

Welcome to our webinar

OPEN CALL

for local and regional authorities

- Presentation will start in a few minutes
- This webinar will be recorded
- Feel free to ask questions via the Q&A (toolbar below)
We'll answer them during our Q&A session
- Technical issues? Please contact us via the chat

Welcome!

TODAY'S AGENDA

- A short **INTRODUCTION** to the INSPIRE project & Open Call
Prof. Dr. Gert Everaert (VLIZ Belgium)
- Practical overview Open Call: **OBJECTIVE, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, APPLICATION PROCESS, TIMELINE & WHERE TO FIND ALL INFORMATION**
Prof. Dr. Joydeep Dutta (KTH Sweden)
- **Q&A session**

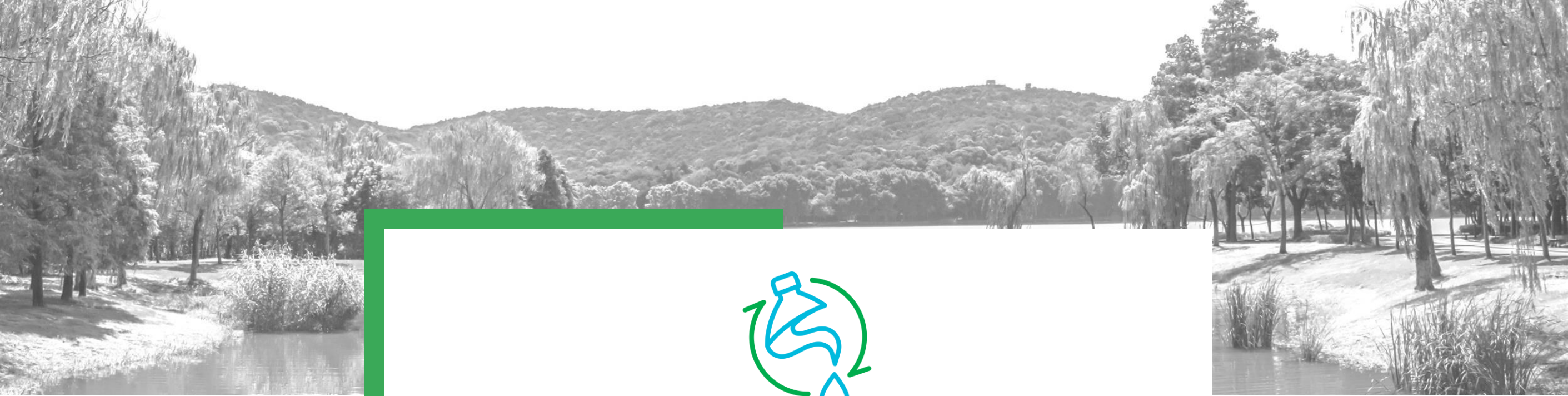
Get inspired - Join us!



About INSPIRE: intro

- Prof. Dr. Gert Everaert – VLIZ Belgium
- Leading the Research Division 'Ocean and Human Health'
- Project coordinator, leading the INSPIRE project





INSPIRE

Innovative Solutions for Plastic Free European Rivers

INTRO

Horizon Europe INSPIRE project

Innovative Solutions for Plastic Free European Rivers (2023-2027)

Gert Everaert

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What is INSPIRE?

INSPIRE is a 4-year Mission project funded under the call HORIZON-MISS-2022-OCEAN-01.

The project will contribute to the drastic **reduction of litter, macro and microplastics in European rivers.**

INSPIRE contributes to the Mission “**Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030**”.



**PREVENT AND ELIMINATE
POLLUTION OF OUR OCEANS,
SEAS AND WATERS**

- Reduce by at least 50% plastic litter
- Reduce by at least 30% microplastics
- Reduce by at least 50% nutrient losses, chemical pesticides

INSPIRE will contribute to the drastic reduction of litter, including macro and microplastics, in European rivers, with a holistic approach conceptualized in the “DCP concept”:

- **DETECTION** of the pollution present in the river and at the riverbanks:

Meso/macro litter

Bridge mounted AI camera (VITO) & AI-enabled CCTV (AIT) for litter detection



AI enabled drones for riverbank monitoring



JRC Floating Litter Monitoring app & EEA Marine LitterWatch app



Micro litter

Ferrybox & Manta net & grab samplers for sampling different compartments



- **COLLECTION** of litter in the rivers and at the riverbanks:

