Webinar II – Starting Grant 2025

18 de julio de 2024

GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA
MINISTERIO DE CIENCIA, INNOVACIÓN Y UNIVERSIDADES
FECYT INNOVACIÓN
oficina europea

Descargo de responsabilidad

- Los participantes están silenciados.
- Las preguntas se formulan por: www.menti.com code **33 60 87 6**
- Las presentaciones se colgarán en: https://www.horizonteeuropa.es/webinars-erc-starting-grant-2025
- El seminario se está grabando y quedará accesible a través del enlace anterior.
- La plataforma TEAMS lanzará una encuesta de satisfacción. Os agradecemos mucho que la contestéis porque nos ayuda a mejor.
- Descargo de responsabilidad: esta presentación se basa en aprendizajes personales y no constituye una fuente directa ni del ERC ni de la CE.

ENFOQUE

WHY – WHAT – HOW logic

https://images.squarespace-cdn.com/

WHAT refers to the main **objective** of the research project.

WHY focuses on the justification and **relevance** of your project.

HOW refers to the **methodology and work plan** you will follow to achieve your project objectives

This will help the evaluators clearly understand the objective of your research, the importance of your project in terms of advancing knowledge and the detailed plan of how you plan to carry it out.

WHAT?

Describe clearly what you want to achieve with your research, with a focus on advancing knowledge in your scientific field.

Key question: What is the aim of your research?

- **Project description**: clearly define the topic of your research and the specific objectives. Explain what new knowledge or breakthroughs you hope to achieve.
- **Scientific impact:** Describe how your project will contribute to your field of study and what knowledge gaps it will address.

Example:

'The aim of this project is to investigate the impact of microplastics on marine fauna in the Mediterranean, in order to develop new mitigation strategies and advance the understanding of marine ecotoxicology.'

WHY?

Here you should explain why it is important to carry out this research and how it will contribute to advancing the state of the art in your scientific field.

Key question: Why is your research important?

- **Scientific justification:** Explain why this problem or research question is relevant and deserves to be studied. Detail the current knowledge gaps and how your research will address them.
- **Impact on the scientific field:** Describe how the results of your research may transform or influence future research, theories, or practices within your field.
- **Personal motivation and background:** If relevant, include your personal interest or professional background that leads you to research this topic.

Example:

The increasing presence of microplastics in the oceans represents a significant threat to marine life and thus to ecosystem health. Currently, there is a lack of detailed understanding of the mechanisms of microplastic toxicity in various marine species. This project seeks to fill that gap, providing crucial data that can guide future research and environmental policy.

HOW?

Key question: How will you carry out your research?

- **Methodology:** Detail the methods and techniques you will use to carry out your research. Explain why these methods are the most appropriate for your study.
- **Work plan:** Present a timeline or plan of steps you will follow during the project. Include key milestones and expected results at each stage.
- **Resources needed:** Indicate the human, material and financial resources you will need to carry out the project, and how you will obtain them.

Example:

We will use a multidisciplinary approach combining field sampling, laboratory analysis and computational modelling. The project will be divided into three main phases: (1) collection of water samples and marine organisms, (2) chemical and biological analysis of the samples, and (3) development of predictive models to evaluate the impact of microplastics. Our team is composed of experts in marine biology, environmental chemistry and computational modelling, ensuring a holistic approach.

ERC PROPOSAL (StG, CoG and AdG)

two evaluation steps, one submission

Form A

Part B1 – documento pdf

- Cover Page and summary
- Extended Synopsis (5pags)
- Curriculum vitae + Track-record (4pags)

Part B2 – documento pdf (14pags)

- SoA & objectives
- Methodology

Annexes

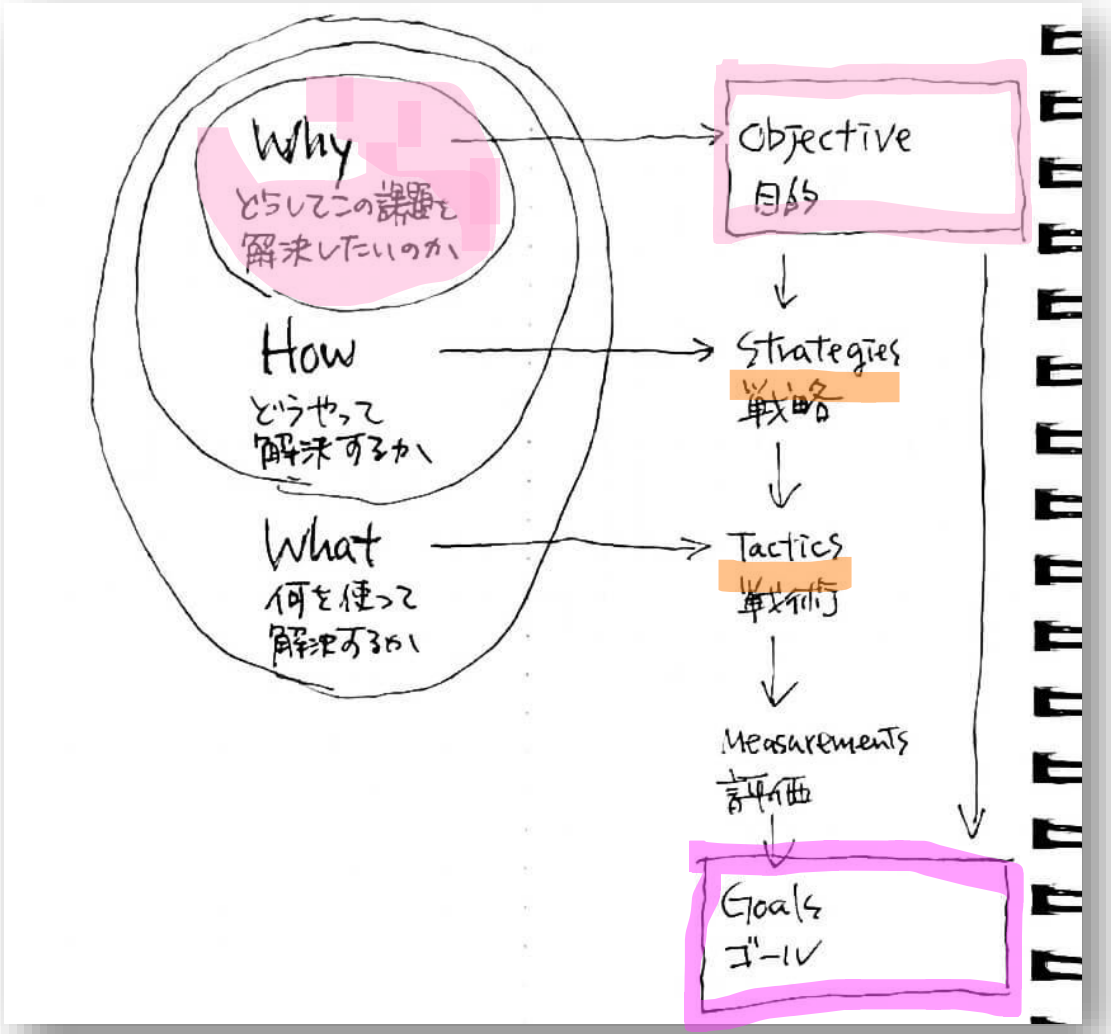
1st step

2nd step *Entrevista online*


Intrigue (part B1)
Convince (part B2)
Inspire (Parts B1+B2+ interview)
CRITERIOS DE EVALUACIÓN

