

# IX Labs - Q&A II

AL 3.1 - Ecosysteem & Faciliteiten

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**CI/CD**

## INHOUDSOPGAVE

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## Q&A IX-Labs II

This document contains questions and answers about [the IX Labs call](#) that were submitted after October 15, 2025. These supplement the previously published questions & answers. Both documents can be downloaded [from this page](#).

### Co-financing

If the IX lab organization pays its own salaries without using CIIC subsidy funds (purely from its own income from, among other things, programming) – can these salary payments be recorded as in-cash?

No, this is not a form of own contribution (see also the box with non-subsidizable activities on page 2). All costs directly related to the activities for which the subsidy was granted receive a reimbursement for those costs (subsidy portion) - the remaining portion of those costs must be provided as own contribution - this cannot be compensated with other activities.

If education, research, or commercial companies enter into a sublease agreement with the IX lab, so that the IX lab can effectively count on receiving rent payments for its physical facilities – can this be recorded as an in-cash contribution?

Revenues from the IX lab support the operation of the IX lab and can provide an independent income stream for the IX lab from which costs can be covered. The anticipated income must be 'firm' (contractually established) to qualify as an in-cash contribution (see page 19, box, option 4 for in-cash co-financing)

The central business model of the IX lab revolves around Chain Coalitions. This is a 4-year program (spanning the length of the IX lab project), in which we will proactively inventory, finance, build, and implement with the participating companies. The IX lab runs the central operation, but companies participate with hours. – Is it correct that the following activities can be recorded as in-kind activities that align 100% with the project goals of the lab? Co-creation / Kickoff sessions, Co-creation / Inventory sessions, Participation in sector demo days, Challenge provision & guidance, Guest speaking, for example about own IX projects, Mentorship for sector-related student projects, Jury participation in game jams and hackathons, Evaluation, analysis, data provision for lab programs

Within the regulation, specific activities are permitted that are eligible for subsidy by the operator of an IX lab. This is the party that incurs costs and receives reimbursement for part of the costs. Other parties therefore cannot contribute to this or provide in-kind co-financing for those activities. This does not mean that the activities do not fit the project goal, but they cannot be used as in-kind co-financing when they

are carried out by parties other than the operator. NB the activities must be directly linked to the permitted activities as described on page 20 of the call.

## Co-financing / rent

If the IX lab is going to rent certain spaces (such as a location in X), but receives a rent discount from the Municipality of X, can this be recorded as an in-cash or in-kind contribution?

see <https://cdn.ciiic.nl/media/Documenten/IX-labs-QA-20251003.pdf> (pages 10 & 11)

## Additional attachments

Is it possible to include relevant letters of support in the proposal?

The documentation referred can be supplied in a later phase of the selection process, i.e. at the submission date in February '26

## Finance

Should any expected costs / proposed costs to cooperate logistically / technically with other National IX labs be included or will this be part of another funding round?

The documentation referred to is required in a later phase of the selection process, i.e. at the dialogue phase.

These costs can be made part of the submission in February. The cost categories (in the excel) for the exploitation phase contain an activity related to cooperation in a national IX framework; it is to be discussed in the dialogue phase what this will entail

# Forms

It is not entirely clear to us which documents need to be completed for registration for the dialogue phase. The call states in paragraph 4.1-b the following: The following administrative documents must be attached when submitting the application: • Role of the applicant (owner and/or operator or other) • Signed registration form with supporting documents Then also the self-evaluation / test with supporting documents Can you indicate which documents are meant by this? word: Registration-Participants-CIIC-AL-3.1 excel: CIIC-AL3.1-budget-and-operation-plan word: CONCEPT-Collaboration-Agreement-IX-Labs-Consortium word: Submission-Proposal-CIIC-AL-3.1 Or is it only the first one, and are the other three for the final submission?

For registration, only (see page 22 of <https://cdn.ciic.nl/media/Documenten/IX-Labs-Call-voor-Aanmeldingen.pdf>) Word: Registration-Participants-CIIC-AL-3.1 (and the supporting documents requested therein) is relevant

All other documents are relevant in the dialogue phase but have been made available now so that everyone can understand in advance what they will face. This also allows interested parties to assess in advance whether the regulation is a good fit for them and aligns with their needs.

## Justification

For cofinancing (cash or in kind) what documentation is required to support the initial proposal on 26/11 e.g. offer letter from bank; letter confirming offer of in kind support from a private party together with value and details of that support; offer letter from municipality/ province detailing cash support?

The documentation referred to is required in a later phase of the selection process, i.e. at the submission date in February '26

## Declaration of no undertaking in difficulty

Question regarding the declaration 'no undertaking in difficulty'. What counts? Only the BV or the group of BVs?

In relation to the declaration of no undertaking in difficulty, the principle, including a decision diagram that we use, can be found at <https://www.rvo.nl/onderwerpen/subsidiespelregels/ez/onderneming-moeilijkheden#hoe-controleert-u-de-situatie-voor-uw-onderneming%3F> and see for the form <https://www.rvo.nl/sites/default/files/2025-08/Beslisschema-verklaring-geen-oim.pdf>

## Financing own share of costs

For the first submission of the proposal - To what extent must a commercial loan be definitively granted? – is it sufficient to have a conditional loan approval that only proceeds upon approval of the subsidy?

This is not necessary at registration (November 25), but it is necessary for the assessment of the submission and the assessment of own contribution (February 26). It must be evident that a party is able to finance its own share of the costs. The method is assessed by the

subsidy provider based on the supporting documents submitted for this purpose.

## Investments in physical facilities

The operation of the IX lab and its physical facilities also requires the creation of software templates – so that students, IX makers and research institutions can get started faster and more effectively. How can we deal with these costs? Option A – developers make it using 100% subsidy money, Option B – developers make it at max subsidy rate (60 euros per hour), Option C – developers make it using 100% subsidy money, but additionally add 30% of the hours in a separate assignment in-kind. (value is 60 euros per hour), Option D – we finance the software development through, for example, a subsidy from the province or other parties – the software is then contributed as value in the in-kind contribution.

These are costs incurred as an investment; those costs are paid by the owner of the IX lab and financed for a maximum of 50%; if the owner cannot do this themselves, then they purchase these services or products and write them off as an investment. Developing software is not an activity that is subsidizable (in the exploitation phase). None of the options are possible within the framework of this project.

For example, the intended operator has a device that they can contribute as 'open source' within the IX lab. This has a development value (cost) of 150,000 euros. We would need to modify this project for approximately 30,000 euros to make it suitable for education and research. Can the value of already realized software be recorded as an in-kind contribution?

Within the regulation, tangible and intangible assets can be covered as an investment (page 19); the purpose of the IX lab call is to search for 'new' state-of-the-art facilities that become available to the IX community and are operated in the IX lab.

The question is what exactly is meant by contribution. Does ownership transfer to the IX lab operator and is that 'contribution' then fully dedicated to the IX lab - or is it made available (without transfer of ownership) and may it be used? In the latter case, it is not part of the IX lab and the risk for operation does not transfer to the IX lab.

The transfer and modification of equipment can be considered an investment that can be reimbursed for 50% from the owner to the IX lab to the seller. If the owner is considered an investor, the rules on (page 18, 2nd bullet) apply. Demonstrable transactions between parties must be established for invoicing.

For determining the value, general requirements for evidence apply:

- Objective valuation: via market-based rates, appraisals, or benchmarks.
- Verifiability: everything must be verifiable for the subsidy provider or audit.
- Project-related: the contribution must be directly and exclusively for the project.
- No double funding: the contribution may not already be covered by other aid or publicly financed sources.

## Establishment of entity

For the application we want to establish a new entity, a "Foundation IIC" with a working company BV underneath. The main participants participate in the foundation (board) – and the 'costs' of, among other things, personnel, will be in the working BV. However, this entire operation is only relevant upon approval of the subsidy? To what extent must the final entity exist for the final application, and can the first application be submitted, for example, via XXX

Parties must first register - at registration, a final form & governance of the IX lab to be established is not a requirement. Only at final submission must this structure be clear

## Roles in the operation

Our IX lab team is a real operational organization that will also lead the program lines, is it correct that the following roles are legitimate to record? Lab Manager / director, Technical specialist / Engineer, Community & Program coordinator, Research/Innovation coordinator, Business & valorization manager, Education/training coordinator, Operational Lead (team lead IX center), Supervisors of IX lab programming, b2c, b2b

(page 20) The regulation reimburses activities related to:

- Managing the cluster to promote collaboration, information sharing, and providing or referring specialized and customized business support services;
- Marketing the cluster to attract new enterprises or organizations and increase visibility;

- Managing the cluster's facilities, organizing training programs, workshops, and conferences to support knowledge sharing, networking, and transnational cooperation.

It is up to the applicant to clarify how they fulfill these activities; the naming of the roles does not adequately reflect which activities these roles perform and how these activities lead to a sustainable IX lab. We advise the applicant to name the activities as well as objectives that fit these roles and make a connection with the above eligible activities for reimbursement.

## Cooperation within the structure

If an operator or owner legally commits to deploying, for example, 2,000 hours in the IX lab (in-kind), may this operator (for example [XXX]) also have their partners do part of this fulfillment

At the core, it is about how the application is submitted; if you register and enroll as a foundation, then the foundation is the party considered as owner/operator and the entity where all costs must be incurred (and to which subsidies are granted). If you register as a consortium, for example, you can indicate who incurs which costs for certain activities within your consortium (as owner and as operator). In the governance of your consortium, you indicate how you collaborate within your consortium to realize your IX lab objective. A foundation may indeed have other parties perform activities - but they are formally not owner/operator and therefore cannot receive subsidies (the foundation is where costs are incurred and people are on the payroll); in a consortium there are more possibilities to jointly carry out activities and have costs carried out by multiple partners.

If there is a foundation that has another party perform part of the work, this can be done through a third-party cost structure - different outsourcing rules apply here (and different burden of proof) - and invoicing takes place at market-based rates (which is offset by a cost contribution from the regulation)