

S4P 2026 Expression of Interest

S4P 2026 Expression of Interest

1. General Information

ATTENTION: THIS IS AN EXAMPLE. YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL VIA OUR ONLINE PLATFORM.

What is the Expression of Interest

At this stage applicants are required to provide general indicative information regarding the proposal: title and acronym of the project, call priority, budget range of the proposal, duration, a brief description of the intended project, keywords and the name and contact details of the (potential) partners. Accompanying the Expression of Interest (Eoi), applicants will provide the name and contact details of 4 – 6 scientific experts capable of assessing their proposal, and an optional max. of 2 non-grata scientific experts that will be automatically excluded from the evaluation.

There is no limitation to the number of proposals a given applicant (person) may participate in, as either Funded/ non funded partner and/or Coordinator.

✦ *Eoi's are not evaluated by external experts. The Eoi is used by BELSPO to compose the evaluation teams of the research proposals, and to check your eligibility to apply to the call and potentially receive funding.*

Eligibility

Submission rules: If the Eoi does not comply with the submission rules, i.e. the Eoi is not complete or has not been submitted in time, it will be impossible to create and submit a Full proposal. All necessary fields need to be filled out as instructed.

Eligibility Coordinator & Funded Partners: The institutions & promoters need to be eligible to apply. Please refer to the corresponding sections. It is **not required** to include a Funded Partner to be eligible to apply.

1.1 Application ID

Information:

Please use the Application ID number (Appl ID) to refer to the project in any communication with BELSPO.

The Acronym cannot be changed after submission of the Eoi.

BELSPO Programme	S4Policy-Driven
Call Year	S4Policy-Driven Call 2026
Organisation of the Coordinator	<i>Your organisation will automatically appear.</i>
Application ID	<i>The Application ID will automatically appear.</i>
Acronym of the Proposal <i>cannot be changed</i>	[insert text here]
Estimated duration of the Proposal (months)	[insert number here]
Estimated budget of the Proposal (EUR)	[insert number here]

1.2 Project classification

Information: Please find more information about the research priorities in the Information File. (link to be added)

Select one Research Priority	<i>Select the research priority from the list.</i>
Impact	<i>Select the impact area from the list.</i>
First-Time Submission	<input type="checkbox"/> YES - It is the first time I submit this project proposal for funding to BELSPO and/or any other funding source.

NO - I have submitted this project proposal for funding before to BELSPO and/or any other funding source.

1.3 Structure of the Expression of Interest

Instructions:

- ▶ To include Funded Partners in your proposal: click "yes" below. A new section/tab above will appear. To remove this section, click "no".
➤ More information on what a Funded Partner is, and the eligibility criteria please refer to the information file.
- ▶ To suggest Non-Grata Evaluators: click "yes" below. A new section/tab above will appear. To remove this section, click "no"

1. General Information (mandatory)

2. Expression of Interest (mandatory)

3. Coordinator (mandatory)

4. Funded Partners: Does your application contain Funded Partners? * YES NO

5. Proposed Evaluators (mandatory)

6. Non-Grata Evaluators: Do you wish to add Non-Grata Evaluators? * YES NO

1.4 Declarations

Instructions:

- ▶ Please read carefully the documents linked at the bottom of this box.
- ▶ Make sure that your (potential) Funded Partners read the documents.

BELSPO's Privacy statement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I confirm to have read and to have asked all the partners involved and mentioned in this project proposal to read and accept BELSPO's privacy statement.
Personal data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I give my consent to process my personal data, and I confirm to have obtained the explicit consent to process the personal data of all the partners involved and mentioned in this application, in agreement with BELSPO's privacy statement.
Authorisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I assure that the promoters of all (potential) partners are authorised by their institution to submit this application.
BELSPO's Open Access Mandate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I ensure to respect BELSPO's Open Access Mandate for publications and research data
Code of ethics for scientific research in Belgium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I ensure to respect the Code of Ethics for Scientific Research in Belgium
Artificial Intelligence use of AI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I declare that Artificial Intelligence has been used (to assist) in the preparation or writing of this Expression of Interest.

