**FUSION R&I Commercialisation Voucher Programme 2014 - 2020**

**Application Form**

**For Official Use Only**

**Application No:**

**SECTION ONE: APPLICANT’S DETAILS**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Academic Institution Details:** | | | | |
| **Name of Academic Institution:** |  | **Department/Institute/Centre Name:** | |  |
| **Contact Details:** | **Name** | **Title** | | |
| **ID Card No.** |  | | |
| **E-mail** |  | **Tel. No.** |  | |
|  |  | **Mobile No.** |  | |
| **Address:**  *(Please provide full postal address and website)* |  | | | |
| **Provide a profile of the institution and the department – principal activities and profile**  *(up to 300 words)* |  | | | |

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| **Company Details[[1]](#footnote-1):** | | | | | | |
| **Company Name:** |  | | **Company Registration Number and VAT number:**  *By default companies should be registered locally to be eligible for funding. If the company is not registered in Malta or is a spin-out then additional information will need to be supplied to confirm eligibility for funding.* | | |  |
| **Contact Details:** | **Name** | | **Job Title** | | | |
| **ID Card No.** | |  | | | |
| **E-mail** |  | | **Tel. No.** |  | | |
|  |  | | **Mobile No.** |  | | |
| **Business address**:  *(Please provide full postal address)* |  | | | | | |
| **No of employees (FTE)** |  | **Turnover of business in last financial year** | | |  | |
| **Provide a profile of the company – principal activities and profile**  *(up to 200 words)* |  | | | | | |
| **Company website URL** |  | | | | | |
| **Sector** |  | | | | | |

**SECTION TWO: PROPOSAL DETAILS**

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| **Proposal Title** |  |
| **Proposal Abstract**  *Kindly provide a non-confidential summary of the project including a brief background, the problem to be resolved or the opportunity to be exploited and the approach to be undertaken.*  *(up to 300 words)* |  |
| **Smart Specialisation Areas**  *Additional information on the SMART Specialisation Areas may be found on the Council’s website.*  *Only one area should be indicated. Please select that area which is most applicable to your project.* | * ICT as an enabler * ICT based innovation * Tourism Product Development * Maritime Services * Aviation and Aerospace * Health with a focus on healthy living and active ageing, and e-health * Resource-efficient buildings * High value-added manufacturing with a   focus on processes and design   * Aquaculture * Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **Other Issues:** *If applicable, briefly identify any gender, ethical or legal issues that may be connected with the proposed project. Otherwise enter “n/a”.* | |
| 1. **EXCELLENCE** | |
| * What is the current State-of-the-Art and how will your project go beyond the current State-of-the-Art? Make reference to and distinguish your proposal from previous work / projects within the area? *(up to 200 words)*   + *Give examples of the current State-of-the-Art product / service / technology available and highlight how your proposal will go beyond – explain the quantum leap your proposal will take.* | |
| * What are the specific project objectives? *(up to 200 words)*   + *Describe the specific objectives for the project, which should be clear, measurable, realistic and achievable within the duration of the project. Objectives should be consistent with the expected exploitation and impact of the project;*   + *Explain the industrial / economic / social problem to overcome, or the business opportunity to be taken advantage of, that has not yet been solved / offered and can be solved / offered through your project;*   + *Explain also how your solution solves a possible problem or avails of the business opportunity;*   + *Describe the objectives and expected outcome of your innovation business project.* | |
| * Describe the project concept & approach*. (up to 200 words)*   + *Explain the current stage of development of the project and the key milestones that have led to it, or similar indications of results.*   + *Describe and explain the concept and the approach / activities that you will implement during this project (e.g. demonstration, testing, prototyping, pilot lines, scale-up studies, miniaturisation, design, performance verification, market replication encouraging the involvement of end users and potential clients, research etc.);*   + *Explain how the concept and objectives for the project fit into the overall plan to reach the market;*   + *Describe how your project intends to develop something new that addresses EU-wide challenges.* | |
| * Describe this project’s ambition. *(up to 200 words)*   + *Highlight and explain the novelty of your project;*   + *Describe the expected key market application(s) extracted from the results already achieved, that differentiates your project and provides the highest added value for potential customers;*   + *Describe the expected performance / impact on defined needs, when in use, including improvement potential over time, regarding costs, environmental benefits, ease-of-use and any other relevant benefit and/or added value for end users and/or potential clients compared to alternatives solving the same or similar problems. Main advantages of your solution with respect to competing solutions.* | |
| 1. **IMPACT** | |
| * Describe the potential impact of the proposed technology, product or service which will result from the proposal. *(up to 200 words)*   + *Explain what is your proposed technology, product or service and how this will bring about economic / social impact.* | |
| * What is the current Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of the technology / product / service being proposed? *(up to 200 words)*   + *Describe the positioning of the project, e.g. where it is situated in the spectrum from ‘idea to application’, or from ‘lab to market’. (Vide Appendix 2 for more information about TRLs).* | |
| * What is the innovation of the proposal and how will it be achieved? *(up to 200 words)*   + *Provide an Innovation Plan as to how you aim to achieve / develop the innovation described.* | |
| * Who do you foresee your product / services to be targeted to – potential users? Would it attract both the national and international market? *(up to 200 words)*   + *Highlight potential end-users locally and on an international scale and explain why this product / service would in fact be useful.* | |
| * Measures to maximise Impact: Dissemination & Exploitation of Results and Communication of measures to promote the project idea*. (up to 200 words)*   + *Explain which stakeholders are vital for a successful commercial exploitation;*   + *A brief description on the dissemination and exploitation measures to access the full range of potential users should be provided.* | |
| 1. **IMPLEMENTATION** | |
| * Highlight the skills, background and competences that the organization may require, in the future, to ensure the implementation of the project*. (up to 200 words)*   *Company*   * + *Explain the entity’s technical and commercial capability to ensure that research undertaken in relation to this proposal is successful.*   *Consortium*   * + *Describe the consortium. How will it deliver the project’s objectives? How do the members complement one another (and cover the value chain, where appropriate)? In what way does each of them contribute to the project? How will they be able to work effectively together?* | |
| * Highlight the key Risks and the Contingency actions proposed. *(up to 200 words)*   + *Describe any critical risks, relating to the project implementation;*   + *Highlight any potential risk mitigation measures within the table below.*  |  |  | | --- | --- | | ***Description of Risk*** | ***Proposed Risk-Mitigation Measures*** | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | | |
| **Outline any previous funding that have been awarded for the background research, if any.** *(up to 200 words)*   * + *Highlight potential synergies with other projects.* | |