Archimedean Drum Screw to capture debris and litter



Fish Friendly litter removing trawling net



River Cleaning System



CLEAN TRASH collection cage



CirCleaner litter removal system



Patje Plastic



Litter removal with citizen engagement



- **PREVENTION** of litter to enter the river by:

Collecting it from its waste stream

- Super-TW-Net filter
- Clera.One water recycling system
- EcoPlex Microplastic Remover
- Photocatalytic reactor



Developing alternatives for non-degradable polluting products

Mulch films and greenhouse films



Coating of paper cups and dishes



Coatings for food preservation applications



Cosmetic formulations without packaging



Zero-waste supply chain innovations



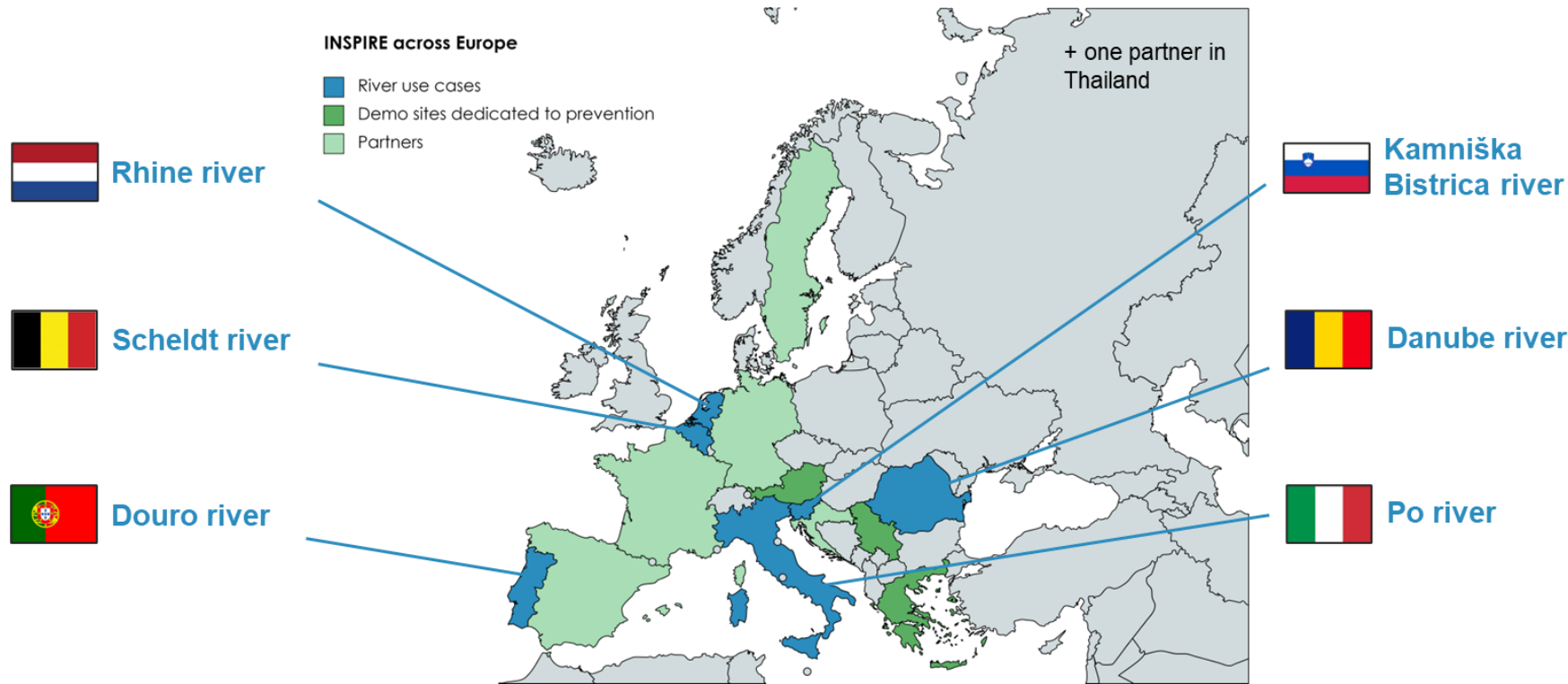
inspire-europe.org/solutions

We will develop, implement, test and validate methodologies and solutions to fight against the pollution of rivers by:

- Implementing and testing sets of solutions created by combining the different technologies and actions in **6 river use cases** and **≥ 3 circular solution test sites (Serbia, Greece and Austria)**.
- Assessing the **cost-benefit and sustainability** and **optimizing** the implemented measures with support from forecasting and modelling tools.
- Developing action plans using the data and results collected during the use cases and demo sites.