2. Project Description

Project Summary

✦ *The description of the project at this point is understood as an early stage of reflexion. Provide a concise overview of the project's objectives, approach and expected impact.*

The title and the summary of the Expression of Interest may vary from that of the Full Proposal to some extent. However, it cannot diverge to the point that the expertise mobilised for the evaluation of the proposal will become irrelevant.

The acronym, call priorities, indicative budget, and keywords must remain the same.

Scope of the Call & Research Priorities

Research Priority 1: Inclusion for persons with disabilities within Federal Governmental Organisations

Research Priority 2: Potential, competences, skills and capacity to learn, as an alternative to diploma & experience as criteria in hiring processes and career & salary development

Research Priority 3: Government Resilience with regards to Operational Upkeep & Nature based Design

Research Priority 4: Analysis of the societal consequences of biodiversity loss (degradation) in Belgian soil

Research Priority 5: The competitiveness of Belgian SMEs in the transition to a decarbonised and circular economy

Research Priority 6: Development of a scientifically robust and operationally relevant framework for assessing the economic costs of climate change and the benefits of adaptation at sectoral level (case: National Defence sector).

Research Priority 7: The decarbonisation of Belgian industry: long-term potential for negative greenhouse gas emissions through BECCS

Research Priority 8: Sustainable Raw Materials in Belgium: ESG risks assessment and priority actions for the circular economy

Research Priority 9: Data Infrastructure for Monitoring Labour Market and Social Protection Transitions

Research Priority 10: Towards a new assessment scale for self-reliance among persons with disabilities

Research Priority 11: Labour migration flows & channels for third-country nationals in Belgium

Research Priority 12: Towards a scientific research agenda for the Federal administration

2.1 Project Proposal Description

Information: Provide the preliminary elements that define your project in its initial stage ("Expression of Interest") below. These elements help BELSPO identify your proposal and assess its basic scope and relevance.


Instructions:

- ▶ **Summary:** Provide a concise overview of the project's objectives, approach and expected impact.
- ▶ **Keywords:** Indicate 2–6 keywords that best represent the scientific domain and content of the project.

Research Priority	<i>The research priority you chose above will automatically appear.</i>
ACRONYM - Project Title	[insert text here]
Project Summary	[insert text here]
Keyword 1	[insert text here]
Keyword 2	[insert text here]
Keyword 3	[insert text here]
Keyword 4	[insert text here]
Keyword 5	[insert text here]
Keyword 6	[insert text here]


3. Coordinator

Eligibility Coordinator:

 Eligible Institutions:

Federal Scientific Institutions, Belgian Universities, Colleges of higher Education, Public Non-profit research centres & Private Non-profit research centres.

Please note that only Belgian organisations can apply for funding.

 Please refer to the information file S4P & institution request file (download on our website) for more details.

Please be aware that the EoI & FP should be submitted by the (account of the) promotor of the coordinator.

3.1 Organisation details

Information: Please provide the institutional details of the organisation to which the promotor of the coordinator belongs.

Please note that only Belgian research institutions can apply for funding. See above for more information.

Organisation	Your organisation will automatically appear here.
Department / Service	[insert text here]
Organisation Website	[insert text here]

3.2 Promotor (Principal Investigator)

Information:

Under this section you will be asked to provide the personal and professional details of the Promotor (Principal Investigator, PI).

These elements allow BELSPO to accurately identify the scientific lead of the project and ensure proper communication throughout the evaluation and implementation phases.

Instructions:

► Please fill in the requested information of the Coordinator.

