



Regione Lombardia

DECREE No. 18298

Of 11/12/2025

Act ID No. 1372

GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Subject

APPROVAL OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST RELATING TO THE COMPETITION 'AGILE PILOTING - UNITE PROJECT' TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS EXPRESSED BY THE NORTH MILAN TERRITORIAL HEALTHCARE COMPANY (ASST),
VALUE ON THE EUROPEAN PROJECT 'UNITE - European Digital Health Valleys' ('UNITE')
- EX D.G.R. 30/04/2024, no. XII/2285.

The document consists of 54 pages,
including 46 pages of annexes that form
an integral part thereof.



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THE MANAGER OF THE STRUCTURE START-UPS, INNOVATION AND ACCESS TO CREDIT FOR BUSINESSES

HAVING REGARD TO

- Regulation (EU) No. 2021/695 of 28 April 2021 of the European Parliament establishing the Horizon Europe research and innovation framework programme, laying down the rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No. 1290/2013 and (EU) No. 1291/2013;
- the Council Decision establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe - the framework programme for research and innovation, and repealing Decision (EU) 2013/743/EU, published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 12 May 2021, No. L 167;

HAVING REGARD TO Regional Law No. 11 of 19 February 2014, "Impresa Lombardia: per la libertà di impresa, il lavoro e la competitività" (Lombardy Enterprise: for freedom of enterprise, employment and competitiveness) and in particular Article 5-bis which, in order to promote economic development and competitiveness of enterprises operating in Lombardy and employment, provides that the Region shall enhance and support production chains for the implementation of measures aimed at promoting innovation of processes and and organisation, internationalisation, the sharing of resources and knowledge, economic and environmental sustainability, the circular economy and the return of strategic production to the region;

RECALLING the Regional Sustainable Development Programme of the XII Legislature, approved by Regional Council Resolution No. XII/42 of 20 June 2023, which:

- Pillar 2, 'Lombardy at the service of citizens', sets out the Lombardy Region's commitment to expanding digital services in the health sector, including social assistance and citizen welfare, and to enhancing the digitisation of local care processes.
- Pillar 4, 'Lombardy, land of enterprise and work', envisages a strategic role for the Region in guiding businesses through the global changes taking place in key sectors in its territory, such as technological and digital transition;

CONSIDERING Lombardy's leading role in the country's competitiveness and regional policies supporting local businesses and the regional healthcare system



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relating to digitisation and technological innovation processes, in line with national and EU strategies;

GIVEN that the Lombardy Region is committed, as provided for in the PRSS, to promoting the transition of the economic model and the healthcare sector towards increasingly widespread and comprehensive digitalisation;

NOTING that the European Union considers digital health and 'deep tech' to be key points of the aforementioned Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, whose ultimate goal is to improve healthcare for the European population through digital innovation;

CONSIDERING that:

- Lombardy is one of the hotspots of digital and healthcare innovation in Europe in which it plays a leading role;
- Lombardy is the most developed Italian region in the Life Sciences sector;
- In recent years, Lombardy has been working intensively to accelerate the digitalisation of its healthcare ecosystem, promote the adoption of telemedicine services and support healthcare and social workers in the complex process of care and assistance, including through the promotion of technology transfer, support for medtech start-ups and industrial innovation.
- As part of the UNITE Project, the Lombardy Region shares the vision of a European ecosystem of digital health innovation without borders, capable of addressing the challenges and seizing the opportunities of demographic transitions and the emerging 'silver economy', bringing together key stakeholders from the public sector, the private sector, academia and civil society.
- Public-private collaboration is essential to promote the development of a virtuous technological and digital transition model, capable of fostering the growth of a thriving ecosystem in which innovative solutions can express their potential in a systemic process involving other local actors.
- The Lombardy Region encourages and enables entrepreneurship and pushes local start-ups, scale-ups and SMEs to expand, naturally facilitating and opening up new interregional European value chains, in line with the objectives of the UNITE Project;



