

# Scaling Up secure Processing, Anonymization and generation of Health Data for EU cross border collaborative research and Innovation



## Annex 1

# SECURED OPEN CALL OVERVIEW

## August 2024

This document is published in the context of and for the objectives of the SECURED project. The SECURED project has been financially supported by the European Union through the HORIZON-HLTH-2022-IND-13 (HORIZON-RIA) under Grant Agreement No. 101095717

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## 1 The SECURED Project

The **SECURED** project is an ambitious initiative focused on advancing privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs) such as secure multiparty computation (SMPC), homomorphic encryption (HE), data anonymization, and synthetic data generation. The primary goal is to enable secure and unbiased artificial intelligence (AI) and data analytics specifically for healthcare applications. The project aims to enhance the current capabilities of these privacy technologies, making them scalable and more efficient for real-world applications. **SECURED** is especially beneficial for SMEs and healthcare technology providers by supporting the development and integration of PETs in the healthcare sector.

The project is built around four primary healthcare use cases:

1. Real-time tumor classification
2. Telemonitoring for children
3. Synthetic data generation for medical education
4. Access to anonymized genomic data

## 2 SECURED Open Call Objectives and Requirements

The **SECURED Open Call** invites external parties (i.e., SMEs, universities, non-profit organisations and individuals research teams) to develop AI-based health data analytics tools that utilize the privacy-enhancing technologies developed under the SECURED project.

The SECURED Open Call has three primary objectives:

- **Validation:** Assess and validate SECURED technologies (e.g., SMPC, homomorphic encryption, advanced anonymization) with external stakeholders in healthcare.
- **Collaboration:** Foster partnerships between the SECURED consortium and external AI/ML solution providers, facilitating knowledge exchange and improving the technologies.
- **Awareness:** Promote widespread participation and build a community of stakeholders invested in secure AI and privacy-preserving analytics within healthcare.

Eligible Participants: SMEs, universities, organisations, and research teams working on AI/ML technologies for healthcare are encouraged to submit proposals. The proposals must present innovative solutions for healthcare scenarios by incorporating SECURED technologies.

## 3 SECURED Open Call Funding Scheme

The total allocated budget for this Open Call is €150,000, which will fund at least six projects. The maximum funding per project is €26,000, with an additional €1,500 provided to cover travel expenses for participation in the final showcase event. Each project must:

- Implement the privacy-preserving technologies provided by SECURED;
- Demonstrate the solutions in real-world healthcare scenarios;
- Validate key performance indicators (KPIs) related to privacy, security and AI robustness.

The funding follows Horizon Europe guidelines for financial support to third parties and is structured across three phases:

1. **Initiation and Planning:** A kickoff meeting with the SECURED consortium to refine project plans;
2. **Implementation and Evaluation:** The project will integrate and validate SECURED technologies;
3. **Reporting and Final Evaluation:** A final report will be submitted, followed by a project showcase at a final showcase event.

#### 4 SECURED Open Call Funding Programme

The SECURED funding program is a 6-month initiative, divided into three stages: Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation (see Figure 2). The SECURED Open Call is the gateway to participating in this funding program. The Open Call aims to select and fund at least five projects.

The Open Call will be open from 1 August 2024 to 31 October 2024 (17:00 CET).

Throughout all stages, beneficiaries will receive technical support as outlined in Annex 2 - Guidelines for Applicants.

