



PERMIDES is one out of five European INNOSUP-I-2015 Cluster facilitated projects for new value chains projects.

It is the ambition of PERMIDES to accelerate the digitalization of biopharmaceutical SMEs in the field of Personalised Medicine, thereby reconfiguring the value chain and increase the competitiveness of the participating SMEs. In comparison to other industries (such as the automotive or other engineering-related industries), the healthcare and biopharmaceutical industry are substantially lagging in adapting novel digital solutions to accelerate processes and implement new business models. This is mostly due to the complexity of the product development process as well as regulatory, legal, and cultural hurdles. Via a cross-clustering approach, leading biopharma and IT clusters from three countries (Austria, Germany and Norway) will create novel cross-sectoral collaborations between SMEs to address innovation barriers in the biopharma sector via cutting-edge IT solutions. Advancing Personalised Medicine in the digital age requires solutions to issues currently driving the IT and software sector, e.g. Big Data, machine learning, IT security, data protection, and cross-enterprise collaboration. As cross-cutting industry, the IT and software sector is an innovation enabler in many industries providing process and best practice solutions in diverse industrial and business environments.

Message from the Project Coordinator

Dear reader,

On behalf of the PERMIDES consortium partners, I am very pleased to welcome you to the H2020 project PERMIDES Newsletter #1.

Since the launch of PERMIDES in September 2016, we have been working as a consortium with a number of achievements. The Kick-off, Strategy and European Level workshops were already successfully implemented at the three participating countries during September-February 2016, and the PERMIDES matchmaking platform for SMEs was created and is progressing well with registrations across the globe. Further information at <http://permides.eu/>

The main goal of the PERMIDES Newsletter is to provide regular and frequent news items that fit the interests of the PERMIDES participants, cluster members and stakeholders. We aim to update our readers with important announcements and events related to PERMIDES. The PERMIDES Newsletter aims at being complementary to the other project communication media, such as the PERMIDES website, social media and other dissemination channels of the consortium members.

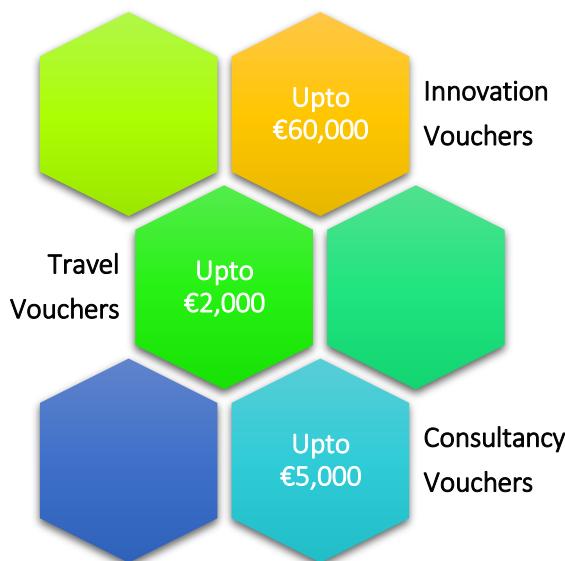
We hope we can also benefit from all your feedback and I wish you all good reading.



Tamara Höglar
CyberForum e.V, Germany
PERMIDES Project Coordinator

Open Call for Proposals for Financial Support

The Open Call for Funding for Innovation partnerships among biopharma and IT SMEs to digitalize biopharmaceutical R&D, has been published on March 15, 2017. PERMIDES offers different types of vouchers to SMEs allowing them to tackle and solve challenges at specific levels of complexity. Each SME can apply for multiple vouchers but is restricted to the maximum value of each voucher type as detailed at <http://permides.eu/open-call/>



The voucher funding scheme of PERMIDES is aimed at SMEs from the biopharmaceutical sector developing novel personalized medicine products and solutions (e.g. biotech/medtech companies, diagnostics companies, CROs, biobank companies, bioinformatic companies). Only biopharma SMEs, together with IT SMEs, according to the EU definition and established in one of the EU Member States or Associated Countries can submit the proposals for funding provided by PERMIDES. To be eligible for funding, project teams need to consist of one biopharma SME as main applicant/beneficiary and at least one IT SME as service provider. Potential project team partners can be found via the PERMIDES platform offering the need-vs-expertise-based matchmaking of companies from the biopharmaceutical and IT sector.

Biopharma SMEs can avail benefits from this call for obtaining vouchers up to a maximum of € 60,000. IT SMEs can collaborate with various biopharma SMEs in multiple projects, and are not affected by € 60,000 limit. Please note that biopharma SMEs are the beneficiaries of the innovation projects and the costs involved in providing the services by IT SMEs will be funded and paid to IT SMEs by PERMIDES.

