



OC#1 FAQ

Sub-title here if needed

Revision: v 1

Grant Agreement No: 101189819
Call: HORIZON-CL4-2024-DATA-01

| Topic: HORIZON-CL4-2024-DATA-01-03
| Type of action: HORIZON-IA

DISCLAIMER



Co-funded by
the European Union

Project funded by



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Education,
Research and Innovation SERI

Co-funded by the European Union (COP-PILOT, 101189819). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them. This work has received funding from the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI).

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

© 2025 – 2027 COP-PILOT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
COP-PILOT OPEN CALL #1: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	5
1.1 General Information about COP-PILOT	5
Q1: What is COP-PILOT?.....	5
Q2: What are the main objectives of COP-PILOT?	5
Q3: How does COP-PILOT align with Horizon Europe objectives?	5
Q4: What sectors does COP-PILOT serve?	6
Q5: When is COP-PILOT Open Call #1 happening?	7
Q6: What is the total budget available?.....	7
Q7: Where do I submit my proposal?.....	8
Q8: Can I contact the organizers before submitting?.....	8
Q9: Who is eligible to apply?	8
Q10: Can I apply as a consortium?	10
Q11: What does "affiliated entity" mean and how does it affect eligibility?	10
Q12: Are startups eligible?	10
Q13: Can UK organizations apply?	11
Q14: Can Swiss organizations apply?.....	11
Q15: What documents are mandatory for submission?.....	12
Q16: What should the Proposal include?	12
Q17: What is the page limit for the proposal?	13
Q18: What language must I use?	13
Q19: How do I know if my proposal was submitted successfully?	13
Q20: Can I submit multiple proposals?	13
Q21: Can I revise my proposal after submission?	14
Q22: What happens if my submission is incomplete?	14
Q23: What file naming format should I use?	15
Q24: How will my proposal be evaluated?	15
Q25: What are the evaluation criteria?.....	16
Q26: What is the minimum score to pass?	17
Q27: Who evaluates my proposal?	17
Q28: Can I appeal the evaluation results?	18
Q29: What costs are eligible for funding?	18
Q31: Is co-financing required?	19
Q32: Can I request more than €200,000?.....	20
Q33: How do I calculate eligible costs?.....	20
Q34: What documentation do I need for financial records?.....	20

Q35: Which cluster should I apply to?	21
Q36: Can I apply to multiple clusters?	22
Q37: What's unique about the Mining cluster?	22
Q38: What's unique about the Smart Cities cluster?	23
Q39: What's unique about the Energy cluster?	24
Q40: What's unique about the Agriculture cluster?	24
Q41: What's unique about the Smart Vineyards cluster?	25
Q42: What technical specifications are required for the COP-PILOT platform?	26
Q43: Can I use my own infrastructure or must I use COP-PILOT's?	26
Q44: What is the LLM-UI plugin and how can I use it?	27
Q45: What is the Secure Integration Fabric (SIF)?	27
Q46: What is expected regarding open-source and GitHub?	29
Q47: What are Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and what should I include?	30
Q48: Who owns the results and intellectual property?	31
Q49: Can I commercialize my results?	31
Q50: Do I have to publish my results?	31
Q51: What if my work has sensitive information?	32
Q52: How do I get more information about COP-PILOT?	33
Q54: Can I find partnering organizations or form a consortium?	35
Q55: What if I have a technical question about my specific cluster?	35
Q56: What should I do if I encounter technical problems with the submission portal?	36
Q57: How will I be notified of the evaluation results?	36
Q59: What happens after my project ends?	37

COP-PILOT OPEN CALL #1: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1.1 GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COP-PILOT

Q1: WHAT IS COP-PILOT?

COP-PILOT is a Horizon Europe Innovation Action (Grant Agreement No. 101189819) developing a **Collaborative Open Platform (COP)** that enables end-to-end service orchestration across multiple domains and sectors. The platform integrates AI-driven tools, SLA-preserving automation, and secure infrastructure to support real-world applications in energy, smart cities, agriculture, mining, and manufacturing. It addresses the fragmentation between IoT, edge computing, and cloud systems through standardized interfaces and zero-trust networking.

Q2: WHAT ARE THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF COP-PILOT?

