**COMET Centre (K1)**

**Competence Centres for Excellent Technologies**

**Project Description  
for Proposals**

Version 1.0   
06.11.2017

Total max.100 pages

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COMET** | ***COMET Centres (K1), 5th Call*** | | | |
| **Full title** | *Full title COMET Centre* | | | |
| **Short title** | *Short title COMET Centre (max.20 characters)* | | | |
| **eCall application number** |  | | | |
| **Applicant** | *Leader of consortium - name of organisation and contact person* | | | |
| **Planned duration** | from: *DD.MM.YYYY* | | | to: *DD.MM.YYYY* |
| **Duration in number of years** | 4 years (first period) | | | |
| **Total costs** | [€]: | | | |
| **Funding** | Total federal funding [€]: | | Total provincial funding [€]: | |
| **Project type** | Follow-up project:   former COMET Centre *short title*  New project  Resubmission of former rejected COMET Centre application | | | |
| **Date:** | **DD.MM.YYYY** | | | |
| **Authorized signature + official stamp** |  |  | | |
|  | Authorized signatory | >Name< | | |

**0.1 Checkliste für die Antragseinreichung**

**Checkliste Formalvoraussetzungen**

Bei der Formalprüfung wird das Förderungsansuchen auf formale Richtigkeit und Vollständigkeit geprüft. Sind die Formalvoraussetzungen nicht erfüllt und handelt es sich um nicht-behebbare Mängel, wird das Förderungsansuchen bei der Formalprüfung aufgrund der erforderlichen Gleichbehandlung aller Förderungsansuchen aus dem weiteren Verfahren ausgeschieden und formal abgelehnt.

Nicht-behebbare Mängel sind mit \* gekennzeichnet. Hinweise zur Formalprüfung siehe Ausschrei-bungsleitfaden für COMET- Zentren (K1) Pkt. 7.1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Fristgerechte Übermittlung des Antrags bis **4. Mai.2018**, MEZ  12:00 Uhr **\*(nicht behebbar)** | * Abschluss elektronische Einreichung im eCall * Papierantrag: 1 Original-Loseblatt mit firmenmäßiger Zeichnung der Teile Project Description COMET Centre und Cost Plan FP1 und 5 Kopien (gebunden) |
| Teilnahmeberechtigung  **\*(nicht behebbar)** | * Der Förderungswerber/die Förderungswerberin (Konsortialführung) ist berechtigt, einen Antrag einzureichen. * Die Mindestanforderungen an das Konsortium sind erfüllt:   mindestens 1 wissenschaftlicher Partner (WP) und  mindestens 5 unabhängige Unternehmenspartner (UP) |
| Vollständigkeit des Antrags  (siehe Leitfaden Pkt.5.13) | * Project Description COMET Centre **\*(nicht behebbar)** * Cost Plan FP1 * Monitoring Tables * Annex 1-7 |
| Sprache **\*(nicht behebbar)** | Englisch |
| Richtige Formulare verwendet | <https://www.ffg.at/ausschreibungen/comet-zentren-k1-5-ausschreibung> |
| Beantragte Laufzeit  **\*(nicht behebbar)** | 4 Jahre (1. Förderungsperiode) |
| Single-Firm Projekte | * max. 20% der Gesamtkosten des Forschungsprogramms |
| Definierte Projekte | * mind. 60% der Gesamtkosten des Forschungsprogramms |
| **Kosten/Finanzierung** | |
| Kosten | * Gesamtkosten entsprechen der Gesamtfinanzierung |
| Förderquoten und Höhe der Förderung | * Beantragte Bundesförderung maximal 1,7 Mio. EUR/Jahr * Beantragte Förderquote (Bund und Land) 40% - 55% * Verhältnis von Bundes- und Landesförderung 2:1 * Die Landesförderung ist durch schriftliche Stellungnahmen der Länder gedeckt (bei Einreichung zumindest des Sitzbundes-landes des Zentrums). |
| Finanzierung UP/WP | * Beiträge der WP mindestens 5% der Gesamtkosten * Beiträge der UP mindestens 40% der Gesamtkosten * Verhältnis Cash/In-Kind-Beiträge bei UP: mind. 50% Cash-Anteil * Die Höhe der Kosten der UP entspricht den In-Kind-Beiträgen |
| Letters of Commitment (LOC) | * Es liegen alle LOC der im Kostenplan (Cost Plan FP1) angeführten Konsortialpartner (WP und UP) vor.   **Hinweis:** Achten Sie auf die Deckung der im Kostenplan ausgewiesenen Beiträge pro Partner (In-Kind/Cash) durch die LOCs! |
| Übereinstimmung der Angaben im eCall mit Kostenplan | * Gesamtkosten * beantragte Bundesförderung und Landesförderung * Finanzierung UP und WP * Projekttitel (Kurztitel und Langtitel) |
| **eCall Uploads:** max. 20 MB pro Datei; es dürfen keine sonstigen Anhänge beigefügt werden! | |
| im Subordner **Zentrumsbeschreibung** | * Project\_Description\_COMET\_Centre (pdf) * Cost\_Plan\_FP1 (xls)   als weitere Uploads:   * Monitoring\_Tables (xls) * ANNEX1\_References (pdf) * ANNEX2\_ProjectSheets (pdf) * ANNEX3\_PartnerDescriptions (pdf) |
| im Subordner **CVs und Publikationen** | * ANNEX4\_CVs\_Publications  (alle in einem Dokument, pdf, kein Scan) |
| im Subordner **Absichtserklärungen** | * ANNEX5\_LOC\_ScientificPartners (pdf) * ANNEX6\_LOC\_CompanyPartners (pdf) * ANNEX7\_Declaration\_FederalProvinces (pdf) |
| **Gliederung Papierantrag**  (in max. 2 Teilen) | * Project Description COMET Centre * Cost Plan FP1 * Monitoring Tables * Annex (Die Annexe 4- 7 sind dem Papierantrag nicht beizulegen) |

