eureka
innovation beyond borders

eurostars™

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP

Co-funded by the European Union

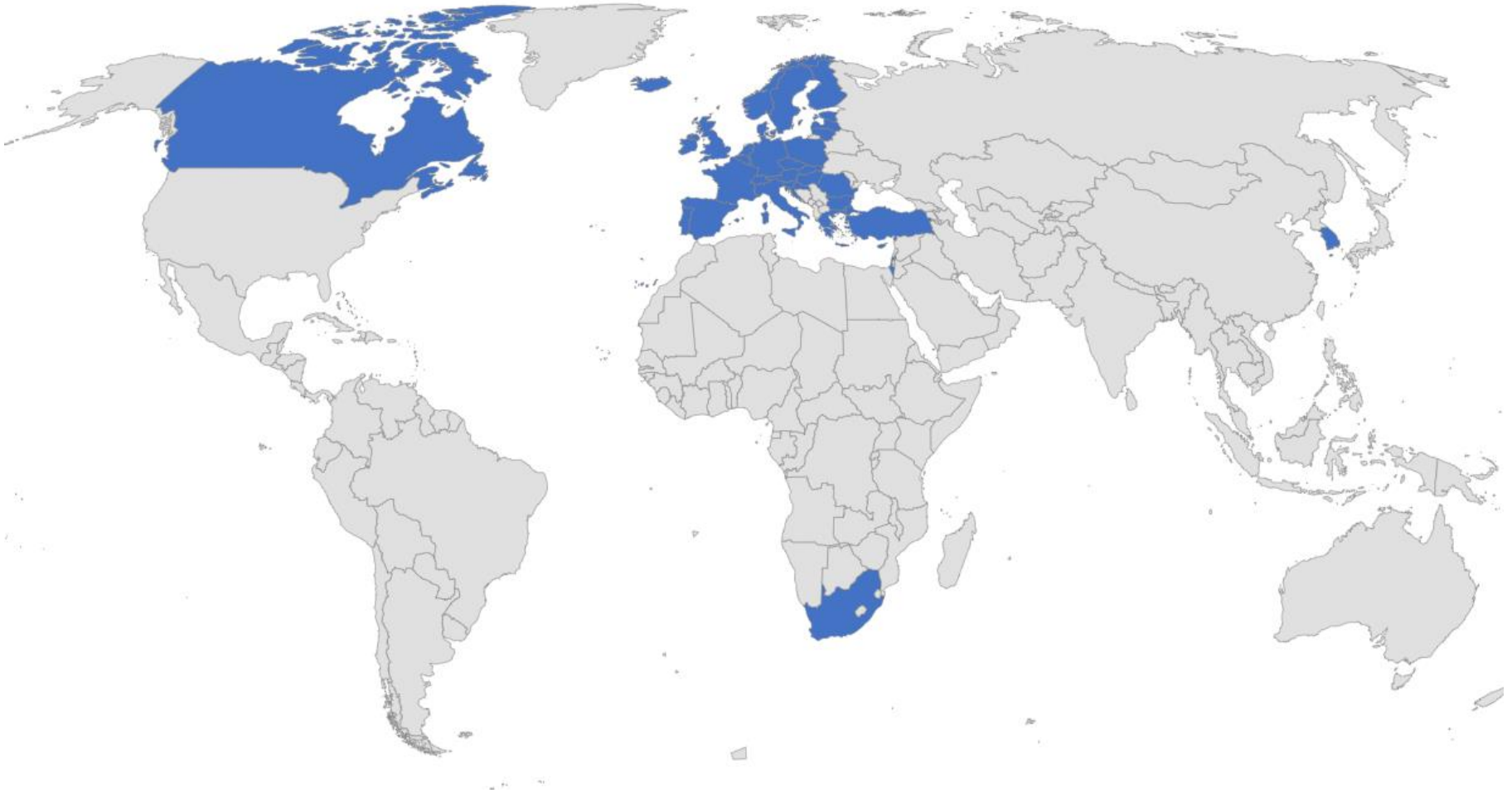
European Partnership on Innovative SMEs / Eurostars - Call 5

Webinar for applicants

13 July 2023

Eurostars is part of the European Partnership on Innovative SMEs.

The partnership is co-funded by 37 Eureka Countries and the European Union, through Horizon Europe.



Topics covered:

- Submission dates.
- What type of projects does Eurostars fund?
- Who can participate?
- Eligibility criteria and funding.
- Legal and financial viability check.
- Application form (short overview).
- Evaluation process and results.
- Submission platform.

When to apply?

Eurostars-3 projects are...

...**collaborative and international** (at least two partners from two different countries).

...in **any technological and market areas**.

...**market-driven**: they must lead to a new product, process or service that can be rapidly commercialised.*

*In case of biotechnology, biomedical or medical projects, clinical trials must start rapidly after the end of the project.

Eurostars-3 projects have…

01

…on average 3 to 4 participants

02

…an average total cost of 1.4M EUR

Who can participate in Eurostars-3?

All types of organisations: SMEs, large companies, research institutes, universities etc.

Organisations based in Eurostars countries **AND** **Organisations not based in Eurostars countries (but on a self-funding basis)**

37 Eurostars countries:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

Projects must meet 7 eligibility criteria

1. The project is led by an **innovative SME** from a Eurostars country.

You are an innovative SME if you:

1. comply with the SME definition as laid out in EU Recommendation 2003/361
2. have the **ambition** to collaborate on R&D and innovation with international partners, to develop innovation that can be rapidly commercialised.

To be considered as "innovative," an SME does not need a proven track record of R&D activities.

EU recommendation 2003/361 – what is an SME?

Employs < 250 persons | **< or = EUR 50 million** | **< or = EUR 43 million**

These ceilings apply to the figures for individual firms only. A firm that is part of a larger group may need to include staff headcount/turnover/balance sheet data from that group too. Check the user guide to the SME definition: https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/42921

Projects must meet 7 eligibility criteria

1. The project is led by an **innovative SME** from a Eurostars country.

2. The consortium includes at least two entities that are independent of one another.

3. The project consortium is composed of entities from at least two Eurostars countries with at least one organisation coming from an EU or Horizon Europe Associated Country.*

*All Eurostars countries are EU member states or associated to HE except for Canada, Republic of Korea, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

4. The budget of the **SMEs** from Eurostars countries (excluding subcontracting) must be **at least 50%** of the total project budget.

5. No single participant or country is responsible for more than **70%** of the total project budget.

6. The project duration is 36 months or less.

7. The project has an exclusively civilian purpose*

*This does not rule out the participation of military partners or the development of 'dual-use' technologies, provided that the project itself has a clear focus on civil applications.

Remember:

- ✓ Your answer to question 13 on civilian purpose is used to check the eligibility of your application! Make sure you provide the correct answer.

- ✓ Your project application must comply with all eligibility criteria from when you submit until you sign your consortium agreement (approximately five to six months later). During the evaluation process, you must inform us of any new information that may affect your eligibility.

Who can receive Eurostars funding?

Organisations based in Eurostars countries can receive Eurostars funding.

Organisations not based in Eurostars countries self-fund their participation (self-funding declaration to be provided).

Important note:
Each partner receives funds from their own national funding body who have independent rules on:

- organisations that can be funded,
- activities that can be funded,
- funding rates and thresholds.

Eurostars funding will not cover all your project costs. You must be able to fund the remaining costs yourself.
Before applying, each project partner should check the funding rules in their country on our website and contact their national funding body for more information.*

*For call 5, no Eurostars funding is available for organisations based in Bulgaria, Greece, Israel, Lithuania and Slovenia. Check with your NFB if funding is available in your country and your national funding rules.

The legal and financial viability check

If one or more of the organisations in your consortium do not pass the legal and financial viability check, your project application will be rejected.

All project partners are checked by their national funding body

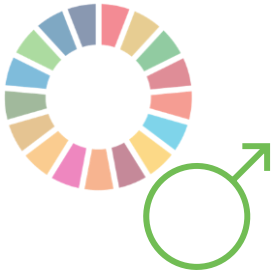
- The organisation has provided a valid commitment and signature form as part of the application.
- The organisation who declared itself an SME complies with the EU definition of SME.
- The organisation is a legal entity in the host country.
- The organisation has not been convicted for fraudulent behaviour.
- If the organisation is located in the European Union or the European Economic Area, it is not an undertaking in difficulty based on article 2, no 18 of COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 651/2014 of June 2014; or if located elsewhere it is not in a difficult financial situation rendering it ineligible for funding according to national regulations.
- The organisation is compliant with the national rules to receive Eurostars public funding. Should it not be compliant, the NFB will inform the organisation and request a self-funding declaration by a deadline.
- The organisation has the financial capacity to support their part of the project costs. The assessment of the financial capacity is based on national criteria established by each NFB.

Application form

5 sections, including a partner-specific section.

Mandatory annexes: SME declaration and commitment & signature form.

Possibility to upload a Gantt chart and a technical annex.



Questions on SDG-related impact and integration of gender dimension into your scientific method.

If you are not familiar with…

Sustainable development goals

Useful resources:

- **Goals, targets and indicators: https://sdgs.un.org/goals**
- **2019 UN Global Compact "Framework for Breakthrough Impact on the SDGs through Innovation"**
- **Project Breakthrough https://breakthrough.unglobalcompact.org/ (how technologies can impact the SDGs, field-specific examples)**

Gender dimension (= sex, gender and intersectional analysis) as part of your scientific method

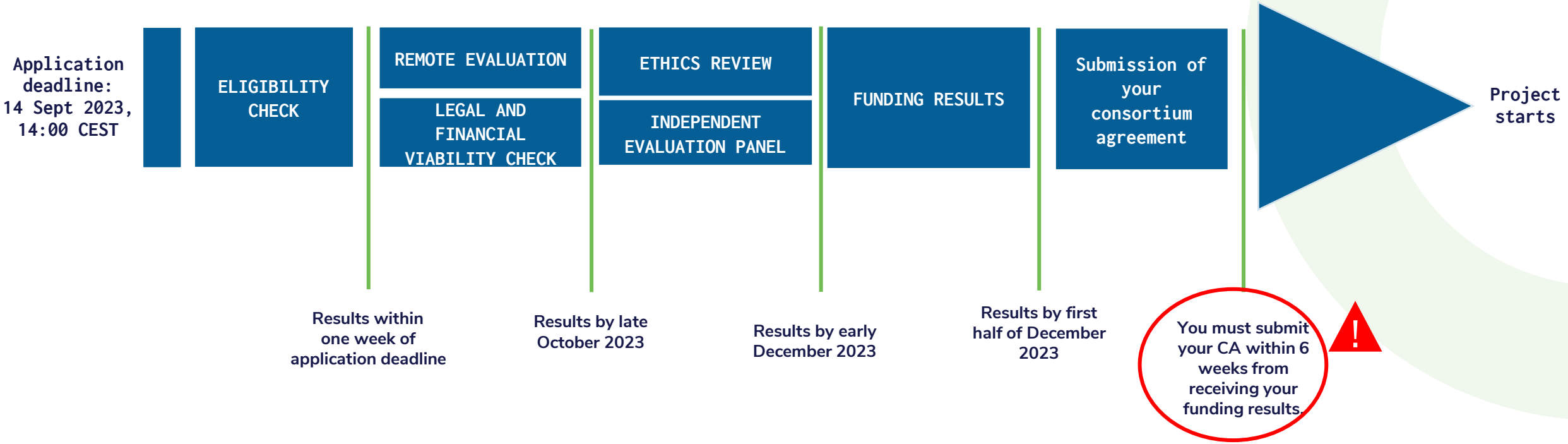
Resources:

- **Report "Gendered Innovations 2" - General methods and field-specific methods + series of case studies on how to integrate gender dimension.**
- **Website Gendered innovation**

Recommendations

- A Word version of the application can be found on Eureka's website. However, you can only apply by submitting the **online application form**, which you must complete on the Eureka Project Management Platform.
- Work on your online application since an early stage, do not wait until the last few days before the submission deadline. **Allow yourself plenty of time to familiarize yourself with the platform**.
- **Allow enough time for a response if you require (technical) assistance.**

The evaluation process (3 months)



Redress requests

If your application was rejected and you believe this was due to a **procedural** mistake during the eligibility check, the legal and financial viability check or evaluation, you can submit a redress request.

