



# Admantex 2i

## Country Mission **TOKYO – NAGOYA** **JAPAN**

**March 11 – 15, 2024**



### **2<sup>nd</sup> CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SME PARTICIPATION TO THE INTERNATIONALISATION MISSION TO JAPAN**

**Publication date: 11/01/2024, 09:00 CET**

**Deadline for application: 01/02/2024, 18:00 CET**



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## 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 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	Ariadna DETRELL	<a href="mailto:aeitextils@admantex2i.eu">aeitextils@admantex2i.eu</a>
ATEVAL	Julia VERCHER	<a href="mailto:ateval@admantex2i.eu">ateval@admantex2i.eu</a>
CITEVE	Maria José CARVALHO	<a href="mailto:citeve@admantex2i.eu">citeve@admantex2i.eu</a>
PRODUTECH	Carla VAGOS	<a href="mailto:produtech@admantex2i.eu">produtech@admantex2i.eu</a>
EMC2	Fearghus ROCHE	<a href="mailto:emc2@admantex2i.eu">emc2@admantex2i.eu</a>
AFIL	Samuel NAZZARENO MONACO	<a href="mailto:afil@admantex2i.eu">afil@admantex2i.eu</a>

## 1.3 ADMANTEX2i SUPPORT MECHANISMS

ADMANTEX2i has established a comprehensive approach to facilitate SME participation in the missions organized by the consortium during the implementation phase. Support will consist of 4 major pillars :

- **Pre-mission coaching:** in order 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 :** *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, IPR 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.

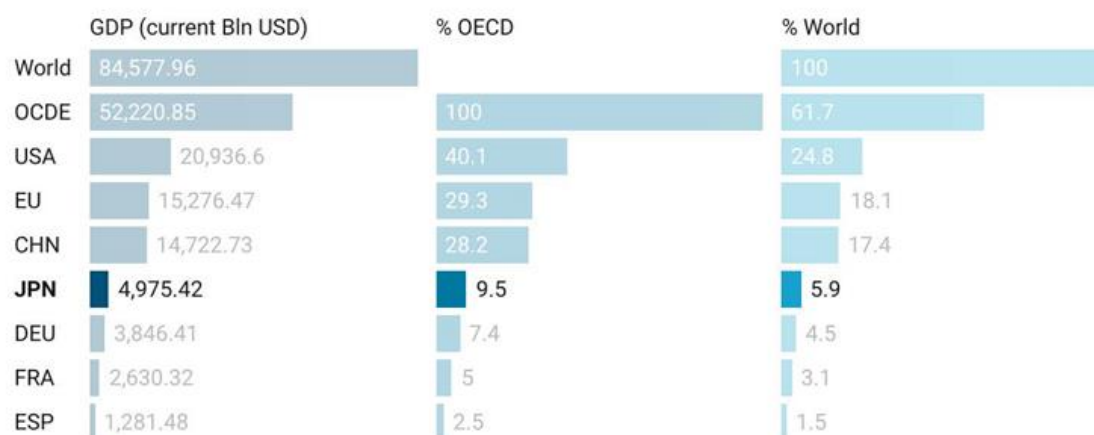
## 2. JAPAN COUNTRY MISSION

### 2.1. JAPAN MARKET OVERVIEW

#### 2.1.1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Japan is one of the five world economic leaders, the third-largest economy in 2020. Despite their modest growth rates in recent years, their unemployment rates remain low, with population ageing as one of its main challenges.

Japan sits at the fourth position in the world trade rankings in both imports and exports, and although its main trading partners remain China, Japan, the USA, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong and Thailand, in recent years, its trade exchange and agreements with the EU are increasing.



*Current GDP of Japan and leading economies (Source: World Development Indicators database (The World Bank 2021))*

#### 2.1.2. MARKET OUTLOOK

In Japan, the primary sector accounts for 1.1% of GDP and employs 3.4% of the workforce.

The country has few natural resources and relies heavily on imports to meet its raw material and energy needs. One of its greatest assets is fishing, making the country one of the world's largest producers of fish products. With only 11% of the area suitable for cultivation, agriculture is highly subsidised and protected, mainly dedicated to tea and rice.

The secondary sector accounted for 28.7% of GDP and 24.1% of the workforce. The industrial sector is diversified and internationalised, ranging from bare steel and paper

products to high-tech manufactured goods. The so-called "keiretsu" dominate Japan's industrial landscape. These companies have mutual shareholdings, interlocking boards of directors, and develop joint businesses in long-term commercial relationships. Among the most prominent groups are some such as Mitsubishi, Mitsui, Sumitomo and Marubeni.

