D4.1 - EoI Announcement and Form HPC Cloud providers

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V2.1	30.04.2021	Final Version closed	FBA, HES-SO

Abbreviations

AI: Artificial Intelligence
EC: European Commission
EoI: Expressions of Interest
FSTP: Financial Support for Third Parties
DoA: Description of Action
GA: Grant Agreement
HPC: High-Performance Computing
SME: Small and Medium Enterprise

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1. Executive Summary

This deliverable is part of the Work Package 4 'Lead Beneficiary Service users: management of Open Calls and Expressions of Interest.' led by FBOX. It includes a set of documents that is used to inform the potential voucher suppliers about the details of the Expressions of Interest Open Call for HPC Cloud Providers, for its successful execution, including:

- Guidelines Expression-of-Interest (EoIs) call for HPC Cloud providers – a step-by-step guide with detailed information on the EoI application and validation process.

- Application Form (AF) – a file including all the application questions to be elaborated by the HPC Cloud Applicants.

2.Guidelines Expression-of-Interest (EoIs) call for HPC Cloud providers

1 About BonsAPPs

BonsAPPs is an EU project created in line with the **EC's AI Strategy** of building an ecosystem of excellence that can **support the development and uptake of AI across the European Union.**

Through a series of modular services, such as experimentation, model compression, optimization, benchmarking, deployment on hardware and security, **BonsAPPs will increase AI usage** by enterprises and SMEs which lack internal innovation capabilities.

Up to 20 FSTP funded Use Cases will be selected through 2 Open Calls to demonstrate a fully functional and scalable AI-as-a-Service (AI-aaS) within the AI-on demand platform (AI4EU) which will allow end users (specially SMEs and non-tech users lacking internal innovation capacities) to easily engage with AI Talents ('data scientist', 'developers' 'integrators') into an open innovation cycle.
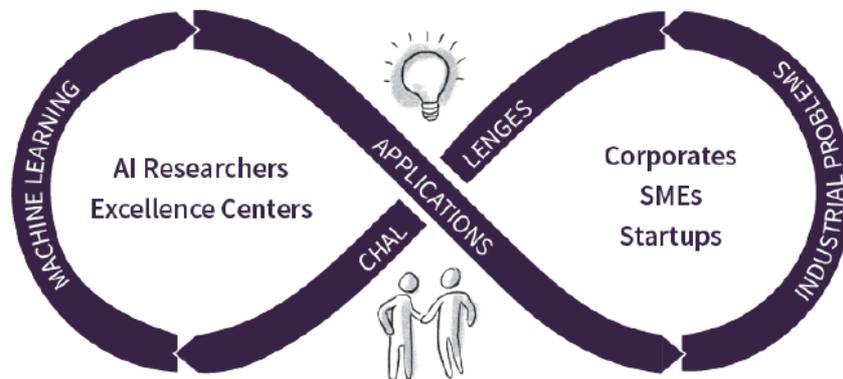

Figure 1 BonsApps project scope

BonsAPPs will launch 2 Open Calls to select **AI Talents and End Users** that will be supported by selected HPC service providers in developing AI@Edge Apps and Solutions (Use Cases).

Each Use Case will receive up to 70,000 EUR, including **up to 10,000 EUR to cover the costs of HPC cloud infrastructure and services.**

2 Call for HPC CLOUD providers

The main purpose of this call is to create the catalogue of voucher providers that will ensure HPC Cloud on demand services for Use Case Owners selected through 2 Open Calls. The validated service providers will be required to ensure access to HPC Infrastructure during different stages of the support program (for 2 up to 5 months).

o 2.1 What are the legal requirements?

We are looking for entities legally established in any of the EU member states and H2020 Associated Countries that own HPC computing and data resources capable of providing on-demand Access to HPC clouds to third parties. The legal entities have to be registered in:
1   [The Member States of the European Union and its Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT)](#) or
2   [Associated Countries to H2020 .](#)
3   United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

o 2.2 What are the technical requirements?

The main criterion to select HPC Cloud entities to provide services to Use Cases is the availability of on-demand HPC computing and data resources in order to allow AI model optimization/training/benchmarking needed to design Solutions for the deployment platform defined by each Industry Challenge.

