

Proposal guidelines

10,000 characters in total (incl. spaces, headlines, references and figure captions). Please do not include any indication of applicant or affiliation (due to anonymised review). It might be necessary to leave out references to meet this requirement. Applications that allow the identification of the applicant will not be considered.

The proposal must include the items below and in the following order:

A: Project title

B: In a nutshell

Key question, key result, key impact (preferably no more than 5-10 sentences written in layman terms).

C: Research idea and context

Starting point, open question, relevance, perspective.

D: Proposed method of solution or concept

Unique approach and, if applicable, novel hypothesis, non-standard methodology, etc.

E: Major gains and obstacles

What are the expected gains of the explorative phase? What are the possible obstacles? What do you define as criteria for success? What would be the next step if the idea turns out to be successful?

F: Appropriateness

Why is your research idea unlikely to be fit for the conventional research project programmes?

G: Probable objections

Which objection(s) have you met or expect to meet from the reviewers? And how would you argue against it?

Figure(s)

If relevant, a maximum of two explanatory figures is allowed.