Last Name of Promotor	Your name will automatically appear.
First Name Promotor	Your name will automatically appear.
Email Promotor	Your e-mail will automatically appear.
Gender	[Select the gender]
Language	[Select the language]
Telephone (work)	[Insert number here]
Postal Address (work)	[insert text here]
Discipline 1	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Discipline 2	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Keyword 1	[insert text here]
Keyword 2	[insert text here]
Keyword 3	[insert text here]
Keyword 4	[insert text here]
Keyword 5	[insert text here]
Keyword 6	[insert text here]

4. Funded Partner(s)

Eligibility Funded Partner:

Eligible Institutions: Federal Scientific Institutions, Belgian universities, Belgian colleges of higher education, Belgian public research centres, and Belgian private non-profit research centres.

In case of doubt: please fill out & send us the institution request form.

What is A Funded Partner?

- ▶ A Funded Partner is a project partner that is funded within the project.
- ▶ A Funded-Partner must receive funding. Therefore, each Funded Partner added must be able to submit their own budget table in the Full Proposal.
- ▶ The Funded Partners & their promoters sign the contract.
- ▶ The Promotor/PI of a Funded Partner can be from the same institution as the coordinator if they have a separate budget table.

What is a Non-Funded Partner?

- ▶ Non-Funded Partners are project partners that can contribute in-kind or in-cash. They do not sign the contract, but are mentioned. They will not receive funding.

Please note that **Non-Funded Partners** are entered at the level of the Full Proposal. Please do not include them here.

Please note: **only Belgian** institutions can apply for funding.

Please refer to the information file & institution request file for more details.

How to navigate the Funded Partner(s) section

- ▶ To add another Funded Partner, click on **'+Add Partner Information'** in green at the bottom of the page. A New tab will open.
- ▶ To delete a Funded Partner, click on **'-Delete Partner Information'** (in red); the created tab will disappear.

4.1.1 Funded Partner 1 - Organisation details

Information

Under this section you are asked to provide the institutional details of the organisation to which the promotor of the Funded Partner belongs.

Funded Partners are entered at the level of the Expression of Interest, but can be modified afterwards in the Full Proposal. Funded partners are partners who must receive funding, therefore every partner will need to provide a budget table in the Full Proposal.

Non-Funded Partners are entered at the level of the Full Proposal. Please do not include them here. These partners do not receive funding.

Instructions

- ▶ Do not include yourself as coordinator among the Funded Partners.
- ▶ You may add a maximum of 10 Funded Partners.

Organisation	[insert text here]
Department / Service	[insert text here]
Organisation website	[insert text here]

4.1.2 Funded Partner 1 - Promotor (Principal Investigator)

Information:

Under this section you are asked to provide the personal and professional details of the Promotor (Principal Investigator, PI). The information allows BELSPO to accurately identify the scientific lead of the project and ensure proper communication throughout the evaluation and implementation phases.

Last Name	[insert text here]
First Name	[insert text here]
Gender	[Select gender]
Language	[Select language]
Email	[insert text here]
Telephone (work)	[insert number here]

Postal Address (work)	[insert text here]
Discipline 1	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Discipline 2	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Keyword 1	[insert text here]
Keyword 2	[insert text here]
Keyword 3	[insert text here]
Keyword 4	[insert text here]
Keyword 5	[insert text here]
Keyword 6	[insert text here]

5. Proposed Evaluators

BELSPO may use proposed evaluators to compose the team of reviewers that will perform the individual evaluation of your Full Proposal.

As a rule of thumb, out of the 3 individual evaluators that compose this team, BELSPO will try to include one from the pool of proposed evaluators.

The Expression of interest is NOT evaluated, nor will your eligibility to participate in the call be dependent on the proposed evaluators you have submitted.

Eligibility Proposed Evaluators

Read more on the eligibility criteria of evaluators here.

Read more on the conflict of interest here.

How to navigate the Proposed Evaluators section

► To add another Proposed Evaluator, click on **'+Add Proposed Evaluator'** (in green) at the bottom of the page. A New tab will open. If your first Proposed Evaluator was introduced on tab 5.1.1. Proposed Evaluator, the next one should appear as tab 5.2.1. Proposed Evaluator.

