This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101000427.

1ST CALL FOR PROPOSALS
PRE-BREEDING PROJECTS
GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

SEPTEMBER 2021

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101000427.
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1. ABOUT GEN4OLIVE

**GEN4OLIVE** aims at mobilizing Olive Genetic Resources through pre-breeding activities to face the future challenges and development of an intelligent interface to ensure a friendly information availability for end users.

Objectives of **GEN4OLIVE** are 1) Developing collective pre-breeding activities aiming to in depth characterize more than 500 worldwide varieties and 1000 wild and ancient genotypes. 2) Developing a smart and user-friendly interface that will implement Artificial Intelligence utilities. 3) Enhancing breeders and growers’ participation through the implementation of two open calls for supporting pre-breeding activities and breeding plans.

### 1.1. GEN4OLIVE PARTNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P. N</th>
<th>Participant organisation name</th>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Count.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>University of Cordoba (COORDINATOR)</td>
<td>UCO</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hellenic Agricultural Organisation &quot;DIMITRA&quot;. Institute of Olive Tree and Subtropical Plants</td>
<td>DEMETER</td>
<td>GR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Olive Research Institute. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Izmir, Turkey</td>
<td>ORI</td>
<td>TR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>SANTA CRUZ INGENIERIA SL</td>
<td>SCI</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique – Centre Regional de Marrakech</td>
<td>INRA</td>
<td>MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Technological Corporation of Andalusia Foundation</td>
<td>FCTA</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gálvez Productos Agroquímicos, S.L.U.</td>
<td>GALPAGRO</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cámbrico Biotech, S.L.</td>
<td>CAMBRICO</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hellenic Union of Nurseries</td>
<td>EFE</td>
<td>GR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Council for Agricultural Research</td>
<td>CREA</td>
<td>IT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>FOCOS GBR</td>
<td>FOCOS</td>
<td>DE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>ANKARA UNIVERSITESI</td>
<td>ANKU</td>
<td>TR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>University of Granada</td>
<td>UGR</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>University of Jaen</td>
<td>UJA</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sapienza University of Rome</td>
<td>SAPIENZA</td>
<td>IT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique</td>
<td>CNRS</td>
<td>FR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1.2. GEN4OLIVE FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Acronym</th>
<th><strong>GEN4OLIVE</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Title</td>
<td>Mobilization of Olive Genetic Resources through pre-breeding activities to face the future challenges and development of an intelligent interface to ensure a friendly information availability for end users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Reference</td>
<td>H2020-SFS-2018-2020, Grant Agreement 101000427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Topic</td>
<td>SFS-28-2018-2019-2020 - Genetic resources and pre-breeding communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Duration</td>
<td>48 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Budget</td>
<td>7,385,558,36€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web</td>
<td><a href="https://gen4olive.eu/">https://gen4olive.eu/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.3. GEN4OLIVE CONTACT POINTS

For any enquiries regarding the GEN4OLIVE project, please contact the project coordinator:

Diego Barranco, UCO, e-mail: gen4olive@uco.es.

For any enquiries regarding information and/or clarification about the present call for proposals, please contact call@gen4olive.eu.

For any other enquiry, please contact one of the GEN4OLIVE Helpdesk contacts listed in Annex I. GEN4OLIVE SMEs Helpdesk aims to the better support and preparation of the applications through the provision of information, clarifications and answers concerning the GEN4OLIVE call. The Helpdesk will cover not only the basic issues of the GEN4OLIVE call, but also specific issues.
2. GEN4OLIVE VOUCHERS’ BACKGROUND & AMBITION

This Call for Proposal is supported by the GEN4OLIVE Project Consortium and is financed by the EU’s Horizon 2020 Programme under Grant Agreement 101000427 and managed by the Research Executive Agency (REA).

GEN4OLIVE’s key ambition is to accelerate the mobilization of domestic and wild Genetic Resource of the Mediterranean basin olive cultivar and enhance olive pre-breeding activities through a multi-actor approach.

For this purpose, actors from the most important countries in the olive sector, such as, France, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain and Turkey, have to be involved. Interaction and collaboration between scientific knowledge, Germplasm Banks and sector’s stakeholders, such as breeders and nurseries, is considering as a key point to improve mobilization of Olive Genetic Resources and to allow olive production sector facing current technical and commercial challenges such as climate change effects, pests and diseases issues, consumer demands, increase of the agronomic performance. Tapping into the olive genetic resources, GEN4OLIVE aims at meeting current and future needs of food security and quality, opening new internal and external market opportunities and contributing to the modernization and competitiveness enhancement of olive growing industry.

GEN4OLIVE allocated a budget of 950,000€ to support the mobilization of pre-breeding activities and breeding plans, through two open calls for innovation projects. Calls address SMEs related to olive tree pre-breeding and breeding activities and will grant their innovation projects through a vouchers scheme.

