

# EuroHPC – Info session

# AI Gigafactories

16 June 2026



# Welcome to AI Gigafactories Info session

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Not legally binding.

## Intended Audience:

- This Info Day is to inform interested industrial stakeholders about the upcoming call for tender for AI Gigafactories.
- A technical session for journalists will be organised when the call is published

## Disclaimer:

*All details regarding the AI Gigafactories presented here are **preliminary and non-binding**.  
They have no legal value and create no rights or legitimate expectations of any sort.  
The information provided here is **indicative and the EuroHPC JU reserves the right to change it**.  
Only the official documentation published at the time of the launch of the call for tenders shall have legal and definitive authority.*

# Housekeeping rules for this Info session

To ensure a smooth experience for all participants, please note:

- Upon joining, your microphone and camera will be switched off and will remain disabled throughout the session
- Participants will only be able to see and hear the presenters and speakers
- If you have any questions, please submit them through the Q&A function available in the webinar interface. Your questions will not be visible to other participants but will be moderated.
- The presenters will address as many questions as possible during the dedicated Q&A session. When asking a question, please refer to a specific slide

# Quick EUROHPC JU recap

- An EU body and funding entity
- Existing since 2018 and autonomous since 2020
- Based in Luxembourg
- Governed by a Board composed of the European Commission, 38 Participating States and 3 Private Members



## WITH A MISSION TO:

- Procure, deploy and maintain High Performance Computing, AI Factories, AI Gigafactories and Quantum infrastructure in Europe
- Fund innovative R&I projects, to develop European skills, applications, software and hardware and foster a European supply chain
- Provide access to High Performance Computing, AI Factories, AI Gigafactories and Quantum resources and user support
- Support state-of-the-art fundamental and applied research and innovation in Quantum technologies

## WITH A BUDGET COMING FROM 3 EU FUNDING PROGRAMMES:

- Digital Europe Programme: EUR 2.1B
- Horizon Europe Programme: EUR 1.7B
- Connecting Europe Facility: EUR 300M
- EU contributions are matched by national contributions



