available before the end of the project containing: project title, names of project partners, among of funding awarded and short project description (as provided by the applicant in the application template).
- Information about successful EuroBoostTEX Grant that will be made publicly available after the end of the project: project title, names of project partners, awarded funding and updated short project description (as provided by the project partners in the Final Report).

Purpose of the processing: The purpose of processing partners and applicant's data is:

- To run an open call and collect data necessary to evaluate applications and financing the projects.
- To manage the application form and the consequent project selection process.



- To compile files on members of the consortium, partners and people likely to contribute to the projects due to their job titles or expertise.
- Communication on the projects.
- Sending a newsletter and information about events related to the projects.
- Compiling statistics related to the projects.

Lawfulness:

- (a) **Legal basis for the applicants processing of personal data:** The legal basis for this processing is the performance of selections of projects for the financing (art. 6.1, 'b', GDPR).
- (b) **Legal basis for other processing of personal data:** informed consent (art. 6.1. 'a' GDPR).

Recipients:

Third-party intervention:

EuroBoosTEX, while conducting its undertakings, may authorise third parties (as defined in number 10 of article 4 of the GDPR) to process personal data which are under EuroBoosTEX domain, in order to comply with legal duties, pre-contractual or contractual obligations and/or as indispensable means of performance of EuroBoosTEX statutory goals. Said third parties can be public authorities, namely in charge of auditing tasks, project, activity or service partners.

In order to comply with the GDPR requisites, EuroBoosTEX shall require the previous and mandatory consent to the data subject for this specific processing.

Processor intervention:

EuroBoosTEX, while conducting its undertakings, may subcontract third entities (as defined in number 8 of article 4 of the GDPR) to process personal data on EuroBoosTEX 's behalf. In order to comply with the GDPR requisites, EuroBoosTEX shall require the previous and mandatory consent to the data subject for this specific processing.

Period of data storage: Personal data will be stored for the period defined by legal rules or, in their absence, for the strict time needed for the fulfilment of the processing purpose, taking in consideration the legal basis for said processing, as well as all the remaining requisites and time periods determined by law, namely the lapse terms for legal actions based on the correlated rights.



Accordingly, in all cases where a mandatory storage period is determined by law, the right to erasure of personal data as stated in Article 17 of the GDPR can only be exercised by the data subject after said period is lapsed.

EuroBoostTEX shall store the personal data for the strict period of time needed for the fulfilment of the data processing purpose, as well as its erasure (or anonymization, if and when applicable/needed) immediately after said period and/or upon the data subject's request, always considering the above-cited exceptions and all legally defined terms.

Rights: The applicants can exercise their rights towards the data controller, based on article 12 of the GDPR. For any inquiries regarding the processing your personal data, please contact julia@ateval.com.

Applications selection and evaluation will be performed under the appropriate ethical conduct and will respect the confidentiality of the information received.

9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND DISSEMINATION

All rights, title, and interest in and to the intellectual property (IP) created or owned in any form or manner by EuroBoostTEX partners, shall remain vested in them. For this purpose, any such IP shall include IP related to:

- Patents, patent applications and patent rights (including without limitation any and all applicable assignments of patents or patent applications, continuations, continuations in-part, divisions, patents of addition, renewals, extensions, foreign counterparts, utility models, re-examinations, and applications for reissuance of patents).
- Copyrights and applications, registrations, recordings and renewals in connection therewith.
- Trade secrets and confidential technical information (including without limitation research and development, know-how, formulae, compositions, processes and techniques, technical data, designs and drawings).
- All manuals, books, documents and specifications directly or indirectly related there to.
- Licenses, agreements and permissions granted to any third parties over the IP.

The ownership of the IP rights arising from the development of a project, within the scope of this call, shall belong to the corresponding SME, as referred in the contract.

The following aspects will be considered in the contract established with the beneficiaries:

- Results are owned by the party that generates them, unless otherwise agreed.

For dissemination and use of results generated through the financial support from EuroBoostTEX, the recipients **must credit the EuroBoostTEX project** through proper citation and appearance of the EuroBoostTEX logo and EU Logo, including the proper citation "This project has received funding from the European Union through EuroBoostTEX project".