Developing of a modular **Master Plan (MaP)** for scaling up the solutions and offer 'fit for all' solutions applicable and replicable in all rivers in Europe.



Financial support to third parties: INSPIRE replication site application

Open Call

- INSPIRE will deploy **financial support to third parties (FSTP)** in order to ensure the scaling, replication and exploitation of the lessons learned from the use cases.
- In practice, this will be done through an **Open Call (OC)**.
- The aim is **boosting the deployment of technologies and actions** for detection, collection and prevention of litter, macro- and microplastics in European rivers.
- Through the OC procedure a number of **applications will be evaluated and selected**.
- The total available budget for the OC is € 500k, **each selected project will be granted €60k – 100k**.

CALL OPEN	EVALUATION	SELECTION AND GA	KICK-OFF PROJECT	END PROJECT
June 17–Nov 29 2024 17h00 Brussels time	Dec 2024–Jan 2025	Feb 2025	1 March 2025	28 February 2027



Thank you for your attention.

Contact:

Email: gert.everaert@vliz.be

Acknowledgements



The INSPIRE project is funded by the European Union under agreement ID 101112879.

INSPIRE Open Call

- Prof. Dr. Joydeep Dutta
- Chair professor KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)
- Bridging academia and industry
- 35 years of experience in sustainable engineering solutions in Food, Energy and Water applications
- Lead WP5





INSPIRE

Innovative Solutions for Plastic Free European Rivers

Welcome!

Joydeep Dutta

Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP)

