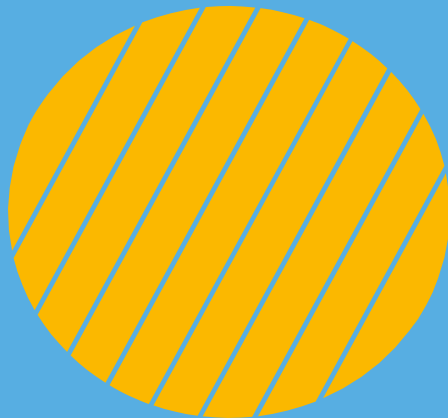


FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



You may find below the frequently asked questions and answers regarding the open calls for engagement.

Is there going to be an information session on the open call?

Yes, there will be at least one information session on the open call within the period March-May 2026, which will be announced on the PERIFORMANCE website and our social media links. If you have missed the information session, you will be able to find the presented slides which will be provided on the PERIFORMANCE website and this list of FAQs will be updated following the Q&A.

Where can I learn more about PERIFORMANCE?

Here are the links to our website and social media accounts:

WEBSITE: <https://periformance.com> / <https://periformance.eu>

LinkedIn account: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/eu-periformance-project/>

Blue sky account: @euperiformance.bsky.social

Based on your preliminary research, can you provide some resources to learn more on engagement activities?

Resources providing some theoretical background:

- Cañada JA, Tupasela A, Snell K. Beyond and within public engagement: a broadened approach to engagement in biobanking. *New Genet Soc.* 2015;34(4):355-76. doi: 10.1080/14636778.2015.1105130.
- [Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences \(CIOMS\) - 2016 - International Ethical Guidelines for Health-related Research involving Humans](#)
- [Common Minimum Technical Standards and Protocols for Biobanks Dedicated to Cancer Research](#)
- [ISBER Best Practices: Recommendations for Repositories Fifth Edition](#)
- Mayeur C, Howard HC, Van Hoof W. A citizen-centred approach to public engagement on the ethical, legal and societal issues of health technologies. *Public Underst Sci.* 2025;34(7):901-15. doi: 10.1177/09636625251326490.

Practical examples of engagement activities

- Klingler C, von Jagwitz-Biegnitz M, Baber R, Becker KF, Dahl E, Eibner C, et al. Stakeholder engagement to ensure the sustainability of biobanks: a survey of potential users of biobank services. *Eur J Hum Genet.* 2022;30(12):1335-45. doi: 10.1038/s41431-021-00905-x.
- Pezzolo F, Kinkorová J, Št'astná M, Cimburek Z, Topolčan O, von Heymann C, et al. Quality management at the national biobanking level – establishing a culture of mutual trust and support: the BBMRI.at example. *Clin Chem Lab Med.* 2020;58(2):167-75. doi: 10.1515/cclm-2019-0491.
- Different webpages from BBMRI member states describing their engagement activities:
 - BBMRI.de: <https://www.bbMRI.de/biobanking/stakeholder-engagement/>

- BBMRI.at (for researchers): <https://bbmri.at/for-researchers/>
- BBMRI.at (for citizens): <https://bbmri.at/for-citizens/>
- BBMRI.be: <https://www.bbmri.be/stakeholders/>
- BBMRI.nl: <https://www.health-ri.nl/en/about/organisation/public-policy-affairs/patient-public-advisory-committee>

What should I do if I cannot decide if my institution is eligible or not?

After thoroughly reading the documentation on the PERIFORMANCE website, if you still cannot decide whether your institution is eligible, please contact us with your question.

When is the deadline for submissions?

The deadline for submitting your proposal is 31.05.2026, 23:59 (Central European Time). Please submit your application earlier to make sure it arrives on time and you receive the notification of receipt before the deadline. Please note it may take up to a week until you receive the notification.

How do I know if my application is processed?

Following the submission, you will receive an e-mail notification within 48 hours that we have received your application and processing it. After this stage, there will not be any further information (other than exceptional circumstances) until the completion of the selection process. The outcome of the process will be announced transparently.

Why is there a need for an ethics approval or the confirmation that an ethics approval is not needed?

Ethical aspects are not only relevant for biomedical research but should be considered thoroughly, especially considering the potential involvement of vulnerable groups in engagement activities. Therefore, we ask you to consider the ethical aspects regarding your proposed activity and inquire whether you need an ethics approval to conduct the activity (as required by national law). You may also refer to the guidance provided by the European Union for the EU Grants: [How to complete your ethics self-assessment?](#) for going through the items listed to see if you identify any relevant aspects.

I understand that at least some of the PERIFORMANCE funded engagement activities will be followed by social scientists. What does this social scientific research involve? Do I need to include anything in the application regarding this?

Social sciences research (T4.2) to be conducted as part of the open call for engagements is a very important component of the PERIFORMANCE project. This qualitative research may take multiple shapes (e.g., interviews with the engagement organizers, participant observation during the engagement, etc.) depending on the engagement itself, the necessities and appropriate methods. These will be determined once the proposals are selected, in line with the availabilities and expertise of the relevant members of the social sciences team in WP4. As part of the application, there is no need to refer to this component unless

you see fit. However, all applications need to confirm that they are committed to support this research in case their proposal is selected and funded as this is part of the project set up for knowledge production on engagements.

Can I receive the funding before the activity is concluded?

In duly justified cases, a limited pre-financing payment may be granted to support the start of the activity, subject to prior request and approval and in accordance with the project's financial procedures.

What does double funding mean?

Double funding/financing in relevance to this open call is the practice of submitting the same item of expenditure (i.e., a specific cost) to different sources (e.g., through open call and local funding agency) separately in order to obtain financial support from all of them. This is not allowed.

Can I ask for higher or lower funding?

In terms of budgeting your costs, please take into account that we cannot provide more than €10,000 to a single engagement activity. It is possible that your proposal receives further funding to cover the remaining costs (e.g., institutional funds, other funding); however, this must be clearly communicated as part of your application and should not lead to double funding. There is no lower limit for the funds that can be requested.

Can there be a collaboration across two funded activities?

Once the activities are selected, we will be able to provide further information on the process (e.g., monitoring and reporting) with a dedicated event, which will be an opportunity to get to know the other selected activities and participants. Collaborations, especially in communication and dissemination, across activities are highly appreciated.

