



TEMPUS

Modernising Higher Education

TEMPUS IV- SIXTH CALL FOR PROPOSALS

How to prepare a project proposal

TEMPUS INFORMATION DAY

OUTLINE

Part I. Preparing the application based on the requirements of the call

Part II. eForm and required attachments

I. Preparing the application based on the requirements of the call

The Call Requirements

The selection process is based on the assessment of applications against 4 types of criteria:

- ❖ Eligibility Criteria
- ❖ Exclusion Criteria
- ❖ Selection Criteria
- ❖ Award Criteria

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Most of eligibility criteria (see Section 5 and 14 of the Call) are featured in the eForm; following criteria are double checked by the Tempus Selection Team:

1. **Formal submission requirements**
2. **Grant size and duration**
3. **Applicant, Partners and Partnership requirements** (number of partners, status of the grant applicant & partners, etc.)
4. **National & regional priorities**

*It does not matter how well the project has been designed if it does not fulfil the eligibility criteria: this will lead to the **automatic rejection** of the proposal*



Main reasons for rejection on eligibility criteria 2012

Out of 676 receive projects, 100 were rejected for not complying with eligibility criteria:

- ☒ Applicant NOT a higher education institution or association of HEIs (non-governmental organisations; foundations, faculties, departments research centres or other university components; international organisations cannot count for HEIs)
- ☒ Legal documents NOT signed by the Legal Representative of applicant organisations
- ☒ Minimum number of higher education institutions NOT respected
- ☒ Ministry of education NOT included in Structural Measures projects
- ☒ Minimum or maximum grant size NOT respected

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- ✓ The applicant institution is not in one of the situations referred to in Articles 93 and 94 of the Financial Regulations (such as bankruptcy, professional misconduct, subject of fraud, corruption, administrative penalty, conflict of interest, etc)

Based on:

- The **DECLARATION OF HONOUR** signed by the Legal Representative of the applicant institution

SELECTION CRITERIA

The applicant has the operational and the financial capacity to complete the proposed activities.

Based on:

- ✓ **DECLARATION OF HONOUR** signed by the Legal Representative of the Applicant institution attesting the status, legal person, having financial and operational capacity to complete the proposed activities
- ✓ Assessment of applicant institution's
 - skills and expertise
 - profit and loss accounts + balance sheet for the last 2 financial years (not required for public bodies)
 - bank details form certified by applicant and bank

FINANCIAL GUARANTEES

EACEA can reject application, ask for more info, require a **bank guarantee.**

Private higher education institutions should make sure that they can obtain such a bank guarantee and provide it to the Agency when required.

AWARD CRITERIA

Five award criteria defined in the Call

1. Relevance (25%)
2. Good quality partnership (20%)
3. Quality of the project's content and methodology (25%)
4. Dissemination & Sustainability (15%)
5. Budget and Cost-effectiveness (15%)

(1) Relevance

- ✓ The **objectives** are **realistic** and **relevant** for the reform strategies of higher education in the Partner Countries
- ✓ The **national/regional priorities** are addressed.
- ✓ **Key problems** and **needs** of the specific Partner Country/ies and of the potential stakeholders are identified.
- ✓ The real needs & problems of the clearly defined **target groups** are addressed
- ✓ The project describes how the field of intervention has been explored and how it will contribute to solving the identified problems
- ✓ The project will have an impact on a wide area (including peripheral areas)
- ✓ If based on previous / on-going project, significant added value must be demonstrated
- ✓ It explains how the project proposal was prepared, including partners that had not benefited from Tempus IV before (where applicable)

WHERE in the E-form? E.1 The project rationale

(2) Quality of the Partnership

- ✓ The partnership includes all the skills, recognised expertise and competences required to carry out the work programme; where applicable, involvement of relevant stakeholders from non-academic sector
- ✓ Balanced distribution of tasks amongst partners, in coherence with the required expertise for each specific activity
- ✓ Applicant and partners have sufficient staff as well as material and financial resources to handle the project
- ✓ Measures to ensure effective communication among the partners are described

WHERE in the E-form? B; D.1 Skills and expertise of key staff; E2 Quality of the partnership

(3) Quality of Project Content & Methodology

- ✓ The academic / training content and the pedagogical approach; appropriate methodology, the link between wider and specific objectives and between expected outcomes and activities
- ✓ The quality control processes including indicators & benchmarks, risk analysis and the monitoring measures that will be implemented.
- ✓ The management of the project, decision-making process and implementation structure (including measures for conflict resolution).
 - Self-consistency between the project description, LFM, action plan and budget
 - Appropriate level of involvement of HEIs from Partner Countries (i.e., where applicable, the role of Lead partner in work-packages)

WHERE in the E-form? E3. The project contents & methodology, F. Workpackages; + Excel tables (Workplan) and LFM

(4) Dissemination & Sustainability

- ✓ How information/outcomes of the project will be made available to groups not directly involved
- ✓ How the expected results will be sustainable in the long term (financial, institutional and policy level)

The project should consider to:

