



Questions & Answers

Call for proposals 2020
H2020-S2RJU-2020

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Acronyms	Abbreviation
Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking	S2R JU
Linked Third Party	LTP
Call for S2R JU members	CFM
Open Call	OC
H2020 Annotated Model Grant Agreement http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf	AGA
S2R JU Model Grant Agreement http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/mga/jtis/h2020-mga-multi-shift2rail-ju_en.pdf	MGA
Grant Agreement Preparation	GAP
Grant Agreement	GA
Consortium Agreement	CA
S2R JU Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2020 https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/reference-documents/annual-work-plan-and-budget/	S2R AWP 2020
Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 laying down the rules for participation and dissemination in "Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)" and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1906/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p.81) http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L .2013.347.01.0104.01.ENG	H2020 Rules of participation
Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December establishing Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) and repealing Decision No 1982/2006/EC (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p.104) http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L .2013.347.01.0104.01.ENG	H2020 framework Regulation
Council Regulation (EU) No 642/2014 of 16 June 2014 establishing the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (OJ L 177, 17.6.2014, p. 9) http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L .2014.177.01.0009.01.ENG	S2R Regulation

Questions & Answers		
Q	Topic	S2R Answer
1.	Where can I find a list of S2R JU projects?	The list of all S2R JU projects is available on the S2R website at: https://projects.shift2rail.org/s2r_projects.aspx
2.	I am a non-member of S2R JU, can I participate in a CFM?	<p>According to the eligibility criteria listed in the S2R AWP 2020 (section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions), only JU members (founding and associated) and their affiliates can be beneficiaries in the topics that are labelled as "CFM" (Calls for members) in the S2R call 2020.</p> <p>In line with the distinction between different types of calls for proposals, presented in Section 2.2.4 of the AWP, the JU will distinguish between two types of calls for proposals with specific eligibility conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - competitive calls for proposals, which, pursuant to Article 9.5 of Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation and Article 17.1(a) and (b) of S2R JU Statutes, will restrict the type of beneficiary to JU Members (founding and associated), and their affiliated entities. In the case of Members in the form of consortia or groupings of legal entities, the individual constituent entities of these consortia or groupings, and the affiliated entities of these individual constituent entities, are eligible to participate in the restricted calls for JU Members; - open, competitive calls for proposals which, pursuant to Article 9.5 of Horizon 2020 Rules for participation, will be addressed only to entities that are not Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), nor constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, nor affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings. <p>Therefore, a non-JU member cannot participate directly or as part of the consortium submitting a proposal to the call which requires JU's membership as eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Nevertheless, a non-JU member has the possibility to indirectly participate in call for members, if linked with a participating member as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Third party with a legal link with the beneficiary (Linked Third Party), - Subcontractor. <p>In both cases, the provisions of H2020 Rules for Participations and of the H2020 MGA on subcontracting and on linked third parties must be complied with. For more information about this point, please refer to the next question n° 3.</p> <p>You can find the list of the S2R JU Members here: https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/ju-members/</p>

<p>3.</p>	<p>What is the difference between participation as subcontractor and participation as Linked Third Party(LTP)?</p>	<p>The differences between subcontractors and LTPs are explained below:</p> <p>1. Subcontractors (Article 13 of the MGA): The beneficiaries have a contractual link with subcontractors, having as their object the implementation of specific action tasks. Please note that subcontractors can carry out only limited parts of the action. Subcontracts are based on business conditions, which means that the subcontractor charges a price which usually includes a profit.</p> <p>The eligible costs are the prices charged to the beneficiary by the subcontractors (usually containing a profit margin for the subcontractors but not for the beneficiary).</p> <p>The beneficiary must award the subcontracts on the basis of best value for money (or lowest price) and absence of conflict of interests.</p> <p>2. LTPs (Article 14 of the MGA): The beneficiaries must have a “legal link” or a “capital link” with the LTPs.</p> <p>‘Entities with a legal link’ refer to an established relationship (between the third party and the beneficiary), which is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) broad and not specifically created for the work in the Grant Agreement (GA) - Accordingly, its duration must go beyond the action duration and it usually pre-dates and outlasts the GA. Ad hoc collaboration agreements or contracts to carry out work in the action are NOT covered. (In this latter case, both legal entities should be beneficiaries). <p>AND</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) a legal relationship. This may either be a legal structure (e.g. the relationship between an association and its members) or through an agreement or contract not limited to the action (e.g. a collaboration agreement for research in a particular field). If the only relation between two entities is a capital link (i.e. ownership of part of the issued share capital), the entity may only participate as a linked third party if it is an ‘affiliated entity’ (see below). <p>‘Entities with a capital link’ or ‘Affiliated entities’ means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - under the direct or indirect control of the beneficiary or - under the same direct or indirect control as the beneficiary or - directly or indirectly controlling the beneficiary. <p>Affiliated entities cover not only the case of parent companies or holdings and their daughter companies or subsidiaries and vice-versa, but also the case of affiliates between themselves (e.g. entities controlled by the same entity)</p> <p>In order to be accepted as LTPs, the official document which proves the link as explained above must be provided by the beneficiary.</p> <p>Entities performing a substantial part of the work should in principle be beneficiaries, not LTPs. LTPs should only exceptionally perform a major part of the work.</p>
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4.	<p>What is the role of the coordinator? What budget can be foreseen for the coordinator?</p>	<p>The coordinator must coordinate and manage the GA, is the central contact point for the JU and represents the consortium towards the JU. Main coordination tasks are the following (Article 41.2.b) MGA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor that the action is implemented properly • Act as the intermediary for all communications between the beneficiaries and the JU - unless the Agreement specifies otherwise • Request and review any documents or information required by the JU and verify their completeness and correctness <p>The coordinator must check the quality of the documents submitted by the beneficiaries, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reviewing the individual financial statements from each beneficiary to verify consistency with the action tasks, as well as their completeness and correctness (e.g. that the addition of the different costs declared by the beneficiary corresponds to the total amount declared, or that the 25% flat-rate for indirect costs is correctly calculated). The coordinator is not, however, obliged to verify the eligibility of these costs (under Article 6) or to request justifications. Each beneficiary remains responsible for the cost it declares (both as regards eligibility and as regards sufficient records and supporting documents to substantiate them). - verifying that all the requested documents are submitted by the beneficiary (e.g. the summary, the questionnaire etc.) - verifying that the beneficiary submits the documents in the requested format - verifying that the technical information submitted by a beneficiary concerns its action tasks as described in Annex 1 (and not something unrelated to the action) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the deliverables and reports • Distribute payments to the other beneficiaries, without unjustified delay • Inform the JU of the amounts paid to each beneficiary, if requested to do so (see Article 44.1.2) <p>The coordination tasks listed in Article 41.2 can normally not be subcontracted or outsourced to a third party (including linked third parties). They cannot be carried out by other beneficiaries.</p> <p>Regarding the budget for the Coordinator, it is up to the consortium submitting a proposal to consider the appropriate budget to be assigned to the coordinator for its tasks ensuring correct execution of the the project implementation . Like all costs, in order to be eligible, these costs must comply with the eligibility conditions set out in Article 6 of the MGA.</p>
5.	<p>How are Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) handled?</p>	<p>A successful proposal will conclude a Grant Agreement (GA) with the S2R JU, which will contain a number of standard provisions regarding IPRs. A basic distinction is made between Background (i.e. pre-existing IPR) and Results (i.e. IPR that may be created due to the action).</p>

		<p>Relevant IPR questions will arise throughout the lifecycle of your project: from the very first idea and conceptualisation of your project, throughout its execution, until the end and the potential exploitation and commercialization of the results. Therefore, the beneficiaries must identify and agree on what constitutes background for their action (in order to be able to give access to it), including IPR.</p> <p>Although not obligatory, beneficiaries are strongly advised to agree on background before the GA is signed, to ensure that they have access rights to what is needed for implementing the action (and then exploiting its results).</p> <p>In general the set of important documents with regard to IPR provisions are the general Rules for Participation in Horizon 2020, the MGA (articles 23a to 31) and the Consortium Agreement. While the Consortium Agreement is drafted and organised according to the Consortium preferences, its content needs to follow the provisions of the MGA and the H2020 rules, including IPR.</p> <p>The GA contains specific rules obliging to share Needed Background within the Consortium on certain conditions (see Subsection 2 and 3 as well as Article 31 of the S2R MGA). Further specifics may be included in the Consortium Agreement and, if applicable, Collaboration Agreements with complementary actions. For complementary grants, the JU has developed a specific model template for a “collaboration agreement” that could be used by the consortia with a need to collaborate, including the necessary modifications on IPR. This model should facilitate the establishment of the final agreement between the collaborating projects, but other models can be used. (https://shift2rail.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/S2R_Model_Coll_Agmt_Final.pdf) For more information on IPR, see Article 23a to 40 to the AGA</p> <p>Regarding (patentable) results, the GA encourages further exploitation and determines that results are owned by the beneficiaries. Further protection and exploitation of results (including patenting and commercialisation) is encouraged in the GA (see, i.a., Article 27).</p> <p>For more information, please find here the link towards the guide to Intellectual Property Rights in H2020: https://www.iprhelpdesk.eu/sites/default/files/documents/EU_IPR_IP-Guide.pdf</p>
6.	<p>What is the difference between the Grant Agreement and the Consortium Agreement? Is it possible to sign the Consortium agreement after the signature of the Grant Agreement?</p>	<p>The Grant Agreement (GA) is signed between the JU on the one part and the Coordinator on the other part as well as the other beneficiaries who accede to the GA by signing the Accession Form. The GA sets out the rights and obligations and the terms and conditions applicable to the grant awarded to the beneficiaries for implementing the action.</p>

