



**ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND
ADVANCED TEXTILE MATERIALS GOING
INTERNATIONAL TO STRENGTHEN
RESILIENCE AND TO EMPOWER
INDUSTRIAL RECOVERY**

Grant Agreement number: 101035895

**Deliverable 3.3: Call for Expression of interest: terms and
templates**

Lead partner: Pôle EMC2



Co-funded by the COSME programme
of the European Union

Project acronym:	ADMANTEX2i
Project full title:	Advanced Manufacturing and Advanced Textile Materials going international to strengthen resilience and to empower industrial recovery
Grant agreement no.:	101035895
Author(s):	Pôle EMC2
Reviewer(s):	ALL
Nature:	Report
Dissemination level:	PUBLIC
Total number of pages:	13
Version:	2
Publication date:	05/09/2022



ADMANTEX2i has received funding from the European Union's COSME programme.

DISCLAIMER:

The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility; it cannot be considered to reflect the views of the European Commission and/or the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA) or any other body of the European Union. The European Commission and the agency do not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

© 2021-2024 ADMANTEX2i Consortium Partners. All rights reserved. All trademarks and other rights on third party products mentioned in this document are acknowledged and owned by the respective holders.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. ABOUT ADMANTEX2i.....	4
1.1 ADMANTEX2i partners	5
1.2 ADMANTEX2i contact points	5
1.3 ADMANTEX2i support mechanisms	6
2. INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS.....	7
2.1 Markets	7
2.2 Mission activities.....	8
3. FINANCIAL SUPPORT.....	9
3.1. Available financial support	9
3.2. Eligible costs.....	10
3.3 Payment conditions	10
4. APPLICATION.....	11
4.1 Who can apply ?	11
4.2 How to apply ?.....	11
4.3. Evaluation and selection criteria.....	12
5. DATA PROTECTION.....	13
6. DISCLAIMER.....	13

1. ABOUT ADMANTEX2i

Industrial digitalization and the green transition are the two pillars of the European Commission for building resilience, as highlighted during the Cluster conference 2020 that builds on top of the new industrial strategy of the European Commission and the EU Green Deal as significant pillars. Furthermore, strengthening digital and green-based SMEs' competitiveness is also a core pillar from the Next Generation EU initiative for recovery.

The primary strategy for this project is bridging the gap between technology producers and users to boost innovation and industrial modernization to catalyze sustainability and circular economy in the textile manufacturing industry.

It will enable the alignment of each cluster strategy with the RIS3 priorities of each region and the uptake of digitalization and advanced production systems as a standard driver for growth via internationalization by exploiting innovation towards sustainability and circular economy. In addition, ADMANTEX2i will provide tools and support to partner's members to be globally competitive for going international.

ADMANTEX2i will also favor the cross-regional value chains involved and foster cross-regional cooperation with specialized eco-systems across Europe, focusing on the industrial smart specialization priorities where all partners are already active. For example, AEI TÈXTILS, CITEVE, and ATEVAL are part of the REGIOTEX platform for textile innovation. In contrast, PRODUTECH, EMC2, and AFIL are members of the S3P-Industry platform within the areas of 3DP and ESM and the participation in the pilot actions under the Vanguard Initiative umbrella.

ADMANTEX2i will continue driving the long-term cooperation strategy among the partners already seeded in CLAMTEX (ESCP4x) and GALACTICA (Innosup-01). The continued fostering of cross-regional and cross-sectoral cooperation among all clusters will provide their members the leverage needed to become globally competitive with digitalization uptake.

1.1 ADMANTEX2i partners

The ADMANTEX2i partnership is composed by six European clusters: three advanced textile materials clusters (AEI Tèxtils in Catalonia as project coordinator, ATEVAL in Valencia (both in Spain) and CITEVE in Portugal) and three advanced manufacturing clusters (PRODUTECH in Portugal, EMC2 in France and AFIL in Italy).

1.2 ADMANTEX2i contact points

Partner	Contact	Email
AEI TÈXTILS	Mònica CASTELLÀ	aeitextils@admantex2i.eu
ATEVAL	Julia VERCHER	ateval@admantex2i.eu
CITEVE	Maria José CARVALHO	citeve@admantex2i.eu
PRODUTECH	Carla VAGOS	produtech@admantex2i.eu
EMC2	Fearghus ROCHE	emc2@admantex2i.eu
AFIL	Andrea MAZZOLENI	afil@admantex2i.eu

Table 1 - ADMANTEX2i consortium contacts

1.3 ADMANTEX2i support mechanisms

ADMANTEX2i has established a comprehensive approach to facilitate SMEs participation in the missions organized by the consortium during the implementation phase. Support will consist of four major pillars:

