



Funded by
the European Union



primary

ANNEX 12 Frequently Asked Questions

Open Call for Financial Support to Third parties as a mechanism to test, promote, validate, replicate PRIMARY business model blueprints and develop new value chains

Disclaimer

Funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

© 2026 PRIMARY Consortium

This document contains unpublished original work unless clearly stated otherwise. Previously published material and the work of others have been acknowledged by appropriate citation or quotation, or both. Reproduction is authorized provided the source is acknowledged.

1. Where can I find more details on the Open Call? Any Guide for Applicants?

The PRIMARY Open Call kit (with all relevant documents and instructions) can be found on the PRIMARY project website under the Open Call tab (<https://www.primary-project.eu/open-call/>).

2. Are single applicants eligible to apply, or is this call meant for consortia only?

For the PRIMARY Open Call, only consortia of 2-3 partners can apply. Single applicants are not eligible. Consortia with more than 3 entities will be rejected during the eligibility criteria evaluation phase.

3. How many applications can one (1) entity submit? And how many of them can be selected for funding?

Applicants can participate in only one (1) consortium and participate in the call with only one (1) proposal. If multiple versions of the same application are submitted, only the last version will be evaluated.

4. Can entities from non-EU countries submit proposals to the PRIMARY Open Call?

Applicants from non-EU countries may apply if they are eligible under the Horizon Europe Regulation 2021/695 and the List of Participating Countries (Horizon Europe: V3.8 – 12.02.2026) and are explicitly included in the list of eligible countries provided in Section 2.2.3 of the PRIMARY Open Call Applicants' Guide. Applicants from countries not included in this list are not eligible to participate in the PRIMARY Open Call.

5. Can successful applicants receive payment in advance after contracting?

In all selected sub-projects, payments are deliverable-based, meaning that the sub-grantees need to deliver a specific report after the end of each phase to receive the payment (no prefinancing is foreseen). First payment will take place after the submission and evaluation of the first deliverable in M04.

6. For how long will the platform accept proposals?

The platform will open for proposal submission on the 9th of March 2026, and it will remain open until 17:00 CEST on the 8th of June 2026.

7. It is stated that applications must be submitted in the form of a consortium consisting of 2–3 partners, with the following details:

- **At least one technical partner (the entity responsible for the implementation or validation of the technology),**
- **At least one public or private sector partner (for example, a producer, cooperative, SME, research organization, or civil society organization).**

In this context, can the technical partner be a university? Or is it expected to be an SME?

According to the Applicants' Guide:

"A technical partner must have the capacity to implement, operate, or adapt processes, technologies, tools, or methodologies relevant to the valorisation of underutilised agricultural residues, in line with the objectives of PRIMARY. The technical partner should enable practical testing and validation of the proposed solution under real or pilot-scale conditions, supporting the assessment of technical feasibility, adaptability, and replicability."

Please note that the final determination of suitability of all consortium members will be made by the external evaluators during the evaluation process.

When establishing the consortium structure, should partners from different countries be included? Or is it possible to apply to the relevant call with a consortium formed within a single country?

There is no such restriction on the consortium's composition. A consortium may be composed of organisations from the same or different countries, provided that it meets the Open Call eligibility criteria. These include forming a consortium of 2–3 legal entities and including the required partner roles (at least one technical partner and at least one public or private sector partner).

8. Is Turkey eligible for proposal submission?

According to the Applicants' Guide, the Open Call is open to legal entities established in countries eligible for funding through Horizon Europe.

For further clarification, we kindly refer you to FAQ Question 4: "Can entities from non-EU countries submit proposals to the PRIMARY Open Call?"

According to this guidance: Applicants from non-EU countries may apply if they are eligible under the Horizon Europe Regulation (EU) 2021/695 and the List of Participating Countries (Horizon Europe: V3.8 – 12.02.2026), and if they are explicitly included in the list of eligible countries provided in Section 2.2.3 of the PRIMARY Open Call Applicants' Guide. Applicants from countries not included in this list are not eligible to participate in the PRIMARY Open Call.

9. I am writing to request clarification regarding the eligibility criteria for consortium composition in the current call. Specifically, I would like to confirm whether it is permissible for all members of the consortium to be from the same country, provided that they meet all other eligibility requirements outlined in the call documentation. I would be grateful if you could confirm whether this configuration is acceptable or if there are any restrictions or recommendations regarding the geographical distribution of consortium partners.