2.1. Target Audience

The target audience of GEN4OLIVE Calls for Proposal are SMEs interested in olive breeding activities, who can be defined as end-users of Germplasm Banks resources and the interface developed by GEN4OLIVE (mainly breeders, olive farmers and olive oil/table olives producers) and all other kind of SMEs (such as the ICT sector) that may contribute directly or indirectly to the acceleration/upgrading of the olive genetic resources are entitled to become third parties. Applicants shall be SMEs established in one the following countries: France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain and Turkey.

SMEs shall comply with the European Commission Definition of SME (micro, small and medium-sized enterprises).

2.2. Pre-breeding and breeding activities

Pre-breeding refers to all activities designed to identify desirable characteristics and/or genes from materials that cannot be used directly in breeding populations and to transfer these traits to an intermediate set of materials that breeders can use further in producing new varieties for farmers. It is a necessary first step in the use of diversity arising from wild relatives and other unimproved materials. Pre-breeding for effective use of plant genetic resources is a collaboration between the Germplasm Bank and the plant breeder who need to work together to understand the scope and value of germplasm collections and how new traits from these collections can be bred into new varieties. The adoption of pre-breeding facilitates the efficiency and effectiveness of crop improvement programmes by enabling increased access to, and use of, genetic variations conserved in Germplasm Banks.

Breeding plans aim at improving and increasing traits such as quality, flavour, yield, tolerance of abiotic and biotic stresses. Plant breeding programs can be divided into two groups including classical and modern plant breeding. In the first one, plants are selected with desirable characters and elimination of undesirable characters occurs. The modern plant breeding programs have used molecular biology techniques and omics technologies. Association mapping, marker-assisted selection, breeding by design, gene pyramiding, and genomic selection have been the main utilized methodologies in plant breeding programs. The development of new technologies and tools during the pre-breeding process significantly contributes to a successful breeding programme.
3. **GEN4OLIVE VOUCHER SCHEME - CALL ADDRESSED TO SMES**

3.1. **Which project activities are supported?**

The first GEN4OLIVE open call offers vouchers for proposals that aims at deploying olive pre-breeding activities and/or development of new technologies that may contribute to accelerate breeding process and make it more effective.

Proposals must start from the previous research works results (TRL≥6) in order to carry out pre-breeding activities, both by taking advantage of the existing olive genetic resources in the Germplasm Banks and/or out of the Germplasm Banks, and by applying and/or adjusting new techniques/technologies to accelerate this process (e.g., shortening the juvenile period of the olive tree - entry into production; development of different bio-stimulants; lighting conditions and controlled climate to accelerate the process, or rapid testing on certain pests, diseases).

Applicants shall be SMEs established in one of the following 7 countries: France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain and Turkey.

Selected projects will enhance multi-actor collaboration and knowledge transfer between Germplasm Banks and Beneficiary SMEs.

Two different types of project activities will be supported:

1. **PRE-BREEDING ACTIVITIES**

Scope: implementation of activities based on the use of olive genetic resources extracted from Germplasm Bank collections in order to characterize/test new traits that can be bred into new olive tree varieties.

Topics to be addressed will coincide with the five major lines of GEN4OLIVE works, which are as follows:

1. Climate change effect resilience
2. Pests and diseases resilience
3. High production varieties
4. High quality varieties
5. Excellent agronomic performance

Indicative granted activities will be, for instance:

- Field trials to study the adaptation of olive varieties to biotic and abiotic stresses and other commercial purposes.
- Characterization of cultivars for specific breeding line programmes such as table olives, landscaping (pollen free) and other commercial purposes.
- Multisite evaluation of candidate new varieties under different environments (evaluation of environment effect).
- Selection of rootstocks adapted to crops conditions (resistance to soil diseases and appropriate vigour).
- Propagation/micropropagation and culture techniques for shortening juvenile period.
- Development and testing of effective methodologies for increasing the rooting rate of varieties.

This is an indicative list; other activities could be considered eligible.
2. ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Scope: development of a technological solution aiming at supporting the implementation of pre-breeding activities for olive tree varieties.

Technology to be developed will hold a minimum TRL of 6 (see TRL definition). Supported activities can include:

- Validation of a technology in relevant environment
- Demonstration of a technology in relevant environment
- Demonstration of a prototype in operational environment
- Qualification of a complete system
- Test of a system in an operational environment.

Indicative granted activities will be development of technological solutions related to:

- Development of automatic rapid and massive phenotyping platforms/technologies (image analysis etc).
- Development of molecular tools such as, for instance, gene silencing, with the aim of speeding up the breeding process.
- Development of chips for the rapid detection of olive tree diseases.
- Geo-localization of trees in the Germplasm Banks to ensure traceability.
- Development of a genomic platform for editable variants from an olive core collection useful for association mapping studies
- Enabling blockchain technologies to support olive development activities.
- IOT devices to support pre-breeding activities such as field evaluation of pests and diseases resilience.
- Development and validation of new laboratory equipment to accelerate the pre-breeding process in olive tree.