- **Pre-mission coaching:** To ensure SMEs and participants are fully aligned with the mission, to gather feedback in order to better prepare the mission to participant needs and to facilitate skills and mindset for growth via internationalization. This action will also include the support in drafting model business agreements, providing templates to participating SMEs.
- **Financial support to third parties (FSTP):** *the object of the present document.*
- **Mission implementation:** SMEs selected and supported will participate in the joint activities of the mission (i.e., welcome, briefing, joint visits, joint networking sessions, debriefing, etc.) in addition to their pre-scheduled individual agendas. The goal of this support to SMEs is to establish the first contact and start the signature of business agreements.
- **Post mission follow-up and technical assistance:** After the missions, ADMANTEX2i partnership will seek technical feasibility support schemes such as SME Go International, Low Carbon Business Action in the Americas, EREK (European Resource Efficiency Knowledge Centre), Intellectual Property (IP) helpdesk among others to facilitate the follow up of the meetings held by SMEs and to turn them into viable business agreements and cooperation projects.

2. INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

2.1 Markets

After extensive consultation with their membership in the development of the Joint Internationalization strategy, ADMANTEX2i project partners have identified the USA, Japan and Canada as the target countries to implement the internationalization strategy and carry out the business missions.

The decision has also been taken to focus on specific sectors of highly potential: based on SMEs survey results, partners' previous experience and internal discussions, project partners have decided to focus on automotive, aerospace and advanced manufacturing, highlighting the opportunities for technical textile and sustainable textile applications in these sectors. The next phase of this strategy is to implement three international missions as follows:

USA – Q1 of 2023

The first planned mission will visit the USA (California) and will consist of an exploratory and multisectoral mission. The areas of interest will be digitalization and sustainability either for advanced manufacturing and technical / sustainable textile, while activities around the aerospace and automotive industries are also planned.

The Call for Expression of Interest for this mission will be launched in November 2022.

JAPAN – Q2 of 2023

The mission in Japan will be an institutional mission targeting the textile industry as well as multisectoral. The ADMANTEX2i delegation may attend the trade fair *Interior Lifestyle* in Tokyo.

The Call for Expression of Interest for this mission will be launched in March 2023.

CANADA – Q4 of 2023

The planned Canada mission will be a business mission aimed at establishing MoUs with potential local partners and business agreements for SMEs. The areas sectors of interest will be both advanced manufacturing and technical / sustainable textiles, with focus on the related applications in the aerospace and automotive industries.

PPs have decided to participate in *the Advanced Design and Manufacturing Expo* in Montréal.

The Call for Expression of Interest for this mission will be launched in July 2023.

Specific market information will be set out in this section of each individual call for Expression of Interest launched in advance of the mission, providing summarized market insights for each targeted country.

2.2 Mission activities

While in the USA, Japan and Canada, the ADMANTEX2i project will propose a series of activities to bring together SMEs and other stakeholders, in order to create ideal conditions for business partnerships, technological innovation and technology transfer.

Depending on the scope of the mission, activities will draw from the following:

- Participation in trade fairs and salons
- B2B matchmaking events with local companies
- Tailored individual meetings
- Innovation ecosystem visits
- University and research visits
- Cluster to cluster meetings and agreements signature
- Informal networking events

A general agenda will be set out in this section of each individual call for Expression of Interest launched in advance of the mission, providing tailored advice on the expectations regarding the specific agendas.

3. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The financial support to third parties is aimed to support cluster members' participation in the above-mentioned missions organized by ADMANTEX2i to the USA, Japan and Canada.

At least, three months before each mission, calls for Expression of Interest will be launched by each ADMANTEX2i partner to their network, detailing the total budget available for its members to participate in each mission – with priority for SMEs.

The calls will be opened for 1 month and evaluated within 1 week of closing the call. Each cluster manages their own call for Expression of Interest and the evaluation process for applying entities. After the ranking, each cluster informs the ADMANTEX2i Steering Committee, before notifying the successful applicants of their selection for the financial support.

Selected companies will then sign a Sub-Grant Agreement with their local cluster specifying the terms and conditions of the financial support and the engagements of both parties.

ADMANTEX2i is aware that the costs for each mission may be higher than the support available and, as such, the selected entities are expected to co-finance their participation.

3.1. Available financial support

Each cluster has allocated a total of 9.000€ of financial support to third parties that will be distributed using cascade funding under an open call for expressions of interest jointly launched by each of the clusters for each mission, and communicated through the project website, European Cluster Collaboration Platform and social media.

Clusters will be able to adjust the cascade funding conditions to increase the number of participating cluster members by reducing the maximum reimbursement per mission and/or reducing the overall cap per third party.

Each cluster will be able to adjust the cascade funding conditions to increase the number of participating cluster members by reducing the maximum reimbursement per mission and/or reducing the overall cap per third party, i.e. each cluster may decide to support 3 companies with 1.000€ rather than 2 companies with 1.500€.

