



LIFE14 CAP/SI/000012



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA OKOLJE IN PROSTOR



Dobra LIFE prijava = dobro izvajanje

Nikolaj Pečenko
NEEMO

LIFE podrobna delavnica
Brdo pri Kranju, 16.4.2019



European
Commission

neemo
L I F E T E A M

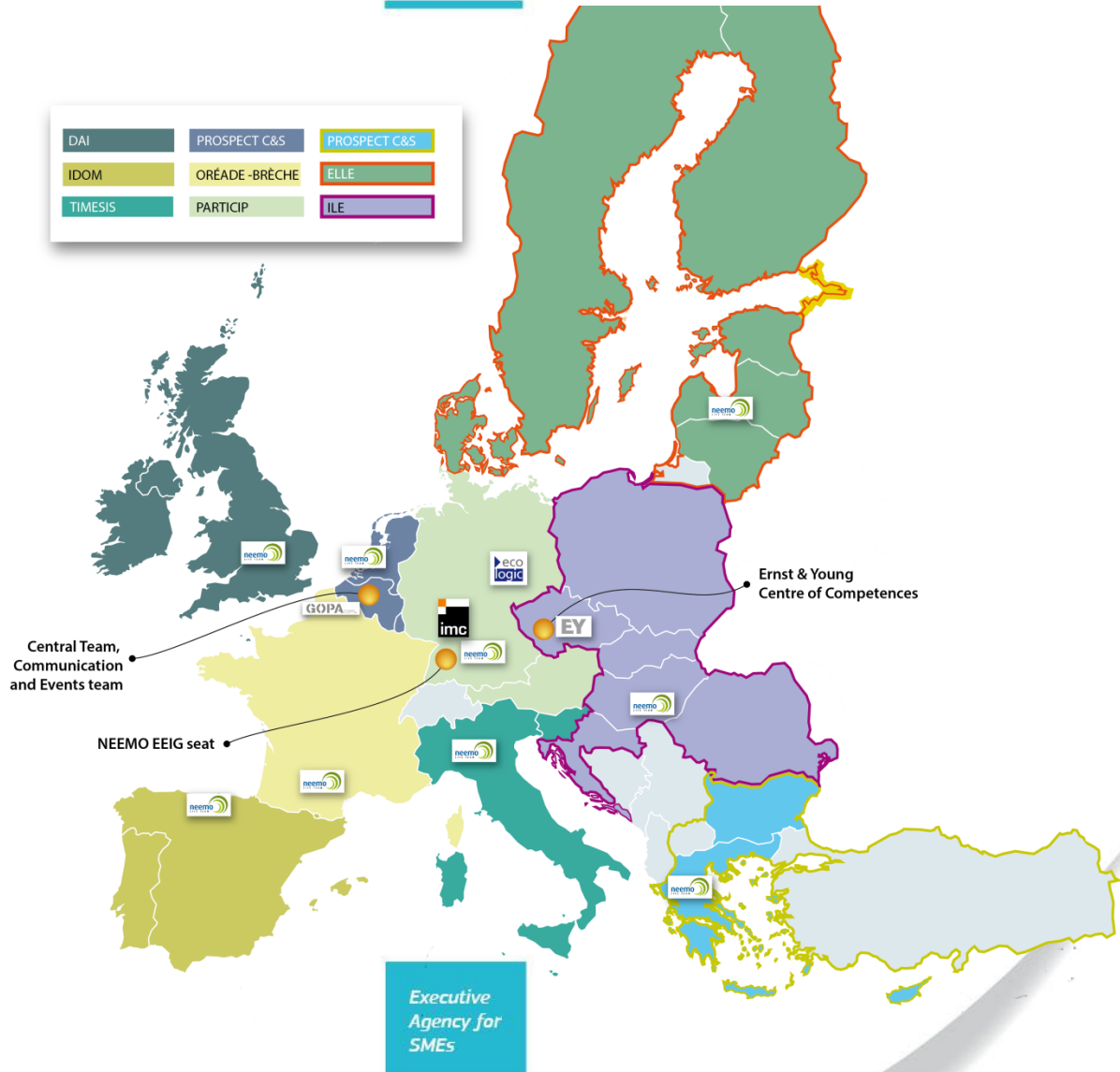


THE EXTERNAL MONITORING TEAM



European
Commission

DAI	PROSPECT C&S	PROSPECT C&S
IDOM	ORÉADE - BRÈCHE	ELLE
TIMESIS	PARTICIP	ILE



YOU CAN'T GET A GRANT IF YOU DON'T SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