Japan is a highly innovative country where 6% of GDP is invested in R+D+i.

Japan is a leader in automobile, robotics, biotechnology, nanotechnology and renewable energy sector. There is a substantial investment in R&D regarding manufacturing components and materials for high-tech sectors (electronics, automotive, aerospace, medicine, etc.).

The tertiary sector of the economy contributed 70.2% of GDP and employed 72.6% of the workforce. Financial services (banking and insurance), retailing, telecommunications and transportation stand out. Likewise, there has been a strong dynamism in tourism in recent years.

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### **2.1.3. MARKET OPPORTUNITIES**

Currently, several opportunities are unlocking to build new economic relations due to the new approach by Japanese authorities and the agreements already signed with Europe in recent years and Japan's agreement to international standardisation agreements or patents and trademarks.

The entry into force of the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (JEEPA) in 2019 represents an important milestone in trade and investment relations between EU and Japan that is the EU's second-biggest trading partner in Asia after China. The bilateral trade between Japan and the EU accounts for 9.2% exports to the EU while imports account for 11.4%.

In recent years Japan has been trying to open up, to generate new ties and agreements with other economies. It starts with the economies and industries of countries with interests, such as the countries that manufacture vehicles and institutions in the technological, normalisation and economic fields. This twist in its traditionally closed philosophy is because the change to society 5.0 will only be possible by creating alliances and learning from other countries. In recent years, in addition to its strong link to the USA economy since World War II and its neighbours,



Japan has begun to reach other types of agreements and relations with Europe concerning standardisation with Germany and textile innovation clusters with France.

Knowledge linked to both advanced manufacturing and technical and technological textiles from Europe and Japan can be complementary, and therefore collaboration between the two economies can strengthen both parties. The Japanese market is demanding, but today no more complex than any developed economy. In Europe, companies in these sectors have also been trained and have exciting and differential proposals that can be attractive to the Japanese.

### **Automotive**

Japan is among the largest and most technologically advanced producers of vehicles (the world's third-largest domestic automobile car production), industrial robots (global share of approximately 60%), and machine tools (third in the world with a 16,8% market share).

The automotive sector is one of the three main pillars of its economy, and it is meant to continue to be, but as its the evolution goes through decarbonisation, implying fuels and all kinds of materials used in manufacturing seek to improve collaboration with their business partners to continue at the forefront of the sector.

### **Aerospace**

The international civil aircraft market is a growing market expected to increase by approximately 5% annually.

- By integrating advanced technologies with high-grade materials and components, the aerospace industry utilizes a wide range of supporting industries, and its technology also spreads to other sectors, thus benefiting the whole economy.
- Through high-speed transportation, disaster prevention, and other similar activities, this industry contributes to improving Japan's daily lives.
- As one of the essential defence components, the aerospace industry is directly linked to national security.

## **Advanced Manufacturing**

The advanced manufacturing industry is closely related to the Japanese concept of "Society 5.0", a human-centred society that balances economic advances with the resolution of social problems by a system integrating cyberspace and physical space.

Japan spends the most significant percentage of its GDP on R&D. It has vital manufacturing sectors (vehicle, information technology, electronics, robots, and satellites), where industry partnerships are more prevalent than academic ones. Japanese vision is to integrate Advanced Manufacturing (SM, IM, IoT, ...) throughout the value chains of every industry. In this scope, there are plenty of opportunities when offering solutions that can improve their main sectors and all their industries.

## **Advanced technological textiles**

Japan is a leader in manufacturing advanced technological textiles, especially carbon fibre, and still has many SMEs that need to adapt to the new reality.

Therefore, the Japanese government is developing programs to promote the modernisation and reconversion of this industry. The applications of technological fabrics to the automotive industry and now to the aerospace industry are focused on using light, less polluting fabrics, eliminating migrations during the production process and, in the use of waste, targeting 100% recycling of materials to achieve its circular economy and decarbonisation linked objectives. Other efforts in textiles focus on developments with composites, nanocomposites and carbon fibres, mainly concentrated on the application in the automotive and aerospace sectors.

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### **2.1.4. INNOVATIVE COMPANIES**

The Toray Group specialised in textiles, fibres and carbon filter composites, among other products declared will help to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and help to realise a carbon-neutral world by 2050 by expanding the Green Innovation businesses that have long been a Toray focus, including renewable energy, hydrogen, and materials for electrification, and by developing products that help with greenhouse gas absorption, such as CO<sub>2</sub> separation membranes.