The type of equipment that will be necessary for operating the services available on the Bonseyes platform will be as follows:

HPC Minimum Software Requirements
The HPC providers shall provide a [compatible NVIDIA GPU driver](#) with the NVIDIA CUDA Toolkit installed on the host compatible with Docker 19.03. The following minimum GPU driver versions are required:

CUDA Toolkit Version	Minimum GPU Driver Version
CUDA 11.3	>= 450.80.02
CUDA 11.2	>= 450.80.02
CUDA 11.1 (11.1.0)	>= 450.80.02
CUDA 11.0 (11.0.3)	>= 450.36.06
CUDA 10.2 (10.2.89)	>= 440.33

Table 1 *Minimum GPU driver versions for HPC Cloud providers*

On top of that the following criteria will be reviewed:
- Performance in terms of CPU/GPU
- Storage capacity (in GB)
- Reliability (redundancy and cross geo data replication)
- Flexibility :
  a) Mixing physical and virtual machines;
  b) Possibility to grow and shrink even on short notice
- Security
- Pricing

Example:
- Amazon EC2 P3 Instances have up to 8 NVIDIA Tesla V100 GPUs.
- Amazon EC2 G4 Instances have up to 4 NVIDIA T4 GPUs.

Such equipment for a Use Case could be with 1-2 GPUs; for testing purposes however, they should be V100 or T4 GPUs.

This equipment will be made available to the service providers for a given AI service (such as 'model compression') so the service provider can run the software on HPC infrastructure for the benefit of the platform users (likely a SME), in the form of GPU hardware and in a containerized form.

o **2.3 When the services will be provided?**

The Use Case Owners will be selected through two Open Calls which will be launched in August 2021 and July 2022. Validated HPC cloud service suppliers will be engaged with the Use Case Owners of the first Open Call (AI talents) in **January – May 2022** and second Open Call (SMEs) in **May – September 2023**.
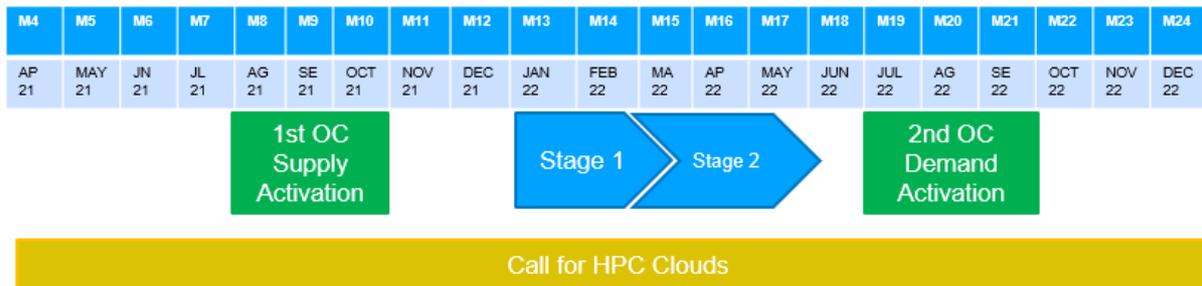
Figure 2 BonsApps timeline until December 2022: HPC Cloud services are provided in Stages 1 and 2

Applications from HPC Cloud providers can be submitted throughout the 25 months of submission period when the call is open, and results will be announced every 2nd month.

Cut off dates **for the 2021 submissions (last Friday of each 2nd month, before 00:00 CET).**

Month	May 21	July 21	September 21	November 21	January 22
Day	28th	30th	24th	26th	31st

Table 2 EoI Cut off dates for 2021

3 What BonsAPPs offers to HPC providers

Selected HPC cloud providers will benefit from:

- Becoming a part of the high-profile Bonseyes Marketplace Platform (BMP) ecosystem that will support the development and uptake of AI across the European Union.
- Unique opportunity to be connected with top European AI stakeholders selected in 2 Open Calls
- Receive financial support for providing infrastructure services (up to 2.000 EUR/month/Use Case Supported)
- There could also be a longer-term commercial engagement opportunity for the HPC providers selected as the Bonseyes platform will operate outside the BonsAPPs project also and will offer compute as a service to users under the Bonseyes AI Marketplace.

Each Use Case Owner will receive the amount of up to **10.000 EUR** from BonsAPPs project to be dedicated to access to HPC Cloud services under the voucher scheme (**4.000 EUR** EUR in Stage 1 and **6.000 EUR** in Stage 2**)**.

