

Grant Writing Workshop

NVGCT Spring Symposium 2018 Gerard Wagemaker

NVGCT NVGCT Nederlandse Vereniging voor Gen- & Celtherapie

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



- Project aims
- Project budget
- Reviewers of the grant proposal



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

- 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)

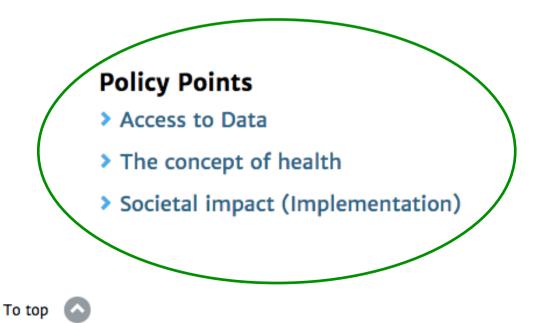






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- To facilitate selection for funding and also to avoid writing and reviewing many lengthy proposals, often a so-called two stage procedure of submission is used:
 - 1. a short "project idea", on which basis potentially successful proposals are selected
 - 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.



- 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

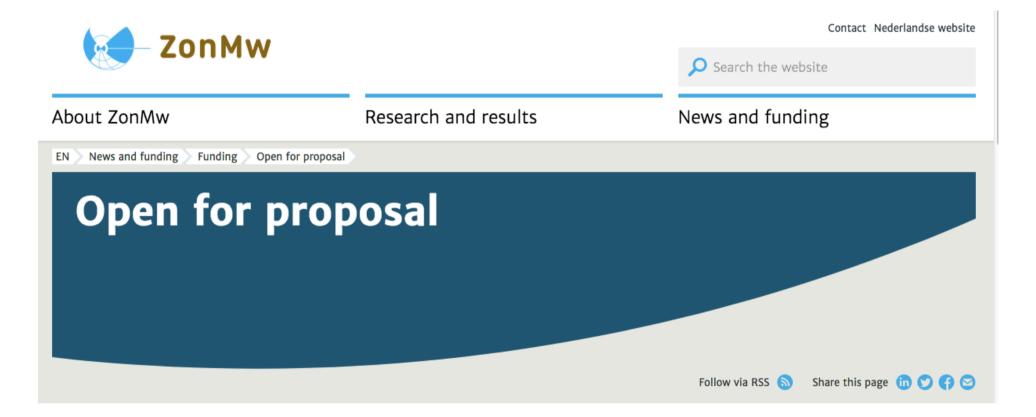
As another consequence:

 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	Participa	ant Portal					
European Commission > Research & Innovation > Participant Portal > Home							
HOME	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	HOW TO PARTICIPATE	PROJECTS & RESULTS	EXPERTS	SUPPORT -		REGISTER
Horizon 2020 Funding Starting from 1/1/2014							
HORIZON 2020 Dashboard		 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 					
	funded projects and Non rticipants.	-registered users		Registered	i users		
Projects fo	• re	 search for funding read the H2020 Online Manual & download the legal documents 		 submit your proposal sign the grant manage your project throughout its lifecycle 			
		heck if an organisation is a contact our support service:		• register	as expert advising t	the Commission	

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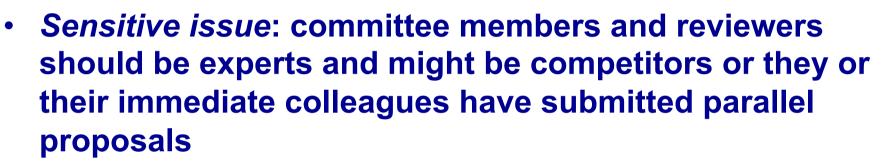
Major issues writing a grant proposal



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Reviewers of the grant proposal



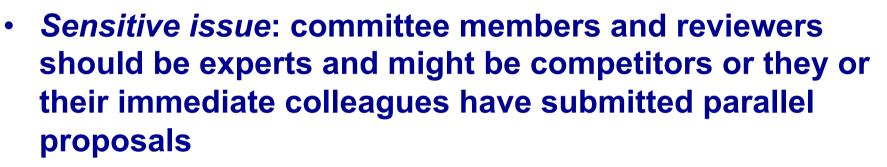
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- In the EC Framework programs even coordinators of existing projects do not qualify as expert reviewers
- However, recently Argos reported that ZonMw does not adhere to such strict rules and allowed committee members to submit their own proposals.

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

Reviewers of the grant proposal



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 The summary should clearly identify why the proposal fits into the specific call for proposals, clearly mentions the state-of-theart, clearly describe the used technology to reach the purposes and clearly state the potential societal impact.

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- 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



- 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

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- 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?