JAMCO specialising in interiors and flighting seats, became one of the major partners when the seat supplier for Airbus failed with technical problems and was requested to resolve them some years ago. As a result, in 2021, the new Venture Pristine clean solution for the aircraft interior was launched.

Teijin has over 30 years of pioneering expertise in the manufacture of carbon fibre. Committed to quality, innovation, and customer-oriented service and technology has driven into a leading position in the world carbon fibre market. Furthermore, product developments like Carbon Fibre are an incredibly versatile material, with a wide range of applications, including satellite, Launch Vehicle, aircraft, car parts, and several sports goods.

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#### **2.1.5. OTHER INFORMATION**

Business size can be the most crucial problem; consequently, cooperation between groups or institutions of European companies with Japanese entities of the same level may be advisable to establish business relationships. To provide that cooperation, there are entities and support channels from both the EU through the "EU JAPAN CENTRE" and Japan's JETRO.

Japanese business culture is not as difficult to read as most companies believe. Tolerance, honesty, respect for their corporate customs and a long-term commitment to business success are the main components of success in Japan. However, some aspects of Japan's commercial culture, especially the long-term relationships resulting from the Japanese traditionalist sense of loyalty to reliable partners, can be advantageous for foreign companies.

As a result, Japan is a stable, sophisticated and advanced market for business: commitments are honored, things happen on time, and Intellectual property (IP) is well protected. Japanese are demanding and incredibly thorough when evaluating quality, design, and customer service. They appreciate product information, customer support, delivery, and marketing as essential factors for assessing the product's quality and choosing the product that better suits their requirements. Choosing a reputable distributor can simplify market entry, give credibility before local players, and provide proper distribution of your product.

## 2.2 JAPAN MISSION ACTIVITIES

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### 2.2.1. MISSION PROFILE

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The ADMANTEX2i Japan mission will take place from **March 11<sup>th</sup> until March 15<sup>th</sup>**, 2024.

The specific objectives of this mission to Japan are to identify potential **business and technological partnerships** for the travelling European companies, while more generally exploring this important global market and its **diverse opportunities for textile and advanced manufacturing companies**. The ADMANTEX2i consortium is working hand-in-hand with Japanese companies and business associations in order to identify collaboration opportunities and business contacts for the European companies and to organize industrial visits and B2B meetings for travelling companies.

In particular, the mission will include 2 days of industrial visits and 3 days participating at a world leading trade fair and business convention, the [Smart Manufacturing Summit](#), which will be held at the Aichi Sky Expo from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. Dedicated to Japanese and European Innovations for Industry 5.0, the summit will be organised into technological pavilions of particular interest to the ADMANTEX2i consortium, namely: Automation & Mechatronics; Advanced Technologies & Materials; Digital Ecosystems; New Energies; Sustainable Manufacturing and Smart Mobilities. In parallel, **site visits** to industrial Japanese companies located in Aichi prefecture and **B2B meetings** will be organised over the 3 days in order to increase the visibility of the European delegation and identify business opportunities.

The event will facilitate access for the European delegation to meet with industrial manufacturers, Japanese start-ups and government representatives in order to launch technological projects, create partnerships or set up operations in Japan.

The **industrial site visits** to some of Japan's leading companies and innovative SMEs in the fields of **advanced manufacturing** and **textiles** will provide crucial contacts for future collaborations and foster the sharing of best practices in terms of **digitalisation and sustainability**.

In addition to the programme of B2B meetings and industrial visits, structured **networking activities** will also be carried out **among the European delegation** in order to boost opportunities for business and innovation partnerships on a European level.

The participating delegation will be composed of **SMEs** and **Research and technical organisations (RTOs)** from **France, Italy, Portugal and Spain**, as well as cluster representatives from ADMANTEX2i partners, and will number between 18 – 26 participants.

## 2.2.2. CONFIRMED PROGRAMME

The mission programme will focus on three areas, Tokyo, Akashi/Kobe and Nagoya/Aichi.

On Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, the delegation will be visiting the [Japan Chemical Fibers Association](#) (JCFA) in the morning and the [Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency](#) (JAXA), at the Chofu Aerospace Center in Tokyo surroundings, in the afternoon.

On Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, the delegation will be visiting an industrial facility of [Kawasaki Heavy Industries](#) in Akashi, Hyōgo Prefecture, in the morning and the [Kawasaki Robot Showroom](#), in the afternoon.

On Tuesday evening the group will travel to Nagoya for the [Smart Manufacturing Summit](#) at the Aichi Sky Expo, in Aichi Prefecture, where activities will be organised from Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of March.

