

## Q&A

Number	Question	Date of reception	Validated answer
1	<p><b>a.</b> I would like to know if Calls for proposals for the JU MEMBERS can include any partner non JU in a consortium.</p> <p><b>b.</b> In case of negative question, could you inform me if a company can be included as JU member?</p>	17/11/2016	<p><b>a.</b> According to the eligibility criteria listed in the Shift2Rail Annual Work Plan (section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions) only JU members (founding and associated) and their affiliates can be beneficiaries in the Calls for members.</p> <p>Nevertheless, a non-JU member has the possibility to participate in call for members, if linked with a participating member as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Third party with a legal link with the beneficiary,</li> <li>- Subcontractor</li> </ul> <p>In both cases, standard H2020 rules on subcontracting (best value for money etc.) and on linked third parties (a legal arrangement which extends beyond the scope of the relevant action, etc.) should be respected. See Articles 13 and 14 of the Annotated Grant Agreement for further details  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf</a></p> <p><b>b.</b> there is no call for new Associated Members currently ongoing.</p> <p>Finally, you can of course participate to the Open Call (OC) for proposals (accessible only to non-Members entities) currently published.</p> <p>We kindly invite you to register to the Shift2Rail Information Day – Open Calls for Proposals 2017 <a href="http://shift2rail.org/shift2rail-information-day-open-calls-for-proposals-2017-update/">http://shift2rail.org/shift2rail-information-day-open-calls-for-proposals-2017-update/</a></p>
2	<p>Some topics under the OC for proposals indicates that actions will be complementary to topics funded under CFM2015 and/or CFM-2016.</p> <p>In such calls a total of 13 proposals were funded, but there is no summary information on them (neither in Cordis nor in the S2R webpage).</p> <p>Will this information be available?</p>	23/11/2016	<p>The information you are referring to is already available at the Cordis website:  <a href="http://cordis.europa.eu/home_en.html">http://cordis.europa.eu/home_en.html</a></p> <p>The projects that are funded under S2R can be retrieved by performing a search with the key words "Shift2Rail" or "S2R".</p> <p>S2R shall publish on its website a fiche for each of the aforementioned projects by the 10 January 2017 (<a href="http://shift2rail.org/">http://shift2rail.org/</a>).</p>
3	<p>Some topics under the OC for proposals indicates that actions will be complementary to topics funded under CFM2015 and/or CFM-2016.</p> <p>It is also mentioned the need to perform a "Collaboration agreement" between projects, and that there is available a template.</p> <p>However, I cannot find such template. We will appreciate if you could indicate where it is located in the website.</p>	20/12/2016	<p>The content of the "Collaboration Agreement" has to be decided between the collaborating Projects. Nevertheless, the S2R JU has developed a model template for the "Collaboration Agreement" which will be made available in the S2R website (<a href="http://shift2rail.org/">http://shift2rail.org/</a>) by the 10 January 2017. This model template should be facilitating the establishment of the final agreement between the collaborating projects.</p>
4	<p>My company is not a S2R member and is interested to participate in a project related to an Open Call (OC) as a beneficiary and in a project related to a Call for Members (CFM) as a supplier, both calls being complementary. Is this possible?</p>	19/12/2016	<p>Yes.</p> <p>You may indeed submit a proposal to participate to an OC project as a beneficiary and act as a linked third party or be selected as a subcontractor by a beneficiary of a CFM project. Please note however that while the calls you mentioned are complementary, proposals submitted in each of them are subject to a separate evaluation. For example, an OC proposal to which you participate may be selected whereas a CFM proposal in which you are a subcontractor may not or viceversa.</p> <p>Regarding a potential participation in a CFM project as a subcontractor or a linked third party, H2020 rules on subcontracting (best value for money etc.) and on linked third parties (a legal arrangement which extends beyond the scope of the relevant action, etc.) should be respected. See Articles 13 and 14 of the Annotated Grant Agreement for further details  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf</a></p>
5	<p>I was hoping you might be able to help... Could you tell me if an organisation from Switzerland would be eligible to lead a S2R Open call and would they receive funding?</p>	13/12/2016	<p>In accordance with the applicable rules for participation, nothing precludes a Swiss entity to participate in a project either as a coordinator or as a mere beneficiary.</p> <p>In both cases, however, this does not affect the rules regarding H2020 funding in the context of S2R, from which Swiss entities are excluded at this moment in time.</p> <p>In this respect, you should contact the H2020 Swiss contact point for further information.</p> <p><b>"obsolete, please refer to the answer to question 15"</b></p>

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6	<p>My company would be very interested to support and collaborate with committed partners, to work on;</p> <p>TOPIC : Development of new technological concepts towards the next generation of rolling stock, applied to major subsystems such as Carbody, Running Gear, Brakes, Doors and Modular interiors Topic identifier: S2R-CFM-IP1-01-2017</p> <p>Please advise how we should proceed and which potential partners we could collaborate with.</p>	08/12/2016	<p>First of all, it is important to note that the specific call to which you refer is addressed only to the JU members, as clearly indicated in the web page of the calls. Therefore the non-JU members are not eligible to apply for them directly (Shift2Rail Annual Work Plan 2017, section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions). The call topics for non-members are marked with "OC" in the titles and clearly mentioned in the topic conditions underneath, while there other topics marked with "CFM" in the titles (and in the topic conditions) are for the already selected S2R JU members.</p> <p>Nevertheless, this does not prevent your company to express your intention to participate to the activities as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Third party with a legal link with the beneficiary,</li> <li>- Subcontractor</li> </ul> <p>of one or more of the S2R JU Members and Associated Members.</p> <p>In both cases, H2020 rules on subcontracting (best value for money etc.) and on linked third parties (a legal arrangement which extends beyond the scope of the relevant action, etc.) should be complied with. See Articles 13 and 14 of the Annotated Grant Agreement for further details <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf</a></p>
7	<p>Could you please confirm (or otherwise) that for S2R-OC-IP3-02-2017: Future stations and accessibility (IP1 and IP3) you expect proposals to address all three parts of the Scope in the one proposal, i.e. proposals requesting ~€1.2m with each activity within scaled to approx. €400k?</p>	04/12/2016	<p>S2R confirms that the proposals are expected to address both work stream as indicated in the description of the specific topic, you refer to. Below the extract of the relevant information from the call text for your convenience:</p> <p><i>The scope of the topic "S2R-OC-IP3-02-2017: Future stations and accessibility (IP1 and IP3)" includes two distinct work streams as follows:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Crowd flow analysis in large train station areas (TD3.11) – indicative budget of € 0.4 million</li> <li>2. Improved Accessibility to Trains             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Platform-based design solutions for Platform-Train Interface (TD3.11) – indicative budget of € 0.4 million</li> <li>b. Train Access Door System for an independent and easy access (IP1-TD1.6) – indicative budget of € 0.2 million</li> <li>c. Research on platform detection technologies for station platform height and position determination (IP1-TD1.6) – indicative budget of € 0.2 million</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><i>Proposals are expected to address both work streams and all the areas described under each work stream. The mentioned budgets are indicative, yet recommended.</i></p>
8	<p>The only CCA topic is divided into two parts, Smart Maintenance and Human Capital, and each of them has a dedicated budget mentioned in the call text. I was wondering whether the proposals should address both of them or there may be two separate projects, each one addressing a specific area.</p> <p>As it is not clear from the text, how would you suggest to proceed?</p>	01/12/2016	<p>The proposal should cover both work streams. The allocation of the budget to the two work streams is indicative, yet recommended.</p> <p>In fact, the topic to which you refer includes two distinct work streams, i.e.: Smart Maintenance and Human Capital. In the call topic description it is clearly stated that "Proposals should address all the following work streams, in line with the CCA Work Areas (WA) of the Shift2Rail Multi-Annual Action Plan (MAAP)".</p>