There is no such restriction on the consortium's composition. A consortium may be composed of organisations from the same or different countries, provided that it meets the Open Call eligibility criteria.

These include forming a consortium of 2–3 legal entities and including the required partner roles (at least one technical partner and at least one public or private sector partner).

10. Could you please confirm whether applicants are expected to test and adopt your technology, or whether we are allowed to implement and test our own technological solutions, as long as they address the challenges defined in your call?

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals are expected to pilot and adapt at least one (≥ 1) of the PRIMARY processing concepts (such as biorefinery, fermentation, fibre-forming, pelletizing, or pyrolysis/gasification), and to contribute to the validation, adaptation, and replicability of PRIMARY solutions and business model blueprints.

Will applicants retain ownership of their intellectual property (IP)?

As stated in the Applicants' Guide: "Each Sub-grantee shall retain ownership of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) attached to the results it generates during the development process, as well as any other results that do not constitute IPRs. Each Sub-grantee is individually responsible for the management and protection of its own IPRs and shall bear any associated costs. The Sub-grantees funded within the PRIMARY project will be the unique owners of the technologies created within the framework of their sub-granted projects. Parts of their works will be requested to be public for PRIMARY dissemination purposes."

11. Can a consortium from Albania apply? Or it should be a consortium with EU partners, that will give us more chances?

According to the Applicants' Guide, participation in the PRIMARY Open Call is open to legal entities established in countries eligible for Horizon Europe funding, as defined in the applicable programme rules and in Section 2.2.3 of the Guide.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to verify whether their country is included in the list of eligible or associated countries under Horizon Europe. Additional clarification is also provided in the Open Call FAQ (e.g. regarding participation of non-EU countries), which applicants are advised to consult.

12. How strictly is the notion of "rural area" defined within the Open Call? Would peri-urban zones with strong links to agricultural or land management activities be considered eligible?

According to the Applicants' Guide, activities should be implemented in rural European regions, defined at NUTS 3 level, and specifically in regions not already involved in the PRIMARY project. The Guide does not provide a strict definition distinguishing rural from peri-urban areas. Applicants are therefore encouraged to justify the relevance of their selected region in relation to rural bioeconomy development and alignment with the Open Call objectives.

In general, a rural area is a geographic area that is located outside towns and cities. Typical rural areas have a low population density and small settlements. Agricultural areas and areas with forestry are typically described as rural, as well as other areas lacking substantial development.

Would biomass originating from landscape maintenance (e.g. wild *Arundo donax* currently treated as green waste) be considered an eligible “underutilised agricultural or agro-industrial residue”?

The Applicants' Guide specifies that proposals should use at least one underutilised agricultural residue, including examples such as crop residues, pruning biomass, greenhouse by-products, or grass/silage. It also allows for the use of similar feedstocks, provided that their characteristics and valorisation pathways are comparable and aligned with the project's objectives. Applicants are therefore encouraged to demonstrate how their proposed biomass fits within this scope and contributes to sustainable biomass utilisation.

Would partnerships with actors such as natural reserves, public land managers, or green maintenance companies be considered relevant partners within a consortium?

The Open Call requires consortia of 2–3 legal entities, including at least one technical partner and at least one partner acting as an end user (from the public or private sector). Any organisation whose role and activities align with the requirements and descriptions outlined in the Applicants' Guide may be considered eligible to participate. Applicants are expected to form relevant partnerships that support the implementation and validation of the proposed value chain, and to clearly justify the role of each partner in the consortium.

To what extent must projects rely on PRIMARY-developed technologies? Is it acceptable to use our own processing technology (in our case, a proprietary defibration and pressing process for producing bio-based panels) while aligning with a broader category such as “fibre-forming technology”?

As per the Applicants' Guide, proposals should incorporate at least one of the defined PRIMARY processing concepts and contribute to the validation, adaptation, and replicability of PRIMARY solutions and business model blueprints. At the same time, the Open Call foresees adaptation to local conditions and contexts. Applicants are therefore encouraged to explain how their proposed approach aligns with the relevant PRIMARY processing concept(s) and contributes to the overall objectives of the call.

We are developing a proprietary material and process, and need clarity on how IP is handled within the framework of the Open Call.

The Applicants' Guide states that intellectual property rights related to the sub-granted projects remain with the respective project partners, subject to the applicable contractual framework and obligations. Applicants are encouraged to review the relevant sections on IPR ownership and obligations, as well as the indicative Sub-grant Agreement, for further details.