ERC 2025 – EVALUATION CRITERIA

(B1)



https://makitani.com/2022/12/why-how-what.html

Research Project

- Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

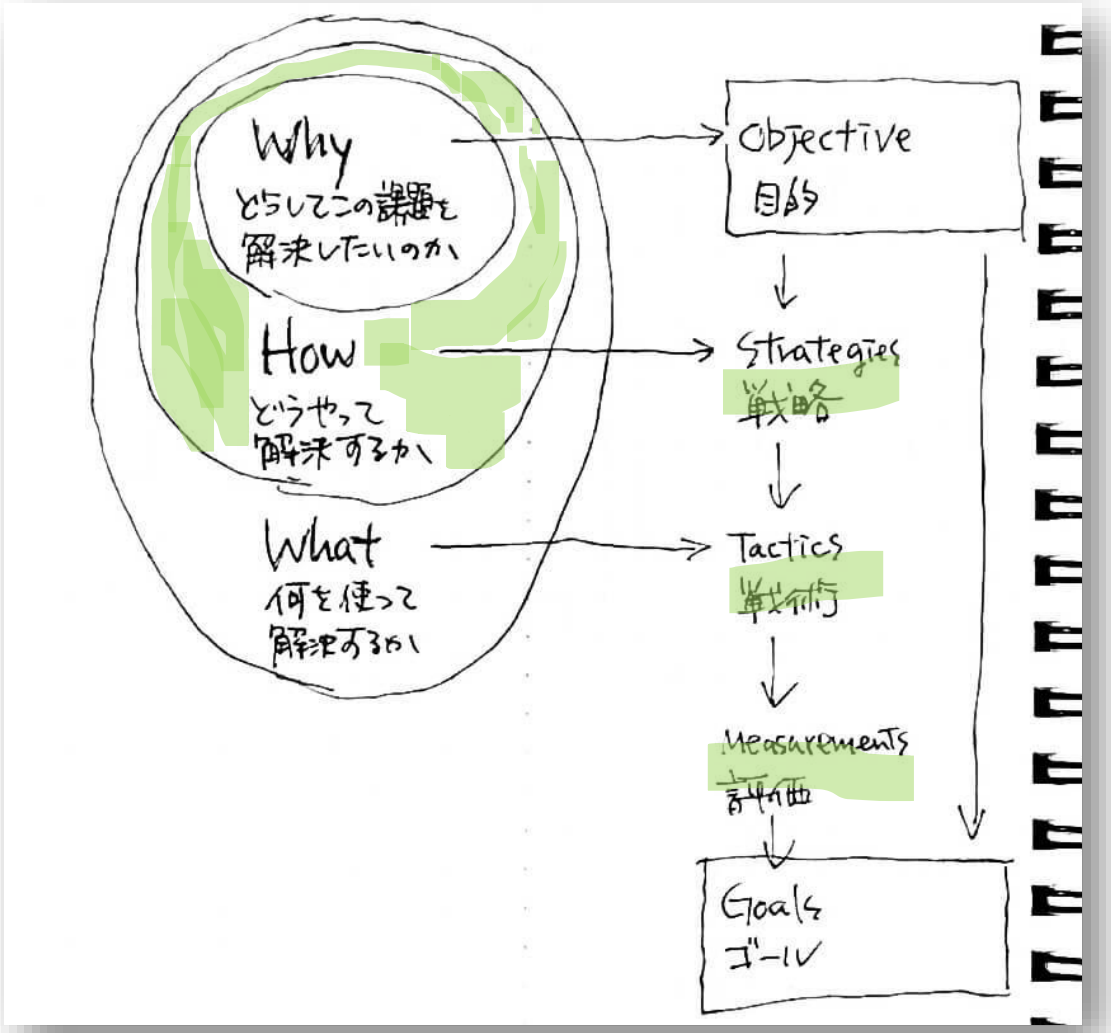
Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

- does the proposed research address important scientific challenges?
- are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art? (e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines)?

Scientific Approach

- is the outlined scientific approach feasible … ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research? **(B1)**

ERC 2025 – EVALUATION CRITERIA



https://makitani.com/2022/12/why-how-what.html

Research Project
- Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

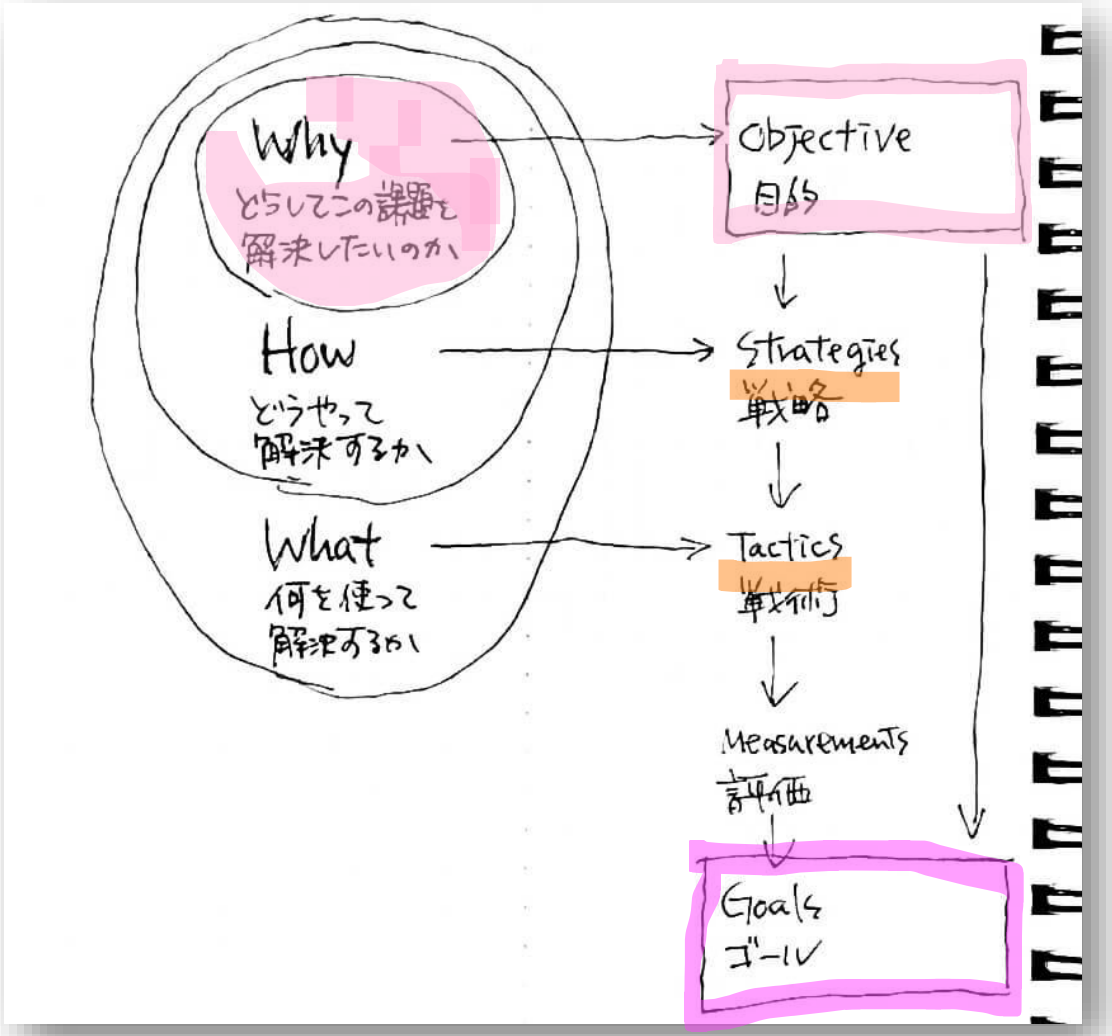
- does the proposed research address important scientific challenges?
- are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art? e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines?