Die Vorgaben für **Seitenanzahl und Formatierung** dienen der Vergleichbarkeit und Lesbarkeit der Anträge. Werden die Vorgaben nicht eingehalten, wirkt sich dies entsprechend negativ in der Jurybewertung aus.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Seitenanzahl **Project Description COMET Centre** | * Die Seitenanzahl von maximal 100 Seiten (ab Kapitel 0 Executive Summary) wurde nicht überschritten. |
| **Formatierung** | * Schriftformatierung: Arial, 11 Punkt (ausgenommen Tabellen und Annex) * Zeilenabstand: 1,3 Zeilen * Schriftfarbe: schwarz * Seiten wurden nummeriert |

**Bitte beachten Sie folgende Punkte:**

* Halten Sie sich bitte an die vorgegebenen Fragen! Die in blauer Schrift angeführten Hinweise, Fragen und Anmerkungen im Antragsformular können gelöscht werden!
* Die in schwarzer Schrift angeführten Querverweise sind nicht zu löschen.
* Bitte beachten Sie die Übereinstimmung zwischen den Angaben in den Antragsformularen und denen im eCall. Wenn Unterschiede zwischen Angaben im eCall und Angaben in den Antragsformularen auftreten, so sind die **Antragsformulare als verbindliche Dokumente** anzusehen.
* Generelle Hinweise zum Antrag: Ein Projektantrag besteht aus der **Projektbeschreibung** (inhaltliche Darstellung) samt **Tabellenteilen** (Monitoring und Kostenplan) und **Anhängen.**
* Vermitteln Sie die wesentlichen Inhalte in übersichtlicher Art und Weise.
* Stellen Sie eine klare Abgrenzung des gegenständlichen Vorhabens zu anderen bereits geförderten laufenden bzw. beantragten Vorhaben sicher.
* Führen Sie Ihre Angaben so detailliert aus, dass sich die GutachterInnen ein Bild zu Ihrem geplanten Projekt machen können. Versuchen Sie trotzdem, knapp und präzise zu formulieren.
* Die Angabe der maximalen Seitenzahl ist NICHT als Aufforderung zu verstehen, diesen Richtwert auch erreichen zu müssen. Verfassen Sie den Antrag so, dass für die prüfenden ExpertInnen der Gehalt und Nutzen Ihres geplanten Projekts erkennbar werden.
* Sollten Sie Fragen haben, wenden Sie sich bitte an Ihre Ansprechperson in der FFG (Kontaktinformationen siehe Ausschreibungsleitfaden).

