

FAQ on the 2nd call for capitalisation

Eligibility

My project's capitalisation initiative was approved in the 1st call. Can I apply for more funding in the 2nd call?

No, the call is only eligible to projects whose capitalisation initiative has not been approved in the 1st call.

How can I take part in a capitalisation initiative if the Lead Partner (LP) of my project is not interested in joining one?

The Lead Partner of the existing project must remain the LP of the capitalisation initiative. However, the capitalisation work package leader does not have to be the project LP and can be another partner. Yet the LP still bears the LP responsibilities (e.g. preparing and submitting progress reports, transferring ERDF funds to partners once received from Programme etc).

Finding partners

Is a matchmaking event to meet and exchange with other projects willing to apply for this call going to be organised?

We have created a LinkedIn group where you can publish your idea for a capitalisation initiative and find partners: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8986057/>. We also encourage you to get in contact with your Contact Point as they can help in your partner search.

Change of priority

I am involved in a priority 3 project which could very well fit into priority 1. Is it possible to change my project's priority in the framework of the 2nd call for capitalisation?

No, it is not possible for a project to change priority in the framework of the capitalisation call. However, there is a flexibility on the Programme output indicators to contribute to. Within that same priority, the capitalisation initiative can select any output indicator it wants from the ones listed in the Programme Manual; it is not necessary to contribute to the 'compulsory' indicators per priority in this case.

Budget

Is there a maximum budget a capitalisation initiative proposal should not exceed?

There is no maximum budget per capitalisation initiative. You should plan your budget according to your needs. The total available budget for this second call is 26 million ERDF and 92 projects are eligible.

Is it possible to transfer unspent budget from my project's ongoing work packages to a capitalisation work package?

No, the budget of the capitalisation initiative should be built separately and independently from the budget of the existing project. You should ask for what your project needs for the capitalisation initiative, regardless of the budget situation of the existing project. Be aware though that we will look at your project's spending profile when assessing your capitalisation initiative proposal.

Timeline of activities

If my project ends in January 2023 and my capitalisation initiative is approved with some new partners, what happens to the existing work packages (WP)?

Your project's initial action plan should be delivered according to the initial timeline. The capitalisation work package can start running in parallel to ongoing project activities (other WPs). In the case they are finished, other existing WPs will be closed and only the capitalisation WP will be active with the relevant partners on board. Partners which are not involved in the capitalisation WP will become inactive partners until the closure of the project. They won't be submitting reports/claims for the rest of the project lifetime.

COVID-19

If a capitalisation application addresses COVID-19, do you still need go for one of the three main directions of the call?

A COVID-19-related initiative can be accepted even if it does not directly address one of the three directions/types of capitalisation initiatives listed in the call documents. Yet, please address as much as possible the assessment criteria when filling in the application form.

Brexit

Will Brexit have an impact on applications for the 2nd call for capitalisation?

UK regions and communities will continue to receive the same level of funding as they would have if the UK were a member of the EU until the end of the 2014-2020 programme period (which operationally ends on 31 December 2023). UK beneficiaries are thus able to participate in, contribute to and benefit from projects in current ETC programmes until they finish. UK organisations can apply for funding opportunities within the current programme, including this 2nd call for capitalisation.

Preparation costs

Is the time spent by partners to prepare a capitalisation application eligible within the existing project independently of the Monitoring Committee decision on their capitalisation application?

If your capitalisation initiative is approved, all partners – including new ones since they are joining an existing project – can claim costs in relation to the preparation of the capitalisation application. These costs can be claimed as part of the usual reporting exercise which is done on a 6-monthly basis.

If your capitalisation initiative is rejected, there are two scenarios:

- If your project is ongoing, preparation costs can be claimed for existing partners but not for new partners only involved in the capitalisation initiative proposal.
- If the project is already closed, no costs can be claimed.

Procurement

Is a new procurement procedure for the external services necessary in the framework of the capitalisation initiative, or can projects' existing contracts simply be extended?

If your capitalisation initiative is approved, current services contracts projects/partners have (e.g. first level controllers, consultancy firms) may need to be extended both in time and in value, or relaunched. Hence the possibility that the new contracts exceed a specific threshold (linked to your organisation's, national or EU public procurement rules). Therefore, we advise you to get in touch with the person in charge of procurement within your organisation and/or with your first level controller to make sure you respect the correct procurement procedure. Read also section 5.5 of the Programme Manual.