COP-PILOT has three primary objectives:

1. **Open Multi-Layer Orchestration Platform:** Develop an orchestration platform for managing collaborative applications across heterogeneous domains using the IoT-to-edge-to-core computing continuum.
2. **AI-Based Service Onboarding:** Create advanced AI-driven extensions (LLM-UI plugin) reducing complexity in onboarding large-scale services with automatic SLA compliance.
3. **Auto-Pilot Tool:** Enable infrastructure owners to securely register domain clusters, automate expansion, and manage access through declarative policies using standardized TMF data models and APIs.

Do you want to know more about all COP-PILOT Objectives go to <https://cop-pilot.eu/about#objectives>.

Q3: HOW DOES COP-PILOT ALIGN WITH HORIZON EUROPE OBJECTIVES?

COP-PILOT is funded under **HORIZON-CL4-2024-DATA-01-03** (Data, Computing and Digitization). It advances EU strategic objectives in:

- Digital sovereignty and open digital infrastructure
- Cross-sector innovation and collaboration
- European competitiveness in cloud-edge-IoT technologies
- Green digital transformation across sectors

Q4: WHAT SECTORS DOES COP-PILOT SERVE?

COP-PILOT operates across four piloting clusters:

- CL1 Mining (Sweden): Real-time operations and predictive analytics
- CL2 Smart Cities & Buildings (Valencia, Spain): IoT platform for urban management
- CL3a Agriculture (Central Macedonia, Greece): Precision farming and supply chain
- CL3e Energy (Preveza, Greece): Edge intelligence for grid reliability
- CL4 Smart Vineyards (Multiple sites): Multi-domain IoT ecosystems

Open Call #1 Details

Q5: WHEN IS COP-PILOT OPEN CALL #1 HAPPENING?

Element	Details
Opening Date	16 February 2026, 09:00 CET
Submission Deadline	17 April 2026, 17:00 CET (STRICT)
Evaluation Timeline	May 2026
Winners Announced	June 2026
Project Start	June 2026
Project End	February 2027
Expected Duration	8 months

Q6: WHAT IS THE TOTAL BUDGET AVAILABLE?

- **Total Budget:** €1,600,000
- **Maximum per Project:** €200,000
- **Expected Projects Funded:** 8 projects (minimum)
- **Funding Model:** 100% of eligible costs (no co-financing required)
- **Funded Projects per Cluster:** 1-2 projects

Q7: WHERE DO I SUBMIT MY PROPOSAL?

Submissions are made exclusively through the **COP-PILOT online portal** at <https://cop-pilot.eu/>. The portal opens on 16 February 2026. All submissions must include:

- Completed Proposal Template (PDF)
- Signed Declaration of Honour (PDF)
- SME Checklist (if applicable, PDF)
- Consortium Agreement (if applicable, PDF) Late submissions will NOT be accepted.

Q8: CAN I CONTACT THE ORGANIZERS BEFORE SUBMITTING?

Yes. The COP-PILOT team offers support:

Support Type	Contact
General Questions	opencalls@cop-pilot.eu
Technical Support	IT info@cop-pilot.eu
Appeals	opencalls@cop-pilot.eu
Webinar	March 2026, 14:00 CET

Submit questions no later than **7 calendar days before the deadline** (9 April 2026).

Eligibility and Participation

Q9: WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

1. Your organization must be:

- ✓ Registered in an EU Member State or [Horizon Europe Associated Country](#)
- ✓ Not bankrupt or subject to insolvency proceedings

- ✓ Not guilty of grave professional misconduct or fraud
- ✓ Compliant with tax and social security obligations

Eligible Organization Types:

- Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Leader
- Large enterprises
- Research institutions and universities
- Non-profit organization
- Public entities (where permitted)

Non-Eligible:

- X Affiliated entities of COP-PILOT consortium partners
- X Organizations from ineligible countries
- X Bankrupt or fraudulent organizations
- X Organizations legally created after the start of the OC.

Q10: CAN I APPLY AS A CONSORTIUM?