Are projects expected to include full pilot-scale demonstrations, or can they focus on structuring and validating a value chain (e.g. supply chain organisation, stakeholder engagement, business model validation)?

The Open Call aims to support projects that test, adapt, and validate processing solutions and business model blueprints under real conditions, generating evidence on technical feasibility, economic viability, and replicability. Applicants are therefore encouraged to design proposals that demonstrate a clear implementation and validation approach, while also addressing value chain development and business model aspects, in line with the objectives described in the Applicants' Guide.

Please note that the final assessment of the suitability of the consortium composition and partners will be performed by the external evaluators during the evaluation process.

13. Could you please confirm whether a private non-profit RTO is eligible to participate as a partner in a consortium?

According to the Applicants' Guide, the PRIMARY Open Call is open to legal entities established in countries eligible for Horizon Europe funding, including organisations such as universities, research organisations, SMEs, start-ups, cooperatives, NGOs, and other relevant actors involved in the sustainable valorisation of agricultural residues.

Additionally, the Open Call requires that proposals are submitted by consortia of 2–3 legal entities, including at least one technical partner and at least one private or public sector partner acting as an end user.

In this context, organisations whose role and activities align with the requirements and descriptions outlined in the Applicants' Guide may be considered eligible to participate

Please note that the final assessment of the suitability of the consortium composition and partners will be performed by the external evaluators during the evaluation process.

14. Do you offer matchmaking services in this context, e.g. would it be possible to get to know about consortia looking for (a) partner(s)?

The PRIMARY Open Call does not include a dedicated matchmaking service.

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals must be submitted by consortia of 2–3 partners, which are expected to be formed by the applicants themselves prior to submission.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to identify and establish their own partnerships through their existing networks, professional contacts, or relevant sectoral platforms.

Do project consortia need to be cross-border?

The Applicants' Guide does not specify any requirement for consortia to be cross-border. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to form consortia that best support the implementation and validation of their proposed project, in line with the Open Call objectives and eligibility criteria.

15. Can we apply for this open call (Primary) from Bangladesh?

According to the Applicants' Guide, participation in the PRIMARY Open Call is open to legal entities established in countries eligible for Horizon Europe funding, as defined in the applicable programme rules and in Section 2.2.3 of the Guide.

For further clarification, we kindly refer you to the Open Call FAQ (Question 4), which states that applicants from non-EU countries may participate only if they are eligible under the Horizon Europe Regulation (EU) 2021/695 and included in the list of participating countries. Applicants from countries not included in this list are not eligible to participate.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to verify whether their country is included in the list of eligible or associated countries under Horizon Europe.

16. Should we apply if it's for Africa, not Europe?

According to the Applicants' Guide, the PRIMARY Open Call supports projects that are implemented in rural European regions, with the aim of validating and replicating solutions within the European context.

Applicants are therefore expected to design proposals that align with this geographical scope, including the implementation of activities and validation of solutions within eligible European regions.

Additionally, we encourage you to carefully review the scope and objectives of the Open Call to assess whether your proposed project aligns with these requirements.

17. Hello, we have a question regarding the eligible processing technologies. Using pyrolysis, we produce both biochar and wood vinegar (pyroligneous

acid). From the latter, we are able to extract molecules that serve as precursors for plastic materials. Would this approach be eligible under this open call, or are we required to focus specifically on particle boards?

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals are expected to incorporate at least one (≥ 1) of the PRIMARY processing concepts, which include technologies such as pyrolysis/gasification, biorefinery processes, submerged and solid state fermentation, fibre-forming, or pelletizing. The Open Call does not prescribe specific end-products (such as particle boards). Instead, it focuses on the validation, adaptation, and replicability of processing concepts and value chains based on underutilised agricultural residues. Applicants are therefore encouraged to demonstrate how their proposed approach aligns with the relevant PRIMARY processing concept (e.g. pyrolysis), and how it contributes to the objectives of the Open Call, including technical feasibility, economic viability, and value chain development.

The final assessment of alignment and eligibility will be carried out by independent external experts during the evaluation process.

18. I was wondering if algae biomass (micro/macro) was eligible as feedstock for the open call? Indeed, it can be a residue in some cases.

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals should use at least one (≥ 1) underutilised agricultural residue, including examples such as cotton by-products, olive tree pruning, greenhouse residues, or grass.