**0.2 Einreichmodalitäten**

Das Förderungsansuchen muss in identischer Fassung **sowohl in elektronischer Form (eCall) als auch in Papierform** eingereicht werden.

Der **Papierantrag** muss in 6-facher Ausfertigung bei der FFG vor Ablauf der Einreichfrist eingereicht werden (1 Original-Loseblattantrag mit firmenmäßiger Zeichnung und 5 Kopien).

Die Einreichung in **elektronischer Form erfolgt via eCall** unter der Webadresse <https://ecall.ffg.at> und hat vollständig und rechtzeitig bis zum Ende der Einreichfrist zu erfolgen.

**Ein detailliertes Tutorial zum eCall finden Sie unter:** [**https://ecall.ffg.at/Cockpit/Help.aspx**](https://ecall.ffg.at/Cockpit/Help.aspx)

Der Hauptantrag kann nur eingereicht werden, wenn **alle eingeladenen Partner zuvor** Ihre Partneranträge im eCall **ausgefüllt und eingereicht** haben!

Ein Förderungsansuchen ist dann eingereicht, wenn **im eCall der Antrag abgeschlossen** und der Button „Einreichung abschicken“ gedrückt wurde. Nach erfolgreicher Einreichung wird automatisch eine **Einreichbestätigung** per Email versendet.

Eine Nachreichung (auch von einzelnen Teilen des Antragformulars) ist nicht möglich! Sobald ein Förderungsansuchen abgeschickt wurde, ist eine weitere Bearbeitung nach der Einreichfrist nicht mehr möglich.

Bitte wenden Sie sich bei Fragen zum eCall an Ihre Ansprechperson in der FFG (Kontaktinformationen siehe Ausschreibungsleitfaden)!

Alle eingereichten Projektanträge werden nur den mit der Abwicklung der Ausschreibung befassten Stellen zur Einsicht vorgelegt. Alle beteiligten Personen sind **zur Vertraulichkeit verpflichtet**. Insbesondere müssen in das Bewertungsverfahren eingebundene nationale und internationale ExpertInnen vor Aufnahme ihrer Tätigkeit eine Vertraulichkeitserklärung abgeben.

|  |
| --- |
| **Ende der Einreichfrist:**  **Förderungsansuchen müssen spätestens am 4. Mai 2018 bis 12:00 Uhr MEZ eingelangt sein (via eCall und Papierantrag)!** |

**Hinweis:** Des Weiteren müssen die FörderungswerberInnen das Förderungsansuchen an die zuständige Stelle des betreffenden Bundeslandes bzw. der betreffenden Bundesländer zu den jeweils vorgegebenen Bedingungen übermitteln. Bis zum **19. April 2018** ist an die betreffenden Stellen eine sogenannte **Core-Form** zu übermitteln. Die Vorlage ist bei den Kontaktstellen der Länder erhältlich bzw. steht auf der FFG-Website zur Verfügung.

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**Tables of Application**

See Cost Tables and Monitoring Tables

**Annex**

Annex 1 Reference

Annex 2 Project Sheets

Annex 3 Partner Descriptions

Annex 4 CVs and List of Publications

Annex 5 Letters of Commitment (LOC) scientific partners

Annex 6 Letters of Commitment (LOC) company partners

Annex 7 Declaration(s) of Federal Province(s)

# Abstract

Add an executive summary (max. 1 page, limit 4.000 characters) of the overall project that is the COMET Centre including the following points:

* Initial situation, problems to solve and motivation to carry out the COMET Centre project
* Overall goals of the COMET Centre project
* Scientific-technological challenges and the main features of the applied COMET research programme

The executive summary must be included as well in German and in English in the FFG-eCall under “Projektdaten/Zentrumsdaten” in the fields “Kurzfassung” and “Abstract”.

>Text<

# Quality of the Project

## Vision and strategy

Describe the overall vision and long-term strategy of the applied COMET Centre referring also to the COMET programme objectives (see Call Guidelines pt.1).

Describe the added value created by the COMET Centre. Explain why this COMET Centre is needed in a national and international context.

