

D4.4 -Expert Network

2025



Project number: 101157552

Project name: Supporting Innovation in Healthcare Public Procurement

Project acronym: InnoHSupport

Funding program: HORIZON Coordination and Support Actions

Version number	
Status	Final version
Dissemination level	PU-Public
Due date of deliverable	31-05-2025
Actual submission date	30-05-2025
Project officer	Christine Kriza
Work package	WP 4
Lead partner	FIIBAP
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Date	Author (s) /Partner	Main changes
22/05/2025	Ana Miquel Gómez (SERMAS)	First Draft
22/05/2025	Pilar Pamplona (FIIBAP) and María Sanz Casado (FIIBAP)	First Draft
23/05/2025	María Sanz and Ana Miquel	With review and comments
29/05/2025	Ana Miquel and María Sanz	Final Version
29/05/2025	Natalia Norambuena and Diana Cortes (SILO)	Final Version
29/05/2025	Karolina Mackiewicz (Echalliance)	Final Version

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List of Abbreviations

EHPIE	European Health Public Innovation Ecosystem
PPI	Public Procurement of Innovation
WP	Work Package

Executive Summary

Deliverable **D4.4, Expert Network** was developed under the joint leadership of **FIIBAP/SERMAS**, within the framework of the **InnoHSupport** project (Grant Agreement No. 101157552), under **Work Package 4, Task 4.2.2**. Its purpose is to support the establishment of a specialized community network curated by experienced actors within the innovation procurement sector.

The methodology employed involves several key steps:

- Defining expert profiles to establish clear selection criteria and effectively characterize the desired experts.
- Conducting proactive exploratory research to identify relevant organizations and individuals who match these profiles.
- Distributing a detailed questionnaire to gather information from selected experts, further supporting their inclusion and classification.
- Creating a dedicated section within the AGORA Platform to showcase these experts, enhance their visibility, and facilitate connections among them.

The key findings show: every kind of organization is represented in the network, 50% are expert consultants and 25% represent the public health sector; all possible profiles are included in the network, with the most frequent response being professional dedicated to supporting healthcare innovation; the experts represent a wide variety of experiences in the different phases of the PPI process, with particularly relevant experience in managing, developing, and implementing PPI projects.

The Expert Network repository will be made publicly accessible through the AGORA platform, allowing stakeholders beyond the consortium to consult it. It is intended to evolve as a living tool, supporting the long-term goals of InnoHSupport and the European Health Public Innovation Ecosystem (EHPIE). The main recommendation is to maintain and expand the Expert Network over time.

This deliverable compile and presents the results of Task 4.2.2 and includes the following components:

- **Introduction.** Presentation of the purpose, scope and strategic relevance of the Expert Network within the InnoHSupport project.

- **Objectives and scope.** Explanation of how the repository contributes to the project's specific objectives (S01, S02, S03, S04, S05, S06, S07) and supports related work packages.
- **Method.** Description of the process used to select the experts included in the Project Network.
- **Results section.** Presentation of the experts, including their characterization
- **Conclusion.** Reflection on the value of the Expert Network repository, its role in supporting InnoHSupport services, and its long-term integration via the AGORA platform.

1. Introduction

This document constitutes Deliverable D4.4, Expert Network of the project InnoHSupport, Innovation Procurement Support for Health Systems (Grant Agreement No. 101157552), funded under the Horizon Europe Program. The deliverable is developed within the framework of WP4, Collaborative and matchmaking program, with specific reference to T4.2.2 Experts' inventory.

According to the InnoHSupport Grant Agreement, the objective of Task 4.4 is to involve the establishment of a specialized community network, curated by experienced actors within the innovation procurement sector. Experts may be involved transversally in all the project activities (selection processes, training sessions for procurers and suppliers, advisory services for procurers, matchmaking sessions for suppliers, etc.).

The following procedure has been followed for the constitution of the Expert Network. The constitution of the expert inventory started with exploratory research to identify potential experts and the need to extend a personalized invitation to become part of the InnoHSupport Experts' inventory.

The value proposition for their involvement is highlighted, emphasizing the opportunity to connect with other esteemed peers and to contribute to a collective effort aimed at enhancing the field of innovation procurement. Furthermore, attention was directed towards fostering a sense of cohesion and shared purpose among the experts. Regular interactions, forums, and knowledge-sharing sessions are organized under the InnoHSupport project, providing a platform for experts to exchange ideas, discuss challenges, and collectively brainstorm innovative solutions.

