

Tire Industry Project
Open Call for Projects
Call Document



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1. Introduction

This Open Call for Projects (OCP) is in respect to a research grant provided by the Tire Industry Project (TIP) in the field of assessing and measuring tire wear emissions and developing mitigation measures, advancing the evaluated technologies towards demonstration in the relevant environment. Applicants are advised to read the documentation related to this OCP carefully, paying particular attention to the information provided in this document as well as to the Model Grant Agreement.

The present document includes the following sections:

- Background (section 2) - General overview and rationale.
- Grant Objectives (section 3) - Specific goals and objectives.
- Budget (section 4) - Information about the available funding.
- Timeline (section 5) - Key dates and milestones.
- Admissibility and Documents (section 6) - Mandatory documents to be submitted as part of the submission.
- Eligibility Criteria (section 7) - Eligibility criteria applicants must meet.
- Evaluation Criteria (Section 8) - Criteria used to evaluate proposals.
- Award Criteria (section 9) - Criteria for the awarding of grants.
- Submission Process (section 10) - Provides instructions for the submission process.

Applicants are also encouraged to visit TIP's [website](#), which includes up-to-date information regarding this OCP, an online portal to be used to submit proposals, as well as an online form to contact the TIP Secretariat for any questions applicants may have.

2. Background

Formed in 2005, the Tire Industry Project (TIP) is a voluntary, CEO-driven global initiative with a mission to anticipate, understand, and address global environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues relevant to the tire industry and its value chain. TIP currently brings together 10 leading tire companies, collectively representing over 60% of the global tire manufacturing capacity, and it operates under the umbrella of World Business Council of Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

TIP commissions independent research of the highest standards, collaborates on sectoral solutions and engages with external stakeholders.

TIP proactively recognizes and addresses the potential human health and environmental consequences associated with the life cycle impacts of tires, with the ambition to contribute to a sustainable and safe environment for global communities. Through this OCP, TIP intends to fund innovative research activities that can result in meaningful impact and a diversified project portfolio at a global level.

3. Objectives and Scope

The goal of TIP's OCP is to solicit innovative and impactful submissions that, by aligning with TIP's objectives and priorities, contribute to the definition of new research fields and agendas, advancing sustainability practices and environmental stewardship within the tire industry on a global scale.

The objective of this OCP is to offer financial support to research projects that align with the following scope (Scope):

- Assess and measure tire wear emissions, i.e. material produced during the use phase of a tire. Besides TRWP and leachates tire wear emissions may include other particles and compounds.
- Develop mitigation measures, advancing the evaluated technologies towards demonstration in the relevant environment.

Projects to be supported by this OCP are expected to introduce novel research concepts to the scientific field, preferentially leading to publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

Activities that are within the Scope of this OCP and eligible for funding under this OCP include, but are not limited to:

- Field sampling campaigns (air, water, soil, sediment).
- Chemical and particle characterization of emissions.
- Data analysis and modeling of tire wear emissions distribution in the environment.
- Development of TRWP and leachate mitigation measures and/or advancing the evaluated mitigation technologies toward demonstration in the relevant environment, with a focus on the development of street cleaning equipment or techniques to facilitate the collection and/or removal of TRWP and leachate from street and road surfaces.

4. Budget

The maximum grant allocated to each project is set at \$400,000.

TIP will not directly transfer financial support to third parties involved in the execution of the research projects awarded with a grant.

5. Timeline

Timetable and deadlines (indicative)	
Call Opening	1 November 2024
Deadline for Submission of Proposals*	17 February 2025 – 17:00:00 CET
Completion of the Evaluation	17 April 2025
Notification of Evaluation Results	30 April 2025
Fund Agreement Signature	31 May 2025

6. Admissibility and documents

Applicants should ensure that proposals are submitted:

- Before the submission deadline (see timetable in section 5 above)
- Using the submission form on the OCP section of TIP's website. Paper submissions are NOT accepted.
- Containing all the following information, supporting documents, and annexes:
 - ✓ Full submission form.
 - ✓ Detailed project description, including at least: an introduction (contextual background, research objectives, and hypotheses); literature review (critical analysis of existing knowledge gap); methodology (research design, experimental methods, and approaches to data analysis); technological innovation (innovation beyond the state of the art).
 - ✓ Work plan and timeline (work packages, tasks, milestones, deliverables and Gantt Chart); budget justification; environmental and socio-economic impacts; potential commercialization; project risk assessment and mitigation strategies.

