



Net-Zero AI4Permitting

PPPA-2026-NETZERO

INFO SESSION
13 April 2026

Anna MICHALSKA (EISMEA) – Call COO

QUESTIONS?

ASK via **SLIDO**:
#6407 1388



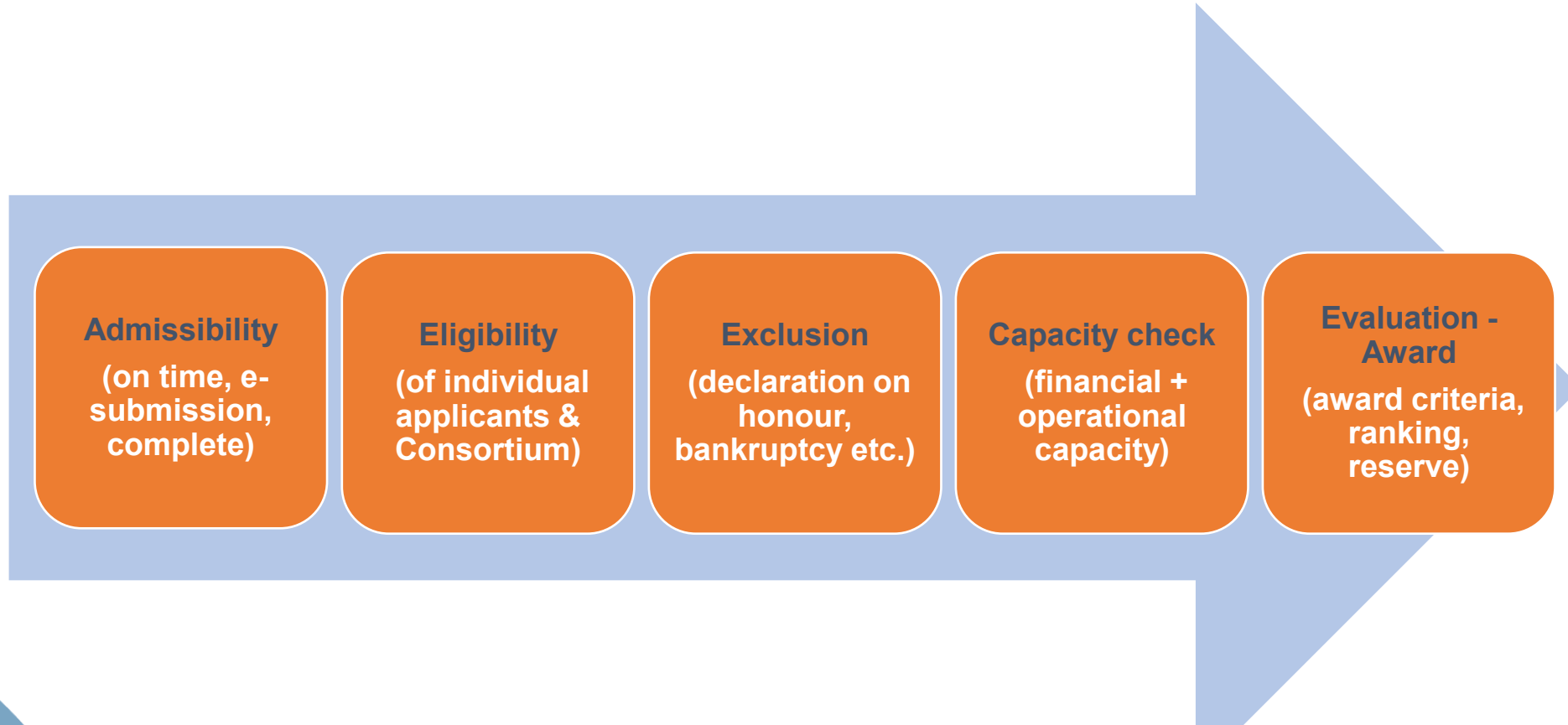
Call Key Elements

- Call Title: “Net-Zero AI4Permitting” (PPPA-2026-NETZERO) ⇒ [Call document](#)
- Call budget: **EUR 7 150 000**
- Maximum grant per project: between **1 500 000** and **2 400 000** EUR ⇒ up to 4 projects
- Project duration: between **24** and **30 months** (as of January 2027)
- Electronic submission: [Funding and Tenders portal](#)

