

STRENGTHENING THE RESILIENCE OF TEXTILE, AEROSPACE, AND CONSTRUCTION SMES TO TRANSITION TOWARDS GREENER AND MORE DIGITAL SECTORS WITH SOCIAL AND BUSINESS INNOVATION

Call for Expression of Interest for Travel Vouchers to attend the IN TRANSIT Learning Expeditions in Ljubljana and Seville

Grant Agreement number 101091494

Lead partner: Corallia





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1. ABOUT InTransit

IN TRANSIT aims to strengthen the resilience of textile, aerospace and construction SMEs towards greener and more digital sectors with social and business model, with a mixed support mechanism including individual assessment support and a lump sum and coaching to ensure their consolidation and sustainability. IN TRANSIT will:

- Provide an open online collaborative platform involving innovation actors from the aerospace, construction, textile and advanced manufacturing sectors that will serve as a space for sharing best practices and as a matchmaking system for new ideas for innovation and circular economy and new collaboration partnerships.
- Foster cross-regional and cross-sectoral links with dedicated learning visits in combination with innovation workshops and matchmakings to establish the seed for collaboration among sectors by identifying potential partners for commercial and innovation cooperation that will ultimately generate growth opportunities for SMEs.
- Increase resilience of SMEs by supporting their transition to more sustainable business models
 financing of a feasibility study, prototyping, pilot testing, demonstrating, procurement of further
 specialized consultancy services and coaching services that cannot be provided directly by the
 project partners, an adaptation of business processes, option to access to DIHs testing facilities, the
 introduction of new IT solutions, and social innovation strategies.
- Scale-up support to leverage additional funds. In Transit will connect successful SMEs with other initiatives for scaling up the innovations.

1.1 About the Learning Expeditions

The IN TRANSIT Learning Expeditions are key events organised to support community-building and networking across the key sectors of IN TRANSIT: Aerospace, Construction, Textile and Advanced Manufacturing. The events consist of cross-sectoral visits to industry-leading companies which have successfully implemented circular business models and top research centres followed by innovation management workshops to facilitate cross-sectoral new circular business models generation.

The Learning Expedition in Ljubljana, Slovenia

	Day 1 – Thursday, 18 January 2024			
8:00-8.30	Bus meeting point and transfer to the <u>Faculty of Design</u> : Ljubljana city centre (TBD based on participants' hotel location)			
8:30-8:50	Welcome Construction Cluster of Slovenia (CCS) presentation IN TRANSIT project presentation Overview of planned open calls			
8:50-9.30	 Workshop: Future of buildings and textile and synergies A healthy living environment, prof. dr. Damjana Celcar, prof. dr. Jasna Hrovatin, viš.pred. Petra Kocjančič mag, Faculty of design. The challenges of Smart Textiles in different application fields: from safety to industrialisation, Dr. Daniela Zavec (Expert in Smart Textiles). Sustainable and circular buildings – how textile contributes, Vladimir Gumilar, Andro Goblon, Construction Cluster of Slovenia. 			
9.30-9.45	Coffee break			



	Best practices Exchange		
9:30-11:00	Brief presentation of visiting companies		
0.00 11.00	• Brief presentation of companies from Slovenia (Aquafil d.o.o., Velana Living d.o.o., Filc d.o.o., other, <i>if visit is not possible</i>)		
11:00-12:30	Networking lunch (Faculty of design)		
	Visits		
12:30-17:00	 Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, Chair of Textile and Clothing Engineering, Ljubljana 		
	DUOL d.o.o., air supported structures, visit of the building site in Novo mesto		
18:00	Return to meeting point (Ljubljana city centre)		
19:00-21.00	City tour and networking dinner (Ljubljana city centre)		
	Day 2 – Friday, 19 January 2024		
8:30	Bus meeting point (same as Day 1) (Ljubljana city centre)		
	Visits to companies		
09:00-15.30	 NOVA AVENIJA D.O.O., eco insulation solutions, Maribor. 		
09.00-15.30	RIHTER prefabricated houses / use of technical textile, Ljubno ob Savinji.		
	 Other companies, matched with visiting organisations (tbd). 		
17:00	Return to meeting point by bus and end of the Learning Expedition		

