How to apply to a call for research projects with a grant at the European level?

23rd February 2023

ABOUT US

We believe that multistakeholder collaboration in innovative biomedical research can deliver better health for all

- Barcelona-based SME
- Team of 20 project managers, scientific managers, communication experts and innovation professionals
- Working with more than 100 organisations
- Managing more than 150 million € in projects and studies

teamit RESEARCH

teamit INSTITUTE

PARTNERSHIPS FOR BETTER HEALTH RESEARCH

We aim to improve health outcomes by supporting the advancement of life-sciences research

REMEDI4ALL
Repurposing of Medicines for all
- €25M
- 24 partners

H2O
Health Outcomes Observatories
- €22M
- 23 partners

EU-PEARL
EU Patient CEntric ClinicAl TRial PLatforms
- €26M
- 36 partners

PROMISE
PReparing fOr RSV IMmunIsation and Surveillance in Europe
- €7M
- 22 partners

PREMIER
Prioritization and Risk Evaluation of Medicines in the EnviRonment
- €9M
- 25 partners

VAC4EU
Vaccine monitoring collaboration for Europe
- 24 members

EU-ADR Alliance
EU-Adverse Drug Reactions Alliance
- 6 Members

EXPERTISE

- MANAGEMENT ACROSS THE PROJECT LIFECYCLE
- COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION
- ALLIANCE MANAGEMENT & NETWORKING
- SUSTAINABILITY & EXPLOTATION OF RESULTS
- PHARMACO EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDIES & NETWORKS
- MANAGEMENT OF EMA PROCEDURES
- CONSULTANCY
- TRAINING AND EDUCATION

teamit RESEARCH

HORIZON EUROPE

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

Exclusive focus on defence research & development

- Research actions
- Development actions

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT*

Exclusive focus on civil applications

Pillar I
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar II
GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

- Joint Research Centre

Pillar III
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

- European Innovation Council
- European Innovation Ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation & Technology*

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

- Widening participation & spreading excellence
- Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

EURATOM

- Fusion
- Fission
- Joint Research Center

* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

Horizon Europe Budget: €95.5 billion (2021-2027)

(including €5.4 billion from NGEU – Next Generation Europe – programme of EU for Recovery from COVID-19 crisis)

Political agreement December 2020

€ billion in current prices

- Excellent Science (Pillar I)
- Global challenges and European ind. comp. (Pillar II)
- Innovative Europe (Pillar III)
- Widening Part and ERA

Main type of collaborative projects

1. Research and Innovation Actions (RIA)

Funding for research projects tackling clearly defined challenges, which can lead to the **development of new knowledge or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution**. For this purpose they may include basic and applied research, technology development and integration, testing and validation on a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment.

Who? Consortia of partners from different countries, different stakeholders (academia, industry, patient organisations, SMEs, authorities, etc.)

Main type of collaborative projects

2. Innovation actions (IA)

Funding is more focused on **closer-to-the-market activities**. For example, prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, scaling-up etc. if they aim at producing new or improved products or services.

Who? Consortia of partners from different countries, different stakeholders (academia, industry, patient organisations, SMEs, authorities, etc.)

Main type of collaborative projects

3. Coordination and support actions (CSA)

Funding covers the **coordination and networking** of research and innovation projects, programmes and policies. Funding for research and innovation per se is covered elsewhere.

Who? Single entities or consortia of partners from different countries.

IMI to IHI

Innovative Medicines Initiatives will become the Innovative Health Initiatives

A new public-private partnership (PPP) for health under Horizon Europe building on the successes and lessons learnt from IMI.

This initiative will help create an EU-wide health research and innovation ecosystem that facilitates the translation of scientific knowledge into tangible innovations. It will cover **prevention, diagnostics, treatment and disease management**.

This cross-sectoral Partnership brings together all stakeholders including 5 key health industry sectors involved in the patient's journey and aims to make significant progress towards addressing unmet health needs.

