



EARASHI OPEN CALL MATERIAL

In the context of EARASHI project (Embodied AI/Robotics Applications for a Safe, Human-oriented Industry), 2 open calls were organized to select 10 projects distributing 2 M€ among them. The selected projects were requested to address one of EARASHI 10 challenges defined by EARASHI advisory board, and publicity announced within the open call.

Besides funding, the selected projects benefit from **EARASHI programme**:

- **Integration of a Technical building block** of your choice and associated expertise, among the Building Block portfolio offered by EARASHI.
- **Coaching services** such as Business, human-centered design, eco-design, cybersecurity, engineering system integration, mentoring & access to validation facility.

The **funding instrument** included a lump-sum grant of up to 200 k€ per project for developing solutions at demonstration scale and coaching session during and beyond their developments within the following framework:

- The total duration of a granted project expected to be 15-18 months.
- Granted company cannot individually receive more than 200 k€.
- Only startups and SMEs are eligible to receive such funding.

R&D demonstration projects targeting EARASHI challenges had to be developed to reach Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 7 starting from TRL 4-5, following a competitive based approach. The demonstration projects had to respond to one of **EARASHI 10 challenges**, and address **EARASHI overall scope**:

- **Support the industry in the uptake of advanced digital eco-responsible technologies** (in particular AI, Data and Robotics)
- **Support workers in their daily activities and improve their working conditions** (safety, health and well-being) leading to a productivity increase
- **Adopt a worker-centric approach by considering worker well-being and health at work** (e.g., MSD and stress), design thinking methodology of production machines, worker acceptance and Ethics

The granted projects were expected **to have impact** on:

- Decrease of the number of workers that perceive stress at work / the number of accidents at work / number of workers already suffering from MSD
- Increase of the number of ROS-users (ROS=Robot Operating System)
- Improvement of trust in AI, Data and Robotics (implementation of ADR in manufacturing)

- Machine retrofit and refurbishment
- Deployment of eco-design approach
- Standardized, easy, non-hazardous dismantling processes shortened in time and costs

The granted projects products were expected to have **market potential** and reach **commercialization** as project's outcome.

Pan-European demonstration projects (EU member states or Horizon Europe associated countries) were strongly encouraged, through **cross-border collaboration** either with the EARASHI partners providing the technical Building Blocks and expertise or through the companies building up the proposal.

For a proposal **to be eligible for the evaluation** phase, the following conditions had to be respected

- Be written in English, use of the application form template and respect the length requirements
- Be proposed by a micro-consortium of a minimum of 1 independent legal entity (maximum 2) including exclusively Start-up or SME, established in the Member States of the European Union and its overseas countries and territories (OCT) and Horizon Europe associated Countries
- Involve one Building Block described in the Building Block catalogue
- Address one of EARASHI challenges

In the present folder are published the **documents used to manage EARASHI open call**:

- Application template
- Challenges booklet
- Building Block catalogue
- Guide for Applicants
- Standard contract signed by the granted companies with EARASHI partners involved in the granted project monitoring
- Guide for reviewers, originally drawn up for the external reviewers involved in the evaluation process of the proposals submitted to the open call.