The Guide also allows for the use of similar feedstocks, provided that their characteristics, availability, and valorisation pathways are comparable and aligned with the objectives of the Open Call.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to carefully assess and justify how their proposed feedstock fits within the definition of underutilised agricultural residues and aligns with the scope and objectives of PRIMARY.

The final determination of eligibility will be made by the external evaluators during the evaluation process.

19. My question is about consortia. Should the consortium members be from different countries?

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals must be submitted by consortia of 2–3 legal entities fulfilling the required partner roles.

The Guide does not specify any requirement for consortia to be composed of partners from different countries. Applicants are therefore encouraged to form consortia that best support the implementation and validation of their proposed project, in line with the Open Call objectives and eligibility criteria.

20. Shall private company apply solely?

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals must be submitted by a consortium of 2–3 legal entities.

Therefore, applications from a single organisation (including a private company applying alone) are not in line with the submission requirements. Applicants are expected to form a consortium that fulfils the required partner roles as described in the Guide.

21. Can all members of a consortium be from Lebanon?

According to the Applicants' Guide, participation in the Open Call is open to legal entities established in countries eligible for Horizon Europe funding, as defined in the applicable programme rules and in Section 2.2.3 of the Guide. Applicants are therefore encouraged to verify whether their country is included in the list of eligible or associated countries under Horizon Europe. The final determination of eligibility will be carried out during the eligibility check.

Is there a preference or benefit for a consortium to include at least one EU partner?

The Applicants' Guide does not specify any preference or advantage related to the geographical composition of the consortium. Proposals are evaluated based on the criteria described in the Guide, provided that all eligibility requirements are met.

Can the proposed project be implemented directly in Lebanon?

According to the Applicants' Guide, projects funded under the Open Call are expected to be implemented in rural European regions that are not already involved in the PRIMARY project.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to ensure that their proposed activities and implementation location align with this requirement.

22. Do partners need to financially match or co-fund the grant?

According to the Applicants' Guide, the financial support provided through the Open Call is granted as a lump sum, linked to the completion of specific phases and deliverables of the sub-project.

The Guide does not specify a requirement for applicants to provide co-funding or financial matching. Applicants are therefore encouraged to carefully review the conditions described in the Applicants' Guide and the Sub-grant Agreement for the detailed financial provisions.

Do partners need to financially contribute to the project?

The Open Call funding is designed to support the implementation of the proposed activities through the defined lump-sum mechanism. Therefore, no financial contribution is required from any consortium member, as the Open Call provides 100% funding for eligible costs.

23. I am writing to inquire about the eligibility criteria for the PRIMARY Open Call regarding sustainable agricultural waste valorisation.

We are currently developing a circular bioeconomy project focused on the valorisation of seaweed captured near beaches as waste. Our goal is to transform this underutilised coastal/marine biomass into valuable products.

While we note that your call focuses heavily on rural economies, farmers, and terrestrial agricultural residues, we wanted to clarify if our feedstock—beach-cast seaweed—could be considered an eligible biomass under your guidelines. Since our project aligns closely with the PRIMARY call's broader objectives of circular economy, waste beneficiation, and bioeconomy innovations, we would love to know if a consortium built around this feedstock would be eligible to apply.

Could you please confirm if projects utilizing marine/coastal waste as their primary feedstock fall within the acceptable scope for this funding opportunity?

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals should use at least one (≥ 1) underutilised agricultural residue, including grass, greenhouse residues, cotton by-products, and olive tree prunings, or similar feedstocks, such as crop residues (e.g. cotton stalks, cereal straw), pruning biomass (e.g. olive, vineyard), greenhouse by-products (e.g. stems/leaves), or grass/silage, provided that their characteristics, availability, and valorisation pathways are comparable and aligned with the objectives of the Open Call.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to carefully assess and justify how their proposed feedstock fits within the definition of underutilised agricultural residues and how it aligns with the scope and objectives of PRIMARY, particularly in relation to rural bioeconomy value chains.

The final determination of eligibility and scope alignment will be carried out during the eligibility check and evaluation process by independent evaluators.

24. We would be grateful for your clarification regarding the countries eligible for the implementation of sub-project activities.

Section 2.2.3 outlines the countries whose legal entities are eligible to participate in the Open Call. However, we would like to understand whether the implementation of sub-project activities — including pilot demonstrations, feedstock valorisation trials, and business model validation — is restricted to EU Member States only, or whether it may extend to Horizon Europe Associated Countries, in accordance with the Horizon Europe rules for participation.

