

Quick Guide – How to submit a Project Idea for Call 1

Background

It is possible to submit a project idea before the opening of the call for applications. Most ideas are published on the programme website and can be used to search for new partners. It is possible, though not recommended, to mark an idea as confidential.

The project idea is also used to alert programme authorities to the idea. This means that you will receive mailings about any important developments in the application process. Finally, you can ask for informal advice on your idea from the Joint Secretariat on your idea. You may do this once per project idea per call.

How to submit a Project Idea

Project ideas are submitted using a standard form on the programme website at <http://www.northsearegion.eu/ivb/user/home/> For easier identification, start the title of your idea with "VB Project Idea". If you do not want it to be published on the website start your title with "CONFIDENTIAL VB Project Idea". Complete all parts of the form and follow the procedure described online for submitting your idea. Once you have submitted your idea to us, you will be able request feedback from us. Due to changing working procedures at the Joint Secretariat, this feedback will always take the form of a phone / Skype meeting. No written feedback is provided.

Please note that as soon as the Online Monitoring System (OMS) is available for the new programme, project ideas will be entered there and ideas entered through the current programme's website will be transferred. Everyone who has submitted an idea through the old website will be informed when this move takes place.

Submitting a project idea is optional!

Content of the idea and feedback

In the project idea you explain the main activities and outcomes of your project proposal, the partners who are already committed to participating, and the approximate budget required. The more information you can provide within the word limits, the better the feedback you will receive. The feedback from the project advisors at the Joint Secretariat (JS) will assess whether your idea fits the programme, recommendations for improving the proposal, and any problems that can already be identified with activities or partners. It is not possible to ask for feedback on an idea unless you have submitted the idea in writing.

Selecting keywords for your idea

On the idea form, you will be asked to select a number of keywords that describe your project. You can select from a list of the main themes for the priority you are interested in applying under or you can choose to write your own. It is best to select at least two keywords from the standard list because the keywords will be used by other project developers to search for ideas – you are less likely to be found if your keywords are not one of the standard search terms. The list of keywords is provided below for information.

Possible keywords for project ideas

Priority 1

Innovation capacity building
Innovation demand stimulation
Innovative public service delivery
Clusters
R&D in SMEs
New products and services
Growth and jobs
Training and education
Shared R&D infrastructure
Smart specialization
Place-based approaches
Digitalization of services
Societal challenges

Stimulating innovation

Other: [Free text max. 3 words]

Priority 2

Carbon reduction
Promoting green economic activity
Sustainable resource use
Reduce carbon emissions
Pilots
Awareness raising
Take up of new technologies
Industrial design
Renewable energy
Locally sourced materials

Recycling

Energy efficiency

Smart grid technologies

Other: [Free text max. 3 words]

Priority 3

Climate change adaptation

Ecosystem management

Climate change

Flood control

Adaptation and resilience

Ecosystem services

Build with nature

Catchment management

Urban planning

Drought

Invasive species

Financial planning

Sustainable environmental management

Stakeholder involvement

Other: [Free text max. 3 words]

Priority 4

Emissions reduction

Multimodal

Maritime

Freight transport

Noise

Pollution

Congestion

Ports and shipping

Hinterland connections

Bottlenecks and barriers

TEN-T comprehensive network

Logistics

Last mile

Public transport

Alternative fuels

Healthy mobility

Reducing travel need

Living Laboratory

Other: [Free text max. 3 words]

Project Ideas and the Two-Step Application process

For the first call, projects are able to submit either an Expression of Interest or a Full Application.

For the first call it is therefore also possible to submit a project idea relating to either an Expression of Interest or a Full Application. For future calls, however, it will only be possible to submit project ideas relating to an Expression of Interest: Projects which have submitted an Expression of Interest and received a positive recommendation will be invited to submit a Full Application and will receive different assistance and feedback between the two stages of the application process.

Deadlines for project ideas before the 1st call for applications

The deadline for submitting project ideas for feedback is 20 April 2015. All phone / Skype meetings should take place before the call for applications opens on 27 April 2015. Please note that if you submit very close to the deadline, you may receive very limited options for the date and timing of your feedback session. After the call opens, it is not possible to get feedback on an idea and the Joint Secretariat will provide technical advice only.