- ❖ Two application procedures for the 2019 call:
 - ❖ **two-stage approach** based on a concept note followed by a full proposal – **Sub-Programme ENV**
 - ❖ **one-stage approach** based only on a full proposal – **Sub-Programme CLIMATE ACTION**

STAGE 1. CONCEPT NOTE

WHAT SHOULD THE CONCEPT NOTE INCLUDE ? (i)

- ❖ Information about the Coordinating Beneficiary
- ❖ Description of the environmental problem targeted (for environment and information & governance strands) / description of species, habitats, biodiversity issues targeted by the project (for nature and biodiversity strands)
- ❖ Project objectives

STAGE 1. CONCEPT NOTE

WHAT SHOULD THE CONCEPT NOTE INCLUDE ? (II)

- ❖ The project partners (information on the coordinating and associated beneficiaries, and co-financers of the project)
- ❖ Description of the project actions
- ❖ Expected results and impacts of the project
- ❖ The sustainability of project results
- ❖ Project risks and constraints

STAGE 1. CONCEPT NOTE

WHAT SHOULD THE CONCEPT NOTE INCLUDE ? (III)

- ❖ The EU added value of the project (understood at this stage as the contribution to LIFE priorities and objectives)
- ❖ The pilot or demonstration character of the project (and/or best practice for nature and biodiversity strand)
- ❖ An indicative budget for the project limited to main budget items and repartition between EU contribution, partners own contributions and co-financers.

10 pages in total !

via eProposal

STAGE 1. CONCEPT NOTE FOR ENV SUBPROGRAMME

CONCEPT NOTE SHOULD **NOT** INCLUDE ?

- ❖ Signed commitments (mandates, etc)
- ❖ Maps, pictures, attachments



European
Commission

CONCEPT NOTE AWARD CRITERIA	MINIMUM PASS SCORE*	MAXIMUM SCORE
1. Overall quality of the proposal	5	20
2. Overall EU added value	10	30
OVERALL (PASS) SCORES	15	50

EVALUATION CRITERIA – STAGE 1: CONCEPT NOTE

- ❖ **Overall quality of the proposal:** clarity of the proposals (including the description of the pre-operational context), its feasibility and the indicative value for money. (max. 20 – passing score: min 5)
- ❖ **Overall EU added value:** project's contribution to the LIFE priorities, expected impact, and sustainability of the project results. (max. 30 – passing score: min 10)

The concept note can be modified, validated and (re)submitted as many times as needed until 17/06/2019, 16:00 Brussels local time, for ENV/RE and 19/06/2019, 16:00 Brussels local time, for NAT/BIO and GIE.

Each subsequent submission overwrites the previously submitted version (earlier versions are not archived and are therefore not available anymore).

IF THE APPLICATION IS ADMITTED TO STAGE 2...

... the applicant will be notified in eProposal and will have access to the full application.

eProposal will contain the elements included at the concept note stage and the applicant will be able to expand the contents of the forms.

Changes can be introduced to the application including for the budget as long as the total EU contribution does not increase by more than 10%).

EVALUATION CRITERIA – STAGE 2: FULL PROPOSAL

Award criteria		Minimum pass score (*)	Maximum score
Technical and Financial coherence and quality			
1	Technical coherence and quality	10	20
2	Financial coherence and quality (including value for money)	10	20
EU added value			
3	Extent and quality of the contribution to the specific objectives of the priority areas of the LIFE sub-programme for Environment	10	20
4	Sustainability (continuation, replication, transfer)	8	15
	Overall (pass) score	50 (*)	
Bonus			
5	Contribution to the project topics	–	0 or 5 or 10
6	• Synergies (including multipurpose and integration/ complementarity (max. 8 points), Green Public Procurement (max. 1 point), Ecolabel (max. 1 point), and uptake EU-research results (max. 1 point))	–	15
	• Transnational (max. 4 points)		
Maximum score			100

❖ 6 criteria detailed in:

❖ the evaluation guidelines
(*applicant's package*)

❖ The MAWP 2018-2020

❖ **criteria 5 & 6** are bonus points

CRITERION 1 - “TECHNICAL COHERENCE AND QUALITY”

- ❖ The preoperational context is not sufficiently described.
 - ❖ The proposal is lacking important detail to fully assess the problems to be addressed and the status of preparatory actions
 - ❖ Fails to provide sufficient qualitative and quantitative information, and relevant baseline information, about threats and environmental problems
 - ❖ Fails to adequately describe previous research and experience
 - ❖ Actions x & y present a list of activities to establish baseline knowledge on the problems and threats to be tackled which should ideally have been concluded as part of the project design

CRITERION 1 - “TECHNICAL COHERENCE AND QUALITY”

- ❖ The proposal is not prepared in a clear and coherent way, particularly in time planning
- ❖ The proposal fails to put sufficient emphasis on the link between environmental threats, problems and related objectives, actions and expected results
- ❖ Expected results are not quantified
- ❖ Expected results and indicators of progress do not include measurable means of progress verification against set targets
- ❖ Technical descriptions of actions and deliverables not sufficiently detailed
- ❖ The communication and dissemination activities are reported as a list of activities without the necessary supporting strategies and defined targets

CRITERION 1 - SOME TIPS...