# AI FACTORIES

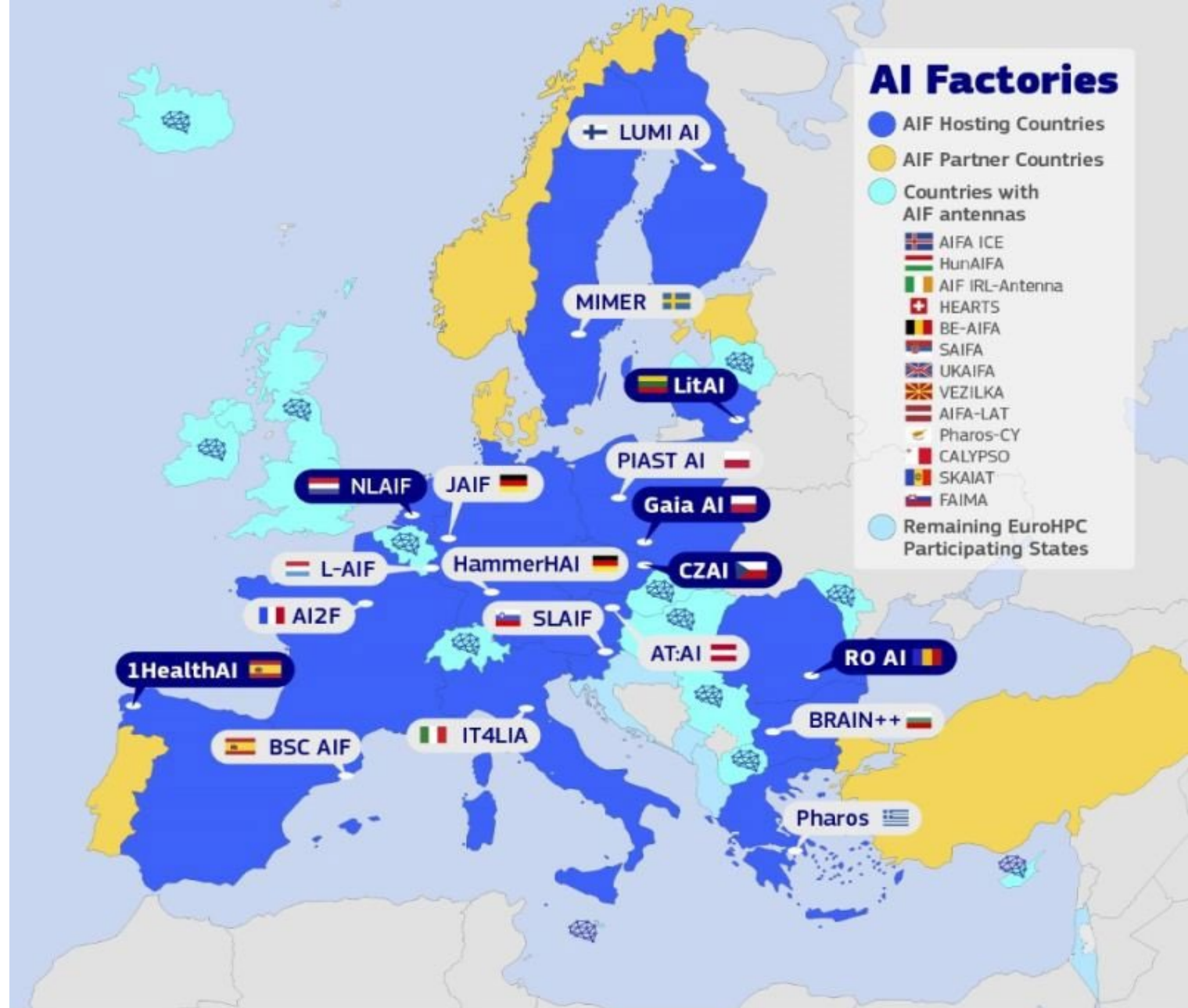


## BUILDING AN AI ECOSYSTEM IN EUROPE

€2.6 billion investment

19 AI Factories in 16 European countries

13 AI Factory Antennas



# Agenda of the Info session

## 09h00 – 10h30: Presentation of the AI Gigafactories Tender Call

- Overview of the AI Gigafactories (AIGFs)
- Presentation of the AIGF Call for Tenders
- Structure of an AIGF tender proposal
- AIGF Tender Conditions
  - ❖ Eligibility of the consortium
  - ❖ Sovereignty & Autonomy
  - ❖ Evaluation
  - ❖ Awarding Criteria Commission
  - ❖ Additional Information
- Call Management and Evaluation Process
- The Model Framework Contract and the Specific Contracts
- Timeline and Next Steps
- Concluding Remarks

## 10h30 – 12h00: Q&A



# Overview of the AI Gigafactories

# A Strategic Imperative for Europe



## President Von der Leyen's Vision

AIGFs to supercharge Europe's AI approach through strategic infrastructure investment.



## Ensuring EU Sovereignty

Establishing leadership in large-scale AI development, training and inference.



## Cornerstone Infrastructure

AIGFs as the foundation of the AI Continent Action Plan.



## Novel Partnership Model

Implementing an ambitious Public-Private approach.



# AIGFs in the EuroHPC Regulation

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2026/150 is in force since 20 January 2026 which enables the AIGF initiative**

see <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/150/oj/eng>



Official Journal of the European Union

EN  
L series

2026/150  
19.1.2026

COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2026/150  
of 16 January 2026  
amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 on establishing the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 167 and Article 180, first paragraph thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament <sup>(1)</sup>,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee <sup>(2)</sup>,

Whereas:

- Regulation (EU) 2024/1659 of the European Parliament and of the Council <sup>(3)</sup> aims to improve the functioning of the internal market by laying down a uniform legal framework in particular for the development, the placing on the market, the putting into service and the use of artificial intelligence, in conformity with Union values and legislation.
- Since 2021, when Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 <sup>(4)</sup> was adopted, the field of artificial intelligence (AI) has seen enormous technical progress and become a highly strategic and contested domain globally. The Union is at the forefront of efforts to support responsible innovation in AI, by guiding innovation, setting guardrails and developing global governance.
- Large general-purpose AI models have emerged as vital drivers of economic competitiveness, scientific research and innovation. They have become pivotal in enhancing productivity across diverse sectors and transform entire value chains, thus dictating future economic value capture. The Union and its Member States are running initiatives on the development of joint AI models, including foundation models. The next generation of frontier AI models is expected to unlock a leap forward in capabilities towards AI capable of tackling highly complex and diverse tasks. Regions capable of developing and implementing such AI models at scale will lead in global innovation and attract premier talent in science and industry. At the same time, sectors at the forefront of science and industry demand substantial computing resources to undertake major AI-driven scientific discoveries and industrial innovations. Synergies between these activities and activities undertaken by Union programmes, such as the EU Space Programme and the European Data Spaces, will be exploited, with appropriate safeguards in place, to protect the strategic interests of the Union and its Member States.
- The most advanced AI factories in Europe will be equipped with supercomputers featuring state-of-the-art AI processors capable of developing mainly middle-range AI models. Significant investment is therefore needed to considerably scale up Europe's computing capacities to the next level.
- On 9 April 2025, the Commission launched the AI Continent Action Plan to position the Union as a global leader in AI. A core pillar of that Action Plan is boosting the Europe-wide infrastructure for training advanced AI models, taking the 2024 AI factories concept to the next level.

<sup>(1)</sup> Not yet published in the Official Journal.  
<sup>(2)</sup> Opinion of 18 September 2025 (OJ C, C/2026/41, 16.1.2026, EIL: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2026/41/oj>).  
<sup>(3)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2024/1659 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence and amending Regulations (EU) No 1000/2018, (EU) No 147/2013, (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/1844, (EU) 2018/1139 and (EU) 2019/2144 and Directives 2014/90/EU, (EU) 2016/787 and (EU) 2021/1428 (Artificial Intelligence Act) (OJ L 2024) 1659, 12.7.2024, EIL: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1659/oj>.  
<sup>(4)</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 of 15 July 2021 on establishing the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking and repealing Regulation (EU) 2014/1438 (OJ L 256, 19.7.2021, p. 3, EIL: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1173/oj>).

EIL: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/150/oj> 1/16



# What is an AIGF?

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- A new class of **energy-efficient**, very large-scale facilities designed to **develop, train, run inference, and deploy the next generation AI models at an unprecedented scale**.
- A strategic milestone in advancing the **Union's digital and technological sovereignty**, for the development of a resilient, sovereign European AI ecosystem.
- The AIGF infrastructure must be **located in EU Member States and led by a Coordinator that is established, owned, and controlled** within the EU.
- AIGFs are taking AI Factories to the next level by integrating coherently massive computing power, **beyond 75 000 state-of-the-art advanced AI processors (H100 equivalent)**.
- Focus is on **power capacity, supply chain, cutting-edge networks, energy-efficiency, and AI-driven automation**.
- AIGFs are industry-led initiatives that must demonstrate clear financial viability and long-term sustainability.
- Need for **public-private partnerships** given the magnitude of the required investments.

