

**Questions and answers related to the Digital Health Uptake Call for Twinnings 2023**  
(<https://digitalhealthuptake.eu/call-for-twinnings/>)

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**Q:** Could the application be submitted by two local hospitals in two different countries (one being the originator and one the adapter) or is necessarily to go through a local/regional authority?

**A:** The DHU Call for Twinnings refers to health and care providers, not specifically authorities. As such, the hospitals referred to in the question would be considered health providers and are sufficient for participating in the call.

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**Q:** Are UK entities eligible for funding in this project? According to the UKRI, while the association of the UK to Horizon Europe is lagging, UK organisations can apply as associated entities. Is this valid for this programme as well?

**A:** The DHU project and the DHU Call for Twinnings is not funded by the Horizon Europe programme, but by the DIGITAL Europe programme. Currently, the only eligible countries under it are EU-27 and EFTA countries, please see here: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/faqs/questions-and-answers-digital-europe-programme>

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**Q:** We primarily write consortia and structure bids and evaluate them and undertake dissemination, exploitation of results and other activities with large HE and innovation intermediary partners. I am reaching out to better understand if we are eligible to support the project as a third party and if you can please explain what that would entail? It was not clear to me what the €8000 fees are for? Is that to deliver or provide the SMEs with support?

**A:** Third parties like your organisation can be involved in a twinning in a supporting role. It is not clear from your question what the main beneficiaries from the twinning are. Please note that a twinning is primarily for an originator and adopter to exchange knowledge and scale up an existing solution from an originator to the adopter. The focus is on health and care providers exchanging knowledge, not on SMEs. If an SME is integral to an originator's ability to transfer knowledge to an adopter (e.g. because an SME has helped implement the solution at the originator's premises), the SME can participate as a third party, but there still has to be a clear originator and adopter in the twinning. The type of costs eligible through twinning grants are stated in the Call for Tender Documents, see last paragraph of section 1.3.

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**Q:** Can [a clinic from Papua New Guinea] apply for the proposal?

**A:** Papua New Guinea is not associated to the Digital Europe Programme, therefore entities from this country are not eligible for the DHU Call for Twinnings.

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**Q:** As you could see in the attached document, which is the 'List of Participating Countries in the Digital Europe Program', on page 1, it is stated: 'Turkey has started negotiations to join in the Digital Europe Program, but only to "Specific Objectives 1, 2, 4 and 5" (requested applicability from 01 January 2023'. Since January, the program has also been announced to the public officially in order to participate in the relevant calls. However, during the meeting, you stated that Turkey is not eligible. Can we please clarify this issue?

**A:** We have consulted with our funding body at DG CONNECT and can confirm that being in negotiations does not mean a country is eligible.

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**Q:** Would you please confirm the following entities can be applicants?

- Privately managed entities providing public healthcare services exclusively in a region through an agreement with the public health provider
- Private companies (SMEs or large companies) providing solutions that have been adopted and scaled up in a country/region

**A:** Privately managed entities that provide public health services can be considered health providers and fall within the scope of the call. As mentioned in the call, the focus for the originator and adopter is on health providers. If an SME is integral to an originator's ability to transfer knowledge to an adopter (e.g. because an SME has helped implement the solution at the originator's premises), the SME can participate as a third party, but there still has to be a clear originator and adopter in the twinning.

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**Q:** I am writing you regarding our intention to submit an application for the twinning call. I am a professor based in Germany and we wish to partner with two UK universities. My question is: Would that be possible? Are there any specific conditions to that?

**A:** The UK is currently not eligible under the Digital Europe Programme, please refer to: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/faqs/questions-and-answers-digital-europe-programme>

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**Q:** I would like to know:

- Whether the application form has to be filled in coordination with an adopter (we are an originator)
- Whether the adopter has to be from a different country or a different region of Spain would be enough.
- Whether covered costs could include IT costs for a pilot program with the adopter.

**A:** twinning application must be submitted by a single organisation willing to become a Twinning Contractor. A Twinning Contractor can be a Twinning Originator, a Twinning Adopter region or a Third Party. Hence, you do not need to submit the application in collaboration with a twinning adopter.

The pure submission of the application should be done by the Twinning Contractor, which can be you as an Originator. However, it is expected that there is collaboration with the Adopter(s) in preparing the application and necessary documents, as well as commitment by the Adopter(s) to participate in the twinning if awarded.

Twinning Originator and Twinning Adopter(s) must be from different countries.

Regarding IT costs: The type of costs eligible through twinning grants are stated in the Call for Twinning documents, see last paragraph of section 1.3.

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**Q:** I work as a funding specialist at [redacted] which is a medtech start-up. I would like to know:

- are only specific types of organizations eligible to apply?
- how many organizations are to be part of a consortium? can it be more than 2?
- what type of organization is supposed to be a project leader? can it be private or should it come from a public partner?

**A:** The call explains that the focus of the twinning scheme is on health and care providers who wish to transfer knowledge among each other. There can be more than two organisations participating in a twinning (e.g. several adopters or a third party that supports the twinning), but the twinning budget does not increase for multiple adopters. A Twinning Contractor can be a Twinning Originator, a

Twinning Adopter region or a Third Party. Hence, you do not need to submit the application in collaboration with a twinning adopter.

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**Q:** We are members of [redacted] (the twinning adopter), a network of living labs in digital health. We would like to know if we could create a proposal with a European living lab related to digital health as a twinning originator. Because we want to adopt in our region the living lab's innovative good practices and the successful services they are providing around Europe. A living lab does not develop digital solutions on its own, but they are the main responsible to help digital solutions get to the market and scale-up through innovative services and business model. So we believe that with this twinning we could adopt good practices that would bring help to many innovative digital solutions to scale up through the services of our living labs. We would also like to know if we could create a "1:many" twinning.

**A:** The proposal to develop a Twinning using a Living Lab as the originator is an interesting proposition and would be eligible under the Twinning criteria. We would ask however that your application should demonstrate how the learning will help in the development of the Living Lab models for Digital Solutions in the Adopter(s) region(s). Twinning can be 1 to 1; i.e. 1 Originator to 1 Adopter region; or 1 to Many; i.e. 1 Originator to two or more Adopters.

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