The total amount paid to voucher suppliers (HPC Cloud provider) engaged in the BonsAPPs program will not exceed 2.000 EUR/month per beneficiary (Use Case), being 5 months the maximum duration of the access to infrastructures required by each Use Case (10.000 EUR in total per Use Case).

4 Participation rules

- Only proposals submitted through the online form www.BonsAPPs-HPC.fundingbox.com will be evaluated.
- Applicants will have to verify the completeness of the form, as it won't be possible to add any further information after its submission.
- Only one proposal per entity is admitted in this BonsAPPs EoI call. If more than one application is identified, only the last application which has been submitted in order of time will be evaluated.
- All applications must be written in English in all mandatory parts in order to be eligible. Only parts written in English will be evaluated.
- All mandatory sections of the application must be completed. The data provided should be actual, true, complete and should allow assessment of the proposal.
- We will take into consideration the existence of potential conflict of interest among you and one or more Consortium partners. Consortium partners, their affiliated entities, employees and permanent collaborators cannot take part in the BonsAPPs programme. All cases of potential conflict of interest will be assessed case by case.

The proposal submission and selection procedure will be done through the 'FundingBox Platform'. All potential voucher suppliers will be validated by BONSEYES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (BCA): BonsAPPs consortium partner, before joining the 'pool of validated suppliers' offered to Use Case Owners.

After the validation, the HPC Cloud providers will be required to register in the pool of providers available on Bonseyes Marketplace Platform (BMP).

Once the BonsAPPs Open Call is finished, awarded Use Cases will select, based on their project's needs, HPC Cloud service providers from the pool of validated providers with the support of BCA.

Once the match between User Case and HPC Cloud provider is made, both sides will agree on the conditions of the service and sign an agreement for providing services.

BCA will oversee the contracting procedure from a technical perspective, making sure that each Use Case reaches an agreement with an appropriate HPC Cloud provider. Contractual and financial follow up of vouchers will be overseen by FundingBox.

Use Case owners will pay the amount agreed to HPC Cloud Providers according to the agreement to be signed in due time.

5 Contact us

For more information about the BonsAPPs Call for Service Providers and Open Calls for Use Cases, please check our BonsAPPs calls microsite: https://bonsapps.fundingbox.com/

If you have any extra questions regarding our Open Call process you can send us a message to **BonsAPPs.help@fundingbox.com.**

In case of any technical issues or problems, please include the following information in your message:
- your username, telephone number and your e-mail address,
- details of the specific problem (error messages you encountered, bugs descriptions, i.e. if a dropdown list is not working, etc.),
- screenshots of the problem.

BonsAPPs will organize various Q&A Online Sessions for HPC Clouds about this call. The events will be announced at the www.BonsAPPs-HPC.fundingbox.com

3. Application Form

The BonsAPPs Expression of Interest Application form is available on FBOX platform under the following link: https://bonsapps-hpc.fundingbox.com/
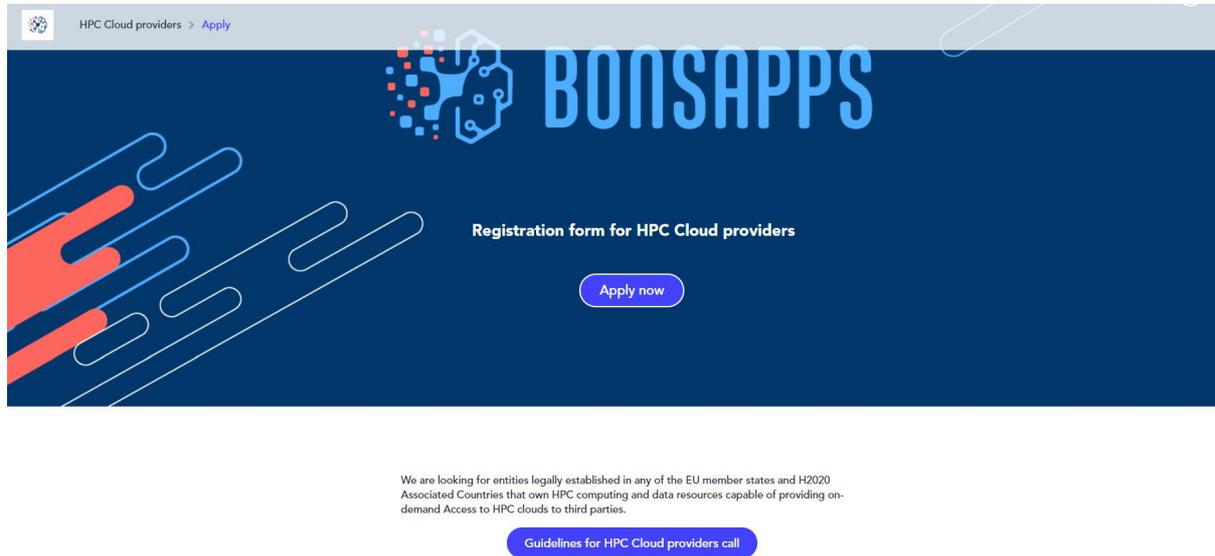