Yes. Consortia are eligible. Requirements:

- **Minimum:** 2 organizations
- **Maximum:** recommended 5 organizations, no maximum defined.
- **One SME coordinator** designated to sign the agreement and manage the grant
- **Consortium Agreement** required

Q11: WHAT DOES "AFFILIATED ENTITY" MEAN AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT ELIGIBILITY?

An affiliated entity has a legal or capital connection with a COP-PILOT partner. Specifically:

- Any legal entity under direct/indirect control of a partner
- Any entity sharing the same direct/indirect control as partners
- Any entity directly/indirectly controlling partners

Affiliated entities are NOT eligible to apply. If unsure, contact opencalls@cop-pilot.eu with your organization details.

Q12: ARE STARTUPS ELIGIBLE?

Yes. Startups are eligible if they:

- Are legally registered in an eligible country
- Meet all standard eligibility criteria
- Can provide required documentation
- Are classified as SMEs or microenterprises (if size matters for your case)

Startups are particularly encouraged, with SME participation receiving additional evaluation points.

Q13: CAN UK ORGANIZATIONS APPLY?

Yes, but with conditions:

- UK-based organizations can participate in the Open Call
- UK-based organizations cannot receive Horizon Europe funding
- Applicants from UK may participate in consortia with eligible EU/Associated Country partners (as non-funded partners)
- If your consortium includes UK partners, they must not be the only recipients of funding

Q14: CAN SWISS ORGANIZATIONS APPLY?

Yes, but with conditions:

- Swiss-based organizations can participate in the Open Call
- Swiss-based organizations cannot receive Horizon Europe funding
- Applicants from Switzerland may participate in consortia with eligible EU/Associated Country partners (as non-funded partners)

Submission Process and Requirements

Q15: WHAT DOCUMENTS ARE MANDATORY FOR SUBMISSION?

MANDATORY documents (must be in PDF):

1. **Proposal** (completed sections)
2. **Declaration of Honour** (signed)
3. **SME Checklist**
4. **Consortium Agreement** (if applicable)

Q16: WHAT SHOULD THE PROPOSAL INCLUDE?

The Proposal has 3 mandatory sections:

Section	Content	Max Length
1	Excellence	
2	Impact	
3	Implementation	
TOTAL	Proposal maximum	12 pages

Q17: WHAT IS THE PAGE LIMIT FOR THE PROPOSAL?

Maximum: 12 pages including all sections. This does NOT include:

- Declaration of Honour
- SME Checklist
- Consortium Agreement
- Annexes (if referenced max 3)

All text must be in 11-point font minimum with standard margins.

Q18: WHAT LANGUAGE MUST I USE?

English is mandatory. All proposals must be submitted in English:

- Proposal template
- Declaration of Honour
- All supporting documents

Proposals in other languages will be rejected.

Q19: HOW DO I KNOW IF MY PROPOSAL WAS SUBMITTED SUCCESSFULLY?

After submitting:

1. You will receive a **confirmation email** immediately
2. Save this email for your records
3. The email will contain your **submission ID** (reference number)
4. Use this ID for any follow-up correspondence
5. Check your spam folder if you don't receive it within 24 hours

Q20: CAN I SUBMIT MULTIPLE PROPOSALS?

Yes, you may submit multiple different proposals, but:

- A proposer/consortium can only be **SELECTED FOR FUNDING** for **ONE** proposal
- If multiple proposals are ranked high enough for selection, you must choose which one to retain
- The COP-PILOT team will notify you if this situation applies
- Ensure each proposal is distinct and addresses different challenges/clusters

Q21: CAN I REVISE MY PROPOSAL AFTER SUBMISSION?

Multiple submissions are not allowed.

Process:

1. Submit proposal by the deadline
2. Do NOT wait until the last minute - submit early to ensure no technical issues

Q22: WHAT HAPPENS IF MY SUBMISSION IS INCOMPLETE?

Incomplete submissions will be **rejected at the admissibility check stage**. Ensure:

- All mandatory fields in the online form are filled
- All mandatory PDF documents are uploaded
- Sections 1-3 of the proposal are completed
- Declaration of Honour is signed and dated
- All documents are in PDF format (not Word, not other formats)
- File names follow the required format

Q23: WHAT FILE NAMING FORMAT SHOULD I USE?

