

# 305010AWJ4 SHARE4.0 | IDEAS CONTEST for SMEs

WP3 - Working basis and pilot projects for the Smart Industry Network SK-AT

The ideas contest is being held as part of the "Share4.0" project, an Austrian-Slovakian cross-border cooperation of decision-makers from politics, business, and science for a Smart Industry Network Slovakia-Austria. In principle, there is a solid knowledge base for research and innovation in the Slovakia-Austria cooperation area. However, there is a lack of constant, permanent cooperation between the key actors and their network partners. Mostly, the institutions involved only establish ad-hoc regional, national, and cross-border project relationships, but comprehensive strategic cooperation and networking is not significantly discernible. The project aims to create an environment and a working basis that enables key actors and their network partners to cooperate on a constant, permanent basis in the Austria-Slovakia region.

**Sustainable, resilient production systems**

**Industrial, intelligent assistance systems**

Project consortium

Slovak Republic

- Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency
- Institute of Materials & Machine Mechanics
- Industry4UM
- National Centre of Robotics

Austria

- Plattform Industrie 4.0 Österreich
- Profactor GmbH
- Forschung Burgenland GmbH
- FOTEC Forschungs- & Technologietransfer GmbH

**Deadline: 24.01.2022 16:00**

**Submission:** office@plattformindustrie40.at

**E-Mail subject:** Share4.0 Application for pilot project



## Purpose and objective of the ideas contest

The ideas contest serves to identify topics and to find applicants willing to participate in pilot projects and is carried out within the framework of the activities of the project "Share4.0" and implemented within the Interreg V-A cooperation program Slovakia- Austria 2014-2020:

1. Work package 3 "Work base and pilot projects for the Smart Industry Network SK-AT".
  1. Activity: Development and implementation of selected pilot actions in the field of "Industrial Assistance Systems"
  2. Activity: Development and implementation of selected pilot actions in the field of "Resilient Sustainable Production Systems"

The aim of the ideas contest is to realize innovative solutions with SMEs based on the joint working basis in the two fields of **action industrial assistance systems and resilient sustainable production systems**. If required, this is to be tested by means of a cross-regional service package that supports small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups in the application of digital, industrial solutions and thus creates the starting point for long-term, sustainable cooperation in the cross-border region.

Another goal of the ideas contest is to implement the possibilities of digitalization in concrete implementations for SMEs and start-ups in pilot projects, drawing on the entire range of services offered by the Smart Industry Network SK-AT, and to identify possible cooperation topics for a strategy and action plan.

## Subject of the ideas contest

The subject of the ideas contest are project ideas brought forward by Slovak and Austrian SMEs and start-ups receiving free services from one of the Share4.0 project partners who act as orchestrator and knowledge provider thus supporting SMEs in their Industry 4.0 endeavors.

Considered are projects that fall into at least one of the following areas:

- Industrial, intelligent assistance systems
- Resilient, sustainable production systems

## Non-funded activities/ resources

Activities beyond the scope of the ideas contest that are not listed in the chapter "subject of the ideas contest" are not permitted. Personnel costs, machines and material costs are not subject to funding. Costs occurred by SMEs linked to the provided services are not eligible for reimbursement. For more details, please refer to the Financial Information paragraph.

## Conditions for the submission of a pilot project application

### Admission requirements

- By means of a brief description, the applicant must define the services required



- Applicants can only be small or medium-sized enterprises<sup>1</sup> and start-ups<sup>2</sup> that are organized as a legal entity or natural person, carry out economic activity in the program area (Vienna, Lower Austria, Burgenland, Bratislava, Trnava) and are organized as companies with a business address in Slovakia or Austria
- The applicant is not affiliated, capital-wise or otherwise, in terms of ownership or management, with the initiators of the ideas contest
- The applicant may submit only one application to ideas contest. In case of multiple applications from the same applicant, only the application received first will be considered, while the others will be excluded
- The pilot project must be consistent with the purpose and subject matter of the ideas contest

Steps required to implement the pilot project:

1. Applicants define the problem in the domains of industrial assistance systems and/or resilient sustainable production systems that they would like to solve in the pilot project (submission of the application form)
2. Selection of pilot projects in the project Steering Committee
3. Signing of the cooperation agreement
4. Partners carry out a pilot project with the applicant
5. Applicants and relevant partners will prepare a report in accordance with the template of this ideas contest and analyze the impact of the pilot project

## Procedure of submission and application/ application process

The submitted forms must be completed in English language. Attachments are allowed. Scanned versions of all signed forms must be sent to the e-mail address: [office@plattformindustrie40.at](mailto:office@plattformindustrie40.at).

List of attachments:

- Application form signed by the legal representative
- Declaration by the applicant
- De-Minimis declaration with signature of legal representative

Time schedule:

- Deadline for application submission: 24.01.2022 by 16:00
- Announcement of winners and signing of agreement: 4.2.2022
- Start of the pilot project: 7.2.2022
- End of the pilot project and deadline for submission of the report: 30.9.2022

## Selection procedure

The evaluation of applications will begin no later than five (5) business days after the deadline for submission of applications. At any time during the evaluation of the application, the SC may request

---

<sup>1</sup>[https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-definition\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-definition_en)

<sup>2</sup><https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/node/1462>



the applicant to provide clarifications in writing (by e-mail) regarding the information contained in the application. The applicant must submit the clarifications within the specified deadline, otherwise the SC will make its own decision on the interpretation of the information provided. The best evaluated applications from the respective field of action (industrial assistance systems and resilient sustainable production systems) will be selected by the SC for support. As a result, two pilot projects, one from each domain, will be selected in total. During the selection process, the SC strives to ensure cross-regionality by selecting pilot projects from different regions. If this condition cannot be met, the decision on the winners will be based on a joint discussion. At the same time, the SC will place the next best 2 applications in evidence.

The SC's decision on the selected companies will be published on the Share4.0 project website no later than 7 days after the deadline for submission of applications. In addition, the selected applicants will be informed about the SC's decision by e-mail by the regional contact point and the applicants/applicants will be invited to sign the cooperation agreement.

If the applicant withdraws from signing or if the contract is not concluded within the specified period, another application will be approved.

## Financing information

Services during the pilot projects will be provided free of charge by the Share4.0 partners on the basis of the cooperation agreement. The provided services are not eligible for reimbursement and count as de minimis aid<sup>3</sup>(EU) No. 1407/2013.

The total amount of de minimis aid granted to a single undertaking per Member State shall not exceed EUR 200 000 over any period of three fiscal years (Article 3(2)). Applicants/proposers must submit a de minimis declaration as part of the application form. The amount of de minimis aid (gross grant equivalent) is calculated on a real cost basis.

At the end of the implementation of the pilot project, the beneficiary will receive a "Certificate of De Minimis Aid" indicating the amount of de minimis aid in gross grant equivalent.

## Confidentiality

The information contained in the application forms will be treated confidentially and may not be used, published, or disclosed to third parties outside the Share4.0 project partnership and controlling bodies without the prior written consent of the applicant.

## Contact points

Vienna

Association Industry 4.0 - the platform for intelligent production

Michael Schwarzenborfer

Mobile: +43 (0)664 61 925 22

[michael.schwarzenborfer@plattformindustrie40.at](mailto:michael.schwarzenborfer@plattformindustrie40.at)

---

<sup>3</sup> EU 1407/2013 [https://ec.europa.eu/competition/state\\_aid/legislation/de\\_minimis\\_regulation\\_de.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/legislation/de_minimis_regulation_de.pdf)