# AIGFs: The European model (1)

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## Type of AIGF consortia:

- As an Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) entity or stand-alone Consortia

## Consortium Composition

- COORDINATOR: could be an existing hosting entity / private companies
- PRIVATE OR PUBLICLY CONTROLLED COMPANIES OR ENTITIES: Technology providers (compute, networking, cooling,...), system integrators, software and cloud service providers, applications providers, etc.
- INVESTORS: Private Investors, Public Institutions or agencies, National or regional promotional banks, etc.

## Public Intervention

- Up to 1/3 of total IT CAPEX investment, with the rest of investment from the private sector
- Public investment: 50% EU and 50% Participating States, aiming at significantly de-risking the massive upfront capital investments required for building and operating AIGF



# AIGFs: The European model (2)

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## Type of AIGF deployments:

### ■ SINGLE-COUNTRY:

- Mono-site
- Multi-site

### ■ MULTI-COUNTRY:

- AIGF sites (full scale) in one or more Member States
- AIGF Antennas

- Multi-country proposals or multi-site proposals in a single country will be **treated as a single, integrated AIGF project**

- **Location-Specific Pledges:** Financial support must be tied to a single, specific hosting territory (Member State)





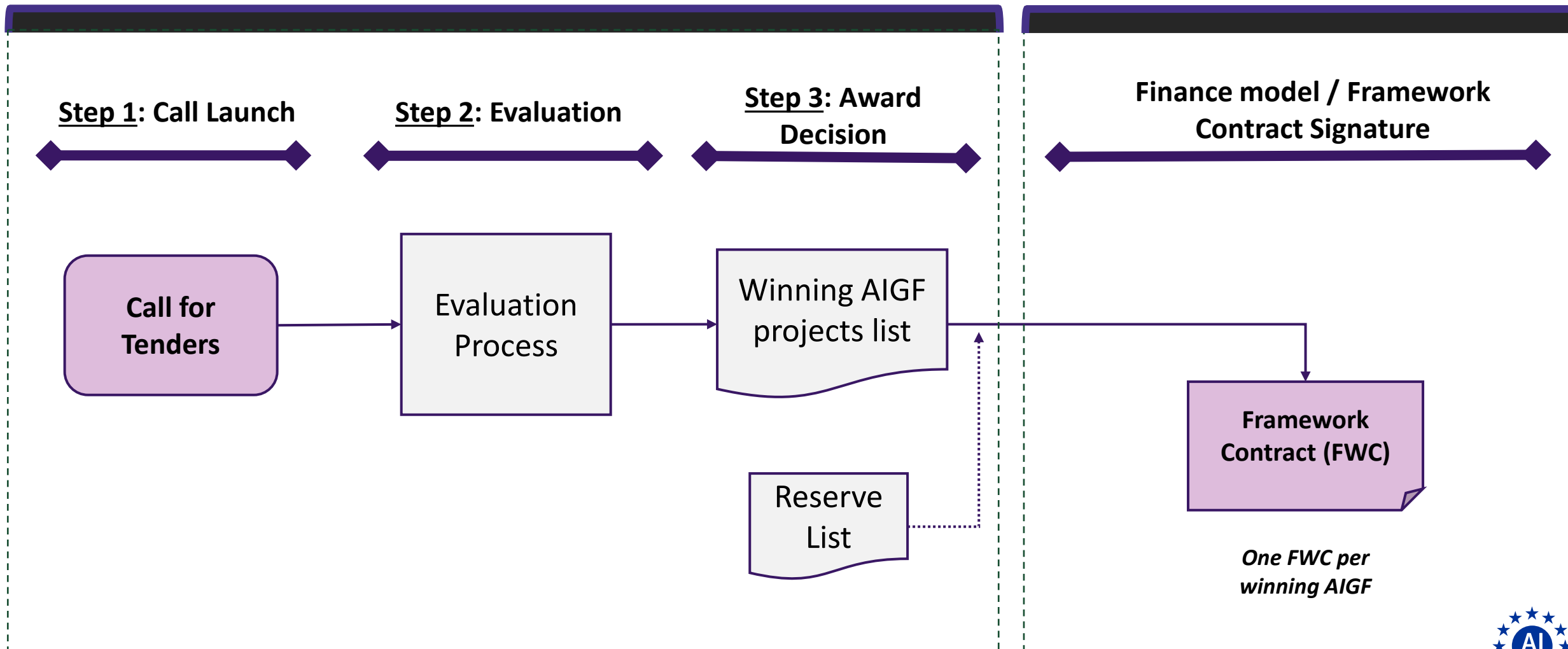
# Presentation of the AIGF Call for Tenders

