

A: Good afternoon and welcome to the S2R public webinar

Q: Will the slides be available?

A: Yes, we will publish them on the S2R website.

Q: We are research organisation (university). Have we co-finance our activities or the activities will be finance by public money?

A: Our S2R Members need to contribute with In Kind Contributions and Additional Activities on top of the co-funding of the Joint Undertaking, independently on the typology of entity (industry, university, research center, public, private, etc.). This is detailed in the S2R JU Regulation. In our annual calls for proposals there are topics for the non-JU Members (Open Calls), where entities do not need to contribute in In Kind Contribution to the JU, following the H2020 co-funding rules.

Q: Also, as a university, we need to work together with a private partner?

A: Under the scope of this invitation you will work together with the current Associated Members, you can see the full Members list here: <https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/ju-members/>

Q: But these open calls will not be discussed within this webinar? They will be published in November 2017?

A: Yes, this webinar is specifically addressing the "INVITATION TO SHIFT2RAIL JU ASSOCIATED MEMBERS TO SUBMIT AN ANSWER IN VIEW OF THE REALIGNMENT OF THEIR ACTIVITIES AND ADDITIONAL COMMITMENT TO THE SHIFT2RAIL PROGRAMME"

Q: How do you plan to involve academic research parties within the co-funded shift to rail programs from associated members, as it will be very difficult to find universities and other research organizations that have funding available to join in in this co-funding structure?

Q: But additional partners in a consortium are still 3rd parties and not AMs, right?

A: The present Invitation is open to the S2R JU Associated Members to realign their activities and/or provide additional commitment to the Shift2Rail Programme in various ways, including the possibility to involve new entities:

- directly or through affiliated entities,
- where relevant, additions to existing consortia with the participation of new joining entities, without distorting the initial objectives and nature of the relevant consortia,
- through third parties with a legal link (linked third parties), in accordance with the provisions of Article 23 of the H2020 Rules of Participation.

Q: can you please give me the link to this document?

A: all the information on the Invitation, the Q&A and the emails of Associated Members could be found here: <https://shift2rail.org/participate/invitation-shift2rail-associated-members/>.

The link for the Open Calls for Proposals is this one: <https://shift2rail.org/participate/call-for-proposals/>

Q: I know a project of S2R with participation of a university from the Czech Republic. I feel, our university could join the project with interesting competence. Is it possible? We could cover part of our costs from own (private/unpublic) sources. Is this procedure possible? Thanks for answer.

A: Running S2R Projects have been awarded for S2R JU funding following a competitive open call. They have been evaluated following the rules of participation of H2020, with defined consortia having submitted a proposal. It is therefore in principle not possible to join existing running S2R projects, but it is possible to apply to future S2R open calls - replying either as non-JU Member or as JU Member (if you are one)

Q: Is there a possibility to apply for extension of submission deadline? In larger companies, internal approval procedures may be a bit lengthy (decision, consultation of legal Dptmnt, R&D, budgets etc...) + discussion with existing consortium may require time also...

A: At the request of one or more Associated Members we could consider to extend the deadline.

Q: Having a contractual framework with an AM can be considered to be a linked third party?

A: a contractual link will most probably be enough to consider you as a linked third party but it will need to be assessed accordingly to the Rules for participation of H2020

Q: what kind of documents would you like to receive from third parties?

A: Concerning the documents needed (that the Associated Members will have to submit us) are in the Annex to the Invitation that we will publish together with the presentation of today here: <https://shift2rail.org/participate/invitation-shift2rail-associated-members/>

Q: Can a proposal for a new partner come from a founding member?

A: No, this invitation is reserved to Associated Members, not Founding Members

Q: Would a third party be considered to join an existing associated consortium if this 3rd party is already engaged in open call projects?

A: Entities already engaged in Open Calls can join an Associated Member.

Q: If I/we have some special expertise on noise and vibration of railway systems and also in relation to monitoring, rail degradation and assets management what is the now best step to undertake to come into contact with the appropriate partner?

A: the list of Associated Members contact details can be found here:

<https://shift2rail.org/participate/invitation-shift2rail-associated-members/>

Q: Thanks for the comprehensive presentation. If we have further questions who can we contact? University o Thessaly, GREECE

A: please refer to our website - in the Contact Form you can select the subject of your query

Q: As I understood all the documents from linked third party are going through/via Associated Member, is that true? Can S2R JU already assess whether the amount of 5,6 will be reached?

A: First question: yes. Second question: we do not know it yet but we expect it will be reached.

Q: On 6th Sep another S2R tele-conference is foreseen for the third parties. Do you envisage some documents to be sent from linked third party to S2R JU (via Associated Member) in the meantime?

A: No, the S2R Associated Members will send us their proposals including the necessary documents by the deadline of this Invitation

Q: Since we are now entering the negotiation with an Associated Member I understand that comprehensive and detailed project description will be analysed first by the Consortium (EUROC Consortium in this respect)? And then it will go to S2R JU?

A: in principle yes

A: Thank you for you participation and questions. Have a nice evening