

**EOSC**secretariat.eu

Setup and management of the EOSC Secretariat supporting the EOSC Governance



# EUROPEAN OPEN SCIENCE CLOUD - EOSC Funding Opportunities with Fast track Process for Covid-19 Co-creation Budget



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# 1. European Open Science Cloud

EOSC is an ideal tool to respond to public emergencies such as the COVID-19 virus by

- (1) opening up scientific data on the virus,
- (2) sharing live on-the-ground data on the spread of the virus, as well as software, standards and processes for monitoring COVID-19 treatment and development,
- (3) accessing and combining this data not only to eradicate the virus but learn how to deal with similar viruses and future outbreaks,
- (4) assessing the validity of epidemic information in relation to the virus by ensuring that its sources can be traced and verified.

The past weeks have seen the European scientific community's answer to the COVID-19 pandemic. European institutions (such as Inserm, UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union, the European University Association, among others) have signed the Wellcome Trust's Statement on Data Sharing in Public Health Emergencies agreeing to put all relevant COVID-19 research to open access, make research findings available before peer review, share interim and final research data on the outbreak and to share them with the World Health Organisation. **The EOSC Secretariat responds to this clear need for stakeholder engagement by introducing funding opportunities that will be fast-tracked at this challenging time for us all.**

## 2. EOSC and the Co-creation budget

The European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) fosters open science and the digital transformation of science by providing a trusted and open virtual environment for the scientific community with seamless access to services addressing the whole research data life cycle. Focus is on user-orientation and inclusiveness across borders and disciplines, whilst the governance should be characterised by a minimal set of rules of participation.

According to definitions, co-creation is a process of a product-service development that is focusing on customer experience and interactive relationships. It is “an active, creative and social process, based on collaboration between producers and users, that is initiated by the firm to generate value for customers.” (London Research and Consulting, 2017).

EOSC Secretariat.eu retains a high degree of flexibility in its roll-out plan by adopting a co-creation approach and providing budget for all upcoming, foreseen and unforeseen, activities and actions related to the work and strategic objectives of EOSC implementation. This includes deploying open science infrastructures, services, practices, data and networks for addressing unforeseen activities of public and humanitarian interest, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

### 3. What kinds of activities may be requested for co-creation activities?

Activities and actions that deploy open science methods and resources and make use of the EOSC communities in order to address COVID-19 related issues. Indicatively, these could be:

- ✓ Opening up virus related research and data
- ✓ Sharing of infrastructures and services
- ✓ Developing open design equipment for fighting COVID-19
- ✓ Sharing sampling test methodologies and data
- ✓ Developing open methodologies, services, software and infrastructures for sharing data, practices and knowledge in relation to the development and treatment of COVID-19
- ✓ Developing open science methodologies for monitoring the spread of COVID-19
- ✓ Developing open-science / evidence-based methodologies for the development of epidemic combating policies
- ✓ Accessing and combining open data not only to eradicate the virus but learn how to deal with similar viruses and future outbreaks
- ✓ Assessing the validity of epidemic information in relation to the virus by ensuring that its sources can be traced and verified
- ✓ Other open science activities/ actions related to the fighting of epidemics and pandemics

## 4. Who can apply for co-creation activities?

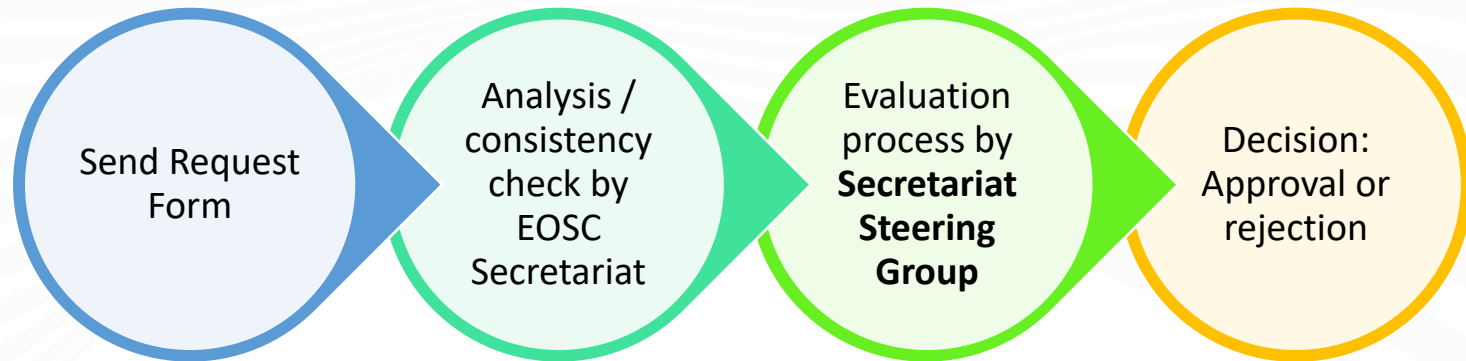
- ✓ Individuals or natural persons and legal entities residing in the Member States of the European Union (EU), including their outermost regions and the associated countries (AC)
- ✓ Applicants who are not receiving support from other instruments (EU or national Research Infrastructure projects) for the proposed activities, and are not being funded from other sources for an identical activity

## 5. What are the application and evaluation criteria?

- ✓ **Eligibility according to H2020 criteria**
- ✓ Quantified **benefits** and outcome

## 6. Process of the request

Applications will be evaluated on a weekly basis. We will notify you as soon as possible about the decision on your request.



All financial applications will be considered on a case by case basis and on market expectations, so we recommend the applicants provide a transparent and objective analysis of the financial provisioning required. Those applications that clearly respond to how it can pragmatically contribute to EOSC indicating clear benefits/KPIs are encouraged.

All applications will be carefully monitored, motivated and justified for project internal, auditing purposes.

**Note:** In order to respect the rules on funding set by the European Commission, the EOSC Secretariat will fund initiatives related to EOSC for an amount of 45.000 EUR max. The EOSC Secretariat reserves the right of recurring to public tendering procurement, whose rules will strictly be complied to, for any initiative that exceed the aforementioned threshold.

## 7. Which costs are eligible?

In order to be eligible, actual costs must be:

- ✓ Actually incurred by the beneficiary, i.e.: *Real and not estimated, budgeted or imputed and; Definitively and genuinely borne by the beneficiary (not by any other entity)*
- ✓ Entered as eligible costs in the request form. The eligible costs cannot include costs that did not appear in the estimated budget.
- ✓ Incurred for and/or during the action duration. The ‘action duration’ is the period running from the action starting date to the end date of the action and may not go beyond 31st March 2021, as the EOSC Secretariat.eu project itself will end in 2021.
- ✓ Connected to the action (i.e. necessary to achieve the action’s objectives)
- ✓ Identifiable and verifiable (i.e. come directly from the beneficiary’s accounts (be directly reconcilable with them) and supported by documentation). The beneficiaries must be able to show the actual costs, i.e. what was actually paid for the work
- ✓ Reasonable, justified and must comply with the principles of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency. ‘Economy’ means minimizing the costs of resources used for an activity (input), while maximizing quality; ‘efficiency’ is the relationship between outputs and the resources used to produce them.

## 7.1. Accommodation and travel policies for requests

To submit proposals related to the realization of the study, a co-creation activity/project and/or participate in an open call, you must use this cost parameter related to travel and accommodation.

- ✓ 1-night stay per person up to €650;
- ✓ 2-nights stay per person up to €850;
- ✓ 3-nights stay per person up to €1050, etc.



# FLOWCHART OF THE REQUEST