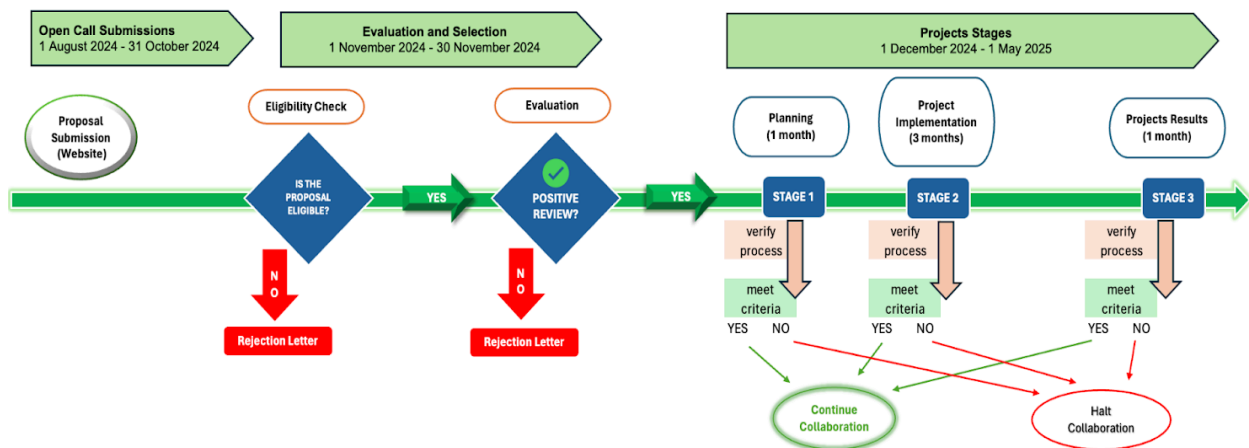


Figure 1. SECURED funding programme - Open Call

Submissions are only accepted via the SECURED project website:

[https://secured-project.eu/SECURED\\_open\\_call/](https://secured-project.eu/SECURED_open_call/)

For further information, refer to **Annex 2 - Guidelines for Applicants**, which provides details on proposal submission, funding, eligibility, and technical support.

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Call for Proposals Launch</b>	1 August 2024
<b>Proposal Submission Deadline</b>	31 October 2024, 17:00 CET
<b>Notification of Selected Projects</b>	30 November 2024
<b>Project Implementation Period</b>	1 December 2024 – 1 May 2025
<b>Completion of Project Work</b>	1 May 2025
<b>Final Project Showcase</b>	Exact date to be defined, will be after the end of all the projects

**Note:** The dates of the SECURED Open Call, including the evaluation and selection phases, may change if there are adjustments to the project schedule. All applicants will be informed of any changes.

## **5 Support to Applicants and Contact Information**

The SECURED consortium provides technical and administrative support to all applicants throughout the proposal submission process. For assistance, applicants can use the following resources:

- General inquiries: Email us at [secured-open-call@list.uva.nl](mailto:secured-open-call@list.uva.nl)
- Open Call Documentation and Guidelines: Available on the official SECURED project website
- Submission Platform: Applications must be submitted via the SECURED Open Call Submission Portal in the SECURED project website

Applicants are strongly encouraged to thoroughly review all provided documentation, including eligibility criteria, the evaluation process and the guidelines for proposal submission.

## 6 SECURED Open Call Documentation and Templates

<b>Annex No.</b>	<b>Document Name and Description</b>
<b>Annex 1</b>	<b>Open Call Overview</b> Overview of the SECURED project and the Open Call
<b>Annex 2</b>	<b>Guidelines for Applicants</b> Detailed information on how to apply, eligibility criteria, evaluation process and the funding scheme
<b>Annex 3</b>	<b>Proposal Form</b> Sample proposal form. Proposals must be submitted online
<b>Annex 2.1</b>	<b>Technical Proposal</b> A mandatory template for submission, consisting of five sections evaluated by external experts
<b>Annex 4</b>	<b>Sub-grant Agreement</b> Template for the agreement between the sub-grantee and SECURED
<b>Annex 5</b>	<b>Declaration of Honour</b> To be signed by the applicant's legal representative and submitted during the eligibility check and contracting phase
<b>Annex 6</b>	<b>Consortium Declaration of Honour</b> Provides information about the consortium leader and confirms that the consortium complies with open call requirements
<b>Annex 7</b>	<b>Bank Account Information</b> Form detailing the consortium leader's bank account information for fund transfers