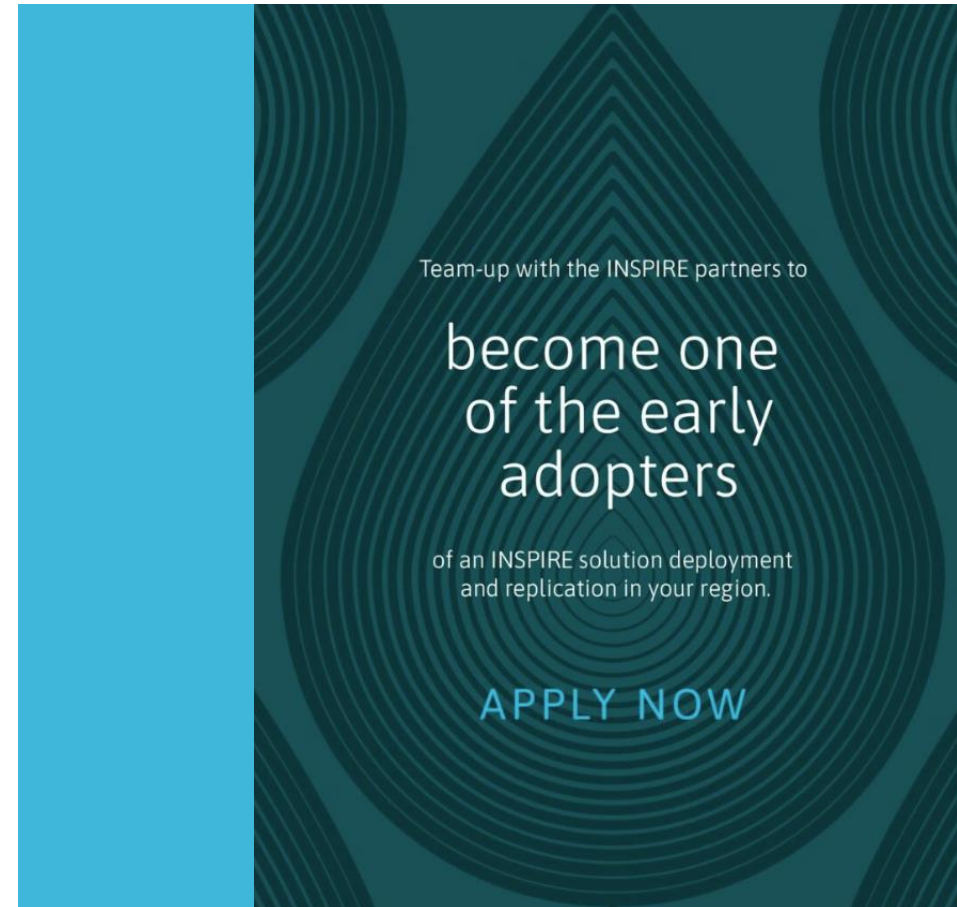
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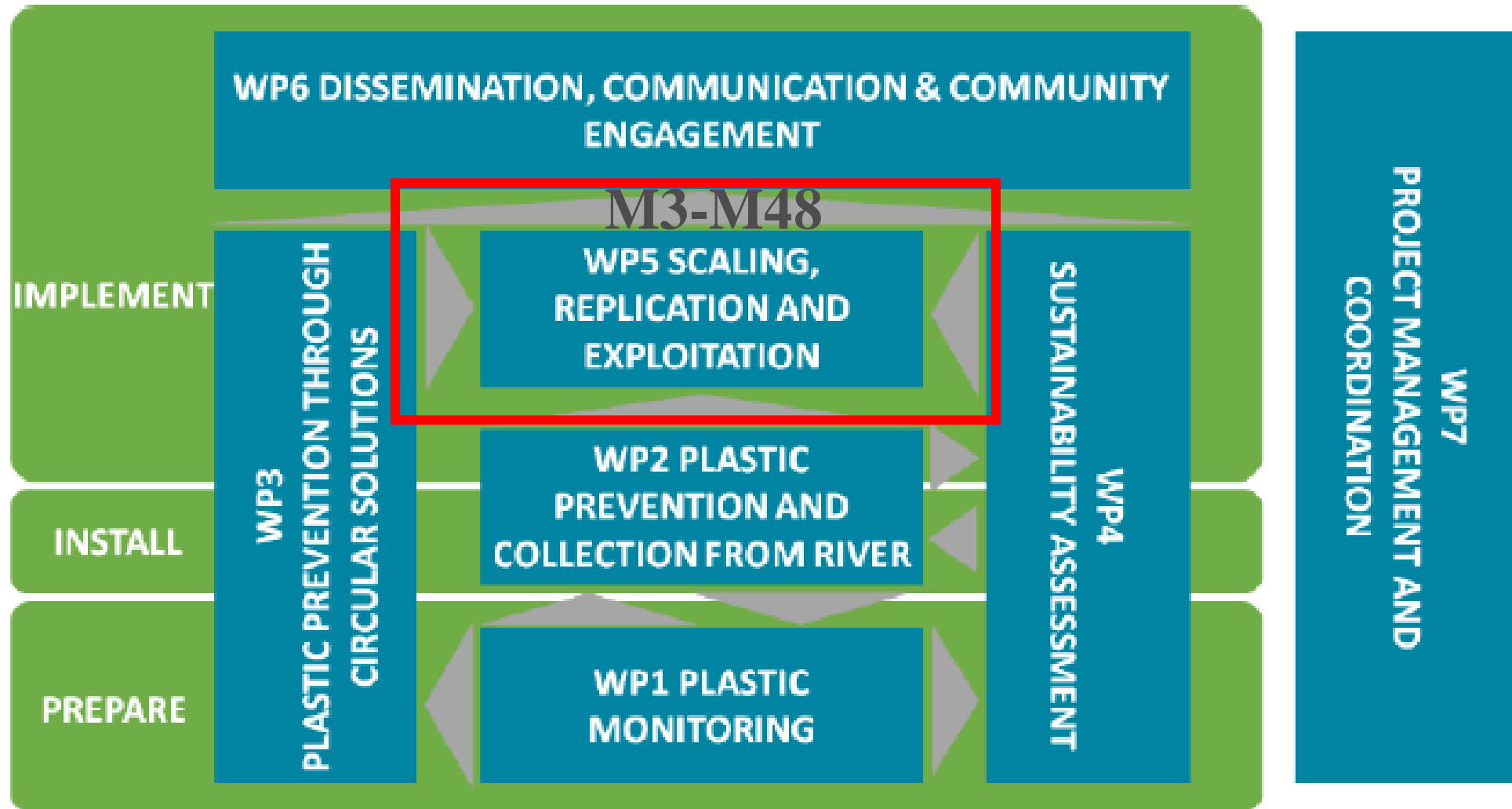
Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP)

1. Open call objective
2. Beneficiaries
3. Application Process
4. Timeline
5. Funding & Eligibility
6. Admissibility and Eligibility check
7. Evaluation
8. FAQ of the INSPIRE FSTP open call
9. Application template