Redress requests are accepted only when sent by registered mail. Redress requests sent by other means will be rejected.

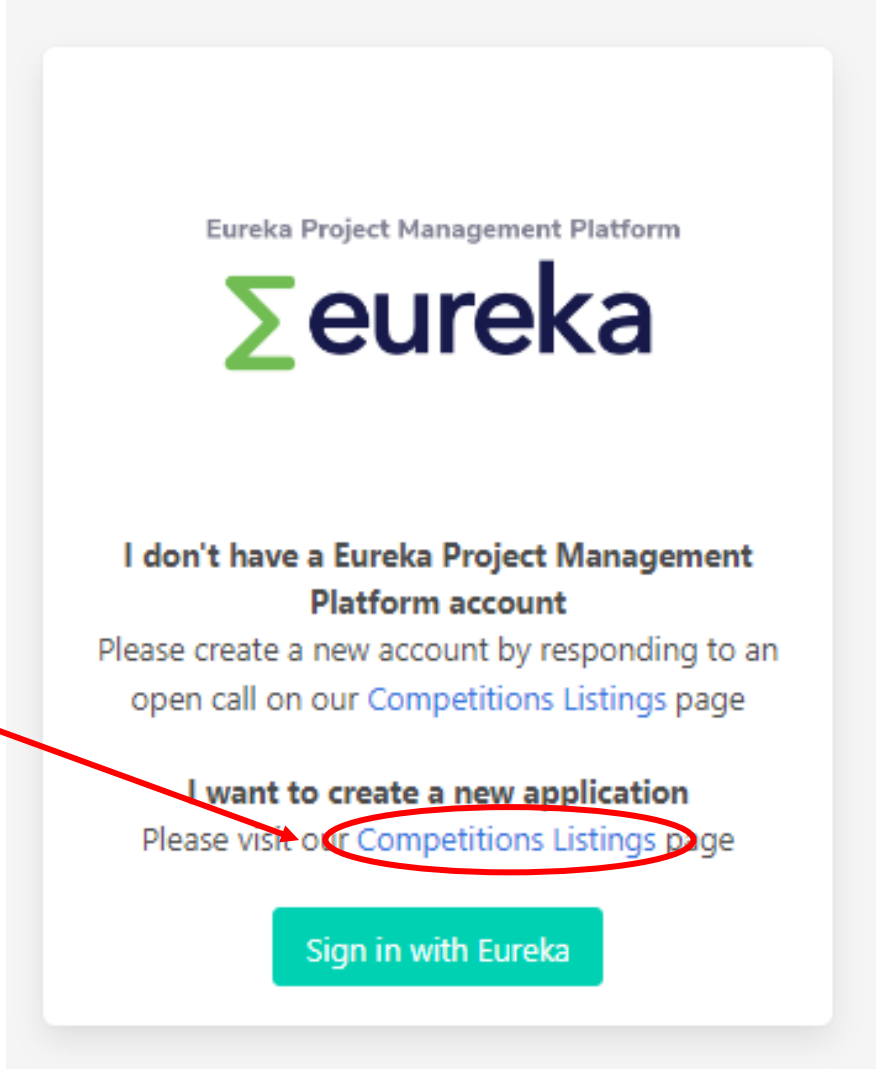
If you plan to send a redress request, please inform the Eureka Secretariat by sending an email to applications@eurostars-eureka.eu.

How to apply

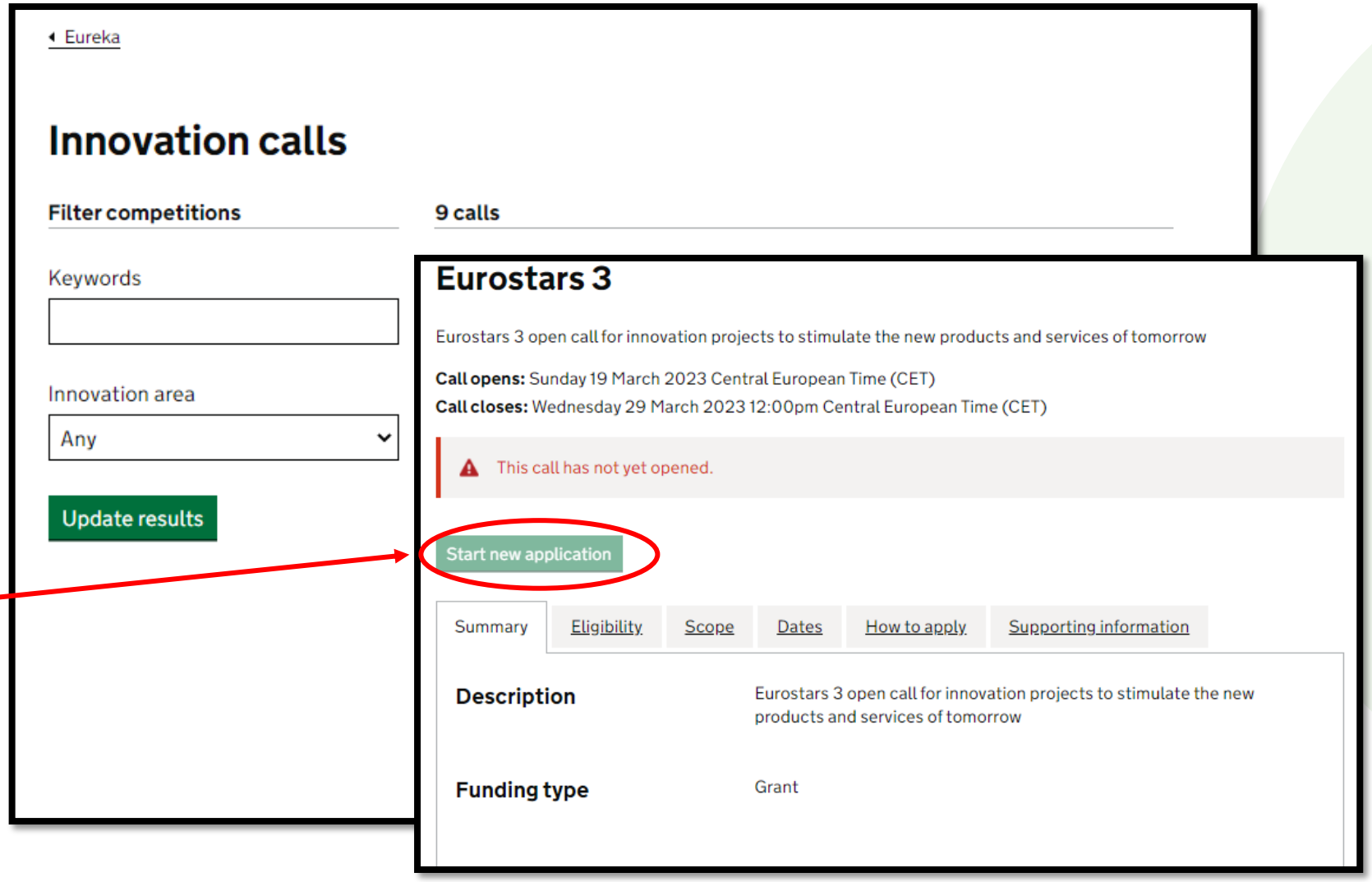
Submit your application through the Eureka Project Management Platform

www.myeurekaproject.org

Click here to see the upcoming call.

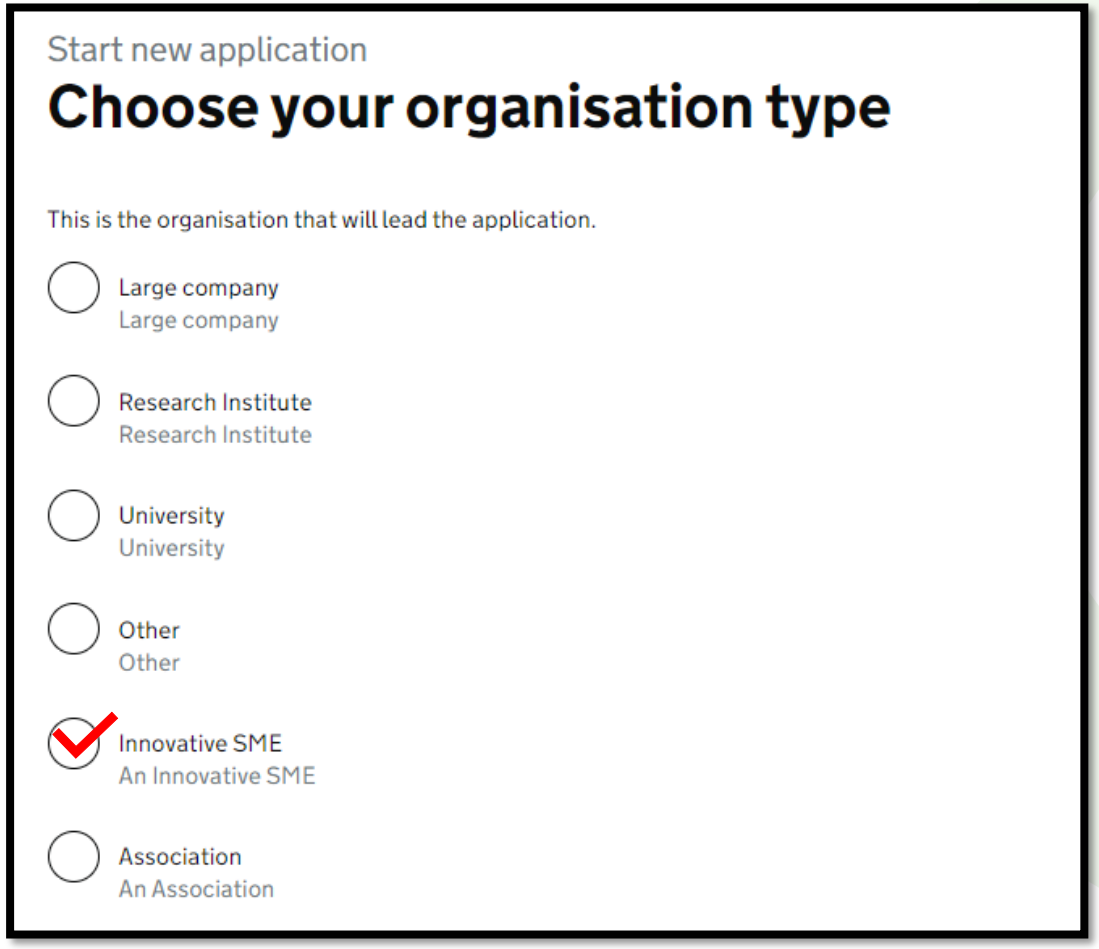


Once you have chosen your call for projects, start a new application.