Recommended format for PDFs:

(Acronym)_CPOC1_Proposal_(SubmissionDateDDMMYY).pdf

Example:

SMARTGRID_CPOC1_Proposal_150302026.pdf

Other mandatory documents:

- Declaration of Honour: [Acronym]_DeclarationOfHonour_[Date].pdf
- SME Checklist: [Acronym]_SMEChecklist_[Date].pdf
- Consortium Agreement: [Acronym]_ConsortiumAgreement_[Date].pdf **(if applicable)**

Evaluation Criteria and Process

Q24: HOW WILL MY PROPOSAL BE EVALUATED?

The evaluation process has **5 steps**:

Step	Process	Timeline	Duration
1	Eligibility Check	April	1 week
2	Feasibility Screening	April	1 week
3	Independent Expert Scoring	April-May 26	4 weeks
4	Consensus Meeting	May 2026	1 week
5	Notification	May 2026	1 week

Q25: WHAT ARE THE EVALUATION CRITERIA?

Your proposal is scored on **3 criteria** out of **100 total points**:

Criterion	Score	Minimum	Weight	Score
Excellence & Methodology	5	3	40%	40
Ambition & Innovation	5	3	30%	30
Impact & Strategic Fit	5	3	30%	30
Total	15	9	-	100

Q26: WHAT IS THE MINIMUM SCORE TO PASS?

You must achieve BOTH:

- Minimum 60 out of 100 total points (threshold score)
- Minimum score in each individual criterion (see table above)

If you fail either threshold, your proposal is rejected even if the other is met.

Q27: WHO EVALUATES MY PROPOSAL?

Evaluation process involves:

- Initial Screening: COP-PILOT consortium staff (eligibility + feasibility)
- Independent Experts: Minimum 2 external experts per proposal
 - Not affiliated with COP-PILOT consortium
 - No conflicts of interest
 - Independent scoring
 - Experts in your technical domain

Consensus Meeting: External experts + COP-PILOT representatives

- Discuss all proposals
- Reconcile different expert opinions
- Rank proposals
- Prepare reserve list

Q28: CAN I APPEAL THE EVALUATION RESULTS?

Yes. **Appeal process:**

1. **Timeline:** Within 15 calendar days of notification
2. **Contact:** opencalls@cop-pilot.eu
3. **Format:** Submit appeal in writing with justification
4. **Grounds:** Material errors in evaluation process or evaluation criteria application
5. **Note:** Appeals on scoring disagreements alone are unlikely to be successful

Appeals must be substantive and point to specific errors in process or criteria application.

2. Funding and Financial Matters

Q29: WHAT COSTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING?

Eligible direct costs:

- ✓ **Personnel:** Salaries for project staff working on the project
- ✓ **Travel:** Meetings, conferences, site visits, webinars (up to €1,000/person/month average)
- ✓ **Equipment:** Computing hardware, sensors, software licenses (with justification)
- ✓ **Subcontracting:** Outsourced services (with clear justification and competitive quotes)
- ✓ **Other Direct Costs:** Consumables, services, publications, training materials
- ✓ **Indirect Costs:** Maximum 25% of direct costs (flat rate)

Non-eligible costs:

- X Loan or debt repayment
- X Purchase of land or buildings
- X Profit or contingency reserves
- X Salaries for time not directly related to the project
- X Excessive travel costs (>€1,000/person/month average)
- X Costs already funded by another source

Q30: WHAT IS THE BUDGET PAYMENT SCHEDULE?

Two-installment payment structure:

Payment	Amount	Timing	Condition
1st Installment	50% of maximum grant	Upon Sub-Grant Agreement signature	June 2026 (approx.)
2nd Installment	50% of maximum grant	After final report approval	February 2027 (approx.)

Q31: IS CO-FINANCING REQUIRED?

No co-financing is required. COP-PILOT provides 100% funding of eligible costs. However:

- You must document all eligible costs with receipts Only costs up to your approved budget are funded
- Any in-kind contributions should be documented but aren't mandatory

Q32: CAN I REQUEST MORE THAN €200,000?