Upon acceptance onto the network, a curated questionnaire is distributed to these experts. This questionnaire serves as a tool for extracting key fields, methodologies, success factors, and challenges encountered in their projects. Findings and contact data must be available to the InnoHSupport community, including the consortium, to collect their proficiency knowledge on demand.

Experts offer their support on a voluntary basis, as innovation procurement ambassadors. Simultaneously, the process involves shaping and refining the experts' inventory. This entails designing a structured format for cataloguing experts and their areas of specialization. Each entry is enriched with insights derived from the questionnaires,

creating a comprehensive profile that captures the depth and breadth of their expertise to conduct a rigorous assessment of the results of the ongoing project.

1.1 Deliverable Objective and Scope

The main objective of Deliverable D4.4 is to identify, characterise and catalogue the Expert Network involved in the InnoHSupport project. It also aims to describe how this specialized community of experienced actors in the field of innovation procurement is actively engaged in and contributes to the InnoHSupport ecosystem.

1.2 Relation to other WPs and deliverables

Deliverable D4.4 is closely connected to several other components of the InnoHSupport project, contributing to the integration of capacity building, ecosystem engagement, and dissemination.

Specifically, this deliverable is related to the following Work Packages, tasks, and deliverables:

- **WP2. Capacity Building for Innovation Procurement**
The Expert Network participates in education activities as lecturers and workshops moderators.
- **WP3. Engagement and Co-Creation with Innovation Ecosystems**
The Expert Network actively participates in advisory services, reviewing and evaluating applications and participating in the sessions by offering advice and support.
- **WP4. Mutual Learning, Knowledge Sharing, and Capacity Building**
The Expert Network participates in the selection of applicants, in online collaborative sessions providing support and advice, and in the pitching session.
- **WP5. Communication and Dissemination**
Experts are a relevant part of the InnoHSupport Community and appear on the AGORA platform (the InnoHSupport Hub for PPI and EHPIE) and in the Healthcare Buyers Community Platform.

2. Method

2.1 Expert Profile definition

To define the essential characteristics of an expert on PPI, an “**Expert Profile**” was jointly developed and validated by the InnoHSupport Partners. The final version of the “Expert Profile” is included in **Appendix 1: Expert Profile**.

The expert profile is structured around the following dimensions:

- Origin (organization to which they belong).
- Occupational profile.
- Experience in one or several phases of the PPI/ innovation.
- Activities in which they are interested in participating in InnoHSupport.

Although InnoHSupport seeks to include a broad range of expertise, the key criterion for selecting experts is their “Experience in one or several phases of PPI”. These phases have been defined based on established PPI procedures and the experience of the project’s internal experts.

2.2 Exploratory Research

The exploratory research involved the proactive efforts done by all the partners in identifying organizations with experts in PPI and facilitating the final selection of relevant experts. It also encompassed the activities aimed at engaging these experts in the Expert Network as part of the broader innovation procurement community.

To support this process, two templates “invitation letter” were developed and agreed upon all partners. These letters were subsequently customised and sent by each partner to the selected organisations. The final versions of the two template letters are included in **Appendix 2: Letters to Experts**.

Experts from both external and internal organisations were approached taking into account that many project partner organisations have specialised experience in innovation procurement.

2.3. Questionnaire distributed to the Experts

Based on the **Expert Profile** defined in Section 2.1, a questionnaire was developed to gather the necessary information to review, characterise and categorise the expert profiles, as well as to identify their preferred areas of participation. The questionnaire was created using the Google Forms tool.