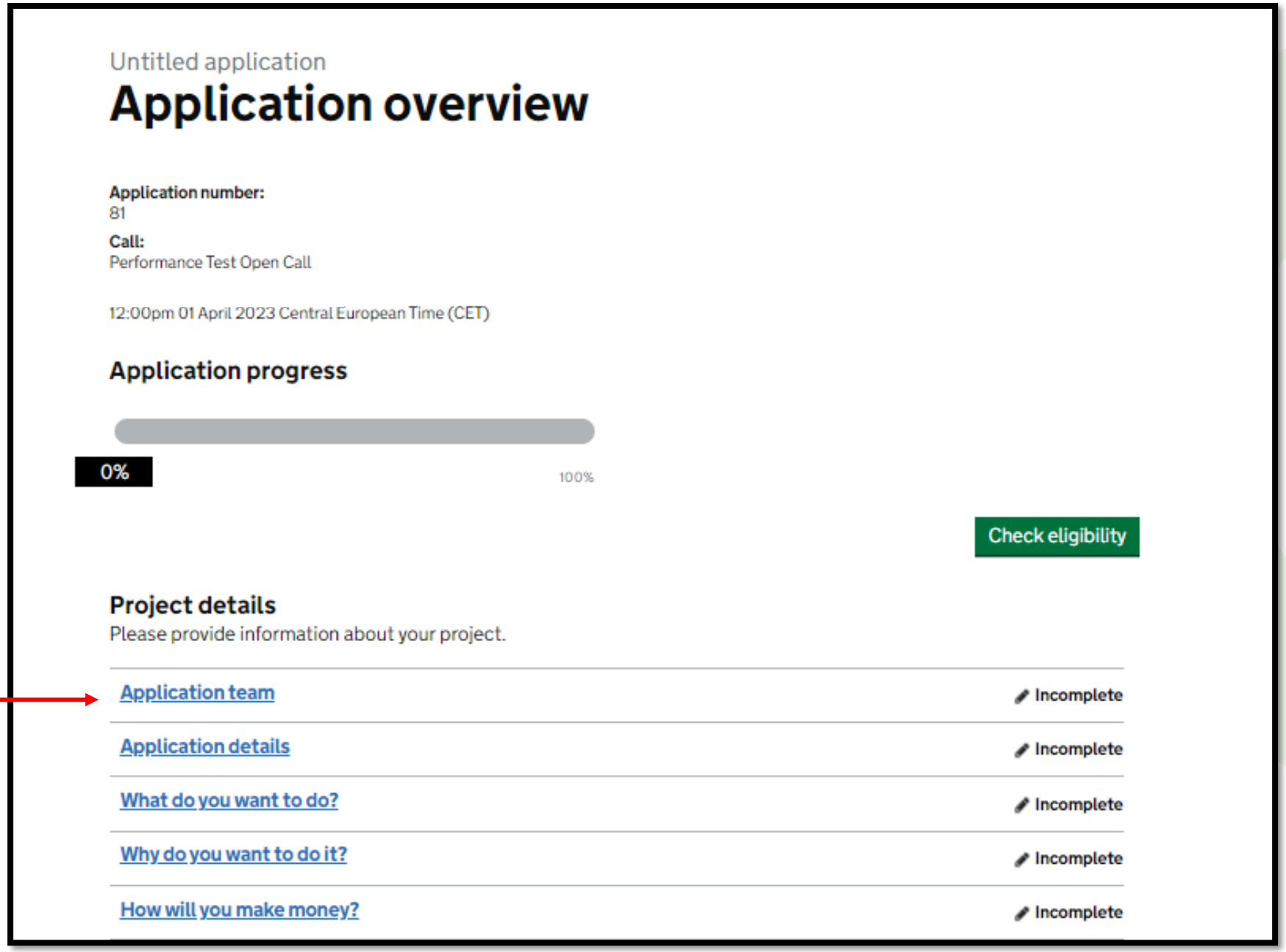


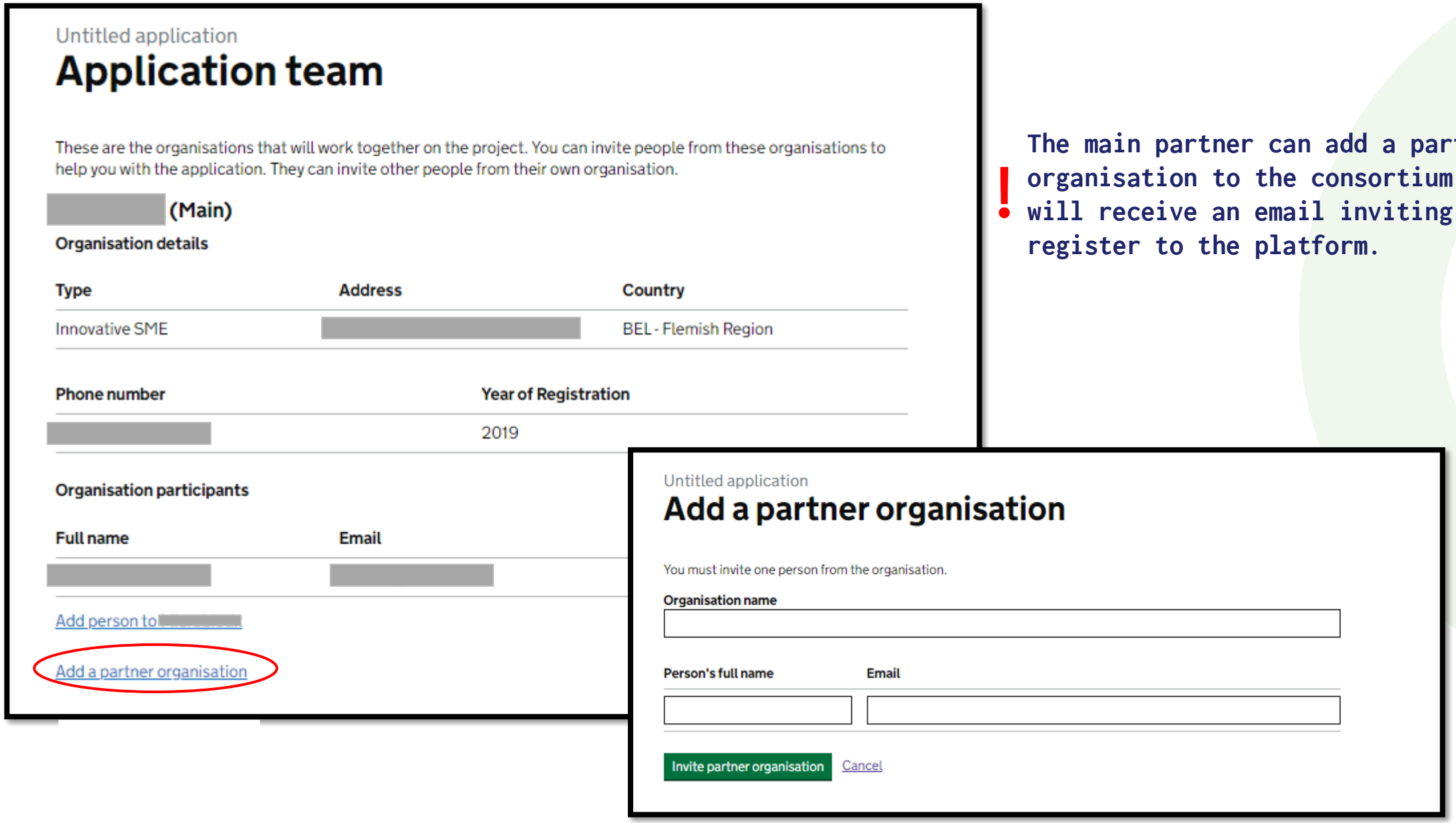
Only the leading SME can start an application, thus the leading SME must register first.

The other partners must be invited by the leading SME.