Scientific Approach

- is the outlined scientific approach feasible … ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research? **(B1)**
- are the proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals? **(B2)**
- are the proposed timescales, resources and PI commitment adequate and properly justified? **(B2)**

(B2)

ERC 2025 – EVALUATION CRITERIA



https://makitani.com/2022/12/why-how-what.html

Research Project
- Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project

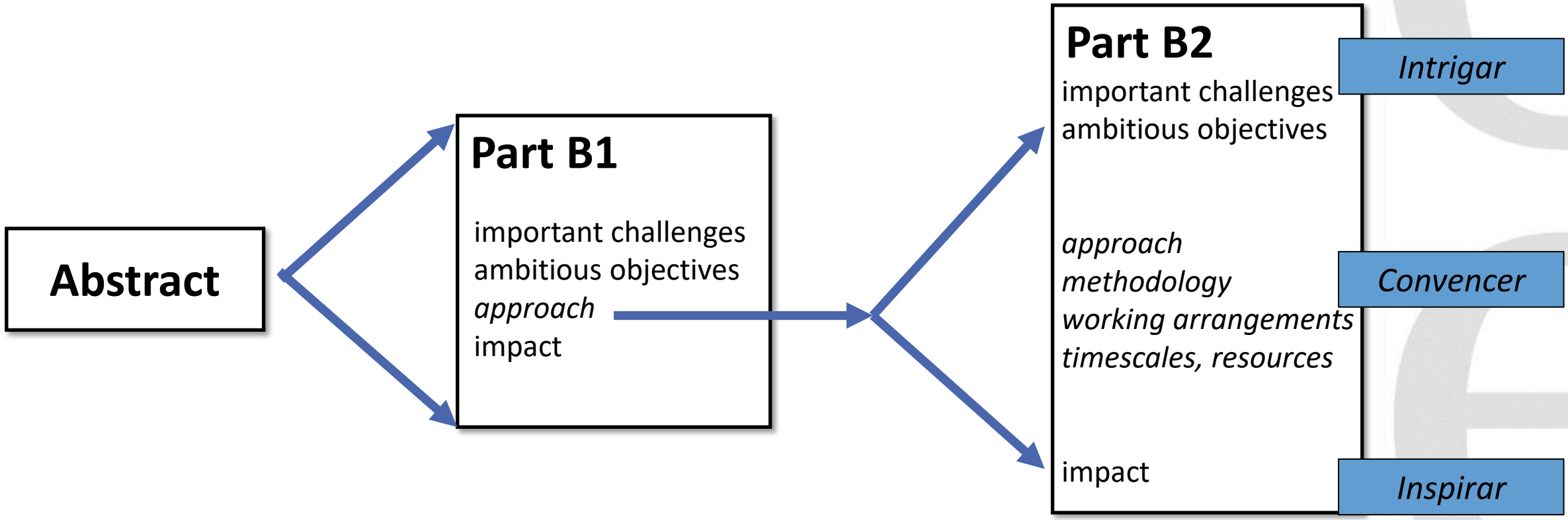
Scientific Approach

potential impact of the research project

***Impacto**: efecto que produce tu idea*

***Resultado** -- compromiso*

ERC PROPOSAL (StG, CoG and AdG)



TEMPLATES

ERC PROPOSAL (StG, CoG and AdG)

One deadline | 2 steps evaluation process

The ERC full proposal = part B1 + part B2 + Part A*

Part B1 - pdf

Cover Page and summary (1p)
Extended Synopsis (5p)
Curriculum vitae + Track-record (4p)

Evaluated in Step 1

Part B2 - pdf

(14p)

2a: SoA & objectives

2b: Methodology

Appendix. Funding ID

NOT evaluated in Step 1 (only in Step 2)

Part A – online forms

A1 General Information
A2 Participants
A3 Budget* table + description (8000c)
A4 Ethics and security
A5 Other questions
% Time commitment*
Excluded Reviewers (up to 3)

Annexes

HI support letter
PhD certificate
Ethics and security issues
Eligibility window

¿Por dónde empiezo a escribir?

Proponente: Orden más habitual de escritura: B2 > B1 > Abstract

Revisor primera fase: Orden más común de lectura: Abstract > B1

Revisor segunda fase: Orden más común de lectura: Abstract > (B1) > B2

ABSTRACT

ERC Starting Grant 2025
Research proposal [Part B1][1]
(Part B1 is evaluated in Step 1 and Step 2, Part B2 is evaluated in Step 2 only)

Proposal Full Title

PROPOSAL ACRONYM

Cover Page:
- Name of the Principal Investigator (PI)
- Name of the PI's Host Institution for the project
- Proposal duration in months

Please delete all text highlighted in grey in this template.

Proposal summary (identical to the abstract from the online proposal submission forms, section 1).

The abstract (summary) should, at a glance, provide the reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of the research proposal and how they will be achieved. The abstract will be used as the short description of your research proposal in the evaluation process and in communications to contact in particular potential independent external experts and/or to inform the Commission and/or the programme management committees and/or relevant national funding agencies. It must therefore be short and precise and should not contain confidential information.

Please use plain typed text, avoiding formulae and other special characters. The abstract must be written in English. There is a limit of 2000 characters (spaces and line breaks included).

Explain and justify the cross-panel or cross domain nature of your proposal, if a secondary panel is indicated in the online proposal submission forms. There is a limit of 1000 characters (spaces and line breaks included).

[1] Instructions for completing Part B1 can be found in the '*Information for Applicants to the Starting and Consolidator Grant 2025 Calls*'.

The abstract should provide the reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of the research proposal and how they will be achieved.

- Short and precise.
- Plain typed text, no formulae and other special characters.
- English.
- Up to 2000 characters (spaces and line breaks included).
- No confidential information
- Identical to A forms

Cross-panel box. If a secondary panel is indicated in the A forms.

ABSTRACT - Ejemplo

Endure

Summary:

Extreme events often cause local-initial damage to the critical elements of building structures, followed by a cascade of further failures in the rest of the building; a phenomenon known as "progressive collapse". Current design philosophies are based on giving buildings extensive continuity, so that when a critical element fails its load can be re-distributed among the rest of the structure. *However, in certain situations (e.g. initial failure of several columns) this extensive continuity introduces undesirable effects and actually increases the risk of progressive collapse.*

Segmenting a building into individual units connected only by means of fuses would avoid a failure in one zone propagating to others. While such fuses would provide continuity for normal loads or small local-initial failure, they would "isolate" the different parts of the building when otherwise the forces generated by the initial failure would pull down the rest of the structure. *Although fuse segmentation is probably the only alternative that can fill the gaps in the present design philosophies, so far, no studies have been carried out on the possibility of applying it to buildings.*

***Endure*'s overall aim is to develop a novel fuse-based segmentation design approach to limit or arrest the propagation of failures in building structures subjected to extreme events.**

The project will be multidisciplinary and highly ambitious, and will achieve its overall aim by: 1) Developing a performance-based approach for the design of fuse-segmented buildings; 2) Designing, manufacturing and testing fuses for segmenting buildings; and 3) Implementing fuses in segmented realistic building prototypes and testing and validating the new fuse-based approach in these structures.

Endure will open up a new research area and design approach, and also deliver novel construction procedures. The project will lead to safer buildings, especially in the case of extreme events with severe consequences for building integrity.