The final agenda is presented below:

11th March 2024	12th March 2024	13th March 2024	14th March 2024	15th March 2024
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
TOKYO	KOBE/NAGOYA	NAGOYA - TOKONAME, AICHI	NAGOYA - TOKONAME, AICHI	NAGOYA - TOKONAME, AICHI
JAPAN CHEMICAL FIBERS ASSOCIATION (JCFA) TOKYO	KAWASAKI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD. AKASHI WORKS AKASHI			SMART MANUFACTURING SUMMIT AICHI SKY EXPO
LUNCH BREAK / TRANSFER TO JAXA	LUNCH	SMART MANUFACTURING SUMMIT AICHI SKY EXPO	SMART MANUFACTURING SUMMIT AICHI SKY EXPO	FREE LUNCH
JAPAN AEROSPACE CENTER visit CHOFU AEROSPACE CENTER & AERODROME BRANCH TOKYO SURROUNDINGS	KAWASAKI ROBOT SHOWROOM NISHI-KOBE			RETURN TO EUROPE (VIA TOKYO - HANEDA AIRPORT OR OSAKA)
TRAVEL TO KOBE/NISHI-AKASHI	TRAVEL TO NAGOYA/DELEGATION DINNER	FREE DINNER	FREE DINNER	END OF THE MISSION

## Organizations profiles

### ➤ **Japan Chemical Fibers Association:**

[JCFA](#) integrates chemical fiber manufacturers and chemical fiber spinning firms in Japan, aiming at promoting the development of the Japanese chemical fiber industry, namely on regenerated fibers, synthetic and semi-synthetic fibers as well as inorganic fibers (glass, carbon, metallic).

Their regular members include the following companies: Teijin Limited; Toray Industries, Inc.; Kuraray Co., Ltd.; Toyobo Co., Ltd; Asahi Kasei Corporation; Unitika, Ltd.; Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation; Fujibo Holdings, Inc.; Nitto Boseki Co.; Seiren Co., Ltd.; Daiwabo Co., Ltd.; Kaneka Corporation; Nitivy Co., Ltd.; Nippon Ester Co., Ltd; Tai-Ray Co., Ltd.; Kureha Corporation; Osaka Gas Chemicals Co., Ltd.; Nippon Graphite Fiber corporation; Spiber Inc.

### ➤ **Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency:**

[JAXA](#) supports the Japanese government's overall aerospace development and utilization. JAXA conducts integrated operations from basic research and development, to utilization. JAXA provides a broad range of opportunities to industries to help private companies enter the space business, broadening the base of the aerospace industry and enhancing international competitiveness.

The opportunities include programs to share the intellectual property acquired through aerospace research and experience, to allow industries to use the test facilities, to offer a system for cooperative research, and to provide launch opportunities for small secondary satellites. JAXA puts **emphasis on international cooperation**, and currently most of the projects have been conducted through international cooperation.

The [Chofu Aerospace Center](#) serves as JAXA's major aeronautical research and development base. In particular, research into aviation is the main feature that characterizes the Center, which is equipped with large-scale and specialized test facilities, such as wind tunnels, aeroengine test facilities, research aircraft, and a supercomputer.

➤ **Kawaski Heavy Industries:**

[Kawasaki Heavy Industries](#) comprises a technology corporate group that encompasses a wide range of technological products and capabilities in diverse fields that go beyond land, sea, and air, extending from the ocean depths to space.

The aerospace division is active in products ranging from aircraft to satellites. The products delivered by the rolling stock division include Shinkansen and New York subway cars, while the ship and offshore structure division's products range from gas carriers and large tankers to submarines. The energy solutions division covers the spectrum from development and manufacture of energy equipment to management systems. The company is also active in wide-ranging businesses driven by diverse and high-level engineering technologies, including environmental and recycling plants, industrial plants, precision machinery, industrial robots, and infrastructure equipment. Finally, on the leisure and power products business, the motorcycles are well known as the Kawasaki brand.

The [Kawasaki Robot Showroom](#) features industrial robots working in actual workplaces and is located in the robot production site. This showroom is not open to the public, so it is an opportunity to visit it within the Admantex2i mission.

➤ **[SMART MANUFACTURING SUMMIT:](#)**

The 1st edition of Smart Manufacturing Summit represents significant step forward in the global cooperation between Europe and Japan facing challenges of the industry. It will be an innovative event format dedicated to innovation and business opportunities for the industry: a matchmaking solution, pitch sessions, conferences, visits of smart factories, and will have the the presence and the support of key stakeholders: industry leaders, governments, clusters of innovations, startups.