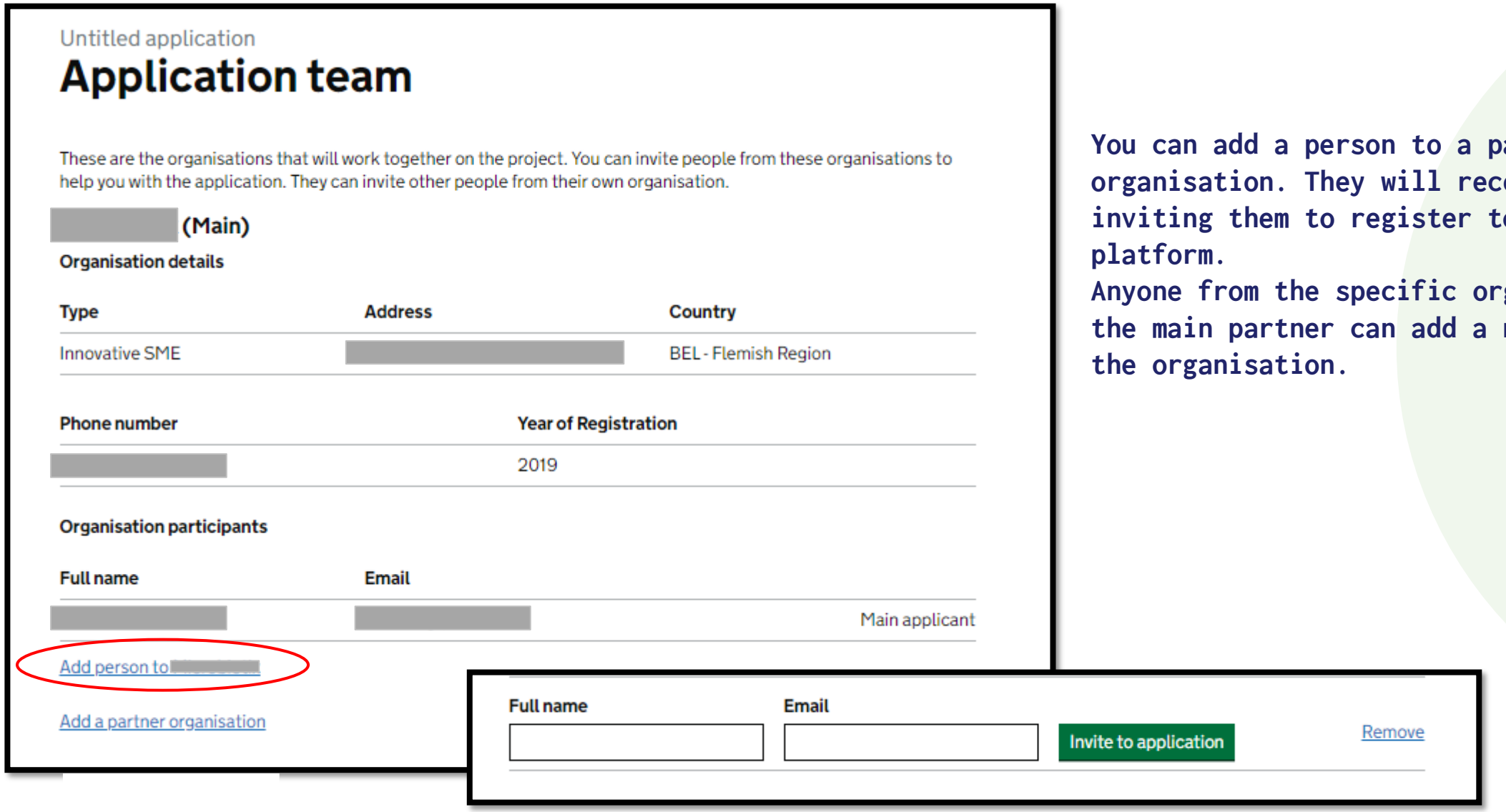


Project partners can be invited here.





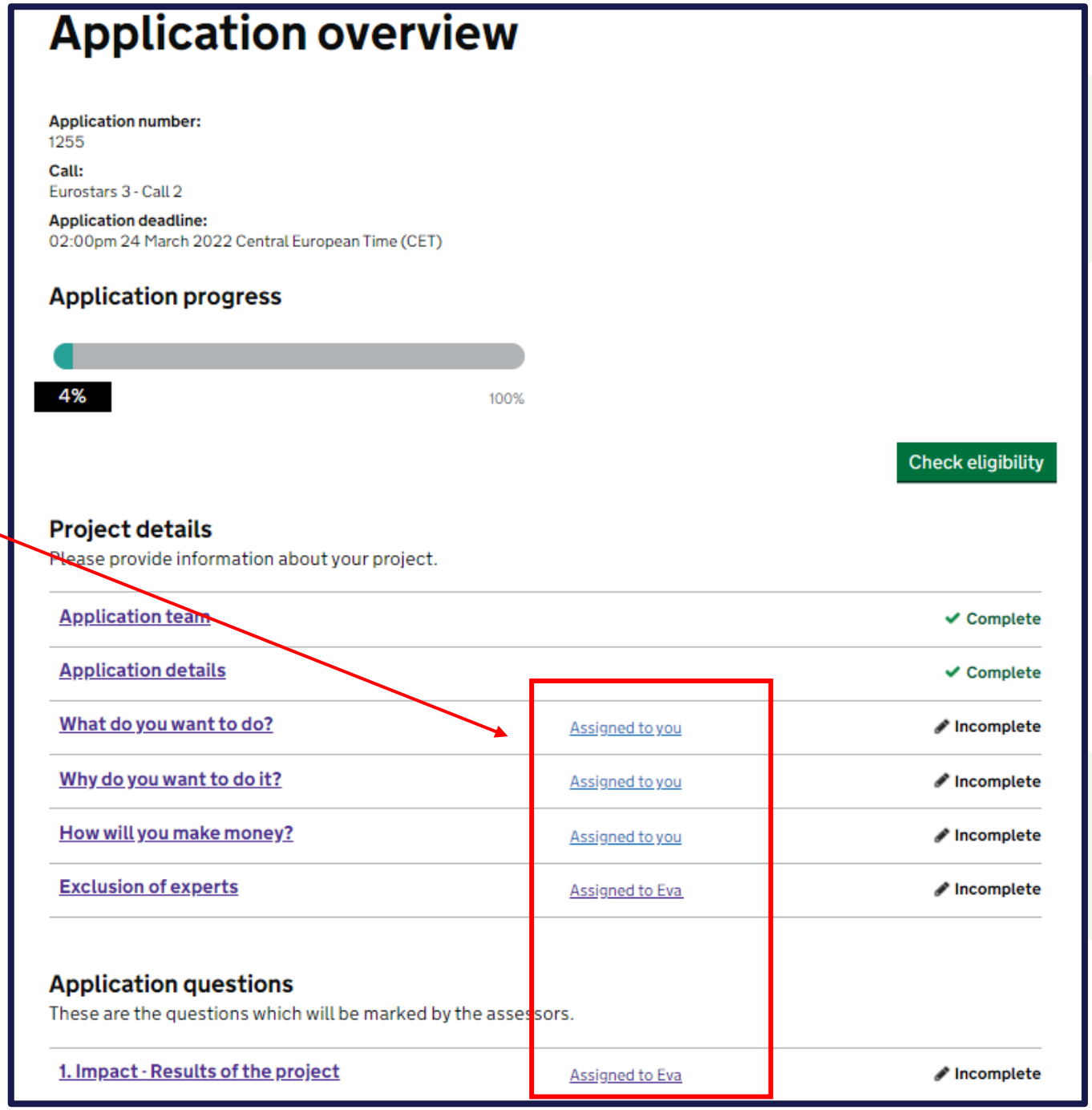
The main partner can add a partner organisation to the consortium. They will receive an email inviting them to register to the platform.

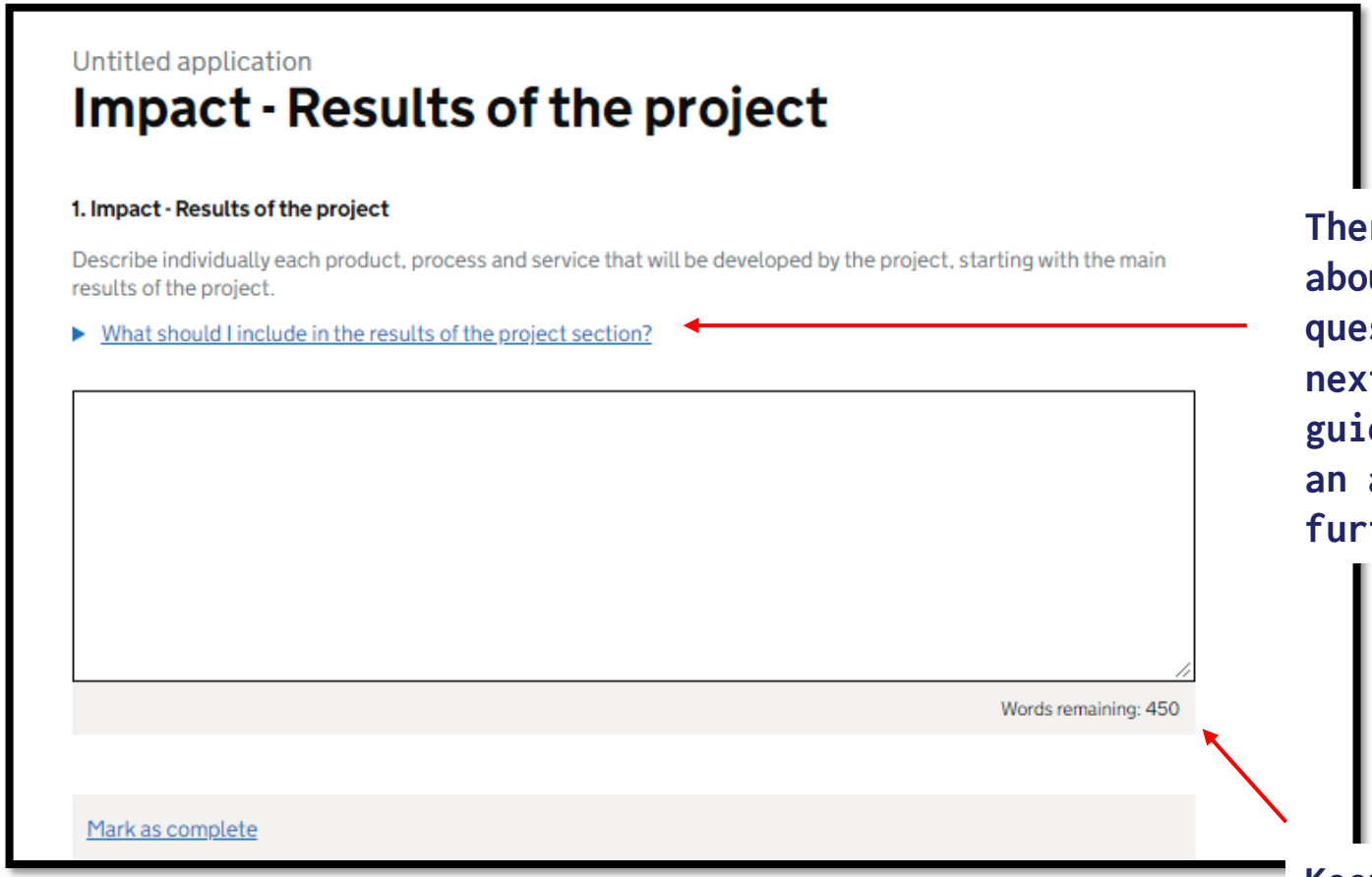


You can add a person to a participating organisation. They will receive an email inviting them to register to the platform.
Anyone from the specific organisation or the main partner can add a new person to the organisation.

The main partner can assign questions to any other partner to complete.

One section is partner-specific and cannot be completed by the main partner.