**SECTION THREE: THE COMMERCIALISATION VOUCHERS**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity being applied for:** | | |  | |
| *In the case of Public bodies, NGOs, Academic Institutions and Research Organisations - the Voucher will be 100% funded inclusive of Non-Recoverable VAT (NR VAT).*  *In the case of other organisations, the Vouchers will be 75% funded inclusive of Non-Recoverable VAT. A co-financing rate of 25% is therefore required. Recoverable VAT on the global amount will not be funded.* | | | | |
| **Confirm your intent to apply for the voucher by ticking the box below:** | ***Private Sector*** | | | ***Public bodies, NGOs, Academic Institutions and Research Organisations*** |
| 75% of Voucher Value granted to All Other Orgs. + NR VAT  € | 25% Co-Financing + Recoverable VAT on the global Amount for All Other Orgs.  € | | 100% of Voucher Value 100% + NR VAT (*Public bodies, NGOs, Academic Institutions, Research Orgs.)*  € |
| IP Check | Up to 3000 + NR VAT | Up to 1000 + R.VAT | | Up to 4000 + NR VAT |
| Market Research and Product Development Costing | Up to 5250 + NR VAT | Up to 1750 + R.VAT | | Up to 7000 + NR VAT |
| Economic Impact and Risk  Profile | Up to 4500 + NR VAT | Up to 1500 + R.VAT | | Up to 6000 + NR VAT |
| Technology Development Programme | | | | |
| Initial Patent Application | Up to 3750 + NR VAT | Up to 1,250 + R. VAT | | Up to 5,000 + NR VAT |
| Business Plan | Up to 11,250 + NR VAT | Up to 3,750 + R. VAT | | Up to 15,000 + NR VAT |
| Meeting with Potential Investors | Up to 3000 + NR VAT | Up to 1000 + R. VAT | | Up to 4000 + NR VAT |
| **Describe why the Commercialisation Voucher is important for the Proposal** *(up to 200 words)* | | | | |
| **Outline any particular skills and expertise required from the Service Provider/s** *(up to 200 words)* | | | | |

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| **DECLARATION BY APPLICANTS**  A legal representative of the Research Institution or the Company should complete this Declaration. | |
| **I confirm that:**  The information given on this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if it is later established that I misrepresented this or related documentation and do wish to pursue this Programme then I will be required to pay for the services received up to that date. I have also read and fully understood the Rules for Participation in Fusion and the Guidelines for Applicants. | I agree |
| I/the Company confirms that the amount of R&I Voucher will not result in a breach of the *De Minimis Aid* regulations received within the past three years. Please fill in Appendix 1. | I agree |
| I accept and confirm that my personal data and proposal content information can be used by the Malta Council for Science and Technology for the purposes of administering this application. | I agree |
| I accept and confirm that my personal data and proposal content information can be passed on to a third party i.e.:   * The proposal Evaluator/s and Voucher Evaluator/s for the review of the proposal and each stage in the programme. * The Service Provider/s for the eventual undertaking of the activities | I agree |
| **Name of Authorised Officer** | **Date** |
| **Stamp** |  |

Appendix 1

**State Aid Declaration (De Minimis)**

**FUSION R&I Commercialisation Voucher Programme 2014-2020**

If the submitted application is approved, the Project will benefit from *de minimis* State aid in line with *Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid*.