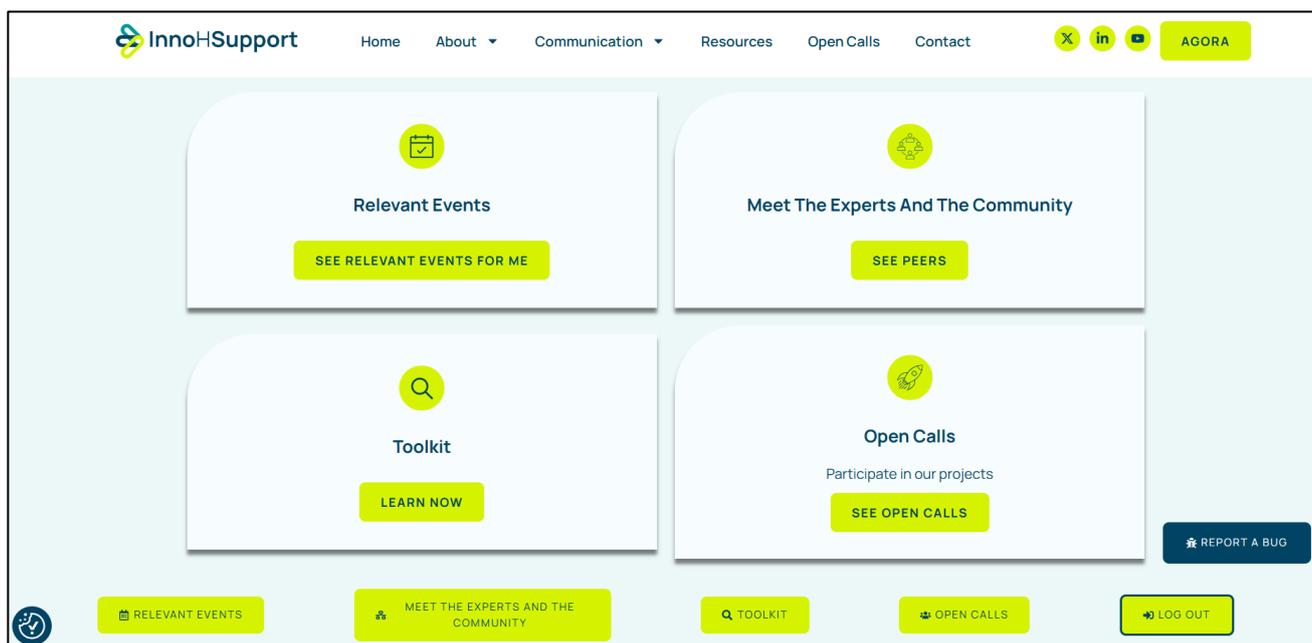
This questionnaire is provided in **Appendix 3: Expert Profile** Questionnaire.

It also includes fields to provide information for a brief standard biography and a photograph that will be used for the publication of the **Expert Network** in **Project Agora Platform**. In addition, the questionnaire contains a Data Protection Notice and a Consent disclaimer in line with applicable regulations.

2.4. Expert Network section within the AGORA platform

AGORA (<https://innohsupport.eu/agora/>) is a free, digital platform embedded within the InnoHSupport website, providing easy access to resources, events, and collaboration opportunities. Designed with a user-friendly interface, AGORA ensures seamless navigation and engagement for all stakeholders in the innovation procurement ecosystem.

AGORA is structured into five main sections. One of these sections is Meet the Experts & Community, where each expert is presented with a photograph, a biography and a



concise, standardised profile as shown in Figure 1. AGORA access to “Meet Experts And The Community” and Figure 2. AGORA screen of Experts Network.

Figure 1. AGORA access to “Meet Experts And The Community”