# The Process to Choose AIGFs: A Joint Procurement

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## CALL PHASE

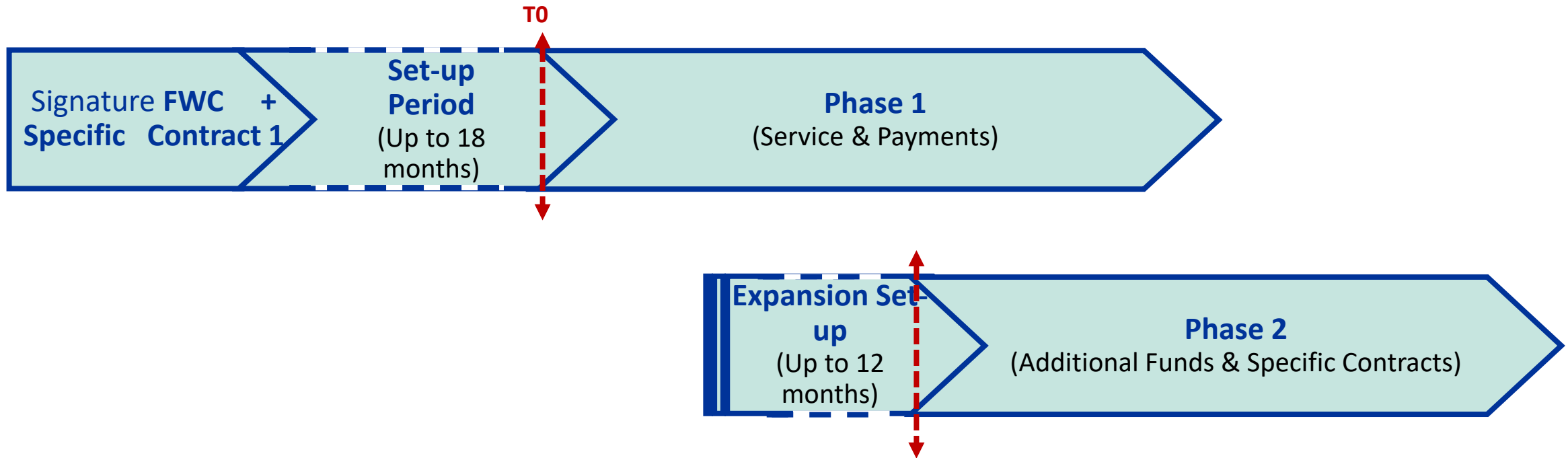
## CONTRACTS PHASE



# Two phased approach

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**T0: End of configuration/deployment period - AIGF ready to start operation**



***AIGF projects will receive public funding (EU + MS) following the acceptance of the initial deployment (T0) of the AIGF, and then the acceptance in Phase 2 after expansion set-up.***

# One Tender Call, Two Lots

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## Lot 1: Medium-Scale AIGF

Target: 4 winning consortia

Phase 1: minimum 25 000 GPUs (H100 equivalent)

Phase 2: full scale AIGF, minimum 75 000 GPUs

## Lot 2: Large-Scale AIGF

Target: 3 winning consortia

Phase 1: minimum 40 000 GPUs (H100 equivalent)

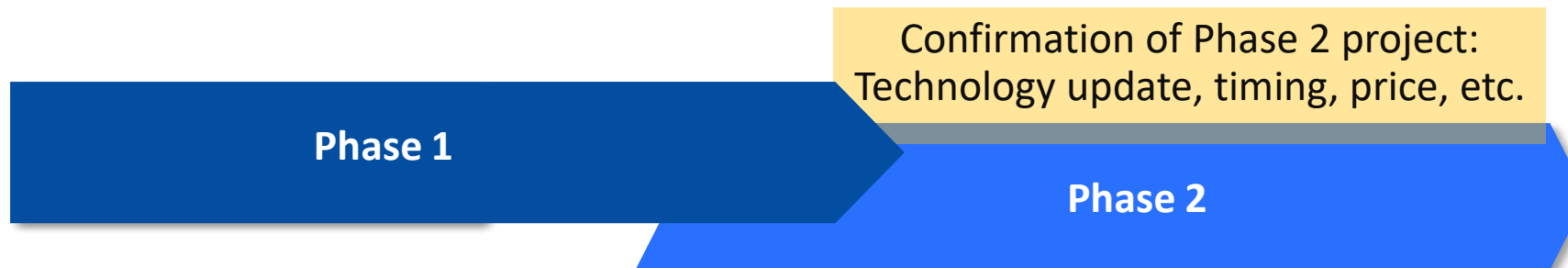
Phase 2: full scale AIGF, minimum 100 000 GPUs



# Budget and Funding

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## ONE single procurement implemented in TWO LINKED Phases



	Deployment of Phase 1 of an AIGF (budgets per AIGF project)	Expansion of AIGF (Phase 2)
EU Budget:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Lot 1 AIGFs: €100M</li> <li>➔ Lot 2 AIGFs: €200M</li> </ul>	<u>Estimated/Foreseen:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Lot 1: + €400M</li> <li>➔ Lot 2: + €800M</li> </ul>
EU Financial Programme:	Current MFF, <u>secured</u>	Activated upon availability of funds in next MFF (2028-2035)
MS Contrib.:	Matching the EU's budget contribution	In line with Regulation and availability of EU funds

➔ Funds are allocated per AIGF project

➔ MS budget will match the EU's one



# Publication of Member States / Participating States Funding Commitments

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- **Objective:** Provide transparent information to bidding Consortia on the financial contributions from EuroHPC Participating States to support the establishment of an AIGF in specific Member States:
  - ❖ Member States selection of lots: the call text specifies MS/PS commitments clearly between Lot 1 and Lot 2 (not both)
  - ❖ Financial Commitments from MS/PS: Indicative at the time of the call launch; **binding and firm 6 weeks before the call's closing date**
  - ❖ Information provided: precise mapping of geographical intent and funding commitments **across both implementation phases**



# Structure and Main Sections

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## Call Text

- **Context & Scope:** Strategic vision for AIGFs and EU digital sovereignty, detailed descriptions of the Lots, phased implementation timelines, and minimum technical requirements.
- **Budget & Eligibility:** Total contract values, rules on who can apply (including restrictive measures), and guidelines on how economic operators can form consortia.
- **Evaluation & Award:** The exact methodology for assessing proposals, detailing the exclusion, selection, and comprehensive award criteria (Technical, Impact, and Financial capabilities).
- **Tender Preparation & Timetable:** Step-by-step instructions on the required structure of the application form, exact scoring principles per criterion, and the procedural timeline.
- **Annexes:** In particular, Annex 2 (List of EuroHPC MS / PS investing in AIGFs)





