Project Description

for Proposals

VERSION 1.0 – 23.05.2023

Total max. 100 pages

Table 1: Key data of project

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **COMET:** | **COMET Centre (K1) 2023** |
| **Full title:** | >Full Title< |
| **Short title:** | >Short title< (max.20 characters) |
| **eCall application number** |  |
| **Applicant:** | >Leader of consortium<name of organisation and contact person |
| **Planned duration:** | Start date: DD.MM.YYYYEnd date: DD.MM.YYYYDuration in years: 4 years |
| **Total costs:** | >Euro< |
| **Funding:** | Total federal funding in Euro:Total provincial funding in Euro: |
| **Project type:** | [ ]  Follow-up projectFormer COMET Centre >Short title< [ ]  New project[ ]  Resubmission of former rejected COMET Centre application |
| **Date:** | DD.MM.YYYYDate of applicatio*n* |

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Checkliste für die Antragseinreichung

Die Informationen in diesem Kapitel dienen als Hilfestellung zur Einreichung. Dieses Kapitel kann in der finalen Projektbeschreibung gelöscht werden.

## 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.

Hinweise zur Formalprüfung siehe Ausschreibungsleitfaden für COMET-Zentren (K1) Pkt. 8.

Formalprüfungscheckliste „Vollständigkeit des Projektantrags”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Kriterium | Prüfinhalt |
| Fristgerechte Übermittlung des Antrags bis 23.11.2023, 12:00 Uhr MEZ(nicht behebbar) | * Abschluss elektronische Einreichung im eCall
 |
| Teilnahmeberechtigung(nicht behebbar) | * Der Förderungswerber/die Förderungswerberin (Konsortialführung) ist berechtigt, einen Antrag einzureichen.
* Die Mindestanforderungen an das Konsortium sind erfüllt:
	+ mindestens eine beteiligte wissenschaftliche Forschungseinrichtung (WP) und
	+ mindestens fünf beteiligte, unabhängige Unternehmen (UP)
 |
| Vollständigkeit des Antrags(siehe Ausschreibungsleitfaden Pkt. 4) | * Project Description **(nicht behebbar)**
* Financial Tables FP1
* Monitoring Tables
* Annexe 0 bzw. 1 bis 7
 |
| Sprache (nicht behebbar) | * Englisch
 |
| Richtige Formulare verwendet | [www.ffg.at/ausschreibungen/comet-zentren-k1-ausschreibung-2023](http://www.ffg.at/ausschreibungen/comet-zentren-k1-ausschreibung-2023)  |
| Beantragte Laufzeit(nicht behebbar) | * Vier Jahre (erste Förderungsperiode)
 |
| Single-Firm Projekte | * max. 20% der Gesamtkosten des Forschungsprogramms
 |
| Definierte Projekte | * mind. 60% der Gesamtkosten des Forschungsprogramms
 |

Formalprüfungscheckliste „Kosten / Finanzierung”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Kriterium* | *Prüfinhalt* |
| Kosten | * Gesamtkosten entsprechen der Gesamtfinanzierung
 |
| Förderquoten und Höhe der Förderung | * Beantragte Bundesförderung maximal 1,7 Mio. EUR/Jahr
* Beantragte Förderquote (Bund und Land) 40% bis 55%
* Verhältnis von Bundes- und Landesförderung 2:1
* Die Landesförderung ist durch schriftliche Stellungnahmen der Länder gedeckt (bei Einreichung zumindest des Sitzbundeslandes 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 in den Financial Tables angeführten Beteiligten des Konsortiums (WP und UP) vor.**Hinweis**: Achten Sie auf die Deckung der in den Financial Tables ausgewiesenen Beiträge pro Beteiligten (In-Kind/Cash) durch die LOCs!
 |
| Übereinstimmung der Angaben im eCall mit Financial Tables | * Gesamtkosten
* Beantragte Bundesförderung und Landesförderung
* Finanzierung UP und WP
* Projekttitel (Kurztitel und Langtitel)
 |

Formalprüfungscheckliste „eCall Uploads”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Kriterium* | *Prüfinhalt* |
| eCall Uploads | * max. 20 MB pro Datei; es dürfen keine sonstigen Anhänge beigefügt werden!
 |
| Im Subordner:Zentrumsbeschreibung | * Project\_Description (pdf)
* Financial\_Tables\_FP1 (xls)

Als weitere Uploads:* Monitoring\_Tables (xls)
* Annex0\_Review\_existingCentre (nur für bestehende COMET-Zentren)
* 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)
 |

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 Bewertung aus.

