

1. Conditions and general rules

a. Eligibility conditions

- The call is open to PhD students and academics, research centers, universities, companies, spin off, tech start-ups, SMEs, large companies, representatives from other European projects Consortia with a technological focus.
- Applicants may respond alone or as part of a consortium.
- The applicants must be based in the member states of the European Union or third countries associated to Horizon Europe¹.

The proposed solutions will have to integrate the following principles: respect of spiritual beliefs and practices, cost-effective solutions, relevance to address the challenge and looking for market uptake.

The solutions must provide the following information:

- Presentation of the entity (and partners, if applicable).
- Detailed description of the solution, how it works and the concept for its use. Explanation of how the proposed solution addresses the chosen challenge.
- Evaluation and description of the solution taking into account ethical-religious aspects related to the chosen site. Eventual technological and non-technological requirements for its showcasing.
- Level of maturity of the proposed solution (TRL scale):
 - The solution is deployable and operational.
 - Further development is still required (if so, indicate the technological/legal barriers or any locks to be overcome).
- If available, cost of acquiring and deploying the solution (in sales or service format).
- Operating and maintenance costs.
- Obstacles to deployment of the solution and possible solutions to overcome them: GDPR regulations, environmental impact, societal acceptability, ethical-religiousness adaptability, market prospects, etc.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

b. Benefits

Pre-selected 16 winning solutions will have access to the second phase of the call. Following the second call closing, 12 finalists will be identified to showcase their solutions in Assisi event from 24 to 27 November 2024. After the Hackathon Closure Ceremony on the last day, three finalists (one for each of 4 scenarios) will have the opportunity to present and pitch their technological solution in front of an assembly of investors.

Furthermore, the event will be a unique platform to foster the showcased technological solutions to an international audience of experts as well as to present the on the relevant market.

c. Main criteria for assessing applications

The solutions proposed must meet the identification of common needs in terms of Environmental hazard and natural disasters, Terrorist attacks, Crowd risks and Property crimes.

An Evaluation Committee consisting of both religious and tech partners will select the 16 best applications. **If none of the participants choose any of the case studies proposed, certain candidates might be requested to shift their focus to another usage scenario.** The target is to have **4 participants** for each scenario. Following the identification of the 16 candidates, a **second dedicated call** for the 16 pre-selected applicants **will be opened until September 2024**. Afterwards, a Jury of international experts will select **12 applicants** (3 for each scenario) that will present their tech solution at the Hackathon.

The evaluation panel will screen the proposals and will evaluate their technical relevance to address the security threat scenarios. The solutions will then be screened through the lens of a SOTA analysis (and it will be listed into a catalogue, that will be made public).

The main evaluation criteria to go to the next stage are listed below:

- Relevance of the proposed solution to the needs: technical deployment/installation requirements in the scenarios described, proven effectiveness, user experience etc.
- Potential for concrete applications, market adoption and business viability, disruptive impact.
- Maintenance requirements and associated costs.
- Degree of innovation: innovation of the solution or that significantly disrupt existing solutions (technological or usage innovations), alongside global approaches that address a wide range of functionalities.
- Focus on sustainability and social responsibility.
- Ensuring alignment with diverse religious ethical considerations and demonstrating respect for those values.

- Acceptability of the solution (public, visitors, operators, agents, etc.).
- Straightforward demonstration (e.g. lower number demonstration requirements).
- Assessment of potential regulatory developments.
- Versatility of the solution across diverse site types and challenges.
- Assessment of the risk of equipment damage from natural hazards and human error.
- Assessment of long-term financial sustainability, including maintenance costs and the projected economic model for implementation.

d. Submission procedure

If you encounter any problems during the application process, please refer to the "contact" section.

e. Selection process and timetable

The call is open from **24/04/2024 until 07/07/2024** at 23:59 (CEST, Brussels Time). Participants must comply with the schedule defined in the calendar for this call for proposals, which has fixed deadlines.

f. Terms & Conditions

SHRINES will not take nor assert any rights on intellectual property from the solutions submitted on the online portal.

All information provided on the registration forms should be GDPR compliant and all applicants will consent to the use of the public information to be dispatched in the catalogue.

The call for expressions of interest does not constitute an act of purchase. It does not constitute any commitment from SHRINES consortium. Reciprocally, responses to the call for expressions of interest shall not constitute contractual or pre-contractual commitments on the part of their authors.

No applicants responding to this call will be entitled to claim any remuneration or compensation for the answers provided.

2. Contact and Information

To receive any further details and/or clarifications, please contact info@shrines-project.eu