Ensure that the preoperational context is clearly described

Quantify expected results, link them coherently to the environmental problem targeted

Describe sufficiently actions and deliverables

Clear communication and dissemination strategy

Identify the project target, stakeholders and partnership

Build a consistent action plan to achieve the objectives

CRITERION 2 - “FINANCIAL COHERENCE AND QUALITY”

- ❖ The budget is not fully justified or coherent
- ❖ Costs not supported from the project description or not sufficiently detailed.
 - ❖ Personnel costs too generally described – e.g. “engineer”
 - ❖ High lump sums with insufficient detail
- ❖ Wrong classification of specific costs
 - ❖ Most or all foreseen equipment is readily available in the market ≠ prototype
 - ❖ prototype vs equipment → depreciation
 - ❖ Merging of durable costs should be avoided
- ❖ Unrealistically high (or low) project management costs
- ❖ The insufficient level of technical description of some key actions does not allow a proper financial evaluation

CRITERION 2 - “FINANCIAL COHERENCE AND QUALITY”

- ❖ The proposal is not considered to represent value for money
 - ❖ More than xx% of the total budget is foreseen for personnel costs and would allow for more than x full-time positions over the project period of y months, which is not considered reasonable for the size and scope of the actions proposed, and the expected results
 - ❖ Some budget items are overestimated
 - ❖ Daily rates are not in line with national conditions



European
Commission

CRITERION 2 - SOME TIPS...

Ensure that the technical description matches the project's budget

Provide full description of cost items

Classify costs following the LIFE guidelines

Avoid overtly high or low project management costs

Estimate daily rates and costs based on market conditions

CRITERION 3 - “EU ADDED VALUE: EXTENT OF QUALITY OF THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE PRIORITY AREAS OF THE LIFE SUB-PROGRAMME FOR ENVIRONMENT”

- ❖ The proposal does not clearly demonstrate how updating of EU environmental policy would be achieved.
- ❖ The project does not address whether it would make a contribution to any complementary priority areas under the two LIFE sub-programmes.
- ❖ The project does not fully define its direct environmental impact, including at all steps in the life-cycle of the project.
- ❖ The socio-economic impact has not been discussed in sufficient detail.

CRITERION 3 - “EU ADDED VALUE: EXTENT AND QUALITY OF THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE PRIORITY AREAS OF THE LIFE SUB-PROGRAMME FOR ENVIRONMENT”

- ❖ It is unclear whether or not the project would achieve clear and substantial impacts.
- ❖ The conservation benefit of the project is not quantified and the information provided is insufficient to enable an assessment of its impact (NAT).

CRITERION 3 - SOME TIPS...

Focus more on
updating EU
environmental
policy

Discuss in detail
any contribution
to complementary
priority areas

Discuss the impact
throughout
the life-cycle
of the project

Address in detail
the project's
socio-economic
impact

Quantify (baseline
and expected
results) the habitats
and species that will
be targeted (NAT)

Carefully complete
the performance
indicators table

CRITERION 4 - “EU ADDED VALUE: SUSTAINABILITY (CONTINUATION, REPLICATION, TRANSFER)”

- ❖ The project does not include concrete actions, or clearly explain how it would be targeting replication during or after its duration.
- ❖ The proposed approach is not considered sufficiently realistic or ambitious for reaching a critical mass and mobilizing wider uptake.
- ❖ Dissemination activities are not sufficiently developed and do not have a clear strategy aimed at stakeholders representing other sectors or regions.

CRITERION 4 - SOME TIPS...

Integrate in the proposal actions aimed at the project's replication. Go beyond communication and networking.

Ensure that the strategy is ambitious enough

Involve well targeted stakeholders

CRITERION 5 - “EU ADDED VALUE: CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROJECT TOPICS”

- ❖ The proposal does not clearly demonstrate or clarify how it can be considered a demonstration or pilot action performed for the first time in the EU.
- ❖ The project is not perceived as a demonstrative or pilot action performed in Europe for the first time.
- ❖ The project does not clearly focus on at least 1 project topic.

