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Informative webinar – 2nd Open Call 25.08.2025

Co-funded by the Horizon Europe programme of the European Union under Grant Agreement № 101092176

Agenda overview

1. **Welcome & Introduction**
   Overview of WASABI Project, the 2nd Open Call and key objectives
2. **General Information**
   Technical requirements and expectations, WASABI support, who can apply, eligibility criteria, and funding details
3. **Application & Evaluation Processes**
   How to apply, submission guidelines, and evaluation criteria
4. **Obligations for experiments selected**
   Meetings, deliverables and dissemination activities
5. **Support & Resources**
   Available support and contact points
6. **Technical Insights: OVOS skill**
   Deep dive into WASABI component: OVOS skill
7. **Q&A Session**
   Your questions answered live

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What is WASABI?

WASABI focuses on **digital intelligent assistance** solutions, based on **human-AI collaboration**, and applied to the manufacturing domain.

The WASABI solution **increases the cognitive abilities of workers** and accelerates the acquisition and transfer of knowledge, through *Natural Language Processing* (NLP) system, **for the upskilling of the existing workforce**, meantime securing job positions.

Consortium

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1 - carsa
2 - BIBA
3 - UNIMORE
4 - SYXIS
5 - SINTEF
6 - TTTech
7 - ATLANTIS
8 -
9 - mews
10 - reinova
11 - KU LEUVEN CITIP
12 -
13 - Universität Bremen
14 - TRIMEK
15 - eroma GIOBATTA
16 - episcan
17 - KLISBiO
18 - inovalia

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Open Call at glance

Items	Details
Open Call ID	WASABI-OC2
Open Call Deadline	October 9, 2025, 17:00 CEST
Expected duration of the experiment	12 Months
Total Funding of the Open Call	€ 1.522.250,00
Maximum per experiment	€ 125.000,00
Who Can Apply	Consortia composed of 2 or 3 entities
Maximum per entity	€ 60.000,00

Objective of the Open Call

Objective: Fund 10+ experiments that:

- Develop and use a Digital Intelligent Assistant (DIA) for manufacturing process or products;
- Create a WASABI shop to distribute the developed DIA skill, enabling its adoption by other SMEs.

Technical Requirements and Expectations

1. Develop a digital assistant to address a specific challenge in manufacturing:
   - ❑ Develop an OVOS skill for the targeted challenge.
   - ❑ Evaluate the skill in an experiment with the end-user SME.
   - ❑ Use the “Docker Compose project for OVOS” provided by the WASABI Consortium.
2. Create a WASABI shop to distribute the developed OVOS skill.
   - ❑ Create a marketplace and related shop making it operationally.
   - ❑ Set up the core functional module for the seller profile.
   - ❑ Upload the developed OVOS skill to the shop for distribution or sale.
   - ❑ Evaluate the shop and its core modules by filling out the evaluation forms provided by WASABI.

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WASABI support

The support is intended to assist the experiment teams in overcoming technical challenges and ensuring the successful execution of their projects.

Support will be delivered through a variety of methods, including:

- **Webinar and workshop sessions** introducing key components and offering practical deployment guidance;
- **Helpdesk support** offering remote support via email, ticketing systems, or dedicated channels;
- **1:1 technical mentoring**, delivered via Microsoft Teams to assist with component deployment and integration;
- **Documentation and manuals** detailing installation, usage instructions, and best practices for component;
- **Video tutorial** explaining core functionalities of the component and offering practical use-case examples

Who can apply?

To participate in the Open Call, **consortia must include at least one manufacturing SME and one Digital Innovation Hub**, and, optionally, one IT provider.

Consortia composition structure

❑ **CASE A: Manufacturing SME + DIH**

In this configuration, the manufacturing SME acts as both:

- the developer of the DIA solution and its integration into the WASABI marketplace and;
- the end-user of the DIA to improve their own process or product.

This setup is suited for manufacturing SMEs with sufficient in-house IT capabilities to independently carry out the technical development.

Who can apply?

To participate in the Open Call, **consortia must include at least one manufacturing SME and one Digital Innovation Hub**, and, optionally, one IT provider.