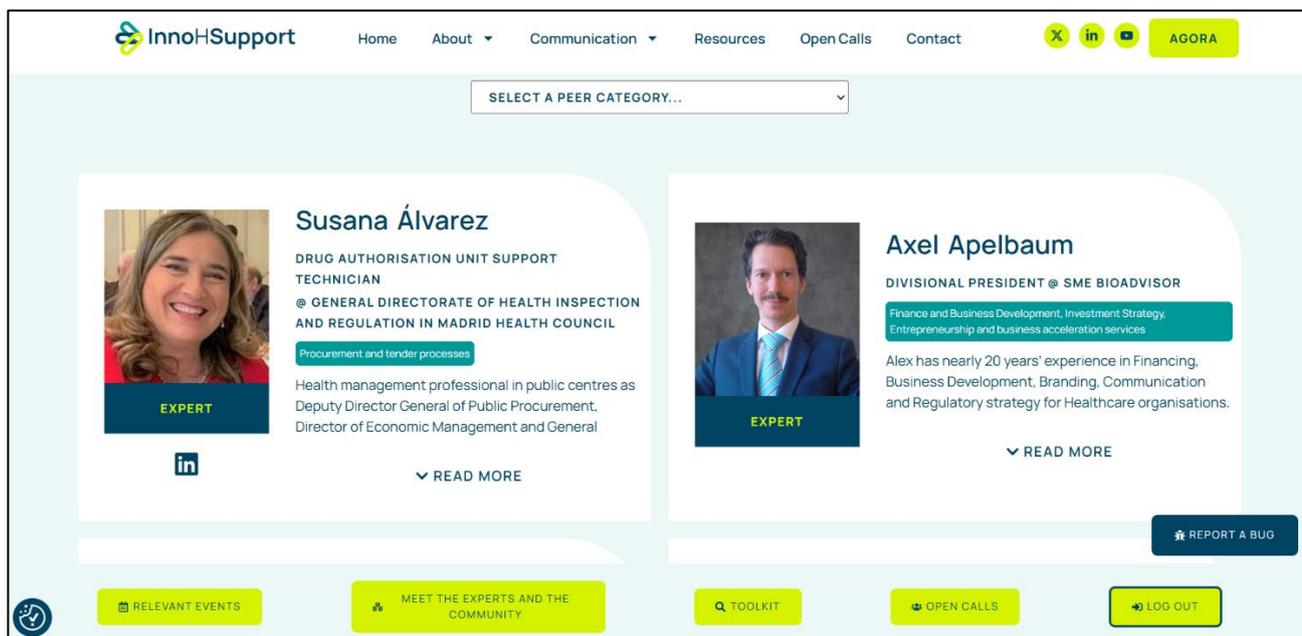


Figure 2. AGORA screen of Experts Network

As part of our commitment to fostering long-term collaboration and impact, experts engaged in the InnoHSupport network will be offered a dedicated connection point within the Healthcare Buyers Community (HBC) at (<https://healthproceurope.org/community/>) through a space specifically created for the InnoHSupport project.

This space will serve as an extension of the AGORA platform, enabling experts to connect with public buyers, suppliers, and peers across Europe. By integrating the Expert Network into the HBC ecosystem, we aim to promote cross-project dialogue, share opportunities, and support peer-to-peer exchange, thereby enhancing the visibility and practical value of expert contributions beyond the project's core activities

3. Results

As of the date of the submission of this deliverable, **37 experts** have confirmed their participation in the Expert Network. As the project continues until September 2026, and expert onboarding is still ongoing, it's expected that the target of 50 experts (our final goal) will be reached in the near future. Additionally, recruitment of experts will continue as the Project progresses, particularly in connection with upcoming events and activities requiring the expansion of the network.

Based on the expert recruitment and selection process, the following preliminary results have been obtained:

First, **Figure 3**. Type of organization presents the types of organisations these experts belong to. It is noteworthy that, although more than 50% are **expert consultants**, there is wide representation of organisations, public and private, including startups and technology companies. Particularly relevant is the fact that 25% of experts represent public healthcare institutions.