CRITERION 5 - SOME TIPS...

Clearly mention
in which aspect
the proposed
project is
innovative

Identify
commonalities with
similar projects and
address the
significance of the
differences

Clearly explain
whether and why the
project fully complies
with 1 or max 2
project topics
selected

CRITERION 6 - “EU ADDED VALUE: MULTIPURPOSE, SYNERGIES, AND INTEGRATION – TRANSNATIONALITY - GREEN PROCUREMENT, UPTAKE”

- ❖ The proposal does not clearly demonstrate or explain how it would develop additional synergies with other Union policies beyond its environmental focus
- ❖ The proposal does not clearly demonstrate or explain how it would include a multi-purpose delivery mechanism to achieve the integration of its actions to the subject policy areas
- ❖ The project would not represent an uptake of results of other funding programmes other than Union research and innovation programmes

CRITERION 6 - “EU ADDED VALUE: MULTIPURPOSE, SYNERGIES, AND INTEGRATION – TRANSNATIONALITY - GREEN PROCUREMENT, UPTAKE”

- ❖ The project does not present a clear mechanism for applying green procurement in the project’s implementation.
- ❖ The proposal would only be implemented in one Member States and it does not involve trans-national cooperation.

CRITERION 6 - SOME TIPS...

Exhibit how the objectives are linked with other EU policies.

Explain in detail how the project's results will be integrated into other policy areas or synergies created

Link the project with previous research (ENV)

Explain in detail the green procurement principles that will be used

Include in the project design results from previous Framework Programmes

If possible, aim for transnational cooperation and justify it in the proposal

IMPACT INDICATORS

- ❖ LIFE Programme 2014-2020 puts an emphasis on impact indicators – to measure impact of each individual project
- ❖ Each applicant has to identify indicators relevant for the project and fill in a simple, one-page excel form
- ❖ Once selected, each project has to report on key project indicators (KPIs) during and after the project end (KPI database)
- ❖ Social and economic indicators mandatory for ALL projects!



THE BASELINE IS INCOMPLETE

- ❖ What is **the problem** you want to address
- ❖ What are the challenges **in your specific context**
- ❖ What has been done so far – **value added of the project**
- ❖ **Baseline data** (surveys, results of tests, etc.) → provide the data source and, when relevant, maps

TARGET GROUP, STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERSHIP NOT APPROPRIATE



- ❖ Who is **affected by the problem**? Who will use the solutions/tools developed?
- ❖ **Local authorities** involved? How? Ensure active participation of key stakeholders
- ❖ **Partnership based on expertise** needed in the project

UNCLEAR LINK BETWEEN ACTIONS AND OBJECTIVES

- ❖ **Are the actions appropriate** to address the problem identified? Use **logical framework**
- ❖ Clearly present **who does what and when**
- ❖ Tools/strategies/methodologies → needed for **concrete implementation**
- ❖ **Transnational?**



SUSTAINABILITY NOT ENSURED



- ❖ Technical sustainability **should be built in the project** ex. scale up pilot, uptake of policy recommendations/tools
- ❖ Responsibilities – who will do the job afterwards?
Who will use the tool/ products developed?
- ❖ Financial sustainability

LOW IMPACT/LITTLE EU ADDED VALUE



- ❖ What are the **changes achieved?**
- ❖ **Value for the EU:** policy update, **new legislation**, changes in **behaviour**, **new product on the market**
- ❖ **Indicators** of impact – n. of people trained is not an impact indicator
- ❖ Negative impact on environment

REPLICATION AND TRANSFER OF RESULTS NOT DEVELOPED



- ❖ Replication in **another area/sector**
- ❖ Only a replication strategy or final workshop is not sufficient
- ❖ Transfer but **adapted to the new context**
- ❖ **Should be built in** the project



CLOSE TO MARKET STRATEGY NOT WELL DEVELOPED

- ❖ What is the **state of art of the solution** /process? Technical readiness – **no research** (accepted if strictly needed)
- ❖ Quantification of **environmental benefits** - LCA
- ❖ **Market positioning/** commercialisation can start within the project
- ❖ **Business plan/** licences

INFORMATION SOURCES

- ❖ LIFE Web site – It contains everything you need:
<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/life>
- ❖ LIFE Regulation – priority areas
- ❖ MAWP (Multi-annual work programme) – project topics
- ❖ Application Packages
- ❖ Guides for evaluation of LIFE project proposals
- ❖ Eventually, specific information, guidelines designed by your National Contact Point