		<p>The Consortium Agreement (CA) is signed between the beneficiaries of a GA in order to ensure a smooth and successful implementation of the project. It is purely internal; the JU is not party and has no responsibility for it. The CA sets out the internal arrangements between the members of the consortium for implementing the grant. The CA should complement the GA and must not contain any provision contrary to it.</p> <p>The CA may cover the following aspects (Article 41.3 of the MGA):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - internal organisation of the consortium; - management of access to the electronic exchange system; - distribution of EU funding; - additional rules on rights and obligations related to background and results - settlement of internal disputes; - liability, indemnification and confidentiality arrangements between the beneficiaries <p>The CA should in principle be negotiated and concluded before the signature of the GA (i.e. each beneficiary should sign the CA before acceding to the GA).</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>We are interested to participate in the open call S2R-OC-CCA-01-2020 “Noise and Vibration Call”.</p> <p>I have the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is there another possibility to announce one’s interest and one’s competence? Maybe similar to the pitches of the info day? I have attached two short articles for your quick information. 2. Is it possible to make a proposal only for work-stream 1 “Ground Vibration”? 3. This means a maximum funding of 700.000 Euro. Is it possible to make a proposal with only two partners? 4. We think of a Swiss partner. Would this be acceptable? Germany + Switzerland (not part of the EU)? 	<p>Please find below the answers to your questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under the EC funding and opportunities web portal you can search for partners and also indicate your topic preference and expertise. Additionally, in the web portal under each topic, there is a section entitled “Get Support”, where you can find links to your National Contact Point or Enterprise Europe network and other services. The S2R JU does not provide additional services other than the organisation of info-days. 2. Proposals are expected to address <u>all</u> work streams as indicated in the scope description of the topic S2R-OC-CCA-01-2020 in section 4.2.10 of the S2R Annual Work Plan 2020. 3. Taking into account that the type of action for this topic is a “Research and Innovation Action” and that no exception is provided in this respect in the AWP 2020, the minimum number of participants is at least three legal entities. Each of the three must be established in a different EU Member State or H2020 associated country. All three legal entities must be independent from each other (Article 9 of the H2020 Rules for Participation). Therefore, it is not possible to make a proposal with only two partners. 4. Please note that Switzerland is an Associated Country to H2020. Legal entities from associated countries can participate under the same conditions as legal entities from the Member States (Article 9b) of the H2020 Rules for Participation). For your information, please note that as from 1 January 2017 Switzerland is associated to the entire H2020. This means that for all H2020 projects for which the GA is signed as from 1 January, the Swiss participants are automatically eligible for funding and may count towards the minimum number or participants required

		for a project. Therefore the Swiss partner can participate and in eligible for funding. However, as indicated above under point 3 two partners are not sufficient for this type of action.
8.	<p>We have a question related to topic S2R-OC-IP2-02-2020: The scope indicates a scheduling for the deliverables: M12 and M18. This seems to be not consistent with the duration of 30 months considered as appropriate by the S2R JU. Please could you clarify the required planning?</p>	<p>As indicated in the section “scope” of the topic description, the suggested scheduling is “<i>indicative</i>”, in the sense that it is provided to facilitate the complementarity with the CFM actions and it is not binding. Please also note that the consideration that the JU made that a duration of 30 months would allow the topic to be addressed properly does not mean that the project cannot perform this activity in a different timeframe, In particular, in this case, it could indeed also be shorter. It is up to the consortium to build up a proposal that can address properly the specific challenge, the scope and expected impact of this topic.</p>
9.	<p>We would like to explore the possibility to participate and submit to a specific Open Call published in your last Annual Work Plan and Budget Document of S2R. We are interested specifically in call S2R-OC-IP4-01-2020: Supporting the implementation of the IP4 ecosystem This Call deals with multi-modal journeys and providing a seamless passenger’s experience and is derived from a previous Software Project called COHESIVE. We do have several questions regarding this particular Call:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The descriptive wording suggests that the project should cover at Five Different Operators of various transport types including long-distance; does this means that the bidding consortium should be comprised of at least five members as partners (which will be quite cumbersome for an OC) 2. Perhaps even if the a.m. consortium would be composed of the minimum eligible number of <u>three</u> participants, from three countries, provided that they bring in pertinent data to substantiate the demo from five operators 3. How would you qualify a SW connectivity development via an advanced API linking 	<p>Please find below the answers to your questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 As indicated in the S2R 2020 AWP, the standard eligibility conditions which apply to proposals are defined in Part C of the General Annexes to the H2020 Work Programme 2018-2020. In accordance with these conditions and taking into account that the type of action for this topic is an “Innovation Action” and that no exception is provided in this respect in the AWP 2020, the minimum number of participants is at least three legal entities, each of them must be established in a different EU Member State or H2020 associated country. All three legal entities must be independent from each other (Article 9 of the H2020 Rules for Participation). For your information, please also note the specific eligibility conditions for Open Calls for proposals. These calls are addressed only to entities that are not Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), nor constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, nor affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings. The minimum eligibility condition of 3 legal entities established in three different member states is not linked to the fact that the call topic requires 5 operators to perform the activities. In fact, this is an operational requirement to achieve the objective of the topic that is to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Interoperability Framework through the participation of different operators. 2 As explained above, for this specific topic, the required number of Operators refers to the participation in the demonstrations, providing the necessary data to perform it, and not to the minimum required number of participants for which point 1 above applies. 3 Multimodal transport in the scope of this call refers to the use of different modes (or means) of transport on the same journey. As mentioned in section 1.3.4, it could include: urban and regional rail, public transport including demand transport, air transport, road transport, cycling and walking, “shared services” - car sharing, bike sharing etc. Integrated e-ticketing and interoperability between different operators are also main objectives of the multimodal IP4. This solution could be considered as multimodal as long as it is integrated with other

	<p>several Rail Operators in different countries (for instance one e ticket North to South Europe) to make a seamless journey ? Would such connectivity between several Rail Operators be qualified as Multi Modal under the terms of this Call</p> <p>4. Can you provide us specific contact details for a candidate to act as Project Coordinator for such task?</p>	<p>modes of transport, which would allow travellers to perform a seamless travel across Europe, including first and last mile.</p> <p>4 To find partners you can use the Partner Search function of the Funding & Tenders Portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/partner-search. The function allows to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • look for organisations which received funding in the past • create and check partner search requests by call/topic <p>You can search by keyword/geographical area/funding type, etc. to find experienced partners who are already participating in ongoing projects. Search results include complete organisation profiles with lists of funded projects and the possibility to contact representatives.</p> <p>If you have selected your area of interest via the Topic search, you may publish your offer/interest for one or more of the open/forthcoming topics of a call on the Funding & Tenders Portal. All your published offers/interests will be visible on your organisation's page too.</p> <p>Moreover, current participants of the ongoing open calls can be found on the S2R JU website under the description of each IP4 project. This could also be used as a source of information for potential partners of a Consortium.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>We have one more question about topic S2R-OC-IP4-01-2020: “Supporting the implementation of the IP4 ecosystem” that is highly tied to the ongoing COHESIVE project and is aimed to demonstrate its applicability for multi modal travel services; How does one (i.e. a potential <u>outsider contender</u>) get access to a full material of COHESIVE ? From a quick glance in the few documents that were published and enclosed in your web site about this preceding project it is not so feasible to grasp the real operative content and use it properly to make a compliant and effective bid .We shall follow up on publication in your web site.</p>	<p>Updated information about COHESIVE and the Interoperability Framework have been uploaded to the S2R JU website:</p> <p>https://shift2rail.org/research-development/ip4/</p> <p>Moreover, public information regarding the project COHESIVE can be found in the S2R mini-web site:</p> <p>https://projects.shift2rail.org/s2r_ip4_n.aspx?p=COHESIVE</p> <p>Any additional questions and information regarding COHESIVE or the IP4 Programme can be addressed to info-call@s2r.europa.eu</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Please find below my question: In many of the topics, the months of submission of the deliverables are provided, giving normally the month for the last deliverable an idea of the estimated duration of the project. In addition to that, S2R states: <i>"The S2R Joint Undertaking considers that proposals with a durati</i></p>	<p>We confirm that the reference to a duration of 30 months in the topics description of the H2020-S2R JU-2020 call for proposals <i>is not legally binding</i> and therefore applicants can decide on a different duration. The indicative timeframe of the expected submission for some deliverable is linked to the efficient technical implementation of the complementarity with the CFM actions, while the consideration that a duration of 30 months would allow the topic to be addressed</p>

	<p><i>on of 30 months would allow this topic to be addressed appropriately. Nevertheless this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals with another duration."</i></p> <p>I understand that it is a decision of the applicant to decide the duration but I would like to ask if the duration of 30 months refers to a technical criteria or it is more related to an administrative framework of S2R?</p>	<p>appropriately is made by the JU in frame of achieving its overall Programme completion in a timely manner.</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>I have a question about the new Shift2Rail calls: we are a constituent entity of a S2R JU associated member in the form of a consortium and we would like to know if it is possible to answer to new calls.</p> <p>Is there a limited budget per entity in the whole programme? Indeed, there is particularly a high interest for S2R-CFM-IPX-01-2020</p>	<p>As S2R Member you are eligible to submit a proposal to all the CFM topics.</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>I am enquiring on behalf of an academic. He is researching technology that can remotely map tunnels and identify damage to them however I'm unsure if this is within the call remit.</p> <p>It might fit into --> S2R-CFM-IP1-01-2020 demonstrators for the next generation of traction systems, smart maintenance, virtual validation and eco-friendly heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, and technical research on battery and hydrogen powered regional trains.</p> <p>If you could offer any advice it would be greatly appreciated.</p>	<p>According to the eligibility criteria listed in the S2R AWP 2020 (section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions), only S2R JU members (founding and associated) and their affiliates can be beneficiaries in the topics that are labelled as "CFM" (Calls for Members) in the S2R call 2020.</p> <p>In line with the distinction between different types of calls for proposals, presented in Sections 2.2.5 and 2.2.6 of the AWP, the JU distinguishes between two types of calls for proposals with specific eligibility conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - competitive calls for proposals, which, pursuant to Article 9.5 of Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation and Article 17.1(a) and (b) of S2R JU Statutes, will restrict the type of beneficiary to JU Members (founding and associated) and their affiliated entities. In the case of Members in the form of consortia or groupings of legal entities, the individual constituent entities of these consortia or groupings, and the affiliated entities of these individual constituent entities, are eligible to participate in the restricted calls for JU Members ; - open, competitive calls for proposals that, pursuant to Article 9.5 of Horizon 2020 Rules for participation, will be addressed only to entities that are not Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), nor constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, nor affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings. <p>Therefore, a non-JU member cannot participate directly or as part of the consortium submitting a proposal to the call which requires JU's membership as eligibility criteria.</p>

		<p>Nevertheless, a non-JU member has the possibility to indirectly participate in call for members, if linked with a participating member as :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Third party with a legal link with the beneficiary (LTP), - Subcontractor. <p>In both cases, the provisions of the H2020 Rules of Participation and of the H2020 Grant Agreement on subcontracting and on linked third parties must be complied with.</p> <p>You can find the list of the S2R JU Members here: https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/ju-members/</p> <p>As regards the content, it is up to the S2R JU Member applicants to this call topic to set up a consortium composition and a project proposal which appropriately addresses the specific challenge, scope and expected impact of this topic.</p>
14.	<p>We would like to participate in the call: Formulation of the freight train of the future, ID: S2R-CFM-IP5-01-2020 and we would like to define a new type of effective rail freight transport. However, we are not members of Shift2Rail JU. Can we take a part in this call yet?</p>	<p>Please refer above to the answer provided under question n°13.</p>
15.	<p>We would like to know how to find partners for a Consortium to apply for the IP4 Open Call.</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer provided for question n° 9, sub-question n°4.</p>
16.	<p>We would like to know what is the situation regarding the next calls and "Brexit"? Can a UK research organization or industry be partner or lead a proposal?</p>	<p>Please note the "General notice for UK applicants" published in the Funding and Tenders Portal, accessible through the following link (call page of the S2R call for proposals 2020):</p> <p>https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-search;freeTextSearchKeyword=s2r;typeCodes=1;statusCodes=31094501,31094502;programCode=H2020;programDivisionCode=null;focusAreaCode=null;crossCuttingPriorityCode=null;callCode=H2020-S2RJU-2020;sortQuery=openingDate;orderBy=asc;onlyTenders=false;topicListKey=topicSearchTablePageState</p> <p>Based on this notice, a UK based entity can participate in the next S2R H2020 calls for proposals both as beneficiary and as Coordinator of a proposal.</p>