In this regard, we would appreciate your guidance on whether such activities could be carried out in countries such as Ukraine (excluding non-government-controlled territories), Moldova, and Armenia, given that these countries have active association agreements with Horizon Europe that have started to produce legal effects.

According to the Applicants' Guide, participation in the Open Call is open to legal entities "established and based in one of the EU Member States or an HE Associated country as defined in HE rules for participation (Section 2.2.3.)".

Regarding the implementation of sub-project activities, the Applicants' Guide specifies that projects are expected to be carried out in rural European regions (NUTS 3 level) that are not already involved in the PRIMARY project.

The Guide does not explicitly distinguish between EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries in terms of implementation locations. Applicants are therefore encouraged to ensure alignment with both the geographical scope of the Open Call (European regions) and the Horizon Europe eligibility framework, and to clearly justify the proposed implementation context in their application.

The final determination of eligibility and compliance with geographical requirements will be carried out during the eligibility check and evaluation process by independent evaluators.

25. I am interested in building a pilot biorefinery according to PRIMARY, but I was wondering if grass applies to all fibrous forages for ruminants? If not, how do you define grass?

According to the Applicants' Guide, eligible feedstocks include specific streams such as grass, greenhouse residues, cotton by-products, and olive tree prunings, as well as similar underutilised agricultural residues, provided that their characteristics, availability, and valorisation pathways are comparable and aligned with the objectives of the Open Call.

The Guide does not provide a more detailed or technical definition of "grass." Applicants are therefore encouraged to clearly describe and justify their selected feedstock within the proposal, including how it aligns with the scope of underutilised agricultural residues and contributes to the objectives of PRIMARY.

The final determination of alignment and eligibility will be carried out during the eligibility check and evaluation process by independent evaluators.

26. Could you please advise on the best way to find or join a consortium for this call? Are there recommended platforms, partner search tools or networking events associated with PRIMARY?

Please note that PRIMARY does not provide matchmaking or partner search services for the Open Call. Applicants are expected to identify and establish their consortiums independently, based on their networks and relevant stakeholders.

Does the consortium need to consist of partners from the same country or is it encouraged/required to include partners from different countries?

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals must be submitted by consortia of 2–3 legal entities fulfilling the required partner roles.

The Guide does not specify any requirement for consortia to include partners from different countries. Applicants are therefore encouraged to form consortia that best support the implementation and validation of their proposed project, in line with the Open Call objectives and eligibility criteria.

27. My colleague drew my attention to your initiative. It may well meet your criteria. However, we are not based in Finland or Greece. Is this out of the question for us, or can we discuss it?

According to the Applicants' Guide, participation in the Open Call is open to legal entities established and based in one of the EU Member States or a Horizon Europe Associated Country, as defined in the Horizon Europe rules for participation (Section 2.2.3).

The Open Call is not limited to organisations based in Finland or Greece, and there is no requirement to be located in countries that are part of the PRIMARY consortium.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to verify their eligibility under the Horizon Europe framework and ensure alignment with the Open Call requirements.

28. We would like to kindly ask whether the call scope is strictly focused on agricultural residues in rural contexts, or if urban leaf biomass and municipal green waste streams can also be considered eligible, provided that they are integrated into a circular bioeconomy value chain. In case urban biomass is not fully aligned, we would be happy to reposition the project towards agricultural residues.

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals should use at least one (≥ 1) underutilised agricultural residue, including examples such as olive tree prunings, greenhouse by-products, grass/silage, etc.

The Guide also allows for the use of similar feedstocks, provided that their characteristics, availability, and valorisation pathways are comparable and aligned with the objectives of the Open Call.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to carefully assess and justify how their proposed feedstock fits within the definition of underutilised agricultural residues and how it aligns with the scope and objectives of PRIMARY, particularly in relation to rural bioeconomy value chains.

The final determination of eligibility and scope alignment will be carried out during the eligibility check and evaluation process by independent evaluators.

29. I have found your open call on the opencall.fund website. However, I can't find the templates mentioned (from annex 5 to annex 9). Can you please help me?

All official templates (Annexes 5–9) are available through the [PRIMARY website](#), as part of the Open Call documentation.

30. Is it possible for an organisation based in an African country (e.g. an NGO from Cameroon) to apply as a single applicant under this call (e.g. €50,000 funding type)?

According to the Applicants' Guide, proposals must be submitted strictly by a consortium of 2–3 legal entities.