HE: Evolution, not revolution

Lessons Learned from Horizon 2020 Interim Evaluation	Key Novelties in Horizon Europe
Support breakthrough innovation	European Innovation Council
Create more impact through mission-orientation and citizens' involvement	EU Missions
Rationalise partnerships' landscape	New approach to partnerships
Reinforce openness	Open science policy
Strengthen international cooperation	Extended association possibilities
Encourage participation	Spreading Excellence

Five Missions Areas

Adaptation to climate change, including societal transformation

Cancer

Healthy oceans, seas, coastal & inland waters

Climate-neutral & smart cities

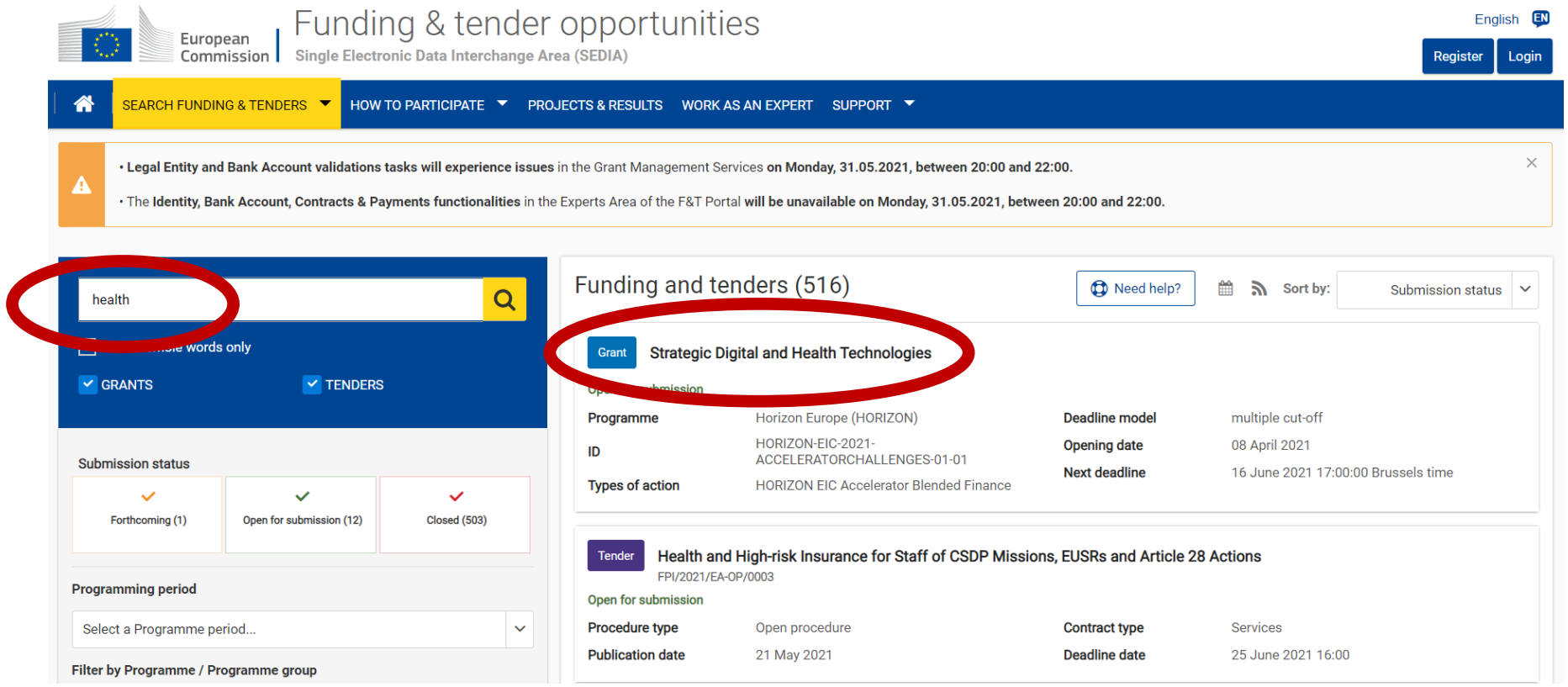
Soil health & food

Where to start?
Find a call topic

tea.mit
RESEARCH

The Call topic

Find and understand the call topic



From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

Grant

- General information
- Topic description
- Conditions and documents
- Submission service
- Topic related FAQ
- Get support
- Call information
- Call updates
- Funded project list