No. Maximum funding is strictly €200,000 per project. This is a hard limit and cannot be exceeded. If your budget requires more, you must:

1. Reduce scope
2. Increase in-kind contributions
3. Find additional funding sources (co-financing)

Q33: HOW DO I CALCULATE ELIGIBLE COSTS?

Example breakdown:

Cost Category	Amount	Notes
Personnel (3 people, 8 months)	€80,000	3 FTE × €33,000/8 months
Travel	€8,000	Meetings, site visits (within limits)
Equipment	€20,000	Computing hardware, sensors
Subcontracting	€30,000	External expertise (with quotes)
Direct Costs Subtotal	€138,000	
Indirect Costs (25%)	€34,500	Auto-calculated, max 25%
TOTAL	€172,500	Must be ≤ €200,000

Q34: WHAT DOCUMENTATION DO I NEED FOR FINANCIAL RECORDS?

If your project is funded, you must maintain:

- ✓ Original invoices and receipts
- ✓ Timesheets for personnel (monthly minimum)
- ✓ Bank transfer evidence
- ✓ Equipment inventory documentation
- ✓ Subcontract agreements and invoices
- ✓ Travel justifications and receipts
- ✓ Project modifications/amendment records

Retention period: All financial records must be kept for **6 years** from project end date and be ready for audit at any time.

Cluster-Specific Questions

Q35: WHICH CLUSTER SHOULD I APPLY TO?

You must choose ONE cluster based on your solution. Your options:

Cluster	Location	Focus	Best For
CL1: Mining	Sweden	Real-time mining ops, predictive analytics, autonomous systems	Solutions for resource extraction, IoT monitoring underground

Cluster	Location	Focus	Best For
CL2: Smart Cities	Valencia, Spain	Urban infrastructure, IoT platform, traffic/environmental monitoring	Smart city applications, urban IoT, sustainability
CL3E: Energy	Preveza, Greece	Grid reliability, renewable integration, edge intelligence	Smart grid, renewable energy management

CL3A: Agriculture	Central Macedonia, Greece	Precision farming, supply chain, blockchain integration	AgriTech, farm management, traceability
CL4: Manufacturing/Vineyards	Multiple sites	Multi-domain IoT, industrial automation	Manufacturing systems, winery management

Q36: CAN I APPLY TO MULTIPLE CLUSTERS?

No. Each proposal targets **ONE** cluster only. However:

- You may submit multiple proposals (one per cluster) if relevant
- But only **ONE** can be selected for funding
- Each proposal should address that specific cluster's objectives
- If multiple are selected, you choose which to pursue

Q37: WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THE MINING CLUSTER?

Focus: Business integration and real-time operations in harsh underground environments

Key objectives:

- Real-time monitoring and predictive analytics • Autonomous systems integration
- Edge-to-cloud computing for mining operations • Safety and efficiency improvements
- Integration with COP-PILOT infrastructure in Sweden

Relevant solutions:

- IoT sensor networks for underground monitoring • Predictive maintenance systems
- Real-time operational dashboards
- Autonomous equipment coordination
- Data analytics for ore/resource optimization

Q38: WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THE SMART CITIES CLUSTER?

Focus: Urban IoT platforms for sustainable city management

Key objectives:

- Multi-sensor IoT integration across urban infrastructure Real-time data from traffic, environment, waste systems Edge intelligence for smart decision-making
- Cross-sector city management

Relevant solutions:

- Traffic management systems
- Environmental monitoring platforms
- Smart waste management
- Urban mobility optimization
- Building energy management
- Air quality monitoring

Q39: WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THE ENERGY CLUSTER?

Focus: Grid reliability and renewable energy integration through edge intelligence

Key objectives:

- Real-time energy management in renewable-rich grids
- Distributed edge computing for grid optimization
- Forecasting and demand-response automation
- Grid stability and reliability

Relevant solutions:

- Renewable energy forecasting systems
- Distributed energy resource management
- Microgrid control systems
- Demand-response automation
- Grid anomaly detection and prevention
- Real-time energy analytics

Q40: WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THE AGRICULTURE CLUSTER?

