



**European Bank**  
for Reconstruction and Development

# **Research Proposal Template**

**Innovation Programme**

**Innovation Vouchers for  
Research and Development**



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## 1. Proposal Template

When completing the research proposal, please follow the instructions below:

- This proposal form contains the basic information required for easy completion. Additional information can be found in the guidance documents on the website (<https://www.ebrd.com/sites/Satellite?c=Content&cid=1395312695623&pagename=EBRD%2FContent%2FHublet#:~:text=The%20EBRD's%20Innovation%20programme%20in,innovating%20their%20products%20and%20processes.>).
- The information provided in the proposal has to be sufficiently clear to allow the EBRD and external experts to assess the project.

This accompanying template will help you completing your proposal with all the information required. You are kindly requested to pay the necessary attention to the guidelines included.

This template is only applicable for the proposal of a project by a researcher in cooperation with an existing company.

## 2. Research Proposal

### **Lead up to the project (min. 200 words)**

Describe concretely what led to the project (problem, opportunity) and the way it originated. Describe the main scientific results which form the basis of this project. Describe the challenges, referring to the international state-of-the-art (incl. reference to international literature, patents).

Specify the questions and difficulties that need to be solved in this project.

Describe how the project will fit into the current innovation activities and strategies of the partners (Company & Researcher). If they are already active in the project field, give an overview of the results achieved so far. Indicate any overlap with other projects.

### **Innovation goal (min. 250 words)**

The innovation goal must provide a concise description of the project with the emphasis placed on the objective(s). The innovation goal will be integrally included in the agreement and will be used at the end of the project to determine to what extent the established objectives were achieved. This is one of the reasons why it is necessary to delineate the objectives as clearly as possible, to ensure that they are concrete and verifiable and to include as many quantitative benchmarks as possible, if appropriate.

Use the following structure to guide the description of your innovation goal



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**General purpose**

Describe what the company wants to achieve with the proposed project. The general purpose is in essence the innovation to be achieved in terms of a product, process and/or service. The general goal should be the foundation for understanding the various concrete objectives, criteria, activities and desired results.

**Concrete objectives and criteria**

Indicate explicitly the (interim) results to be achieved, such as specific knowledge and solutions to specific problems. Indicate per interim result the main quantitative (preferred option) and qualitative benchmarks, criteria, requirements and standards, in order to be able to determine at the end of the project to what extent the expected results have been obtained.

**Valorisation potential**

Based on the assumption that the envisioned project objectives will be achieved, describe how the company will exploit the results. Keep the information brief but concise (Further details on the valorisation potential should be provided in the Application form).

**Project description (min. 400 words, incl. tables and figures, incl. references)**

This part describes the way in which the project is approached and explains why this approach/methodology has been chosen and why certain strategic choices have been made. The approach should clarify how the innovation goal will be achieved, given the established (interim) objectives and criteria. What is the state of the art of the scientific domain and how do you envisage to move beyond the state of the art, eventually in the specific context of Lebanon.

Based on the global approach, describe the structure and relationship in the project between the work packages (short listing of actions and experiments) and milestones and how interim decision moments have been accounted for. The risk assessment and mitigation actions of the major scientific risks should be listed separately in an excel table. Indicate in the work plan WHAT, WHY, HOW (approach, method) the work will be done.

Provide a Timetable of the project or a graphic representation of the different activities over the period of activities. Indicate clearly the milestones and deliverables of the project including a description of each deliverable.

**Context (min. 250 words)**

Clarify the choice of the Researcher and Company and situate the submitted project proposal in the context of research activities of the project partners (Researcher and Company). Highlight synergies between the project partners if any.

### 3. Intended applications and valorisation (max. 1 page)

#### **Strategic importance and place within the applicant's activities**

Describe how the project will contribute to the achievement of potential applications based on the research project. Which activities are still needed within the company to come to a real economic valorisation?

#### **Publications and patents (optional)**

Describe the strategy that will be taken to protect intellectual property rights.

#### **Societal and economic impact (optional)**

If relevant: Give an analysis and an estimation of the possible contribution to environmental improvement. It is important to make a balance of the positive and the negative environmental effects. Try to give quantitative data as much as possible to prove the environmental benefits compared to a reference situation.

If relevant, describe the link with the relevant societal and economic challenges.

### 4. Additionality (optional)

Indicate **for every company involved** which of the following benefits the support will provide to the firm and the project compared to the situation without support (there are several options):

- ☐ **Without funding, the project will be cancelled.**
- ☐ **The R&D funding will enlarge the scope of the project (expressed in person months or expenditures).**
- ☐ **With funding, the project will be more ambitious/in depth.**
- ☐ **With funding, the project will be completed more quickly.**
- ☐ **Funding will allow the firm to acquire more knowledge (thanks to broader collaboration, for example) than it would without it.**
- ☐ **The total amount spent by the firm on research, development and innovation will increase.**
- ☐ **Other**

Describe any other impacts of the funding on the project or firm.

If possible, give a brief (quantitative) reason for the answers.