>Text<

## Overall research programme

*List of projects see Monitoring Tables*

Describe the key features of the proposed research programme (see also Call Guidelines pt. 5.1) including:

Area structure as well as Area allocations and interactions

Added value of the overall research programme and synergy effects

>Text<

### Objectives of the overall research programme

Describe the overall objectives of your research programme and its scientific and technological relevance.

>Text<

### State-of-the-art and novelty of research

*List of references see Annex 1*

Describe the international state-of-the-art and the novelty of your proposed research as well as your estimated contribution beyond state of the art. Refer to existing research activities and related work performed by other groups in the national and international context.

A list of references (verwendete Literatur) has to be indicated in Annex 1.

>Text<

### Main results of the previous related research work

Describe the main scientific and technological results as well as initiated products/processes or services of previous R&D work carried out by the Centre/ consortium related to this application.

Highlight the five most important publications resulting from the previous related research work.

>Text<

### 1.2.3.1 Related funded projects

*(List of related funded project: see Monitoring Tables)*

Please list relevant ongoing or completed funded projects (within last three years) of the Centre/ consortium which are thematically connected to this application. Indicate the respective funding agency and participating partners involved. If these projects were funded by FFG, please indicate the FFG Project number and title. If necessary, a complete list can be provided in the monitoring tables. In any case, please indicate the main projects of the Centre in the text below.

>Text<

### Approaches and methods

Describe methods, approaches, models and tools chosen to address the objectives of the proposed research programme.

>Text<

### Expected main results

Describe the expected main scientific and technological results and developments.

>Text<

### Integration of gender-specific aspects

If the application relates to people, please explain how and in which parts of the research programme (Areas/projects)gender-specific aspects have been taken into account in the methodological approach.

>Text<

## Work plan and time schedule of the research programme

*Detailed project sheets see Annex 2*

Fill in the individual projects of the research programme in the table below and indicate planned starting dates (S) and finishing dates (E) for each project.

Outline the most significant milestones (M1, M2 …) and deliverables of your research programme.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Year 1** | | | | **Year 2** | | | | **Year 3** | | | | **Year 4** | | | |
| **Area 1: Title** | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Project 1.1: title |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 1.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 1.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Area 2: Title** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 2.1: title |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 2.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 2.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 2.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Area x: Title** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 3.1: title |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project 3.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| …. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

>Text<

## Description of the Areas

*Detailed project sheets see Annex 2*

*List of projects see Monitoring Tables*

Describe the research programme of each Area considering the following aspects:

* Positioning of the Area within the Centre; interaction with other Areas; contribution of the Area to the overall objectives of the research programme, complementarity of sub-projects
* State-of-the-art
* Objectives and methodology: objectives, approaches and novel methods chosen to address the research objectives
* Expected results: planned scientific-technological developments and innovations
* Highlight further the key projects of each Area. Please note that individual projects are to be described in detail in the project sheets in Annex 2 by indicating also the key data of each Area. The percentage of strategic projects needs to be defined as a target value   
  (see Monitoring Tables - target values).
* Undefined projects need to be argued and their costs stated as N.N. in the tables.

### Area 1

>Text<

### Area 2

>Text<

### Area x

>Text<

## Description of the cost plan

*Detailed figures see Cost plan FP1*

Explain the cost and financing tables of your Centre application.

### Description of the cost tables

Describe the cost categories and estimated development of costs during FP1 and indicate the highest cost position of each point.

1. Personnel costs (Centre)
2. Material costs (Centre)

* Third-party services: indicate which external services are purchased from third-parties

1. Use of R&D infrastructure (Centre)

Which of the two reporting methods for the planned investments of the Centre (use of R&D infrastructure) will be selected?

1. Claiming the yearly allowance for depreciation or
2. Reporting the full costs of acquisition in the year of acquisition and correcting the eligible costs by the residual book value in the final year. The residual book value has to be considered in the table Use of R&D Infrastructure (Centre).

Additionally the optional use of machinery used in COMET can be applied for via machine hours and machine hour rates (if the facility has not been previously funded).

1. Other direct costs/income (Centre)
2. Scientific partners – Costs

* Please note that the planned cost of the scientific partners also include the in-kind contributions indicated in the financing table.
* State the planned In-kind-contributions of the scientific partners.
* State the planned costs the Centre purchases from scientific partners.

