

**RHE-MEDiation - Open Call for Associated Regions**

ANNEX 2 - Proposal Template

Submission deadline: 31 May 2025, 17.00 CEST

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Instructions

Please utilize this template to create your proposal for RHE-MEDiation Open Call for Associated Regions (OC4ARs). **It is essential to adhere strictly to this template structure when formulating your proposal.** Submissions that utilize different templates or document layouts will be deemed ineligible.

Disclaimer: *Please note that your proposal will be assessed based solely on the submitted document, and no supplementary documents or links for additional information beyond what is outlined here will be accepted*. The proposal should serve as a comprehensive stand-alone document.

Prior to submitting your application, it is crucial to review the Guidelines for Applicants to fully understand the applicable rules for this call. All necessary documents can be found at: <https://rhemediation.eu/open-call.html.>

This template has been designed to facilitate clear measurement of the key elements of your proposed work in relation to the evaluation criteria, which include:

* Technical Value
* Impact of the proposed activity
* Implementation of the project

**Rules:**

* The complete proposal is limited to 15 pages (the cover page, table of contents, and the Ethical/Security Checklist are excluded from this limit). All tables, figures, references, and other related components must be included as part of the proposal.
* Use “**Times New Roman**” as the font type, with a minimum **font size of 11** points.
* You must save the document as a PDF before uploading.
* Any pages that exceed the specified limit will not be reviewed by the evaluators.
* **ENGLISH is the sole permissible language for the proposal.**

**Tips:**

* Utilize the various communication tools provided by the RHE-MEDiation Consortium (such as information webinars, online Q&A sessions via the F6S platform, and the website) to obtain answers to any questions you may have before submitting your proposal.
* Keeping your text concise is beneficial, as evaluators typically do not respond favourably to unnecessarily lengthy proposals.

***Please remove this page as well as the guidance text in blue from each section prior to submitting your proposal***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Proposal information | | |
| **Acronym** |  | |
| **Title** | *Please describe in 200 characters including spaces* | |
| **Location of your associated region** | | *Country,*  *Region/Province/County,*  *Municipality,* |
| **Contact details of the person representing the applicant and authorising this application** | | *Name and Surname, function, email contact* |
| **Contact details of the official who is the responsible for the activity** | |  |
| **Website URL** | |  |

# Overview of the proposal (max. 1 page)

## Summary

Provide an overall description of your proposed work. Outline what will be performed, its significance, the organisations involved, the challenges and difficulties to be addressed, and the expected outcomes.

Write here.

## Objectives

Clearly articulate one or more objectives for your proposed work during the 9-month program. Are these objectives measurable and verifiable? Are they realistically achievable?

Write here.

# Technical Value (max 4 pages)

## Relevance and technical challenge

* Briefly describe which is the main problematic scenario/challenge you want to address with your project. Please describe the starting point situations and current constraints and limitations. Identify the main barriers and describe how will your project deal with the challenges you have identified.
* Please describe the replication site problem or the necessity of that specific region where the RHE-MEDiation solution will be implemented and explain the need the RHE-MEDiation solution can address. Please clearly define the challenge in your associated region and why you believe that the suggested HOT SPOT restoration could support the goals for the EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters” reflecting the objectives of RHE-MEDiation project.
* Describe how your activity will modify the starting point situations and when possible quantify.
* Describe how your proposed project contributes to the RHE-MEDiation scope, have a European dimension and are beyond the State of the Art.
* Describe the innovative approach behind it, in terms of disrupting objectives new concepts and approaches. If applicable, consider also any other new products, unconventional services or business and organisational models.
* Explain how your project will contribute to the valorisation of the RHE-MEDiation solution, through deploying and validating relevant technology, and effective roadmaps for up-scale from local to national.
* Describe your approach and replication site methodology, including the identification of relevant remediation-related activities and roadmaps, plans and action to prevent, eliminate and remediate pollution from chemicals. Specify any significant solutions that will be deployed during the path of the use case towards the feasibility, replicability and scale-up of the RHE-MEDiation solutions. In particular, describe:
  + How will the replication site characteristics match with the RHE-MEDiation-proposed technologies.
  + How the replication site approach the proposed RHE-MEDiation topic?
  + Which solution/aspect deriving from RHE-MEDiation is more interesting for you? Please refer to Annex 1.1 Technical Specification.
  + Your past experiences with similar solutions.
  + Plan to implement the remediation strategy. Main technical milestones.
  + How will you validate and manage the data deriving from your implementation activities.
  + Any applicable standards to be used or updated.

Write here.

## Uniqueness

* Please describe any recovery action implemented so far and/or eventual information related to the risk assessment and impact on Human Health and Environmental impact with indicators on local communities, both human and environmental. Should any recovery measures be already in place at the date of the proposal issue, this automatically implies non-eligibility of the demo site.

Write here.