This is an indicative list; other activities could be considered eligible.

Each interested SME can submit more than one application but only in the case the project ideas are different.

3.2. What type of voucher is offered?

Two GEN4OLIVE open calls for proposal will be launched during the project.

The overall budget for the two calls is 950.000€.

The budget will be distributed as described below:

- First call: 750.000€
- Second call: 200.000€

The first call will be launched in September 2021. The second call will be launched in October 2022.

The maximum amount to be granted per SME by GEN4OLIVE project shall not exceed 60.000€ in total even in the case of multiple granted voucher scheme types to the SME during the lifetime of GEN4OLIVE. This applies not only for the first call but for the 2 calls in case a SME would apply to the second call as well.

Each interested SME can apply to one or more voucher types in accordance with its needs but can only ask for the maximum financial contribution cumulatively.
In case the number of expected applicants cannot be reached in the first GEN4OLIVE call, the remaining budget will be relocated to the second GEN4OLIVE call or/and between the vouchers as well.

The 60.000€ lump sum contribution to SMEs includes the costs of any specialized subcontractor. Subcontractors can typically be innovation actors such as Research Technology Organization (RTO), Universities, Research Institutes, living labs and similar, but could be also public research centres or other, large companies, other specialized SMEs such as technological supplier or similar. Subcontractors shall be established in an EU member state or an associated country.

### 3.2.1. Maximum funding offered per voucher type

Two different types of funding are being offered through the first GEN4OLIVE call:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of voucher</th>
<th><strong>INDIVIDUAL VOUCHER</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Grant per voucher</td>
<td>Lump sum up to 50.000€ per project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of funded projects expected</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voucher duration</td>
<td>24 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary</td>
<td>1 SME established in France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain or Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract</td>
<td>To be signed by SME applicant and GEN4OLIVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>250.000€</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of voucher</th>
<th><strong>COLLABORATIVE VOUCHER</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Grant per voucher</td>
<td>Lump sum up to 100.000€ per project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of funded projects expected</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voucher duration</td>
<td>24 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary</td>
<td>A consortium of minimum 2 and maximum 3 SMEs. Consortium shall be led by 1 SME established in France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain or Turkey. The other consortium partners shall be SMEs established in an EU Member State or Horizon 2020 associated country. RTO, Germplasm Bank, University, technological provider, large company can be part of the consortium as subcontractors and shall be established in an EU Member State or an associated country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract</td>
<td>To be signed by leader SME and GEN4OLIVE. A consortium agreement will be signed by the consortium partners and will define budget distribution among them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>500.000€</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Annexes II and III details for each voucher are provided.
3.2.2. Eligible costs

Successful proposals shall receive the requested financial contribution in the form of a lump sum.

A lump sum is a fixed amount of money which can be used by beneficiaries for several purposes related to the achievement of the project objectives. It is necessary to provide an explanation in the application on how the lump sum will be used including a clear budget proposal (personnel, subcontracting, travels, equipment, and consumables). Since the granting of a lump-sum does not foresee the delivery of a detailed financial reporting and timesheets, the use of the project budget will be controlled considering the technical advancements by the technical reviewers. The final technical evaluation will assess the coherence of the spent money with the achieved results. However, since beneficiaries will have to keep the original documents of their expenses (timesheets, invoices, contracts) in case of an audit, the following rules and limitations per type of voucher scheme must be respected.

Only costs generated during the lifetime of the project can be eligible. Period of costs’ eligibility is from the contract signature date until the end of the project.

Costs described in the submitted budget must be determined in accordance with the usual accounting and management principles and practices of the beneficiary.

The financial contribution for the eligible costs per voucher scheme, will be given to the selected SMEs in a form of lump sum.

Applicant will provide an indicative budget allocation in Excel format in order to allow the evaluator to better understand the organization and implementation of the project. Budget Excel will be uploaded with the application form in the submission platform.

Eligible costs are:

1. SMEs INTERNAL COSTS

- Direct staff costs: cost hours of the staff of the beneficiary dedicated to actual work under the project.

- Other direct costs: further direct incurred costs directly related to the implementation of the action can be claimed for travel costs for project team meetings, equipment, consumables, etc. Only the part of equipment costs used for the project, and the usual depreciation rules of the company have to be applied.

- Indirect costs: costs incurred within the context of a project that cannot be attributed directly to the project, e.g., room rent, energy costs or general administration costs. A flat rate of 25% of the direct eligible costs shall be applied.

2. SUBCONTRACTING COSTS

- Subcontracting costs such as expert services by Research Technology Organization (RTO), Universities, Research Institutes, living labs and similar, but could be also public research centre or other, large companies, other specialized SMEs such as technological supplier and similar. Those costs are the services/products carried out by a provider-subcontractor via a legal agreement between them, which set out the rights and obligations of both parties for the sake of the project completion.