1. Company partners - in-kind-costs

* State the planned costs of the company partners
* **Please note that line 6 “company partners – in-kind-costs” of the total costs table is consistent (equal) with line 4b “CP – in-kind-contributions (personnel and other costs)” of the financing table**

(Details regarding eligible costs see Cost Guidelines and Call Guidelines, pt. 5.10)

>Text<

### Description of the financing tables

Describe the following points in detail:

* Contributions of the co-funding federal provinces (if applicable indicate the relevant distribution among individual provinces)
* Explain the applied public funding rate
* If applicable, indicate and argue the financial contributions which are not covered by Letter of Commitments (LOC) by scientific- or company partners

(Details regarding financing see Call Guidelines, pt. 5.7 – 5.9)

>Text<

# Suitability of the Applicant/ Project Partners

*List of partners see Monitoring Tables*

*Partner descriptions see Annex 3*

*Scientific key persons see Monitoring Tables*

*CVs and publications of key persons see Annex 4*

*Costs and financing per partner (SP and CP) see Cost Plan FP1*

## Structure of the consortium

Describe the structure of the consortium, giving special consideration to following aspects:

* Relevant existing co-operation structures on which the Centre was/is built and anticipated developments during the upcoming funding period
* Complementarity of partners etc.
* Describe the consortium leader and its special role within the consortium.

>Text<

### Scientific partners

Describe the structure of the participating scientific partners (SP) and their involvement into the proposed COMET Centre. Indicate if additional scientific partners are foreseen to join during the upcoming funding period. Highlight the key scientific partners and key persons/key researchers and explain their contribution to the scientific challenges of the proposed research programme. For each scientific partner a LOC has to be attached in Annex 5.

>Text<

### Company partners

Describe the structure of the participating company partners and their involvement into the proposed COMET Centre. Indicate if additional company partners are foreseen to join during the upcoming funding period. Highlight the key company partners and key persons and explain the core competences they bring into the COMET Centre. For each company partner a LOC has to be attached in Annex 6.

>Text<

## Management and organisation

>Text<

### Organisational structure

Please draw up an organigram of the planned COMET Centre referring to the aspects below and describe the organisational structure and relevant boards of the Centre and their tasks (see Call Guidelines pt. 5.2).

* Boards
* Management
* Research Areas
* Other positions (controlling, human resources, PR etc.)

>Text<

### Legal structure and location(s)

COMET Centres must be established as legal entities if funding is granted. As a legal form, a company with limited liability under Austrian law, or a comparable legal form is a precondition. Describe which legal form has been chosen and argue how a balanced ownership structure without dominance of a single owner can be achieved (see Call Guidelines pt. 5.1).

>Text<

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Owner** | **Share (%)** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Describe the present or planned location of the Centre. If more than one location is planned, please state the reasons why and explain how the Centre character will be ensured (see Call Guidelines pt.5.2).

>Text<

### Management of the Centre

Describe central management positions (such as Centre manager, scientific director, Area manager, key researcher etc.) and explain how these positions are/or shall be staffed. Furthermore describe the decision making structures in the Centre. Explain how the goals of the Centre management will be achieved in order to operate the business efficiently (see Call Guidelines pt. 5.2).

>Text<

### Public Relations

Describe the planned measures of the Centre’s public appearance (e.g. corporate identity, PR measures, website in English and German, general publications, events etc.).

>Text<

# Benefit and Exploitation

*Expected benefit for each partner, see partner description Annex 3*

## Economic benefit of the research results

### Benefit of the research results for users and company partners

Describe the benefits of the research results and/or new technologies and planned innovations for the users as well as company partners involved in the application in qualitative and quantitative terms.

Describe potential new products, processes or services at company level to be initiated by the proposed research programme in qualitative and quantitative terms.

>Text<

### Market potential and economic exploitation

Describe the market potential of the expected research results and how the economic exploitation is planned. Highlight the planned activities for economic exploitation and estimate the size of the expected target markets for the research results (in Austria, in neighbouring countries, worldwide).

>Text<

**3.1.3 Measures for technology transfer and knowledge transfer**

Indicate which measures of technology transfer and knowledge transfer towards industry are planned.