# Impact of the proposed activity (max 4 pages)

## Social and environmental impact

* Provide details about the exploitation model that would underlie the sustainability aspects, highlighting the potential common exploitation path between RHE-MEDiation technology providers and the third-party applicant(s) after the end of the use case.
* Describe the up-scale model you will implement. Describe what to aim to achieve and perform.
* Explain which will be the expected scenario at the end of your project and whether there is room for business opportunities, e.g. for specific targets, end-users, etc.
* Describe your plan for up-scale from local to national with the goal to exploit the RHE-MEDiation solutions. Please, explain how the replication site will work and how it will be sustainable (under technical and financial perspectives) after the project implementation period and the financial support provided by the RHE-MEDiation project.
* Extensively describe the estimated impact at both local and national level (authorities involved, number of businesses impacted, the potential for new jobs and skills, etc.) due to the recovery of the environmental status of the hot spots.
* Widely describe the main social and environmental impacts expected from the project.

Write here.

## Local network and upscale potential

* Extensively describe the extent of the local network interested in the recovery action, as well as the potential to upscale to the national level because of the degree of replicability within the region/nation. Detail which financial schemes could be mobilized at local/national level

Write here.

# Implementation of the project (max 6 pages)

## Quality of implementation

* Describe how you will implement the proposed activities and list the proposed deliverables and related timing.
* Describe the proposed work plan to be implemented towards the achievement of the objectives and results. Include:
  + The relevant activities that will be performed, the time needed and the expected outcomes.
  + Preliminary KPIs to measure the achievement and critical milestones.
  + Main risks and external barriers that may affect or limit the work plan and the project.

In this section it is paramount to outline the project plan for each stage of the project (Stage 1 - Replication site (use case) definition; Stage 2 - Replication site (use case) implementation; Stage 3 -

Replication site (use case) up-scale: evaluation and feedback - as defined in ANNEX 1 - Guidelines for applicants), listing all significant activities.

Table 1 - Quality of the implementation, work plan.

|  |
| --- |
| Project Plan |
| 1. **Stage 1 - Replication site (use case) definition (2-months)**   **Task 1.1** name & time of execution M=month (Mx-Mx)  Clear objective of the task  Detailed description of the task  Contribution of the organisation to the task  Expected outcome(s)    **Task 1.X** name & period of execution (Mx-Mx)  *As above*     1. **Stage 2 - Replication site (use case) implementation (4-months)**   **Task 2.1** name & time of execution (Mx-Mx)  Clear objective of the task  Detailed description of the task  Contribution of the organisation to the task  Expected outcome(s)    **Task 2.X** name & period of execution (Mx-Mx)  Clear objective of the task  Detailed description of the task  Contribution of the organisation to the task  Expected outcome(s)    Add more tasks or remove if necessary     1. **Stage 3 - Replication site (use case) up-scale: evaluation and feedback (3-months)**   **Task 3.1** name & time of execution (Mx-Mx)  Clear objective of the task  Detailed description of the task  Contribution of the organisation to the task  Expected outcome(s)    **Task 3.X** name & time of execution (Mx-Mx)  Clear objective of the task  Detailed description of the task  Contribution of the organisation to the task  Expected outcome(s)    Add more tasks or remove if necessary |

Indicate the relevant milestones linked to the activities and stages of development of your replication site and replication activity in the table below.

Table 2 - Milestones

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activity name | Related milestone | Milestone description | Month of delivery |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

*Add more lines if needed*.

Indicate any possible risks that may prevent a full implementation and effective exploitation of the project.

Table 3 – List of critical risks

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Risk name | Description | Level of impact (Low/Medium/High) and likelihood (Low/Medium/High) | Mitigation measure |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

*Add more lines if needed*.

## Sustained data flow and follow up

* Describe the data flow planned during the project implementation as well as beyond the project end.

## Working team

* Demonstrate the competences of your team in:
  + management and coordination
  + capacity to transform a concept from ideas to tangible outputs,
  + capacity to carry out the replication site and related activities, including exploitation and up-scale.
* The team should have a multidisciplinary dimension, sound background, strong skills and proper gender balance.

Please, provide details about the team involved in the table below. Enter the details of the person who are expected to be involved in the project’s execution.

Table 4 – Proposed team

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name and surname of person | Gender | Role in the project | Link to LinkedIn profile or equivalent (ORCID/SCOPUS) |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

*Add more lines if needed*.

Please, describe briefly past experiences of the team members, indicating (whenever possible) previous activities pertinent to the proposal (providing project references) and/or e.g. products, publications, patents, etc.

Please describe the competences of the organization and in particular the team which will realise the results. Include:

* Organisation profile and main expertise
* Technical competences and adequate to the expected role
* Involved team members competences

## Expected project costs

Show how the estimated budget is pertinent (in terms of quality and effectiveness) to accomplish the objectives/deliverables proposed in the project.

Please, indicate the number of person-months (full-time equivalent) of people involved in the project in the table below, for the 9 months of the project. PM is a metric for expressing a person dedicated full-time in one month.

Table 5 – Person months and Personnel costs

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name and surname of person | Person Months (PM) | Monthly rate in Euros (MR) – Actual costs only | Direct personnel costs  (PMxMR) |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

*Add more lines if needed*.

