



# ENHANCE CALL



## Call for Proposals

Financial Support for Third Parties

The project PoliRuralPlus has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and Innovation programme under grant agreement No 101136910.

### *Disclaimer*

*Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.*



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## Overview

The Enhance Call, part of the PoliRuralPlus project funded by Horizon Europe, invites proposals for validation projects that apply, test, and improve **JackDaw**, the project's flagship **GeoAI chatbot**. JackDaw allows stakeholders to interactively explore and analyse spatial data through natural language queries connected to maps, supporting smarter decision-making in policy, planning, research, and citizen engagement. Selected projects will receive up to €25,000 each, with an expected 7–15 sub-projects funded.

Applicants must be eligible organizations from EU Member States or Associated Countries, with one proposal per applicant. Proposals should align with specific objectives of the Call. Subcontracting is not allowed, and proposals will be evaluated based on objectives, impacts, and implementation.

## Objectives of the Enhance Call

- **Apply JackDaw in real European contexts** such as policy-making, planning, research, or stakeholder engagement, demonstrating its ability to support evidence-based decisions via spatially contextualised conversations.
- **Provide structured validation feedback** on JackDaw's usability, reliability, and added value, helping shape the tool into a robust, user-friendly solution ready for wider adoption.
- **Empower stakeholders** (local authorities, SMEs, NGOs, citizens, researchers) to access and interpret territorial data in innovative ways, fostering inclusive participation in rural–urban development.
- **Contribute to capacity building** by training local actors in the use of AI-based map analysis and strengthening their digital skills.
- **Gain visibility and influence**, as funded projects will be showcased through the PoliRuralPlus platform, highlighting their role as pioneers in AI-driven territorial analysis.
- **Ensure sustainability and replicability** by documenting lessons learned and proposing pathways for JackDaw's use in other European regions.

## Quick Facts

- **Budget:** up to €25,000 per project (lump-sum)
- **Total projects funded:** ~ 7 - 15
- **Estimated implementation period:** February 2026 - July 2026
- **Applicants:** Only single legal entities are eligible to apply.

Subcontracting or transferring funds to third parties is not permitted.

## Eligibility Criteria

### Who can apply?

- **Type of organisation:** Open to all types with operational and financial capacity.
- **Single applicants only:** No consortia or joint submissions.
- **Eligible countries:** Legally established in an EU Member State or Associated Country.

### Other eligibility criteria:

- **Third parties:** The proposal should not include any subcontracting or transfer of financial contribution to third parties.
- **One proposal per applicant:** Only one proposal will be accepted for funding per applicant. In case of multiple submissions, only the last one received (based on system timestamp) will be evaluated, with all others declared ineligible.
- **Non-beneficiary clause:** Organisations that are current PoliRuralPlus beneficiaries or their affiliated entities are not eligible to apply.
- **Declaration of honour:** Applicants must declare their eligibility and no conflict of interest in the online application form.
- **Language:** English.
- **Compliance:** GDPR adherence required.
- **Deliverable obligations:** Applicants commit to produce obligatory deliverables as outlined in Chapter 6 of Guidelines for Applicants.
- **Proposal page limit:** The total length of Part B (Technical Description) must not exceed 8 pages, including the cover page. Excess pages will be disregarded during evaluation.

## Scope of the Enhance Call - JackDaw GeoAI Chatbot

The Enhance Call is dedicated to testing and validating **JackDaw**, the flagship technological tool developed within PoliRuralPlus.

### **JackDaw GeoAI Chatbot**

<https://www.poliruralplus.eu/services/>

JackDaw is an AI-powered chat agent designed for spatially contextualised conversations. It addresses challenges in rural and urban development where traditional language models struggle with location-specific queries.

Users interact with JackDaw by selecting a location on a map and submitting a natural language query. The system analyses the query, determines necessary



spatial and temporal parameters, and retrieves relevant data from available sources. The enriched spatial context is then integrated into AI-generated responses, which may be presented as text, tables, charts, maps, or dashboards.

JackDaw combines natural language processing with geospatial intelligence, enabling smarter, data-informed decision-making for regional development, policy analysis, and stakeholder engagement.

Under this call, applicants are expected to:

- Apply JackDaw in real-world contexts across Europe,
- Collect structured user feedback on its functionality and usability,
- Demonstrate its added value for decision-making and communication.

Other PoliRuralPlus tools are not in scope for this call.

## Submission Process

- **Online submission:** Via the <https://www.poliruralplus.eu/open-calls/enhance-call/>
- **Parts of proposal:**
  - **Part A:** Administrative Form.
  - **Part B:** Technical Description (PDF format).

Early submission is highly recommended. Errors in submissions can be corrected and resubmitted before the deadline; only the latest version will be considered.

## Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on three main criteria:

1. **Objectives** (0-5 points)
2. **Impacts** (0-5 points)
3. **Implementation** (0-5 points)

A minimum score of 3 in all criteria and an overall score of at least 11 is required for funding. In the event of equal overall scores within a region, the proposal with better relevance to PoliRuralPlus will be selected to ensure that the most potentially transformative project is chosen.

The detailed conditions for the evaluation of the call are set out in the Annex 2 Guidelines for Applicants under section 7 Evaluation of proposals.

## Key Dates

- **Call opening:** 30 September 2025
- **Submission Deadline:** 1 December 2025, 17:00 CEST
- **Expected notification of results:** January 2026
- **Signature of Sub-Grant Agreement:** January 2026
- **Expected implementation period:** 6 months, February - July 2026

## Contact and Assistance

For additional support, including consultancy on proposal preparation, applicants are encouraged to contact the designated contact points for each pilot region, whose details can be found on the [PoliRuralPlus Knowledge Hub](#). For any other questions, please use the primary contact details for this call at [opencall@poliruralplus.eu](mailto:opencall@poliruralplus.eu).

**Disclaimer:** Applicants are advised to regularly check the PoliRuralPlus Knowledge Hub for the latest information and updates regarding the open call. PoliRuralPlus reserves the right to make any updates to the open call at any time without prior notice.

## Open Call Documents

Additional requirements, terms, and conditions are part of the open call documents, including:

- **Guidelines for Applicants** (PDF)
- **Template for Part B - Technical Description** (MS Word document)
- **Model Sub-Grant Agreement** (PDF)

Applicants are advised to carefully review all accompanying documents available on the [PoliRuralPlus Knowledge Hub](#) to ensure full compliance and understanding of the submission process and requirements.