# **Structure of an AIGF tender proposal**

# Structure of an AIGF Proposal

## General Application Structure:

- Format: Standard application template
- Chapter 1: Administrative details (Applicants & Consortium)
- Chapter 2: Information on the Action (divided into 5 core sections)

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### Section 1: Technical Description & Specifications

- ❖ AIGF Concept & Objective
- ❖ Technical Details

### Section 2: Potential Impact & Ecosystem

- ❖ Impact on the European AI ecosystem
- ❖ EU Added Value

### Section 3: Financial Feasibility & Business Model

- ❖ Investment & Funding
- ❖ Business Model
- ❖ Scalability & Risk

### Section 4: Scale, Services

- ❖ Scale (Compute Capacity)
- ❖ Service Layers

### Sections 5: Value for Money (Pricing)

- ❖ Value for Money



# **AIGF Tender Conditions**



# **Tender Conditions:**

## **1. Eligibility of the consortium**

# Eligibility of tenderers and subcontractors

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- Access to this procurement (tenderers and subcontractors) is granted to economic operators established in:
  - ❖ **All Member States + EEA countries**
  - ❖ **EuroHPC Participating States (PS)** to the EuroHPC JU
  - ❖ Associated countries of **Horizon Europe**
  - ❖ Associated countries of the **Digital Europe Programme**
  - ❖ Associated countries of any subsequent relevant **Union funding programme**
  - ❖ Other third countries in addition to EuroHPC Participating States that are:
    - ❑ **OECD countries**
    - ❑ **Other third countries which have signed an AIGF Cooperation Agreement**, i.e. Trade and Technology Council(s), Digital Partnerships, Digital Dialogues, or the Pax Silica initiative



# AIGF Coordinator

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## ■ AIGF Coordinator:

- ❖ Who? If tenderer is:
  - ❑ Consortium → Coordinator shall be one member of the Consortium
  - ❑ SPV → Coordinator shall be either (i) the SPV itself or (ii) one of its shareholders
- ❖ Strategic Coordinator: Established in a MS and controlled by EU entities/natural persons
- ❖ Empowered with decision-making authority for successful project delivery
- ❖ Leadership Role: Acts as the primary lead for technical, financial, and operational coordination. Prominent and active leadership role





# **Tender Conditions:**

## **2. Sovereignty & Autonomy**

# Sovereignty and Autonomy

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- 1. Infrastructure and data**
- 2. Technological sovereignty**
- 3. Security/cybersecurity and potential dual-use applications**

# Sovereignty and Autonomy:

## 1. Infrastructure and Data

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### ■ Infrastructure:

- ❖ Ensure the core physical and digital infrastructure of the AIGF remains resilient against external dependencies and immune from extraterritorial interferences or any unauthorised access
- ❖ The consortium needs to implement all necessary physical, technical, and organisational measures to safeguard the physical integrity of the AIGF sites and the protection of its data infrastructure

### ■ Data: The entire data lifecycle within the AIGF's core activities needs to be governed by European standards and be subject to the jurisdiction of an EU Member State

- ❖ Data managed within the core AIGF operational environment needs to remain within the legal boundaries of the EU, in alignment with all EU law.
- ❖ All core operational and governance arrangements are subject to EU or Member State jurisdiction



# Sovereignty and Autonomy:

## 2. Technological sovereignty

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- **Integration of European technologies, services, and assets:** Progressive deployment of European-designed chips and sovereign software stacks across the entire AIGF value chain:
  - ❖ **SW Stack Development and Integration:** Expectation of the integration of European-based SW stack solutions relying on open-source, open standards and European platforms.
  - ❖ **European HW Strategy:** AIGFs are encouraged to give due consideration to European hardware solutions (in particular in Phase 2), where these are competitive, technically relevant, and aligned with the AIGF project.
- **Anchor customers:** Consortia may partner with anchor customer, such as international hyperscalers:
  - ❖ These customers can retain operational autonomy over their compute capacity and services
  - ❖ End-users remain subject to security scrutiny to safeguard Union's interests and values.
- **Ecosystem Expansion:** Tenderers to set out a time-bound strategy to expand the AIGFs customer base and broaden reach across the European AI ecosystem (models and users).



# Sovereignty and Autonomy:

## 3. Cyber / Security / Dual-use

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### ■ Subcontracting:

- ❖ Subcontracting permitted; EU jurisdiction remains absolute.
- ❖ Must be immune to non-EU extraterritorial laws.

### ■ User Access and Oversight:

- ❖ Users must be only from like-minded countries (i.e., same as the eligibility conditions of tenderers/subcontractors).
- ❖ Global user base requires rigorous security screening.
- ❖ Any high-risk third-country access requires prior approval from the EuroHPC JU.

### ■ Dual-Use / Enhanced Security:

- ❖ Infrastructure can support sensitive workloads (e.g., dual-use).
- ❖ Mandatory enhanced security for critical applications.

### ■ Public Governance:

- ❖ Direct oversight by a Public Governance Body composed of representatives from the European Commission and funding MS/PS.





