Template for project description for Research Projects

> **PLEASE NOTE:**
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> **Please complete all relevant items. Please follow the order of the items given in the template.**
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> **The project description is not to exceed 10 pages, including the list of references, unless otherwise specified in the call for proposals. It is not possible to upload an attachment that exceeds this page total. The page format must be A4 with 2 cm margins, single spacing and Times New Roman 12-point font. It is permitted to use 9-point font for the list of references and figure text.**
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> **Links that are listed in the project description will not be included in the assessment.**
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> **You must also provide information on the project's objectives, implementation, budget, etc. The following explains areas where the project description supplements the information you have listed in the application form.**

1. Relevance relative to the call for proposals

Please provide a brief description of the relevance of the project relative to the guidelines and principles set out in the call for proposals.

2. Aspects relating to the research project

> The project's primary and secondary objectives are to be described in the **application form**.

Background and status of knowledge
Applicants are to provide a brief description of the background for the project and document their familiarity with the research area as well as their understanding of the key challenges to knowledge, both nationally and internationally.

Approaches, hypotheses and choice of method
- Approaches to the research problem and/or hypotheses are to be presented clearly using language that will be understandable to individuals with a general understanding of the field. Please try to avoid overuse of abbreviations, technical terminology, etc. Approaches to the research problem and/or hypotheses must be adequately defined in relation to the objectives and project plan.
It is important to describe how the project will serve to expand existing knowledge as well as how it represents original thinking and scientific renewal. Describe the theoretical approach and show how research problems have been defined as well as the scientific methods that will be utilised. Justify the choice of method, and explain how these methods will be appropriate in relation to the project's research problems and/or hypotheses. Alternatively, you may describe how the project will help to develop the necessary methodology and/or theory.
- *When relevant*, the application of a multi- and interdisciplinary approach should be described.

3. The project plan, project management, organisation and cooperation

The project period and progress plan encompassing the project's main activities and milestones are to be provided in the **application form**. The partners (institutions/companies) that will be under obligation to contribute to the project by performing R&D activities and/or providing funding, and/or that will be granted rights to the project, should be entered in the application form as well.

The project description is to provide a more detailed description of how the project will be carried out.

- Please provide an account of the planned project implementation. Particularly in the case of large-scale and/or complex projects, it is important to describe the planning of the individual scientific components as well as how interaction between these will take place. The project must be realistic and feasible, scientifically, organisationally, and in relation to planned use of resources.
- A specification of how the work in the project will be performed must be provided. If the project is organised into work packages, subsidiary tasks or sub-projects, the specification should be organised accordingly.
- Describe how the project will utilise national research expertise and promote national network-building.
- *When relevant*, a description should be provided of the extent, substance and importance of international cooperation.
- In the case of applied and industry-oriented research, a description of the impact of the project and its results for key user groups must be provided.
- An overview of the overall expertise, infrastructure and other resources from the applicant institution(s) that will be significant to the implementation of the project must be provided. This is in addition to the overview over planned project funding that is provided in the grant application form.
- For projects involving fellowships, a brief summary about the teaching environment and the framework in place for ensuring that the candidate(s) complete the programme must be provided.
- For overseas research grants, information about the research environment that the candidate will be visiting must be provided.

Budget

A periodised budget, cost plan and funding plan are to be provided along with justification. Further details relating to large-scale and/or complex projects may also be provided in the project description.

4. Key perspectives and compliance with strategic documents

Compliance with strategic documents
An account must be provided of how the project conforms to the strategic objectives and plans laid down by the applicant institution/company, and/or in relevant subject-specific evaluations and research agendas, *when this is specifically requested in the call for proposals*.

Relevance and benefit to society

When appropriate, the project's relevance and benefit to society should be described. For instance, it should be stated whether the project will help to provide knowledge that will be useful for meeting important challenges in the public sector, industry or civil society. This may be placed in a regional, national, international or global context.

Environmental impact
Describe whether the implementation of the R&D project and/or the utilisation of project results will entail any significant environmental impacts (positive and negative).

Ethical perspectives
The ethical questions relating to the project must be described, along with how these will be dealt with.
Here it may be useful to consult the recommendations of the national committees for research ethics: https://www.etikkom.no/en/In-English/Research-Ethical-Checklist/

Gender issues (Recruitment of women, gender balance and gender perspectives)
When relevant, a description should be provided here of how the project will promote the gender balance in projects. If gender perspectives are relevant to the substance of the project, describe how these will be taken into account.

5. Dissemination and communication of results

Dissemination plan
Specific plans for scholarly and popular science dissemination activities, for instance regarding the scientific journals to be involved, are to provided.

Supplementary information about the plans for scholarly and popular science dissemination may be provided here in the project description.

Communication with users
When appropriate, specification should be provided of any particular user groups that are relevant for the project, and the manner of their involvement should be described. The information channels that will be used to communicate research findings should also be indicated.

6. Additional information specifically requested in the call for proposals

Only information that is explicitly requested in the call for proposals and is not included in the points above should be provided here.