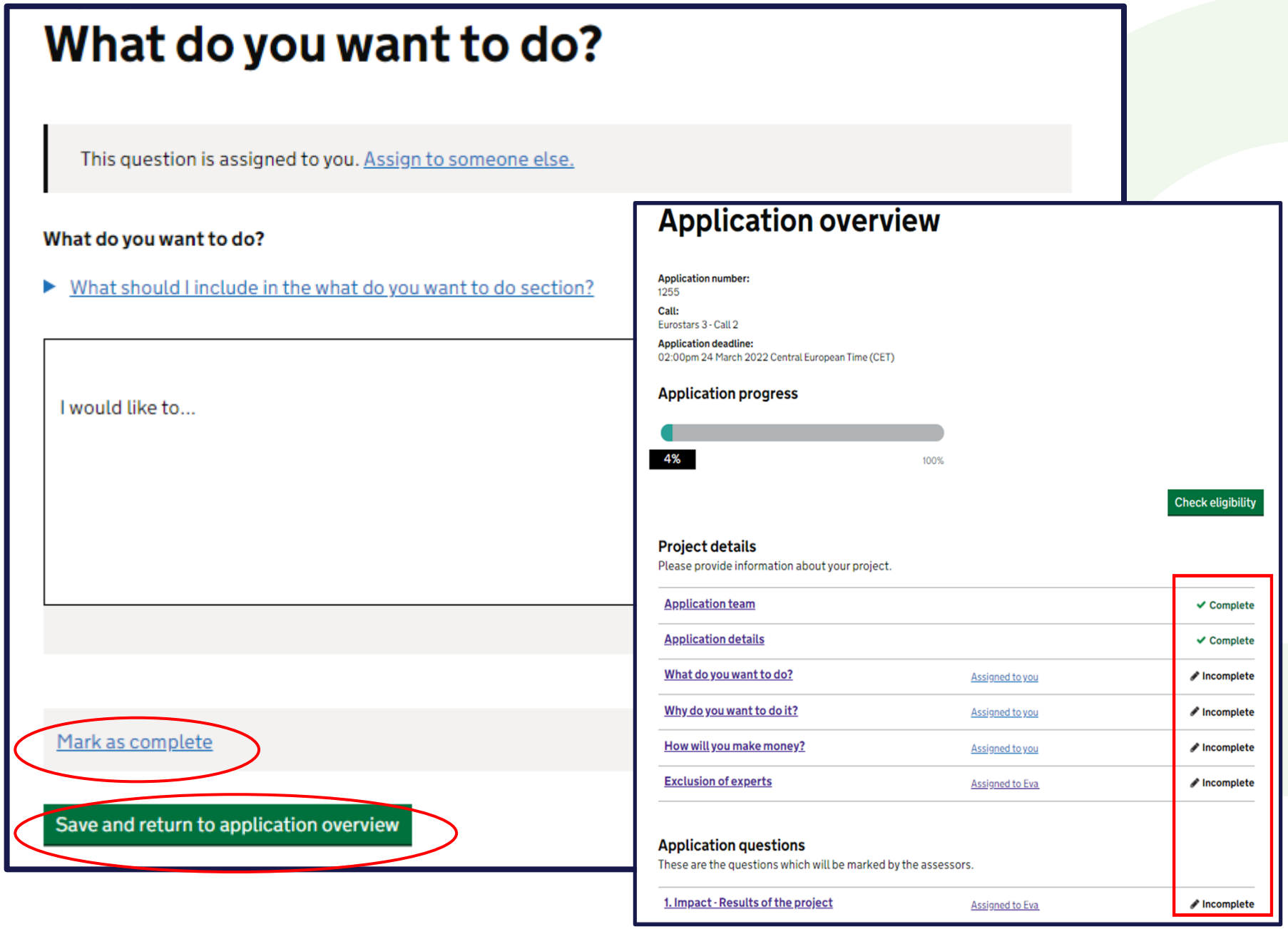
There are tips in the platform about how to answer each question. However, always keep next to you a copy of the guidelines on how to complete an application as they contain further instructions.

!

Keep an eye on your word count.

Use the green button to save the sections that are not finalised, and ‘Mark as complete’ every time you finalise a section. You can edit a field even if you have already marked it as complete.

Only the main partner can review and mark a section as complete.



Eurostars Application Opened

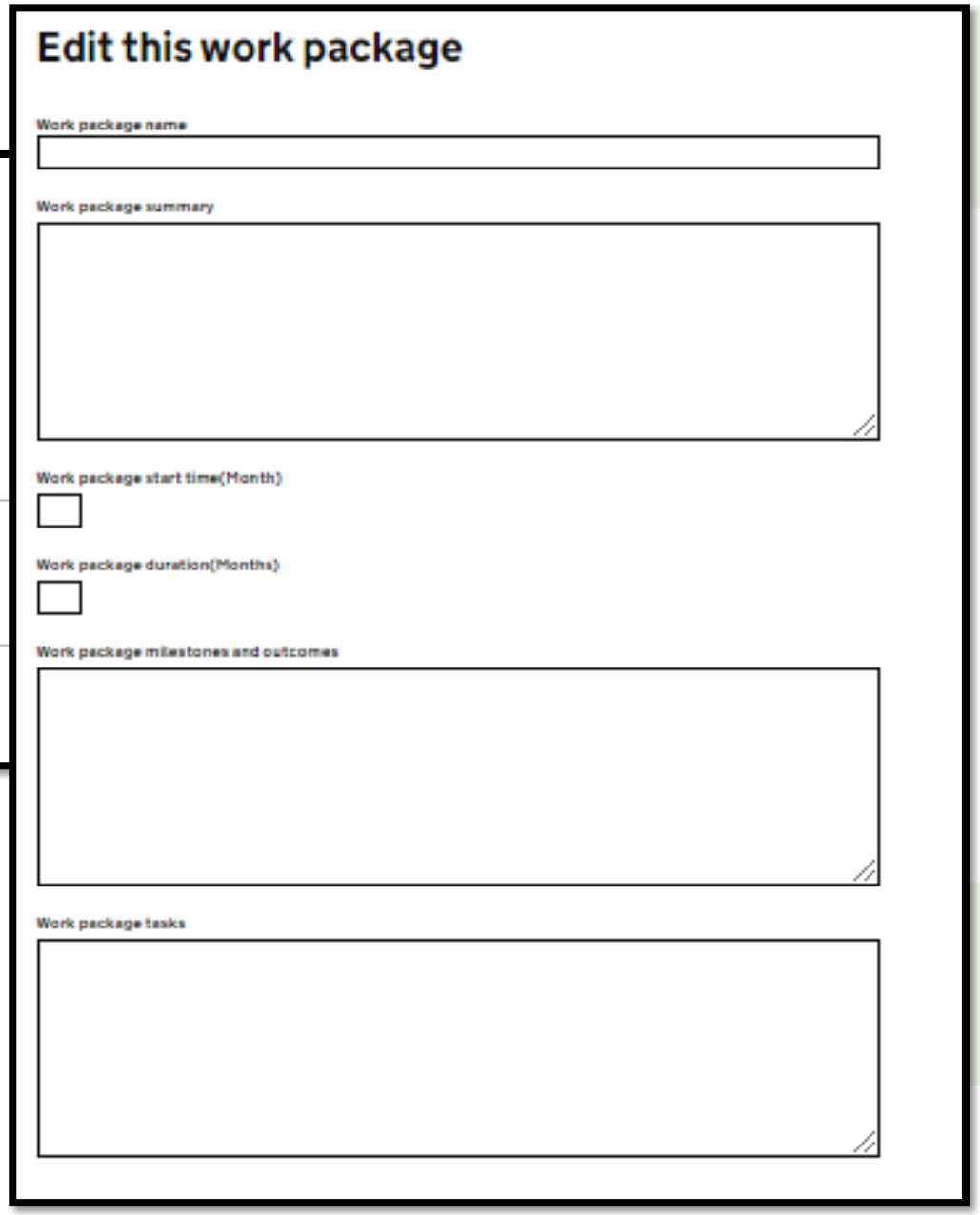
Work packages

Please add and complete the information about your work packages.

Work package for testing purposes Assigned to you Remove

+ Add work package

Only the main partner can create (or remove) a work package. Once created, the work package can be assigned to another project partner.



Eurostars Application Opened

Your project finances

Finances

Only members from your organisation will be able to see a breakdown of your finances.

Please complete your project finances.

- Your project costs
- Your financial information
- Your funding

Provide the project costs for 'Terrasen'

Only your organisation can see this level of detail. All members of your organisation can access and edit your project finances.

Work Package	Person Months	Personnel costs (€)	Overhead (€)	Travel (€)	Materials (€)	Other (€)	Sub contracting (€)	Total (€)
WP1 / Work package for testing purposes	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1. Each project partner must complete their own cost per each Work Package.
2. This is possible only after the main partner has marked the Work Package as complete.
3. Every time a work package is edited, 'Your project costs' must again be completed by each partner.

Eurostars Application Opened

Your project finances

Finances

Only members from your organisation will be able to see a breakdown of your finances.

Please complete your project finances.

- Your project costs
- Your financial information
- Your funding

Your financial information

Financial overview

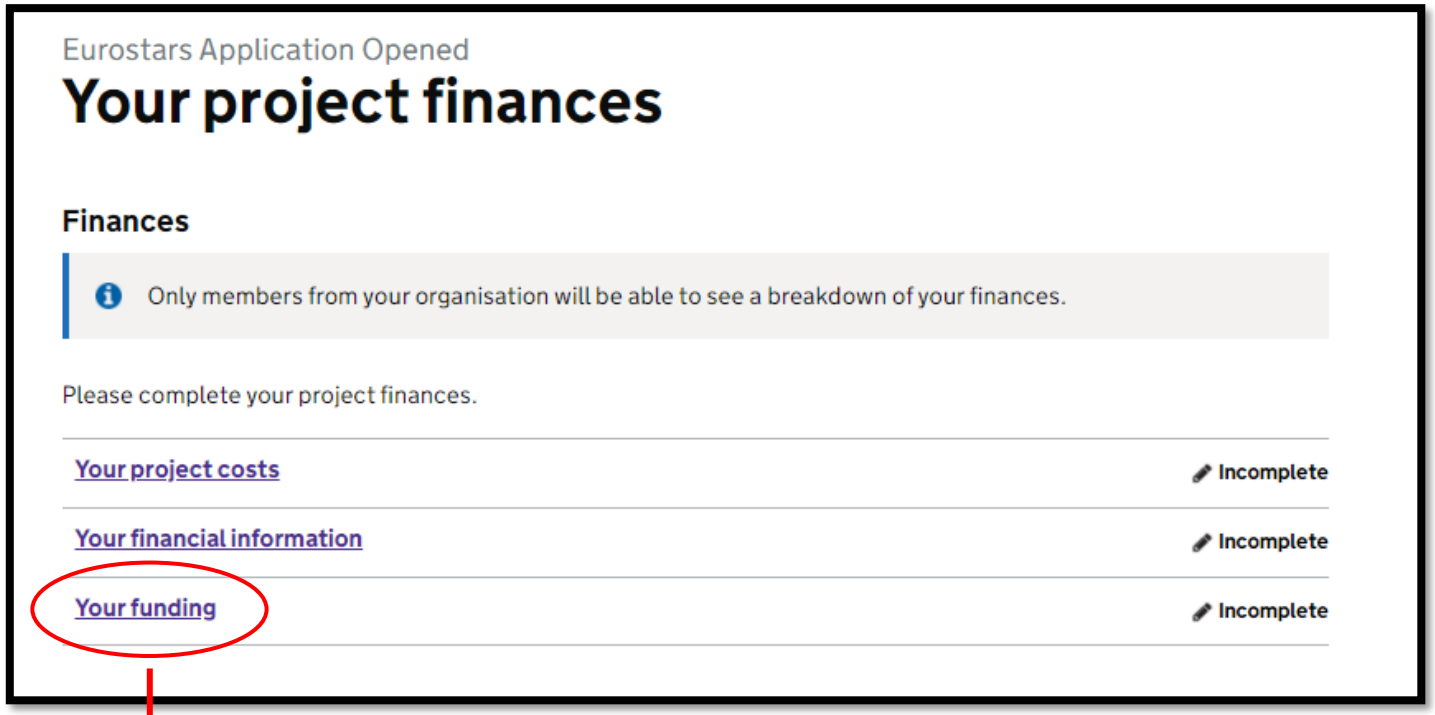
This information is mandatory for all organisations that are NOT 100% public funded.