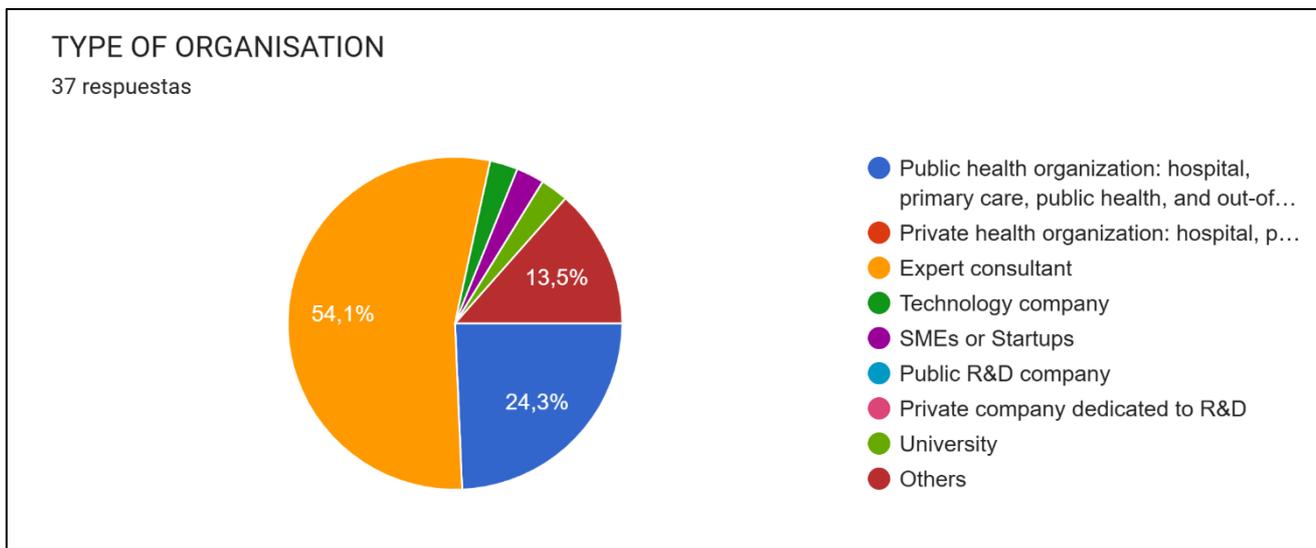
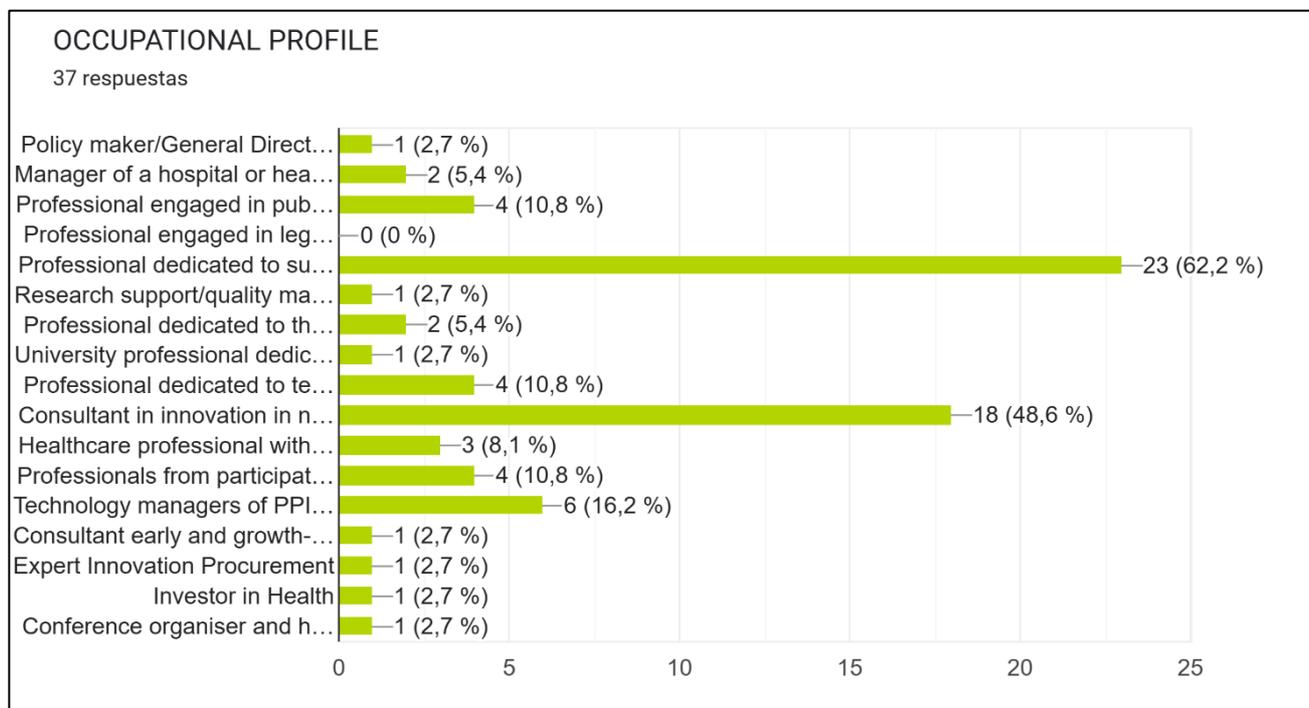


Figure 3. Type of organization

Regarding the occupational profile, the most frequent selected categories were “**professional dedicated to supporting healthcare innovation**” and “**consultant in national and Europeans projects**” as illustrated in **Figure 4**. Occupational profile. Nevertheless, all the predefined occupational profiles are represented in the Expert



Network.

Figure 4. Occupational profile

Regarding expertise, as referenced in **Figure 5**. Experience in PPI/Innovation, the experts have experience across all phases of the PPI process, with particularly significant experience in **managing, developing, and implementing PPI projects**. They also have expertise in **investment, finance and business development, identification of needs in PPI, strategic planning, and the proposal and formulation of PPI challenges**.