Focus: Precision farming and sustainable agricultural transformation

Key objectives:

- Precision agriculture using IoT and edge computing
- Supply chain transparency and traceability
- Sustainability and ESG compliance
- Blockchain-based supply chain
- Data-driven farming decisions

Relevant solutions:

- Precision irrigation systems Crop health monitoring
- Supply chain transparency platforms Blockchain traceability systems

- Agricultural data analytics Sustainability reporting tools

Q41: WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THE SMART VINEYRADS CLUSTER?

Focus: Multi-domain IoT for industrial operations and product traceability

Key objectives:

- Real-time production monitoring
- Autonomous systems coordination
- Cross-domain manufacturing orchestration
- Quality assurance and traceability
- Sustainability in manufacturing

Relevant solutions:

- Production line monitoring systems
- Quality control automation
- Supply chain integration
- Equipment predictive maintenance
- Manufacturing data analytics
- Sustainability tracking systems

Technical and Infrastructure Questions

Q42: WHAT TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE COP-PILOT PLATFORM?

COP-PILOT platform standards:

- **APIs:** TMForum (TMF) data models and REST APIs
- **Standards:** ETSI (OSI, ZSM, CIM), 3GPP, SDN standards
- **Interoperability:** Open interfaces for northbound/southbound communication
- **Orchestration:** Kubernetes and cloud-native technologies
- **Security:** Zero-trust networking, end-to-end encryption

Data: Federated data management, GDPR compliance Your solution must:

- ✓ Use standardized APIs (TMF-based)
- ✓ Comply with ETSI standards
- ✓ Be containerized (Docker/Kubernetes ready)
- ✓ Support integration with COP-PILOT orchestrators

Q43: CAN I USE MY OWN INFRASTRUCTURE OR MUST I USE COP-PILOT'S?

You can use your own infrastructure IF:

1. You follow COP-PILOT workflow for infrastructure integration (Workflow 2)
2. You expose your resources through COP-PILOT's standardized interfaces
3. Your infrastructure can integrate with the Secure Integration Fabric (SIF)
4. You're willing to federate your resources with other COP-PILOT domains

3. OR use COP-PILOT infrastructure if:

Your cluster provides access to testbeds/compute resources

You deploy on provided infrastructure

You validate the platform in real-world environments

Preference is for solutions that **demonstrate cross-domain collaboration** using existing COP-PILOT infrastructure.

Q44: WHAT IS THE LLM-UI PLUGIN AND HOW CAN I USE IT?

LLM-UI Plugin: Large Language Model-based interface for service onboarding

What it does:

- Translates natural language descriptions into orchestration blueprints
- Accepts diverse inputs: text, images, code artifacts
- Auto-generates deployment manifests
- Simplifies complex orchestration configuration

How to use it in your proposal:

- If you're onboarding a new service (Workflow 1), you can leverage the LLM-UI
- Upload your service definition (container images, Helm charts, Kubernetes manifests)
- The LLM-UI translates this into a COP-PILOT-compatible blueprint
- Reduces configuration complexity and onboarding time

Q45: WHAT IS THE SECURE INTEGRATION FABRIC (SIF)?

SIF: Software-defined zero-trust networking infrastructure

Key features:

- Zero-trust architecture (verify every connection)
- End-to-end encryption without VPNs
- On-the-fly secure tunnels between domains
- Dynamic policy management
- Built on OpenZiti technology

Your solution may use SIF for:

- Secure cross-domain communication
- Data federation between clusters
- Federated service access
- Policy-driven resource exposure

Q46: WHAT IS EXPECTED REGARDING OPEN-SOURCE AND GITHUB?

Open Science and Replicability Principles:

- ✓ Share code and data where possible
- ✓ Use public repositories (GitHub, GitLab)
- ✓ Open-source licenses (Apache 2.0, MIT, etc.)
- ✓ Documentation for reproducibility
- ✓ As Open As Possible, As Closed As Necessary

Your project should:

- Publish code to GitHub/GitLab
- Use proper open-source licenses
- Document your code and deployment process
- Share anonymized data (where privacy permits)
- Contribute findings back to COP-PILOT ecosystem

Q47: WHAT ARE KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIS) AND WHAT SHOULD I INCLUDE?