<p>17.</p>	<p>I have a question regarding the ongoing matter of Brexit.</p> <p>The Call for Proposals text states: "As regards the uncertainties related to Brexit negotiations, the S2R JU monitors the situation in accordance with the instructions issued by the competent Commission services."</p> <p>What are the current thoughts of S2R as the UK has now left the EU.</p> <p>More concretely, is there now any new restrictions to a company/institution from the UK to being consortium leaders?</p> <p>We are at the final stages of building our consortium and as such a prompt response to this question would be appreciated.</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer provided under question n° 16.</p>
<p>18.</p>	<p>Regarding S2R EU Grants for Multimodal, I have found the implementation of the IP4 multimodal transport ecosystem (iTD4.7) ID:S2R-OC-IP4-01-2020 but I cannot see anything that advises funding or an amount. Can you advise where this data might be?</p> <p>Could you also highlight any other areas that relate to Multi Modal other than 4.2.9. S2R-OC-IP4-01-2020?</p>	<p>Please note that the amount of budget per topic is published in the Funding & Tenders Portal, within the topic description (see "budget overview" on the top right side of the screen). Information on the budget is also available in the S2R AWP 2020 under section 2.2.5 for calls for proposals for S2R JU members only and under section 2.2.6 for open calls for proposals for non-JU members.</p> <p>Regarding topic S2R-OC-IP4-01-2020, please note that the indicative maximum S2R co-funding is EUR 2,000,000 and the indicative total value of the actions is EUR 2,857,143. The difference between the above amounts corresponds to the theoretical non-funded activities in case this Innovation Action is funded at maximum 70% of the total eligible costs for all partners of the consortium.</p> <p>Regarding your second question, please note that in the call, there are two topics that deal with multimodal transport, the first one is a Topic open to the S2R JU Members and their Affiliated entity (and subcontractors/Linked third parties accordingly to the rules for participation of H2020), the second one is open of all non-S2R JU Members and affiliated entities":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "S2R-CFM-IP4-01-2020: Enhanced end-user centric travel ecosystem" : topic included in the call for proposals for S2R JU Members only and - "S2R-OC-IP4-01-2020: Supporting the implementation of the IP4 multimodal transport ecosystem": topic included in the call for proposals for non-S2R JU members, addressing the broader research and innovation community
<p>19.</p>	<p>We would like to enquire about the topic S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020: Advanced tools and equipment:</p>	<p>This issue has been clarified through an editorial correction in the 2020 AWP, specifying that, in order to address the challenges identified in this topic, proposals should address all the work streams, in line with</p>

	<p>collaborative robots & wearable mobile machines (TD3.8).</p> <p>In particular, we have the following question:</p> <p>The topic S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020 describes two work streams with specific expected impacts. Could you please confirm whether proposals should address both the work streams or can focus on ONLY one of the two?</p>	<p>the S2R MAAP". So we confirm that both work-streams should be addressed.</p>
<p>20.</p>	<p>We would like to enquire about the topic S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020: Advanced tools and equipment: collaborative robots & wearable mobile machines (TD3.8). In particular, we have the following question:</p> <p>The Complementarity section of the topic S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020 mentions S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2019: Intelligent asset management finalisation as a complementary topic. However, the Scope section states that "Proposals should complement the IAMS development, and activities within the S2R JU programme, especially within the S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2020". Does this mean that the complementarity should be with both S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2019: Intelligent asset management finalisation and S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2020 Research into optimised and future railway infrastructure? The description of the latter topic seems not to mention any complementarity with S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020 in particular or with TD3.8 in general.</p>	<p>Please note that in the scope section, the statement underlining that "<i>Proposals should be complementing the IAMS development, and activities within the S2R JU programme, especially within the S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2020</i>" is meant as a reminder that S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020 is integrated in the full IP3 programme, as it is always beneficial for applicants to be informed about current and future research activities. In terms of complementarity, it is only required to ensure complementarity with topic <i>S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2019: Intelligent asset management finalisation</i>, which is currently performing R&I activities in the scope of TD3.8.</p>
<p>21.</p>	<p>I have 2 questions regarding the call S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 work streams are mentioned in this call. Should the proposal address the 2 work streams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please refer to the answer provided under question n° 19 - The maximum indicative S2R co-funding for topic S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020 is EUR 2,700,000. Please refer above to the answer provided under question n°18 which explains where you can find information on the budget.

	<p>or is it possible to work only on one of the 2 streams?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If I found the right info, the funding is 1,7 M€. The documentation does not precise the number of selected proposals. Only one? 	<p>Regarding the number of selected proposals per topic, please note that, in principle, the S2R total annual budget available allows for retaining for funding one proposal per topic only, unless explicitly mentioned otherwise. The possibility of financing more than one proposal per topic may result from additional budget made available in cases such as, e.g. substantially lower requests for financing in one topic, no award of proposals in one topic, etc. Nevertheless, it is within the powers of the Governing Board to decide to retain for funding more than one proposal per topic.</p>
<p>22.</p>	<p>We have one question to the current call:</p> <p>The SPECIFIC CHALLENGE of call S2R-OC-CCA-01-2020 asks for the development of a programme (prediction tool) in Work Stream 1, that is “commercially distributed and supported after the completion of the project”. Using the European Union’s current definition, this would correspond to TRL 9. However, the SCOPE of the very same Work Stream expects “to reach TRL 5 by the end of the project” and the budget table (p.28) even gives an expected TRL of 3/4. A similar conflict occurs for Work Steam 2. Which TRL is thus actually expected from potential projects for either Work Stream?</p>	<p>Please note that the TRL for the call S2R-OC-CCA-01-2020 shall follow the requirements described in Annex II, point 4.2.10 of the AWP2020. This means that the action is expected to reach TRL 5 by the end of the action. Please note that the editorial error in the table in section 2.2.5 has been corrected and the updated version of the AWP refers to TRL 5 in the cell related to “Type of action and expected TRL”. This section of the specific challenge has not been perfectly formulated and it should be interpreted as for the work-stream 2 in light of the exploitation plan which should foresee further developments for the future commercial use.</p>
<p>23.</p>	<p>As a constituent entity of a consortium, Associated Member of the S2R JU we would like to clarify the following (given that we did not, unfortunately, find an exact answer from the “Annex I of the 2020 Annual Work Plan (2020 Call for proposals for the JU members)” nor from the updated FAQs):</p> <p>For Open Calls: Can a S2R Member entity participate in a non-members’ project (i.e. project financed under Open Calls) via being subcontracted?</p> <p>From the FAQs and information material available, we found</p>	<p>The S2R JU Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2020 contains the information on specific eligibility criteria for S2R Calls in its section 2.3.4. The S2R-specific eligibility criteria for open competitive calls for proposals only apply to <i>beneficiaries</i> of a Grant. Subcontractors are third parties in the Grant Agreement and not considered to be parties in the Grant Agreement. As such, Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings can be subcontractors, which indirectly participate in the Grant through a contract with the beneficiary of the Grant to work on certain tasks. Please note that specific rules apply to the award of subcontracts (e.g. best value for money principle, no Conflict of Interest). For further information please refer to Article 13 of the of the Annotated Model Grant Agreement:</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_nual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf</p>

	<p>indications for the contrary case (i.e. that a Non-Member can participate in a Call for Members through being subcontracted for some tasks), but to the question above unfortunately no.</p>	
24.	<p>In the call S2R-OC-IP1-03-2020 “Innovative technologies for Carbody and Running Gear of the future”, will there be a topic manager, in the form of a composite panel supplier, if so could you please enquire about the size of these panels, as this would affect the funding required, this information is required for our calculations.</p> <p>Also will there be a rubber supplier to the rail industry available, or should we seek to enlist one as a consortium member?</p>	<p>As the first work stream of the call text is focusing on inspection technologies and equipment for inspections rather than production of composite panel, the requested information was not referred to in the call text. Nevertheless, as mentioned in the call text, the proposal is to complement the carbody developments and activities within the S2R JU programme, especially within the S2R-CFM-IP1-01-2019. Public results of ongoing work on TD1.3 is available on the S2R website (TD view: https://projects.shift2rail.org/s2r_matrixtd.aspx).</p> <p>Regarding the enquiry on a rubber supplier, the topic text does not indicate that the S2R Members will provide such activity.</p>
25.	<p>I am interested in participating to S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020: Advanced tools and equipment: collaborative robots & wearable mobile machines (TD3.8).</p> <p>Does the entire funding come from the EU or do National Governments also co-fund partly as it happens in other JTUs such as ECSEL? Related to this, justification is only against the EU or both EU and the National authorities?</p> <p>The information provided in the MAAP and Budget document is very generic. Is this explained somewhere else? Could you please pass me the pointer?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question concerning the source of funding for the grants to be signed following the calls for proposals S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020.</p> <p>We would like to confirm that they are funded by Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (S2R JU). The grants are based on a grant agreement that the prospective beneficiaries (as a consortium) sign with S2R JU. Consequently, the proposal should be submitted with S2R JU in line with instructions you will find in the call text.</p> <p>For completeness, we would like to add that the specific ECSEL JU model (which you mentioned in your question) is different: the JU grant would usually be complemented by a grant from national funding bodies, hence two proposals may be required. This model is not applied by S2R JU.</p>
26.	<p>Could you please provide me with the information about the success rate of your calls? I would like to know how many proposals were successful compared to the overall amount of proposals.</p>	<p>You can find information about the total numbers of submitted proposals to the annual S2R calls for proposals, and the list of actions selected for funding, in the Decisions of the S2R Governing Board, approving the ranked lists of actions selected for funding, reserve lists and the list of rejected proposals under the S2R JU calls for proposals. These Decisions are published on the S2R website following the</p>