# **Tender Conditions:**

## **3. Evaluation**

# Evaluation – Overview of main Elements

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## ■ Exclusion Criteria (*Pass/Fail*)

## ■ Selection Criteria (*Pass/Fail*)

- Legal and regulatory
- Technical and professional
- Economic and Financial

## ■ Award Criteria:

- **Part 1:** *Evaluation of the technical quality, potential impact, and financial feasibility of an AIGF tender (Weighted Scoring)*
- **Part 2:** *Evaluation of the Cost-Benefit (Best value for money)*

## ■ The final ranking will be based on the scores of Parts 1 and 2 of the AIGF evaluation



# Exclusion criteria (Pass/Fail)

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- Tenderers found to be in any of the exclusion situations listed in *Article 138(1) of the EU's Financial Regulation* will be rejected.
- As evidence of non-exclusion, **each tenderer needs to submit with its tender a *Declaration on Honour***, annexed to the Call.
- The documents mentioned in the Declaration on Honour as **supporting evidence** on non-exclusion must be provided with the tender.
- At any time during the procurement procedure, **the contracting authority may request additional information**.

# Selection criteria (Pass/Fail)

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- **Objective:** to assess whether the tenderer (consortium) has the **legal, regulatory, economic, financial, technical and professional capacity** to perform the contract.
  
- The *selection criteria* are:
  - ❖ **Legal and regulatory capacity:**
    - Legal personality on the date of the deadline for submission of applications.
    - Legal capacity to perform the contract.
  
  - ❖ **Economic and financial capacity** (applies to the tenderer as a whole):
    - Average yearly turnover of the last three financial years above EUR 200 million.
  
  - ❖ **Technical and Professional Capacity** (applies to the tenderer as a whole):
    - Experience in building at least one AI optimised infrastructure with a minimum IT load of 5MW in the last 3 years.
    - Experience in operating at least one AI optimised infrastructure with a minimum IT load of 5MW in the last 3 years.
    - Experience in serving and commercialising a diverse, multi-user client base in at least one AI optimised infrastructure, with overall revenues of at least EUR 5 million in the last 3 years.





# **Tender Conditions: 4. Awarding Criteria**

# Award criteria: Part 1

## (Technical quality, Potential Impact and financial feasibility)

AIGF Consortia shall be selected based on:

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### a) Technical evaluation (including technological sovereignty aspects) :

- ❖ Objectives and technical quality of the proposal,
- ❖ Quality of the workplan
- ❖ Quality of the physical, IT and networking infrastructure,
- ❖ Quality of service (including those for MS/ EU users, including security/cybersecurity and trustworthiness)
- ❖ Supply chain security
- ❖ Sustainability and energy efficiency
- ❖ Consortium experience, know-how, and governance
- ❖ Technical performance analysis (based on AI training/inference benchmarks)

### b) Potential impact:

- ❖ Impact on the European AI ecosystem, including its competitiveness and talent pool
- ❖ EU added value, including contribution to strategic autonomy and technological sovereignty

### c) Financial feasibility:

- ❖ Investment commitment of the AI Gigafactory Consortium
- ❖ Quality and financial viability of the proposed business model (including a due diligence to be carried out by the appointed accredited financial entity)



# Award criteria: Part 2

## Cost Benefit (Best Value for Money)

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### ■ Evaluation of Part 2 is based on three key parameters/criteria to consider:

- ❖ **X1:** It reflects the result of the Technical, Potential Impact, and Financial evaluation normalised (Part 1 scores)
- ❖ **X2:** It reflects the scale (number of AI chips) of an AIGF and the Quality of its Service
  - (a) *Number of AI chips proposed*
  - (b) *Quality of Service - Layers of service offered to Public Users*
- ❖ **X3:** It reflects a normalised GPU/TPU-hour cost/price
  - ➔ *Price per layer of services per technology per hour, offered to Public Users, normalised by GPU/TPU performance. Layers of service are described in next slides.*

# Part 2 Evaluation criteria

## Parameter X2: (a) Number of AI accelerators

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### ■ Scale of Compute Capacity for Phase 1 and for Phase 2

**Phase 1:** at least 25 000 (Lot1) and at least 40 000 (Lot2) advanced AI accelerators

**Phase 2:** at least 75 000 (Lot1) and at least 100 000 (Lot2) advanced AI accelerators

### ■ Performance-based Normalization

- ❖ To normalise for performance, each accelerator technology will be assigned an **index score**.
- ❖ A non-exhaustive list of **performance scores** based on verified vendors' data will be provided.
- ❖ In case AIGF proposers use processors in an AIGF that are not listed in the call text, the proposers need also to provide their justified index score for each processor (methodology provided).

# Part 2 Evaluation criteria

## Parameter X2: (b) Quality of Service + Layers of service

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2 Layers of service	Requirement Description
<b>L1 and L2:</b>  <b>Infrastructure and Orchestration</b> <b>+</b> <b>MLOps Managed Services</b>	Bare metal access, basic OS, accelerator drivers, container runtimes. Orchestration and workload management, Multi-node scaling support, User Management, Accounting.
	Pre-configured environments (standard AI framework images), interactive notebook environments, Model Registry, Experiment Tracking. “Serverless” inference endpoints, Auto-scaling, ready-to-deploy RAG pipelines, Low-code interfaces for non-experts.
<b>L3: Added-value Services</b>	Offering access to advanced AI models (open source or proprietary), other services (e.g., specialised models, data services, cognitive APIs, document intelligence, AI guardrails, compliance audits, etc.)