Details relating to your organisation finances.

Section	Financial year 1		Financial year 2	
Start date of the financial report	Month (MM)	Year (YYYY)	Month (MM)	Year (YYYY)
End date of financial report	Month (MM)	Year (YYYY)	Month (MM)	Year (YYYY)
Date the financial report was submitted to national authorities	Month (MM)	Year (YYYY)	Month (MM)	Year (YYYY)
Headcount (number of people)				
Number of FTEs				
Number of FTEs dedicated to R&D				
Annual turnover (in euros)				
Annual turnover dedicated to R&D (in euros)				
Balance sheet total (in euros)				

In the partner-specific section each partner provides financial information for up to two financial years; if you are a start-up, provide estimates.

! If required by your NFB, you must upload a financial annex. Check with your NFB what should be included in the financial annex.

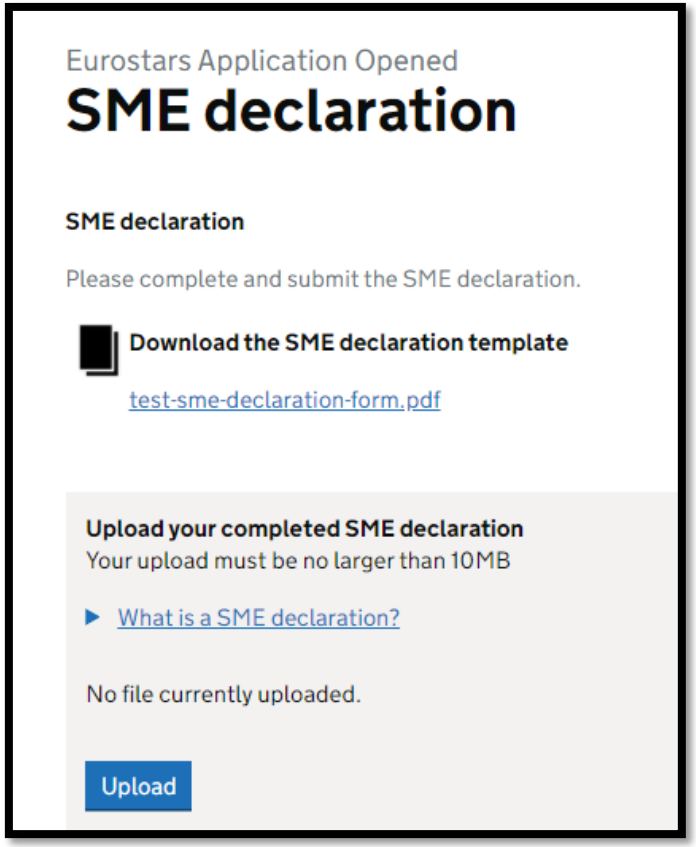


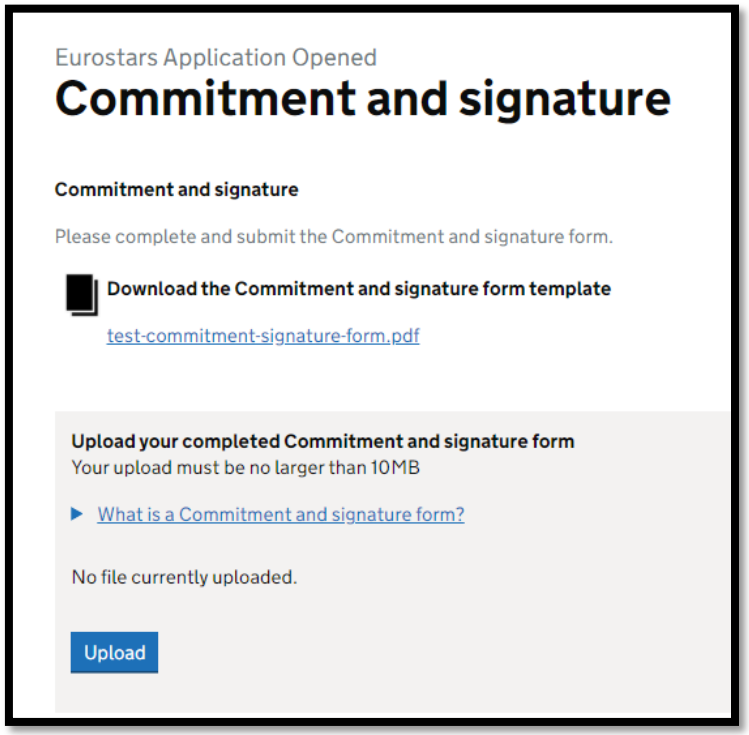
If you do not request Eurostars funding, you can upload a self-funding declaration in the application form.

Each organisation in your consortium must upload a Commitment and Signature form.

SMEs in your consortium must also upload an SME declaration. Please note: the SME declaration is used to verify your SME status; make sure you complete it in line with the SME definition as laid out in EU Recommendation 2003/361.

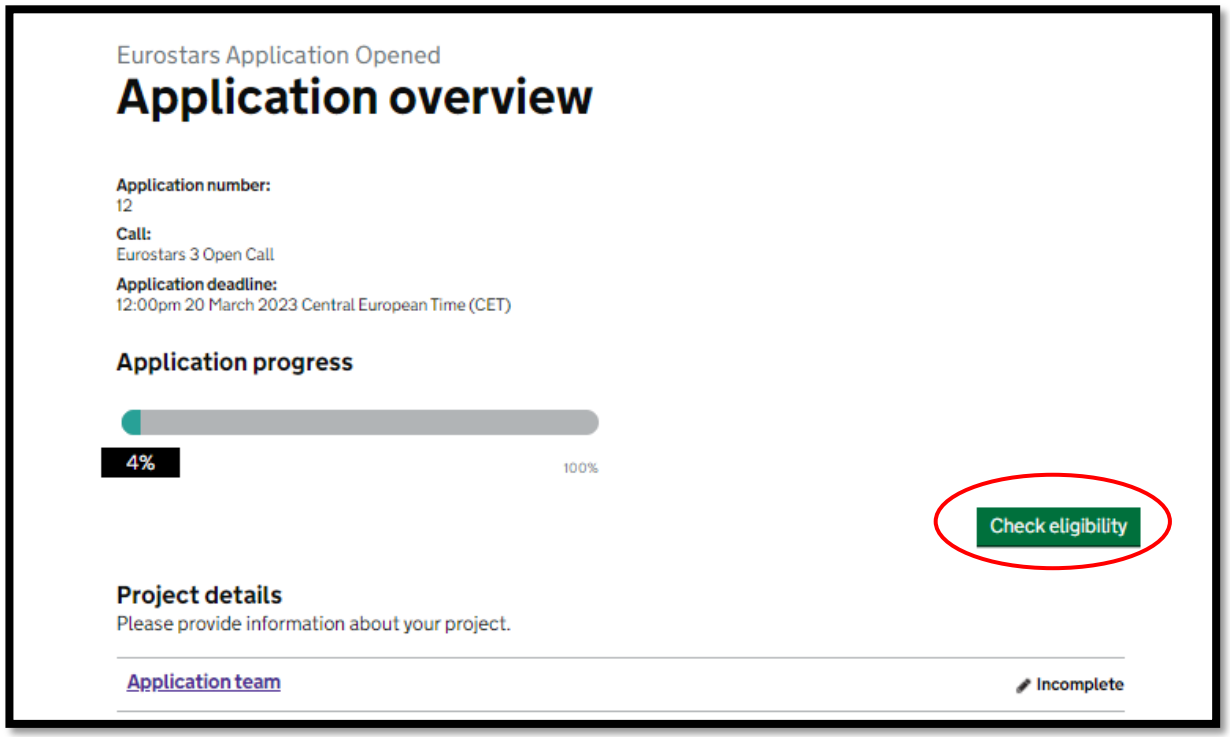
These documents are confidential and cannot be seen by the other partners.