Describe the expected costs and the requested total contribution using the table below. Insert only the costs that will be funded by the RHE-MEDiation project. Do NOT include any cost that will be covered by your own resources or other means. The maximum amount of funding that an application may receive from RHE-MEDiation is up to 100.000 EUR via any means.

Table 6 – Total budget

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Amount (€) | |
| Entity | Total |
| Direct personnel costs (a) |  |  |
| Other direct costs (Equipment) (b)  (Depreciation costs only) |  |  |
| Other direct costs (Software licences, etc.) (c) |  |  |
| Other direct cost (Travel expenses) (d) |  |  |
| Other direct cost (Others) (e) |  |  |
| Subcontracting (f) |  |  |
| Indirect costs (0,25 x (a +b +c +d+e)) |  |  |
| Total |  |  |

**CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE**

|  |
| --- |
| **By submitting this form YOU GIVE YOUR EXPRESS CONSENT to participate IN this rhe-medIATION Call accepting the following rules** |
| ☐ I AGREE TO PARTICIPATE in the RHE-MEDiation project under the participation rules (see the call text and its annexes)  ☐ I GIVE MY EXPRESS CONSENT to the processing of my personal data, as described in the Privacy Statement |

ANNEX: Ethics Self-Assessment

ETHICAL ISSUES TABLE to be completed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **YES/NO** |
| **Informed Consent** |  |
| * Does the proposal involve children? |  |
| * Does the proposal involve patients or persons not able to give consent? |  |
| * Does the proposal involve adult healthy volunteers? |  |
| * Does the proposal involve Human Genetic Material? |  |
| * Does the proposal involve Human biological samples? |  |
| * Does the proposal involve Human data collection? |  |
| **Research on Human embryo/foetus** |  |
| * Does the proposal involve Human Embryos? |  |
| * Does the proposal involve Human Foetal Tissue / Cells? |  |
| * Does the proposal involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells? |  |
| **Privacy** |  |
| * Does the proposal involve processing of genetic information or personal data (e.g. health, sexual lifestyle, ethnicity, political opinion, religious or philosophical conviction) |  |
| * Does the proposal involve tracking the location or observation of people? |  |
| **Research on Animals** |  |
| * Does the proposal involve research on animals? |  |
| * Are those animals transgenic small laboratory animals? |  |
| * Are those animals transgenic farm animals? |  |
| * Are those animals cloned farm animals? |  |
| * Are those animals nonhuman primates? |  |
| **Research Involving Developing Countries** |  |
| * Use of local resources (genetic, animal, plant etc.) |  |
| * Benefit to local community (capacity building i.e. access to healthcare, education etc) |  |
| **Dual Use** |  |
| * Research having direct military application |  |
| * Research having the potential for terrorist abuse |  |
| **ICT Implants** |  |
| * Does the proposal involve clinical trials of ICT implants? |  |
| **I CONFIRM THAT NONE OF THE ABOVE ISSUES APPLY TO MY PROPOSAL** |  |

# 

# **Ethics**

If your proposal raises one or more of the issues listed in the ethics issues table, you must also complete the ethics self-assessment:

* describe how the proposal meets the national legal and ethical requirements of the country or countries where the tasks raising ethical issues are to be carried out;
* explain in detail how you intend to address the issues in the ethics self-assessment table, in particular as regards:
* research objectives (e.g. study of vulnerable populations, dual use, etc.)
* research methodology (e.g. clinical trials, involvement of children and related consent procedures, protection of any data collected, etc.)
* the potential impact of the research (e.g. dual use issues, environmental damage, stigmatization of particular social groups, political or financial retaliation, benefit-sharing, malevolent use, etc.).
* provide the documents that you need under national law (if you already have them), e.g.:
* an ethics committee opinion.
* the document notifying activities raising ethical issues or authorizing such activities.
* *If these documents are not in English, you must also submit an English summary of them (containing, if available, the conclusions of the committee or authority concerned).*
* *If you plan to request these documents specifically for the project you are proposing, your request must contain an explicit reference to the project title.*

# **Security**

Please indicate if your project will involve:

* Activities or results raising security issues:  (YES/NO)
* 'EU-classified information' as background or results: (YES/NO)
* Any potential “dual use” of results: (YES/NO)

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**Date, PLACE and Signature**

*Funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe program, RHE-MEDiation is a 5.8 million euro, three-year project that will be a responsive hub for deploying long-term governance centered on the mission to destress the Mediterranean Sea from chemical pollution, including peak concentrations in known HOT SPOTs.*

*In particular, the project will test and validate a chemical pollution remediation technology based on micro-algae solutions that will be integrated within existing water/wastewater treatment systems that will enhance the removal of heavy metals, pesticides, and PFAS and forever chemicals. Moreover, it will be complemented with mobile and fixed sensing systems to identify and measure the presence of chemical substances in both land and marine waters, being measured data delivered to the EC EMODnet platform to contribute to the Digital Twin of the Ocean.*

*Three sites (Italy, Greece and Turkey) have been chosen for demonstration and once realized, five replication sites will be added to the list for further investigation. To this end, local stakeholders will be empowered to manage this transformation.*



Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated