

Open Call Application Instructions

Welcome to the Open Call of NGI SEARCH!

We strongly recommend you to carefully read the “Guide for Applicants” and “FAQs”, before starting to fill out this form.

A practical point: you can save your application as a draft and continue later but you **will not** be able to modify the application **after** the deadline. You can also add other members of your team as contributors to help you complete the application form.

You can submit only one proposal to NGI SEARCH in this Open Call. If more than one proposal is identified, only the first proposal that has been created will be evaluated. Therefore, make sure to delete any old versions of your applications to have only one final proposal.

Finally, be aware that all information provided will be verified during the evaluation process. Where any false information is detected, the proposal will be immediately excluded.

1. LEGAL AND CONTACT INFO

We need to collect some basic information in order to ensure that you comply to the eligibility criteria and for us to know how best to support you.

- A. **Type of applicant:** we need to know if you are applying as a natural person (an individual) or an organisation
 - a. **Legal name of your organisation:** if you are an organisation, please provide the legal name in the country where the organisation is registered.
 - b. **Organisation size:** if you are an organisation, please provide an indication of the number of people employed in the organisation.
 - c. **Organisation website:** if you are an organisation, please provide the link to your site, if available
 - d.
- B. **Single Applicant or Consortium:** we need to know if you are applying alone or as a team of maximum 3 members.
- C. **If you are a consortium:** you will need to indicate where your team members are coming from. It can be a mix of natural persons, natural persons and organisations or organisations. You can select a maximum of 3 team members. If you are in doubt of whether you are an SME¹ or not, please see the footnote.
- D. **Name of main contact person:** please provide the first name and last name of the project coordinator.
- E. **Email:** Please provide the email of the project coordinator.
- F. **Phone:** Please provide the phone number of the project coordinator.
- G. **Country:** If you are a natural person acting as an individual applicant, please include your country of residence; if you are an organisation acting as an individual applicant, select the country where your organisation is registered. If you are a consortium, include the country affiliated to the project coordinator. Please be aware that if the country indicated is not one of the countries indicated in GfA Section 3.2, your proposal will be excluded for not being an eligible country.

2. PROJECT

Here we request information about your proposed project.

- A. **Project name:** Your project will be identified by this name
- B. **Tagline:** Describe the project you would like to develop within the NGI SEARCH Support Programme in one sentence (around 280 characters)
- C. **Brief Description:** Tell us more about the project you would like to develop within the NGI SEARCH Support Programme
- D. **Supporting document:** You can upload here a supporting document of your proposal, if available. Please only include media such as graphics or videos. There is no predefined template, but maximum 10 standard A4 pages. (Max. 10MB)
- E. **Demo:** You can include a link to a demo of your project if available

You will also need to indicate how you meet the Scope and Minimum Quality Criteria outline below and in Section Section 3 of the GfA.

¹ The category of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises is made up of enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million

Scope: you will need to explain how you project will develop technologies and solutions centred on privacy and trust for end-users who are searching and discovering information and resources on the internet.

<p>Minimum Quality Criteria: NOTE: As indicated in the GfA, applications will be rejected if your project does not meet the basic MCQ requirements.</p>	
<p>This is an obligatory criterion: You will need to address this criterion in order to be eligible.</p>	<p>The project needs to be based on an open-source (minimum open core) development and will provide real working code that is in a deployable state. Please indicate if your project will be and open-source project applicable to a wider community.</p>
<p>You will need to address at least one out of the following 3 criteria in order to be eligible</p>	<p>Please indicate if you have contributed to research/technical demonstrators showcasing novel concepts; minimum viable products showcasing a potential business; and/or community projects that are in a deployable state. Please provide real demonstrations either as research demonstrators showcasing novel concepts; minimum viable products showcasing a potential business; and/or community projects that are in a deployable state. If you select 'yes', please provide an explanation on how you satisfy this criteria and also provide a link.</p>
	<p>Please indicate if you have contributed to standards and/or larger open-source communities. Please indicate in what way you have contributed to standards and larger communities that are already working on solutions or have a solid track record in the community. If you have replied 'Yes' to previous question, please provide an explanation on how you satisfy this criteria and also provide a link or reference (DOI).</p>
	<p>Please indicate if you have contributed to collaborative work. Please indicate if you have experience collaborating on deep technology with e.g. open source communities or developer teams etc., to provide a foundation towards entering the market as a standard, open-source project and/or commercial service. If you have replied 'Yes' to previous question, please provide the link to the organization (company, university, other...) with the reference to your previous joint collaboration.</p>

3. EXCELLENCE

In this section, you will need to demonstrate to what extent the proposed project is beyond the State of the Art and describe the innovative approach behind it (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new organisational models). You will also need to provide information about the level of innovation within the market and about the degree of differentiation that this project will bring.

Please describe:

- A. **The problem/need:** What is the problem that you will be solving?
- B. **Ambition:** Describe your innovation, and how it solves the problem explained above. Demonstrate the innovative approach behind the solution's ability to enable new and trustworthy ways of searching and discovering information on the internet across a variety of resources such as personal, scientific, industrial and environmental data, connected devices and smart objects, services, multimedia content, intranets and other IT resources, both public and private
- C. **Innovation:** Provide information about the level of innovation within your market and about the degree of differentiation that your project will bring.

4. IMPACT

In this section, at least 2 out of the 3 impacts listed below need to be addressed (see explanation text for each one of the following 3 criteria)

- A. **Impact 1:** Demonstrable market potential (1 out of 3 expected impacts; at least 2 must be addressed). If not addressed, indicate "not applicable". Provide information about your project's market potential and the degree of competition for your particular product/service in future search and discovery systems with a strong focus on serving end-users' needs (including privacy), providing trustworthy and pluralistic recommendations and increasing public trust in search results.
- B. **Impact 2:** Open source contributions (2 out of 3 expected impacts; at least 2 must be addressed). If not addressed, indicate "not applicable". Provide information on how new your business and sustainability model are, based on improved access to online data, smart objects and resources, and on open source and open hardware design (and open access to data) as well as the level of scalability of the new/improved product. More than addressing a specific problem, focus on project ability to be commercialized to solve a structural problem in a specific sector/process/etc.
- C. **Impact 3:** Environmental and social impact (3 out of 3 expected impacts; at least 2 must be addressed). If not addressed, indicate "not applicable": Demonstrate how your solutions aim to empower citizens and companies to search and discover information, data, smart objects, resources and people online, with increased security, accuracy, diversity and transparency in search results while preserving the privacy of the end-users. How do your project's environmental, social and economic impacts contribute to sustainable development, Green Deal and other European policies?

5. IMPLEMENTATION

This section is split into two main parts. The first concerns the project team. We require basic information about the team members in order to assess whether the team have the competencies and ambition of changing the governance of social networks, management and leadership qualities for the better. The second part concerns the work plan and resources: here you would need to outline the budget split per milestone and per project team member if you are applying as a consortium. You will need to demonstrate the quality and effectiveness of the resources assigned in order to complete the proposed milestones.

5.1 Team

- A. **Team Introduction:** Introduce yourself/your team. Who are you, your team members and / or yourself? Have you already worked together? Do you have domain expertise in this area?
- B. **Team Motivation** (NGI Search concept matching): How do you envision yourself (and if applicable including the team) as NGI Searcher? Provide your own definition and describe how you do match with such a definition of internet searcher(s)
- C. **Team Member- Coordinator (contact person)**
 - a. First and last name
 - b. Gender
 - c. Role
 - d. CV link
 - e. Background (Link to previous/on-going project, including software repository)
- D. **Team Member (n):** you can add the details of other team members if applicable. Remember that there is a maximum of 3 team members per proposal.
- E. **Other Team Information:**
 - a. Is your team gender balanced? This will not affect scoring but gender balance is encouraged. Select "Yes" option if the team taking part in the project includes the same or a very similar number of males and females (e.g. 2:2, 2:1,...)
 - b. Dedication to the project: How much time will each team member spend on the project? (full time, 50%, 25%, etc)
 - c. Are you new to Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe? Select "yes" option if you have never received Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe funding or financial support to third parties (FSTP)². See footnote, if you are unclear on what FSTP refers to. If you have received funding before, please use the official name of the project.

5.2 Work Plan and Resources to be committed

- A. **Work Plan:** Break your project into major milestones and describe each milestone and how to verify them. If you are participating as a consortium, **please** provide the split per team member of the consortium as we

will need to ensure that members are within the funding budget limits.

- B. **Budget** (total in Euros): provide the total budget requested
- C. **Resources:** Indicate how you will use the NGI SEARCH funding. Give an estimated breakdown of the total budget you are requesting.

6. STATISTICAL SECTION

We kindly ask you to fill in some statistical questions about how you heard about NGI Search Open Call. Thank you!

- A. **How did you hear about NGI SEARCH?**
- B. **If you selected 'Other', please name how you found out about us. If it was an event, kindly specify the name of the event.**

7. DECLARATION OF HONOUR

Please read carefully the statements below. You will not be able to change the statements after the deadline.

By ticking the boxes below, you confirm that

- A. You have read and understood the information about the project, as provided in the Guide for Applicants (GfA)
- B. You have been given the opportunity to ask questions about the project and my participation via helpdesk address
- C. You voluntarily agree to participate in the NGI Search project
- D. You understand you can withdraw at any time without giving reasons and that you will not be penalised for withdrawing nor will you be questioned on why you have withdrawn
- E. You acknowledge that the evaluators and the European Commission and its bodies and agencies may have access to the data collected under the open call
- F. The data provided in the application form are true and up-to-date
- G. The entity you represent meets the eligibility conditions described in the GfA
- H. There is no conflict of interest between the company you represent and any of the consortium partners
- I. You did not make false declarations in supplying the information required, as a condition of participation in the Open Call or do not fail to supply this information
- J. You voluntarily agree to be registered at NGI Search Community at <https://spaces.fundingbox.com/spaces/the-next-generation-internet-ngi-community-ngi-search> and you understand that you can delete my profile from the above-mentioned Community by informing the NGI Search Team via helpdesk mail

8. PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

You can read the GDPR (processing of personal data) information clause for this open call [here](#)

- A. You confirm that you read and understood the information clause concerning processing of the personal data provided above.
- B. You confirm that I have legal basis for processing personal data of the team members listed in the application form.
- C. You will pass the information clause provided above to all team members mentioned in the application form