Indicative Call Timeline

- 💡 1 April 2026: Call published
- ↓ **3 June 2026, 17:00 CET: Deadline for submission** of proposals
- ↓ June - September 2026: **Evaluation** period
- ↓ September - December 2026: **Grant preparation** and signature
- ↓ January 2027: Projects' **start**
- ↓ 24-30 months: **Implementation** (prefinancing of 70% => continuous reporting with progress report mid-way & no interim payments)
- 🎯 January 2029 – August 2029: Final reporting and payments

Process



Send your questions on the Call to:
EISMEA-SMP-NET-ZERO-AI4-PERMITTING@ec.europa.eu

Applicants / Participants

- **Beneficiaries** (receive EU funding for task execution, must be registered/validated)
- **Affiliated entities** (entities linked to a beneficiary; do not sign Grant agreement but receive EU funding so must be registered/validated, but do not count to minimum eligibility criteria of the Consortium!)
- **Associated partners** (not formal recipients of EU funding but must be registered)
- **Subcontractors** (limited part, never for core tasks, indicated in application form)
- **Third parties giving in-kind contributions** (not formal recipients of EU funding)



Proposals must be submitted by a **Consortium of applicants** (beneficiaries, not affiliated entities)



One applicant must be appointed as **coordinator** of the Consortium

Admissibility requirements

- Electronic submission via the [Funding and Tenders portal](#)
- Before the deadline: **3 June 2026, 17:00 CET**
- Applications must be **readable, accessible and printable** [Upload only PDFs and careful with Detailed budget table when transferred into PDF!]
- Applications must be **complete**:
 - Application Form Part A (*filled in online*)
 - Application Form Part B (*template, max 70 pages*) and annexes:
 - Detailed budget table (*template available in submission system*)
 - List of previous key projects for the last 4 years (*template available in Part B*)
 - Endorsement letter(s)



More info on submission process: [Online Manual](#).

Electronic submission

[Application form](#) via [Funding and Tenders portal](#) :

- **Part A = Administrative Forms** = filled in online:
 - 1) General information incl. proposal's abstract + declarations on behalf of the Consortium partners
 - 2) Administrative data of participating organisations
 - 3) Budget for the proposal (per partner: total estimated eligible costs and requested grant in EUR).
- **Part B** = templates filled in, turned into PDF and uploaded:
 - **Technical description** (*Application form template in the submission system, max 70 pages*) + **mandatory ANNEXES:**
 - Detailed budget table ([template](#) available in the submission system)
 - List of previous key projects for the last 4 years (*template = last section in Application form Part B*)
 - **Endorsement letter(s)** from the relevant authority who designates the Net-Zero Acceleration Valley, recognizing the permitting authorities in the Consortium.

Endorsement letter(s)

- from the relevant authority who designates the Net-Zero Acceleration Valley
- must recognise all the authorities included as applicants in the Consortium as the permitting authorities being involved in industrial permitting procedures in designated Net-Zero Acceleration Valleys and/or in potential Net-Zero Acceleration Valleys
- **MANDATORY ANNEX** for local/regional/national permitting authorities.

Administrative forms (Part A)


Edit forms 

View history

Print preview



Part B and Annexes

In this section you may upload the technical annex of the proposal (in PDF format only) and any other requested attachments. 

Part B *

Available in the submission system



Upload 

Detailed budget table *

Available in the submission system



Upload 

 CVs

 Annual activity reports



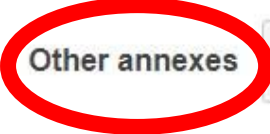
Upload 

List of previous projects

Already included in Part B



Upload 

 Other annexes

Endorsement letter(s)



Upload 

Eligibility requirements - applicants

Applicants (beneficiaries, affiliated entities) must be:

- **legal** entities (public or private bodies)
- established in eligible country (**EU** Member States)
- for local/regional/national **permitting authorities**: be involved in industrial permitting procedures in designated / potential Net-Zero Acceleration Valleys, and supported by an endorsement letter from a national authority designating the Net-Zero Acceleration Valley
- registered in the [Participant Register](#) before submitting the proposal.



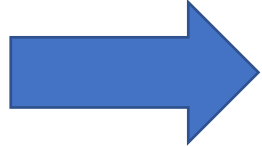
See [here](#) how to register your organisation

Eligibility requirements - Consortium

A consortium of at least **four applicants** (beneficiaries, not affiliated entities):

- minimum **four independent entities from two different Member States**
- **at least two public authorities** from the already established and/or potential Net-Zero Acceleration Valley(s), recognised in the endorsement letter(s)
- the **Coordinator** of each Consortium **must be one of the public authorities** described in the above bullet point.