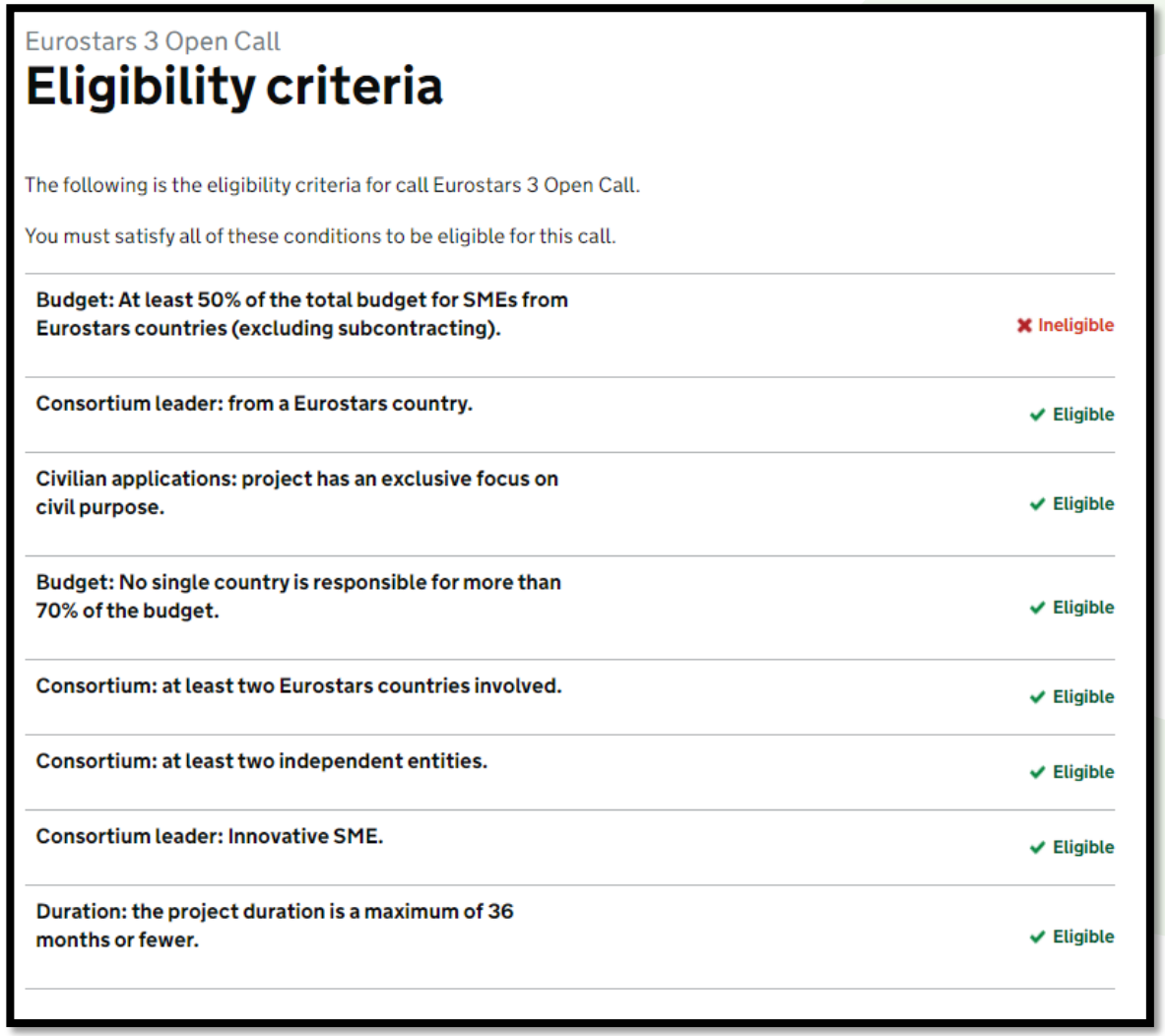




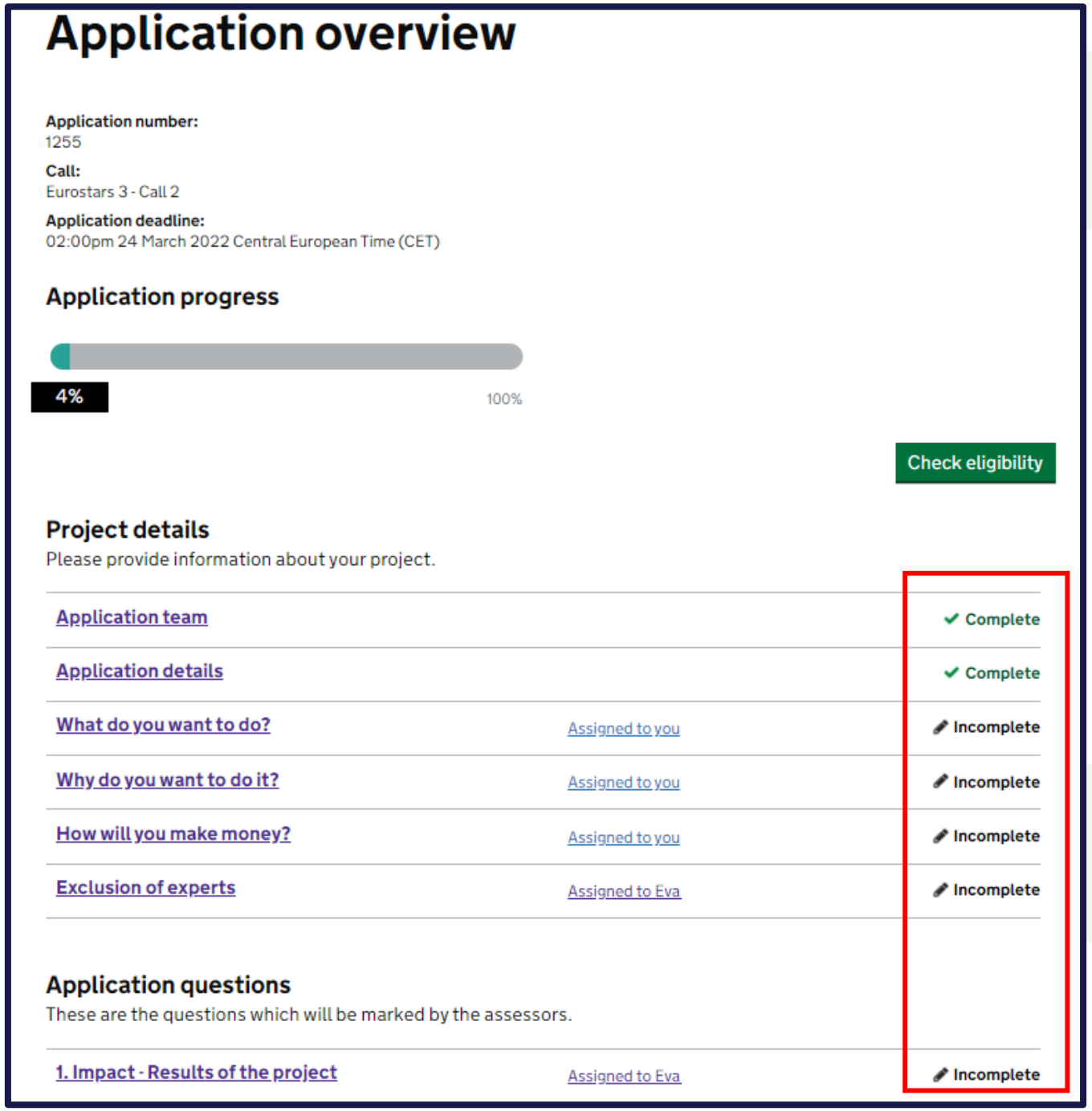
You can run an automatic check to check the eligibility of your project application.

Please note: the platform allows you to submit even if one or more criteria are not fulfilled.