Subcontracting may cover only a limited part of the action. If the subcontracting budget is quite high, beneficiary must and should justify it properly.

Period of costs’ eligibility starts from the contract signature date until the end of the project. Expenditures incurred before submission date of the proposal are not eligible. Expenditures incurred after reporting period are not eligible.
3.3. Application

3.3.1. Eligibility conditions

Proposals will be eligible only if all the following conditions are met:

1. Applicant(s) must be SME(s) and declare their SME status in accordance with the SME definition of the European Union as part of the application via this link; In cases of partner or linked companies, consult the guide of the SME definition via this link.

2. Leader SME must be established or with a branch office in one of the 7 following countries: France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain or Turkey.

3. Applications must be submitted in English through the web-based system by 17:00 CEST (Brussels time) of the 1st December 2021.

3.3.2. Where to apply and how?

SMEs will need to apply via the following link: https://gen4olive.grantplatform.com

We will evaluate only proposals submitted through the GEN4OLIVE submission tool within the deadline (December 1st, 2021, @17.00 CEST). Upon receipt of each proposal, the system will send you a confirmation of your submission. Proposals may be re-edited and re-submitted until the deadline. The last submitted proposal before the deadline will be considered as the final one.

After submission, the applicant will receive an e-mail which states the date and time of the submitted proposal. For collaborative proposals, one of the involved SMEs acting as “coordinator” of the consortium is responsible to complete all information into the online tool.

3.3.3. When to apply?

The first GEN4OLIVE Call is launched on September the 1st, 2021 and will be open until December the 1st, 2021, @ 17.00 CEST.

Summarising timeline of the 1st GEN4OLIVE call:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening date for the proposal submission</td>
<td>1st September 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing date for the proposal submission</td>
<td>1st December 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation period</td>
<td>1st December – 1st March 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of funded proposals</td>
<td>March 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreement signature date</td>
<td>March -April 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected starting date of the project</td>
<td>April - May 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. **FUNDING SCHEME**

4.1. **General payment terms**

- All payments will be made in Euros (€).
- Expenditures incurred before the Contract signature date, or after the project duration period are ineligible for remuneration.
- Costs incurred for the implementation of the project must be used for the sole and close purpose of achieving the objectives of the project and its expected results, in a transparent manner consistent with the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- Beneficiaries that apply in consortium must set up internal agreements regulating their cooperation. GEN4OLIVE will not be responsible for paying any costs applied for and incurred by the beneficiaries in case of non-compliance with the terms and conditions of the GEN4OLIVE funding scheme.
- Payment will be made to consortium coordinator and coordinator will pay each SME of the consortium based on their share of the estimated budget in the consortium agreement.
- Submission of an application does not constitute an entitlement for funding.
- The recipients of the (financial) support from GEN4OLIVE ("Beneficiaries") must ensure that the European Commission, the European Anti-fraud Office (OLAF) and the Court of Auditors (ECA) can exercise their powers of control, on documents, information, even stored on electronic media, or on the final recipient’s premises. This may include:
  - Explanation of incurred expenses for each type costs: staff, subcontracting, other direct costs, indirect costs.
  - Payment evidence of subcontracting and other direct costs
  - For collaborative projects: evidence of payment to partners.

4.2. **Beneficiaries’ obligations**

**Supporting documentation**

The SME/consortium must -for a period of five-years after the payment of the balance- keep records and other supporting documentation in order to prove the proper implementation of the action.

They must make them available upon request or in the context of checks, reviews, audits, or investigations.

If there are on-going checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation, or other pursuits of claims under the grant agreement (including the extension of funding), the SME/consortium must keep the records and other supporting documentation until the end of these procedures.

The SME/consortium must keep the original documents. Digital and digitalised documents are considered originals if they are authorised by the applicable national law. Non-original documents may be accepted if they offer a comparable level of assurance.

**Financial capacity**

The SMEs must have the financial capacity to carry out the actions described in their proposals and to properly manage the financial support granted to them.
Each SME either applying alone or as a member of a consortium must be in alignment with the following situations:

- Is no bankrupt or being wound up, is not having affairs administrated by the courts, has not entered into an arrangement with creditors, has not suspended business activities, is not the subject of proceedings concerning those matters or is not any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations.

- Is in compliance with its obligation relating to the payment of social security contributions and the payment of taxes, in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which it is established

- Is not subject to a conflict of interest in connection with the grant.

Selected SMEs should be able to provide some basic information of their financial standing.

The following documents could be asked after the selection procedure:

- Copy of the profit and loss account

- Balance sheet for the last two years for which accounts have been closed. Failing that, appropriate statements from banks shall be submitted.

In case of SMEs (or start-ups) without a financial history or track-record, an audit of their current fiscal period (certified by an external auditor) or a self-declaration, including a Business Plan for the on-going financial year could be required.

Exceptionally, when it would be considered and justified by GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee, if a participant is unable to provide the above documents, it may prove its economic and financial capacity by any other document which the GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee considers appropriate. Nevertheless, this entity must at least be notified of the exceptional reason and its justification in the proposal; and it reserves the right to request any other document enabling it to verify the participant’s financial capacity.

4.3. Which are the payment terms per voucher?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDIVIDUAL VOUCHER</th>
<th>COLLABORATIVE VOUCHER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ <strong>Lump sum up to 50,000€ per project</strong></td>
<td>✓ <strong>Lump sum up to 100,000€ per project</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 INSTALMENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 INSTALMENTS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-financing:</strong> within 30 days from the signature of the contract (30%)</td>
<td><strong>Pre-financing:</strong> within 30 days from the signature of the contract (30%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intermediate:</strong> within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the</td>
<td><strong>Intermediate:</strong> within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intermediate progress performance report (30%)</td>
<td>intermediate progress performance report (30%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final:</strong> within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the final</td>
<td><strong>Final:</strong> within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>progress performance report (40%)</td>
<td>progress performance report (40%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Payment of the subcontractor will follow the payment scheme of the projects and it will be described in a subcontractor’s contract with the beneficiary. The subcontractor’s contract will not be asked in the submission of the application.
5. EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

5.1. Criteria

Submitted applications will be evaluated in a one-step evaluation procedure (remote evaluation by external experts plus review by the GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee consisting of representatives of GEN4OLIVE partners). Prior to assigning proposals to external experts, GEN4OLIVE partners will perform an eligibility check according to previously defined criteria.

The evaluation and ranking of the applications are based on a set of criteria in addition to the above-mentioned main eligibility requirements. The following table explains the different aspects which will be considered for each evaluation criterion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
<th>SUBCRITERIA</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>WEIGHTED SCORE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellence (40%)</td>
<td>Scientific and technical quality</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Innovation potential</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feasibility of the project</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>Total Excellence</td>
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<td></td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implementation (30%)</td>
<td>Work plan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacities</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Risk management</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Implementation</td>
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<td>Impact (30%)</td>
<td>Economic impact</td>
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<td>Market</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Social impact</td>
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<td>Cross-border</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Impact</td>
<td></td>
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<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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<td></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GEN4OLIVE is looking to promote cross-border consortium. Therefore, transnational consortia will be positively evaluated.

5.2. Scoring mechanism

Evaluation scores will be awarded based on the criteria mentioned in the section above. The maximum score for Criterion 1 will be 40 points, for Criterion 2 will be 30 points and for Criterion 3 will be 30 points.

Each sub-criterion is rated between 1 and 5 points; no half-points are allowed (decimal points may arise during normalization, but not as an individual evaluation grade). The threshold for individual criterion is 3. Each sub-criterion has a dedicated weight for the final score. Score per criterion is the sum of the individual sub-criteria weighted scores.

The same evaluation criteria and scorings apply to both vouchers. The total score is comprised by adding the scores of the three criteria and will be maximum 100 points. The threshold for the total score is 70 points.
The threshold for the individual criteria is 60% of the maximum score of each criterion. The threshold for the overall score is 70% of the maximum score. Proposals in which one of the three individual criteria score below 60% or the overall score is below 70%, will not be recommended for funding.

The meaning of the scores with respect to the sub-criteria are as follows:

- **1 - Poor.** The sub-criterion is addressed in an inadequate manner, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- **2 - Fair.** While the proposal broadly addresses the sub-criterion, there are significant weaknesses.
- **3 - Good.** The proposal addresses the sub-criterion well, but with at least one moderate weakness.
- **4 - Very good.** The proposal addresses the sub-criterion very well, although with minor weaknesses.
- **5 - Excellent.** The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the sub-criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.

In case of proposals with equal overall scores, the prevailing one is the proposal with a cross-border partnership (if there is one), and if not, then the one that has the higher score in the criterion of “Excellence”, “Implementation” and then “Impact” in this order.

In case an SME applies for more than one voucher scheme types and requests more than the maximum financial contribution of 60,000€ cumulatively, and both applications are among the top-ranked ones, then the application that receives the highest score will be selected for funding.

### 5.3. Evaluation procedure

Submitted applications will be assessed by (a) the GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee consisting of representatives of the GEN4OLIVE partners and (b) external experts.

The assessment period shall take max. 90 days, starting from the closing date of the call. The applicants will receive an e-mail about the outcome of the assessment directly after the assessment is finalised along with instructions for the next steps in case the applicant is awarded. The successful applicants will be requested to sign a formal Contract within 30 days from the notification of the project approval.
Individual Evaluation will be done remotely by external experts. After individual evaluation, the result will be a preliminary ranking list. Only proposals with all individual criteria rated above the threshold will be considered eligible and included in the preliminary ranking list. **There will be different ranking lists for each type of vouchers.**

The final ranking list will result from the decision of the GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee revision.
6. CONTACT DETAILS AND COMPLAINT

For any enquiries regarding the GEN4OLIVE Voucher scheme, please contact call@gen4olive.eu or your local contact point (Annex I).

