



ADMISSION AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

All applications will be evaluated according to the following requirements:

- Admission criteria
- Eligibility criteria
- Award criteria

Admission criteria:

- 1) Project proposals must be submitted **in full administrative conformity** (in due time, through the EMS platform, and including all the application documentation/forms duly completed).
- 2) Project proposals must be submitted in English only.

Eligibility criteria

I. **Eligible partners:**

In order to be eligible, the partners (lead applicants and partners) must:

- a) be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.: (*Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden*), **COSME associated countries** (*Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine*) or *United Kingdom*.
- b) be legal entities forming a consortium, including:
 - SME under the [EU definition](#) (Staff headcount <250 and either Turnover<= €50M or Balance sheet total <=€43M). SME companies must be legally established for at least six months prior to the signature of the partnership agreement
 - self-employed professionals. They must be legally established according to the laws of each participating country, as of the signature of the grant agreement, and at least during the whole duration of their project implementation
 - private non-for-profit organisations
 - private for-profit organisations
 - other entities, such as: universities, research organisations, design labs etc if justified as relevant to the project
- c) be active in any of the **eligible lifestyle industry sectors**: *textile/fashion, footwear, leather/fur, furniture/home decoration/interior design/architecture, jewellery, and accessories*. and have any of the following **business activities**: *design, manufacturing/craftsmanship, technology development*
- d) Partners must not be in process of receivership or bankruptcy.

Notes:

- Large companies are not eligible.
- The lead applicants and partners will be required to complete a registration form where these eligibility criteria will be checked.



II. **Eligible partnerships**

- a) Applications must be submitted by partnerships consisting of minimum two and maximum three **eligible partners**.
- b) Partnerships must be **transnational**, meaning that members must come from **at least 2 different [EU or COSME associated countries or United Kingdom](#)**.
- c) Each partnership will nominate a lead applicant. **The lead applicant can only be an SME or a self-employed professional.**
- d) At least two of the following **roles** must be represented in the partnership: *i) designer/creative; ii) manufacturer/crafter/maker, iii) technology developer/technology supplier/technology owner; However, the role of: i) designer/creative is mandatory for each eligible partnership.*
- e) Partnerships must address solutions for the **eligible lifestyle industry sectors** including *textile/fashion, footwear, leather/fur, furniture/home decoration/interior design/architecture, jewellery, and accessories.*
- f) Applicants can only participate in one submitted application per call.
- g) Already awarded under previous WORTH calls can participate in this future calls only if the project idea is completely different from the one awarded in previous WORTH.
- h) The technology provider/owner/supplier must own or have the right to freely use the relevant technologies to be applied¹

¹ At the stage of the application, no official proof will be requested. However, all technology providers/owners will be asked to submit supporting documents confirming either their ownership or the right to use freely the relevant technologies at the later stage of the final evaluation, selection and validation in case they become finalists.