Go back to search results

General information

Programme
Horizon 2020

Work programme part
Health, demographic change and well-being

Call
Personalised Medicine (H2020-SC1-2016-2017)

Work programme year
H2020-2016-2017

See budget overview

Type of action

Closed

Deadline model
single-stage

Opening date
20 October 2015

Deadline date
16 February 2016 17:00:00 Brussels time

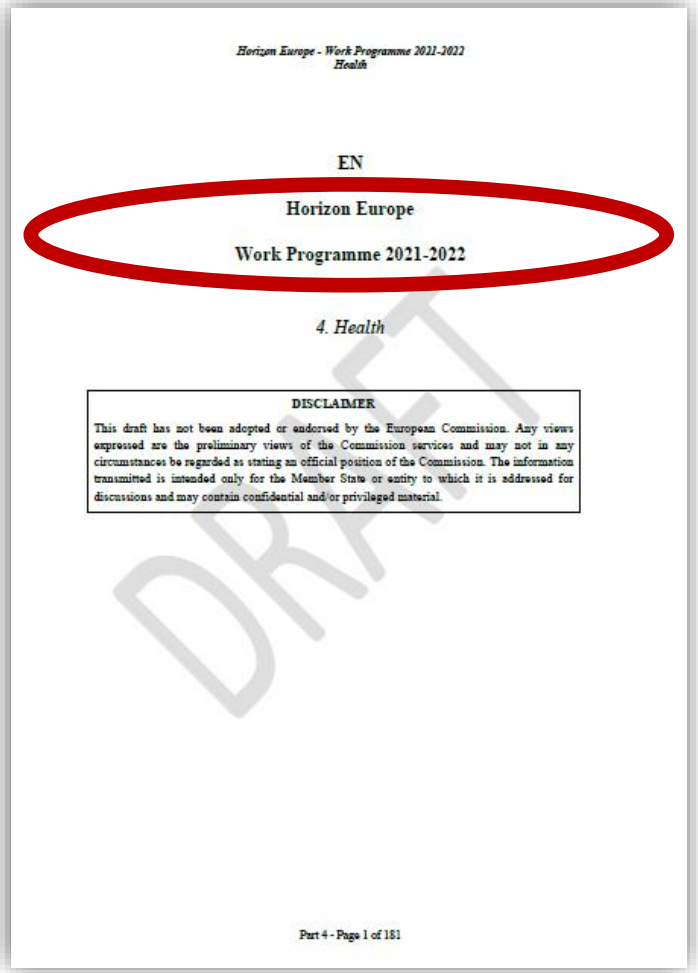
Topic description

Specific Challenge:

A defining characteristic of today's data-rich society is the collection, storage, processing and analysis of immense amounts of data. This characteristic is cross-sectorial and applies also to healthcare. Big Data is generated from an increasing plurality of sources and offers possibilities for new insights, for understanding human systems at the systemic level to develop personalised medicine, prevent diseases and support healthy life. Primary sources are new eHealth personal solutions, but can be extended also to more generic and commercial instruments, like mobile apps for health and well-being. In addition, social networks can be considered for integrating the social dimension in the analysis of health and well-being scenarios. It is important to assure ethical aspects of data, confidentiality, anonymity of data transfer and engagement of those who collect/ code such data in its analysis and interpretation, in order to avoid misinterpretation and inappropriate conclusions. Greater involvement of those who work within healthcare systems, patients and the public is needed.

