

SLING



SLING Days

NCC Italy contribution

3-5 December 2024

How the  projects were the single most important SMEs marketing tool for Cineca first and for NCC Italy later?



They came for the money...

Many stayed for the value.

What did we do?

- Cascade funding calls in several promising projects were selected by the NCC as key opportunity
- The NCC partners acted according their competences:
 - BI-REX carried out dissemination and initial screening of project ideas
 - CINECA and IFAB supported the drafting of proposals
 - BI-REX offered access to their industry 4.0 infrastructure
 - IFAB and BI-REX offered effort for specific supporting tasks
 - If allowed, Cineca offered effort and HPC access

Why did it work?

- SMEs like the mechanism because competition is relatively low, bureaucracy is relatively light, and evaluation and payment times are fast
- The support of experienced partners clearly increases the probability of success of supported companies
- **Even when they do not win**, supported SMEs receive **dissemination** on the benefits of HPC/HPDA/AI in their company and continue on the

An amazing success rate:

**FF4EuroHPC first call: 13 submissions supported,
5 proposals awarded**

**FF4EuroHPC second call: 14 submissions supported,
8 proposals awarded**

FFplus first call: 20 submissions supported

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EuroHPC
Joint Undertaking



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
**MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION,
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