## Exploitation strategy of the Centre

Describe the strategy of the Centre to exploit the research results in qualitative and quantitative terms. Please refer to the scientific and economic exploitation (e.g. publications, master theses, PhD, workshops, events and conferences, patent applications, licences, IPR’s, projects in the Non-COMET area, spin-offs, etc.).

Point out how the expertise and knowledge base can be secured at the Centre.

>Text<

### Intellectual property rights (IPR)

Describe the planned policy on intellectual property rights of the proposed Centre.

Base your description on the following aspects:

* Development of a common knowledge base at the Centre
* How the IP of the Centre’s project results will be allocated among the participating partners (Centre, SP, CP) taking into account the different types of projects: company projects (multi- and single firm projects) as well as strategic projects
* Management of joint ownership etc.

>Text<

### Target values

*Quantitative target values see Monitoring Tables.*

#### General target values

If necessary explain the target values of the proposed Centre for the first funding period indicated in the monitoring tables.

>Text<

#### Centre specific target values

Define at least three additional specific target values appropriate to present the development of the proposed Centre within its thematic area.

>Text<

# Relevance of the Project to the Call

## Human resources

Explain the role of HR management at the Centre and how the planned HR measures interact with the overall strategy of the Centre (including a supportive illustration).

>Text<

### Recruitment of personnel

*Planned employees at the Centre see Monitoring Tables*

Describe planned measures for personnel recruitment in order to build up an adequate workforce at the Centre. Base your description also on the following aspects:

* Attracting top level scientists as well as guest researchers
* Planned post-doc positions, PhD and master students, etc.

>Text<

### Human resources development

Describe the strategy for HR development at the Centre and explain planned HR measures referring also to the following points:

* Implementation of structured career models for researchers
* Improvement of scientific and technical qualifications and additional skills of staff members (especially for PhD-students and post docs)
* Training on leadership and research management skills
* Implementation of cross-border mobility (incoming and outgoing)
* Exchange of staff between the Centre, science and industry (intersectoral mobility)
* Foreseen budget for qualification measures
* Internships (e.g. FFG Talente Praktika), etc.

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### Gender mainstreaming

Describe your planned gender mainstreaming approach and concrete measures for implementation. Explain how you plan to ensure equal opportunities and an adequate balance between male and female scientists in all research activities and at all levels of the proposed Centre (in terms of improving the gender balance in the sector).

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## Internationalisation

Please describe the internationalisation strategy of the Centre and its international attractiveness as a cooperation partner.

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### Involvement of international partners

Describe the current international cooperation and planned involvement of international partners with relevance for the Centre from a scientific and economic point of view. Explain the reasons for choosing these partners and indicate the added value of the cooperation:

* **International scientific organisations and scientists:** describe the involvement of international scientific partners in the COMET Research Programme
* **International Companies:** describe the involvement of international Company Partners (headquarters outside Austria) in the COMET Research Programme

If applicable, indicate other relevant international (associated) partners who are not or not yet part of the consortium.

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### International benchmarking

Explain your benchmarking approach comparing your proposed Centre with other organisations in the field at an international level, and indicate the USP (unique selling proposition) of your proposed Centre.

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### International engagement of the Centre

Describe the planned participation of the Centre in international or European research projects (e.g. EU-projects in Horizon 2020 etc.). Explain the planned activities of the Centre in relevant international boards or committees. Describe the involvement of the Centre in international events (such as conferences, workshops etc.):

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## Incentive effect of funding

Please explain how funding changes the project in terms of:

* **Enabling:** The project could not be carried out without funding. (Explain why funding is necessary to enable the project.)
* **Duration:** The project can be completed within a shorter period of time than possible without funding (Explain to what extent and why funding helps to speed up the completion of the project.)
* **Size:** Size of the project can be increased compared to the project being carried out without funding (Give reasons why the size of the project can be increased compared to the project being carried out without funding.)
* **Scope:** The scope of the project can be increased.

Give reasons why the funding makes the project more ambitious. A higher level of ambition can mean that the project

* + is focused on more radical leaps in innovation
  + follows a more long-term and research-intensive [as opposed to market oriented and development intensive] approach
  + involves a higher technical risk
  + involves a higher market risk
  + leads to new or more extensive collaborations

Please demonstrate the incentive effect of the funding in accordance only with the criteria applicable to the project.

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