From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase



Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2021-2022
Health

EN

Horizon Europe

Work Programme 2021-2022

4. Health

DISCLAIMER

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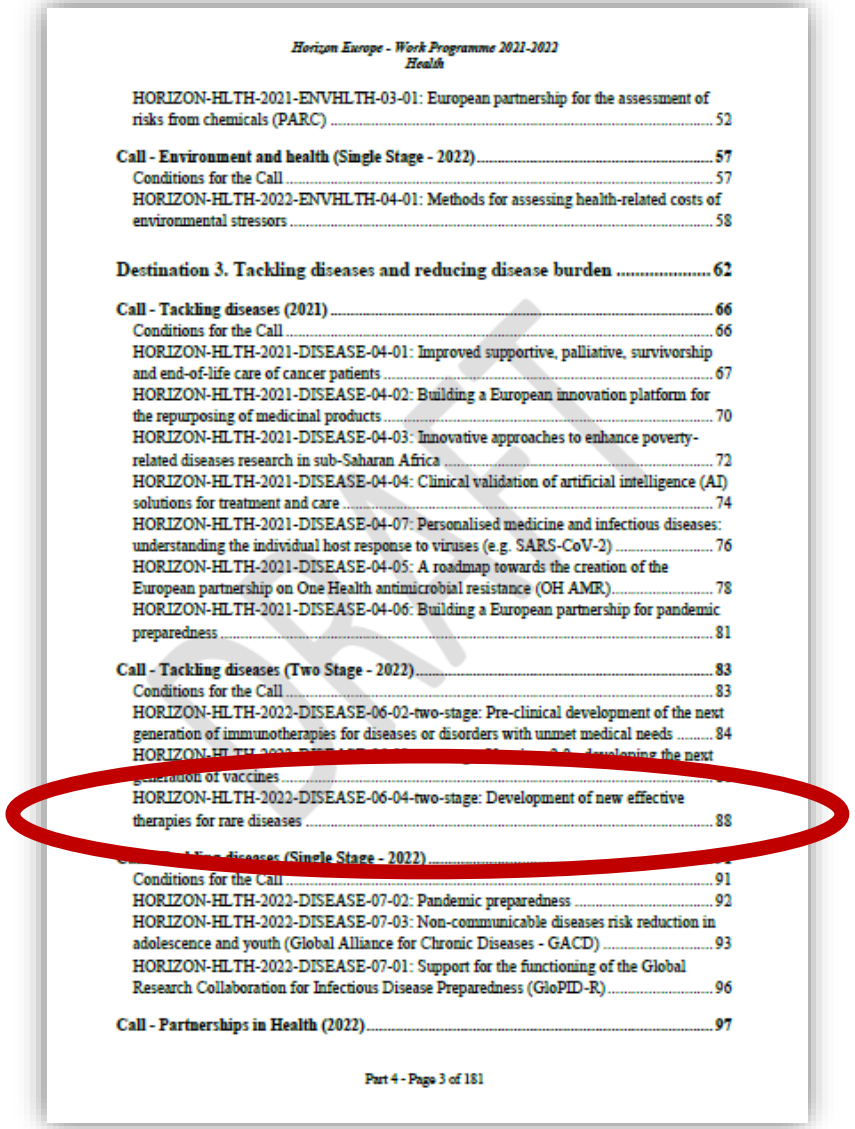

Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2021-2022
Health

DRAFT

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From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

General Topic structure: Specific conditions / → Expected outcomes / → Scope /

Topic example: HORIZON-HLTH-2022-DISEASE-06-04-two-stage: Development of new effective therapies for rare diseases

Specific conditions	
Expected EU contribution per project	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 8.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 60.00 million.
Type of Action	Research and Innovation Actions
Eligibility conditions	The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply: The Joint Research Centre (JRC) may participate as member of the consortium selected for funding.