In addition, participation is open to legal entities established and based in one of the EU Member States or a Horizon Europe Associated Country, as defined in Section 2.2.3 of the Guide.

Are third-country applicants (e.g. organisations based in African countries) eligible to receive direct funding under consortium applications (e.g. €100,000 and €150,000 funding types)? If so, are there any limitations regarding their role, budget share, or type of activities within the project?

Eligibility of participating entities is defined based on their establishment in countries eligible under the Horizon Europe framework, as specified in the Applicants' Guide (Section 2.2.3).

Applicants are therefore encouraged to verify whether their organisation is established in an eligible country. The final determination of eligibility will be carried out during the eligibility check.

In the case of consortium applications, are there any restrictions on budget allocation between EU/associated countries and third countries (e.g. African organisations)

The Applicants' Guide does not specify particular rules regarding budget allocation between countries. Proposals are expected to comply with the overall funding scheme and eligibility criteria described in the Guide.

Could you kindly confirm whether organisations based in Türkiye are eligible to participate in this call, and if so, whether they can also take on leading roles such as lead applicant?

According to the Applicants' Guide, participation is open to legal entities established in EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries.

Applicants are encouraged to verify their country's status under Horizon Europe. The Guide does not specify restrictions regarding roles within the consortium; therefore, roles such as coordinator/lead applicant should be defined within the consortium, subject to compliance with eligibility criteria.

The final determination of eligibility and consortium composition will be carried out during the eligibility check and evaluation process by independent evaluators.

31. Can African institutions be included as partners in a consortium?

According to the Applicants' Guide, participation in the Open Call is open to legal entities established and based in one of the EU Member States or a Horizon Europe Associated Country, as defined in Section 2.2.3.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to verify whether their organisation is established in a country eligible under the Horizon Europe framework.

If so, are they eligible for funding, or only as unfunded collaborators?

Eligibility for funding is linked to the eligibility of the participating organisation, as defined in the Applicants' Guide.

Applicants are encouraged to ensure that all consortium members comply with the eligibility criteria. The final determination of eligibility and funding will be carried out during the eligibility check and evaluation process.

Are there recommended pathways for non-European partners to engage, for example through collaboration with EU-based consortia?

The Applicants' Guide does not specify particular pathways for the participation of organisations from non-eligible countries. Applicants are therefore encouraged to structure their consortium in line with the eligibility criteria and requirements described in the Guide.

32. In the Open Call documentation, the list of eligible feedstocks includes grass, greenhouse residues, cotton by-products, and olive prunings, along with “similar alternatives” referring to other underutilised agricultural residues.

I would like to ask whether woody biomass derived from agricultural hedgerows (non-fruit, non-food species) can be considered an eligible feedstock under the category of “similar alternatives,” provided that such hedgerows are located within agricultural landscapes and generate underutilised woody residues.

According to the Applicants’ Guide, proposals should use at least one underutilised agricultural or agro-industrial residue, including PRIMARY feedstocks or similar ones, provided that their characteristics, availability, and valorisation pathways are comparable and aligned with the objectives of the Open Call.

Applicants are therefore encouraged to clearly justify how their proposed feedstock qualifies as an underutilised agricultural residue and how it aligns with the scope and objectives of PRIMARY.

The call specifies that projects must be implemented in rural European regions that are not already involved in the PRIMARY project. Given this requirement, I would like clarification on whether agricultural residues produced within urban or peri-urban agricultural areas are admissible, provided that the project activities—including technology validation and business model development—take place in rural regions as defined by the call.

The Applicants’ Guide specifies that project activities should be implemented in rural European regions (NUTS 3 level) that are not already involved in the PRIMARY project.

However, the Guide does not provide a strict definition regarding the origin of the biomass (e.g. rural vs urban or peri-urban areas). Applicants are therefore encouraged to demonstrate how their proposed activities are anchored in eligible rural regions and how the overall value chain contributes to the objectives of the Open Call.

As part of the proposal, applicants should clearly describe the geographical scope of implementation and justify its relevance in relation to rural bioeconomy development and the validation of PRIMARY solutions.

Interested applicants after they register to the opencalls.fund platform can submit their additional questions to the designated “FAQ” tab until 5 June 2026 @ 17:00 CEST.



primary

New business for farmers and cooperatives in rural areas by local upcycling solutions using underutilized agricultural feedstocks

Grant agreement ID: 101180167