**R&I Thematic Programmes**

**Digital Technologies Programme**

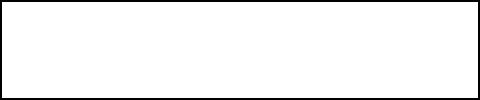
Application Form 2024

**SECTION ONE: APPLICANT’S DETAILS**

**Note to the Applicant:** Within this document, a *partner* refers to a Maltese Registered Entity.

**-** If the applicant is a sole beneficiary, any reference to additional partners is not applicable.

**-** In the case of a consortium, the reference to the additional partners have to be filled in.



**For Official Use Only**

**Application No:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Details of Applicant Entity (or Lead Partner in case of consortium)** | | | | |
| **Name of Entity** |  | **Department/ Institute/Centre**  **Name**  *(where applicable)* | |  |
| **Type of Entity** | *(Choose between Maltese Public or Maltese Private Body)* | **N.A.C.E Code** *(where applicable)* | |  |
| **Contact Details:** | **Name and Surname** | **Title** | | |
| **ID Card No.** |  | | |
| **E-mail** |  | **Tel. No.** |  | |
|  |  | **Mobile No.** |  | |
| **Address:**  *(Please provide full postal address and website)* |  | | | |
| **No. of employees**  **(FTE)**  *(where applicable)* |  | **Turnover of business in last financial year**  *(where applicable)* | |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Provide a profile of the entity, including the principal activities and resources, relevant to the project** |  |
| **Proposed Funding Route**  *Please note that this section is compulsory and should be replicated as necessary for all partners in the case of a consortium* | Please tick whether your application falls under State Aid *de minimis* Regulation, State Aid GBER or State Aid Not Applicable.  Applicants may only opt for one option.  *Selecting more than one option, or the wrong option, will make the application administratively non-compliant.*  **State Aid *de minimis*** – Please fill in the *de minimis* declaration  **State Aid Not Applicable** – Please fill in the relevant declaration (Public Research and Knowledge Dissemination Organisation that does not carry out an economic activity ***or*** Public Entity that does not carry out an economic activity).  **State aid GBER** – Please fill in the GBER Declarations (Entity Size Declaration form; Undertaking in Difficulty form; Effective Collaboration/ Wide Dissemination/ Licence Availability Declaration Form)  **In the following space, please provide a justification if you selected the “State Aid Not Applicable” option.** |

**Entities applying under GBER, kindly fill in the table below:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Type of research tasks undertaken by the Malta-based applicant in the proposal  *[The research type(s) of project tasks eligible within this Call encompass either ‘Industrial Research’, and/or ‘Experimental Development’ as defined in the National rules for participation. Please note that these classifications need to correspond to the activities that you will be undertaking. Such activities could be of mixed research type and might not necessarily be of the same research type as activities undertaken by other partners in the consortium.]* | Industrial Research  Experimental Development  Mixed  If Mixed Percentage Industrial Research:  If Mixed Percentage Experimental Development: |
| Provide a clear and thorough justification of the selected research type(s) If “mixed” was chosen, a clear percentage of each type of research should be mentioned: | Click or tap here to enter text. |

Please note, the Council reserves the right to request additional information to verify aid intensity declaration.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SECTION TWO: PROPOSAL DETAILS** | |
| **Proposal Title and Acronym** |  |
| **Hypothesis Question** |  |
| **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.* |  |
| **Area of Study –** Refer to Subarea provided in the Rules of Participation in Section 2 |  |
| **Keywords**  *Kindly include between three and five keywords to describe this proposal* |  |
| **Potential Technology Readiness Level Advancement**  *Kindly include an explanation of the current TRL, and the envisaged end TRL* |  |
| **Other Issues:** *If applicable, briefly identify any gender considerations, ethical or legal issues that may be connected with the proposed project. Otherwise enter “N/A”.* | |

|  |
| --- |
| 1. **EXCELLENCE** |
| **Describe the outline of your project proposal, highlighting the gap which has been identified in the specific sector (500 words limit).**  *Please specify the research question, the scientific approach and the provided solution to be taken. Clearly highlight the challenges that the project sets out to tackle.* |
| **How does the project intend to provide innovative and/or improved approaches to address the sectors being addressed in the Programme? How does the project intend to lead new discoveries or advances over the current state of affairs? (500 words limit).** |

|  |
| --- |
| **What are the specific project objectives? How are these objectives enhancing the field of Digital Technologies? (500 words limit).**  *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.* |

|  |
| --- |
| 1. **IMPACT** |
| **Describe the potential impact of the proposed technology, product or service in addressing any challenges within the proposal and in delivering outcomes. Describe whether the value created can be translated to other research areas (if any) (500 words limit).** |