From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

Expected Outcome: This topic aims at supporting activities that are enabling or contributing to one or several expected impacts of destination 3 "*Tackling diseases and reducing disease burden*". To that end, proposals under this topic should aim for delivering results that are directed, tailored towards and contributing to some of the following expected outcomes:

- Researchers and developers make the best use of the state-of-the-art knowledge and resources for a fast and effective development of new therapies for rare diseases.
- Researchers and developers increase the development success rate of therapies for rare diseases by employing robust preclinical models, methods, technologies, validated biomarkers, reliable patient reported outcomes and/or innovative clinical trials designs.
- Developers and regulators move faster towards market approval of new therapies for rare diseases (with currently no approved treatment option) due to an increased number of interventions successfully tested in late stages of clinical development.
- Healthcare professionals and people living with a rare disease get access to new therapeutic interventions and/or orphan medicinal products.

From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

Scope: Despite the considerable amount of knowledge that has been accumulated and the new orphan medicines developed in recent years, the number of available therapies for rare diseases remains low, as fewer than 6% of rare diseases have an approved treatment option.

The joint evaluation of the regulations on orphan medicinal products and paediatric medicines concluded that those regulations have boosted the development for new therapies for rare diseases but have not yet adequately managed to direct research and innovation in areas of greatest unmet medical need. Actually, there is an urgent unmet medical need for the development of therapies for rare diseases, where there is still no approved therapeutic option available.

Therefore, proposals should aim to develop therapies for rare diseases with no approved therapeutic option. Proposals should focus on group(s) of rare diseases with commonalities, such as shared biological features, possibly within the same and/or across different medical areas within the rare diseases landscape. Thus, proposals should not address a single disease only (for example with an Orphacode representing a single disease).

From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

The therapies to be developed may include a broad family of therapeutic interventions such as small molecule(s), advanced therapy medicinal products, repurposing of existing medicinal products, including non-pharmacological interventions and/or their combinations, as relevant. Sex and gender aspects should be considered, where relevant. To ensure that the needs of people living with a rare disease are adequately addressed, the involvement of patient representatives in all phases of the research and development process is strongly encouraged. Rare infectious diseases and rare cancers are excluded from this topic and will not be considered.

The topic will support proposals covering several different stages in the continuum of the innovation pathway (i.e. translational, preclinical, clinical research, validation in the clinical and/or real-world setting etc.), as relevant. SME(s) participation is encouraged with the aim to strengthen the scientific and technological basis of SME(s) and valorise their innovations for the benefit of people living with a rare disease.

From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

The proposals should address most of the following research activities:

- Establish multidisciplinary collaborations between all relevant stakeholders by integrating disciplines, technological developments and existing knowledge. Integrate harmonised data from multiple sources (i.e. natural history studies/clinical trials, multi-omics, medical imaging, registries etc.) by utilising data analytics and/or other suitable methods, with the aim to understand the pathophysiology/heterogeneity of the rare diseases concerned and to identify therapeutically actionable mechanisms.
- Develop and utilise relevant preclinical models and/or innovative tools/technologies to: verify molecular/cellular pathways/genes that can be therapeutically targeted, increase the confidence in the targets selection and/or perform toxicity studies. When using disease models the applicants should describe how well the model replicates the pathology or the human condition.

From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

- Develop and/or execute innovative clinical trials designs for small populations and novel approaches to assess and monitor the safety and efficacy of the proposed interventions. Such approaches may include but are not limited to: biomarkers defining robust surrogate and clinical endpoints; artificial intelligence tools/medical devices/biosensors/ companion/ complementary diagnostics for defining reliable patient reported outcomes; modelling and simulation and in-silico trials methodologies.
- Carry out preclinical proof-of-concept (PoC) studies and/or multinational interventional clinical studies to demonstrate the safety and efficacy of the therapeutic interventions under study. Preclinical PoC studies should include late-stage preclinical studies (i.e. toxicological properties, adverse effects etc.). Clinical studies may cover all necessary development stages. Applicants should propose a clear exploitation pathway through the different necessary steps (research, manufacturing, regulatory approvals and licensing, IP management etc.) in order to accelerate marketing authorisation and uptake by the health systems.