The Learning Expedition in Seville, Spain

Day 1 – Thursday, 22 February 2024			
8:00	Bus meeting point: <u>Hotel Petit Palace Puerta de Triana</u> (Reyes Católicos, 5 – 41001 Sevilla)		
8:15-8:45	Welcome Corporación Tecnológica de Andalucía (CTA) presentation IN TRANSIT project presentation Overview of planned open calls		
8:45-09:15	Andalusia Aerospace Cluster presentation (CTA facilities)		
10:30-12:00	Visit to Industry • Puerto de Santa María		
12:30-15:00	TITANIA visit (Tecnobahia, El Puerto de Santa María)		
15:00-16:30	Networking-Lunch		
17:30	Return to meeting point in bus (Hotel Petit Palace Puerta de Triana)		
19:00	City Tour: TBC Meeting point: Hotel Petit Palace Puerta de Triana		
20:30	Networking Dinner (location: TBD - Sevilla)		



Day 2 – Friday, 23 February 2024		
8:30	Bus meeting point: Hotel Petit Palace Puerta de Triana	
09:00-13:00	Visit and Workshop Andalusia Advanced Centre for Aerospace Technologies (CATEC) Workshop on implementation Industry 5.0	
13:00-14:30	Networking-Lunch	
14:30-15:00	Return to meeting point by bus and end of the Learning Expedition	

^{*} IN TRANSIT consortium reserves the right to change dates or cancel the call at any time, change its provisions or extend it. In those cases, we will inform all applicants of such changes.

Please check the latest version of the schedule on the IN TRANSIT website.

2. CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

This Travel Voucher Call for Expression of Interest (EoI) has been launched in order to engage SMEs in the participation in the **IN TRANSIT Learning Expeditions in Ljubljana and Seville**. These Travel Vouchers are meant to provide the financial support needed to attend the events held by the host organisation.

This Call for Expression of Interest is **public**.

Call for Eol key facts

• Call publication date: 01/10/2023

• Submission deadline: 08/11/2023, 17h CEST

• Submission online platform: https://calls.intransitproject.eu/

• Eol evaluation period: 09–26/11/2023

• Eol ranking and announcement of results: 27/11/2023.

Total call budget: 20.000,00€

Travel voucher lump-sum amount:
 o International travel: 1.000,00€

o National travel (above 300km): 500,00€

2.1 Allocated Financial Support

The total budget reserved for this Expression of Interest call is 20.000,00€. The consortium reserves the right to increase the total budget within a maximum of 20%.

2.2 Financial Support Calculation

Travel vouchers are lump-sum funding granted to SMEs for the sole purpose of participating in the Learning Expedition(s), in a manner consistent with the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

^{**} IN TRANSIT reserves the right to change the agenda of the day at any time. In case of changes that will impact the start or end time of the event, we will inform all applicants.

^{***} Subject to sanitary conditions. In case the event is cancelled due to sanitary reasons prior to the deadline, all the applications will be rejected.



For each Learning Expedition under this Call for EoI both national and international travel will be considered, according to the following distribution:

International travel: 1.000,00€

National travel (above 300km): 500,00€

Applicant SMEs who are interested in participating in more than one Learning Expedition offered by the current Call are welcome to indicate this in their application. The travel voucher lump-sum funding (1.000,00€ for international travel or 500,00€ for national travel) is offered per Learning Expedition.

Please note that applicants are entitled to apply and benefit from more than one type of IN TRANSIT vouchers, with a combined maximum funding of 50.000€ per SME. In cases where the maximum funding might be reached, IN TRANSIT will adjust the total value of the travel voucher to enforce this limit.

3 APPLICATION

3.1 Who can apply?

Expressions of interest will be eligible only if all the following conditions are met:

- 1. Applicants must be a small or medium sized enterprise (SME).
 - i. Companies must declare their SME status in accordance with the SME definition of the European Union as part of the application via <u>this link</u>; in case of partner or linked companies, consult the guide of the SME definition via <u>this link</u>;
 - ii. SMEs must be active in one of the following sectors:
 - a) Aerospace
 - b) Construction
 - c) Textile
 - d) Advanced manufacturing
- 2. Applicants must be established or with a branch office in one of the 27 EU members states.
- Expressions of Interest must be written in English (applications partially written in another language are not eligible) and must not exceed the maximum number of characters stated in each text box of the application form.
- 4. Applications must be submitted through the web-based system by the deadline indicated in the Expression of Interest call.

Maximum one application will be granted per SME per IN TRANSIT event.

In case a SME has received a travel voucher from other Calls for EoI for this specific event, the application will be considered ineligible.

