

NGIatlantic.eu 1st Call Duration: 1 April 2020 - 29 May 2020, 17.00 CET

The main goal of the NGIatlantic.eu Open Calls is to incentivize EU – US NGI teams to carry out experiments using EU and/or US based experimental platforms. This will take the form of funding to be provided through a cascade grant process for the EU counterparts of the teams formed. The focus of the Open Calls will be the first set of priority topics on the EU's Next Generation Internet (NGI) Initiative and related topics in which results are already available from previous NGI Research and Innovation (RIA) projects to be partnered with an Experimental Platform of the proposer's choice.

Please note that while the focus is on these topics addressed in other NGI projects, the NGIatlantic.eu Open Call also welcomes new EU innovators not already involved in other NGI projects that have their own results related to these topics and who wish to carry out experiments with a US-based team.

1st Open Call Topic Priorities

Key enabling NGI technologies - **5G, Big Data, IoT, Cybersecurity, A.I., and others**, addressing:

1. **Privacy and Trust enhancing technologies** – experimentation of results on the NGI call topic related to the development of robust and easy to use technologies to help users gain improved trust and greater control when sharing their personal data, attributes and information.
2. **Decentralised data governance** - experimentation of results on the NGI call topic related to leveraging distributed open hardware and software ecosystems based on blockchains, distributed ledger technology, open data and peer-to-peer technologies with particular focus on ethical, legal and privacy issues, as well the concepts of autonomy, data sovereignty and ownership, values and regulations.
3. **Discovery and identification technologies** - experimentation of results on the NGI call topic related to new methods of search, discovery, and access of large heterogeneous data sources, services, objects and sensors, devices, multi-media content, etc. and which may include aspects of numbering; providing contextual querying, personalised information retrieval and improved quality of experience.

EU – US Experimental Platforms

Although the calls are open to all EU or US experimental platforms (or even some combination), some examples of the types of platforms that could be used are:

- a. EU - NGI Experimentation ([NGI-EXP](#)), [FED4FIRE+](#), [5G-PPP](#), among others.
- b. US - NSF's **Wired and Wireless funded programs**, such as [ENTeR](#) / [GENI](#), [FABRIC](#), and Future Cloud Platform, Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research ([PAWR](#)), [US Ignite](#), and dedicated US-EU Internet Core & Edge ([ICE-T](#)) programmes, among others.

Examples of EU – US Project Teams¹

1. Innovator(s) in EU that have developed an NGI based solution to improve new ways of search and discovery functionality teamed up with a US based experimental platform funded by the NSF.
2. Innovator(s) in US funded by NSF that have developed NGI - based solutions on decentralised data governance that want to team up with an EU based partner who has also developed similar solutions and team up for further development and testing on an EU based experimental platform e.g. FED4FIRE+ or 5G-PPP.

¹ In both of these examples, according to the funding rules, NGIatlantic.eu would fund the EU – based partners and the NSF would fund the US partners, either under existing project funds or new US – EU project funds.



Type of Proposals

Two types of proposals can be funded under the NGIatlantic.eu Open Calls, as shown below.

Proposal type	Description	Maximum Contract duration	Monitoring frequency	Funding range*
LT – Long term contributions	EU-US NGI experiment project with R&I activities	6 months	Monthly	€50,000 - €150,000
ST – Short-Term contributions	EU-US NGI experiment project with R&I activities.	3 months	Fortnightly	€25,000 - €75,000

* Eligible Costs: Cost of personnel (inclusive of 25% overhead) and travel & subsistence (cost-reimbursement contracts).

Open Call for Applications - Process and Timing

NGIatlantic.eu will run 5 Open Call cycles. Each call will be open for 60 days to be followed by a 30-day evaluation period.

1st Call timing:

- Launch: 1st April 2020;
- Deadline: 29th May 2020, 17:00 CET;
- Evaluation: Each proposal will be evaluated by three members of an External Pool of Evaluators (EPE);
- Notification of Outcome: Applicants will be notified on the outcome of their proposal by the end of June 2020.

If your proposal is successful, you will be contacted within 5-10 business days of notification to take the steps necessary to prepare and sign the contract for the funding. Please note that a deadline of 10 business days will be applied to confirm your intention to take up the contract to enable the funds to be re-allocated to other successful applicants.

Evaluation Criteria

Each proposal will be evaluated based on the 4-criterion given below, with a scoring from 1 to 10 and the weighting indicated:

Criteria 1: Soundness of the proposal and foreseen impact on the Open Call topic (30%);

Criteria 2: Technical excellence & adherence to the Open Call topics (30%);

Criteria 3: Experience and qualifications of the applicant (20%);

Criteria 4: Economics of the proposal (20%).



The final scoring and ranking will be automatically determined by averaging the scores provided by the 3 independent evaluators identified from NGIatlantic.eu's EPE. In any cases where there is a distinct discrepancy between the EPE votes, the EMT will be called upon to review the results carefully and carry out remedial actions, if necessary, such as requesting other independent EPE members to evaluate the proposal(s).

Who can receive financial support?

Private and public organisations of any size (not individual researchers) located within the EU Member States or Associated Countries and twinned with a US counterpart, as described above to carry out the activities proposed. Please note that the funding is limited to coverage of the work to be carried out by the EU team. For the US teams, please refer to the funding mechanisms of your US partners (e.g. National Science Foundation).

Will there be more open calls?

Yes. NGIatlantic.eu will launch 5 Open Calls in the period April 2020 – November 2021 – this is just your 1st chance to get your EU – US NGI experiment funded!

