**Ministry of University and Research**

**Internationalization of Research Department**

**Directorate-General for Internationalization and Communication**

**Office III - Internationalization of research**

**Mission 4, "Education and Research" - Component 2, "From Research to Business"**

**Investment 1.2, “Funding projects presented by young researchers”**

**Proposal template**

The proposal should include a cover page containing:

* Name of the Applicant (Researcher)
* Proposal Duration in months (max 36 months)
* Proposal Full Title
* Proposal Acronym

# Project Proposal Abstract

|  |
| --- |
| *Text highlighted in italic should be deleted.*  *Proposal summary (identical to the abstract from the online proposal submission forms, section 1).*  *The abstract (summary) should, at a glance, provide the reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of the research proposal and how they will be achieved. It must therefore be short and precise and should not contain confidential information.*  *Please use plain typed text, avoiding formulae and other special characters. The abstract must be written in English. There is a limit of 3000 characters (spaces and line breaks included).* |

*Please respect the following formatting constraints: Times New Roman, font size 11, margins (2.0 cm side and 1.5 cm top and bottom), single line spacing.*

# Section a. Excellence *(4 pages, 18.000 characters)*

1. ***Quality and pertinence of the project’s research and innovation and objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of art)***

At a minimum, address the following aspects:

* Describe the quality and pertinence of the R&I objectives; are the objectives measurable and verifiable? Are they realistically achievable?
* Describe how your project goes beyond the state-of-the-art, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious

1. ***Concept and soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)***

At a minimum, address the following aspects:

* Overall methodology: Describe and explain the overall methodology, including the concepts, models and assumptions that underpin your work. Explain how this will enable you to deliver your project’s objectives. Refer to any important challenges you may have identified in the chosen methodology and how you intend to overcome them
* Integration of methods and disciplines to pursue the objectives: Explain how expertise and methods from different disciplines will be brought together and integrated in pursuit of your objectives. If you consider that an inter-disciplinary approach is unnecessary in the context of the proposed work, please provide a justification
* Gender dimension and other diversity aspects: Describe how the gender dimension and other diversity aspects are taken into account in the project’s research and innovation content. If you do not consider such a gender dimension to be relevant in your project, please provide a justification
  + Remember that that this question relates to the content of the planned research and innovation activities, and not to gender balance in the teams in charge of carrying out the project
  + Sex, gender and diversity analysis refers to biological characteristics and social/cultural factors respectively. For guidance on methods of sex / gender analysis and the issues to be taken into account, please refer to this page
* Open science practices: Describe how appropriate open science practices are implemented as an integral part of the proposed methodology. Show how the choice of practices and their implementation is adapted to the nature of your work in a way. That will increase the chances of the project delivering on its objectives [e.g., up to 1/2 page, including research data management]. If you believe that none of these practices are appropriate for your project, please provide a justification here
  + *Open science* is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process. Open science practices include early and open sharing of research (for example through preregistration, registered reports, pre-prints, or crowd-sourcing); research output management; measures to ensure reproducibility of research outputs; providing open access to research outputs (such as publications, data, software, models, algorithms, and workflows); participation in open peer-review; and involving all relevant knowledge actors including citizens, civil society and end users in the co-creation of R&I agendas and contents (such as citizen science)
  + Please note that this does not refer to outreach actions that may be planned as part of the communication, dissemination and exploitation activities. These aspects should instead be described below under ‘Impact’
* Research data management and management of other research outputs: Applicants generating/collecting data and/or other research outputs (except for publications) during the project must explain how the data will be managed in line with the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable). For guidance on open science practices and research data management, please refer to the relevant section of the HE Programme Guide on the Funding & Tenders Portal.

# Section b. Impact *(3 pages, 13.500 characters)*

*Aspects to be taken into account:*

1. *Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected social, economic and scientific outcomes and impacts, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project*
2. *Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities*

***Outcomes and impacts***

*In this section, provide a* ***narrative*** *explaining how the project’s results are expected to make a difference in terms of impact, beyond the immediate scope and duration of the project. Only include such outcomes and impacts where your project would make a significant and direct contribution. Moreover, include any potential negative environmental outcome or impact of the project. Where relevant, explain how the potential harm can be managed.*

*The narrative should include the components below, tailored to your project:*

1. *Outcomes and impacts of your project, which may be:*

* *Scientific, e.g., contributing to specific scientific advances, across and within disciplines, creating new knowledge, reinforcing scientific equipment and instruments, computing systems*
* *Economic/technological, e.g., bringing new products, services, business processes to the market, increasing efficiency, decreasing costs, increasing profits, contributing to standards’ setting, etc.*
* *Societal, e.g., decreasing CO2 emissions, decreasing avoidable mortality, improving policies and decision making, raising consumer awareness*

*2) Strategy for the management of intellectual property, foreseen protection measures: if relevant, discuss the strategy for the management of intellectual property, foreseen protection measures, such as patents, design rights, copyright, trade secrets, etc., and how these would be used to support exploitation.*

# Section c. Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation *(3 pages, 13.500 characters)*

*Aspects to be taken into account:*

1. *Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.*
2. *Capacity and role of each participant, and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.*

*Please provide the following:*

* *Brief presentation of the overall structure of the work plan*
* *Detailed work description, i.e.*
  + *a list of work packages*
  + *a description of each work package*
  + *a list of deliverables*

*Give full details. Base your account on the logical structure of the project and the stages in which it is to be carried out. The number of work packages should be proportionate to the scale and complexity of the project.*

*You should give enough detail in each work package to justify the proposed resources to be allocated and also quantified information so that progress can be monitored.*

*You are advised to include a distinct work package on ‘project management’, and to give due visibility in the work plan to ‘data management’ ‘dissemination and exploitation’ and ‘communication activities’, either with distinct tasks or distinct work packages.*

*This should include a record of activities related to dissemination and exploitation that have been undertaken and those still planned.*

*A list of critical risks, relating to project implementation, that the stated project's objectives may not be achieved. Detail any risk mitigation measures.*

**Table 1 Work Packages Description**

**For each work package:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Work Package Number** |  |
| **Work Package Title** |  |
| **Description of work** |  |
| **Starting Date – Ending Date** |  |