It is expected that 36 entities (including at least 30 SMEs) will benefit from financial support over the three missions.

3.2. Eligible costs

Eligible financial support will cover flight ticket and hotel invoice costs incurred when participating in an international mission organized by ADMANTEX2i, with a maximum reimbursement of 1.500€ per mission.

Over the course of the ADMANTEX2i project, financial support is capped at 3.000€ per eligible organization, with a mission cap of 1.500€ per eligible organization, therefore each eligible organization may participate in up to 2 missions receiving financial support.

3.3 Payment conditions

In general, payment of financial support will be made within 30 days of the mission taking place and/or the completion of the justification, whichever is later. Payments will be made against request submitted by the third party, supported by justification of costs incurred including flight ticket and hotel invoice.

Beneficiaries are expected to sign the attendance list of the mission and participate in pre-event and post-event sessions. Failure to do so may result in part or all financial support being withheld.

4. APPLICATION

4.1 Who can apply?

The calls for Expression of Interest are aimed at SMEs and other key stakeholders in the innovation chain, that are active members of the ADMANTEX2i clusters launching the EoI call. Specifically, the entities targeted by the calls for Expression of Interest include:

- SMEs, according to the [EU definition](#)
- Research and technical organizations (RTOs), including
 - Technical/competence centers
 - Applied research institutes
 - Technology transfer offices

Applications submitted by entities not corresponding to the above descriptions may be received and will be treated on a case-by-case basis.

4.2 How to apply?

Applicants must submit their application (the so called “Expression of Interest” – EOI in short) by completing the short Application form available at the following link www.admantex2i.eu/financial-support, and sending it to their cluster representative in charge of the local call before the close of the Expression of Interest call.

For all necessary questions and support in replying to the calls for expression of interest, applicants will reach out to their nearest contact point or referent cluster:

Country	Partner	Contact	Email
Spain	AEI TÈXTILS	Mònica CASTELLÀ	aeitextils@admantex2i.eu
	ATEVAL	Julia VERCHER	ateval@admantex2i.eu
Portugal	CITEVE	Maria José CARVALHO	citeve@admantex2i.eu
	PRODUTECH	Carla VAGOS	produtech@admantex2i.eu
France	EMC2	Fearghus ROCHE	emc2@admantex2i.eu
Italy	AFIL	Andrea MAZZOLENI	afil@admantex2i.eu

Table 2 - ADMANTEX2i contacts

4.3. Evaluation and selection criteria

Applications will be examined and ranked according to the following criteria:

- Complete application received before the close of the Expression of Interest call
- Applicant is a member of a cluster of the ADMANTEX2i partnership
- Applicant active in the advanced manufacturing or textile sector
- Development strategy in line with ADMANTEX2i objectives
- Articulated technological offer for target market
- Priority will be given to SMEs

After the close of each call, each cluster will inform the ADMANTEX2i Steering Committee of the applications which have met the evaluation criteria, the highest scoring applications, the number of candidates to be supported, as well as the allocated amounts for each entity, with a maximum of 1.500€ per entity.

Each local partner will then notify the successful applicants of their selection for the financial support and proceed to signature Sub Grant Agreement.

The following tool will be used to weight the different evaluation criteria and rank the received applications:

	Evaluation criteria	Max. Score
1	Complete application received before close of the Expression of Interest call Submission time ranking with 3 points decrements	20
2	Applicant is a member of a cluster of the ADMANTEX2i partnership	20
3	Applicant active in the advanced manufacturing or textile sector	10
4	Development strategy in line with ADMANTEX2i objectives	20
5	Articulated technological offer for target market	20
6	Priority for SMEs (+10pts)	10
	Total score	0-100

In the event of two or more applications receiving the same evaluation score, applications will be differentiated according to the following criteria and applied in the following order :

1. Preference will be given to companies who have not previously benefitted from financial support in the framework of the ADMANTEX2i project

2. Preference will be given to companies who declare an interest to participate in more than one international mission (even without financial support)
3. Where appropriate, preference will be given to companies with no previous export experience in the target countries of the ADMANTEX2i project

5. DATA PROTECTION

The General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679/EU) guarantees that the processing of data is carried out in compliance with the fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as the dignity of the data subject with particular reference to confidentiality, personal identity.

ADMANTEX2i consortium protects the information collected; the information is intended for the exclusive use of the ADMANTEX2i project.

Contacts and details of companies participating in international delegations may be shared with parties of 3rd countries outside EU for the organization of missions to USA, Japan and Canada.

6. DISCLAIMER

This Call for Expressions of Interest is part of the project ADMANTEX2i which has received funding from the European Union's COSME programme under grant agreement No. 101035895.

The content of this website represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility; it cannot be considered to reflect the views of the European Commission and/or the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA) or any other body of the European Union. The European Commission and the Agency do not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.