	<p>Unfortunately, I am unable to find this information on your website.</p>	<p>completion of the evaluation of the proposals submitted to a call and are accessible through the following link (under section “Decisions approved by the Governing Board”):</p> <p>https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/structure-of-shift2rail-initiative/governing-board-2/</p> <p>You could also consult the information published with our Annual Activity Reports available here:</p> <p>https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/reference-documents/annual-activity-report-2/</p> <p>and refer to the chapters 1.5 on Evaluation global outcome as well as our KPIs table in AnnexC, table III or the same documents.</p> <p>In addition, relevant information can be found in the Funding and Tenders Portal, within the topic description of the calls for proposals, under the section “call updates” of the menu on the left side of the screen.</p> <p>For information, please note that all S2R calls for proposals are published at :https://shift2rail.org/participate/call-for-proposals/).</p>
<p>27.</p>	<p>I am interested in responding to the S2R-OC-IPX-01-2020 “Innovation in guided transport”.</p> <p>In order to participate and actively contribute in Europe we need a European entity. I was wondering if there are any additional requirements that we need to meet in order to participate or if you could refer me to the appropriate documents which highlight this?</p>	<p>As indicated in the S2R 2020 AWP, the standard eligibility conditions that apply to proposals are defined in Part C of the General Annexes to the H2020 Work Programme 2018-2020. For S2R-OC-IPX-01-2020 “Innovation in guided transport” the type of action is a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) and for this type of action the minimum condition shall be the participation of one legal entity established in an EU Member State or Horizon 2020 associated country. In addition, the S2R specific eligibility conditions for Open Calls for proposals, as defined in the S2R AWP 2020, must be respected, namely that Open Calls are addressed only to entities that are not Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), nor constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, nor affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings.</p> <p>Please note that all information related to this topic is available in the Funding and Tenders portal at the following link:</p> <p>https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/s2r-oc-ipx-01-2020;freeTextSearchKeyword=s2r;typeCodes=1;statusCodes=31094501,31094502;programCode=H2020;programDivisionCode=null;focusAreaCode=null;crossCuttingPriorityCode=null;callCode=H2020-S2RJU-2020;sortQuery=openingDate;orderBy=asc;onlyTenders=false;topicListKey=topicSearchTablePageState</p>

<p>28.</p>	<p>We are building a consortium for presenting a proposal for the call OC-IP1-03-2020. In the text of this call (p.102 AWP 2020), the D4.1 (Reference Scenarios) of the project IMPACT-1 is mentioned as reference to prepare the proposal regarding bearing specifications and requirements. However, I have not been capable of finding it within the publications listed in the S2R web. Is this deliverable publicly available?</p>	<p>The document, D4.1"Reference scenarios" can be found under the project website. Please find the link below: https://projects.shift2rail.org/s2r_ipcc_n.aspx?p=IMPACT-1</p>
<p>29.</p>	<p>We have a question regarding S2R EU Grants for Multimodal 4.2.9 S2R-OC-IP4-01-2020. We (some EU wide businesses) have not been able to find the grant funding amount for this call. Can you assist?</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer provided under question n° 18.</p>
<p>30.</p>	<p>I am reaching out to inquire about the call for 'Validation of new technologies for the TCMS'. We have developed a solution for artificial intelligence powered bridge inspections.</p> <p>At this point in time I only see applicability to the 4.1.4 S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2020: Research into optimised and future railway infrastructure. Would we be able to apply and offer ourselves for subcontracting for the tender? if so, how best do I do this?</p>	<p>We understand that your enquiry refers to S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2020: "Research into optimised and future railway infrastructure".</p> <p>According to the eligibility criteria listed in the S2R Annual Work Plan 2020 (section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions), only JU members (founding and associated) and their affiliates can be beneficiaries in the topics that are labelled as "CFM" ("Calls for members") in the S2R call 2020. In the case of S2R JU Members in the form of consortia or groupings of legal entities, the individual constituent entities of these consortia or groupings and the affiliated entities of these individual constituent entities, are also eligible to participate in the restricted calls for JU Members.</p> <p>Therefore, a non-JU member cannot participate directly or as part of the consortium submitting a proposal to the call which requires JU's membership as eligibility criteria.</p> <p>However, a non-JU member has the possibility to indirectly participate in CFM, if linked with a participating member/beneficiary in the consortium, as subcontractor. However, please note that subcontractors are not part of the consortium but participate indirectly in the action by carrying out action tasks <i>for the beneficiary</i>. Therefore, subcontractors do not sign the GA and have no contractual link with the S2R JU but only with the beneficiary. It is the decision of the beneficiary to award subcontracts, if necessary to implement the action and covering only limited parts of the action. In this case, the provisions of the H2020 MGA for subcontracting should be complied with, including the rules on best value for money and absence of conflict of interest in the award of subcontracts.</p> <p>Taking into account the above, you may wish to contact the S2R JU Members who are potential applicants to the above-mentioned topic.</p>

		<p>You can find the list of the S2R JU Members here: https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/ju-members/</p> <p>If you are a non-JU member, we encourage you also to look to our topic labelled as Open Call “OC”, you can check, for example, if your expertise would fit under the topic “S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020: <i>Advanced tools and equipment: collaborative robots & wearable mobile machines (TD3.8)</i>”</p>
31.	<p>I am inquiring as to the potential for entry to the Validation of new technologies for the TCMS call. We have developed Artificial Intelligence-powered bridge inspection and asset management tooling, which is likely to complement to the '4.1.4 S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2020: Research into optimized and future railway infrastructure' section of the call.</p> <p>Ultimately, do we need to address all work-streams listed under section: 1, 2, & 3 of the call?</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer provided under question 30 above.</p> <p>Please note that, as specified in the text of topic S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2020, in order to address the challenges described in this topic, proposals should address all the work streams, in line with the S2R MAAP.</p>
32.	<p>May any institution coordinate or participate in a SHIFT2RAIL call for proposals or does it have to be a member?</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer provided under question 2 above.</p>
33.	<p>We are a company that is increasing safety of trams by teaching them to drive autonomously.</p> <p>We are interested in Shift2Rail, but would like more information on how these calls, tenders and pilots are setup. And I would like to know if we qualify for Shift2Rail projects.</p>	<p>Please note that the S2R AWP's define the Research and Innovation activities that will be implemented through call(s) for proposals and/or call(s) for tenders. You can find information on the S2R AWP 2020 at the S2R website: https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/reference-documents/annual-work-plan-and-budget/</p> <p>In addition, please note that the S2R 2020 call for proposals is currently published in the S2R website. You can find all information related to this call through the link below (please note that the deadline for submission of proposals is 21 April 2020) and you can check if one of the topics proposed would fit your competences and ideas of R&I:</p> <p>https://shift2rail.org/participate/call-for-proposals/</p> <p>For information on the S2R specific eligibility criteria and regarding your question whether your company qualifies for S2R calls for</p>

		proposals, please refer to the answer provided under question 2 above on the S2R specific eligibility criteria.
34.	<p>We have the following questions on topic S2R-OC-IP1-03-2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Please would you confirm whether a consortium should include partners who can provide the composite/hybrid materials for the carbody? Or whether these are defined for/supplied to the project if successful?" 2) Please would you confirm whether a consortium should include partners who can provide elastomer components and tooling? Or whether these are defined for/supplied to the project if successful?" 3) Please would you confirm whether a consortium should include partners who can provide journal bearing assemblies? Or whether these are defined for/supplied to the project if successful?" 	<p>Please find below the answer to your first question:</p> <p>The proposal will complement the carbody developments and activities within the S2R JU programme, especially within the S2R-CFM-IP1-01-2019. As indicated in the section "scope", the work-stream on carbody would have certain tasks to be addressed including the development of the equipment at prototype level to apply the new inspection methods developed. No composite/hybrid material are requested on S2R-OC-IP1-03-2020, the definition of the materials as well as the carbody to be inspected in this specific case with the new inspection methods will therefore be provided by the complementary CFM project.</p> <p>Please find below the answer to your second and third questions:</p> <p>The proposal would approach new technological solutions for running gear that would ensure sufficient durability to operate along the vehicle design life. The new developments and approaches coming out from the investigations carried out in the proposal would have an expected impact in terms of increase of lifetime or simplification of maintenance, as well as cost saving compared to current solutions by developing a new technology up to TRL 3/4. Regarding the enquiry on partners providing these components, it is up to the consortium to build up a proposal that can properly address the specific challenges, the scope and expected impact of this topic with the partners who would better fit that purpose.</p>
35.	<p>Regarding S2R-OC-IP1-03-2020, would you confirm whether a consortium should include partners who can provide the composite/hybrid materials for the carbody? Or whether these are defined/supplied to the project if successful?</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer provided under question 34 above (see the reply to the first question).</p>
36.	<p>We are in the process of preparing a proposal for the S2R-OC-IP2-02-2020 - Study on alternative bearers and on communication protocols.</p> <p>We have a question concerning the required Technical Readiness Level</p>	<p>Based on the topic description included in the AWP2020, although the topic is marked as a study, tests in lab and on site of the most promising technologies, followed by an evaluation, are required.</p>

	<p>(TRL):</p> <p>As the requirement is TRL 4 (technology validated in lab) or TRL 5 (technology validated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)) respectively, we are not quite sure about how this applies to a study work...?</p> <p>Can we assume that this is an experimental study, meaning that after we have theoretically analysed potential alternative bearers we are going to test the most promising means/solutions in our lab and on site (relevant environment) and evaluate the results?</p>	
<p>37.</p>	<p>A research organisation will submit a proposal as coordinator in the open Shift2Rail call „S2R-OC-IP1-03-2020“. At the moment they are composing the consortium and are finalizing the proposal.</p> <p>In doing so, 2 central questions came up:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the respective section of the Annual Work Plan and Budget 2020 (page 101) the scope of the call is described as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 work-streams (on carbody and running gear) • proposed project duration of 30 months <p>Simultaneously the deliverables are predefined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Deliverable under work-stream 1-1 is expected by M14 * Deliverable under work-stream 1-2 is expected by M23 * Deliverable under work-stream 1-3 is expected by M35 * Deliverables under 	<p>Please find below the answers to your questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regarding your first question, please note the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As described under the "scope" section of topic S2R-OC-IP1-03-2020, this topic has two work-streams. Please note that the reference to "Deliverable under work-stream 1-3..." should be understood as "Deliverable under work-stream 1 <u>point 3</u>: "Application of the new methods and equipment after the testing campaign". • As indicated under the "scope" section of the topic description, the deliverables scheduling is "indicative", it is provided to facilitate the complementarity with the CFM actions and it is not binding (see footnote 47). Please note that in the sentence "Deliverable under work-stream 1-3 is expected by <u>M35</u>", the reference to M35 is an editorial error and the sentence should read "Deliverable under work-stream 1-3 is expected by <u>M25</u>." 2. Regarding your second question, please note that the TRL for this topic shall follow the requirements described in Annex II, point 4.2.3 of the AWP 2020. for Work-stream 1 the indication of TRL4/5 is for the first expected task on "Development of new methods of inspection applicable for composite and hybrid carbodies/components using non-destructive testing from only one side (exterior side), valid for monolithic panels or sandwich." The successive expected tasks two and three of Work-stream1 are respectively for the "Development of the equipment at prototype level" and the "Application of the new methods and equipment after the testing campaign", which do correspond to higher TRL activities.