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RECALLING Regional Council Resolution No. XII/2285 of 30 April 2024, 'Approval of regional participation in the European project "UNITE - EUROPEAN DIGITAL HEALTH VALLEYS" (UNITE) submitted under the "HORIZON EUROPE" programme. Authorisation of the Directorate-General for Economic Development, representing the Lombardy Region, for the implementation phase', which established, among other things:

- to approve regional participation in the European project 'UNITE - EUROPEAN DIGITAL HEALTH VALLEYS' under the Horizon Europe programme, as summarised in the sheet attached to the same regional resolution and as per the information provided to the European Project Group (GPE) on 3 November 2023;
- to authorise the Directorate-General for Economic Development, representing the Lombardy Region, to proceed with the implementation phase, mandating the Director-General of the Directorate-General for Economic Development to carry out the procedural requirements necessary to launch the 'UNITE - EUROPEAN DIGITAL HEALTH VALLEYS' project;
- to allocate €1,119,937.62 in regional co-financing from the current resources available under mission 14, programme 1 of the 2024, 2025 and 2026 financial years;
- to identify the Director General of the DG for Economic Development as the legal manager of the Project and the Manager of the 'Start-ups, Innovation and Access to Credit for Businesses' Unit as the administrative manager of the Project ();
- to authorise the Director-General for Economic Development to incorporate, during the implementation of the Project, any amendments and/or additions proposed by the European Commission that do not involve substantial changes to the objectives and expected results of the Project;

GIVEN THAT on 2 August 2024, the Lombardy Region signed the application form to join the UNITE Project, accepting:

- to be a signatory to grant agreement No 101161108 - UNITE, between EIT DIGITAL (EITD) and the European Innovation and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA) ("EU Executive Agency" or "Granting Authority"), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ("European Commission");
- to undertake to implement the grant in accordance with the above agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions set out therein;

CONSIDERING that, as part of the UNITE Project, the Lombardy Region is required to:



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- to map the experimental laboratories/testing platforms (Living Labs/Testbeds) present in the region;
- to conduct pilot projects (Agile Piloting) within the Testbeds and Living Labs that allow start-ups, scale-ups and other research organisations to validate innovative solutions to the four main innovation challenges of the UNITE Project;
- to host at least two Agile Piloting projects from foreign organisations within Living Labs or Testbeds located in the region;
- to conduct 4 Agile Piloting projects within Living Labs or Testbeds, 2 of which are located in the region and 2 in other partner regions;

GIVEN THAT:

- The Lombardy Region has previously contacted the Test Beds/Living Labs in the Lombardy region and the North Milan Local Health Authority (ASST) has expressed 4 specific needs on which to conduct the 4 Agile Piloting projects;
- based on the needs expressed by ASST Nord Milano, it is considered necessary to launch a call for ideas aimed at start-ups and scale-ups in order to collect applications to participate in the Agile Piloting programmes referred to above, which meet the needs expressed by ASST Nord Milano as set out in Annex A, an integral and substantial part of this measure;

CONSIDERING therefore to:

- to approve Annex A 'NEEDS IDENTIFICATION FORM', an integral and substantial part of this provision in Italian and English, which lists the four specific needs on which to conduct the four Agile Piloting programmes;
- approve Annex B, an integral and substantial part of this provision, with the form for participation in *the competition* "AGILE PILOTING - UNITE PROJECT" TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS EXPRESSED BY THE HEALTHCARE COMPANY SOCIO SANITARIA TERRITORIALE (ASST) NORD MILANO (North Milan Local Health Authority), which will be made available together with the privacy policy in both Italian and English for completion, in digital format , on the platform <https://www.openinnovation.regione.lombardia.it/> from 09:00 of 16 December 2025 at 18:00 on 16 January 2026;

GIVEN THAT:

- following the expression of interest, the Lombardy Region will evaluate the proposals received together with Asst Nord Milano and subsequently select the



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four best proposals that will be eligible for the Agile Piloting programmes to be conducted

within Asst Nord Milano;