The context of the proposal ('what' and 'why')

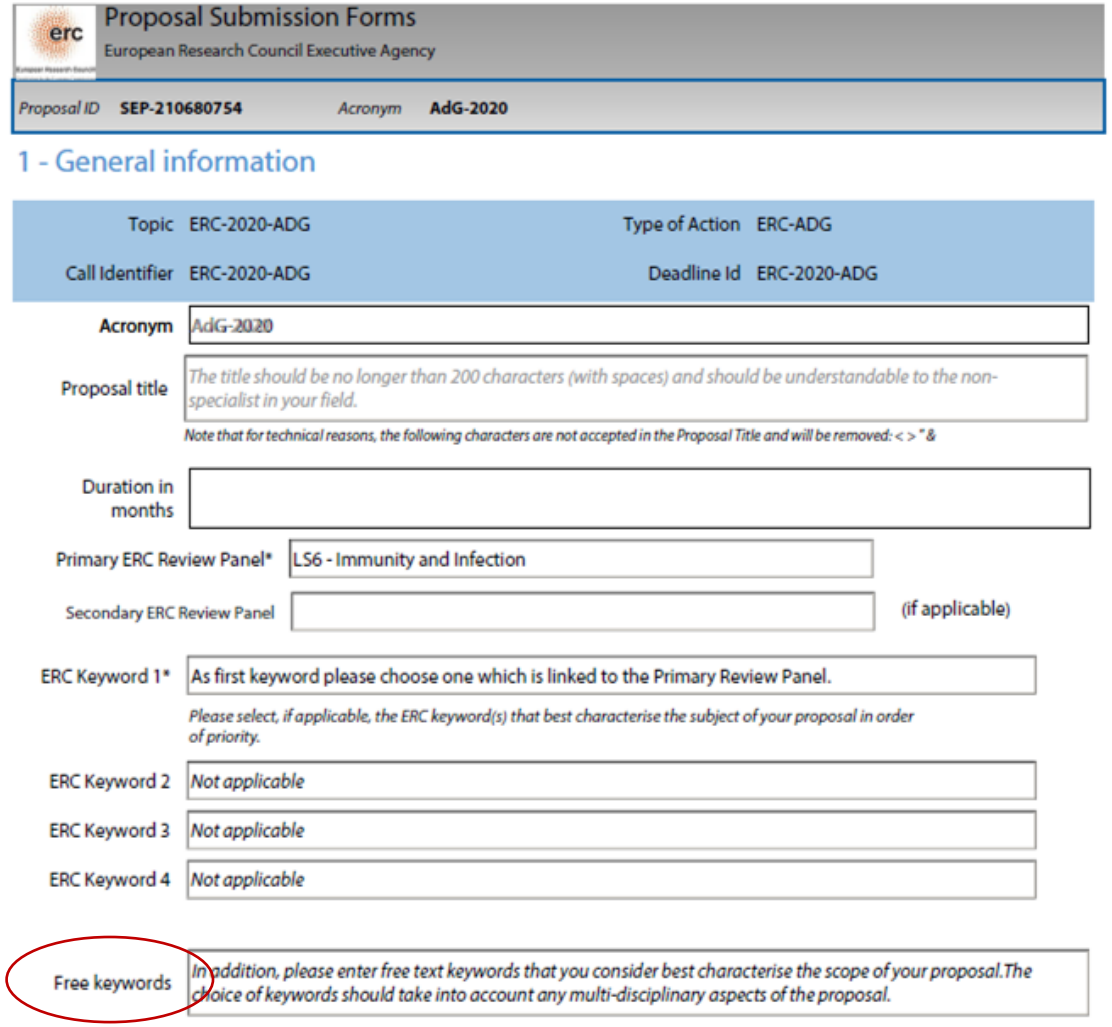
The aim of the proposal

How we will achieve the aim

The expected outcomes and scientific impact

José Adam Martínez, UPV https://b-resilient.webs.upv.es/endure-home/

FORM A



Proposal Submission Forms
European Research Council Executive Agency

Proposal ID **SEP-210680754** *Acronym* **AdG-2020**

1 - General information

Topic	ERC-2020-ADG	Type of Action	ERC-ADG
Call Identifier	ERC-2020-ADG	Deadline Id	ERC-2020-ADG

Acronym AdG-2020

Proposal title: *The title should be no longer than 200 characters (with spaces) and should be understandable to the non-specialist in your field.*

Note that for technical reasons, the following characters are not accepted in the Proposal Title and will be removed: < > " &

Duration in months:

Primary ERC Review Panel* LS6 - Immunity and Infection

Secondary ERC Review Panel (if applicable)

ERC Keyword 1* As first keyword please choose one which is linked to the Primary Review Panel.

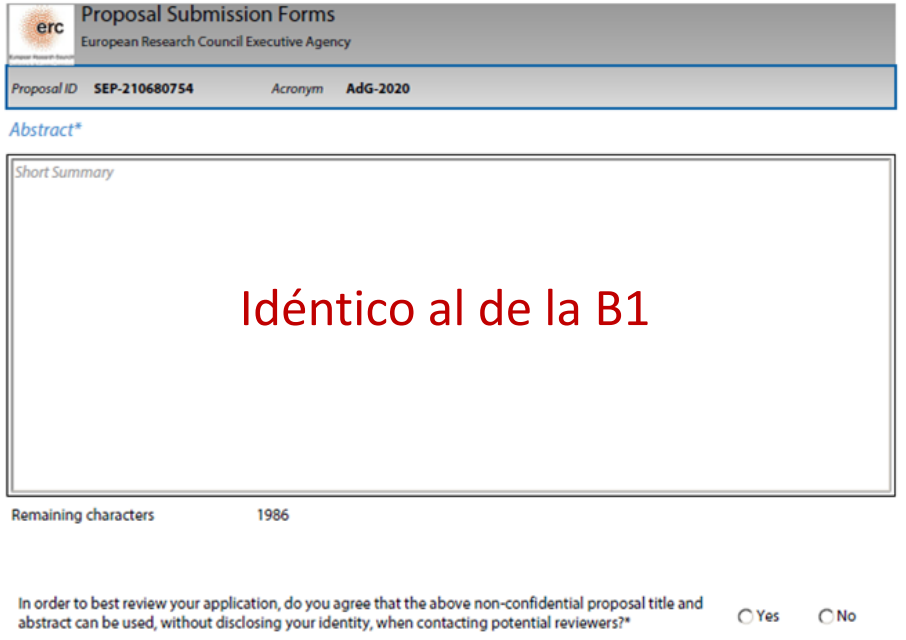
Please select, if applicable, the ERC keyword(s) that best characterise the subject of your proposal in order of priority.

ERC Keyword 2 *Not applicable*

ERC Keyword 3 *Not applicable*

ERC Keyword 4 *Not applicable*

Free keywords: *In addition, please enter free text keywords that you consider best characterise the scope of your proposal.The choice of keywords should take into account any multi-disciplinary aspects of the proposal.*



Proposal Submission Forms
European Research Council Executive Agency

Proposal ID **SEP-210680754** *Acronym* **AdG-2020**

*Abstract**

Short Summary

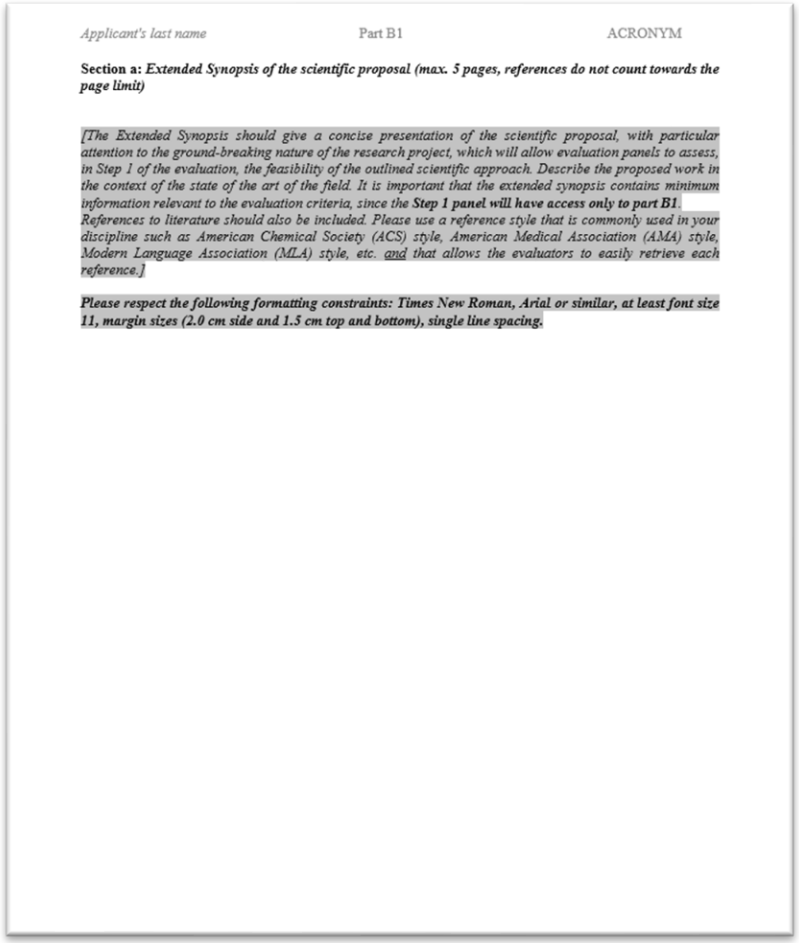
Idéntico al de la B1

Remaining characters 1986

In order to best review your application, do you agree that the above non-confidential proposal title and abstract can be used, without disclosing your identity, when contacting potential reviewers?* ○ Yes ○ No

The abstract will be used as a short description of your research proposal in the evaluation process and in communications to contact in particular the potential remote referees.