	<p>work-stream 2 are expected by M24</p> <p>Now the questions: what is meant by work-stream 3 and how can a deliverable be outlined in M35 after the end of the project?</p> <p>Also the mentioned flexibility in the footnote doesn't answer these questions.</p> <p>2. For work-stream 1 a TRL of 4/5 is intended, for work-stream 2 a TRL of 3-4. In the Annual Work Plan and Budget 2020 an overview of all calls for 2020 is shown (page 27) – here the mentioned TRL is 5/6.</p> <p>So what TRL levels are now demanded for project proposals in the call "S2R-OC-IP1-03-2020"?</p>	
<p>38.</p>	<p>There is a postponement of all Horizon 2020 calls, except some. Are S2R calls also delayed? I am in particular looking at this call: S2R-OC-IPX-01-2020.</p>	<p>The recent escalation of restrictions related to the COVID-19 outbreak may hamper applicants' ability to prepare and finalise high-quality proposals. For this reason, the deadline for the S2R JU call for proposals H2020-S2RJU-2020, initially foreseen on 21 April 2020, is extended until 27 May 2020 17:00 (Brussels Local Time).</p> <p>The S2R JU website as well as the Funding and Tenders portal have been updated accordingly.</p>
<p>39.</p>	<p>In the call CCA Noise and Vibration we would like to have further clarification of the sentence: <i>"In addition, a track independent vehicle indicator (ground borne noise friendly vehicle) shall be investigated."</i></p> <p>Could you please elaborate it a bit more, as we do not find a specific reference in any other place in the call. Also, what is the expected level of investigation?</p> <p>In the same call, CCA Noise and Vibration, could you please indicate what is the foreseen connection and its depth with FINE2, specifically when it comes to validation and model requirements,</p>	<p>Please find below the answers to your questions:</p> <p>Regarding your first question, please note that the concept of the track-independent vehicle indicator will be developed within the complementary CFM project, which will be accessible for the Open Call. The Open Call shall then "investigate" it and therefore could include this "track independent indicator" in its model development.</p> <p>Regarding your second question; yes, as indicated, close collaboration with the complementary project stemming from the topic call "S2R-CFM-CCA-01-2019" will be necessary. As written in the topic text, the complementary project will provide the requirements: <i>"The requirement specification for the model development should be based on input from the complementary project S2R-CFM-CCA-01-2019"</i> and it will validate the model: <i>"Validation of the final results of the models will be done by the complementary S2R-CFM-CCA-01-2019 project"</i>.</p>

	<p>in other words, there will be, in framework of Collaboration agreement, a delivery from FINE2 of specifications for the model and possibilities for validation in FINE2 infrastructure?</p>	
40.	<p>I am from Egypt and I would like to ask about the eligible countries for this competition. Is it for European countries or all over the world?</p>	<p>Any legal entity regardless of its place of establishment may <i>participate</i> in this call for proposals, under the conditions defined in the H2020 RfP (Article 7 of the H2020 RfP) and the S2R AWP. However, legal entities from third countries are not always automatically <i>eligible for funding</i> under H2020 calls for proposals. Regarding eligibility for funding, applicants from non-EU countries fall into two categories :</p> <p>1. Non-EU applicants <u>automatically</u> eligible for funding, which, according to Article 10.1 H2020 RfP, are (i) applicants based in a country which is associated to Horizon 2020 and (ii) applicants based in any of the countries listed in Part A of the General Annexes to the European Commission (EC) Horizon 2020 Work programme 2018-2020: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-ga_en.pdf</p> <p>2. Non-EU applicants <u>exceptionally</u> eligible for funding, which, according to Article 10.2 H2020 RfP, are all other non-EU applicants which may exceptionally be granted funding if: (i) there is a bilateral scientific/technological agreement or similar arrangement between the EU and the third country where the applicant is based, which explicitly provides for such funding or (ii) when the JU, on a case by case basis considers participation of the entity <i>essential</i> for carrying out the action or (iii) when the call for proposals clearly states that applicants based in such countries are eligible for funding</p> <p>Egypt is among the countries included in the list indicated under point 1 above and is therefore eligible to participate and receive funding under this call for proposals.</p>
41.	<p>We are part of a company that are thinking of writing a proposal for S2R. In the topic IP1-03 of the call there is a suggested deliverable by month 35 together with a suggestion for a project duration of 30 months. What does it mean?</p> <p>On the other hand, is it expected to extend the deadline of the proposal submission due to COVIND19?</p>	<p>Regarding your first question, please refer to the answer provided under question 37 above (see reply to the first question).</p> <p>Regarding your second question, please refer to the answer provided under question 38 above.</p>
42.	<p>I'm receiving more and more questions whether the current measures which are being put into place (or already are) to combat the spread of COVID19 will be taken into account to postpone the deadline for submission in the 2020</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer provided under question 38 above.</p>

	<p>call. Could you please provide some clarity on the impact of COVID19-crisis on the S2R call process.</p>	
43.	<p>I am currently leading a consortium for the 2020 non-JU call S2R-OC-IP3-02-2020. I need to access the projects pages from the S2R website in order to access information from projects that we must complement in the call. Unfortunately, the Projects section of the S2R website appears to be down. Can you please advise as to when this will be up and running again?</p>	<p>Indeed, on Monday 23 March 2020 there was a problem regarding access to the projects pages of the S2R website. This problem was discovered at 8:40 and resolved at 11:53 on Monday morning. This was an exceptional situation, otherwise the website is fully functional and works without interruption.</p>
44.	<p>Good day,</p> <p>I'd like to ask a preliminary question:</p> <p>According to your knowledge, has any of your members ever been interested in distributed traction for rail freight? Or are you able to give me hints as to who might be potentially interested? Perhaps could you name contact persons?</p> <p>As far as you know various initiatives for innovation in rail freight and modal shift: Where can you see a possibility for successful inclusion of the alternative approach, "distributed traction + on-board intermodal logistics"? Potential for cooperation and synergies?</p> <p>Naturally I am interested in any substantial feedback, general and specifically with regard to the present Shift2rail call.</p> <p>At present I am systematically researching and contacting possible key partners for a consortium to build a modern, powerful multiple-unit cargo train with optional on-board logistics.</p>	<p>Please note that the S2R AWP's define the Research and Innovation activities that will be implemented through call(s) for proposals and/or call(s) for tenders. You can find information on the S2R AWP 2020 at the S2R website:</p> <p>https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/reference-documents/annualwork-plan-and-budget/</p> <p>In addition, please note that the S2R 2020 call for proposals is currently published in the S2R website. You can find all information related to this call through the link below (please note that the deadline for submission of proposals initially foreseen on 21 April 2020 is extended until 27 May 2020) and you can check if one of the topics proposed would fit your competences and ideas of R&I:</p> <p>https://shift2rail.org/participate/call-for-proposals/</p> <p>For information a list of S2R JU members is available at the S2R website:</p> <p>https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/ju-members/</p>
45.	<p>I am not able to locate in the work programme the call on "Formulation of the freight train of the future" Call identifier: S2R-CFM-IP5-01-2020 with deadline 27 May 2020. Could you please point me at the text of the call? It is not in the EC</p>	<p>The topic S2R-CFM-IP5-01-2020, which under the F&T portal, is entitled "Formulation of the freight train of the future", and can be found in chapter 4.1.6. of Annex I – 2020 Call for proposals for the JU members under the same identifier S2R-CFM-IP5-01-2020 but with a different title "Use-centric rail freight innovation for Single European Railway Area. This is considered a clerical formulation error.</p>

	<p>funding portal and I do not see it in your work programme.</p>	<p>However, both the Funding & Tenders Portal and the S2R AWP 2020 (page 26) refer to the topic title “Formulation of the freight train of the future” for the call identifier: S2R-CFM-IP5-01-2020.</p>
<p>46.</p>	<p>I have the two following questions:</p> <p>In a project proposal, the required competences are owned by 3 individual SMEs that are shareholders (2% each of the capital share) of a cluster.</p> <p>1) Can the cluster be partner in the project proposal and involve the 3 SMEs as "linked third parties"?</p> <p>2) If yes, are there any conditions concerning the split of the budget between the partner (cluster) and the linked third parties (SMEs)? (e.g. must the partner have a minimum % of the proposal budget, or can it - e.g. - be only involved in communication & dissemination activities while the R&D activities are entirely performed by the linked third parties?)</p>	<p>Please find below the answers to your questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One of the requirements for participation in H2020 is to be a legal entity, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, in accordance with the national law of the relevant country (Article 2.1.(13) of the RfP). Therefore, a cluster may be partner in a proposal provided that it meets the requirements of a legal entity as defined above. <p>Regarding the conditions for the addition of linked third parties to a beneficiary, please refer to the reply provided under question 3 above.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The MGA does not establish minimum/maximum percentages of the proposal budget for beneficiaries/linked third parties. However, according to Article 8 of the MGA, the beneficiaries must have the appropriate technical and financial resources needed to implement the action themselves. As an exception and if necessary to implement the action, the beneficiaries may call upon third parties (e.g. linked third parties) to implement specific action tasks. Entities performing a substantial part of the work (i.e. action tasks) should, in principle be beneficiaries not linked third parties. Linked third parties should only exceptionally perform a major part of the R&I work. Please note that one of the verifications carried out on proposers is their operational capacity to perform the tasks allocated to them. An extensive use of linked third parties, may give an indication of a lack of operational capacity, which may have a negative impact on the evaluation of the proposal as a whole.
<p>47.</p>	<p>When applying for an open call, is it possible to cooperate with a S2R member in terms of exchanging data and ideas. In this case the S2R member would support the proposal through a letter of support and will not benefit financially from the project.</p>	<p>According to the eligibility criteria listed in the Shift2Rail Annual Work Plan2020 (section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions), topics labelled OC are open only to entities that are not :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), 2) nor constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, 3) nor affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings. <p>Please also consider that if a Member of the JU happens to be a beneficiary of the consortium replying to a topic labelled "OC", the full consortium will be considered not eligible and therefore excluded from the next steps of the evaluation.</p> <p>Overall, Members are bound by the obligations of confidentiality and conflict of interest that are governing the relation between the Member and the S2R JU (see in particular Article 23 S2R Statutes, Article 6 Membership Agreement, Article 2 of S2R GB Decision No 07/2018 and Article 27 of the revised S2R JU Financial Rules adopted by GB Decision n° 11/2019).</p>