Consortia composition structure

- **CASE B: Manufacturing SME + DIH + IT solution provider**

  In this configuration, the manufacturing SME acts as both:

  - the manufacturing SME service as the end-user, testing the DIA in a real-world manufacturing setting;
  - the IT solution provider is responsible for developing the DIA and implementing its integration into the WASABI marketplace.

  This structure is strongly recommended when the manufacturing SME does not have internal IT expertise, ensuring the necessary technical quality and integration capabilities.

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Eligibility criteria

To be considered eligible, ***consortia members*** must meet the following requirements:

- ❑Legal entities established in one of the Member States of the European Union (EU-27) or in a Horizon Europe Associated Countries
- ❑Submit the proposal in English. Proposals submitted in any other language will be excluded
- ❑Submit the proposal within the stipulated deadline. Proposals submitted later will be excluded
- ❑The Applicants must fully comply with GDPR and the AI Act, which will be declared through a self-assessment to identify risks.
- ❑Consortia must be composed only of SMEs and DIH

Funding & Budget

Total funding for the OC: € 1.522.250,00

Cost reporting system: Lump sum model

Applicants must present the budget per consortium member of the experiment in the proposal. **All proposed costs must be exclusively dedicated to the execution of the experiment.**

- **Max funding er experiment:** €125.000,00
- **Max funding per partner:** €60.000,00
- **Funding breakdown:** at least 85% of the overall funding to SMEs

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Payment model

The payment of the requested funding will be made in tranches as follows:

- **The first payment** will be done with the approval of the first two deliverables at M2. This payment will correspond to 25% of the total requested amount.
- **The second payment** will be done after the individual monitoring meeting in M7 upon approval of progress. This payment will correspond to 50% of the total requested amount
- **The third payment** will be done after completion of the experiment and final approval of all deliverables linked to WASABI through the contract at M12. This payment will correspond to 25% of the total requested amount.

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How to apply

1 Experiment design

The proposal template has 3 sections that applicants must fill in:

1. Technical Excellence
2. Impact
3. Implementation

These sections together must not exceed ten (10) pages in length (with text no smaller than 11-point Arial font). Proposals will be truncated to this page count, and the independent expert evaluators will only be provided with the truncated version.

How to apply

The proposals are submitted digitally in a single-stage through the Evaluation Management System (EMS) platform. Once here, Applicants should click on “Register”. Then, Applicants should select the option “New proposal”.

- ❑ General details section (title of the proposal, experiment acronym, topics and keywords)
- ❑ Technical proposal section (abstract of the proposal)
- ❑ Annexes section (any additional supporting document)
- ❑ Submission section (the proposal)

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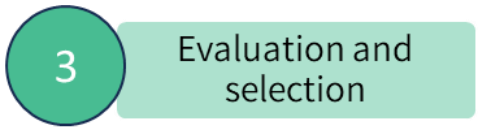
How to apply



The proposals received will go through the evaluation process.

- ❑ Eligibility check
- ❑ Evaluation process
- ❑ Ranking of proposals
- ❑ Communication of results and contractual agreement process

Evaluation criteria

EVALUATION CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION
Section 1: Excellence	✓ Quality and soundness of main concept and objectives. ✓ Demonstrate alignment with WASABI objectives. ✓ Address the sectors and technologies of the WASABI open call. ✓ Innovation capacity of the experiment. ✓ Implementation and adequate usage of DIA technologies. ✓ New products or services to be developed. ✓ Open data exchange and experience with Docker. ✓ Quality of the Service-Oriented Architecture design. ✓ Presence of a system integrator. ✓ Collaboration with the WASABI team.
Section 2: Impact	✓ Potential impact of the application experiment (including KPIs). ✓ Replicability of the experiment in other SMEs. ✓ Quality of the communication and dissemination plan. ✓ Quality of the exploitation model.
Section 3: Implementation	✓ Overall quality of the work plan. ✓ Adequate budget and eligible costs to carry out the experiment. ✓ Quality and relevant experience of the consortium members. ✓ Demonstrate the capacity and expertise of the consortium members. ✓ Demonstrate the appropriateness of the consortium members