- develop a “visual” identity of the project
- clearly identify target groups
- plan internal (within HEIs) & external dissemination (in the PC)
- use a wide range of dissemination tools
- advertise the first results / products
- consult and involve the relevant stakeholders (decision makers at national and institutional level, students organisations, professional organisations, private sector)
- demonstrate arrangements for recognition / accreditation of new courses
- evaluate and describe what will happen after the end of the project
- consult Tempus handbook “Sustainability through Dissemination”

WHERE in the E-form? E4. Dissemination & Sustainability; F. Workpackages

(5) Budget and Cost Effectiveness

Implementation of project activities and achievement of expected results and objectives in **the most economical way** and respecting the **Tempus financial rules**

- Respect the salary and mobility rates (according to type of task in the project and not the status of the individual)
- Plan a reasonable/efficient amount of staff costs for each activity (including reasonable management costs)
- Use efficiently the mobility periods – making best use of time abroad for maximum benefit
- Limit the equipment purchase to what is necessary for the implementation of the project
- Check carefully the eligibility of expenses and account the expenses under the right budget heading
- Explain the principles for budget allocation amongst partners
- Eliminate calculation errors and check the consistency of the different parts of the budget

Attention! Inflated budgets are marked severely!

WHERE in the E-form? E5. Budget & Cost-Effectiveness; Budget Excel Tables

Workpackages (WPs), Outcomes & Activities

- Provide a logical structure of activities grouped in work-packages, with a reasonable number of deliverables / outcomes;
- Ensure a logical progression of outcomes within each WP from one project year to next;
- Propose suitable activities to achieve each individual outcome;
- Identify and quantify all appropriate target groups (no general statements);
- Envisage realistic inputs directly relate to activities & are cost-efficient* ;
- Identify and justify financial resources needed to deliver the output/outcome & relate appropriately with budget (Excel tables);
- Plan appropriate number of individual mobilities, the direction and duration for each mobility flow in relation to each activity.

***Only amount of resources is required in the eForm; corresponding costing must be provided in the Budget Excel Sheets**

Quality of language & Clarity of Information

- ✓ Choose the language with which all project partners are the most comfortable
- ✓ Explain the concepts and ideas (avoid abbreviations, acronyms)
- ✓ Be precise & specific: provide facts and figures; indicate WHY, by WHOM and HOW something will be done
- ✓ Avoid “patchwork” (copy-paste information)
- ✓ Before submitting, ask somebody who does not know the project to **read/proofread the draft** proposal.

Avoid the most common mistakes

- ❖ Remember that only information presented in the application can be assessed
- ❖ Do not assume prior technical or “historical project related” knowledge on the part of the assessor

How to start up...

- Read the Call application guidelines carefully (check the changes in the 6th Call vs. 5th Call)
- First check the **changes in the 6th call**, in particular **national priorities**, then decide which of the themes identified in the Call would be best to develop a project
- Check to what extent your subject/theme is still relevant for the addressed Partner Countries / region
- Read the Instructions for completing the application form and compulsory attachments* + the eForm User Guide carefully
- Find interested and **relevant** partners
- Consult your NTO / NCP **early**
- Be aware of other HE projects in the PC concerned (**no double funding**)

* ***Declaration of Honour, Workplan and Budget tables, LFM***

When to start?

- ✓ As early as possible
- ✓ Set a realistic time-frame for project preparation (including reception of Mandates from partners)
- ✓ Get information on technical requirements for on-line submission as early as possible
- ✓ Establish methodology: who will develop what part (narrative, financial, attachments, etc.)
- ✓ Decide on the communication strategy
- ✓ Decide WHO will write the draft; complete the eForm; submit the eForm and attachments

II. eForm and required attachments

eForm Structure (main body)

Part	Content
Front Page	Identification of the Call and Programme
PART A	Identification of the Applicant and other organisations participating in the project
PART B	Organisation and Activities
PART C	Description of the project (basic data)
PART D	Operational capacity
PART E	Project implementation / Award criteria (the project in details)
PART F	Workplan in Workpackages

eForm Structure (attachments)

No.	Content
1	Declaration of Honour by the legal representative of the Applicant organisation (pdf / jpg)
2	Logical Framework Matrix (Word document)
3	Work-plan and Budget (Excel Tables)

These attachments are **compulsory**.
Templates are available on the Agency website.

PART A - Identification of the Applicant and other organisations participating in the project

Partner 1 (APPLICANT)

- A1** Organisation (role, name, address, telephone, email etc. + **Nr of Erasmus University Charter for institutions in EU Member States**)
- A2** Person responsible for the management of the application (name, address, telephone, email etc.) - **Ensure a correct & valid email address is provided!**
- A3** Person authorised to represent the organisation (legal representative) – only for applicant organisation

Partner 2, 3... (partners)

A1
A2



Part A & B must be completed for each organisation participating in the project

PART B Short description of organisations & their activities

B1 Structure:

Status: Private / Public

Type of organisation

B2 Aims & activities of the organisation

key activities related to the project theme (free text, 1000 characters)

role of the organisation in the project (free text, 1000 characters)

B3 Other EU grants

support received from Tempus in the last three years (table)

other grant applications applied for the same project (table)