		<p>In the context of Open Calls (see S2R JU AWP 2020, section 2.2.6 Open call for proposals for non-JU members), any exposure of additional information other than the one given in the published call documentation – or info-call mailbox answer to questions – may violate confidentiality and conflict of interest requirements of the Joint Undertaking, jeopardizing transparency and equal treatment principles. The JU would like to emphasize that all information about the topics of the calls is available to Non-JU Member applicants through the Horizon 2020’s ‘Funding & tender opportunities’ website, hosted by the European Commission on behalf of the JU. The S2R AWP 2020, in particular Annex II for Open Calls, provides the necessary details which should allow applicants to prepare adequate proposals, complemented by the Questions & Answers provided by the S2R JU and published on the S2R JU website under “Call for Proposals” page and the “Ongoing Calls” Page.</p> <p>Up to the signature of the grant agreement, the Authorizing Officer of the S2R JU has to consider whether there are any given grounds for exclusion or other factors requiring a rejection of any of the proposals from the award procedure in accordance with the provisions of Title V of the Financial Regulation (Regulation 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018) which applies <i>mutatis mutandis</i> to the S2R JU (article 41 of the S2R JU Revised Financial rules). For instance, Article 141(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation determines that a prior involvement of a participant related to the grant award may constitute a ground for exclusion if this entails a breach of the principle of equal treatment (e.g. distortion of competition) that cannot be remedied otherwise.</p> <p>Members however can be involved in an advisory board only once the proposal has been selected for funding especially when the members’ projects (projects labelled CFM) are complementary to open calls (topics labelled OC), where interaction will be necessary. As already foreseen in calls of previous years, in 2020 the S2R JU GA will also include the options regarding 'complementary grants' of the S2R JU Model Grant Agreement and the provisions therein, including with regard to additional access rights to background and results for the purposes of the complementary grant(s). This should ensure the complementary of activities performed in the calls in the interest of the Programme. We invite you to consult Annexes I and II to the AWP 2020 where complementarity between particular topics is specified.</p> <p>Letters of support are not requested and they are irrelevant in the assessment process.</p>
<p>48.</p>	<p>Where can I find the latest information about S2R calls and grants in relation with the Covid-19 outbreak?</p>	<p>Please visit the dedicated page on the Funding&Tenders portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/covid-19 where you can find all updated information on Calls and Grants in relation to the impact of Covid-19 outbreak including the general FAQs on H2020 calls and grants.</p>

<p>49.</p>	<p>Regarding the call for members, is there any prevention to mention a potential connexion with a Russian stakeholder in the proposal? This participation would be limited to some activities and free, agreed by the consortium.</p>	<p>According to the eligibility criteria listed in the S2R AWP 2020 (section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions), only JU members (founding and associated) and their affiliates can be beneficiaries in the topics that are labelled as "CFM" (Calls for members) in the S2R call 2020.</p> <p>In line with the distinction between different types of calls for proposals, presented in Section 2.2.4 of the AWP, competitive calls for proposals, pursuant to Article 9.5 of Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation and Article 17.1(a) and (b) of S2R JU Statutes, will restrict the type of beneficiary to JU Members (founding and associated), and their affiliated entities. In the case of Members in the form of consortia or groupings of legal entities, the individual constituent entities of these consortia or groupings, and the affiliated entities of these individual constituent entities, are eligible to participate in the restricted calls for JU Members;</p> <p>Therefore, a non-JU member cannot participate <i>directly</i> or as part of the consortium submitting a proposal to the call which requires JU's membership as eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Nevertheless, a non-JU member has the possibility to <i>indirectly</i> participate in calls for members. Indeed, according to Art.7 of the H2020 Rules for Participation, any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, or international organisation may participate in H2020 actions unless the relevant work programme provides exceptions in this respect.</p> <p>In this specific case, a Russian entity may <i>indirectly</i> participate in S2R CFM actions as entities from any emerging or industrialised third country not associated to Horizon 2020 and in this respect, we can identify two possible scenarios:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>International partner of a S2R Member or its affiliated entities:</i> the H2020 Model Grant Agreement (Art. 14a) foresees the participation in the action of international partners without EU funding. <p>An "<i>International partner</i>" is any legal entity established in a non-associated third country that is not eligible for funding under Article 10 of the Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013, i.e. they must not be: i.) a legal entity established in a third country not listed in General Annex A to the H2020 Work Programme or ii.) an international organisation other than international European interest organisations</p> <p>Being neither beneficiaries nor receiving EU funding, they therefore have no direct obligations under the grant agreement (they do not sign the GA).</p> <p>However, the action's beneficiaries – in the case of CFM, JU members (founding and associated) and their affiliated</p>
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		<p>entities – remain responsible towards the S2R JU for the action tasks performed by its international partner and must ensure that they comply with certain key obligations; <i>inter alia</i> those described below under point a) and b).</p> <p>As international partners of the relevant CFM beneficiary, they must be named in Article 14a and their action tasks and estimated costs must be set out in Annexes 1 and 2 already at the moment of the GA signature. However, the costs of the international partners will not be reimbursed and will not be taken into account for the calculation of the grant.</p> <p>2. The Russian entity may participate in the project as a “subcontractor” of a S2R Member or its affiliated entities.</p> <p>In this latter case, the activity to be carried out with the support of the subcontractor needs to be included in the proposal, but not the name of the subcontractor/nor the budget.</p> <p>We remind that according to Art. 4.4 of the S2R Regulation provides that <i>“For the purpose of valuing the in-kind contributions referred to in point (b) of paragraph 2 of this Article[1] and Article 16.3(b) of the Statutes, the costs shall be determined according to the usual cost accounting practices of the entities concerned, to the applicable accounting standards of the country where each entity is established, and to the applicable International Accounting Standards/International Financial Reporting Standards.”</i></p> <p>In this case, the selection of subcontractors could be done according to the beneficiary’s internal procurement standards, as long as these are based on sound financial management principles.</p> <p>The S2R Member or its affiliated entities may decide to account for this subcontracting also as IKOP only.</p> <p>Please note that in any case, the responsibility lies with the beneficiary, <i>inter alia</i>:</p> <p><i>a)</i> The beneficiary must ensure that the JU , the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) can exercise their rights under Articles 22 and 23 also towards the third parties.</p> <p><i>b)</i> The beneficiary remains responsible towards the JU for the activities performed by the third party, including regarding IPR rights. In particular, beneficiaries must ensure they can fulfil their obligations under the GA regarding results, by making arrangements with any third parties that could claim rights to them.</p> <p>Although your question only refers to <i>participation</i>, and not to <i>funding</i>, it is nonetheless important to clarify that, Russia, as well as other industrialised countries, is no longer automatically funded by Horizon 2020.</p>
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50.	May Albanian legal entities participate in a S2R OC project?	<p>Albania is an associated country to H2020. Therefore, Albanian legal entities participate in H2020 under the same conditions as legal entities from the EU Member States - (Article 9b. of the H2020 Rules for Participation http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/3cp/h2020-hi-list-ac_en.pdf) and are therefore eligible to participate and receive funding under this call for proposals. For sake of comprehension, please also note the specific eligibility conditions for S2R Open Calls for proposals.</p> <p>These calls are addressed only to entities that are not Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), nor constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, nor affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings.</p> <p>Moreover, as indicated in the S2R 2020 AWP, the standard eligibility conditions which apply to proposals are defined in Part C of the General Annexes to the H2020 Work Programme 2018- 2020. In accordance with these conditions and depending on the type of action for the relevant topic (considering also that no exception is provided in this respect in the AWP 2020), the minimum number of participants is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for RIA/IA actions: at least three legal entities, each of them must be established in a different EU Member State or H2020 associated country. All three legal entities must be

		<p>independent from each other (Article 9 of the H2020 Rules for Participation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for CSA actions: at least one legal entity established in an EU Member State or Horizon 2020 associated country.
<p>51.</p>	<p>The purpose of the current email is to ask for some clarifications about the call S2R-OC-CCA-01-2020 Noise and Vibration.</p> <p>Please find below the list of questions collected from partners.</p> <p>General</p> <p>1A. Which technic was used and is expected to be used for the calculation of noise radiation for the outdoor simulations.?</p> <p>1B. Is it based on a common standard like CNOSSOS-EU?</p> <p>2A. Which technic was used and is expected to be used for the calculation of the indoor noise level inside of the train?</p> <p>2B. Room acoustics with ray-tracing with defined sources or more complex models considering structure born noise?</p> <p>"The software development shall follow requirements proposed by the complementary project S2R-CFM-CCA-01-2019 which are expected to be available the first quarter of 2021."</p> <p>3A. When is it expected that the project starts?</p> <p>3B. How it is possible to answer in detail to the call if we the requirements will be available in the first quarter of 2021?</p> <p>3C. And what is expected to be included in the Base-Version of M6?</p> <p>Exterior noise</p> <p>Source model</p> <p>The Rolling and impact noise are artificially generated using published physically-based synthesis model (Pieren, et al., 2017).</p>	<p>1A and 1B: The calculation of noise radiation and emission was based on physical models, e.g. spring-mass models, contact filters, radiation calculations etc. and special models which were partly taken from the aviation industry and adapted. Details can be found in the descriptions of the research reports on the DESTINATE project and various publications in technical journals and conference papers. Simple models such as Cnossos were used to check the results but are not the starting point for the calculation.</p> <p>2A and 2B: The calculation of the noise radiation into the interior was based on physical models e.g. spring-mass models, contact filters and other input parameters important for the sound calculation etc. as well as special models of the partners from preliminary work. Details can be found in the descriptions of the reports on the DESTINATE project and various publications in technical journals and conferences.</p> <p>3A: subject to the S2R GB approval of the result of the call, it is expected all projects to start as soon as October before the end of the year. This would also be aligned with the technical work of the complementary project (FINE-2).</p> <p>3B: This information is provided in the topic text of the call for the consortium taking it into account in its project proposal preparation.</p> <p>3C: As described in the call text, a first introduction of the basic version for the noise source model to be used.</p> <p>4A, 4B, 5, 6, 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B, 9, 10, 11, 12,A and 12B: All public information of the DESTINATE project results are available under the following link (https://projects.shift2rail.org/s2r_ipCC_n.aspx?p=destinate). This information shall be sufficient to answer to the call text.</p> <p>13: The necessary data set will be provided as measurements by the complementary project (FINE 2), which will be discussed and agreed during the project life-time.</p> <p>14: All public information of the DESTINATE project results are available under the following link (https://projects.shift2rail.org/s2r_ipCC_n.aspx?p=destinate). This information shall be sufficient to answer to the call text.</p> <p>15: The required transfer functions shall be calculated and determined by the OC project or be introduced and provided based on previous experience in the field.</p>

<p>4A. Will the DESTINATE consortium make available the scripts and the dataset of the input variables obtained from the sonRAIL model?</p> <p>4B. If yes, in which programming languages?</p> <p>5. Will the DESTINATE consortium make available the directivity function to apply to each source signal?</p> <p>6. It is not clear if in the demonstrators the random variation of the emission strength between the axles of the train composition should be introduced. In positive case, will the DESTINATE consortium make available the model, and the dataset of parameter, to quantify the emission level variation?</p> <p>In order to generate the audio files of the secondary noise sources (e.g. motors or converters, HVAC, structure-borne sound radiated by the car body), the source signals have to be artificially generated by spectral modelling synthesis (Pieren, et al., 2016).</p> <p>7A. Will DESTINATE consortium make available a database of sounds or the script of the synthesis model?</p> <p>7B. If yes, in which programming languages?</p> <p>As for the complex propagation geometry of a railway line cutting, the modelling approach in (Heutschi, 2008) should be implemented.</p> <p>8A. Will the DESTINATE consortium make available the model?</p> <p>8B. If yes, in which programming languages?</p> <p>Rendering</p> <p>9. Will the DESTINATE consortium make available the tools for the rendering Ambisonic, Arbitrary Loudspeaker array?</p> <p>In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ambisonic reproduction: the 	
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<p>equalized ambisonic in-phase decoder to calculate speaker feeds;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reproduction over an arbitrary loudspeaker array: the Frequency-dependent version of vector base amplitude panning (VBAP) (Pulkki, 1997). <p>Interior noise</p> <p>For external noise sources (e.g. wheel-track interaction; dampers)</p> <p>“The initial interior noise auralisation can be measurement based.”</p> <p>It is not clear how the software should manage the noise coming from external noise sources and interactions), if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Combining the synthesized noise with specific transfer functions: <p>10. Will the DESTINATE consortium make available the synthesized/measured noise of the external noise sources?</p> <p>11. Will the DESTINATE consortium make available the measurements of the transfer function(s) outside-to-inside the coaches under different conditions? E.g. different dampers.</p> <p>12A. As the transfer function change as the transmission path change, how many transfer functions will provide the consortium?</p> <p>12B. Will it consider only one position inside the coach wagon (hp: diffuse field inside)?</p> <p>13. The noise generated by external noise sources will be considered exclusively by measurement inside the coaches. Will the consortium make available the recording inside the coaches for different conditions? E.g. different dampers</p> <p>14. How is the wheel/wheel-damper interaction implemented in the auralisation software as it is known from STARDAMP that wheel-dampers are designed for each specific type of wheel to guarantee highest performance</p>	
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	<p>For internal noise sources (e.g. Passengers; Public Announcements) “The auralisation shall at least enable interior source positioning, level- selection/adjustment of the measured sound, distance depending level perception).” Interior noise auralization module should guarantee very basic requirements (source positioning, source level, distance spreading), but nothing is said about what the consortium will make available to implement the software.</p> <p>15. Will it provide the transfer functions necessary to implement the auralization?</p>	
<p>52.</p>	<p>In the open call CCA, for the auralisation of the noise we would like to know whether we have to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) design the noise generation model from scratch or 2) we are supposed to build it up from another S2R project, namely DESTINATE. <p>If the answer is 2, the public available materials on the Emission Synthetiser of DESTINATE are not enough detailed, so more details about the implementation are required.</p> <p>Will S2R make this input available after Grant Agreement Signature?</p>	<p>As defined in the call text, the proposal shall cover noise generation model in accordance with the defined requirements and the proposed A&V technology coming from past projects such as FINE 1 requirements (D9.1 Requirements for Auralisation and Visualisation) and DESTINATE (D3.2 Demonstration of railway noise auralisation and visualisation) or using own models and experiences which you have performed before. The information available will be shared during the project lifetime. Further alignment will be organised at later stage between the successful project proposals and the complementary project (FINE 2).</p>
<p>53.</p>	<p>As a S2R member, we have done in the past a fruitful collaboration with a university with 2 different open calls.</p> <p>Now we need to continue the work with them in order to finish the job, but there are no open call complementary to the CFM project.</p> <p>We would like to include them in the CFM proposal as a “third party” according to the H2020 Model Grant agreement article 14.</p> <p>In case we are going to sign a</p>	<p>A non-JU member has the possibility to indirectly participate in call for members, if linked with a participating member as :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Third party with a legal link with the beneficiary (LTP), - Subcontractor. <p>In both cases, the provisions of the H2020 Rules of Participation and of the H2020 Grant Agreement on subcontracting and on linked third parties must be complied with.</p> <p>Indeed, as you pointed out, Art. 14 of the H2020 Model Grant Agreement defines the conditions to be met for an entity to participate as “Linked Third Party” (LTPs) in a H2020 action.</p>

	<p>framework agreement between our company and the University, could we insert the University as a Third party?</p>	<p>The beneficiaries (in the case of CFM, JU members (founding and associated) and their affiliated entities) must have a “legal link” or a “capital link” with the LTPs.</p> <p>‘Entities with a legal link’ refer to an established relationship (between the third party and the beneficiary), which is:</p> <p>1) broad and not specifically created for the work in the Grant Agreement (GA) - Accordingly, its duration must go beyond the action duration and it usually pre-dates and outlasts the GA. Ad hoc collaboration agreements or contracts to carry out work in the action are NOT covered. (In this latter case, both legal entities should be beneficiaries); AND</p> <p>2) a legal relationship. This may either be a legal structure (e.g. the relationship between an association and its members) or through an agreement or contract not limited to the action (e.g. a collaboration agreement for research in a particular field). If the only relation between two entities is a capital link (i.e. ownership of part of the issued share capital), the entity may only participate as a linked third party if it is an ‘affiliated entity’ (see below).</p> <p>‘Entities with a capital link’ or ‘Affiliated entities’ means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - under the direct or indirect control of the beneficiary or - under the same direct or indirect control as the beneficiary or - directly or indirectly controlling the beneficiary. <p>Affiliated entities cover not only the case of parent companies or holdings and their daughter companies or subsidiaries and vice-versa, but also the case of affiliates between themselves (e.g. entities controlled by the same entity)</p> <p>In order to be accepted as LTPs, the official document which proves the link as explained above must be provided by the beneficiary.</p> <p>Entities performing a substantial part of the work should in principle be beneficiaries, not LTPs. LTPs should only exceptionally perform a major part of the work.</p> <p>LTPs do not charge a price but declare their own costs for implementing the action tasks. The eligible costs are only the costs of the LTP, no profit is allowed (neither for the linked third party nor for the beneficiary).</p>
<p>54.</p>	<p>Concerning the S2R-OC-IP2-01-2020 call topic, given the restrictions established in different European countries affected by COVID19 with severe confinement conditions, we sincerely consider that the current extension of the deadline to 27th of May 2020 is still not sufficient. Thus, we would like to request for an additional extension of this deadline</p>	<p>We understand that the recent escalation of restrictions related to the COVID-19 outbreak may hamper applicants’ ability to prepare and finalize high-quality proposal.</p> <p>For this reason, the deadline for the S2R JU call for proposals H2020-S2RJU-2020, initially foreseen on 21 April 2020, has been extended until 27 May 2020 17:00 (Brussels Local Time).</p> <p>However, since no other extension requests have been received by the S2R JU, the call deadline will not be further extended.</p>

		<p>Therefore, potential applicants are advised to prepare themselves as necessary, especially by establishing effective communication links for remote collaborative work.</p> <p>In addition, we remind potential applicants to check carefully the eligibility criteria for topics labelled OC. According to the eligibility criteria listed in the Shift2Rail Annual Work Plan2020 (section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions), OC topics are open only to entities that are not : 1) Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), 2) nor constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, 3) nor affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings.</p> <p>According to the H2020 Rules for Participation, “affiliated entity” means any legal entity that is - under the direct or indirect control of a participant, or - under the same direct or indirect control as the participant, or - directly or indirectly controlling a participant. Affiliated entities are, to put it simply, entities that are in a hierarchical relationship with a Member, usually through control by ownership (i.e. the Member owns them, or they are owning the Member, or the Member and the LTP are owned by the same entity).</p> <p>Please also consider that if a S2R Member or an affiliated entity to a S2R Member happens to be a beneficiary of the consortium replying to a topic labelled "OC", the full consortium will be considered not eligible and therefore excluded from the next steps of the evaluation.</p> <p>For all updated information on Calls and Grants in relation to the impact of Covid-19 outbreak, we invite you to consult as well the reply provided in Q48.</p>
<p>55.</p>	<p>With regard to the call topic S2R-OC-IPX01-2020, I would like to ask you the following questions:</p> <p>1. Question Is the 250K Grant offered per application or is this a bundle sum split between all applicants? Context It is not clear from the h2020-wp20-shift2rail_en.pdf document whether or not this sum is offered per application. [page 28]</p> <p>2. Question Do we apply as a single Hyperloop entity or do we need to associate our company with other Hyperloop initiatives/companies to apply for <u>S2R-OC-IPX-01-2020: Innovation in guided transport grant</u>? Context It is not clear from the h2020-wp20-shift2rail_en.pdf document</p>	<p>1. In principle, the S2R JU total annual budget available allows for retaining for funding one proposal per topic only where not explicitly mentioned otherwise. The possibility of financing more than one proposal per topic may result from available budget due to cases such substantially lower requests for financing in one topic, no award of proposals in one topic, etc. Nevertheless, it is within the powers of the Governing Board to decide to retain for funding more than one proposal per topic.</p> <p>2. Please refer to question 27 ensuring the expectations indicated in the topic are met, in particular “The expected Impacts derive from gathering all relevant stakeholders around a common encompassing activity on innovative concepts for guided transport modes”.</p> <p>3. As indicated in the expectations of the topic text the impact is expected on both aspects.</p>