B1. A: EXTENDED SYNOPSIS OF THE SCIENTIFIC PROPOSAL



Applicant's last name Part B1 ACRONYM

Section a: ***Extended Synopsis of the scientific proposal (max. 5 pages, references do not count towards the page limit)***

[The Extended Synopsis should give a concise presentation of the scientific proposal, with particular attention to the ground-breaking nature of the research project, which will allow evaluation panels to assess, in Step 1 of the evaluation, the feasibility of the outlined scientific approach. Describe the proposed work in the context of the state of the art of the field. It is important that the extended synopsis contains minimum information relevant to the evaluation criteria, since the ***Step 1 panel will have access only to part B1****.*
References to literature should also be included. Please use a reference style that is commonly used in your discipline such as American Chemical Society (ACS) style, American Medical Association (AMA) style, Modern Language Association (MLA) style, etc. and that allows the evaluators to easily retrieve each reference.]

Please respect the following formatting constraints: Times New Roman, Arial or similar, at least font size 11, margin sizes (2.0 cm side and 1.5 cm top and bottom), single line spacing.

The Extended Synopsis should give a ***concise presentation of the scientific proposal****, with particular attention to the* ***ground-breaking nature*** *of the research project,* ***which will allow*** *evaluation panels* ***to assess****, in Step 1 of the evaluation, the* ***feasibility of the outlined scientific approach****. Describe the proposed* ***work in the context of the state of the art*** *of the field. It is important that the extended synopsis contains minimum information relevant to the evaluation criteria, since the* ***Step 1 panel will have access only to part B1****.*

References to literature should also be included. Please use a reference style that is commonly used in your discipline such as American Chemical Society (ACS) style, American Medical Association (AMA) style, Modern Language Association (MLA) style, etc. and that allows the evaluators to easily retrieve each reference.]

Estructura – Part B1

Sugerencia de Headings en base a los criterios de evaluación

Research Project

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

- important challenges
- ambitious objectives and beyond the state of the art (novel concepts, approaches or development between or across disciplines)

Scientific Approach

- feasible scientific approach …. ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research? (B1)
- research methodology and working arrangements (B2)
- timescales, resources and PI commitment (B2)

Potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

[first page of your proposal= **Synthesis**]

1-1,5 pages/5

3 pages/5

0,5-1 pages/5

Extended Synopsis

Building Resilient - ICITECH
@BldgResilient

🆕@ERC_Research has just opened the new #StartingGrant call 👇

First page of your proposal ➡️The key to success
How we made it attractive:
1️⃣A figure showing what we wanted to solve
2️⃣Clearly define the overall aim of the project
3️⃣Objectives associated with the overall aim

The overall aim of *Endure* is to develop a novel fuse-based segmentation design approach to limit or arrest the propagation of failures in building structures subjected to extreme events.

To achieve its defined overall aim, ***Endure*** will have four **specific objectives**:

⇒ **Objective 1**: To develop a performance-based approach for the design of fuse-segmented buildings.
⇒ **Objective 2**: To design, manufacture and test fuses for segmenting buildings.
⇒ **Objective 3**: To implement fuses in segmented building structures and to validate and test the new fuse-based approach in realistic building prototypes.
⇒ **Objective 4**: To engage with industry experts and code-issuing entities, and disseminate-communicate the project's outcomes.

B1 & B2 – first page of your proposal

Description of the State of the Art

vs.

What we want to achieve

PART B2 - RESEARCH PROPOSAL

ERC Starting Grant 2025
Part B2[1]
(not evaluated in Step 1)

Sections (a) and (b) of Part B2 should not exceed 14 pages. References do not count towards the page limits.

Text highlighted in grey should be deleted.

Please respect the following formatting constraints: Times New Roman, Arial or similar, at least font size 11, margins (2.0 cm side and 1.5 cm top and bottom), single line spacing. Do NOT split the sections, references and/or the appendix (Funding ID) and do NOT upload them as separate documents.

Section a. State-of-the-art and objectives

Section b. Methodology

Do NOT include any description of resources or budget table here (Part B2). The Resources section and the detailed budget table are part of the online submission form (Part A, Section 3 - Budget) which will be extracted and provided to the peer reviewers. If additional documents are uploaded in the submission system as separate attachments, the peer reviewers will not have access to them.

Applicant's last name Part B2 ACRONYM

Appendix: All current grants and on-going / submitted grant applications of the PI (Funding ID)
Mandatory information (does not count towards page limits)

Current research grants (Please indicate "No funding" when applicable):

Project Title	*Funding source*	*Amount (Euros)*	*Period*	*Role of the PI*	*Relation to current ERC proposal[2]*

On-going / submitted grant applications (Please indicate "None" when applicable):

Project Title	*Funding source*	*Amount (Euros)*	*Period*	*Role of the PI*	*Relation to current ERC proposal[2]*

Part B2 - *research proposal*

Section 2a: State-of-the-art and Objectives

Project Objective	State-of-the-art	Scientific Impact	Scientific Justification	Relevance and Need
• Clearly define the main objective of your research. • Explain the specific advances you expect to achieve.	• Describe the current context of research in your field. • Identify knowledge gaps.	• Explain how your project will contribute to advancing knowledge in your field.	• Detail the relevance of your research. • Explain why it is important to investigate this topic.	• Argue the necessity of your project in the current scientific context.

WHAT

WHY

Section 2b: Methodology

Detailed Methodology	Work Plan and Timeline	Resources and Team	Risk Management:
•Provide a comprehensive description of the methods and techniques you will use. •Justify the choice of these methods.	•Present a detailed work plan (or similar) •Include a timeline with stages, milestones, and expected results.	•Describe the necessary resources. •Explain how you will obtain and use them (critical?).	•Identify potential risks and challenges. •Provide strategies to mitigate them.

HOW

ESTRUCTURA – PART B2

Sugerencia de Headings en base a los criterios de evaluación

Research Project

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

- important challenges
- ambitious objectives and beyond the state of the art (novel concepts, approaches or development between or across disciplines)

Scientific Approach

- feasible scientific approach …. ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research? (B1)
- research methodology and working arrangements (B2)
- timescales, resources and PI commitment (B2)

Potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

[first page of your proposal= **Synthesis**]

3,5 pages/14

9 pages/14

1,5 pages/14

...important challenges (B1 & B2)

¿Cuál es la Gran Pregunta de Investigación?

¿Qué es lo que tenemos que entender?

¿Qué es lo que debemos saber sobre (X fenómeno) para poder empezar a hacer algo que impacte en Y (campo científico, industria, sociedad,…)?

¿Cómo es la naturaleza de este reto que quieres acometer?
¿Es un reto teórico, conceptual, aplicado?

¿Es un reto común en tu campo de investigación?
por ej. curar el cáncer…

En este caso el proyecto necesitará de una idea y concepto de proyecto radicalmente novedosa

...important challenges (B1 & B2)

¿Cuál es la Gran Pregunta de Investigación?