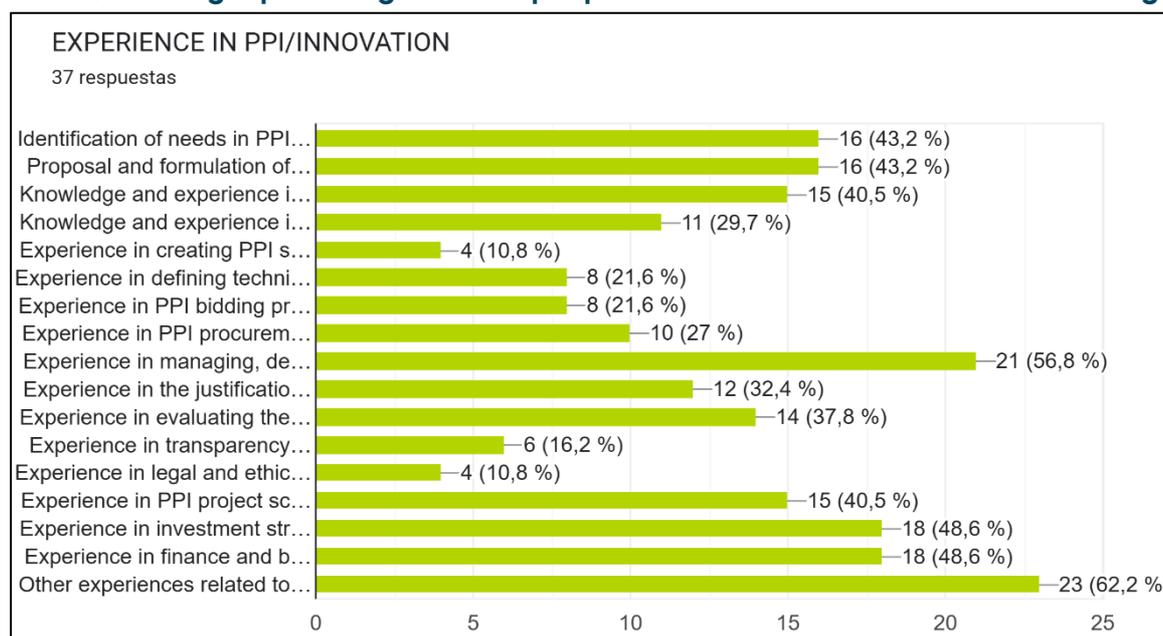


Figure 5. Experience in PPI/Innovation

Perhaps the most notable result is that all phases of the PPI process are covered by the collective experience of the experts currently included in the Experts Network inventory.

Finally, regarding interest in participating in InnoHSupport activities, 100% of the experts willingness to appear on the AGORA website, and 83% expressed interest in participating in other relevant activities.

4. Conclusions

Deliverable D4.4 shows the results of **Task 4.2.2**, the methodology and tools employed in its development. The main characteristics of an expert in PPI were defined, and this profile was used to identify, select, and catalogue experts, resulting in the creation of the **Expert Inventory** for InnoHSupport Project.

The Expert Network comprised a wide range of organizations and professional profiles, covering the full spectrum of knowledge and skills required for successful PPI implementation.

As the Projects and its related activities continue to progress, the number of experts WILL and their profiles will be further enriched and updated to reflect ongoing engagement in the Experts Network.

The methodology and the tools that developed for this purpose are conceived as dynamic instruments. Their structure allows for future updates and new contributions, supporting the ongoing evolution of the Network as a reference framework for innovation procurement actors at local, regional, national and EU levels.

The Expert Network is hosted in the **AGORA** digital platform as a integral part of the **InnoHSupport Community**, ensuring its visibility to all relevant stakeholders beyond the Project consortium. This open-access model facilitates wider dissemination, promotes knowledge transfer across ecosystems, and contributes directly to the long-term sustainability of the European Health Public Innovation Ecosystem (EHPIE).

Appendixes

Appendix 1: Expert Profile

The Expert is a professional with proven experience in any of the phases of the process of Public Procurement of Innovative Solutions (PPI)

It can be a member of the InnoHSupport partnership (internal expert) or an outside partner (external expert).

Origin (organization to which it belongs):

- Public health organization: hospital, primary care, public health, and out-of-hospital emergency services.
- Private health organization: hospital, primary care, public health, and out-of-hospital emergency services.
- Expert consultant
- Technology company
- SMEs or Startups
- Public R & I company
- Private company dedicated to R+I
- University
- Others

Occupational profile:

- Policy maker/General Director/Ministry
- Manager of a hospital or health organization (primary care, emergency/out-of-hospital service, public health)
- Professional engaged in public procurement services
- Professional engaged in legal services of health organizations
- Professional dedicated to supporting healthcare innovation
- Research support/quality management professionals
- Professional dedicated to the management of information systems of health organizations
- University professional dedicated to R&I among his activities
- Professional dedicated to teaching
- Consultant in innovation in national and European projects
- Healthcare professional with experience in innovation (doctor, nurse, others)
- Professionals from participating companies, contractors and/or CPI project developers
- Technology managers of IPP projects
- Other not classified in previous

Experience in PPI/ innovation:

Have demonstrated experience and expertise in any or several of the phases of the PPI including:

- Identification of needs in PPI. Strategic planning.
- Proposal and formulation of challenges in PPI
- Knowledge and experience in open market consultation
- Knowledge and experience in other instruments for innovation identification: technology monitoring reports, reviews of scientific literature, patent reports, etc
- Experience in creating PPI sheets
- Experience in defining technical specifications of PPI sheets
- Experience in PPI bidding processes
- Experience in PPI procurement processes
- Experience in managing, developing and implementing PPI projects
- Experience in the justification of PPI projects
- Experience in evaluating the results and impact of PPI projects
- Experience in transparency and publicity activities of PPI projects
- Experience in legal and ethical aspects including PPI anti-fraud measures
- Experience in PPI project scalability and deployment
- Experience in investment strategy
- Experience in finance and business development
- Other experience related to innovation.