From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

Proposals should involve group(s) of rare diseases (i.e. a rare disease being individually defined in the European Union as affecting not more than five in 10.000 persons). Proposals that plan to run clinical trials should demonstrate that they have already taken into account scientific advice or protocol assistance from EMA. In particular, proposals planning the clinical development of orphan medicinal products should demonstrate that they have been granted approval for an orphan designation at the latest on the date of the call deadline.

Proposals should adhere to the FAIR data principles and take stock, wherever relevant, of data standards, harmonisation guidelines and good practices for data sharing/access developed by existing European health research infrastructures (i.e. ESFRI infrastructures). Proposals should take stock, where relevant, of the FAIR guidance, of good practices for analytical methods and preclinical models and of good exploitation strategies for the translation of research results into high impact interventions, developed by the European Joint Programme on Rare Diseases (EJP RD) and other relevant EU-funded projects.

From the idea to the proposal

Proposal preparation phase

Whenever the proposed data sources or fields of application include genomics, the proposals should take into account, where relevant, the data standards, and legal, ethical and technical interoperability requirements and guidelines agreed within the 1+ Million Genomes initiative. Data-intensive proposals, particularly those using data from patient registries, could consider the involvement of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and take stock of the tools and services provided by the European Platform on Rare Disease Registration (EU RD Platform), including the adoption, where relevant, of the European standards such as the "set of common data elements". In addition, synergies should be sought with the European Reference Networks, where relevant.

Projects funded under this topic will contribute towards the goals of the International Rare Diseases Research Consortium (IRDiRC) that supports the development of 1000 new therapies for rare diseases by 2027 and may take stock of the IRDiRC Orphan Drug Development Guidebook, where relevant.

Questions

- Do you think this topic is interesting for you?
- Is it aligned with your strategy?
- Could you highlight a few sentences that resonate with you?
- Can you identify the main challenges?
- Do you have a network of core partners that can contribute to this topic?
- What is missing? A) in the topic; B) in your project idea

TEN TIPS FOR THE WRITING A COMPETITIVE PROPOSAL

1. Without ideas, there is nothing

- Project proposals are complete documents that define the project characteristics in a detailed manner. An excellent proposal must be based on an **excellent idea**.

- There should be a previous phase of **project conception**, which is based on the **project idea**. The project idea is essential and will be the **key driver** of a good proposal and a subsequently solid project.

1. Without ideas, there is nothing

- The lack of an **inspiring project idea** is very difficult to overcome when writing the proposal.

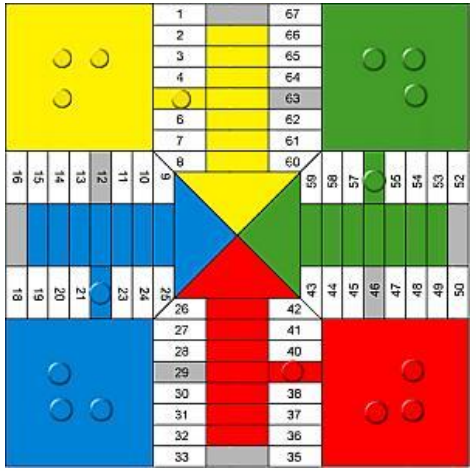
- It is therefore **not** advisable to **artificially** adapt the project idea to the call priorities.

2. Learn by heart the rules of the game

- Once we have a project idea and want to develop a project proposal, we should devote some time to KNOW the **call characteristics.**

- We can find this in the ***Call Documents*** that are published at the time of the call opening. There are two essential documents:

  - *Work Programme*
  - *Proposal template*



2. Learn by heart the rules of the game

- When looking at the Workprogramme, we should make sure that our project idea **matches the topic** (not only the title, but the **'spirit'** of the topic text).