- ⊕ 1st Cut-off date for handing in proposals: May 15, 2017
- ⊕ 2nd Cut-off date for handing in proposals: August 31, 2017
- ⊕ 3rd Cut-off date for handing in proposals: November 15, 2017
- ⊕ Maximum duration of the innovation projects: 6 months
- ⊕ All funded projects finalized by: June 15th, 2018
- ⊕ Web address for proposal submissions: <http://permides.eu/apply-now/>

PERMIDES Workshops Across Europe

The European series of PERMIDES regional workshops in total gathered around 100 participants representing biopharmaceutical, IT and bioinformatic SMEs as well as larger companies, medical university centers, healthcare networking organizations and technology transfer initiatives. Although this series of workshops aimed at identifying regional priorities regarding digitalization challenges of the biopharmaceutical value chain, it is now evident that there is no particular regional focus. Similar aspects of digitalization of the value chain are rather seen as the most challenging by the respective industry sectors of different European countries. In particular, three of the value chain challenges that were initially identified by the PERMIDES consortium and open for discussion during the workshops were regarded as high-priority challenges reflecting actual industry needs by the majority of the workshop participants. These most relevant value chain challenges are:

- ⊕ Data gathering and exchange: access to broad and complete data in real time
- ⊕ Big Data Analytics & Machine Learning: actionable insights from massive data sets
- ⊕ Regulatory compliance of novel data storage and mining solutions

Although no significant difference between the different regions regarding specific value chain challenges was observed, the Norwegian, and judging from comments made by representatives from Nordic countries, the Nordic countries Denmark, Norway, Finland and Sweden seem to have a somewhat better developed and advanced healthcare IT infrastructure than Germany and Austria. One of the main reasons seems to be the excessive concern with data protection, e.g. in Germany.

PERMIDES
1st European Workshop
December 06, 2016



[Workshop](#) [Report](#)

PERMIDES
2nd European Workshop
December 15, 2016



[Workshop](#) [Report](#)

PERMIDES
3rd European Workshop
January 16, 2017

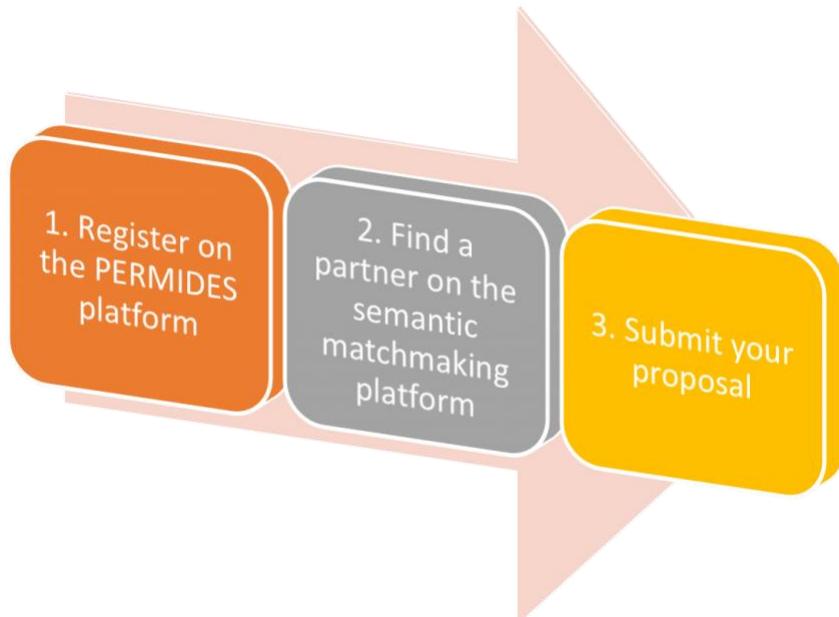


[Workshop](#) [Report](#)

During the initial PERMIDES Project Phase we specified the challenges biopharma SMEs in Europe are confronted with regarding digitalisation. Our initial workshops and discussions with SMEs were an important first step to raise the awareness of the opportunities residing in novel digital solutions and

to communicate the need for SMEs to move into this direction to maintain and increase their competitiveness in the future.

How to get Funded from PERMIDES



Funding eligibility criteria

- ✓ The applicants must have SME status according to the [SME definition of the European Union](#) and the applicants are headquartered in one of the EU [Member States](#) or [Associated Countries](#).
- ✓ Voucher applications must represent a joint project between
 - an applicant from the biopharmaceutical sector (e.g. *biotech/medtech companies, diagnostics companies, CROs, biobank companies, bioinformatics companies*)
 - and at least one further applicant from the IT sector.
- ✓ Companies with expertise in the biopharmaceutical as well as IT sector (such as bioinformatics companies) may, in distinct applications, either act as biopharmaceutical or as IT partner depending on the project context.
- ✓ The PERMIDES innovation/consultancy vouchers will pay for the services provided by the IT SME.

Relevant Documents

[PERMIDES-Voucher Application Terms and Conditions](#)

[PERMIDES Applicants Guide](#)

[PERMIDES-Application for Innovation Voucher](#)

[PERMIDES-Application for Consultancy Voucher](#)

Upcoming Events



This newsletter reflects only the PERMIDES consortium's view and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.



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