Gran Respuesta de Investigación

Breakthrough

¿Cómo vamos a dirigirnos a los challenges y cómo vamos a combinar los resultados para que éstos constituyan una simetría de lo que es el challenge?

...important challenges (B1 & B2)

¿Cuál es la Gran Pregunta de Investigación?

¿cuál es la fuente que genera neuronas a lo largo de la vida adulta?

Su trabajo ha acabado con la discusión sobre estas neuronas inmaduras.

"¿Cuáles son los mecanismos que controlan la maduración y la integración sináptica de las células recién generadas en los seres humanos y cómo es la fisiopatología de las enfermedades neurodegenerativas y psiquiátricas?"

MARÍA LLORENS-MARTÍN

"Hemos reconstruido todo el proceso de neurogénesis"

• La bióloga del Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa ha demostrado que en el cerebr
nuevas neuronas durante toda la vida

La investigación

"Hemos conseguido ver por primera vez tanto las células madre de las neuronas como las hijas"

Las implicaciones

"Podría contribuir al diagnóstico precoz de las enfermedades neurodegenerativas"

Fuente: https://www.lavanguardia.com/vanguardia-de-la-ciencia/20220206/8030235/maria-llorens-martin-nuevas-neuronas.html
https://twitter.com/CSIC/status/1492055739292074002?s=20&t=cWUAjLRU1Q4ilve2YyQCnQ

...ambitious objectives beyond SoA

(B1 & B2)

¿Cómo presentar los objetivos?

separadamente
en combinación con preguntas de investigación
en combinación con conjeturas/hipótesis…

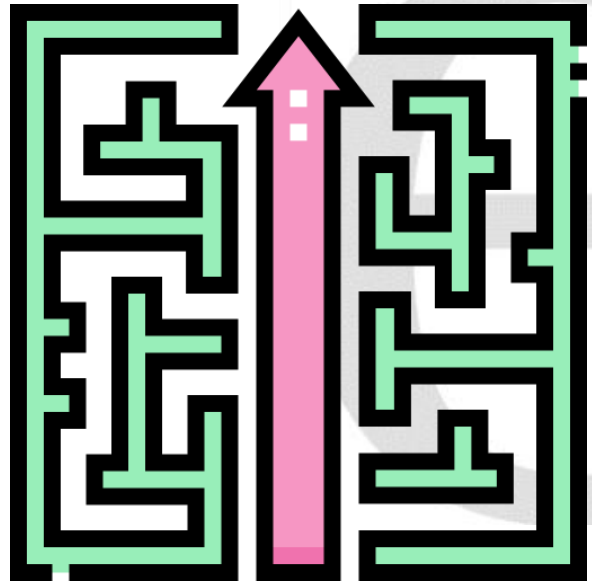
Objetivos más allá del Estado del Arte

- Demostrar por qué los objetivos del proyecto son ambiciosos con respecto a lo que se ha hecho hasta ahora (POR TI/por otros)
- El SoA ayuda a clarificar conceptos y términos usados durante la escritura del proyecto
- Ayuda a entender cuáles son los gaps del campo y, por tanto, ayuda a entender la necesidad de responder AHORA y POR TI a esa Gran Pregunta de Investigación
- Demuestra el conocimiento del IP en los problemas metodológicos, conceptuales, teóricos de campo
- Demuestra el sentido crítico del IP con sus aportes previos al SoA

...Impact

(B1 & B2)

- **Transformative impact**: you open up one or more new fields where you will publish in the future. Other researchers will follow suit.
- **Ambition**. It does not mean a very complex experimentation (battery of tests, field work, etc...), but a big step forward.
- Is it a real, serious, recurrent **problem** affecting the field?
- **Potential** to change the thinking of your scientific field? Identify which fields and how you are going to change them, the new horizons you will open up



...Novel concepts and approaches or developments between or across disciplines

(B1 & B2)

El concepto y enfoque sería la idea subyacente (considerada en su conjunto) de la propuesta

An **unconventional idea**:

new concepts that did not exist before

use of existing concepts in a different context or field

new combinations of related scientific principles

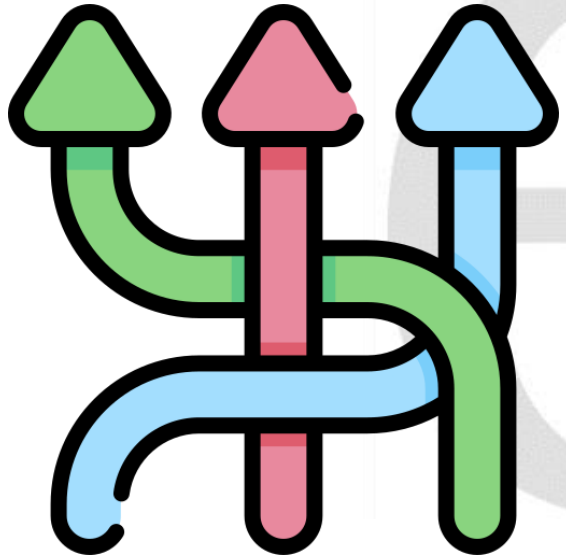
new combinations of previously unrelated scientific principles

Una nueva idea necesitará un nuevo enfoque

novel theoretical framework (SH)

INCREMENTAL RESEARCH?

- If it has to do with our daily work, then it sounds incremental.
- If you can submit it to other calls for proposals (splitting the budget).
- Natural step vs. original step: product of your experience or idea.
- We must present the project idea as a big step forward compared to the state of the art.
- INCREMENTAL ≠ RISK



FEASIBLE SCIENTIFIC APPROACH VS. METHODOLOGY

Sugerencia de Headings en base a los criterios de evaluación

Research Project

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

- important challenges
- ambitious objectives and beyond the state of the art (novel concepts, approaches or development between or across disciplines)

Scientific Approach

- feasible scientific approach …. ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research? (B1)
- research methodology and working arrangements (B2)
- timescales, resources and PI commitment (B2)

Potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

3 pages/5 en Part B1

9 pages/14 en Part B2

FEASIBLE SCIENTIFIC APPROACH VS. METHODOLOGY

B1

- feasible outlined scientific approach bearing in mind the ground-breaking nature and ambition

3 pages/5

- Concise and clear (5 pages)
- All the essential information
- General overview of the project
- Emphasis on ground-breaking nature
- **Feasibility** (≠ detailed methodology)
- Support feasibility with **preliminary evidences**
- Know your **competitors** and the state-of-art
- Why is your idea and scientific approach outstanding?
- **Risk assessment**
- Explain collaborations

B2

- research methodology and working arrangements
- timescales, resources and PI commitment

9 pages/14

- Do not repeat extensively from part B1. Do not copy-paste
- Provide detail –thoroughly- on **methodology**, work plan, selection of **case studies**,…
- Explain any **risk mitigation strategy**
- Explain your timeline, link them to the research objectives or tasks.
- Explain need of additional team members (if applicable)

FEASIBLE SCIENTIFIC APPROACH VS. METHODOLOGY (B2)

9 pages/14

- research methodology and working arrangements

- Strategy to achieve the workplan**. HOW?**
- **WPs/objectives/aims > tasks > outcomes**
- Methods, data, tools per WP
- NO: one single way/ waterfall design
- **Complexity**, loops, iterative design
- **Key Intermediate Goals.** Time-based
- New methods, techniques, tools, data.
- SoA methodology used for the first time in another field

- timescales, resources and PI commitment

- Timeline and human resources per objective and or task
- Expertise needed per objective. Team composition during the 5years.
- Your commitment to the project (leader of your research team)

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORTS

TYPICAL REASONS FOR REJECTION

Principal Investigator	Research proposal
Unconvincing on: • Track record • Experience in leadership	Incremental research Scope: Too narrow or too broad/ Unfocussed
	Work plan not detailed enough/unclear Insufficient risk assessment Interview not convincing

B1

↓

B2

WHY AN ERC PROPOSAL CAN FAIL AT 1 STEP?