10. GENDER EQUILITY, DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

EuroBoosTEX seeks gender balance. Therefore, applicants are invited to take all measures to promote equal opportunities between men and women in the implementation of the action. They must aim for a gender balance at all levels of personnel assigned to the action, including supervisory and managerial levels to the extent possible.

11. DISCLAIMER

Purpose: This text is explaining the EuroBoosTEX Individual Innovate Boost Grant for information purposes only. No rights can be claimed based on this document. This document does not reflect the views of the European Commission and EISMEA.

Mistakes or inconsistencies: The EuroBoosTEX consortium is not responsible for any mistakes or misinterpretations that this text may cause. In the case of inconsistencies, the EuroBoosTEX Consortium will determine the steps to be taken, in cooperation with the applicant concerned.

Consequential damages: In no event shall either party be liable to the other or any of its affiliates for any consequential, incidental, indirect, special, punitive or exemplary damages (including, without limitation, lost profits, business or goodwill) suffered or incurred by such other party or its affiliates in connection with this grant scheme, even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

Direct Damages: EuroBoosTEX liability for direct damages will be limited to the amount of the financial contribution awarded to the applicant pending of payment.

ANNEX I - SME LOCAL CONTACT POINTS

EuroBoosTEX SME HELPDESK			
Partnert	Representatives		Contact mail
ATEVAL- Spain	Julia VERCHER	Maria CLIMENT	Julia Vercher julia@ateval.com María Climent maria@ateval.com
AEI Tèxtils- Spain	Josep CASAMADA	Ariadna DETRELL	Josep Casamada projectes@textils.cat Ariadna Detrell adetrell@textils.cat
CITEVE- Portugal	Maria José CARVALHO	Bruno Brás	Maria José Carvalho mjcarvalho@citeve.pt bbras@citeve.pt
NTT- Italy	Enrico VENTURINI	Matteo LEPRI	Enrico Venturini enrico.venturini@tecnotex.it Matteo Lepri matteo.lepri@tecnotex.it
TECHTERA- France	Julie RAFTON	Sonia DESCOINS	'Julie RAFTON-JOLIVET' jrafton@techtera.org TECHTERA S DESCOINS communication@techtera.org



ANNEX II- INNOVATE BOOST GRANT IN CONSORTIA

<p>Scope: This grant is aimed at the adoption of processes and technologies by SMEs to become more competitive and resilient with focus on green and digital transition to ensure the sustainability and connectivity of the value chain.</p>	
Calendar dates	<p>Launch: September 6th, 2023 Deadline: November 8th, 2023 @17.00 CEST</p>
Financial contribution (grant)	<p>€60.000 lump sum per project in Consortium (2 SMEs) with 30.000€/SME</p>
Grant Duration	<p>from 4 months till 6 months (If needed)</p>
Specific eligibility requirements	<p>Consortia composition must take one of the following forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A consortium consisting of two textile SMEs. - A consortium that includes one Textile SME and one Advanced Manufacturing SME. <p>Regardless of the configuration, the participating SMEs must be based in one of the 27 EU Member States.</p>
Eligible costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct staff costs • Other direct costs such as supplies and small prototype services • Subcontracting from other innovation actors (duly justified) • Indirect costs: A flat rate of 7% of the eligible costs shall be applied.
Eligible supported activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital assessments. These assessments aim to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, security, or performance of digital infrastructure, software applications, or online platforms. • Green assessments. These assessments aim to measure and assess the carbon footprint, energy efficiency, waste management, resource consumption, and overall environmental performance of an SME. • viability studies, • technical feasibility, • prototype development including materials/services, • technical prototyping, • Prototype/system integration design and development, including materials, technical testing, and market testing, • Training on digitalization, to acquiring knowledge, skills, and competencies related to digital technologies, tools, and practices. It involves the use of digital platforms, online resources, and virtual learning environments to facilitate learning experiences. • Green training on topics related to environmental sustainability, conservation, and green practices, to promote awareness, knowledge, and skills necessary to adopt environmentally friendly behaviors and contribute to a more sustainable future. <p>Business plan for exploitation and revision of the business model presented in the proposal (compulsory).</p>



Payment scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• pre-financing: within 30 days from the signature of the contract (50%)• final: within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the final progress performance report (50%)
2nd call Budget	720.000€