Obligations for selected experiments

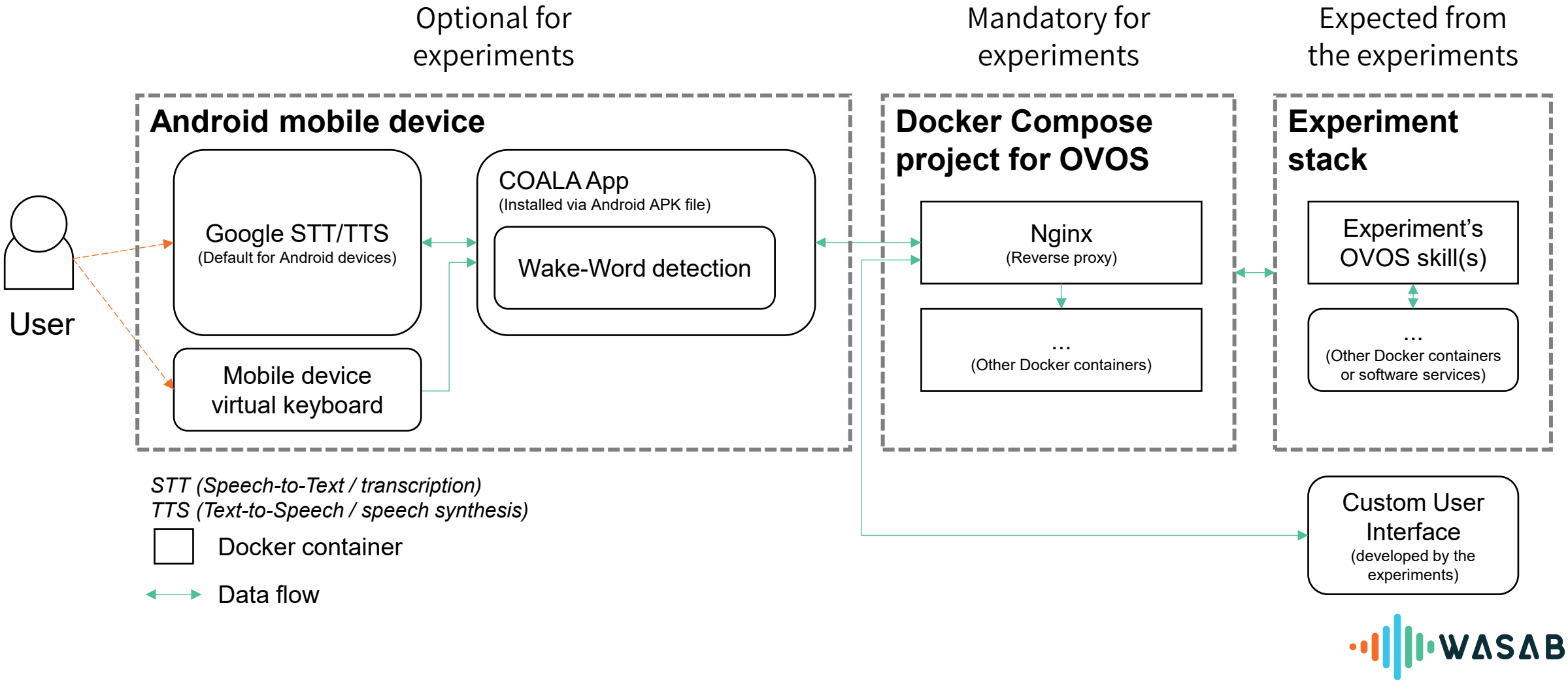
- **Experiments selected** though the Open Call **must carry out some mandatory activities**.
  - **Meetings:** Kick-off + five (5) monitoring meetings + final event + additional workshops/webinars*
  - **Deliverables:** IPR Plan + Experiment Handbook + Cost Statement
  - **Dissemination activities**
  - **Demonstrations:** A live or recorded demonstration of the solution applied in the experiment, showing natural language interactions. Demonstrations must be provided during monitoring meetings and the final event.

Support for applicants

- Useful document:
  - ❑ Guide for Applicants
  - ❑FAQ
- WASABI Helpdesk:
  - ❑Applicants may contact wasabi_opencall@innovalia.org for technical assistance with the submission process on EMS and further information on the call.

Technical Insights:
OVOS skill

Expected architecture for experiment solutions



WASABI's Docker Compose project for OVOS

- A configuration for Docker containers including
  - Nginx (reverse proxy)
  - HiveMind Listener
  - OVOS Message Bus
  - OVOS Core
  - OVOS Skill Fallback Unknown
  - KeyCloak (server and database with initial data)
  - Dozzle
- All experiments must use this minimalistic setup
- Experiments may extend the setup to their needs

OVOS is an active developer community and updates images regularly.