Starting Grant 2020

*- The nature of the **proposal is incremental** and unlikely will achieve a ground-breaking contribution to the field.* *-The track record of the PI is also below ERC standards, both regarding publications and **visibility**..”*
*- The track record of the PI of achieving relevant result is strong, but the PI has not yet reached a **high degree of visibility.*** *-The content of the research work programme is interesting and substantial, but there is not sufficient evidence for the novelty of the approach. The proposal is rather incremental nature, not convincing it would lead to a major breakthrough.”*
*-The proposal is of good quality and relevance. However, the proposal **is not sufficiently ground-breaking** and too narrowly focused on X.* *-Acknowledgment of the applicant’s scientific achievements in the field. However, the publication record is limited and he has not demonstrated yet **sufficient independent creativity**”*

WHY AN ERC PROPOSAL CAN FAIL AT 2 STEP?

Starting Grant 2020

"The idea of the proposal is ambitious and beyond the state of the art, but the proposal itself ***is not well defined enough to be credible***.
I would consider this high gain and high risk. However, ***the risk is so high that I don't think the PI realizes it nor addresses it***. *Applying X method to these research field is a hot area at the moment, making it a somewhat saturated space at the moment since there are so many big advances happening. ....It's the* ***extreme riskiness*** *of this research direction that makes the proposal less credible.*
The direction of the research is good, but the approach lacks sufficient detail to assess its feasibility. ... I would have ***preferred more scientific detail on the approaches and discussion of feasibility.****"*

The PI is excellent and has considerable experience in X research, directly relevant to the project, and a strong publication record in the field.
This proposal addresses an important area in the X energy. The approach is to develop X. The panel appreciated the potential of this *novel approach.*
However, there was ***disappointment that the methodology had not been developed in more detail*** *in Part B2 of the proposal. There was also concern about the* ***lack of detail on the resource allocation and risk analysis***.

BUDGET & RESOURCES

BUDGET

Beneficiary Short Name	PI	Senior Staff	Postdocs	Students	Other Personnel costs	A.Total personnel costs/€	B. Subcontracting Costs/€ (No indirect costs)	C.1 Travel and subsistence	C.2 Equipment - including major equipment	Consum-ables incl. fieldwork and animal costs	Publications (incl. Open Access fees) and dissemination	Other additional direct costs	C.3 Total other goods, works and services	Total Purchase costs/€	D. Internally invoiced goods and services/€ (No indirect costs)	E. Indirect Cost/€	Total Eligible Costs	Requested EU contribution/€
Fecyt	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Upm	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00

A. Total personnel costs

- PI + Team members >team composition over the 5 years

B. Subcontracting costs (no OH)

C. Total purchase costs

C.1 Travel and subsistence

C.2 Equipment including major equipment >depretiation/capitalized costs

- Consumables including fieldwork and animal costs
- Publications (including Open Access fees and dissemination) > OA mandatory
- Other additional direct costs

C.3 Total other goods, works and services

- **D. Internally invoiced goods and services (no OH)**
- **E. Indirect Costs** > 25% Direct Costs flat rate
- **TOTAL ELIGIBLE COSTS**
- **REQUESTED EU CONTRIBUTION**

Host Institution rules apply!

Additional budget

(a) 'start-up' costs for a PI moving from another country to the EU or an AC
(b) the purchase of major equipment
(c) access to large facilities
(d) other major experimental and field work costs, excluding personnel costs,

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BUDGET

1. State the amount of funding considered necessary to fulfil the research objectives. The project cost estimation should be as accurate as possible. The requested budget should be fully justified and in proportion to the actual needs. Describe all the cost categories considered necessary for the project. The evaluation panels assess the estimated costs carefully; **unjustified budgets will be reduced**.

2. Describe the **size and nature of the team**, indicating, where appropriate, the **key team members and their roles**. The participation of team members engaged by other host institutions should be justified and in relation to the additional financial cost this may impose. When estimating your personnel costs take into account the dedicated working time to run the project.

3. Explain and describe in detail any **additional funding requested** for the project (**the requested additional funding should be included in the budget table**). Please also indicate under which of the above-mentioned four cost categories the request falls.

4. Include a **short technical description** of any requested **equipment**, why you need it and how much you plan to use it for the project.

5. Include a realistic estimation of the **costs for Open Access** to project outputs. Costs for providing immediate Open Access to publications (article processing charges/book processing charges) are eligible if they are incurred during the lifetime of the project.

6. Describe any existing resources not requiring EU funding that will be used for the project, such as infrastructure and equipment.

7. If applicable, specify the cost items covered by your 'Other personnel'. If applicable, specify the cost items covered by your 'Other personnel costs' category and the cost items covered by your 'Other additional direct costs' category.

BUDGET

All funding requested is assessed during second step of the evaluation process.

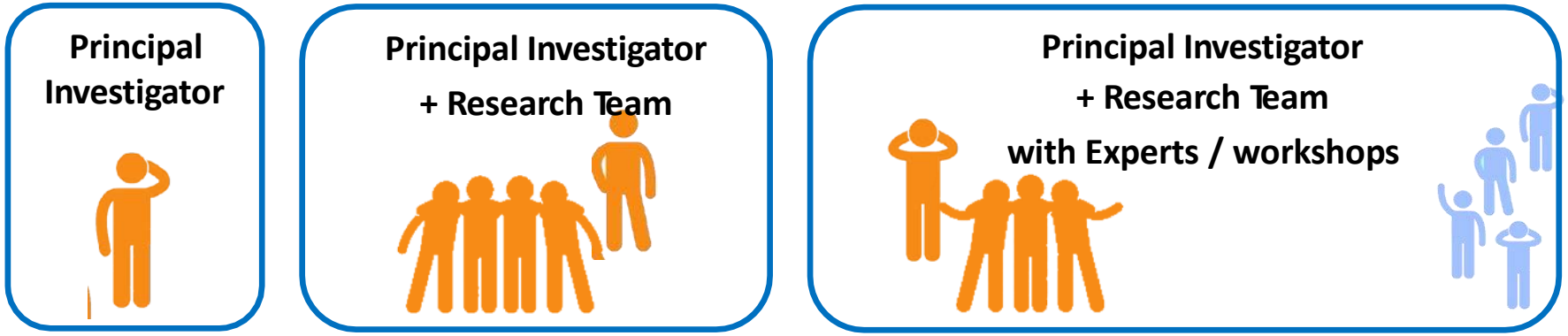
These costs are justified separately in the proposal. There is no definition of "equipment" or "facilities" and all requests will be evaluated by the peer review panel.

Forms A: description of resources + budget table

Part B1 y Part B2: description of team composition + key equipment.

** no todos los revisores van a llegar a leerse los forms A*

The PI + Team Members



PI lidera el proyecto (no hay más PIs que generen consorcio o que sumen para evaluar el perfil individual)

El PI elige a sus **team members,** que participarán en este proyecto ERC.

Team members: personal de investigación de cualquier nivel: PhD students, Postdocs, personal técnico, personal especialista (senior staff), …

A nivel de propuesta:

- Se definen roles necesarios.
- **TM** deben estar asignados a tareas/objetivos concretos del proyecto. Su participación debe ser necesaria.

The PI + Team Members

Los **team members** pueden ser del grupo de investigación o pueden ser nuevas personas. Pueden estar en la Host Institution o en otra institución.

Ejemplo:
El PI necesita tener a un posdoc trabajando en una institución alemana ya que ahí hay equipamiento especializado para llevar a cabo algunos experimentos necesarios para la acción.

