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Technical Assistance for Turkey in Horizon 2020 Phase-II
EuropeAid/139098/IH/SER/TR

Session 2. How to write part per part the EXCELLENCE section

Focused Group Training 14 on Horizon Europe Cluster 6:

Biodiversity-Food Systems-Circular Economy-Climate-Innovative Governance

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REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY
AND TECHNOLOGY



Topics to cover:

- The template for EXCELLENCE
- A suggested process flow – and variations on it
- Questions – concerns – worries to take care after

Truths, myths (and legends...)

- Was for many years considered as THE most important section of a proposal
- Especially the Ambition part (in the past called: ‘Advancement beyond the state of the art’)
- Has now equal importance to all other parts
- But still monopolises attention, resources, time (impact being the stepchild...)

In the (not always) good old times...

- Excellence would stem from:
- A high quality research paper
- A recently submitted PhD thesis
- An ambitious (*'vague but exciting...'*) plan for future research
- These times are now over
- Especially for Horizon Europe there have been cataclysmic changes
- Many of our developed 'comfort zones' are ... endangered
- Still the changes are not felt...
- (And time is running)



Biggest cha(lle)nge

- We need to provide content that appeared in the old templates in 4 different sections:
- **OLD** Section 1.1 Objectives
- **OLD** Section 1.2 Relation to the work programme
- **OLD** Section 1.3a Concept
- **OLD** Section 1.4 Ambition
- And ... Is this all?
- No!
- It all needs to be provided in 4 pages
- (Suggestion in the templates – can be more but...)
- But let's see things from the beginning...

Award Criteria

How Proposals are evaluated

EXCELLENCE	IMPACT	IMPLEMENTATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are objectives clearly identified?• Is proposed work is ambitious?• Goes beyond the state-of-the-art?• Is proposal sound?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the pathway suggested credible?• Are outcome and impacts in line with WP?• What's the scale of the contributions?• Are measures to maximise impact suitable?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the WP effective?• Are risks identified?• Effort assigned appropriate?• Capacity and role of participants ?• Consortium as a whole?

It's all contained in this box...

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

Section 1.1: Objectives and ambition

- We briefly describe the objectives of the proposed work.
- We mention why these are pertinent to the work programme topic
- Also briefly express why these are measurable and verifiable and realistically achievable
- Is this all? No!

Section 1.1: Objectives and ambition (*cont'd*)

- Describe how the project goes beyond the state-of-the-art
- Indicate any exceptional ground-breaking R&I, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models.
- Illustrate the advance by referring to products and services already available on the market.
- Refer to any patent or publication search carried out.
- Again: Is this all? No!

Section 1.1: Objectives and ambition (*cont'd*)

- 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.
- *Please bear in mind that advances beyond the state of the art must be interpreted in the light of the positioning of the project. Expectations will not be the same for RIAs at lower TRL, compared with Innovation Actions at high TRLs.*

Section 1.1: Objectives and ambition (*cont'd*)

- A good question to ask:
- How do we fit all in 4 pages only?
- Is it a study in Ottoman miniature art?
- Definitely not!
- The key here is to **NOT** shrink extensive documents **BUT** to expand on winning concepts and ideas
- (*An example shall follow later today*)

1.2 Methodology

- Suggested length: 15 pages
- Main ‘components’:
- The methodology → 10 pages
- Other relevant projects → 1 page
- Interdisciplinarity → ½ page
- Integration of social sciences and humanities → ½ page
- Gender dimension → 1 page
- Open science → 1 page
- Research data management → 1 page

1.2 Methodology (*cont'd*)

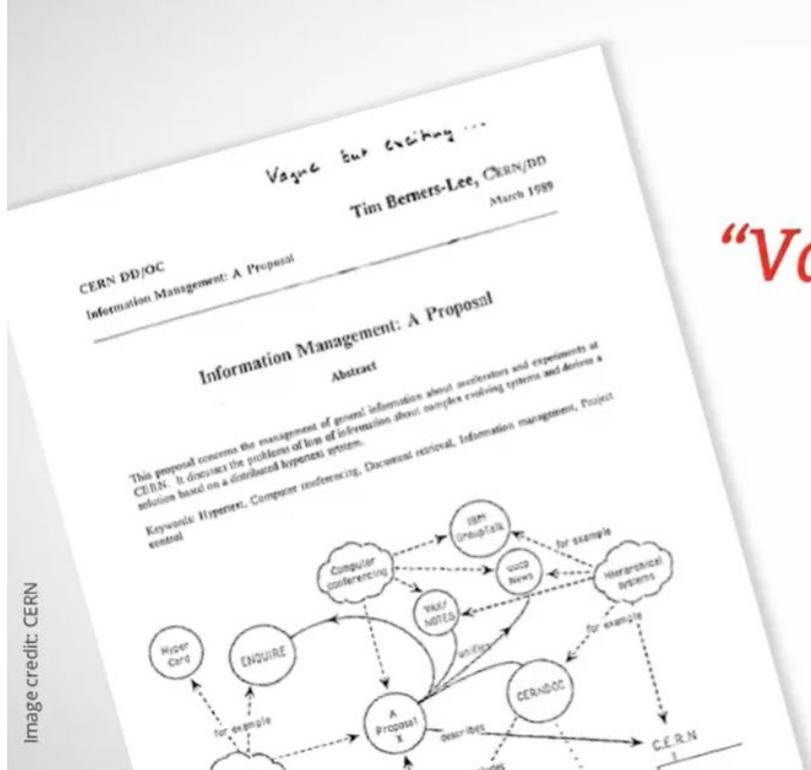
- The most important term here...
- Describe and explain the overall methodology, including the concepts, models and assumptions that underpin your work. Explain how this will enable you to deliver your project's objectives. Refer to any important challenges you may have identified in the chosen methodology and how you intend to overcome them. [*e.g. 10 pages*]

 *This section should be presented as a narrative. The detailed tasks and work packages are described below under 'Implementation'.*

What does this mean in terms of timing and task sequencing?

- We start from the impact summary
- We build the first version of the objectives
- We then elaborate on the methodology
- Other aspects (open science, research data management, gender dimension, ...) can be dealt separately and independently also in later stages (sprints?)
- Horizon Europe asks for agile methods to build the proposals

Vague but ... exciting



Vague but exciting...

Tim Berners-Lee, CERN/BN
March 1989

CERN DD/OC
Information Management: A Proposal

Information Management: A Proposal

Abstract

This proposal concerns the management of general information about structures and experiments of CERN. It discusses the problems of loss of information about complex evolving systems and devises a solution based on a distributed hypertext system.

Keywords: Hypertext, Computer conferencing, Document retrieval, Information management, Project central

Image credit: CERN

“Vague but exciting...”

Believe it or not, this was the first response to Sir Tim Berners-Lee's vision for the web...

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For follow-up questions contact me at:

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Q&A

Time to ask your
questions!

Teşekkür ederim!

Thank you!

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