KPIs measure success of your solution: Example KPIs:

- Service deployment time (minutes)
- Platform scalability (number of devices/domains)
- Data throughput (GB/sec)
- Latency (milliseconds)
- Availability/uptime (%)
- Cost efficiency (€/operation)
- User adoption rate (%)
- Energy efficiency (W per transaction)

Your proposal should:

- Define 5-10 specific, measurable KPIs
- Set realistic targets for 8-month project
- Explain how you'll measure each KPI
- Show baseline (current state) if applicable
- Link KPIs to cluster objectives

Intellectual Property and Results

Q48: WHO OWNS THE RESULTS AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY?

IP Ownership:

- Results Generated by Your Organization: Owned by you (the applicant/third party)
- Platform Components: Available under specified open-source licenses
- Joint Results: Ownership per collaboration agreement
- COP-PILOT Access: You grant COP-PILOT consortium license to use results for platform improvement

Your rights:

- You retain full IP ownership of your innovations You can commercialize your results
- You must allow COP-PILOT to use your contributions for ecosystem purposes

Q49: CAN I COMMERCIALIZE MY RESULTS?

Yes, absolutely. You can:

- ✓ Patent your innovations
- ✓ Create commercial products from results
- ✓ License your technology to others
- ✓ Start a company based on your work
- ✓ Partner with commercial entities for uptake

Obligation:

- You must acknowledge COP-PILOT funding in commercialization materials
- You should contribute improvements back to platform (where synergistic)
- Grant Agreement obligations still apply

Q50: DO I HAVE TO PUBLISH MY RESULTS?

Publication is strongly encouraged but not mandatory:

- **Recommended:** Publish in academic journals or at conferences
- **Mandatory acknowledgment:** Must mention COP-PILOT funding in any publication
- **Open Science:** EC encourages open-access publishing
- **Data:** Share data where privacy/confidentiality allows
- **Code:** Publish code to GitHub/GitLab with open-source license

Principle: "As Open As Possible, As Closed As Necessary"

Q51: WHAT IF MY WORK HAS SENSITIVE INFORMATION?

Legitimate reasons for confidentiality are recognized:

- Trade secrets or proprietary information
- Security-critical systems (can't expose details) • Personal data (GDPR restrictions)
- Commercial sensitivity

Process:

1. Clearly identify confidential sections in reports
2. Justify why confidentiality is necessary
3. Set confidentiality duration (typically until commercialization)
4. Share results with COP-PILOT partners under NDA
5. After confidentiality period, move to open access Confidentiality is acceptable but should be justified.

Contact and Support

Q52: HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT COP-PILOT?

Official Resources:

Resource	Location
Main Website	https://cop-pilot.eu
Consortium Page	https://cop-pilot.eu/consortium/
About Page	https://cop-pilot.eu/about/
Open Call Portal	https://cop-pilot.eu/opencall https://cop-pilot.eu/opencall-1-form/ (submission portal)

Direct Contact:

Type	Email
General Questions	opencalls@cop-pilot.eu
Technical Support	info@cop-pilot.eu
Appeals	opencalls@cop-pilot.eu

Q53: IS THERE A WEBINAR OR INFORMATION SESSION?

Yes! COP-PILOT Information Webinar:

- **Date:** March 2026
- **Time:** 14:00 CET
- **Topics:**
 - Open Call overview and objectives
 - Cluster-specific guidance
 - Technical architecture and requirements
 - Proposal writing tips and best practices
 - Q&A session
 - Networking with potential partners

Registration: Visit <https://cop-pilot.eu> to register

Q54: CAN I FIND PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS OR FORM A CONSORTIUM?

Yes. COP-PILOT supports consortium building:

Webinar Networking: Opportunity to meet potential partners

Email: Contact opencalls@cop-pilot.eu to request consortia matching support, we will let you know other participants looking for consortium.

Technical Resources: Review the Technical Guidelines to understand cluster needs and identify potential complementary partners

Q55: WHAT IF I HAVE A TECHNICAL QUESTION ABOUT MY SPECIFIC CLUSTER?

For cluster-specific technical guidance:

Review: Cluster-specific chapters in Technical Guidelines

Identify: Specific challenges relevant to your solution

Consult: Infrastructure details and available components

Contact: opencalls@cop-pilot.eu with specific technical questions

Webinar: Attend on March 2026 for cluster-specific sessions

Questions must be submitted at least **7 calendar days before deadline** (by 9 April 2026).