Opciones (máxima flexibilidad)

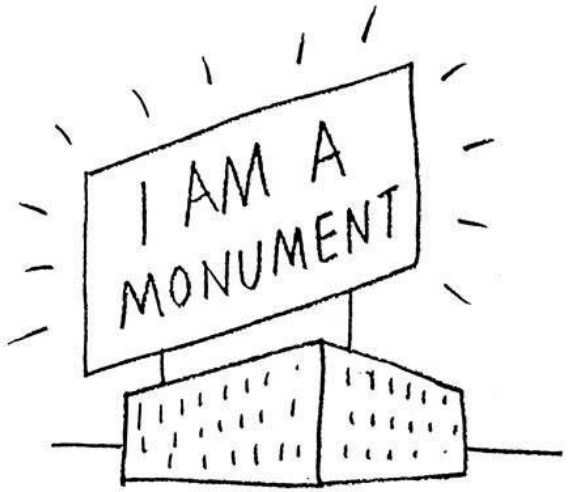
1. Team member contratado en la HI española; usa el equipamiento del laboratorio alemán en acuerdo con la *additional legal entity.*

2. Team member contratado directamente por el laboratorio alemán *(in-kind contribution)*

Aplica reglamento Programa Marco

PRACTICAL ASPECTS

1. Piensa cómo empezar la B1a
2. Recuerda que no existe posibilidad de corregir errores entre la fase 1 y la fase 2.
3. No digas simplemente que tu propuesta es excelente, *¡Demuéstralo!* En la B2 tienes que convencerles

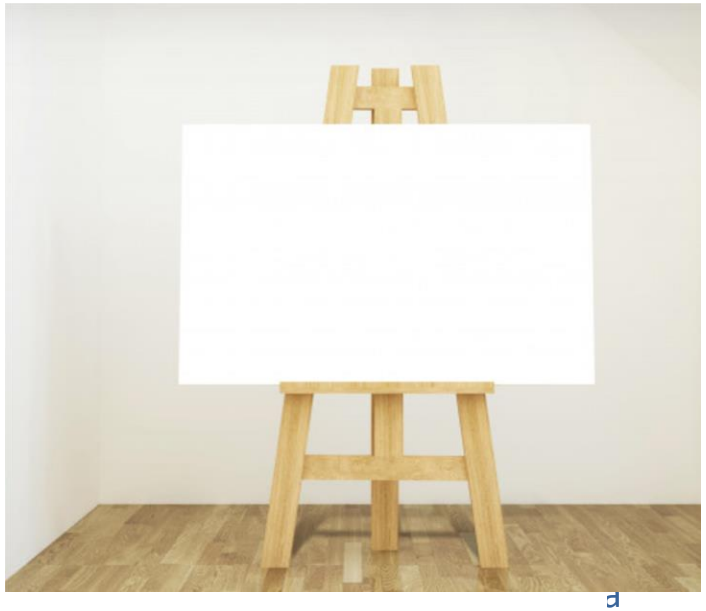


I Am a Monument: On Learning from Las Vegas. MIT Press, 1972

1. **Piensa cómo empezar la B1a – seduce al lector**
2. **No existe posibilidad de corregir errores entre la fase 1 y la fase 2.**
3. **No digas simplemente que tu propuesta es excelente, *¡Demuéstralo!* En la B2 tienes que convencerles**
4. **Usa cualquier recurso gráfico que facilite la comprensión**

   negrita, headings, figuras, esquemas.
   cuidado con los hipervínculos y los colores
   Cuidado con abreviaciones y jerga muy científica
5. **Sé muy específico** (evita ambigüedades many, some, would,…)
6. **¿En qué persona narro mi historia? I/The PI/We**

   Toma responsabilidad personal por la ideación de la propuesta de investigación



7. Dale un toque personal

8. Ilusiónate y transmite tu pasión por la disciplina

Indicaciones generales

Part B1: Find the right balance

- ✓ Innovative? Beyond state-of-art? Realistic/feasible?
- ✓ Outline state of play (incl. competition)
- ✓ Goals realistic? Think about risk mitigation
- ✓ Be concise & clear (also for generalists)
- ✓ Feasibility (scientific approach)
- ✓ Do not leave critical issues for your B2 or Form A

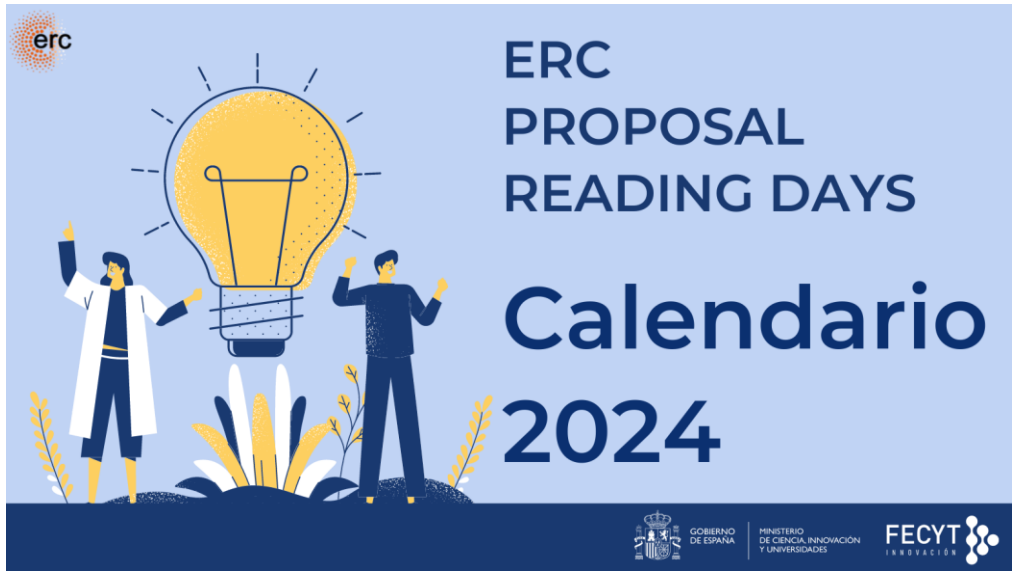
Part B2: Fill in the details

- ✓ No verbatim repetition of synopsis
- ✓ Detailed state-of-art
- ✓ Extensive methodology and work plan
- ✓ Provide risk mitigation strategies
- ✓ Explain involvement of team members & collaborators
- ✓ Justify requested resources - Panels have to ensure that the requested resources are reasonable and well justified.

Full proposal

- ✓ Take time to choose the right keywords and write the abstract
- ✓ Think about panel members and external reviewers
- ✓ Avoid cross references between B1 and B2
- ✓ Avoid complicated formatting
- ✓ Ensure that the focus is on the IP and not on the team or collaborators
- ✓ Share your idea: present it to our colleagues (the more the better)
- ✓ Look for inspiration: open proposals, ERC Proposal Reading Days, ask the fellows directly, is there anything like this in my institution?

ERC Proposal Reading Days 2024



- 4 de septiembre: Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (**Valencia**)
- 9 de septiembre: CRG - Centre for Genomic Regulation (**Barcelona**)
- 11 de septiembre: Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (**Madrid**)
- 17 de septiembre: Universidad de Cantabria (**Santander**)

https://www.horizonteeuropa.es/erc-proposal-reading-days-2024

Sistemas español de apoyo

Delegación española del programa ERC

Representante Comité de Programa ERC	National Contact Points ERC erc@fecyt.es		Técnico Ciencia Excelente (ERC)	Técnica soporte a servicios ERC
				
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[Árbol de servicios de apoyo al programa]

[Database of all **funded projects** by year and threshold/call (and much more)]

[Panel Members | ERC - European Union]

[Subscribe to our newsletter]

Series of videos – [ERC Classes] – for potential applicants:


Mensaje para casa

DO NOT EXCLUDE

Yourself from participating in ERC calls

- Take risks, explain your project's high scientific impact if you reach your aims, and provide evidence that you can do it.
- If you fail, try again! Gain experience from evaluation. Panel feedback is useful and resubmissions have higher success rate.

Gracias

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MINISTERIO DE CIENCIA, INNOVACIÓN Y UNIVERSIDADES

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