

FAQ PROSSE 2024

The period dedicated to clarifications for the 2024 PROSSE call (PROdex for Science in Space Exploration) was open between February 2 and March 15, 2024. This document includes the answers to the main questions that the Portuguese Space Agency received.

Q1 – Can we include the reference list and additional figures beyond the maximum number of pages indicated in the Regulation for each part of the submission?

R1 – The evaluation of the applications will only consider the content inserted within the maximum number of pages indicated in the Regulation. Any information included beyond this will not be considered. If candidates want to include a list of references or additional they can do so via an Annex, bearing in mind that this information won't be considered in the evaluation.

Q2 – Can we buy equipment to carry out the project? What does “to make a purchase via ESA” for major equipment mean?

R2— Projects supported by the PROSSE initiative are contracted via the ESA PRODEX programme. In this sense, when justified, PROSSE can fund the acquisition of new equipment, following PRODEX procedures.

Q3 – What is the funding rate for the projects?

R3 – PROSSE initiative follows PROSSE contractualization rules. The funding rate is thus 100%.

Q4 – What is the rate of indirect costs that we must consider?

R4 – The applicants need to consider an indirect costs rate corresponding to each applicant's financial figures. We highlight that during Phase 1 of the evaluation, the total proposed budget will be considered. During Phase 2, the adequacy of all budget lines will be analysed, including indirect costs.

Q5 – Are the PROSSE calls every year?

R5 – Yes, until 2025, the Portuguese Space Agency expects to launch a call every year. Continuity beyond 2025 is subject to budget availability resulting from the national subscription to ESA CM25.

Q6 – What is the expected time between project submission and project kick-off?

R6 – Considering the experience from 2023, unless there are setbacks, projects are expected to be formalised by summer 2024.

Q7 – What should be the level of development of the project? Can we submit exploratory projects?

R7—There are no restrictions regarding the project's maturity and development level. Nonetheless, the evaluation will consider both the project's Impact and the Implementation Plan.

Q8 – Can a consortium apply?

R8 – Yes.