- In the Proposal Template we will learn about the **formal process** to prepare and submit a proposal (sections, expected content, format, etc), plus how proposals will be **evaluated.**

3. What we will do in the project / what we will NOT do in the project

- The project idea will be developed and specified in the proposal. The **scope** of the project defines **what we will do and what we will not do** in the project.

- It is important to be clear about the scope and **avoid ambiguities** that can result in false expectations and endanger the project viability.

- A balance should be found between **being ambitious** and **being realistic.**

3. What we will do in the project / what we will NOT do in the project

When the scope is defined, we should derive the:

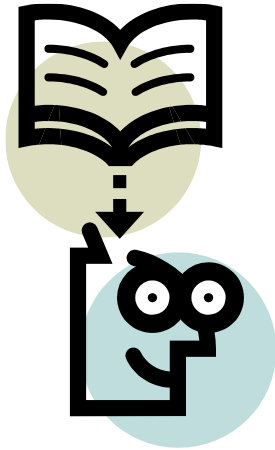
- General objective
- Specific objectives
- Work Breakdown Structure
- Deliverables → *Project outcomes*
- Milestones → *Kill-points*

4. The first impression really makes a difference

- The first section in the proposal typically refers to project **objectives, concept, rationale** of the project. It has a clear impact on the opinion of the evaluators about our project.

- Sufficient time should be devoted to writing this section in a **convincing and organized** manner.

- In order to catch the reader's attention, we should balance **rationality and passion, ambition and realism**, originality and rigor.



4. The first impression really makes a difference

- The text should **link smoothly** one idea with the next one and convey the problem we want to address in the project.
    - Avoid excessive detail
    - Facilitate reading
    - Organize information efficiently
    - Go to the point (what do you want to do in the project)
- The text should grab you like a (good) novel!

5. Choose the right partners

- **Building a consortium** is typically a source of anxiety for project coordinators.

- It is a critical aspect, since most of the **issues encountered during the project implementation** will have to do with the consortium.

- A consortium should be formed **by all partners needed** to satisfactorily execute the project (no more, no less).

6. Being good is not enough, proposals have to “look” good

• Do not disregard the **formal aspects** of the proposal. Evaluators examine many proposals in little time.

• Facilitating the reading, exposing ideas in order, using short sentences, being consistent, etc. all contribute to make a **good impression** of the project. Use graphical elements when possible. Check the language, typos.

• (Un)Surprisingly, proposals tend to contain a high number of formal errors. This could be easily avoided.

7. The right information in the right place

• Typically, European proposals follow a pre-defined structure. Doubts may arise on **which information should be included in each section.**

• We should make an initial effort to **segment the project information** in order to avoid duplicities and inconsistencies across the proposal.

• Proposal writing strategy:
centralized / de-centralized?

8. An excellent project needs an excellent direction

• The **governance structure** will enable the **decision-making process** in the project, which should be agile but ensuring enough consensus among partners.

- General Assembly
- Executive Committee
- Advisory Board
- Scientific Coordinator
- Project Manager
- Work Package Leaders
- Activity Leaders…

Composition

Powers

Meetings

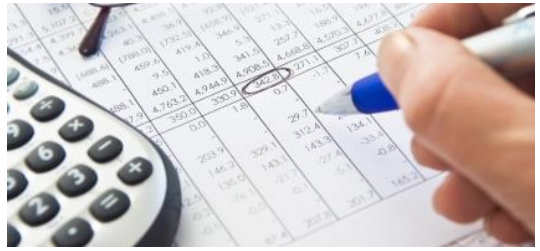
…

9. Transparent budgeting

- Always **relate budget to work** (effort – persons/month). Avoid “political” distribution of budget.

- **Be transparent** and share the budget information with the consortium.

- Explain the **rationale** behind the figures in the proposal.



10. Do not believe in urban legends

- "Expert advice" cannot substitute preparing a solid proposal. **Do not overestimate the political component** of European projects.

- "Recommendations" should only be included in your project if they **fit naturally.**

Thank you for your attention!

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