Activities to be participated in InnoHsupport:

Identified in the Grant Agreement (GA):

- 7 experts and one of each partner will be part of the committee to evaluate applications (T3.1) to support.
- Experts will be invited to “online collaborative challenge session” and “online pitching session” to provide observations and recommendations (T4)
- Experts will be part of agora
- Participate in selection of supplier’s application
- 50 experts must be identified (KPIs).

Appendix 2: Letters to experts

Template letter 1: “Expert Letter

On behalf of InnoHSupport Consortium, we would like to invite you to be part of The European Expert Network in Public Procurement of Innovation (EEN in PPI).

InnoHSupport is an EU-funded Project (Horizon-CSA program) aimed at enhancing innovation in healthcare through the strategic use of public procurement. Capacity building, advisory, and matchmaking services address key barriers to innovation and promote the adoption of cutting-edge solutions across healthcare systems in Europe.

InnoHSupport offers a comprehensive portfolio of services for procurers, public and private health organizations, SMEs and startups, research and technological organizations, innovation agencies, and other stakeholders—such as investors—who are responsible for advancing innovation procurement.

As part of the EEN in PPI, you will be recognized as part of InnoHSupport AGORA (community platform of reference in PPI), and in other communication activities, giving you the opportunity of contacting and being a reference for healthcare organizations, startups and other companies and organizations interested in PPI.

If you are interested in being part of our EEN in PPI, please fill out this short questionnaire (<https://forms.gle/sMAXfmp4mkHbw9ETA>) to filiate your expert profile, indicating which are the InnoHSupport activities you would like to contribute to, and send us your jpg picture and a brief biography (no more than six lines).

In case of doubts or questions you can contact us, and we will answer them transparently and quickly. And of course, if it is necessary, we will address a call to complete the information and clarify it.

Thank you in advance and Welcome to our Network!

InnoHsupport Team”

Template letter 2: “Organization Expert Letter

On behalf of InnoHSupport Consortium, we would like to invite you to become a part of the European Expert Network in Public Procurement of Innovation (EEN in PPI).

InnoHSupport is an EU-funded Project (Horizon-CSA programme) aimed at enhancing innovation in healthcare through the strategic use of public procurement: Capacity building, advisory, and matchmaking services to address key barriers to innovation and promote the adoption of cutting-edge solutions across healthcare systems in Europe.

InnoHSupport offers a comprehensive portfolio of services for procurers, public and private health organizations, SMEs and startups, research and technological organizations, innovation agencies, and other stakeholders—such as investors—who are responsible for advancing innovation procurement.

One of the main activities in the project is the identification of experts in PPI in health to become a part of the European Expert Network in Public Procurement of Innovation (EEN in PPI).

As part of the EEN in PPI, the expert will be part of the InnoHSupport AGORA (community platform of reference in PPI), and other communication activities, giving them the opportunity of being in contact and becoming a reference for health organizations, startups and other organizations interested in PPI. At the same time, this recognition will give visibility to your organization as a reference in PPI.

For this purpose, we would like to invite you to select your organization’s person(s) that should become a member of the EEN in PPI. After your proposal, we will contact them to confirm and formalize the invitation.

Should you have any questions feel free to contact us, we will give you a quick and transparent reply. And of course, if it is necessary, we can schedule a call to complete the information and clarify your doubts.

Thank you in advance!

InnoHSupport Team”

Appendix 3: Expert Profile Questionary

InnoHSupport

is an EU-funded Project (101157552-Horizon-CSA programme) aimed at enhancing innovation in healthcare through the strategic use of public procurement. The capacity building, advisory, and matchmaking services address key barriers to innovation and promote the adoption of cutting-edge solutions across healthcare systems in Europe.

InnoHSupport offers a

comprehensive portfolio of services for procurers, public and private health organisations, SMEs and startups, research and technological organisations, innovation agencies, and other entities—such as investors—who are responsible for advancing innovation procurement.

This questionnaire is part of the European INNOHSUPPORT project initiative to identify experts to be part of the European Expert Network on Public Procurement of Innovation.