Financial capacity



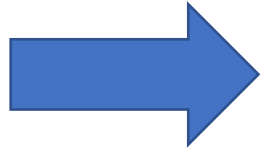
For details see **Section 7** of the [Call document](#)

- **Financial capacity: stable and sufficient resources** needed to successfully implement the project ⇒ check to be carried out based on docs you will be requested to upload in the [Participant Register](#) during grant preparation (*e.g. profit and loss account and balance sheet, business plan, audit report produced by an approved external auditor, certifying the accounts for the last closed financial year, etc.*).
- Public bodies normally not checked.
- Checks for successful proposals ⇒ select your partners wisely: [Financial capacity self-check simulator](#)



More [info](#) on financial capacity assessment

Operational capacity + Exclusion



For details see **Section 7** of the [Call document](#)

- **Operational capacity: know-how, qualifications and resources** needed to successfully implement the project ⇒ to be assessed under ‘Quality’ award criterion (competence/experience of the applicants and their project teams = staff profiles, participants description, list of previous projects etc.)
- **Exclusion:** see exclusion situations in Section 7 (bankruptcy, breach of security/tax obligations, misconduct, fraud, corruption, deficiencies under an EU contract etc.).

Evaluation procedure

- Proposals passing admissibility and eligibility check ⇒ evaluation **based on award criteria**.
- **Evaluation committee** (assisted by independent external experts) will assess all applications and create their **ranking**.
- All proposals will be informed about the evaluation result (**evaluation result letter**) at the end of evaluation period.
- Successful proposals will be invited to Grant Agreement preparation process (**GAP**); the other ones will be put on the **reserve list** or rejected.

Award criteria & thresholds

- **Relevance:** clarity and consistency of project, objectives and extent to which they match the call priorities/objectives, EU context, transnational dimension, etc.
- **Quality:**
 - Project design and implementation – technical quality, methodology, effectiveness of the work plan, feasibility within time frame, cost effectiveness, etc.
 - Project team and cooperation arrangements – quality and expertise of Consortium and teams, partners role/contribution, procedures, problem-solving mechanisms etc.
- **Impact:** benefits for permitting authorities and applicants, cross-regional and/or cross-border uptake, reusability/transferability of outputs, dissemination strategy, sustainability etc.

Award criteria	Minimum pass score	Maximum score
Relevance	22	35
Quality	22	35
Impact	19	30
Overall (pass) scores	63	100

Tips for successful proposal 1

- Read carefully [Call document](#) & Q&As. Get to know/prepare templates & annexes.
- Think like / write for an evaluator: focus on / address all award criteria and their elements - you will be assessed on them.
- Structure the info (70-page limit) – be specific, stay in scope, use quantification and clear presentation of the planned work/tasks, be consistent across the proposal. Write in reader-friendly manner. Avoid long sentences/descriptions & abbreviations.
- What makes your project special? Do not repeat what is in the call but describe your proposal's specific contribution / particular idea.
- Check completeness of your proposal and submit earlier = **do not wait until the last minute** with the submission.

Tips for successful proposal 2

- **Build detailed and complete budget** – it must reflect deliverables / activities / description in the proposal.
- Prepare **cost-effective budget** – budgetary items must be necessary for the project execution.
- Clearly describe **division of tasks and responsibilities** between partners in the Consortium.
- Remember that – if successful – **you will need to execute this in practice** - we evaluate the proposals as they are so write as if no further improvements can be made.
- Success = setting **ambitious but realistic goals**.

Tips for successful proposal 3

- Find your partners & build collaborative Consortium:
 - partner search [database](#) on Funding & Tenders portal + Enterprise Europe Network Cooperation Opportunities [Database](#)
 - include partners only upon their **consent**
 - **four events** in selected Net-Zero-advanced Member States to be organised **at end of April – stay tuned** & follow our channels for details.
- Get support:
 - [IT Helpdesk](#) for forgotten passwords, access rights / roles, technical aspects of submission of proposals, etc. or EC-FUNDING-TENDER-SERVICE-DESK@ec.europa.eu
 - [Online Manual](#) for applying via Funding & Tenders portal
 - EISMEA-SMP-NET-ZERO-AI4-PERMITTING@ec.europa.eu for non-IT related questions (to be sent **by 27 May 2026**) ⇒ replies in [Q&As](#)

QUESTIONS?

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GOOD LUCK!