The program includes:

- The Smart Manufacturing Expo (***Admantex2i will have a booth that can be used as meeting point for mission participants***) and a showcase/demonstration area devoted to state-of-the-art machinery and the latest technologies for smart manufacturing
- Factory visits, different tours to local industrial sites are being organised (***Admantex2i mission participants will be given the opportunity to register***)

- Business summit with keynote speeches ([programme](#))
- Innovation Showcase giving opportunity for startups to present their companies in advantageous conditions

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### 2.2.3. LOGISTICS

Local ADMANTEX2i contact points will provide their participating companies with the necessary logistical information in advance of the mission, notably:

- Suggested flights
- Suggested hotels
- Commuting options in Japan
- Contacts for translators

Delegates are responsible for their own reservations and based on their own personal and/or corporate criteria may choose to travel or lodge separately from the delegation if they so wish.



### 3. CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

This 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Expression of Interest (Eol) has been launched in order to engage SMEs and RTOs in the participation in the mission to Japan which will take place from 11/03 to 15/03, 2024.

This Call for Eols will distribute the financial support to PRODUTECH cluster members needed to attend the ADMANTEX2i mission to Japan.

This Call for Expression of Interest is published on the project website and is regulated by the Call for Expression of Interest Guidelines available on the project website [www.admantex2i.eu/financial-support](http://www.admantex2i.eu/financial-support).

This Call for Expression of Interest is public and communicated through the project website, European Cluster Collaboration Platform and social media.

#### **Key facts about the current Call for Eols:**

**Call publication Date:** 11/01/2024, 09:00 CET

**Submission deadline:** 01/02/2024, 18:00 CET

**Submission by email to:** [produtech@admantex2i.eu](mailto:produtech@admantex2i.eu)

**Eol Evaluation period:** 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

**Eol Ranking:** 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

**Total call budget:** €3000

**Financial support will cover the following expenses:**

- International travel
- Hotel/accommodation

#### 3.1. AVAILABLE FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Each ADMANTEX2i cluster has allocated a total of 3.000€ of financial support to third parties that will be distributed using cascade funding under this open call for expressions of interest jointly launched by each of the clusters.

The maximum amount of financial support available through this call for each selected third party is 1.500€.

Selected companies will sign a sub-grant agreement with PRODUTECH, specifying the terms and conditions of the financial support and the engagements of both parties.

It is expected that at least 12 entities will benefit from financial support for this mission, representing at least 2 entities receiving support per cluster.

### **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. The maximum financial contribution of ADMANTEX2i to the third party participating in the international mission shall be EUR 1.500€ (One thousand, five hundred euros) in the form of a lump sum.

The actual financial contribution of ADMANTEX2i shall be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the sub grant agreement and will cover 100% of real and justifiable travel and accommodation costs up to the limit of 1.500€, exceeding which the remainder is co-financed by the third party beneficiary.

Over the course of the ADMANTEX2i project, FSTP 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 as per sub grant agreement signed by beneficiaries, 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.

Recipients of financial support must ensure that the European Commission, the Agency, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and the European Anti-Fraud Office can exercise their rights carry out checks reviews or audits.

## 4. APPLICATION

### 4.1 WHO CAN APPLY ?

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

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

### 4.2 HOW TO APPLY ?

Applicants must submit their application (the so called “Expression of Interest” – EOI in short) by completing the short Annex 1 available at the following link, [admantex2i.eu/financial-support](https://admantex2i.eu/financial-support), and sending it to [produtech@admantex2i.eu](mailto:produtech@admantex2i.eu) before the **01/02/2024, 18:00 CET**.

For all necessary questions and support in replying to the calls for expression of interest, please reach out to your ADMANTEX2i contact point.

### 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 PRODUTECH
- Applicant active in the advanced manufacturing sector
- Development strategy in line with ADMANTEX2i objectives
- Articulated technological offer for target market
- Priority will be given to SMEs

After the close of the call – and no later than 09/02/2024 – successful applicants will be notified of their selection for the financial support, the conditions of said support and proceed to signature of the 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 PRODUTECH	20
3	Applicant active in the advanced manufacturing 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
	<b>Total score</b>	<b>0-100</b>

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.

The initial evaluation will be carried out by PRODUTECH before validation by the ADMANTEX2i Steering Committee.

## 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 organisation of missions to USA, Japan and Canada, by applying, participants confirm consent.

## 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.

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Mistakes or inconsistencies: The ADMANTEX2i consortium is not responsible for any mistakes or misinterpretations that this text may cause. In the case of inconsistencies, the ADMANTEX2i Consortium will determine the steps to be taken, in cooperation with the applicant concerned.

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