Figure 3 BonsAPPs HPC Cloud EoI page

The HPC Cloud application website includes a direct link to the Guidelines Expression-of-Interest (EoIs) call for HPC Cloud providers.

All sections from the Application Form are presented on the pages below.

Overview of the draft of the application form and all sections required:

This application was NOT submitted

Fill in all the required form sections to submit your application.

Status: Draft   ⟲ Show history

★ **1** Basic Information*   Fill

★ **2** Legal Information*   Fill

★ **3** HPC Clouds service supplier information*   Fill

★ **4** Information consent form (BMP Marketplace)*   Fill

★ **5** Processing of Personal Data*   Fill

★ *Required sections. Fill in all marked sections to submit the application.*

Export this application as PDF   Delete this application

Basic Information

The following information will enable us to contact you and validate your service in order to become a part of pool of HPC Cloud providers in the BonsApps project.

This call is open until June 2023 with cut-off dates on last Friday of each 2nd month.

Only applications in English will be admitted.

Finally, be aware that all information provided will be verified during the validation process. Where any false information is detected, your candidacy will be immediately excluded.

Questions marked with (*) are mandatory.

Name of your entity:

> Name by which your entity is known.

Title of the contact person:

> Descriptive or distinctive appellation of the contact person.

Name of the contact person: *

> Enter your complete name (first name and last name), please.

Contact person email address: *

> Please enter the email address in format: mail@mail.com

Contact person phone number: *

> Remember to include your country code

Required fields *

Legal Information

Legal name of your entity *

> The legal name in the country where the company is incorporated.

Establishment/Registration country. Take notice that only countries indicated in the Guidelines are eligible for application. *

[▼]

Street name and number: *

[ ]

Postal code: *

[ ]

City: *

> Where your team or most of your team members will be based.

Are you an employee of or do you have any professional relationship with any of the BonsApps project partners? If the answer is yes, you are not eligible for this call. *

○ Yes
○ No

Company registration number: *

[ ]

VAT number: (if applicable)

[ ]

Website URL (https://... or http://...)

[ ]

Required fields *

HPC Clouds service supplier information

This is the necessary information for us to identify your background and expertise necessary to provide Use Case Owners access to specific HPC infrastructures and expert services.

Brief infrastructure/services description (max. 2000 characters including spaces): *

Tell us more about your infrastructure/services and how you perceive your support for the Use Case Owners. (max. 2000 characters including spaces).

Sector(s): *

Name the sector(s) your infrastructure/services are being applied. (max. 300 characters including spaces).

National, European or International business (max. 1000 characters including spaces): *

Are you operating in national, European and international markets? What is the size of the market you are currently serving? Do you have operations outside your own country? Shortly describe your international business. (max. 1000 characters including spaces).

RDI Co-operation Experience (max. 1000 characters including spaces):

Do you have any experience in participating in national or international RDI co-operation projects? If yes, please provide a brief description of these projects. (max. 1000 characters including spaces).