**1.**

|  |
| --- |
| **Describe the potential future benefits of this project on the organisation, in terms of increased economic or research opportunities, or increased international presence and reputation (500 words limit)** |
| **What influences and impacts can the research have on the end-users, including society, research community and industry? (500 words limit)** |
| **Clearly describe how the project ties in with the relevant National Policies and Strategies, outlining the contribution of the project towards National Priorities (e.g., as identified by the Malta’s official latest AI strategy by MDIA, Malta’s National R&I Strategic Plan and Smart Specialisation Strategy). How does the research goes beyond comparable solutions at European level (500 words limit).** |
| **Is the proposal accompanied by a comprehensive dissemination and externalisation plan which considers all relevant stakeholders such as the general public, industry, the research community, policy makers, etc. (500 words limit).** |
| **Describe the proposal’s mechanism for assessing success and evaluating outcomes, as well as highlight any plans for future development. Explain how the proposal presents a strategy for further research to be conducted (500 words limit).** |
| **How does the project intend to fulfil the requirements associated with the MDIA Technology Assurance Sandbox (TAS), and/or Technology Assessment Recognition Framework (TARF). Provide clear justifications if these initiatives are not applicable to the project (500 words limit). [[1]](#footnote-1)** |

1. **IMPLEMENTATION**
   1. **Deliverables**

*List the deliverables of the proposed project, specifying the month of completion relative to start of project e.g. Month 6, Month 12 etc. Note that the deadline for any deliverable would be the end of the respective Month specified.*

*The deliverables should be:*

1. ***Tangible*** *outcomes of the project and they must be* ***submissible*** *(such as technical reports, presentations, articles, video recordings, conference papers, journal articles etc.)* ***Kindly specify the format within the deliverable.***
2. ***Specific*** *to the project activities*
3. *Achieved throughout the* ***lifetime*** *of the project (to be submitted by the end date of the project)*

*Kindly note that the ‘****mandatory deliverables****’ required by the Council as per the Rules for Participation are:*

* *Hold an onboarding meeting with MDIA to determine whether an application has to be submitted for the TAS and/or TARF (or an exemption if not applicable). A post-meeting feedback report has to be provided as part of this deliverable to highlight the way-forward.*
* ***Project Progress Meeting*** *with MCST every six (6) months, which includes delivering a presentation, including a* ***kick-off meeting*** *at the start of the project.*
* *Interim Technical and Financial Reports to be submitted mid-way through the project*
* *End of Project Technical Report*
* *End of Project Audited Financial Report (including Audit Check List and Inventory List)*
* *At least one article in public media (e.g., local newspapers or magazines) to raise public awareness, including an acknowledgement to MCST and MDIA*

*Further to the mandatory deliverables, the proposed recommended deliverables* ***should not exceed ten (10).***

**If applying as a Consortium, kindly replicate the List of Deliverables for each *Partner***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Deliverables for <Lead Partner>** | **Format** | **Month Due** |
| D1. | Meeting with MCST, which includes delivering a Presentation | Presentation | Month 6, 12, 18 … |
| Dbrian warrington | Onboarding meeting with MDIA, and submission of a feedback report regarding the submission for the TAS and/or TARF *(or exemption if not applicable)* | Report | Month brian warrington |
| Dbrian warrington | Article in local, public media *(replicate as necessary)* | Media Article | Month brian warrington |
| Dbrian warrington | Interim Technical Report | Report | Month brian warrington |
| Dbrian warrington | Interim Financial Report | Report | Month brian warrington |
| Dbrian warrington | End of Project Technical Report | Report | Month 24 |
| Dbrian warrington | End of Project Audited Financial Report | Report | Month 26\* |
|  | *Add as required* |  | *Add as required* |

***\* Kindly note that this is the only deliverable allowed to exceed the project lifetime as per Rules for Participation.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Deliverables for <Partner 1>** | **Format** | **Month Due** |
| Dbrian warrington. | brian warrington |  | Month brian warrington |
| Dbrian warrington. | brian warrington |  | Month brian warrington |
| Dbrian warrington. | brian warrington |  | Month brian warrington |
|  | *Add as required* |  |  |