INSPIRE Overall concept of integration of knowledge & expertise



PHASE II: INSTALL the means to develop the use cases

Open call objective: Associated Regions (AR)

- **Local and regional authorities** for scaling up, replication and exploitation of the lessons learnt from the project use cases.
- **Associated Regions** teaming-up with the INSPIRE partners to adopt and replicate the project's innovative solutions.
- Defined in INSPIRE as public entities that manage, regulate and supervise public welfare at local or regional level (e.g. city council, regional council, municipality, etc.).
- This call has a clear European dimension

Eligible Beneficiaries

- Local and regional authorities from European Union Member States, or Horizon Europe associated countries
- UK is eligible for the FSTP
- Applicants from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden are excluded from the list of potential beneficiaries).

Evaluation Criteria

The excellence of the proposals will use the following guidelines (25% weight each):

1. CONCEPT AND INNOVATION
2. EXPERTISE AND EXCELLENCE OF THE PROPOSED TEAM
3. ALIGNMENT AND PROJECT PLANNING
4. IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Application Process

Call opening date: June 17, 2024

Call closing date: November 29, 2024, 17h00 Brussels time

Single stage submission: through the INSPIRE website:
<https://inspire-europe.org/>

English language should be used for the proposal write-up

Evaluation, Grant & Reporting

Evaluation and selection: December 2024 – January 2025

Granting completed: February 2025

Project implementation (18 months):

From 1st March 2025 – 31st August 2026

Project reporting period (6 months):

1st September 2026 – 28th February 2027

Project end: 28th February 2027

Duration: 24 months

Funding & Eligibility

Maximum grant amount that each applicant from an Associated Region can apply is €100,000 and the minimum grant amount to be requested is €60,000.

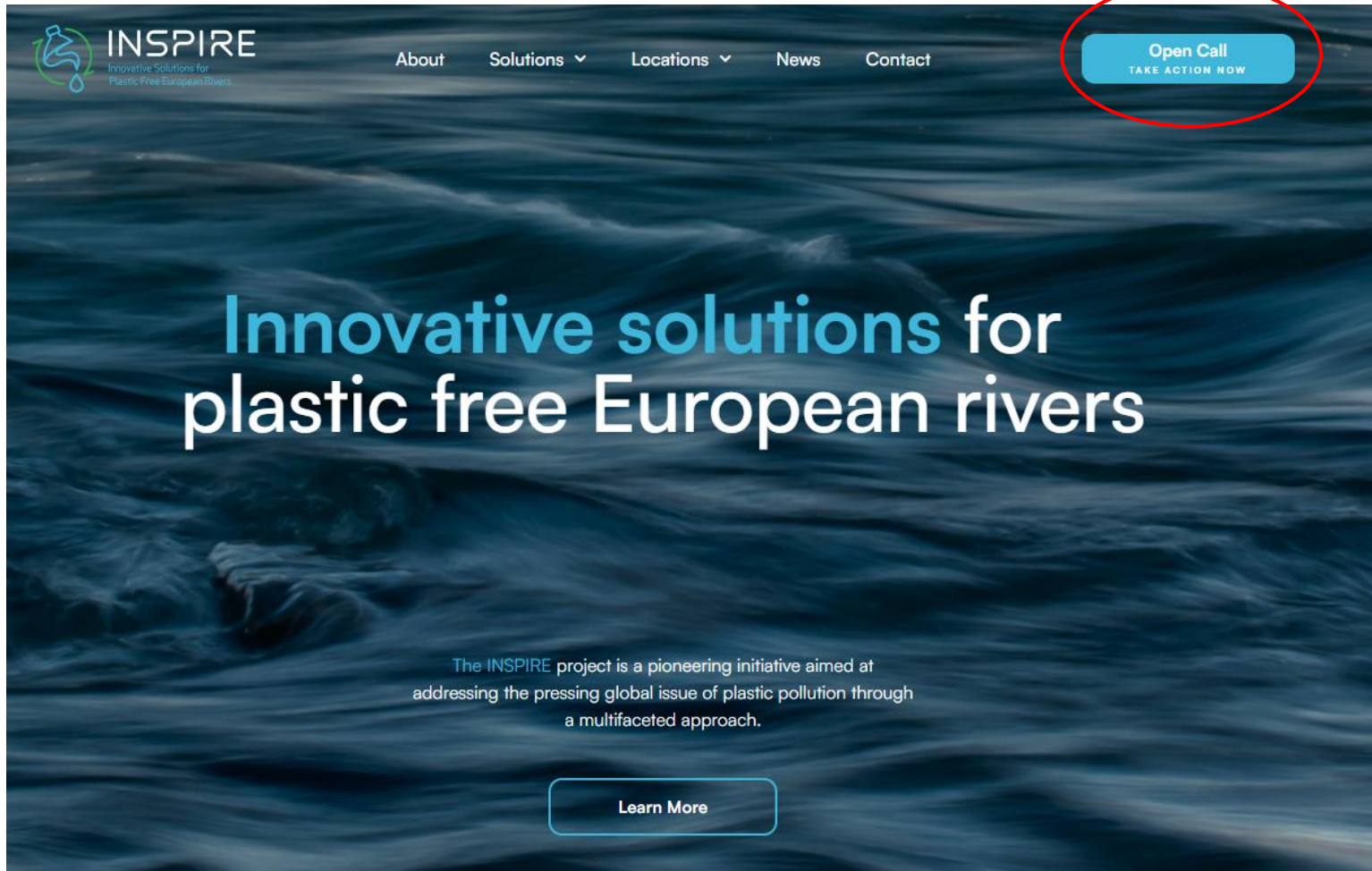
- 50 % at the start of the project
- 25 % after the evaluation of the first annual report
- 25 % after 18 months, upon reaching all milestones

Eligible Expenses

- Estimated budget presented in euros
- Staff costs: employment contract with the beneficiary
- Subcontracting costs based on actual incurred cost
- Limited goods or services
- Depreciation for purchase of equipment
- Flat-rate of 15% of the total eligible direct costs for the action
- Check the call for other details

Call Details

<https://inspire-europe.org/>



- All Open Call information
- Link to Application form
- Pdf and recording of Open Call webinar(s)
- Guidelines for Applicants
- FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Q&A

- Let's start with some questions we already received by e-mail
- Please ask your question via the Q&A (toolbar)

inspire-europe.org/open-call

Do we need to create an innovative system, or can we use any of the technologies which already exist?

>>> Associated regions are expected to team up with the INSPIRE partners to adopt and replicate the project's innovative solutions.

Once granted, the insights gained from the awarded project will be integrated in the modular Master Plan of INSPIRE

How many of the 20 technologies should be tested by one applicant?

>>> The grant is directed towards the costs of developing the roadmaps and strategies to scale up restoration actions in the replication sites (associated regions selected within this call). You will also receive technical mentorship and support from the INSPIRE consortium.

Is it possible to borrow the devices (e.g. drones and cameras) or should their purchase be included in the project budget?

>>> As a project, INSPIRE doesn't own the drones and cameras. We can connect you to relevant partners in the project and you may discuss this directly with them.

Is it possible to apply as a single organization without international or national partners?

>>> *Yes.*

However, it's encouraged that projects are proposed by one leading entity together with other partners.

Do we have to reach the percentages of reduction of litter and microplastic (at least 50% and 30%)

>>> You will have to justify why these percentages could not be reached. This will be evaluated by INSPIRE and an open dialogue will be instituted.

We will get 50% of the grant at the signature of the grant agreement. What happens if anything goes wrong with the project?

>>> This will be evaluated as per EU rules.

We'll need to prefinance 50% of our project. The first report is after 18 months or is there any earlier data?

>>>

Project implementation (18 months): From 1st March 2025 – 31st August 2026

Project reporting period (6 months): 1st September 2026 – 28th February 2027

Project end: 28th February 2027

- *50 % of the total INSPIRE contribution at the start of the project*
- *25 % of the total INSPIRE contribution after the evaluation of the first annual report, to be submitted at the end of the first 12 months of the project*
- *25 % of the total INSPIRE contribution after 18 months, upon reaching all milestones set up to month 18 of the project*

There's a 15% flat-rate in the grants costs. Does that mean we don't need to prove those 15% of costs with bills?

>>> Indirect costs are costs that cannot be identified as a specific cost directly linked to the project but are necessary to run, manage and administrate the beneficiary's organisation. They are limited to a flat-rate of 15% of the total eligible direct costs for the action.

Q&A

- Other questions via the Q&A (toolbar)...

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Thank you!

Visit our website for all information and FAQ's about this

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