Performance in terms of CPU/GPU (max. 2000 characters including spaces): *

HPC Minimum Software Requirements (The HPC providers shall provide a compatible NVIDIA GPU driver with the NVIDIA CUDA Toolkit installed on the host compatible with Docker 19.03)

Which NVIDIA CUDA Toolkit is compatible with your NVIDIA GPU driver: *

○ CUDA 11.3
○ CUDA 11.2
○ CUDA 11.1 (11.1.0)
○ CUDA 11.0 (11.0.3)
○ CUDA 10.2 (10.2.89)
○ None from above

Please mark the minimum GPU driver version: *

○ less or equal 450.80.02
○ less or equal 450.36.06
○ less or equal 440.33

Storage capacity (in GB) *

Reliability (redundancy and cross geo data replication) *

(max. 4000 characters including spaces)

Flexibility (Multiple answers possible) *

☐ Mixing physical and virtual machines
☐ Possibility to grow and shrink even on short notice

Security *

Please describe your secuirty procedures (max. 4000 characters including spaces)

Pricing *

Please describe your pricing. Please remember that for the BonsAPPs project the maximum is 2000 EUR/month (max. 4000 characters including spaces)

Document attachment (pdf brochure / presentation. (Optional) You can upload a presentation in pdf of your entity and your infrastructure, product and services (Max. 10MB)

Click to upload

Upload

Required fields *

Save and continue

Information consent form (BMP Marketplace)

Bonseyes Marketplace Platform (BMP) is a secure collaborative platform for building and trading AI applications. The platform provides a means for small AI companies to sell their services to a variety (in terms of size, sector, geographical location and digital maturity stage) of end users. Data scientists (AI developers) find a platform to publish and monetize IP (i.e. AI models turned into AI Apps). Embedded Systems Engineers (AI integrators) can leverage on the tools and formats defined by the BMP to reduce costs and speed up their work.

In case I am validated as Voucher Supplier I agree to share my personal data with Bonseys Assosiation to publish the provided information in BMP Marketplace. The consent may be withdrawn at any time by contacting the Controller at the e-mail address: privacy@fundingbox.com. The withdrawal of consent does not affect the lawfulness of processing based on a consent before its withdrawal:

○ Yes

Required fields *

Processing of Personal Data

CONTROLLER'S IDENTITY AND CONTACT DETAILS

The data controller is FundingBox Accelerator sp. z o.o. (Al. Jerozolimskie 136, 02-305 Warsaw, Poland).

In all matters regarding personal data, you can contact us using the following email address: privacy@fundingbox.com

PURPOSES, LEGAL BASIS AND PROCESSING PERIOD

The purpose and legitimate interest of processing	Legal basis for processing	Period
To run an Open Call and collect data necessary to evaluate applications submitted in the Open Call.	Legitimate interest of Funding Box is based on (Article 6, paragraph 1 (f) of GDPR in this respect) which is fulfilling the obligations laid down in the Grant Agreement and our other interests related to this purposes.	6 years from the end of the year in which the Project ended.
To realize the Project goals described in the Grant Agreement (communication, reporting, collaborating with other project partners).		
To consider potential complaints.		
To possibly establish and enforce claims or defend against them.		
To send to selected applicants invitations to take part in next Open Call taking place on a different platform as part of the next stage of the Project.		

DATA RECEIVERS

Data controller will transfer personal data only to trusted recipients such as entities belonging to the FundingBox's capital group, evaluators, IT service providers, accountants, law firms, postal and courier companies (who process personal data on the controller's behalf).

Due to the fact that we use the services of Google LLC, your data may be transferred to the USA. We have concluded an agreement with Google LLC - the so-called Standard Contractual Clauses. This means that in accordance with the decision of the European Commission No. 2010/87 / EU of February 5, 2010, your personal data may be processed by this company in the USA. More information about the decision at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/PL/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32010D0087.

To realize the Project data can be transferred also to Project Partners (complete list of the project partners is available at the email address: privacy@fundingbox.com), European Commission and other affiliated entities.

RIGHTS OF DATA SUBJECT

Due to the fact that we process your personal data, you have the right to:

1. request access to your personal data,
2. demand the rectification of your personal data,
3. request to remove or limit the processing of your personal data,
4. complain with the supervisory authority (The President of the Personal Data Protection Office, Warsaw, Poland, https://uodo.gov.pl/en).

You also have a right to object to processing of your personal data (according to the Article 21 of GDPR).

INFORMATION ABOUT VOLUNTARY OR OBLIGATORY DATA PROVISION

Providing data is voluntary, although it is necessary to participate in the Open Call. Without providing your data, it is not possible to contact you and evaluate the application.

I confirm that I read and understood the information clause concerning processing of the personal data provided above: *

O Yes

O No

Required fields *