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9	Question about S2R call: SR-OC-IP5-01-2017 In the call document, there is a line 'real-time yard--- in particular single wagon transport'. Does the scope include intermodal (container) rail traffic? I am asking this because I am not completely sure what 'single wagon transport' means.	29/11/2016	<p>The mention of "single wagon transport" in the call document SR-OC-IP5-01-2017 refers to the more commonly known term "single wagon-load transport" (SWL transport). This mode of transport includes different types of wagons and load units including a small share of containerized goods.</p> <p>As laid out in the "Scope", the main focus of the work stream 1 "real-time yard management" is shunting operation for train composition in "large and complex yard infrastructures", typically larger yards with a gravity hump. SWL transport, as the most complex discipline of rail freight, benefits most from the automation of processes in yards.</p> <p>The "Scope" of work stream 2 "real-time network management" "build[s] upon real-time yard management activities". In order for the required modelling and simulation for "freight traffic between departure terminals/nodes and [intermodal] arrival terminals/nodes covering the whole transport chain" it is also required to adapt and test the results (definitions, specifications, methods, processes,...) from the complex marshalling yards (work stream 1) for (intermodal) terminals.</p>
10	we have a doubt regarding the possibility of use of flat rates for subsistence in the projects from this call. I have checked the documentation but cannot find anything regarding this issue.	20/10/2016	<p>If you are referring to the indirect costs, please note in Horizon 2020, indirect costs are declared as a 25% fixed flat-rate of the eligible direct costs (minus certain direct eligible costs; see Article 6.2.E), page 43-44 of Model Grant Agreement MGA available on <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf</a>.</p> <p>For additional clarification request, please inform the call reference and specific costs you are referring to and we will get back to you.</p>
11	<p>1. As a Phd student in Portugal, can I apply as an individual to Open Calls (I am not an EU citizen)?</p> <p>2. In case my university or any other third party would be interested to join me in my proposal, can I add it later to my application/proposal?</p>	20/12/2016	<p>An individual person alone is not eligible to apply for this type of calls under H2020 rules. You are kindly advised to consult the Standard eligibility conditions, which describe that, for example, for a Research and Innovation Action (RIA) what is necessary is: "At least three legal entities. Each of the three must be established in a different EU Member State or Horizon 2020 associated country. All three legal entities must be independent of each other."</p> <p>If you or your University is interested in participating in the S2R activities, we kindly invite you to register to the Shift2Rail Information Day – Open Calls for Proposals 2017 <a href="http://shift2rail.org/shift2rail-information-day-open-calls-for-proposals-2017-update/">http://shift2rail.org/shift2rail-information-day-open-calls-for-proposals-2017-update/</a>.</p>
12	<p>When is the template for the Shift2Rail proposals available?</p> <p>Will the expectations of the proposal be quite the same as what is requested in a H2020 proposal?</p>	22/12/2016	<p>The template to be used for the submission of proposals under the S2R 2017 call for proposals is identical to the one used under the H2020 calls for proposals and is available under this link:<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/call_ptef/pt/2016-2017/h2020-call-pt-ria-ia-2016-17_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/call_ptef/pt/2016-2017/h2020-call-pt-ria-ia-2016-17_en.pdf</a></p> <p>However, as explained in the Call under the "Topic conditions and documents": Proposal templates are available after entering the submission tool (SEP).</p>

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13	<p>I am contacting you because I have a question about the shift2rail/EC funding rules :</p> <p>- Do you/they ask for a minimum of equity capital for the businesses involved in the projects?</p>	05/01/2017	<p>With regards to the financial viability of the participants, the S2R JU checks the financial capacity of the project coordinator (i.e. it is not done at the single beneficiary) when the request EU funding for the action is equal or superior EUR 500,000 EUR, unless the coordinator is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a public body</li> <li>• a higher or secondary education establishment</li> <li>• an international organisation or body whose participation is guaranteed by the government of an EU country or associated country, in accordance with the Grants Manual section on legal entity validation and the H2020 Annotated Model Grant Agreement.</li> <li>• a private individual in receipt of a scholarship</li> </ul> <p>For additional information on this regards please consult the Participant Portal H2020 reference documents:  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/funding/reference_docs.html#h2020-grants-manual-lev">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/funding/reference_docs.html#h2020-grants-manual-lev</a></p> <p>You may find details on "Guide for beneficiary registration, validation and financial viability check" and here: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/applying-for-funding/register-an-organisation/financial-viability-self-check_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/applying-for-funding/register-an-organisation/financial-viability-self-check_en.htm</a></p>
14	<p>I would like to contact the winning consortium of the call S2R-CFM-IP3-02-2016.</p> <p>Is it possible to have a contact point?</p>	05/01/2017	<p>Please have a look to the S2R website section "Projects", we provide some additional information publicly available there, including contact points which will also be regularly updated.</p>
15	<p>Participation of Switzerland in the S2R call for proposals for 2017</p>	23/12/2016	<p>As from 1 January 2017 Switzerland has become an Associated Country in relation to all parts of Horizon 2020, including the R&amp;I activities of S2R. In practical terms, this means that as of that date, Swiss participants are eligible for funding and may count towards the minimum number of participants required for a project as entities established in an Associated Country (see the eligibility criteria for funding and participation under Regulation 1290/2013 on Horizon 2020 Rules for participation).</p> <p>You can find more detailed information here:  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-hi-swiss-part_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-hi-swiss-part_en.pdf</a></p>
16	<p>We are interested in participating in the call of S2R-OC-IP4-01-2017: Smart technologies for improved travel companion and trip tracking. Nevertheless, I would like to ask the expected budget request by a proposal. I can find only the total budget 3.500.000EUR.</p>	09/01/2017	<p>As per your question, for the call topic "S2R-OC-IP4-01-2017: Smart technologies for improved travel companion and trip tracking" the indicated maximum S2R funding is 3.500.000 Euros. Any interested party submitting a proposal answering this specific call can decide to request lower financing. Each proposal is expected to cover the full scope of the topic.</p>