Tips and Tricks

Bruno Mourenza
NCP SC1 “Health, Demographic change and Wellbeing”
APRE - Italy
Coherence with the call

- Answer to ALL! the questions indicated in the topic
- Use terminology relevant to the context of the Programme and the call

SC1-PM-06-2016: Vaccine development for malaria and/or neglected infectious diseases

Specific Challenge: Vaccines offer a safe and cost-effective way to protect large populations against infectious diseases. Yet, many poverty-related and neglected infectious diseases continue to escape attempts to develop effective vaccines.

Disappointing results of recent clinical trials point to bottlenecks in identifying viable candidate vaccines, which, if unaddressed, will continue to present significant risks of failure at relatively late stages of the development process.

The specific challenge will be to shift this “risk curve” in order to better select successful vaccine candidates (and discard those with a higher risk of failure) at an earlier stage of the vaccine development pipeline.

Scope: Proposals will have to address bottlenecks in the discovery, preclinical and early clinical development of new vaccine candidates (antigens/adjuvants) for malaria and/or neglected infectious diseases. Filoviral diseases are specifically excluded from this topic.

Depending on the maturity of the research landscape for each disease, proposals may range from large research platforms developing multiple vaccine candidates and/or vaccines for multiple diseases, to proposals specifically focused on one disease.

a) The larger platforms proposals should among others:

1. Take advantage of recent advances in vaccinology (e.g. in silico analysis and novel in vitro and in vivo immunoscreens) or establish completely new approaches for the discovery and selection of novel, appropriately immunogenic antigens, and/or novel formulations/combinations for the generation of new vaccine candidates.
Structure of the proposal

- Strictly follow the proposal template
- Introduce (new) concepts at the beginning, explain and work out (do not introduce new concepts afterwards)
- Refer to public data (statistics) if relevant
- Refer to previously funded projects (innovation can be a follow-up)
- Short and dense text (use the figures)
Clarity in the writing

- Use standard and concise English
- Make the text clear, well structured, and fluent (use bold text, underline,...)
- Insert only information relevant to the project

Magic is everywhere if you don't understand science.
Keep in mind that...

*Evaluator has few hours to read your proposal and evaluate it!!!*
Useful tips!

- **Careful reading of the topic (word by word)**
- Ensure **matching proposal and topic**
- Proposal consistency with **relevant European Policies**
- **Innovative aspects** of the proposals – CRUCIAL!
- **Concreteness of the proposal** (or better said..No chatter!)
- **Indicators** in the impact assessment

www.apre.it
Useful tips!

- Build the **team carefully**, devoting the **proper amount** of time to make up the consortium!
- **Multidisciplinary: Different roles** for partners.
- **Balance** in the composition of the team and of Research and Innovation (if IA).
- **No friends of friends**, «friends of friends» just okay in social networks.
- Importance of **industrial partners** within the consortium.
Useful tips!

• **NO Frankenstein effect!**

• **At least 2 weeks, before the submission, to carefully reading** the proposal

  **Fluidity & consistency of the text**

www.apre.it
Evaluators (I)
Look for...the magic recipe

- You fully answer to the challenge in the call
- Clear aims (motivation and hypothesis)
- Realistic objectives
- What is the current knowledge in the particular field (state-of-the-art)
- Who are the users and how will they benefit? Clear methodology
- Appropriate and relevant partners with necessary skills
- Scientific language but also divulgative!
# Suggestion: Tips and tricks

**Partner Search:**

- Personal contacts
- Google
- Cordis
- NCPs
- Events
- Specific websites

www.apre.it
BE VISIBLE!

• Publish your profile and look for your potential partner in the **thematic** research partner platforms **relevant for HEALTH / ICT / ENERGY... issues**

2. **ICT Idealist Partner Search**
   http://www.ideal-ist.eu/partner-search/pssearch

3. **Nanosciences and nanotechnologies, Materials and Production technologies Partner search**
   https://www.nmp-partnersearch.eu/index.php
Grazie per la vostra attenzione!

Bruno Mourenza
mourenza@apre.it
Health NCP

www.apre.it