The project uses the most recent image versions provided by the OVOS community.

Experiments should update the stack regularly to adopt these updates.

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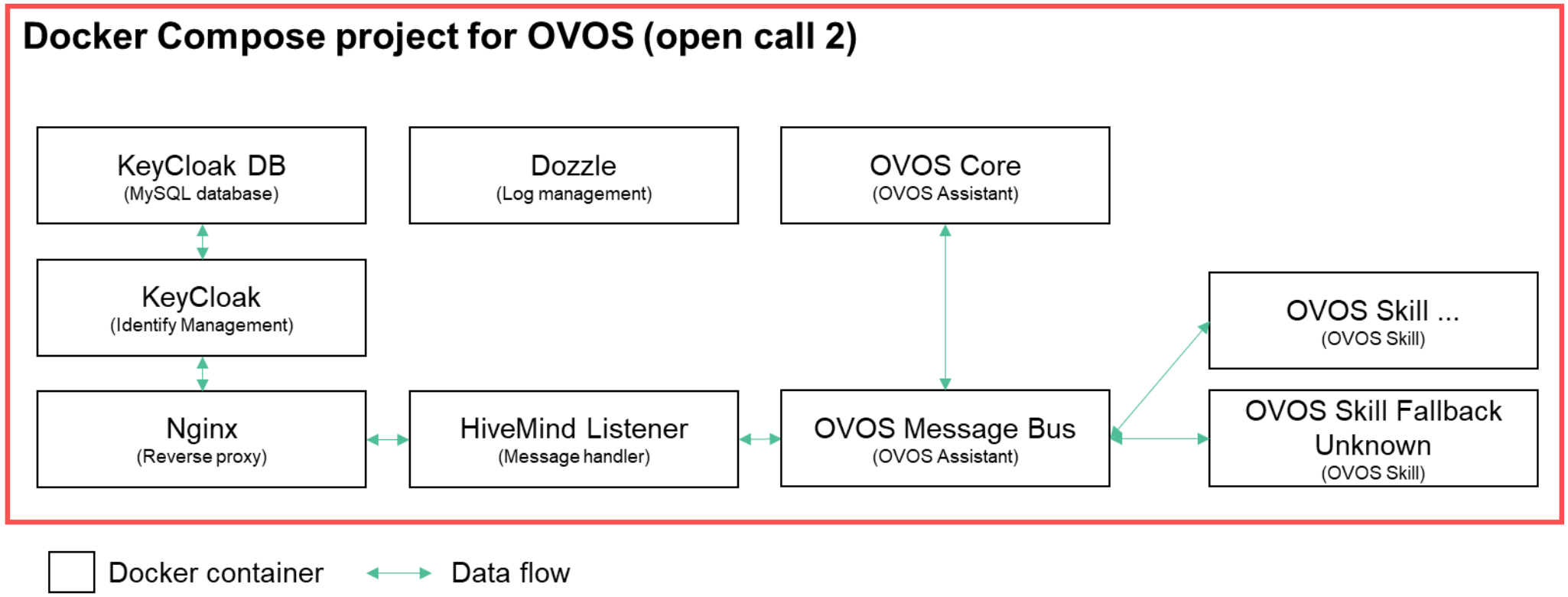
Docker Compose project for OVOS overview



Deployment process

- Each Experiment receives a **deployment token** from BIBA
- **Clone the repository** with the deployment token
- Check the **readme and license files**
- Proceed with the deployment as described in the readme file
- Some trouble shooting information is in the readme
- Further issues about the deployment may be directed to BIBA
  - Dr.-Ing. Stefan Wellsandt (wel@biba.uni-bremen.de)

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Hints

- Experiments that build their own user interfaces should consult the OVOS documentation about the Session mechanism: Link, Link

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Useful links of the OVOS community

- OVOS Website
- OVOS Technical Documentation
- OVOS GitHub Repositories
- HiveMind GitHub Repositories
- HiveMind Core Technical Documentation
- OVOS Matrix Chat (ask questions and contribute to OVOS)

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Q&A

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THANK YOU!

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