Q56: WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I ENCOUNTER TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WITH THE SUBMISSION PORTAL?

Portal Technical Issues:

First: Try clearing browser cache/cookies

Test: Use different browser or device

Contact: info@cop-pilot.eu with:

- Description of problem
- Browser/device details
- Screenshot of error (if applicable)
- Your submission ID (if known)
- Time of occurrence

Support is available to help resolve technical issues with the portal.

Q57: HOW WILL I BE NOTIFIED OF THE EVALUATION RESULTS?

Notification Process:

Communication: By email to the contact person named in your submission

Timing: May 2026 (approximately)

Contents:

- Result (funded, reserve, or rejected)
- Evaluation Summary Report
- Feedback on your proposal (if requested)
- Instructions for next steps (if funded)

Appeals: If you disagree with results, contact opencalls@cop-pilot.eu within 15 calendar days

Q58: WHAT ARE THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IF MY PROJECT IS FUNDED?

Mandatory Reporting:

Report	Timing	Content

Mid-Term Report	Month 4	Progress update, KPI achievements, challenges, corrective actions
Final Report	Month 9	Complete project results, final KPIs, lessons learned, dissemination

Report Requirements:

- Use COP-PILOT-provided template
- Document all deliverables
- Provide evidence of platform validation
- Detail cross-domain collaboration achieved
- Include cost justification (receipts/invoices)
- Explain deviations from plan (if any)

Reports are required to receive payment installments.

Q59: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MY PROJECT ENDS?

Post-Project Obligations:

- ✓ **Maintain deliverables:** Keep code, data, documentation accessible for 6 years
- ✓ **Open Science:** Continue open-source availability on GitHub/GitLab
- ✓ **Acknowledgment:** Continue mentioning COP-PILOT funding in future work
- ✓ **Results Sharing:** Share anonymized data with COP-PILOT for ecosystem analysis
- ✓ **Dissemination:** Present results at conferences and publish findings

The project ends in February 2027, but your obligations to maintain and support results continue until the end of the COP-PILOT project

Additional Information

Document Information

- **Document Title:** COP-PILOT_OC1_Frequently Asked Questions
- **Version:** 1.0
- **Last Updated:** Feb 2026
- **Project Grant Agreement:** 101189819
- **Call Reference:** HORIZON-CL4-2024-DATA-01
- **Topic:** HORIZON-CL4-2024-DATA-01-03
- **Type of Action:** Horizon Europe Innovation Action (HORIZON-IA)

Important Dates Checklist:

- 12 February 2026: Information Webinar (11:00 CET) Next in March 26
- 16 February 2026: Open Call Submission Portal Opens
- 9 April 2026: Last day to submit questions (7 days before deadline)
- 17 April 2026: **Submission Deadline (17:00 CET) - STRICT**
- 18-23 April: Eligibility Check
- 24-31 April: Feasibility Screening
- 1-25 May: Independent Expert Scoring
- 25-30 May: Consensus Meeting
- May 2026: Winners Announced
- June 2026: Project Start Date
- February 2027: Expected Project End Date

Useful Documents to Review

Before submitting your proposal, ensure you've reviewed:

1. ✓ Proposal Template (on the portal)
2. ✓ Technical Guidelines (cluster-specific details)
3. ✓ Guide for Applicants (comprehensive instructions)
4. ✓ This FAQ Document
5. ✓ Call Announcement (official call details)

Disclaimer

This FAQ document provides general guidance based on COP-PILOT Open Call #1 documentation. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, for definitive information regarding evaluation criteria, eligibility, or technical specifications, always refer to the official COP-PILOT documents and contact the project team at opencalls@cop-pilot.eu.

Specifications, timelines, and operational details are subject to change as the project evolves. Always check <https://cop-pilot.eu> for the latest updates.

For Questions or Support:

General Inquiries: opencalls@cop-pilot.eu

Technical IT Support: info@cop-pilot.eu

Project Website: <https://cop-pilot.eu>

Information Webinar: March 2026, 14:00 CET

We look forward to receiving your innovative proposals!