

Session VII: B1: Executive summary + task 4

Extended Synopsis (B1)

- Example of the structure
 - Background
 - Objectives
 - Outline of the project and methodology (briefly)
 - Expected outcomes

**Start with the core of your project
(no matter what the instructions are)**

Sections and page limits in B1

- Cover page with summary: 1p
- Extended synopsis: 5p
- CV: 2p
- Funding ID: No page limit
- Early / 10-year achievement track-record (\approx list of publications): 2p

B1, writing instructions

- Concise presentation of the proposal with particular attention of its ground-breaking nature and feasibility
- Link your project to the state of the art (what is missing in the big picture)
- Not a literature review!
- Include references, own work as well
- All relevant information, since the panel will evaluate only Part B1 in step 1

B1: key elements

- Original and creative, not main stream
- Focus on urgent and big challenges
- Robust and clear structure
- Preliminary data and/or proof of concept
- Impact beyond the frontiers of your field
- Use tables, figures, gantt chart to visualize your proposal
- Easy readable for researchers not in your field
- **Why it is ERC (no other funder) that should fund this?**

B1 – Practical stuff

- Please respect the following formatting constraints: Times New Roman, Arial or similar, at least font size 11, margins (2.0cm side and 1.5cm top and bottom), single line spacing
- References not included in the page count
- Will be added as a PDF
- Will be viewed on round 1
- Keep the same 'idea' in with B2, but do not expect both on the table

Template and an example of a structure

Applicant last name

B1: ERC Grants

Acronym

Title

Pic here

Cover Page:

- Name of the Principal Investigator (PI): xxx
- Name of the PI's host institution for the project: University of Turku
- Proposal duration in months: 60

Abstract 2000 characters (same as in A forms)

Some sentences about the main problem and how you will approach it. Motivation.

Going straight to project objectives (subobjective, work package, challenge whatever you call them)

- 1) Name of objective one.** Brief explanation
- 2) Name of objective two .** Brief explanation
- 3) Name of objective N...** Brief explanation

Summary of main issues and some expected outcomes

Start page count (max 5)


Section a: Extended Synopsis of the scientific proposal (max. 5 pages)

Scientific background + always how it links with this proposal

About 1 page

Competence of PI and the team + data

About ½ page



Objectives (+ data when needed here too)

About 1 page

Table and/or picture of the objectives and their relations

Objective 1: Name of objective one
Objective 2: Name of objective two
Objective N: Name of objective N...
...

Detailed text on the objectives about ½ - 1 page per objective depending on their amount

Objective 1: Name

Short rationale + links to other objectives

Hypothesis XXXXX

Challenges / risks

Expected Outcomes

Step 1

Step 2..

Objective 2....N > the same as above



The diagram illustrates the structure of a 5-page limit. It features a large blue curly bracket on the left and a large blue curly bracket on the right, both spanning the 'Overall Expected outcome' and 'Main outcomes' sections. The 'Overall Expected outcome' section is enclosed in a black rectangular box. Below this box is the 'Main outcomes' section. A horizontal line separates the 'Main outcomes' section from the 'References' section. The 'References' section is located at the bottom of the diagram.

Overall Expected outcome. About ½ page

Main outcomes, novelty, new methodology, impact on your field and other fields, health / social impacts etc.

5 page limit ends

References (not calculated towards the page limit)

Common mistakes

- Too much background
- Too technical
- Too vague without connection to any preliminary findings > missing feasibility
- Not in a form of a project yet aka no WPs mentioned
- Nothing on the PI (do not rely only on the CV)
- Nothing on the motivation
- No mention of the expected outcomes and their impact

Task 4

- Using the self-evaluation form evaluate the executive summary of the proposal

Pages:

1. Research Project

Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project

To what extent does the proposed research address important challenges?

To what extent are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art (e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development across disciplines)?

To what extent is the proposed research high risk/high gain?

Scientific Approach

To what extent is the outlined scientific approach feasible (based on the Extended Synopsis)?

Something more to discuss

- Motivation? Personal interest?
- PI and team strengts?
- Easy to read?