- The proposals selected to conduct an Agile Piloting programme within the regional territory will be communicated to the representatives of ASST Nord Milano involved in the competition.
- the proposals selected to conduct an Agile Piloting programme within Living Labs or Testbeds located in other Partner Regions will be shared with representatives of the Project's partner regions where they will be implemented;
- In accordance with the provisions of grant agreement no. 101161108 – UNITE and the guidelines "UNITE – Agile Piloting Application Guideline", the selected start-ups and/or innovative SMEs will carry out the pilot activities through the direct award procedure, pursuant to Regional Council Resolution no. XII/3854 of 3 February 2025. *'Regulation of the procurement of services and supplies below the EU threshold pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 36/2023'*, and in particular Annex 1, Article 2, letter a), which provides for 'pure' direct award without consultation of multiple economic operators in accordance with the principle of rotation for procedures below €40,000, and Article 3, which regulates purchases below €40,000;
- as provided for in the "UNITE – Agile Piloting Application Guideline" guidelines, the budget allocated to the Lombardy Region for the implementation of the four Agile Piloting projects is €40,000.00, for a maximum amount of €10,000.00 for each project, of which 50% is financed by the European Commission and the remaining 50% by regional funds;
- the expression of interest does not fall within the scope of Articles 26 and 27 of Legislative Decree No. 33 of 14 March 2013, which require the publication on the institutional website of public administrations of data relating to the granting of subsidies, contributions, grants and economic benefits to individuals and public and private entities, but rather follows the rules of transparency of procurement procedures;

HAVING REGARD TO Regional Law No. 20 of 7 July 2008, 'Consolidated text of regional laws on organisation and personnel';

REFERRING to Regional Council Resolution No. XII/628 of 13 July 2023, 'IX Organisational Measure 2023', which appointed Gessyca Golia as Head of the Start-up, Innovation and Access to Credit for Businesses Unit;



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DECREES

1. To approve Annex A, "NEEDS IDENTIFICATION FORM," an integral and substantial part of this provision in Italian and English, which lists the four specific needs on which to conduct the four Agile Piloting projects.
2. To approve Annex B, an integral and substantial part of this provision, with the form for joining the "AGILE PILOTING - UNITE PROJECT" *competition* TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS EXPRESSED BY THE SOCIO SANITARIA TERRITORIALE (ASST) NORD MILANO' (NORTH MILAN TERRITORIAL HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATION), which will be made available together with the privacy policy in both Italian and English for completion, in digital format , on the <https://www.openinnovation.regione.lombardia.it/> platform from 09:00 on 16 December 2025 at 18:00 on 16 January 2026.
3. To acknowledge that:
 - following the expression of interest, the Lombardy Region will evaluate the proposals received together with ASST Nord Milano and subsequently select the best four, which will be eligible for the Agile Piloting programmes to be conducted within ASST Nord Milano;
 - the proposals selected to conduct an Agile Piloting programme within the regional territory will be communicated to the representatives of ASST Nord Milano involved in the competition;
 - the proposals selected to conduct an Agile Piloting programme within Living Labs or Testbeds located in other Partner Regions will be shared with representatives of the Project's partner regions where they will be implemented;
 - In accordance with the provisions of grant agreement no. 101161108 – UNITE and the guidelines "UNITE – Agile Piloting Application Guideline", the selected start-ups and/or innovative SMEs will carry out the pilot activities through the direct award procedure, pursuant to Regional Council Resolution no. XII/3854 of 3 February 2025. '*Regulation of the procurement of services and supplies below the EU threshold pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 36/2023*', and in particular Annex 1, Article 2, letter a), which provides for 'pure' direct award without consultation of multiple economic operators in accordance with the principle of rotation for procedures below €40,000, and Article 3, which regulates purchases below €40,000;
 - as provided for in the 'UNITE – Agile Piloting Application Guideline' guidelines, the budget allocated to the Lombardy Region for the implementation of the 4 Agile



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Piloting projects is €40,000.00, for a maximum amount of €10,000.00 for each project, of which 50% is financed by the European Commission and the remaining 50% by regional funds.

4. To arrange for the publication of this measure on the platform <https://www.openinnovation.regione.lombardia.it/>, in the Official Bulletin of the Lombardy Region (B.U.R.L.) and on the institutional portal of the Lombardy Region.

The Director
GESSYCA GOLIA

Document signed digitally in accordance with current legal provisions.