For any complaints regarding the GEN4OLIVE Open Call results, please contact your local contact point (Annex I) within 5 days after the announcement of the Open Call results. Your email should include the following information:

- Platform username and application name
- Lead contact name and details
- Object of your complaint
- Information and evidence of the alleged breach

The GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee, which consists of representatives of the GEN4OLIVE partners, will examine the complaint on the basis of the information brought forward by the applicant, will assess the case and decide whether the complaint is justified or not and will inform the applicant and the consortium on the decision taken. If the complaint is considered justified, the GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee will notify the evaluators to re-evaluate the project application and the related assessment part, subject to the complaint. The evaluators will then provide the GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee with an updated assessment. The final decision on the complaint will be communicated by GEN4OLIVE Evaluation Committee to the applicant in writing within 20 working days from the date of submitting the complaint. This decision will be final, binding to all parties and not subject to any further complaint proceedings within the programme if the complaint is based on the same grounds.

For technical issues concerning the submission procedure, please contact call@gen4olive.eu or your local contact point.
7. MONITORING AND REPORTING PROCESS

Maximum one month after the intermediate and the final reporting periods, as it will defined in the contract, the GEN4OLIVE beneficiaries shall provide an overall performance progress report for the Project along with the respective deliverables validating the work as well as a brief financial statement with the expenses for the period according to the respective Voucher type.

Beneficiaries will have to submit an intermediate and a final report, with following content:

- Progress report: for each work package of the work plan, description of:
  o Work package objectives
  o Tasks and implemented activities.
  o Achieved results.
  o Deviation
- Deliverables listed into the granted work plan.
- Other evidences (pictures, video, figures, etc.).

In case of collaborative projects, all this information will be collected and submitted by coordinator of the project.

GEN4OLIVE consortium reserves the right to request financial evidence of the costs incurred during the project, and for collaborative projects evidence to payments to partners.

The purpose of the above is to evaluate:

- the degree of fulfilment of the project work plan and of the related deliverable(s).
- the continued relevance of the objectives and breakthrough potential with respect to the scientific and industrial state-of-the-art.
- the expected potential impact in economic, competition and social terms, and the GEN4OLIVE beneficiary’s cooperation to elaborate a dissemination of foreground plan.
8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

GDPR compliance: The General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679/EU) guarantee that the processing of data is carried out in compliance with the fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as the dignity of the data subject with particular reference to confidentiality, personal identity and the right to data protection. By applying, the applicant agrees on the storage and use of its personal data for the execution of the GEN4OLIVE objectives and work plan.

The processing of data that GEN4OLIVE intends to carry out will be based on lawfulness and correctness in the full protection of its rights and its confidentiality pursuant to the general principles of the GDPR and its art.24. Therefore, the competitors are informed of the procedure that the data provided by the applicants will be treated exclusively with reference to the procedure for which they submitted the documentation.

**Data controller:** UNIVERSITY OF CÓRDOBA

Address: [https://www.uco.es/organizacion/secretariageneral/proteccion-de-datos](https://www.uco.es/organizacion/secretariageneral/proteccion-de-datos)

VAT number: ESQ1418001B

Contact details: dpdatos@uco.es

**Data we process:** The GEN4OLIVE consortium will be processing mainly data coming from:

- Representatives and contact person from the applicants to the GEN4OLIVE Call for proposals.
- Representatives and contact person from the partners of the GEN4OLIVE Consortium.

As part of carrying out the projects, the partners and the applicants transfer personal data to GEN4OLIVE consortium, making it possible to identify and contact (first & last name, organisation, function, business e-mail address, message, consent) their employees due to their job titles or third parties involved in the project, such as experts. In this case, the partner remains responsible for supplying the legal information to the people involved in the processing operations prior to or when the data are collected.

Information about successful GEN4OLIVE Voucher applications that will be made publicly available before the end of the project containing: project title, names of project partners and short project description (as provided by the applicant in the application template).

Information about successful GEN4OLIVE Voucher types that will be made publicly available after the end of the project: project title, names of project partners, awarded funding and updated short project description (as provided by the project partners in the Final Report).

**Purpose of the processing:**

The purpose of processing partners and applicants' data is:

- To run an open call and collect data necessary to evaluate applications and financing the projects.
- To manage this application form and the consequent project selection process.
- To compile files on members of the consortium, partners and people likely to contribute to the projects due to their job titles or expertise.

**Communication on the projects:**

- Sending a newsletter and information about events related to the projects.
• Compiling statistics related to the projects.