<p>whether this is a single entity application or a joint venture. [page 126] More so when we take into account that this is a Coordination and Support Action (CSA)</p> <p>What does the application mean by saying “gather all promoters, at least European, of technologies around hyperloop and together” achieve the goals listed in the application description?</p> <p>3. Question Is the <u>S2R-OC-IPX-01-2020: Innovation in guided transport</u> application expected impact more in line with a political context around standardization, safety & security or on technological transfer from Hyperloop to Rail?</p> <p>4. Question Can you clarify the following list from the <u>S2R-OC-IPX-01-2020: Innovation in guided transport</u> application? Define the enhanced / innovative modes in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concept of operations ● Safety cases ● Functional specification ● Operational conditions and testing methodologies / environment <p>Context The application lacks context when it comes to these topics and we’re not sure what these refer to. h2020-wp20-shift2rail_en.pdf document [page 126]</p> <p>5. Question Which of the Evaluation Rules apply to <u>S2R-OC-IPX-01-2020: Innovation in guided transport?</u></p> <p>Context This is more of a confirmation rather than a question. We identified the following rows to apply to our case: <u>All types of action (except Framework Partnership Agreement)</u> [first criterion], <u>Coordination & support actions (CSA)</u> [3rd criterion]</p>	<p>4. The topic text has been on purpose designed without a clear definition for the enhanced /innovative modes not to predetermine the application profile nor the output of the proposal content. It is up to the consortium to better define in their proposal application those aspects that better respond to the innovation in guided transport they want to put forward.</p> <p>5. According to chapter 2.3.6 “Evaluation Rules” of the S2R AWP 2020, Part H of the General Annexes to the EC Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020 shall apply <i>mutatis mutandis</i> to the actions covered by the same Work Plan. In particular, the award criteria include 'excellence', 'impact' and 'quality and efficiency of the implementation'. When it comes to the award criteria for CSA actions, indeed, those are the award criteria that apply to <i>All types of action (except Framework Partnership Agreement)</i> including the specific award criteria for CSA actions.</p> <p>6. According to Evaluation rules as mentioned under Part H of the General Annexes to the EC Horizon 2020 WP 2018-2020, we assume that you refer to the award criterion “Impact” for <i>All types of action (except Framework Partnership Agreement)</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The extent to which the outputs of the project would contribute to each of the expected impacts mentioned in the work programme under the relevant topic</i> <p>It is up to each consortium to clearly describe how their proposal ticks the boxes described in the topic text, so that external independent experts (not S2R JU staff) will be able to assess how the proposal’s objectives, concept, expected impacts and implementation measures are in line with the topic text.</p> <p>7. According to Evaluation rules as mentioned under Part H of the General Annexes to the EC Horizon 2020 WP 2018-2020, we assume you refer to the award criterion “Impact” specific to the CSA type of action:</p> <p><i>Quality of the proposed measures to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR), and to manage research data where relevant.</i> ● <i>Communicate the project activities to different target audiences</i> <p>We invite you to consult as well the reply provided under point 6 above.</p> <p>8. Please refer to point 2 above and question 27.</p> <p>Once the eligibility conditions for participation are satisfied in relation to this type of action (CSA) - participation of at least one legal entity</p>
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	<p>Are there any others?</p> <p>6. Question Could you please clarify the evaluation criteria for the <i>All types of action (except Framework Partnership Agreement) / Impact</i> [1st Criterion]?</p> <p>Context The Evaluation Rules state the following - The extent to which the outputs of the project would contribute to each of the expected impacts mentioned in the work programme under the relevant topic; When it comes to our case - <i>S2R-OC-IPX-01-2020: Innovation in guided transport</i> - not all expected impact criteria may be fulfilled (Political vs. Technical). Would we be poorly evaluated if we only fulfill a certain section of the expected impact?</p> <p>7. Question Could you please clarify the evaluation criteria for the CSA [3rd Criterion]?</p> <p>8. Question Can we apply as a single entity or do we need to apply in a joint venture with 1 or more companies?</p> <p>Context It is unclear if we receive less points for the application if we apply as a single entity, although in the application webpage, there are two Grant Agreement models: Multi-Beneficiary and Mono-Beneficiary.</p> <p>9. Question Would we be more suitable to apply to other topics like - <i>S2R-OC-IP1- 01-2020 Support to Development of next generation of Traction systems (TD1.1)</i> for instance?</p>	<p>established in an EU Member State or Horizon 2020 associated country.</p> <p>9. As you may understand, the S2R Calls follow a competitive process and in the interest of transparency, fairness and equal treatment, the JU cannot provide individual guidance to potential applicants.</p> <p>The S2R call topic texts are written in such a way that they clearly explain the problem, but leave a fair amount of freedom to proposal writers to come up with a suitable solution in reply to the topic they feel more appropriate for them.</p> <p>Moreover, it is up to each applicant to properly describe in their proposal that will be assessed by external independent experts if and how the proposal’s solution is appropriate to address the challenges and expected impacts described in the topic text.</p>
56	<p>We are preparing a consortium to participate in the open call S2R-OC-CCA-01-2020 “Noise and Vibration Call”. We have a question on this regard:</p>	<p>The topic S2R-OC-CCA-01-2020 do not require in its text to make any technical link of the two work streams. It although indicates that proposals should address both work streams.</p>

	<p>Is there any expected link between the work-streams (WS) 1 and 2 of the call in terms of technical or research activities? Reading the call, we think that these two WS are independent between them in a technical point of view, since we cannot see or think in any technical task in common between the two WS and the deliverables also seems to be fully independent. A clarification on this regard will be very helpful</p>	
<p>57</p>	<p>Would you be able to advise me if the current bid call has a project appropriate to virtual decoupling or will this be on a further call? I would also be interested in being connected to Coupling hardware partners.</p>	<p>As you may understand, S2R Calls follow a competitive process and in the interest of transparency, fairness and equal treatment, the JU cannot provide individual guidance to potential applicants.</p> <p>Therefore, we invite to consult the S2R website where, in the section dedicated to the S2R calls for proposals, you will find the relevant topics of the S2R Call 2020: https://shift2rail.org/participate/call-for-proposals/.</p> <p>For the time being, no further S2R calls are foreseen in 2020.</p> <p>Moreover, bear in mind that all S2R call topics (CFM and OC) are published in the respective yearly S2R Annual Work Plan (AWP).</p> <p>Concerning the partner search to build a consortium, we recommend the following relevant information sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partner search section of the Funding & tender opportunities Portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/partner-search . The function allows to: - look for organizations that received funding in the past, - create and check partner search requests by call/topic. • Your National Contact Points (NCPs) who are the first point of contact for all your questions related to EU funding: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp
<p>58</p>	<p>As a Turkish company, we are currently looking into taking part in EU funded projects, especially Shift2Rail and Horizon 2020 and are looking to be partners to projects in areas where we can offer our extensive expertise or collaborate otherwise.</p> <p>We would greatly appreciate it if you would consider collaborating</p>	<p>Turkey is an associated country to H2020. Therefore, Turkish legal entities participate in H2020 under the same conditions as legal entities from the EU Member States - (Article 9b. of the H2020 Rules for Participation http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/0/grants_manual/hi/3cp/h2020-hi-list-ac_en.pdf) and are therefore eligible to participate and receive funding under this call for proposals.</p> <p>With regard to the specific eligibility conditions for S2R Open Calls, please refer to Q50.</p>

	<p>with us in any upcoming calls and/or assist in relevant partner searches.</p>	<p>Moreover, note that the S2R JU - as an EU body operating under H2020 - cannot participate as beneficiary in a consortium nor endorse a proposal submitted in an open call, as this could distort competition between the submitted proposals, which, after call closure, will be evaluated by independent external experts on the basis of H2020 rules, observing the principles of transparency, fairness, equal treatment and impartiality.</p> <p>Concerning the partner search to build a consortium, please refer to the question 57 and the dedicated information about it.</p>
<p>59</p>	<p>I would like to learn the procedure to apply for JU Membership on behalf of my company. Furthermore, we may establish a consortium by some Turkish companies which work separately or mutually in locomotive design and manufacture, autonomous driving assistance systems, command & control systems and software basically.</p>	<p>The conditions related to the applications to become Associated Member of the S2R JU are set out in Article 4 of the Statutes of the S2R JU, included in Annex I of Council Regulation 642/2014 (S2R Regulation) establishing the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking.</p> <p>In addition, the role and contributions of the Members are defined in a Membership Agreement with the S2R JU in accordance with Article 3.2 of the S2R Regulation.</p> <p>In this respect, the JU's Associated Members were selected in 2015 through a Call for expression of interest. Unfortunately, there is currently no new Call for expression of interest planned that would allow applying for accession to the JU as an Associated Member.</p> <p>If you are nevertheless interested to participate to the S2R Programme Research and Innovation activities, you might be interested to submit proposals to S2R OC Calls.</p> <p>Please refer to Q50 for more information on the specific eligibility conditions for S2R Open Calls for proposals.</p>
<p>60</p>	<p>I have several questions regarding the S2R-OC-IP3-03-2020: Advanced tools and equipment: collaborative robots & wearable mobile machines (TD3.8)", hopefully you can help answer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the one consortium need to address both work streams - work stream 1 is research on robotics whilst stream 2 is focused on exoskeletons. 2. What is the recommended budget split between two work streams? 3. The guideline sets a budget of up to 2,7MEUR for the call, how many consortium/projects this particular call is intended to finance? 4. If I understand right, the partner for the consortium needs to be organised 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please note the editorial correction in the 2020 Annual Work Plan. The following sentence has been added to the topic description in point 4.2.8 of Annex II of the 2020 Annual Work Plan (2020 Calls for proposals for non-JU members): "In order to address the above mentioned challenges, proposals should address all the following work streams, in line with the S2R MAAP". See question 19 replied on February 28th together with the updated AWP2020. 2. The call topic do not recommend a particular "budget split", it is up to the consortium submitting a proposal to consider the appropriate workload to be assigned to the different projects tasks addressing the topic work-streams that can address properly the specific challenge, the scope and expected impact of this topic. 3. Please, refer to the reply provided under point 1 of question 55. 4. We remind potential applicants to carefully check the eligibility criteria for S2R topics labelled OC. According to the eligibility criteria listed in the Shift2Rail Annual Work Plan 2020 (section 2.3.4 Standard eligibility conditions), OC topics are open only to entities that are not: 1) Members of the S2R JU (founding or associated), 2) nor constituent entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings, 3) nor affiliated entities either to the S2R JU Members or to the constituent

	<p>within the EU (plus Switzerland, UK, Norway etc.) Can we include non-European partners, or can they participate with self-finance resources?</p>	<p>entities of Members in the form of consortia or groupings.</p> <p>Taking into account the fact that the type of action for this topic is a “Research and Innovation Action” and that no exception is provided in this respect in the AWP 2020, the minimum number of participants is at least three legal entities. Each of the three must be established in a different EU Member State or H2020 Associated Country. All three legal entities must be independent from each other (Article 9 of the H2020 Rules for Participation).</p> <p>Legal entities from Associated Countries (https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-list-ac_en.pdf) participate in H2020 under the same conditions as legal entities from the EU Member States (Article 9b of the H2020 Rules for Participation) and are therefore eligible to participate and receive funding under this call for proposals.</p> <p>Concerning the <i>participation</i> and eligibility for <i>funding</i> of legal entities from Third Countries under H2020, please refer to question 40.</p> <p>.</p>
<p>61</p>	<p>Call ID: S2R-OC-IP1-03-2020 Call Topic: Innovative technologies for Carbodies and Running Gear of the future</p> <p>I have two questions, and I very much appreciate if you could assist me with them:</p> <p>1. There seems to be a bit of discrepancy in Annual Work Plan for the expected TRL for our target call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 27 - TRL 5/6 • Page 101 - TRL 4/5 (WS1) and Page 102 - TRL 3/4 (WS2-1 & WS2-2) <p>(The different TRLs have direct impact on the efforts & costs)</p> <p>2. Would there be an extension of deadline?</p>	<p>1. Please consult the reply provided under point 2 of question 37.</p> <p>2. Please consult the reply provided under question 54.</p>