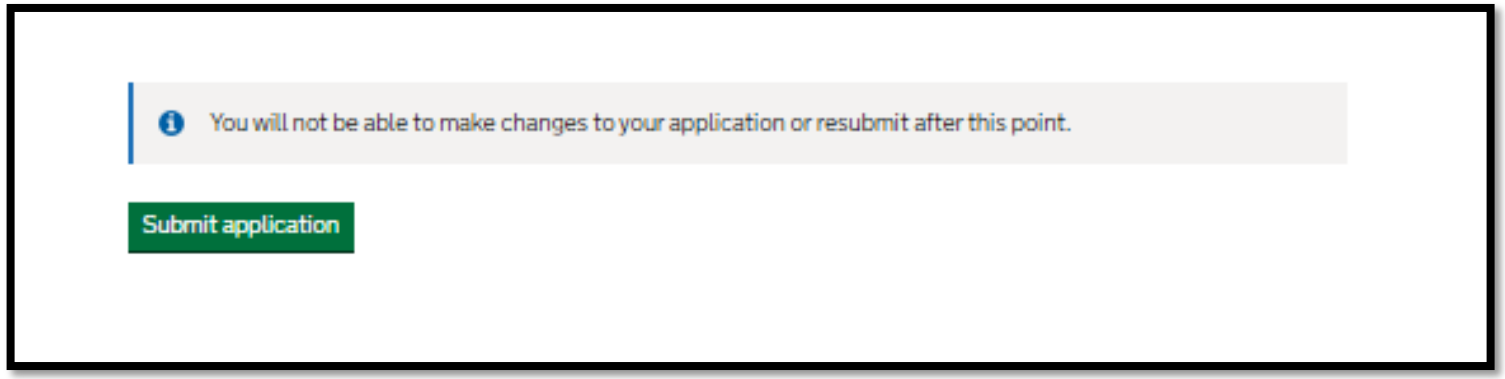


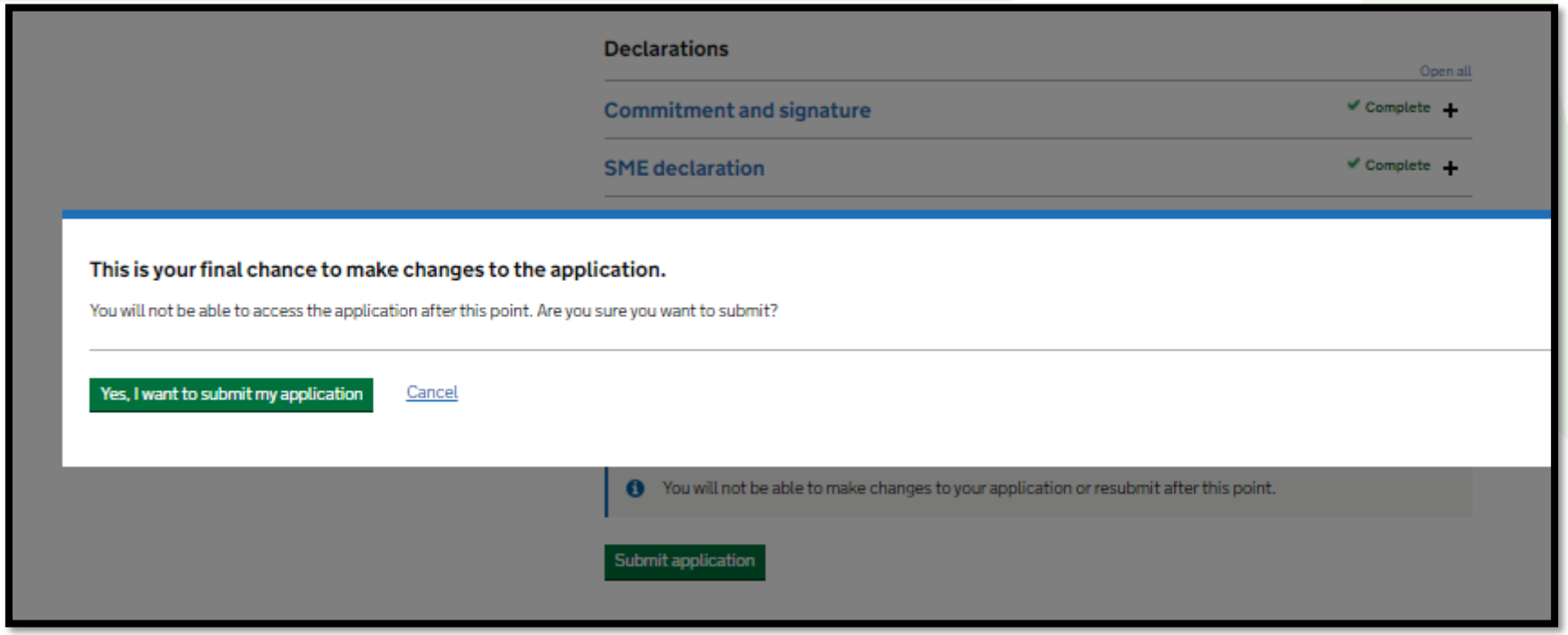


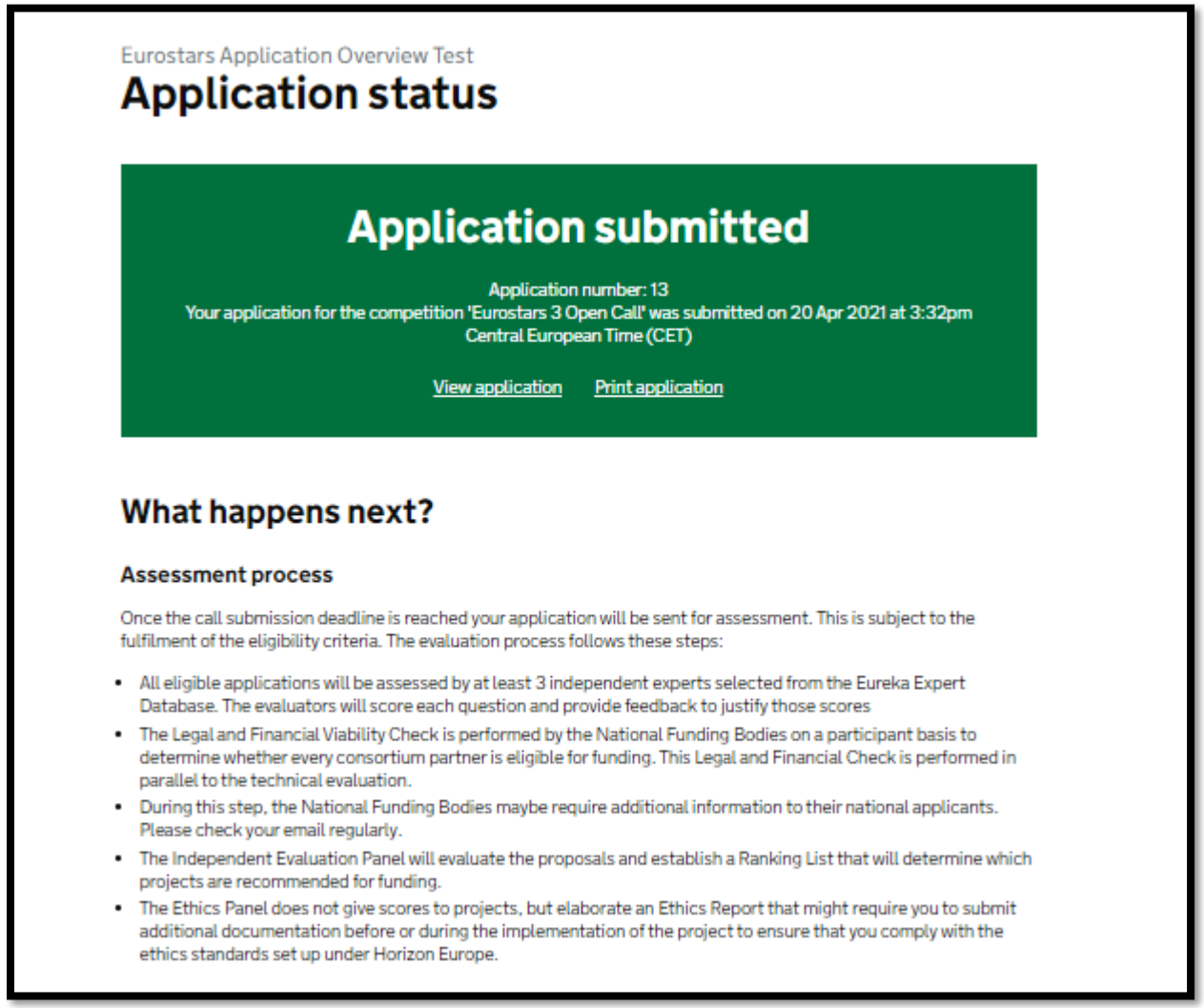
All fields must be marked as “complete” for you to be able to submit.



Make sure all the information in the form is correct before submitting your application. Changes to the form will not be allowed after your application has been submitted.
Only the main partner can submit the application.



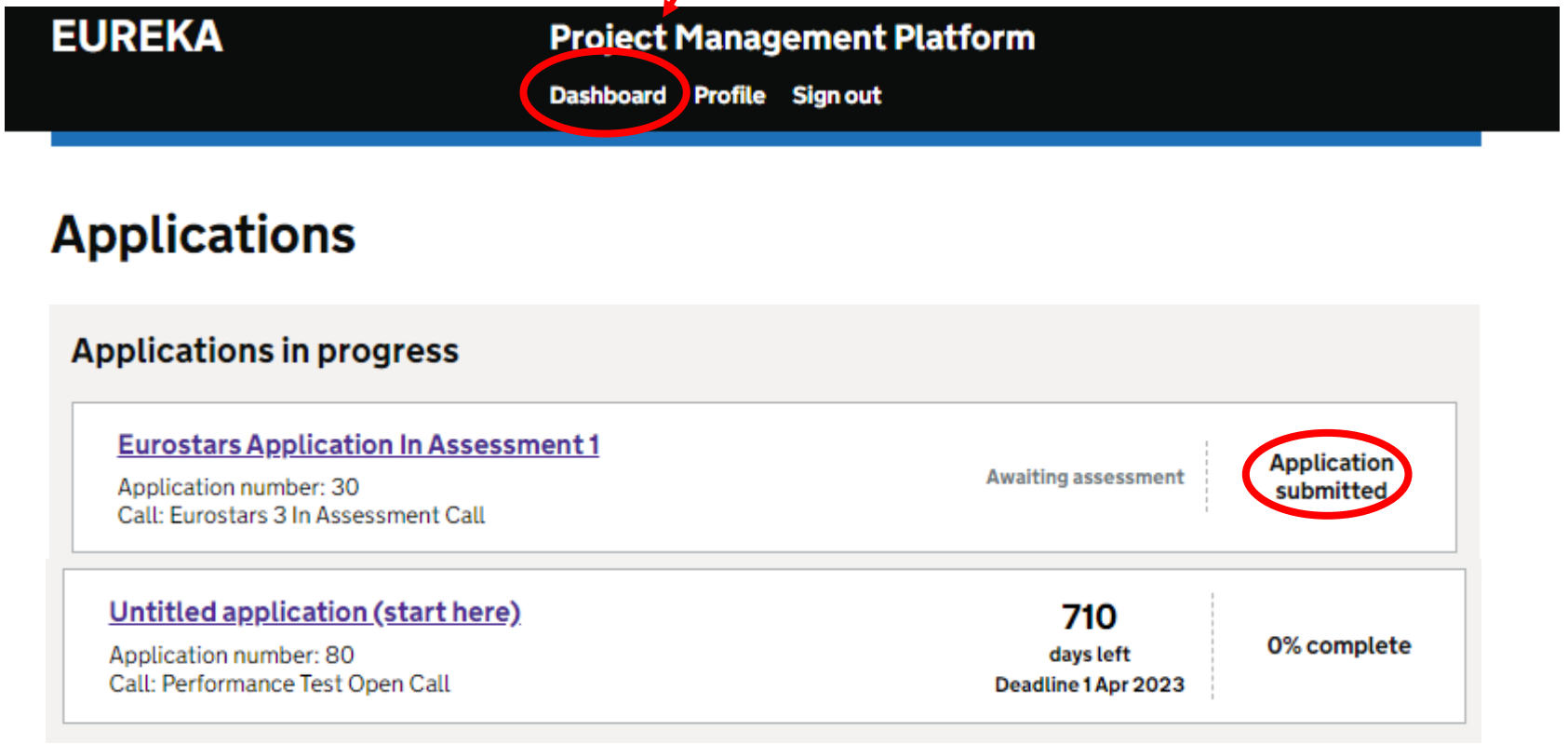




The main partner will receive an email to confirm that the application has been successfully submitted.

All partners may view or print the submitted application at any time.

You can access your application at any time by opening your dashboard.



What if my application has a mistake?

You cannot edit your application after you have submitted it. You can **only** edit the following information (phone number, email address, and details of the contact person).

If, after having submitted your application, you realise that you made a mistake, only if you are within the application deadline you can submit a new application.

Note however: you cannot participate in a call with two versions of the same applications. If you intend to submit a new version, you must immediately inform Eureka; Eureka will withdraw the incorrect version of your application. To inform Eureka, email applications@eurostars-eureka.eu.

Please note: You will need to copy-paste manually the information from one application to the other.

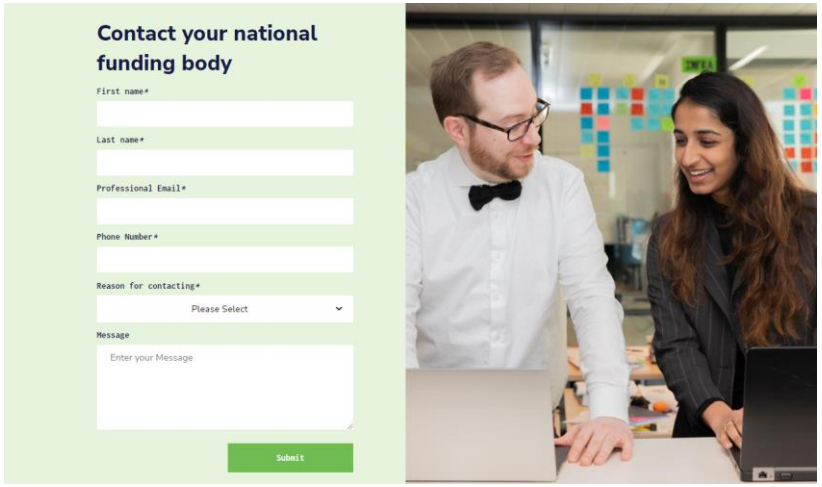
Can I submit a previous application that was not successful?

Yes. However, if you would like to reapply with a previous application, you still need to start a new application (you need to manually copy-paste the information from the previous application to the new one).

Contacts

Eureka Secretariat (ESE): applications@eurostars-eureka.eu

National project coordinators: contact form on Eureka's website



Guidelines

https://www.eurekanetwork.org/programmes/eurostars/guidelines

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Thank you for your attention!

Eureka Network
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