PROPOSAL WRITING CAMP

Session 5_1: Excellence

Example: structure of a HORIZON EUROPE - RIA (Research & Innovation Action)

Part B

(to be uploaded as pdf PDF)

1. Excellence
2. Impact
3. Quality and efficiency of implementation

->additional Annex with information on financial support to third parties (if applicable)

STRUCTURE OF PART B (RIA)

RIA (Part B)

1. Excellence
1.1 Objectives and ambition
1.2 Methodology

2. Impact
2.1 Project´s pathways to impact
2.2 Measures to maximise impact Dissemination
       Exploitation and Communication
2.3 Summary

3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation
3.1 Work plan and Resources
3.2 Capacity of participants and consortium as a whole

**PAGE LIMIT! 45 pages (RIA) /
50 pages for topics using lump sum funding**
(including title page and list of participants)

B1. Excellence

1. Excellence

1.1 Objectives and ambition (4 p.)

1.2 Methodology (15 pages)

Excellence – aspects to be taken into account

✓ Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state of the art.

✓ Soundness of the <u>proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions</u>, interdisciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including <u>sharing and management of research outputs</u> and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.

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B1.1 Objectives & Ambition

- **Overall aim =>Short introductory paragraph answering 5 KEY QUESTIONS**
  - Which problem are you trying to solve?
  - Is it a European priority or could it be solved at national level?
  - Is the solution already available?
  - Why now?
  - Why you? Are you the best consortium to do this work?
- **2-3 OVERALL OBJECTIVES**
- **Specific objectives (not more then 5)**

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Objectives ≠ activities!

- The right question:
  - **What do I plan to achieve?**

- The wrong question:
  - **What am I going to do?**

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S M A R T OBJECTIVES

S specific, concrete

- What **exactly** are you going to achieve?
- Is the objective written in a clear and **comprehensible** way?

M measurable

- How can you tell if the objective is reached?
- Are there clear **indicators** or **parameters** to measure the objective?

A acceptable

- Acceptance of project results by stakeholders?
- Do the objectives provide an **acceptable solution** to the problem?

R realistic

- Is the objective **achievable**, given the time and resources committed?

T timely

- **When** will the objectives be achieved?

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B1.1 Objectives and Ambition (4 pages)

- Objectives should be consistent with the expected/identified exploitation and impact of the project

- Describe the specific objectives for the project, which should be **clear, measurable, realistic and achievable** within the duration of the project.

- Describe how your project goes beyond the state-of-the-art, and the extent the proposed work is ambitious. Indicate any exceptional ground-breaking R&I, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models.

- Describe where the proposed work is positioned in terms of R&I maturity (i.e. where it is situated in the spectrum from 'idea to application', or from 'lab to market'). Where applicable, provide an indication of the Technology Readiness Level, if possible distinguishing the start and by the end of the project.

- Describe the ground-breaking nature of the objectives, concept , trans-disciplinarily considered, innovation potential…

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Example: Excellence

Problem statement: Environmental regulatory compliance requirements come from laws and regulations and **aim to** protect the natural environment and **mitigate the effects** of pollution on human health and ecosystems; these requirements support systems that **must monitor, control and enforce**. Effective compliance **is based on** …

Which level: the **EC** has taken solid steps to improve environmental compliance and governance by presenting an **Action Plan** [X] that outlines the 3 pillars of successful compliance … The EC further notes that information at the European level on the environment **"usually starts locally":**…

Solution available: Citizen science is recognized in the COM as a promising source for complementary information and data on environmental issues, offering a way to collect environmental data that is "**cost-effective and is useful** in providing….

Why now: However, it is noted that in practice citizen science data "**are not (yet) used widely for official environmental monitoring and reporting**. Nonetheless, it can trigger official reporting and action" [X, p.11] both in judicial and extra-judicial arenas as recent studies explicitly for the EU context demonstrates.

Why you: Project (your consortium) focuses on **co-created and collaborative** citizen-collected evidence that **empowers** citizens and helps them **verify compliance**, but also **identify**, **detect**, **characterise** and **triage** the nature and extent of non-compliance, so authorities can be notified to collect evidence and further prosecute the offender.