► To delete a Proposed Evaluator, click on **'-Delete Proposed Evaluator'** (in red) at the bottom of the page; the created tab will disappear.

► After adding all your Proposed Evaluators, you may go to the next section by clicking **Save Draft & continue** at the bottom of the page.

5.1.1 Proposed Evaluator 1 - Proposed Evaluators

Information Eligibility:

- Evaluator should be employed in a non-Belgian institution at the time of the evaluation.
- Evaluator cannot have a conflict of interest. (personal/professional links, or have worked with the person in the past)
- Evaluator must be able to evaluate (as much as possible) all the aspects covered in the proposal.

Instructions

- Propose a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 evaluators.
- Provide a pool of proposed evaluators that is as diverse as possible, for instance in terms of gender, stage of their career or nationality.
- Make sure that the proposed evaluators you provide have no conflict of interest, as this will automatically exclude them from evaluating the Full Proposal.

[Click here to read BELSPO's Eligibility Criteria for Evaluators.](#)

Contact information	<input type="checkbox"/> The contact information below is information that is publicly available (for example on a personal website, LinkedIn, or website of a university).
Last Name	[insert text here]
First Name	[insert text here]
Gender	[select gender]
Organisation	[insert text here]
Department / Service	[insert text here]
Country (work)	[insert text here]
Email	[insert text here]
Website	[insert text here]
Discipline 1 (Primary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Discipline 2 (Secondary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Keyword 1	[insert text here]
Keyword 2	[insert text here]
Keyword 3	[insert text here]
Keyword 4	[insert text here]

Keyword 5	[insert text here]
Keyword 6	[insert text here]

5.2.1 Proposed Evaluator 2 - Proposed Evaluators

Information Eligibility:

- ▶ Evaluator should be employed in a non-Belgian institution at the time of the evaluation.
- ▶ Evaluator cannot have a conflict of interest. (personal/professional links, or have worked with the person in the past)
- ▶ Evaluator must be able to evaluate (as much as possible) all the aspects covered in the proposal.

Instructions

- ▶ Propose a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 evaluators.
- ▶ Provide a pool of proposed evaluators that is as diverse as possible, for instance in terms of gender, stage of their career or nationality.
- ▶ Make sure that the proposed evaluators you provide have no conflict of interest, as this will automatically exclude them from evaluating the Full Proposal.

[Click here to read BELSPO's Eligibility Criteria for Evaluators.](#)

Contact information	<input type="checkbox"/> The contact information below is information that is publicly available (for example on a personal website, LinkedIn, or website of a university).
Last Name	[insert text here]
First Name	[insert text here]
Gender	[select gender]
Organisation	[insert text here]
Department / Service	[insert text here]
Country (work)	[insert text here]
Email	[insert text here]
Website	[insert text here]
Discipline 1 (Primary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Discipline 2 (Secondary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Keyword 1	[insert text here]
Keyword 2	[insert text here]
Keyword 3	[insert text here]
Keyword 4	[insert text here]
Keyword 5	[insert text here]
Keyword 6	[insert text here]

5.3.1 Proposed Evaluator 3 - Proposed Evaluators

Information Eligibility:

- ▶ Evaluator should be employed in a non-Belgian institution at the time of the evaluation.
- ▶ Evaluator cannot have a conflict of interest. (personal/professional links, or have worked with the person in the past)
- ▶ Evaluator must be able to evaluate (as much as possible) all the aspects covered in the proposal.

Instructions

- ▶ Propose a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 evaluators.
- ▶ Provide a pool of proposed evaluators that is as diverse as possible, for instance in terms of gender, stage of their career or nationality.
- ▶ Make sure that the proposed evaluators you provide have no conflict of interest, as this will automatically exclude them from evaluating the Full Proposal.