**Lawfulness:**

• Legal basis for the applicants processing of personal data: The legal basis for this processing is the performance of selections of projects for the financing (art. 6.1, ‘b’, GDPR).
• Legal basis for other processing of personal data: informed consent (art. 6.1. ‘a’ GDPR).

**Recipients:**

Third-party intervention:

**GEN4OLIVE**, while conducting its undertakings, may authorise third parties (as defined in number 10 of article 4 of the GDPR) to process personal data which are under **GEN4OLIVE**’s domain, in order to comply with legal duties, pre-contractual or contractual obligations and/or as indispensable means of performance of **GEN4OLIVE**’s statutory goals. Said third parties can be public authorities, namely in charge of auditing tasks, project, activity or service partners.

In order to comply with the GDPR requisites, **GEN4OLIVE** shall require the previous and mandatory consent to the data subject for this specific processing.

**Processor intervention:**

**GEN4OLIVE**, while conducting its undertakings, may subcontract third entities (as defined in number 8 of article 4 of the GDPR) to process personal data on **GEN4OLIVE**’s behalf. In order to comply with the GDPR requisites, **GEN4OLIVE** shall require the previous and mandatory consent to the data subject for this specific processing.

**Period of data storage:**

Personal data will be stored for the period defined by legal rules or, in their absence, for the strict time needed for the fulfilment of the processing purpose, taking in consideration the legal basis for said processing, as well as all the remaining requisites and time periods determined by law, namely the lapse terms for legal actions based on the correlated rights.

Accordingly, in all cases where a mandatory storage period is determined by law, the right to erasure of personal data as stated in Article 17 of the GDPR can only be exercised by the data subject after said period is lapsed.

**GEN4OLIVE** shall store the personal data for the strict period of time needed for the fulfilment of the data processing purpose, as well as its erasure (or anonymization, if and when applicable/needed) immediately after said period and/or upon the data subject’s request, always considering the above-cited exceptions and all legally defined terms.

**Rights:**

The applicants can exercise their rights towards the data controller, based on article 12 of the GDPR. For any inquiries regarding the processing your personal data, please contact dpdatos@uco.es.

Applications selection and evaluation will be performed under the appropriate ethical conduct and will respect the confidentiality of the information received.
9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND DISSEMINATION

All rights, title, and interest in and to the intellectual property created or owned in any form or manner by GEN4OLIVE’s partners, shall remain vested in them. For this purpose, any such IP shall include intellectual property related to:

- Patents, patent applications and patent rights (including without limitation any and all applicable assignments of patents or patent applications, continuations, continuations in-part, divisions, patents of addition, renewals, extensions, foreign counterparts, utility models, re-examinations, and applications for reissuance of patents).
- Copyrights and applications, registrations, recordings and renewals in connection therewith.
- Trade secrets and confidential technical information (including without limitation research and development, know-how, formulae, compositions, processes and techniques, technical data, designs and drawings).
- All manuals, books, documents and specifications directly or indirectly related there to.
- Licenses, agreements and permissions granted to any third parties over the IP.

The ownership of the IP rights arising from the development of a project, within the scope of this program, shall belong to the corresponding SME/consortium, as referred in the signed consortium agreement.

The following aspects will be considered in the agreement:

- Results are owned by the party that generates them, unless otherwise agreed.
- Each of the joint owners shall be entitled to use their jointly owned results for non-commercial research activities on a royalty-fee basis, and without requiring the prior consent of the other joint owner(s).
- Each of join owners shall be entitled to otherwise exploit the jointly owned results and to grant non-exclusive licences to third parties (without any right to sub-licence), if the other joint owners are given.
- At least 45 calendar days’ advance notice.
- Fair and reasonable compensation.

The applicants are advised to include to their internal consortium agreement Intellectual Property Rights issues and the use and dissemination of the results generated by the project teams through the funding obtained via GEN4OLIVE Voucher scheme. For details on rights and obligations related to results, the project teams can refer to Section 9 of the H2020 programme Annotated Model Grant Agreement: https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf.

For dissemination and use of results generated through the financial support from GEN4OLIVE, the recipients must credit the GEN4OLIVE project through proper citation and appearance of the GEN4OLIVE logo and EU Logo, including the proper citation "This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101000427-GEN4OLIVE".
10. GENDER EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

GEN4OLIVE seeks gender balance. Therefore, applicants are invited to take all measures to promote equal opportunities between men and women in the implementation of the action. They must aim for a gender balance at all levels of personnel assigned to the action, including supervisory and managerial levels to the extent possible.
11. DISCLAIMER

**Purpose:** This text is explaining the GEN4OLIVE Innovation Support Mechanism for information purposes only. No rights can be claimed based on this document. This document does not reflect the views of the European Commission and REA.

**Mistakes or inconsistencies:** The GEN4OLIVE consortium is not responsible for any mistakes or misinterpretations that this text may cause. In the case of inconsistencies, the GEN4OLIVE Consortium will determine the steps to be taken, in cooperation with the applicant concerned.

