

Grant Writing Workshop

NVGCT Spring Symposium 2018

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Outline

- **Major questions participants – 15 minutes**
- **Agenda for the workshop**
- **Major issues writing a grant proposal**
- **Hints to write**

Major issues writing a grant proposal

- **Instructions funding agencies**
- **Project aims**
- **Project budget**
- **Reviewers of the grant proposal**

Instructions funding agencies

- ***EU Framework Programs***
 - **Defines the purpose and works according to the tender procedure**
 - **Requires a minimum number of (European) partners**
 - **Has strict budget requirements**

Instructions funding agencies

- ***EU Framework Programs***
 - Defines the purpose and works according to the tender procedure
 - Requires a minimum number of (European) partners
 - Has strict budget requirements
 - Societal and economic impacts are a major issue
- ***NWO and ZonMw work with programs such as, e.g., Translational Research (including gene & cell therapy), Priority Medicines, etc.***
 - Within the limits of programs, applicants are free in subject and purpose of the proposals
 - Have strict budget requirements to be specified according to the instructions

Research and results

- › Efficiency Studies
- › Fundamental research
- › Handicap and Chronic Disease
- › Infectious diseases and resistant bacteria
- › Life Sciences & Health
- › Mental Health
- › Medicines
- › Palliative care
- › Prevention
- › Quality in Health Care
- › Sport
- › The Elderly
- › Translational research
- › Youth

Policy Points

- › Access to Data
- › The concept of health
- › Societal impact (Implementation)



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Instructions funding agencies

- **To facilitate selection for funding and also to avoid writing and reviewing many lengthy proposals, often a so-called two stage procedure of submission is used:**
 - 1. a short “project idea”, on which basis potentially successful proposals are selected
 - 2. a limited number of those “ideas” are invited to submit a full length proposal

As a consequence:

- The full length proposal should not deviate in any way from aims, used technology, etc. from the original “project idea”, if not, it might be considered as a new proposal by the reviewers and on that basis rejected.

Instructions funding agencies

- All have specific instructions on lay-out, subject headings, text length, appendices, etc.
- All have specific instructions on how to submit and sign the proposal

As a consequence:

- Frequently proposals are rejected without being reviewed if the technical instructions are not strictly adhered to

As another consequence:

- Start writing the proposal, especially if multiple partners are involved, in time and not, e.g., a week or 2 days before the deadline

How to find calls for proposals?

European Commission
Participant Portal

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Participant Portal > Home

HOME
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
HOW TO PARTICIPATE
PROJECTS & RESULTS
EXPERTS
SUPPORT ▾
🔒 LOGIN
👤 REGISTER



Horizon 2020 Funding

Starting from 1/1/2014

On this site you can find and secure **funding** for projects under the following EU programmes:

- 2014-2020** Horizon 2020 - research and innovation framework programme
- 2007-2013** 7th research framework programme (FP7) and Competitiveness & Innovation Programme (CIP)
- 3rd Health Programme, Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, Consumer Programme, COSME, European Statistics Programme, Hercule III Programme, Internal Security Fund Borders, Internal Security Fund Police, Justice Programme, Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions, Promotion of Agricultural Products Programme, Research Fund for Coal & Steel, Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme and Union Civil Protection Mechanism

Non-registered users

- search for funding
- read the H2020 Online Manual & download the legal documents
- check if an organisation is already registered
- contact our support services or check our FAQs

Registered users

- submit your proposal
- sign the grant
- manage your project throughout its lifecycle
- register as expert advising the Commission

HORIZON 2020
Dashboard



H2020 DASHBOARD:


Statistics on H2020 proposals, success rates, funded projects and participants.

Projects for Policy (P4P)

How to find calls for proposals?



Contact [Nederlandse website](#)

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Open for proposal

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Major issues writing a grant proposal

- **Instructions funding agencies**
- **Project aims**
- **Project budget**
- **Reviewers of the grant proposal**

Reviewers of the grant proposal

- ***Sensitive issue:*** committee members and reviewers should be experts and might be competitors or they or their immediate colleagues have submitted parallel proposals
 - In the EC Framework programs even coordinators of existing projects do not qualify as expert reviewers
 - However, recently *Argos* reported that ZonMw does not adhere to such strict rules and allowed committee members to submit their own proposals.

Consequences:

- Always use the option of naming potential qualified reviewers and undesired reviewers
- Always respond to the reviewers' comments if the granting agency includes this option in the granting procedure

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Reviewers of the grant proposal

- **Make sure the reviewers are not bored by reading the proposal:**
 - **The summary should clearly identify why the proposal fits into the specific call for proposals, clearly mentions the state-of-the-art, clearly describe the used technology to reach the purposes and clearly state the potential societal impact.**
 - **The proposal should be easy to read and raise the interest of the reviewers.**
 - **To this end the Disney/Alice in Wonderland tricks may be useful: “the plausible impossible” (of course within some limits)**

Reviewers of the grant proposal

- **Make sure the reviewers are not bored by reading the proposal. The proposal should be easy to read and raise the interest of the reviewers.**
- **Hints (applies also to writing a scientific publication):**
 - **Start the Introduction with an opening sentence/paragraph that summarizes the importance and potential impact of the proposal**
 - **Write in clear paragraphs: the first sentence of the paragraph identifies the subject, do not deviate from that subject in the paragraph, the last sentence is summarizing or concluding and serves as a “cliffhanger” to read further, if needed by very briefly hinting to the openings sentence of the next paragraph**
 - **Be complete in the key publications on which the proposal is based and don't favor your own publications.**

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ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?