*List of partner organisations
is generated **automatically** after filling in Part A and B*

PART C. Description of the project (summaries)

C1 Timing of the project

C2 Specific objectives (free text, limited 1000 characters)

C3 Tempus objectives, themes and priorities (tick boxes and limited free text)

C4 Partner countries involved (tick boxes)

C5 Summary of the project (free text, limited 2000 characters)

C6 Summary of the work-packages (automatic)

C7 List of deliverables – outputs/outcomes (automatic)

C8 Summary budget

C9 Project history

PART D. Operational Capacity

D1 Skills and expertise of key staff involved in the project

- organisation number
- organisation name
- key person name: summary of relevant skills and experience (free text, 750 / person)

D2 Specific tasks that will be sub-contracted to bodies outside the formal consortium

PART E. Project implementation / Award criteria

E1 The project rationale – **Relevance**

(needs analysis, priorities addressed, objectives, target groups)

- limited space: 6000 characters

E2 **Quality of the partnership**

(suitability to work together, specific and complementary skills and expertise) - limited space: 6000 characters

E3 Project's **content and methodology**

(academic content, pedagogical approach, methodology, LFM)

- limited space: 12000 characters

E4 **Dissemination & sustainability** - limited space: 4000 characters

E5 **Budget and cost effectiveness** - limited: 2000 characters

PART F. Workplan in Workpackages (1)

F1 Identification: WP nr - type:

Development (substance of work)
Quality plan (quality control and monitoring)
Dissemination
Exploitation of results (sustainability)
Management

**At least one of
each type of
WP must be
completed**

Start – End – Duration

Related assumptions and risks (limit 400 characters)

Description (limit 2000 characters)

F2 Deliverables – outputs / outcomes

Title

Type or nature

Delivery date

Dissemination level

Target groups

Language(s) of the product

PART F. Work-plan in Work-packages (2)

F3 Consortium partners involved:

Lead partner

Other partners

Role and tasks in the WPs (limit to 400 characters)

F4 Resources required to complete WPs

Staff categories – number of days – for each partner organisation

Tasks to be sub-contracted

Travel: Staff, Students: number of flows / destination

Equipment

Printing and publishing

Other costs

eForm required attachments

1. The workplan and budget:

- The workplan table (Excel Sheet 1)

- ✓ Same as presented in the eForm as workpackages (development, dissemination, management....)

- The budget tables (Excel Sheets 2-10)

- ✓ Do not underestimate the workload needed to fill in the 10 Budget tables
- ✓ Ensure full consistency between the inputs mention in the eForm and their costs indicated in Excel tables
- ✓ Make sure that your costing is realistic
- ✓ Cross-check the coherence between the different budget tables

eForm required attachments

2. The Logical Framework Matrix (LFM):

- ✓ Read literature on LFM
- ✓ Ensure that entries are consistent with the previous sections & adequately completed
- ✓ Re-check the logic of the project as set out in LFM
- ✓ Indicators of progress (quantitative / qualitative) should be specific, measurable, realistic and relevant to the project objectives and outcomes
- ✓ Identify & address main assumptions & risks
- ✓ Ensure that LFM is consistent with the project description

eForm required attachments

3. The Declaration of Honour:

- ✓ Signed by the person authorised to enter into legally binding agreements on behalf of the applicant organisation
- ✓ Certifies that applicant institution is not in any of the situation referred to in Articles 93 and 94 of the Financial Regulations (see Section 6 “Exclusion Criteria” – Sixth call application guidelines)
- ✓ The Declaration of Honour is accepted in scanned version.

eForm features

- An electronic application form that can only be submitted via the internet
- A form that does not require you to be online when you are filling it in or validating it
- An interactive .PDF form that uses Adobe's Acrobat Reader (which can be downloaded from Adobe's website **FREE OF CHARGE**)
- An intuitive, easy-to-use application form

eForm – technical requirements

The form requires Adobe Acrobat Reader (or Standard or Professional) to be installed on your computer – this may require the intervention of your IT department

Version must be 8.1.3 or higher (incl. v9)

An internet connection and standard browser software are required

There is no software specific to the eForm

Practical hints

- Read the **eForm User Guide** before starting to fill the form
- Make sure that you have the necessary **IT support**
- Do not try to fill the form directly on the website – **download** it first on your computer
- Fill in all fields on the front page before starting to fill the other sections
- **Save** the form regularly
- Maximum size of **attachments 5MB**
- Do not validate the form until you have finished completing it
- The **submitted form is locked** – cannot be changed

Sources of guidance

- The **Instructions for Applicants** (to complete the application and the compulsory documents)
 - ⇒ Rules and guidance on eForm content and the entire application process
- The **eForm User Guide**
 - ⇒ Help with the technical aspects of completing the eForm
- Still need further assistance...?
 - ⇒ NTOs/NCPs
 - ⇒ EACEA-TEMPUS-CALLS@ec.europa.eu
 - ⇒ EACEA-HELPDESK@ec.europa.eu

We hope your ideas will fly!



Thank you for your participation!