* 1. **High Level Project Plan**

*This section should include a list of deliverables and activities (tasks) that the applicant is responsible for, the start date, end date, and duration of the task.*

*There is one mandatory work package: Project Management and will be Work Package 1. For the following Work Packages, add as required.*

* 1. **Work Packages**

**If applying as a Consortium, kindly replicate the Work Packages for each *Partner***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Work Package Description for <Lead Partner>** | **Start Date** | **End Date** | **Duration** |
| ***Overall Project*** | Month brian warrington | Month brian warrington | Month brian warrington |
| **Work Package Number:** 1  **Work Package Leader:** <Enter Name of Individual>  **Work Package Title:** Project Management  **Work Package Description:**  *(max 100 words)*  brian warrington  **Deliverables pertaining to this Work Package:**  *(Insert the number of the deliverable, ex. D1, and the description.* ***Kindly note that the deliverables have to be in line with Section 3.1****)*  D1. Meeting with MCST, which includes delivering a Presentation  D2.  brian warrington  **Activities pertaining to this Work Package:**  *(provide a brief explanation on each activity – max. 50 words per activity)*  brian warrington  **Risks and mitigation strategies pertaining to this Work Package:**  *(provide a brief description on each activity – max. 200 words per work package)*  brian warrington | Month 1 | Month brian warrington | Months  brian warrington |
| **Work Package Number:** brian warrington  **Work Package Leader:** <Enter Name of Individual>  **Work Package Title:** brian warrington  **Work Package Description:** brian warrington  **Deliverables pertaining to this Work Package:**  brian warrington  **Activities pertaining to this Work Package:**  brian warrington  **Risks and mitigation strategies pertaining to this Work Package:**  brian warrington | Month brian warrington | Month brian warrington | Month brian warrington |

* 1. **Gantt Chart**

*The project Gantt chart should be inserted here. It should include a list of the work packages, deliverables and related activities on the left and a suitable time scale along the top. Each deliverable and/ or activity should be represented by a bar. The position and length of the bars should reflect start dates, duration and end dates. The dates when all reports should be submitted should also be noted.*

brian warrington

* 1. **Detailed information on experts who will work on the project**

*This section should provide an overview of the applicant, and the concerned research team, and thus establish their ability to carry out the project (e.g. track record, skills and competencies, previous experience related to AI/ IoT etc.). Applicants should use this space to promote their expertise to external evaluators.* ***Kindly submit the CV of the Individuals working on the project as an Appendix****.*

*Relevant information on the individual should be submitted in order to show:*

* *If any of the individuals worked on a previous R&I Project that was successfully completed.*
* *If any of the individuals published any scientific papers or supervised graduates or post graduates as an outcome of an R&I Project in a related field.*

*Should there be any changes to the key researchers highlighted herein, the Council must be notified in writing with immediate effect. If a key researcher has not been employed prior to the submission of this application form,* ***a profile of the expertise required should be noted herein****.*

**If applying as a Consortium, kindly replicate for each *Partner***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Lead Partner** | ***Organisation***  brian warrington |
| ***Brief Profile of the Applicant, including concerned research team***  brian warrington |
| ***CVs of the Individuals working on the Project are to be submitted as an Appendix***  CVs of key researchers are provided as Appendix brian warrington |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Partner 1** | ***Organisation***  brian warrington |
| ***Brief Profile of the Applicant, including concerned research team***  brian warrington |
| ***CVs of the Individuals working on the Project are to be submitted as an Appendix***  CVs of key researchers are provided as Appendix brian warrington |

* 1. **Collaborations** *(if applicable)*

***If support is to be given from other entities****, please provide the information in the table below. A specific* ***letter of intent*** *must also be submitted as evidence of support. Please replicate the table if more than one collaboration will be present throughout the project.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Collaborator** | ***Organisation***  brian warrington |
| ***Profile of Organisation***  brian warrington |
| ***Brief Outline of Expected Contribution to Project***  brian warrington |

* 1. **Budget Section**

1. **Budget Summary**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Eligible Direct Costs €** | **Eligible Indirect Costs €** | **Total Eligible Costs €** | **Requested Funding €** |
| Lead Partner  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| *Partner 1 (In case of a consortium)*  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |

**If applying as a Consortium, kindly replicate the Budget Table for each *Partner***

1. **Budget Detail by Organisation**

*Give an estimate of the project budget in Euros (€).* A document is uploaded on the website together with the application form in order to be used as an example for this section. Kindly make sure that detailed information and specifications are provided for individual line items.