Formalprüfungscheckliste „Vorgaben für Seitenanzahl und Formatierung”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Kriterium* | *Prüfinhalt* |
| SeitenanzahlProject Description  | * Die Seitenanzahl von maximal 100 Seiten (ab Kapitel Quality of the Project) wurde nicht überschritten.
 |
| Formatierung | * Schriftart: Calibri, 11 Punkt (ausgenommen Tabellen und Annex)
* Zeilenabstand: mindestens 13,5 Pt.
* 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.
* Beachten Sie die Übereinstimmung zwischen den Angaben in den Antragsformularen und denen im eCall. 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 Gutachter:innen 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 Experten und Expertinnen der Gehalt und Nutzen Ihres geplanten Projekts erkennbar werden.

## Einreichmodalitäten

Die Einreichung ist ausschließlich in elektronischer Form via [eCall](https://ecall.ffg.at) vor Ablauf der Einreichfrist möglich. Weitere Hinweise finden Sie im Leitfaden für COMET-Zentrum (K1) Pkt. 3.1. Detaillierte Hilfestellung finden Sie auch im [eCall-Tutorial](https://ecall.ffg.at/Cockpit/Tutorial-Hilfe).

Der Hauptantrag kann nur eingereicht werden, wenn alle eingeladenen Mitglieder des Konsortiums (Partner) Ihre (Partner)Anträge im eCall zuvor ausgefüllt und eingereicht haben.

Ein Förderungsansuchen ist dann eingereicht, wenn der Antrag im eCall abgeschlossen und der Button „Einreichung abschicken“ gedrückt wurde. Nach erfolgreicher Einreichung wird automatisch eine Einreichbestätigung per Email versendet. Ein Bearbeiten nach abgeschicktem Förderungsansuchen (project description) ist nicht möglich.

Bei Fragen zum eCall wenden Sie sich an das [Förderservice](https://www.ffg.at/kontakt) der FFG.

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 Experten und Expertinnen vor Aufnahme ihrer Tätigkeit eine Vertraulichkeitserklärung abgeben.

**Ende der Einreichfrist:**

**Förderungsansuchen müssen spätestens am 23. November 2023 bis 12:00 Uhr via eCall eingelangt sein!**

**Hinweis zur Bundeslandfinanzierung:**Spätestens bis **Anfang November** 2023 (vor Einreichschluss) ist das sogenannte [Core Form](http://www.ffg.at/ausschreibungen/comet-zentren-k1-ausschreibung-2023), welche wichtige Eckdaten zum Projekt enthält, an die zuständigen [Kontaktstellen](https://www.ffg.at/comet/kontakt) der Bundesländer zu übermitteln.

Länderspezifische Bedingungen und Fristen für die Ko-Finanzierung sind rechtzeitig vor Einreichung des Förderungsansuchens bei den betreffenden Stellen zu erfragen.

Abstract

Add an executive summary (max. 1 page, limit 4.000 characters) of the proposed COMET Centre including:

* Initial situation, problems to solve and motivation
* Overall goals
* Scientific-technological challenges and main features

Please note: The executive summary has to be uploaded in the eCall under “Projektdaten” in the field “Kurzfassung” in German and the field “Abstract” in English.

>Text<

# Quality of the Project

## Vision and strategy

* Describe the **vision** and long-term strategy of the proposed COMET Centre referring as well to the strategic COMET objectives (see COMET Centre (K1) 2023 call guideline pt.2).
* Describe the added value created by the COMET Centre and its unique selling proposition (USP), (see also chapter 4.2.2 international benchmarking). Explain why this COMET Centre is needed in a national and international context.

>Text<

## Overall research programme

*List of projects see Monitoring Tables*

*Description of projects: see annex 2 (project sheets)*

Describe the key features of the proposed research programme (see Guidelines for COMET Centre (K1) pt. 2.2 including:

* Area structure as well as Area allocations and interactions. For existing centres: indicate changes in area structure compared to previous funding period.
* Added value of the overall research programme and synergy effects
* Explain how the research programme is focused and oriented along the center's unique selling proposition (USP)

>Text<

### Objectives of the overall research programme

Describe the overall objectives of the 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.

Please note: a list of references (*verwendete Literatur*) has to be provided 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<

#### Related funded projects

Please list relevant ongoing or completed funded projects (within last three years) of the Centre/ consortium, which are thematically connected to this application. Explain the differences to other (ongoing and completed) projects of thematic relevance carried out by the COMET centre and its consortium partners in the past three years. If these projects were funded by FFG, please indicate the FFG Project number and title. 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, which are 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 content of the project and the research results affect people, explain how and in which parts of the research programme (Areas/projects) gender-specific aspects have been taken into account in the methodological approach. For further information, see [FFG website](https://www.ffg.at/gender).

>Text<

## Consideration of sustainability effects

Describe the contribution of the planned project to the relevant ecological/social/economic sustainability goals, indicating the key relevant Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations (UN SDGs) and, if applicable, the EU Green Deal. Sustainability goals from other strategy documents may also be included. Refer to the Call Guidelines for further information about the topic of sustainability.

Provide the following information with regard to the above sustainability goals:

* Description of the positive effects (ecological, social or economic effects)
* Provide plans for qualitative and quantitative assessment of the positive effects.
* Centre specific target values related to sustainability can be defined and described in chapter 3.2.2.
* Description and consideration of system boundaries / system relevant issues (e.g. effects within value networks,…)

Negative displacement effects should also be taken into account. If no explicitly positive effects / contributions to sustainability goals are to be expected at any time (research, benefit and exploitation, ex-post impact monitoring and beyond) justify this neutral status / effect.

>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 the research programme.

Table 1 Work plan and time schedule of the research programme

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project  | 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 x.1: Title |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project x.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project x.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project x.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

>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.
* 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 Costs and Financing

*Detailed figures see Financial Tables FP1*

Explain the financing tables of your Centre application.

### Description of the cost tables

Describe the cost categories, 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?
* Claiming the yearly allowance for depreciation or
* 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**
* State the planned costs of the scientific partners. Please note that the planned cost of the scientific partners also include the in-kind contributions indicated in the financing table.
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 Guidelines for COMET Centre (K1), pt. 2.10)

>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 Guidelines, pt. 2.7 – 2.8)

>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 Financial Tables FP1*

## Structure of the consortium

Describe the structure of the consortium, considering especially 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. Which bodies will assume important strategic, advisory and supervising tasks (see Guidelines for COMET Centre (K1) pt. 2.2)?

* 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 Guidelines for COMET Centre (K1)). For existing Centres: indicate changes in ownership structure compared to previous funding period.

>Text<

Table Legal structure

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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 Guidelines for COMET Centre (K1)).

>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 Guidelines for COMET Centre (K1)).

>Text<

### Public Relations

Describe the planned measures of the Centre’s public appearance and external presentation (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 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<

### Measures for technology transfer and knowledge transfer

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

>Text<

## Exploitation strategy of the Centre

Describe the strategy of the Centre to exploit the research results in qualitative and quantitative terms. 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.). What are/ will be the main features of the Centre’s business plan?

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

Describe the positive sustainability effects during exploitation, indicating any sustainable economic perspectives created for the **Centre** as well as any additional societal / social effects.

>Text<

### Intellectual property rights (IPR)

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

*General target values see eCall menu ‘Target values of the centre’.*

#### General target values

If necessary, explain the target values indicated in the eCall menu ‘Target values of the centre’.

>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 (thereof at least one related to sustainability)

>Text<

# Relevance of the Project to the Call

## Human resources

*Planned employees at the Centre see* eCall *menu ‘Target values of the centre’.*

Outline the structural and organisational implementation of HR measures at the Centre (e.g. HR manager).

Explain how the Centre´s personnel planning supports the Centre´s goals and needs (e.g. expansion /reduction of staff, mix of qualification levels and expertise, interdisciplinarity, diversity of personnel).

Please refer to the HR relevant target values in the eCall menu ‘Target values of the centre’ and the designated budgets for HR measures.

>Text<

### Recruitment of personnel

Describe the planned measures for personnel recruitment in order to build up adequate staff at the Centre, especially focusing on measures and incentives to attract (internationally) renowned researchers and high potentials.

>Text<

### Human resources development

Describe plans and measures referring to the Centre´s goals for:

* qualification and further development of the (research) personnel (e.g. a qualification programme for scientific / technical skills, mentoring system, management and leadership trainings, performance reviews etc.), especially for young researchers
* structured career models for researchers
promoting the careers at the Centre and beyond
* inter-sectoral mobility of researchers (exchange between science and industry) in order to strengthen know how transfer
* cross-border mobility (incoming and outgoing) and internships (e.g. FFG Talente Praktika).
* possibilities for communication and exchange, etc.

>Text<

### Gender mainstreaming

Describe your approach and measures to provide equal opportunities for gender-sensitive appointments at all levels including decision-making boards.

Outline how these measures contribute to the improvement of sector-specific conditions in the research field. Highlight measures such as:

* recruitment of female researchers
* Gender equality plans
* instalment of an equal opportunity officer
* strategies to reduce pay gaps
* gender quotas for leading positions
* establishing a company culture concept e.g. use a gender-sensitive language

>Text<

## Internationalisation

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

>Text<

### 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.

>Text<

### 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.

>Text<

### International engagement of the Centre

Describe the planned participation of the Centre in international or European research projects (e.g. EU-projects in Horizon Europe 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.):

>Text<

Annex

Annex 0 Review existing Centres (nur für bestehende COMET-Zentren)

Annex 1 References

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)

Tables of application

Financial Tables

Monitoring Tables