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1407/2013 allow a ‘single undertaking’ to receive an aggregate maximum amount of *de minimis* aid of €200,000 under all *de minimis* aid measures, over a period of three fiscal years. This aggregate maximum threshold applies in principle to all economic sectors with the exception of a ‘single undertaking’ performing road freight transport for hire or reward for which a lower *de minimis* threshold of €100,000 over a period of three ‘fiscal years’ applies. The agriculture and fisheries sectors are subject to different thresholds and criteria. For the purpose of this declaration the term ‘single undertaking’ shall have the meaning as established in *Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1407/2013.* Moreover ‘fiscal year’ means the fiscal year as used for tax purposes by the undertaking concerned. This maximum threshold would include all State aid granted under this scheme and any other State aid measure granted under the *de minimis* rule. Any *de minimis* aid received in excess of the established threshold will have to be recovered, with interest, from the undertaking receiving the aid.

The following is an indicative list of the possible forms of State Aid:

* Grants from public bodies.
* Loans or loan guarantees at favourable rates.
* Tax benefits.
* Waiving or deferral of fees or interest normally due.
* Marketing and advertising assistance.
* Consultancy, training and other support provided either free or at a reduced rate.
* Aid for investment in environmental projects or research and development assistance.
* Purchase, rent or lease of immovable property at less than market rate.

Potentially any assistance from a public body may constitute State Aid. Should you have any doubts whether any public assistance received is *de minimis* aid, you should contact the agency or department from which the assistance was received in order to ascertain this.

**Declaration**

I declare that a comprehensive amount of *de minimis* aid received to date during the current fiscal year and the previous two fiscal years is:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Fiscal Year 201X** | **Fiscal Year 201X** | **Fiscal Year** **201X** | **TOTAL** |
| € | € | € | € |

A breakdown of the source, type and amount of all *de minimis* aid received as well as that applied for from any State aid grantor, is presented overleaf.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Business Undertaking (Full Legal Name) |  | VAT Registration Number |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Name and Surname (BLOCK CAPITALS) |  | Position in Establishment |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Signature |  | Date |

**rule.**

**Detailed information concerning applicable State aid under the *de minimis***

*(Note: Information should include both State aid received as well as applications for de minimis State aid still pending approval by potential grantors)*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Source/Grantor** | **Type of State Aid** | **Amount in €** |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Eg: 2/01/2009* | *Central Government* | *Soft Loan Scheme* | *10,000* |
|  |  |  |  |
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Appendix 2

**Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs)**

TRLs are a means to define endpoints of projects along the innovation axes from basic research to the market, ranging from 1 (basic concept) to 9 (market entrance).

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Readiness Level** | **Definition** | **Explanation** |
| TRL 1 | Basic principles observed and reported. | Lowest level of technology readiness. Scientific research begins to be translated into applied research and development. |
| TRL 2 | Technology concept and/or application formulated. | Once basic principles are observed, practical applications can be invented and R&D started. Applications are speculative and may be unproven. |
| TRL 3 | Analytical and experimental critical function and/or characteristic proof-of-concept. | Active research and development is initiated, including analytical / laboratory studies to validate predictions regarding the technology. |
| TRL 4 | Component and/or breadboard validation in laboratory environment. | Basic technological components are integrated to establish that they will work together. |
| TRL 5 | Component and/or breadboard validation in relevant environment. | The basic technological components are integrated with reasonably realistic supporting elements so it can be tested in a simulated environment. |
| TRL 6 | System / subsystem model or prototype demonstration in a relevant environment (ground or space). | A representative model or prototype system is tested in a relevant environment. |
| TRL 7 | System prototype demonstration in a space environment. | A prototype system that is near, or at, the planned operational system. |
| TRL 8 | Actual system completed and “flight qualified” through test and demonstration (ground or space). | In an actual system, the technology has been proven to work in its final form and under expected conditions. |
| TRL 9 | Actual system “flight proven” through successful mission operations. | The system incorporating the new technology in its final form has been used under actual mission conditions. |

1. To be Eligible for Funding a Company needs to be a Micro or Small and Medium Enterprise defined as:

   <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/sme-definition/index_en.htm>

   |  |  |  |  |  |
   | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
   | **Company category** | **Employees** | **Turnover** | or | **Balance sheet total** |
   | Medium-sized | < 250 | ≤ € 50 m | | ≤ € 43 m |
   | Small | < 50 | ≤ € 10 m | | ≤ € 10 m |
   | Micro | < 10 | ≤ € 2 m | | ≤ € 2 m |

   [↑](#footnote-ref-1)