It aims to collect key information on experience and competences in innovation processes and public procurement. The information provided will be essential to enhance innovation in European health systems through strategic collaboration with qualified professionals.

**It indicates it is mandatory*

Mail *

FIRST NAME *

LAST NAME *

IMAGE

JOB POSITION *

SHORTBIO

OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE *

- Policy maker/General Director/Ministry
- Manager of a hospital or health organization (primary care, emergency/out-of- hospital service, public health)
- Professional engaged in public procurement services
- Professional engaged in legal services of health organizations Professional dedicated to supporting healthcare innovation Research support/quality management professionals
- Professional dedicated to the management of information systems of health organizations
- University professional dedicated to R&I among his activities Professional dedicated to teaching
- Consultant in innovation in national and European projects
- Healthcare professional with experience in innovation (doctor, nurse, others) Professionals from participating companies, contractors and/or PPI project developers
- Technology managers of PPI projects

Otro:

ORGANIZATION NAME *

TYPE OF ORGANISATION * (only one)

- Public health organization: hospital, primary care, public health, and out-of- hospital emergency services.
- Private health organization: hospital, primary care, public health, and out-of- hospital emergency services.
- Expert consultant Technology company SMEs or Startups Public R&D company
- Private company dedicated to R&D University
- Others

EXPERIENCE IN PPI/INNOVATION *

Identification of needs in PPI. Strategic planning.

- Proposal and formulation of challenges in PPI
- Knowledge and experience in open market consultation
- Knowledge and experience in other instruments for innovation identification: technology monitoring reports, reviews of scientific literature, patent reports, etc. Experience in creating PPI sheets
- Experience in defining technical specifications of PPI sheets Experience in PPI bidding processes
- Experience in PPI procurement processes
- Experience in managing, developing and implementing PPI projects Experience in the justification of PPI projects
- Experience in evaluating the results and impact of PPI projects Experience in transparency and publicity activities of PPI projects
- Experience in legal and ethical aspects including PPI anti-fraud measures Experience in PPI project scalability and deployment
- Experience in investment strategy
- Experience in finance and business development Other experiences related to innovation.

INTERESTED TO TAKE PART IN FOLLOWING INNOHSUPPORT ACTIVITIES *

- Appearance as part of the European network of PPI experts in the Agora Platform Appearance as part of the European network of PPI experts in communication initiatives
- Participation in the evaluation committee for the selection of suppliers Participation in the evaluation committee for calls for procurers
- Participation as advisors in online collaborative challenge sessions for suppliers Participation as advisors in online pitching sessions.

DATA PROTECTION AND CONSENT

Data Protection Notice – InnoHSupport Expert Inventory

The Expert Inventory of the InnoHSupport

project collects and processes personal data from individuals who voluntarily participate in activities related to procurement innovation. The purpose of this processing is to facilitate networking, collaboration, and

knowledge-sharing among experts, suppliers, and other relevant stakeholders, as well as to fulfil

mandatory reporting obligations to the European Commission under the InnoHSupport project.

The processing of personal data is based on explicit consent (Article 6(1)(a) GDPR), and participation in the Expert Inventory requires consenting to data processing as outlined in this notice.

The Data Controller responsible for processing personal data is:

Fundación para la investigación e innovación biosanitaria de Atención Primaria (FIIBAP) Avda. Reina Victoria n 21, 6ª. 28003-Madrid (salustiano.torre@salud.madrid.org)

Personal data collected includes: Mandatory data: Name, title, organisation, function, professional email, nationality, gender (for project KPI reporting).

- Optional data: Photo, LinkedIn profile, inclusion in networking initiatives.

Experts may withdraw consent at any time, and their data—including their photo, if applicable—will be deleted within 30 days of withdrawal unless continued retention is required by legal obligations. For inquiries, contact (DPO email).

You can access the full Data Protection Notice here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CwefAY3zXYMTL7VAw50iUsOeZxsBLas4/view?usp=sharing>

You may withdraw consent at any time by contacting []. Your data will be deleted within 30 days unless retention is required for legal or auditing purposes.

CONSENT *

I consent to the processing of my personal data (including gender) for the Expert Inventory and project impact assessment, in accordance with the Data Protection Notice. (This is required to participate.)

I consent to the upload and publication of my photo on the AGORA platform. (Optional – If you do not consent, your profile will not include a photo.)

I consent to the inclusion of my LinkedIn profile in my AGORA platform profile, for enhanced visibility. (Optional – If you do not consent, your LinkedIn account will not be linked.)

I consent to being included in mailing lists or networking initiatives related to the InnoHSupport project. (Optional – If you do not consent, you will not receive additional networking-related communications.)