# Evaluation Part 2:

## Parameter X3: Normalised Cost/Price

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- **Parameter X3 (Price):**
  - Proposals have to propose a price (GPU/TPU-hour) for the entire duration of the framework contract (Phase 1 and Phase2), per AI chip technology and for each layer of service.
  - Tenders assessed based on the price proposed for the entire duration of the framework contract (Phase 1 and Phase 2).
  - Expected prices offered to public users to be very competitive.
- **One single overall Price (compounded of the normalized price for L2 and the normalized price for L3 services) will be calculated.**
- **Final X3 = weighted average of Normalized Prices by the # of AI chips (cheapest normalized option gets max points)**

# AIGF Final Award

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## ■ Final Ranking List

- X1 = Technical & Financial Evaluation (PART 1)
  - X2 = (a) Number of GPUs + (b) Quality of Service
  - X3 = Normalised Cost/price
- A weighted average (to be determined) of the above



# **Tender Conditions:**

## **5. Additional Information**

# Mono-country AIGF Proposals

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## ■ General aspects and EU + MS/PS funding

- Tenderers can propose setting up medium-scale or large-scale AIGFs
- Tenderers can propose multi-site AIGFs
- **At least one site must reach a full scale AIGF (i.e. at least 75 000 GPUs in Phase 2)**
- The access time will be procured only from the largest constituent site (i.e., the one reaching a full scale AIGF).



# Multi-Country AIGF Proposals

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## ■ General aspects and EU + MS/PS funding

- ❖ Tenderers can propose *full scale AIGFs and / or AIGF Antennas* in more than one MS
- ❖ **At least one AIGF has to be a full-scale AIGF** (medium-scale or large-scale having at least 75 000 GPUs in Phase 2)
- ❖ Tenderers can propose more **than one full scale AIGF**, but no more than one per MS
- ❖ All AIGFs and their Antennas need to be linked via **very high-speed fibre connections**
- ❖ ***An AIGF Antenna*** in a MS has to be linked to a full-scale AIGF of another MS and serve as its critical extension, performing essential functions (strategic backup, workload balancing, offering specialised processing nodes that enhance the resilience and performance of the full scale AIGF, etc.)
- ❖ The EU + MS/PS access time will be **procured from the largest site within each participating MS:**
  - If more than one site in different MSs reaches full-scale AIGF size → an equal share of the EU contribution will be used to procure compute access time from each of these sites
  - If one site reaches full-scale AIGF size while one or more sites are smaller not reaching the full-scale AIGF size → the EU contribution will be used to procure compute access time allocated pro rata based on the number of comparable advanced AI accelerators at each site.

## ■ Evaluation Approach

- Multi-site proposals will be assessed as a **single, integrated AIGF**, not as a collection of separate facilities.



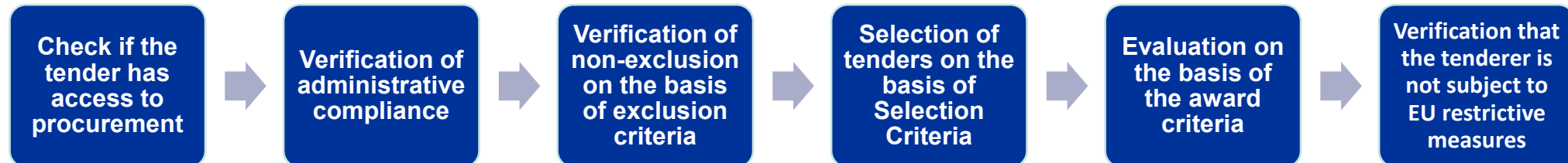


# Call Management and Evaluation Process

# Evaluation and Awarding process

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The evaluation of the tenders consists of the following elements



# Selection of experts

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The EuroHPC JU will contract external experts to support the technical and financial/business evaluation of the tenders.

- Technical experts are expected to have extended experience in design, operation of large-scale AI facilities, data centres. Thorough understanding of AI technologies (GPU, Accelerators). Solid foundation of AI technologies and methodologies (ML, LLMs, Model training & Inference). As well as benchmarking methodologies for large scale AI computers.
- Financial experts will have professional experience in business proposal evaluation including Financial analysis and Modelling, Valuation, Risk Analysis and Compliance. AI industry specific knowledge will also be of value.



# **The Model Framework Contract and the Specific Contracts**

# Framework Contract (1)

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- The “Hosting Agreement” will take the form of a **Framework Contract (FWC)** under which several **specific contracts (SCs)** will be gradually signed (potentially per phase but can be more than 2).
- **The FWC and SC define all legal terms:** rights and obligations
- **The EuroHPC JU would represent both the EU and MS/PS**
- **FWC gives the general terms, while the terms of the contracts (including the committed budgets) are provided in the SCs**

# Framework Contract (2)

For information only.  
Not legally binding.

- **FWC ceiling:** Maximum amount the contracting authorities (EU+ MS/PS) can buy under each FWC during the whole duration of the FWC
  - ❖ Lot 1: 1 billion EUR (500 mln EU+ 500mln MS/PS)
  - ❖ Lot 2: 2 billion EUR (1bn EU+ 1bn MS/PS)
  - ➔ The FWC can be 'consumed' up to that ceiling
  
- **FWC duration: 78 months**
  - ❖ Duration of Specific Contracts: To be specified in each specific contract, but in principle maximum duration would be 5 years.
  - ❖ Specific contracts can be signed throughout the duration of the FWC (but not after) and can last up to 24 months after the expiry date of the FWC, as specified in FWC.



# Framework Contract (3)

For information only.  
Not legally binding.