Example: Objectives

*PROJECT will develop a **pan-European collaboration** and **knowledge hub** based on the **Living Lab** principles to become the **open innovation framework** for all European actors for environmental compliance assurance. The Project "Living Lab" will co-create **sustainable mechanisms to increase Environmental Compliance through Citizens and Innovation** (ECCI) and to address the culture and variable barriers around environmental reporting, auditing and compliance.*

The tangible Specific Objectives (SOs) are lined up with the 3 pillars listed by the EU and are further divided to **subcategories that are measurable and verifiable** through Key Performance Indicators—**KPIs are listed under each objective,** as well as their **link to Work Packages** (WPs), **Expected Outcomes (EOs) as listed in the call**. (List of SOs with description: SO1 e.g. Promote compliance … KPIs …,SO2… KPIs.., SO3 … KPIs)

Expected results: To meet these objectives, Project will: develop …., test and evaluate the overall approach…, promote ..1..2..3.. allowing expansion of tools& methodology…making impact in…(List of ER with description)

Ambition - Progress Beyond the State of the Art: Define your ambition in one-two sentences
List w description: A1 (name): Current state of the art and Advances beyond

Positioning of the Project (TRL) If have more than one describe each briefly and indicate *TRL from 3 to 4*

Methodology…

- The right question:
  - **How will the objectives be reached?**

- The wrong question:
  - **What exactly and when will it be done?**

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1.2 Methodology (15 pages)

- 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.

- Describe any **national or international research and innovation activities whose results will feed into the project, and how that link will be established**; =*EXPLOITABLE RESULTS*

- 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.

- For topics where the work programme indicates the need for the **integration of social sciences and humanities**, show the role of these disciplines in the project or provide a justification if you consider that these disciplines are not relevant to your proposed project.

1.2 Methodology (15 pages)

- Describe how the **gender dimension** (i.e. sex and/or gender analysis) is 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.

- 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 are adapted to the nature of your work, in a way that will increase the chances of the project delivering on its objectives. If you believe that none of these practices are appropriate for your project, please provide a justification here.

1.2 Methodology (15 pages)

- **Research data management and management of other research outputs**

- **Types of data/research outputs** (e.g. experimental, observational, images, text, numerical) and their estimated size

- **Findability of data/research outputs:** Types of persistent and unique identifiers (e.g. digital object identifiers) and trusted repositories that will be used.

- **Accessibility of data/research outputs:** IPR considerations and timeline for open access (if open access not provided, explain why); provisions for access to restricted data for verification purposes.

- **Interoperability of data/research outputs:** Standards, formats and vocabularies for data and metadata.

- **Reusability of data/research outputs:** Licenses for data sharing and re-use (e.g. Creative Commons, Open Data Commons); availability of tools/software/models for data generation and validation/interpretation /re-use.

- **Curation and storage/preservation costs; person/team responsible for data management and quality assurance.**

Open Science   **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. Including active engagement of society**

Mandatory immediate Open Access to publications: beneficiaries must retain sufficient IPRs to comply with open access requirements;

Data sharing as 'open as possible, as closed as necessary': mandatory Data Management Plan for FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) research data

- Work Programmes may incentivize or oblige to adhere to **open science practices** such as involvement of citizens, or to use the **European Open Science Cloud**
- Assessment of open science practices through the **excellence award criteria** for proposal evaluation. Under **quality of participants** previous experience on open sciences practices will be evaluated positively.
- Dedicated support to **open science policy actions**
- **Open Research Europe** publishing platform

LINKS:
Data Management Plans
OPEN SCIENCE

Gender Dimension

Addressing the gender dimension in research and innovation entails taking into account sex and gender in the whole research & innovation process.

The integration of the gender dimension into R&I content is mandatory, unless it is explicitly mentioned in the topic description

Why is gender dimension important?

- Why do we observe differences between women and men in infection levels and mortality rates in the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Does it make sense to study cardiovascular diseases only on male animals and on men, or osteoporosis only on women?
- Does it make sense to design car safety equipment only on the basis of male body standards?
- Is it responsible to develop AI products that spread gender and racial biases due to a lack of diversity in the data used in training AI applications?
- Is it normal that household travel surveys, and thus mobility analysis and transport planning, underrate trips performed as part of caring work?
- Did you know that pheromones given off by men experimenters, but not women, induce a stress response in laboratory mice sufficient to trigger pain relief?
- And did you know that climate change is affecting sex determination in a number of marine species and that certain populations are now at risk of extinction?

- LINKS: https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/ffcb06c3-200a-11ec-bd8e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-232129669
- https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/democracy-and-rights/gender-equality-research-and-innovation_en

Group exercise

Writing the excellence part (RIA)

- **Objectives & ambition**
  discuss in the group session possible objectives for the call you are addressing during the Proposal writing camp. Put down 3-4 objectives to be reached in the frame of the project.

  Homework: Develop text around the objectives, add details to make the objectives more concrete.

- **Methodology**
  Homework: if time allows, think of methodology to be applied, consider gender and data implications of your project

Evaluation exercise (if time allows)

- Scoring of the excellence drafts – each group evaluates the draft of another group

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Thank you!

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