[Click here to read BELSPO's Eligibility Criteria for Evaluators.](#)

Contact information	<input type="checkbox"/> The contact information below is information that is publicly available (for example on a personal website, LinkedIn, or website of a university).
Last Name	[insert text here]
First Name	[insert text here]

Gender	[select gender]
Organisation	[insert text here]
Department / Service	[insert text here]
Country (work)	[insert text here]
Email	[insert text here]
Website	[insert text here]
Discipline 1 (Primary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Discipline 2 (Secondary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Keyword 1	[insert text here]
Keyword 2	[insert text here]
Keyword 3	[insert text here]
Keyword 4	[insert text here]
Keyword 5	[insert text here]
Keyword 6	[insert text here]

5.4.1 Proposed Evaluator 4 - Proposed Evaluators

Information Eligibility:

- ▶ Evaluator should be employed in a non-Belgian institution at the time of the evaluation.
- ▶ Evaluator cannot have a conflict of interest. (personal/professional links, or have worked with the person in the past)
- ▶ Evaluator must be able to evaluate (as much as possible) all the aspects covered in the proposal.

Instructions

- ▶ Propose a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 evaluators.
- ▶ Provide a pool of proposed evaluators that is as diverse as possible, for instance in terms of gender, stage of their career or nationality.
- ▶ Make sure that the proposed evaluators you provide have no conflict of interest, as this will automatically exclude them from evaluating the Full Proposal.

[Click here to read BELSPO's Eligibility Criteria for Evaluators.](#)

Contact information	<input type="checkbox"/> The contact information below is information that is publicly available (for example on a personal website, LinkedIn, or website of a university).
Last Name	[insert text here]
First Name	[insert text here]
Gender	[select gender]
Organisation	[insert text here]
Department / Service	[insert text here]
Country (work)	[insert text here]
Email	[insert text here]
Website	[insert text here]
Discipline 1 (Primary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Discipline 2 (Secondary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Keyword 1	[insert text here]
Keyword 2	[insert text here]
Keyword 3	[insert text here]
Keyword 4	[insert text here]
Keyword 5	[insert text here]

Keyword 6

[insert text here]

6. Non-Grata Evaluators

BELSPO will neither contact nor select non-grata evaluators to compose the team of reviewers that will perform the Individual evaluation of your Full Proposal or to be part of the Panel evaluation.

How to navigate the Non-Grata Evaluators section

► To add another Non-Grata Evaluator, click on **+Add Non-Grata Evaluator** (in green) at the bottom of the page. A New tab will open. If your first Non-Grata Evaluator was introduced on tab 6.1.1. Non-Grata Evaluator 1, the next one should appear as tab 6.2.1. Non-Grata Evaluator 2.

► To delete a Non-Grata Evaluator, click on **-Delete Non-Grata** Evaluator (in red) at the bottom of the page; the created tab will disappear.

► After adding all your Non-Grata Evaluators, you may go to the next section by clicking **Save Draft & continue** at the bottom of the page.

If you have mistakenly added the section to add Non-Grate Evaluators, and you do not wish to add any. You can hide the section in section 1. General Information - 1.3. Structure of the Eol and un-tick the tick box.

6.1.1 Non-Grata Evaluator 1 - Non-Grata Evaluators

Information

Non-grata evaluators are evaluators you do not wish to have as reviewers of your Full Proposal.

BELSPO will neither contact nor select non-grata evaluators to compose the team of reviewers that will perform the Individual evaluation of your Full Proposal or to be part of the Panel evaluation.

Instructions

► State a maximum of 2 Non-Grata Evaluators.

Last Name	[insert text here]
First Name	[insert text here]
Organisation / Institution	[insert text here]
Department / Service	[insert text here]
Country (work)	[insert text here]
Postal Address (work)	[insert text here]
Website	[insert text here]
Discipline 1 (Primary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Discipline 2 (Secondary)	[Select the discipline from the dropdown]
Keyword 1	[insert text here]
Keyword 2	[insert text here]
Keyword 3	[insert text here]
Keyword 4	[insert text here]
Keyword 5	[insert text here]
Keyword 6	[insert text here]