**Consequential damages:** In no event shall either party be liable to the other or any of its affiliates for any consequential, incidental, indirect, special, punitive, or exemplary damages (including, without limitation, lost profits, business or goodwill) suffered or incurred by such other party or its affiliates in connection with this voucher scheme, even if advised of the possibility of such damages.
## 12. ANNEX I - SME LOCAL CONTACT POINTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTNER</th>
<th>CONTACT PERSON</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Córdoba – UCO</td>
<td>Diego Barranco</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dbarranco@uco.es">dbarranco@uco.es</a></td>
<td>Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conchi Muñoz Diez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cmdiez@uco.es">cmdiez@uco.es</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hristofor Miho</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hmiho@uco.es">hmiho@uco.es</a>; <a href="mailto:gen4olive@uco.es">gen4olive@uco.es</a></td>
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<td>Olive Research Institute - ORI</td>
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</tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:lhassane.sikaoui@inra.ma">lhassane.sikaoui@inra.ma</a>; <a href="mailto:sara.oulbi@inra.ma">sara.oulbi@inra.ma</a></td>
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<td>Abdelaziz Bouizgaren</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hayat Zaher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hayat.zaher@inra.ma">hayat.zaher@inra.ma</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>DEMETER</td>
<td>Georgios Koubouris</td>
<td><a href="mailto:koubouris@elgo.iosv.gr">koubouris@elgo.iosv.gr</a></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SAPIENZA</td>
<td>Alicia K/bidi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alicia.kbidi@uniroma1.it">alicia.kbidi@uniroma1.it</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>CNRS</td>
<td>Guillaume Besnard</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOCOS</td>
<td>Bert Pöpping Carmen Díaz</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Gen4olive@focos-food.com">Gen4olive@focos-food.com</a></td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carmen Ronchel</td>
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<td>CTA</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Carmen Ronchel</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carmen.ronchel@corporaciontecnologica.com">carmen.ronchel@corporaciontecnologica.com</a></td>
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<td>Nathalie Chavrier</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nathalie.chavrier@corproaciontecnologica.com">nathalie.chavrier@corproaciontecnologica.com</a></td>
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</table>
### 13. ANNEX II – INDIVIDUAL GEN4OLIVE VOUCHER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCOPE: Pre-breeding activities or technologies development to support pre-breeding activities, submitted by one single SME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Calendar dates** | Launch date: the 1st of September 2021  
Cut-off date: the 1st of December 2021 |
| **Financial contribution (grant)** | Up to 50,000€ lump sum per project |
| **Voucher Duration** | 24 months |
| **Specific eligibility requirements** | Applicant is a SME located in France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain or Turkey |
| **Eligible costs** | SME internal costs  
Subcontracting costs |
| **Indicative supported activities** | **Pre-breeding activities**: based on the use of olive genetic resources extracted from Germplasm Bank collections to characterize/test new traits that can be bred into new olive tree varieties.  
**Enabling technologies development activities**: based on the development of a technological solution aiming at supporting the implementation of pre-breeding activities for olive tree varieties. Technology to be developed will held a minimum TRL of 6 (see TRL definition). |
| **Payment scheme** | - Pre-financing: within 30 days from the signature of the contract (30%)  
- Intermediate: within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the intermediate performance report (30%)  
- Final: within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the final progress performance report (40%) |
| **1st call Individual Voucher Budget** | 250,000€ |
14. **ANNEX III – COLLABORATIVE GEN4OLIVE VOUCHER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SCOPE:</strong> Pre-breeding activities or technologies development to support pre-breeding activities, submitted by a consortium composed by at least 2 SMEs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Calendar dates** | Launch date: the 1st of September 2021  
Cut-off date: the 1st of December 2021 |
| **Financial contribution (grant)** | Up to 100.000€ lump sum per project |
| **Voucher Duration** | 24 months |

**Specific eligibility requirements**

Applicant is a consortium composed by, at least 2 SMEs and maximum 3 SMEs. Leader SME shall be established in one of the following countries: France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain or Turkey. Other SMEs partners can be established in an EU Member State and Horizon 2020 Programme associated country.

**Eligible costs**

SME internal costs  
Subcontracting costs

**Indicative supported activities**

- **Pre-breeding activities:** based on the use of olive genetic resources extracted from Germplasm Bank collections to characterize/test new traits that can be bred into new olive tree varieties.  
- **Enabling technologies development activities:** based on the development of a technological solution aiming at supporting the implementation of pre-breeding activities for olive tree varieties. Technology to be developed will held a minimum TRL of 6 (see [TRL definition](#)).

**Payment scheme**

- Pre-financing: within 30 days from the signature of the contract (30%)  
- Intermediate: within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the intermediate performance report (30%)  
- Final: within 30 days from the completion of the assessment of the final progress performance report (40%)

**1st call Individual Voucher Budget**

500.000€
This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101000427