1. *Eligible Direct Costs:* 
   * *Personnel*

***Give details of position, hourly rate, duration in number of hours, in the format of: Research Assistant x €14.54/hour x 100 hours.***

Hourly rates should include National Insurance and Inland Revenue and allowances. Please specify if existing or new, and if Management, Researcher or Assistant. In case of existing personnel, kindly specify the name and surname of the personnel concerned and submit their CV as an appendix.

* + *Travel (capped at €4,000) (Not eligible for GBER)*
  + *Consumables*
  + *Specialised Equipment*
  + *Subcontracted Activities*

1. *Eligible Overheads (Indirect Costs) and other Operating Expenses are calculated at* ***20%*** *of the direct eligible costs.*
2. *Audit fees must form part of the indirect costs and therefore should not be input as a separate budget line item.*
3. *Total Eligible Cost is the sum of Eligible Direct and Indirect Costs.*
4. *Requested Funding is calculated as a percentage of the Total Eligible Costs.*
   * *Maltese Public Entity or Maltese Public Research and Knowledge Dissemination Organisations, that do not carry out an economic activity, applying under the non-state aid route, at 100%*
   * *Maltese undertakings that carry out an economic activity applying under the De minimis, route at 75%*
   * *Maltese undertakings applying under the GBER route will receive an aid amount which depends on the size of the applicant and whether there will be effective collaboration, and/or wide dissemination, and/or making licences available, as described in Section 10.6 of the Rules for Participation – State Aid (Option A)*
5. *All figures should be provided to the* ***nearest Euro.***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lead Partner**  ***brian warrington*** | **Eligible Direct Costs €** | **Eligible Indirect Costs (and Other Operating Expenses) €** | **Total Eligible**  **Costs €** | **Requested Funding €** |
| Personnel  *(give details of position, duration, rate)*  *e.g. Researcher x 100 hours x €18.76/hr* |  |  |  |  |
| brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| Equipment (Purchase/Lease)  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| Consumables  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| Subcontracting  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| Travel  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| ***Total*** | **brian warrington** | **brian warrington** | **brian warrington** | **brian warrington** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Partner 1**  ***brian warrington*** | **Eligible Direct Costs €** | **Eligible Indirect Costs (and Other Operating Expenses) €** | **Total Eligible**  **Costs €** | **Requested Funding €** |
| Personnel  *(give details of position, duration, rate)*  *e.g. Researcher x 100 hours x €18.76/hr* |  |  |  |  |
| brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| Equipment (Purchase/Lease)  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| Consumables  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| Subcontracting  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| Travel  brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington | brian warrington |
| ***Total*** | **brian warrington** | **brian warrington** | **brian warrington** | **brian warrington** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organisation and Participation in conference held by MCST** | **Contribution per partner (€)** |
| Lead Partner | brian warrington |
| Partner 1 (in case of a consortium) *Replicate as necessary* | brian warrington |
| Total (Must total **€ 5,000**) | **€ 5,000** |

1. **Summary of Disbursements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Disbursements** | **Requested Funding (€)** |
| Pre-Financing Tranche (50% of Total Requested Funding) | brian warrington |
| Mid-Project Tranche (30% of Total Requested Funding) | brian warrington |
| Retention Tranche(20% of Total Requested Funding) | brian warrington |
| **Total** | **brian warrington** |

**SECTION THREE: DECLARATIONS & ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS**

*All necessary declarations and additional documents to be submitted as annexes to the application form can be accessed from the MCST Resource Page via the following link here:* [*https://mcst.gov.mt/resource-page/*](https://mcst.gov.mt/resource-page/)*. Kindly refer to Section 7 of the Rules of Participation.*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Lead Partner’s Legal Representative

Lead Partner

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Project Contact Point

“<Insert Name of Project Contact Point>”

Project Contact Point

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Partner 1

“<Insert Name of Partner’s 1 Legal Representative >”

Partner 1

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Partner 2

“<Insert Name of Partner’s 2 Legal Representative >”

Partner 2 *(If applicable)*

The signatories to this application form are hereby confirming that the R&I Thematic Programmes: Digital Technologies Programme ‘Rules for participation 2024-2026’ are read and accepted.

1. Technology Assurance Sandbox (<https://www.mdia.gov.mt/technology-assurance-sandbox/>) and Technology Assessment Recognition Framework (<https://www.mdia.gov.mt/certification/tarf-technology-assessment-recognition-framework/>) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)