Applicants can participate in more than one event up to cumulative 4.000€ in financial contribution from travel vouchers.

In any case, the total financial contribution to individual SMEs from the different IN TRANSIT vouchers cannot exceed the limit of 50.000€ per SME.

3.2 Activities eligible for financial support

The Travel Voucher covers the expenses of participants to attend the IN TRANSIT Learning Expeditions in Ljubljana (18-19th of January 2024) and Seville (22-23rd of February, 2024).



3.3 The application process

SME applicants must submit their application form through the IN TRANSIT submission platform (https://calls.intransitproject.eu/) before the deadline, 08/11/2023 at 17h CEST.

All the information provided must be complete and valid. After the submission, all the applicants will receive a confirmation email with the registered date and time of the submission.

4 FUNDING SCHEME

4.1 General payment terms

- All payments will be made in Euros (€).
- Costs incurred for the travel must be used for the sole and close purpose of the participation in the
 event indicated in the application, in a transparent manner consistent with the principles of
 economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- Submissions of an application does not constitute an entitlement for funding.
- The recipients of the (financial) support from IN TRANSIT ("Beneficiaries") must ensure that the <u>European Commission</u>, the <u>European Anti-fraud Office</u> (OLAF), the <u>European Public Prosecutor's Office</u> (EPPO) and the <u>European Court of Auditors</u> (ECA) 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

4.2.1 Supporting documentation

The participant must – for a period of 5 (five) years after the payment of the balance – keep records and other supporting documentation 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 ongoing checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims under the grant agreement (including the extension of funding), the participant must keep the records and other supporting documentation until the end of these procedures.

The participant 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.

4.2.2 Financial capacity

The participant must have the financial capacity to carry out the travel described in their proposal and to properly manage the financial support granted to them.

Each participant must be in alignment with the following situations:

- Is no 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 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.



4.3 Which are the payment terms per voucher?/ Payment scheme

The payments of the lump sum of 1.000€ for international travel and of 500€ for national travel (above 300km) will be made within 30 days from the completion of the activity (signature of attendance sheet) and the submission of the final report (survey), whichever is later.

In case the company has already received other funding from IN TRANSIT calls, this lump-sum could be reduced to limit the accumulated funding to the SME to a maximum of 50.000€.

5 EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

The evaluation and selection process will be performed separately per Learning Expedition. As a result, two separate ranking lists will be produced; one per Leaning Expedition. The process to be carried out is described below.

Travel Voucher applications will be gathered and assessed by CORALLIA with a first on-rolling eligibility check and the objective scoring at the deadline.

Submitted applications that have been considered eligible will be ranked based on the objective scoring and approved by the IN TRANSIT Evaluation Committee consisting of representatives of IN TRANSIT partners.

The evaluation and ranking of the applications are based on a set of objective criteria in addition to the above-mentioned main eligibility requirements. The following table explains the different aspects which will be considered for each evaluation criterion.

Evaluation Criteria	Sub-Criteria	Max Score
1. Sectorial Balance (20%)	Inversely proportional to the number of applicants by each IN TRANSIT sector	20
2. Submission Time (30%)	EoI submission time ranking, with 3-point decrements (no negative scores will be awarded)	30
3. Gender Balance (10%)	Inversely proportional to the number of applicants	10
4. Network Participation (20%)	Membership in an IN TRANSIT partner	20
5. Cross-border Participation (20%)	Is the travel voucher requested cross-border?	20
	Total Score	100

In case of tied scores, the IN TRANSIT Project Coordinator will prioritise based on the score of Cross-border Participation, Sectorial Balance, Gender Balance, Network Collaboration and, lastly, Reception Time.

All participants subject to travel vouchers will be notified by email at least 30 days prior to the event, with the outcome of the evaluation and selection procedure with instructions for further steps in case the applicant is awarded a Travel Voucher. By this time, the selected applicants will also be requested to sign a formal **sub-grant agreement** with Corallia, the IN TRANSIT representative in charge, within ten days from notification.

Please note that in the case of the provided travel vouchers, costs may be eligible as from the date of the official announcement of the results and provided that all other conditions for cost eligibility are met according to the "IN TRANSIT Call for Expression of Interest for Travel Vouchers to attend the IN TRANSIT Learning Expeditions in Ljubljana and Seville". Submission of an application does not constitute an entitlement for funding.



5.1 Sub-Criteria

Sub-Criteria will be calculated as follows.