- **Subject matter:** Acquisition of AI compute capacity/ access time from the AIGF
- **The Contracting Authorities are granted the right to** allocate, resell, sublicense or commercially redistribute the purchased compute access time to end users
- **Applicable law:** Union law, complemented, where necessary, by the law of Member State where the Hosting Entity is established
- **The General Court or, on appeal, the Court of Justice of the European Union** will have exclusive jurisdiction over any dispute regarding the validity, interpretation, performance or termination of the FWC or a specific contract
- **Payments:** The contractor may claim quarterly interim payments at the end of each quarter of service for the services that have been delivered in that quarter



# Framework Contract (4)

For information only.  
Not legally binding.

## Specific Security Conditions and safeguards:

- All processing units and associated advanced hardware will have to be acquired and used exclusively to build the specific AIGF, excluding any possibility of transferring them without the explicit agreement of the EuroHPC JU (and Contracting Authorities).
- In case where processing units are acquired from the USA, the Contractors will need to implement all measures deemed appropriate to guarantee compliance with any restrictions imposed by the USA on the use of advanced US AI processing unit technologies by the AIGF in line with the **EU-US Joint Statement** (see [Joint Statement on a United States-European Union framework on an agreement on reciprocal, fair and balanced trade - Trade and Economic Security](#))
- The Contractors will ensure that all data is stored, held, accessed and processed within the territory of the European Union.

# Framework Contract (5)

For information only.  
Not legally binding.

## Public Governance Body:

- **Composition:** 1 representative from the EC and 1 from each National Contracting Authority(-ies)
- **Tasks:**
  - ❖ Monitor evolution of the project's financing and bankability of the operations.
  - ❖ Request information on any planned or envisaged change to the Contractor's legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation, without any undue delay.
  - ❖ ...
- **Explicit prior approval** required as per the EuroHPC Regulation:
  - a) any proposed access agreements with entities from third countries that might raise concerns regarding the Union's strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security;
  - b) substantial changes to the legal and financial structure or control of the AIGF impacting the Union's interests or those of the MS/PS;
  - c) significant change in the strategic purpose of the AIGF.

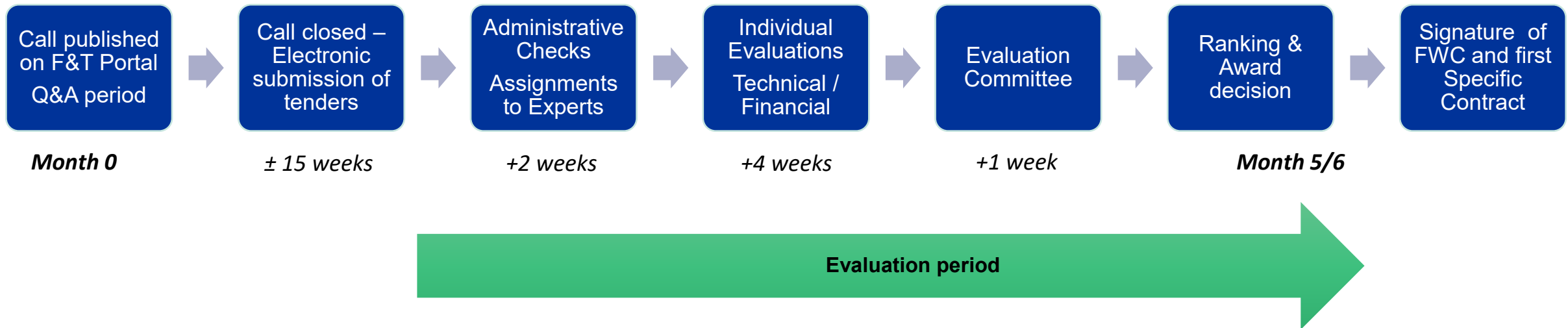




# Timeline and Next Steps

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**For information only.  
Not legally binding.**



# Further information about the call and Q&A (1)

For information only.  
Not legally binding.

- Interested economic operators are invited to refer to the tender documentation when the Call is published.
- **In case of any discrepancy between this presentation and the tender documentation, the latter shall prevail.**
- Attendees and interested economic operators are invited to raise possible requests for clarifications, through the EuroHPC website and Commission eTendering Platform, without prejudice to the possibility of the Contracting Authority to publish unsolicited clarifications.
- All questions and answers will be anonymised and published in a consolidated manner, and any clarifications will be made available on the European Commission's eTendering and EuroHPC website.
- **Deadline for receiving questions/clarifications: 6 days before the submission deadline.**

# Further information about the call and Q&A (2)

For information only.  
Not legally binding.

The slides shown and questions and answers addressed during this webinar will be published on the EuroHPC JU website at the time of the publication of the launch of the call for tenders.

**Further questions are welcome during the procurement phase via the Tenders portal**





# Concluding Remarks

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Not legally binding.

- Formal Call expected to be published in **early July (TBC)**
- Participating States' financial commitments to be confirmed **6 weeks before the call closing deadline**
- Deadline for submission of tenders: **TBD [min 14-15 weeks]**
- **EuroHPC JU will only communicate with applicants via the Tenders portal**
- **AIGFs must be conceived as truly sovereign state-of-the-art European infrastructures**
- **AIGF Coordinator must be EU established and controlled:** holding a strategic role, in full control of the AIGFs core operations.
- **End users: strict monitoring by consortium** (only users from like-minded countries allowed)
- Two phased approach in **one single procurement**
- **Tender price expectations: competitive prices for the public sector**
- **Prices for Phase 2 can be updated** according to an indexation mechanism



# Q&A

**For information only.  
Not legally binding.**

If you have any questions, please submit them through the Q&A function available in the webinar interface.

The presenters will address as many questions as possible during the dedicated Q&A session. When asking a question, please refer to a specific slide.