- ✓ Detailed budget table, ensuring that the entered/calculated amounts correspond to those in the submission. In case of discrepancies, the amounts in the budget table will prevail (no hard coded figures, nor macros).
- ✓ Agreements and endorsements (e.g., letters of support, MoUs, indicative terms of agreement) from key suppliers, construction/EPC parties, license or any intellectual property rights, permits related to environmental aspects and authorizations, if any.
- ✓ High-level CVs of the core project team.

Additional documents might be requested at a later stage for matters including, but not limited to, legal entity validation, financial capacity check, or bank account validation.

The individual submitting the proposal should confirm the mandate to act on behalf of the other applicant(s)/entity(ies), that the information provided in the submission is accurate and complete, and that participants/entities meet all the listed conditions for receiving funding. Before signing the agreement, each beneficiary and affiliated entity will have to confirm this again by signing a declaration of honor. Submissions not fulfilling such requirements will be rejected.

7. Eligibility criteria

Applicants must review the eligibility criteria associated with this OCP carefully to ensure they meet all requirements before submitting their proposals.

To be eligible for consideration and funding, applicants must demonstrate a clear alignment with TIP's objectives, uphold scientific credibility, and anticipate the achievement of tangible outcomes. Furthermore, applicants must ensure that their proposals are entirely within the Scope of this OCP.

All submissions and related communications must be presented in English.

Only projects that have not started at the time of submission can be funded.¹

Basic eligibility criteria

In order to be eligible, applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- Be active legal entity (public or private bodies)
- Not be subject to any sanctions or prohibitions pursuant to Article 1 of the Swiss Federal Act on the Implementation of International Sanctions, or any sanctions laws or regulations of the European Union, Korea, Japan, the United States, or any other jurisdiction applicable to TIP Member companies (collectively Sanctions Measures).

As part of the evaluation process, applicants will be required to upload official documents establishing their legal status and origin.

Consortia

Proposals submitted by a consortium of applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities) must adhere to the following requirements:

- Each partner within the consortium must fulfil all eligibility criteria.
- A single partner must be designated as the coordinator and representative of the consortium.
- The consortium must collectively adhere to the budget framework outlined in section 4.

¹ "Start of works" refers to the first commitment that makes the project irreversible.

Specific cases

- Natural people are not eligible.
- International organizations are eligible.
- Entities devoid of legal personality under their respective national law are deemed ineligible.
- Government and State bodies are eligible to apply for funding.

Geographical location (target countries)

There is no restriction on the location of projects, subject to any restrictions imposed by Sanction Measures.

Duration

While applicants must be able to initiate work within 3 months following the signing of the Grant Agreement, the project duration may last up to 18 months. Extensions are possible, provided they are duly justified and authorized through an amendment process.

Project Budget

To be eligible, applicants must propose project budgets ranging from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 per project. Please note that this refers to the total project budget and not the grant amount provided by TIP, which is outlined in section 4 of this document. It is also important to understand that the grant awarded may be less than the amount requested.

Financial capacity

Applicants must demonstrate stable and adequate resources to successfully execute projects associated with this OCP and fulfill their financial commitments. Organizations involved in multiple projects must possess and demonstrate sufficient capacity to manage them effectively.

Financial capacity assessments will rely on documents submitted during the grant preparation. Evaluations will utilize impartial financial indicators, considering factors like reliance on TIP funding.

All beneficiaries are typically subject to financial checks, except public bodies or international organizations. Affiliated entities may also undergo assessments if necessary.

In cases of unsatisfactory financial capacity, additional information may be requested, or measures such as enhanced financial responsibility arrangements, installment prefinancing, prefinancing guarantees, or no prefinancing may be proposed. In extreme cases, replacement or rejection of the proposal may be considered.

Operational capacity

Applicants must possess the necessary knowledge, qualifications, and resources to effectively carry out projects and meet the obligations linked to this OCP, including adequate experience in similar projects. Capabilities will be evaluated alongside the 'Quality' criterion, assessing the competence and experience of both applicants and their project teams, encompassing human, technical, and other operational resources. Alternatively, proposed measures to acquire necessary capabilities before the project's implementation may be considered.