1. Sectorial Balance (20%)

Score for Sector X:

20 * (Total # of applications – # of Sector X applications) / (Total # of applications)

2. Submission Time (30%)

Chronological order:

- 1st submission = 30 points
- 2nd submission = 27 points
- ..
- 10th submission and afterwards = 0 points

3. Gender Balance (10%)

Score for Gender X:

10 * (Total # of applications – # of Gender X applications) / (Total # of applications)

4. Network Collaboration (20%)

Formal membership in an IN TRANSIT partner:

- Yes = 20 points
- No = 0 points

5. Cross-border Participation (20%)

Cross-border travel:

- Yes = 20 points
- No = 0 points

6 MONITORING AND REPORTING PROCESS

Participants will have to sign the attendance sheet for the day of the event for which they have received a Travel Voucher. The lack of signature is considered a breach of the sub-grant agreement and will invalidate the Travel Voucher awarded.

Maximum 1 (one) month after the eligible event, as it will be defined in the sub-grant agreement, the IN TRANSIT beneficiaries will have to respond to a report (survey), which purpose is to evaluate the degree of fulfilment of the goals of the event and the expected potential impact generated by the attendance in the event.

CORALLIA, as IN TRANSIT representative, will pay the Travel Voucher to participants that had completed their obligations (attended and signed the attendee list, completed the report) within 30 days after the fulfilment of all the requirements.

7 CONTACT DETAILS AND COMPLAINTS

For any enquiries regarding the IN TRANSIT Travel Vouchers, please contact us at the following address: travelvouchers@intransitproject.eu.



For any complaints regarding the IN TRANSIT Travel Voucher results, please write an email to travelvouchers@intransitproject.eu within 3 natural days after the announcement of the Travel Voucher 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

At least 2 members of the IN TRANSIT Evaluation Committee, which consists of representatives of the IN TRANSIT partners, will examine the complaints based on the information brought forward by the applicant, will assess the case and decide whether the complaints is justified or not and will inform the applicant on the decision taken. If the complaint is considered justified, the IN TRANSIT Evaluation Committee will reassess the application and the related assessment part, subject to the complaint. The final decision on the complaint will be communicated by the IN TRANSIT Evaluation Committee to the applicant in writing within 10 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 us at the following address: travelvouchers@intransitproject.eu

8 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 IN TRANSIT objectives and work plan.

The processing of data that IN TRANSIT 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: FUNDACIÓN CORPORACIÓN TECNOLÓGICA DE ANDALUCIA (CTA).

Address: Calle Albert Einsten s/n, Sevilla, 41092, Spain

VAT number: ESG91452953

Contact details: data@intransitproject.eu

Data we process: the IN TRANSIT consortium will be processing mainly data coming from:

- Representatives and contact person from the applicants to the IN TRANSIT Call for Expressions
 of Interest for Travel Vouchers.
- Representatives and contact person from the partners of the IN TRANSIT consortium.
- As part of carrying out the projects, the partners and the applicants transfer personal data to IN
 TRANSIT 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 or third
 parties involved in the project, such as experts. 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 IN TRANSIT voucher applications that will be made publicly available before the end of the project containing: event title and list of companies participating.
- Information about successful IN TRANSIT voucher types that will be made publicly available after the end of the project: event title and list of companies participating.

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 this 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 events.
- 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:

IN TRANSIT, 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 IN TRANSIT's domain, to comply with legal duties, pre-contractual or contractual obligations and/or as indispensable means of performance of IN TRANSIT's statutory goals. Said third parties can be public authorities, namely in charge of auditing tasks, project, activity or service partners.

To comply with the GDPR requisites, IN TRANSIT shall require the previous and mandatory consent to the data subject for this specific processing.

Processor intervention:

IN TRANSIT, while conducting its undertakings, may subcontract third entities (as defined in number 8 of article 4 of the GDPR) to process personal data on IN TRANSIT's behalf. To comply with the GDPR requisites, IN TRANSIT 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.



IN TRANSIT 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 anonymisation, 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 data@intransitproject.eu

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

9 GENDER EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

IN TRANSIT 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.

10 DISCLAIMER

Purpose: This text is explaining the IN TRANSIT support mechanism 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 IN TRANSIT consortium is not responsible for any mistakes or misinterpretations that this text may cause. In the case of inconsistencies, the IN TRANSIT 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 voucher scheme, even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

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

Gender equality: IN TRANSIT 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.