Capacity demonstration includes providing profiles of key staff responsible for project management and implementation, as well as descriptions of consortium participants where applicable. Additional documentation may be requested to verify operational capacity if necessary.

Exclusion

Applicants will be disqualified if subject to bankruptcy, court-administered winding up, arrangements with creditors, or similar legal proceedings. Furthermore, applicants will be disqualified in case of any breach or official public incrimination and/or sanctions related to fiscal obligations, professional conduct, fraud,

corruption, and other criminal activities. Additionally, significant non-compliance with contractual obligations or creation of entities to evade legal responsibilities will result in disqualification.

8. Evaluation procedure

Proposals must adhere to the established submission and evaluation protocol, which entails a single-stage submission followed by an evaluation process.

All proposals will be reviewed by an **evaluation committee**, with an initial check focused on the fulfilment of the formal requirements (admissibility, and eligibility, see sections 6 and 7). Proposals found admissible and eligible will be evaluated against the award criteria (see section 9) and then ranked according to their scores.

For proposals achieving identical scores, priority will be determined based on their respective scores for the 'Applicant's capabilities and personnel qualifications' award criterion. Should these scores also be identical, priority will then be established according to their scores for the 'Relevance to objectives' criterion (see section 9).

All applicants will be notified of the evaluation result. Successful proposals will be invited for grant preparation, while the remaining proposals will either be placed on a reserve list or rejected.

Applicants have no right to appeal against the decisions made by the evaluation committee, which are to be considered final and binding.

9. Award criteria

Applicants' capabilities and personnel qualifications

This criterion evaluates the relevance and depth of experience of the applicant organization(s), assessing the qualifications and expertise of key personnel involved in the project, considering their ability to contribute effectively. Additionally, the criterion examines the demonstrated success in implementing similar initiatives or projects, as well as the track record or potential for establishing strategic partnerships and collaborations.

Relevance to objectives

This criterion assesses:

- the extent to which the proposal aligns with the objectives and scope outlined in this OCP, focusing specifically on the objectives set forth in section 3 and evaluating how well the applicant understands and focuses on tire wear emissions;
- the potential of the proposal to effectively address significant sustainability issues or promote responsible business practices.

Feasibility and methodology

This criterion evaluates the proposal's feasibility and methodology of the proposal, looking at:

- the clarity, organization, definition, and coherence of the project plan and timeline;
- the adequacy of the proposed resources, methodology, and infrastructure to support the implementation of the project and the effective achievement of the desired outcomes; and
- the demonstrated potential for the proposal to anticipate and overcome potential challenges or risks that may arise during implementation.

Innovation and Technological Impact

This criterion evaluates the degree of innovation demonstrated by the proposed project and its potential to advance beyond the current state-of-the-art within the industry. Additionally, the criterion assesses the potential of the project for scalability, replicability, or commercialization.

Economic and societal impact

This criterion assesses the anticipated socio-economic benefits, societal impacts, or cost-effectiveness of the proposed project, including the potential for creating jobs or stimulating economic growth and for better evaluation of and improvements in environmental quality and human health.

Each section of the proposal will be evaluated and scored independently based on the specified criteria. Proposals will be ranked based on their total scores, with higher-scoring proposals receiving priority consideration for funding.

10. Submission Process

Please compile all required documents into a maximum of 3 files (e.g., PDF, XLS). Ensure your submission includes the following:

- Your project proposal.
- Budget details, using the template available for download on the portal and using a separate sheet to provide details on the equipment's depreciation.
- Any supporting documents as specified in section 6.

Please submit your proposal following the instructions provided on OCP portal with the file title formatted as: "[Applicant's Name] _ [Project Title]"

11. Support and enquiries

For assistance with the submission process or inquiries regarding this Call Document or this OCP, applicants can reach out to the following contacts:

- For general enquiries regarding this OCP and/or TIP's engagement in this project, please contact: contact.ocp@wbcasd.org
- For technical enquiries regarding this OCP, including the activities and topics in Scope, please contact: tip.ocp@wbcasd.org