

THE NATIONAL PLAN FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION 2022-2027, PNCDI IV

5.8 – European and international Cooperation Programme

5.8.3 – Bilateral/multilateral Sub-programme

Collaboration projects with Republic of Moldova

Information Package 2023¹

¹ Unauthorised translation. Only the Romanian version of the package has legal validity

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Collaboration projects with Republic of Moldova

Call number : PN-IV-CEI-BIM-RM-2023-1

1. Goal

Consolidation of the already existing research networks and development of new collaborations between groups of researchers from Romania and the Republic of Moldova

2. Specific objectives

- ✓ Achievement of joint research-development projects that highlight the expertise/excellence potential of researchers from Romania and the Republic of Moldova, which require access to existing research infrastructures in Romania;
- ✓ Training the young generation of researchers who carry out their scientific activity in the research institutions from the Republic of Moldova by consolidating their professional positions and advancing their careers;
- ✓ Mobility of researchers from the two countries for exchange of best practices and transfer of knowledge;
- ✓ Identification of complementarity between existing research infrastructures in Romania and in Republic of Moldova and collaboration in their use, including collaboration to jointly participate in international research platforms, especially those from ESFRI.

3. Conditions of participation

- ✓ Project proposals can be elaborated in the following scientific domains:
 - Exact Sciences and Engineering;
 - Social Sciences and Humanities;
 - Life Sciences.
- ✓ The project proposal is submitted by:
 - a) a research organization (under public or private law) from Romania, the project coordinator, in partnership with a research organization (under public or private law) from the Republic of Moldova;
 - b) a research organization (under public or private law) from Romania, the project coordinator, in partnership with two research organizations (under public or private law) from the Republic of Moldova;
 - c) a research organization (under public or private law) from Romania, the project coordinator, in partnership with three research organizations (under public or private law) from the Republic of Moldova;

The size of the partnership is justified in accordance with the objectives and activities of the project.

- ✓ For establishing partnerships, we recommend the usage of the platform <https://brainmap.ro/brokermap>;
- ✓ The submission of the project proposal is made by the coordinator from Romania.

4. Eligibility criteria

- ✓ A person, as Project Director (Romania)/Partner Leader (Republic of Moldova), may submit only one project proposal
- ✓ The Project Director/Partner Leader from each participating institution holds a PhD.
- ✓ Participating institutions from Romania:
 - have legal personality and carry out their activity in Romania;

- are not declared, according to the law, in insolvency;
- do not have their accounts blocked according to a court decision;
- did not provide inaccurate statements regarding the information requested by UEFISCDI in order to select contractors;
- have not violated the provisions of another funding contract previously concluded with a contracting authority;
- Participating institutions from Republic of Moldova:
 - have legal personality and carry out their activity in Republic of Moldova;
 - are not declared, according to the law, in insolvency;
 - do not have their accounts blocked according to a court decision;
 - did not provide inaccurate statements in order to select contractors;
 - have not violated the provisions of another funding contract previously concluded with a contracting authority;

It is prohibited to submit projects that have in view the achievement of some activities already funded or in the process of being funded, partially or fully, from other budgetary sources.

5. Duration

The duration of the project is maximum 24 months.

6. Budget

The budget allocated for 2023 is 3.000.000 lei. For the budget years following 2023, the budget is established according to the budget allocations established with this destination by the MCID.

The funding from the state budget granted for a project is:

- 500.000 lei - for a consortium formed by a research organization from Romania (250.000 lei) and a research organization from the Republic of Moldova (250.000 lei);
- 750.000 lei - for a consortium formed by a research organization from Romania (300.000 lei) and two research organizations from the Republic of Moldova (225.000 lei/organization);
- 1.025.000 lei - for a consortium formed by a research organization from Romania (350.000 lei) and three research organizations from the Republic of Moldova (225.000 lei/organization).

7. Eligible expenses

7.1 For the coordinator of the project (Romania):

Direct expenses:

- **Personnel expenses**² (researchers, PhD students, and postdoc³, employed throughout the implementation of the research project; these expenses include legal contributions related to salaries and incomes assimilated to these . The composition of the research team is proposed by the Project Director. At the time of submitting the project proposal, the team structure must be presented, specifying the exact number of full-time equivalent positions, their type, the connection with the project activities and the allocated budget.
- **Logistics expenses** that include:

² Personnel expenses are subject to in-force regulations regarding the maximum limits of the income earned by a person who participates in one or more projects, according to Appendix to GD 1188/2022 approving the National plan for research, development and innovation 2022-2027 (PNCDI IV) Appendix 2 - Ceilings within which direct salary costs are calculated for financing contracts from budget funds allocated to PNCDI IV.

³ Researcher with the first PhD title obtained no more than 8 years before from the moment of submitting the project proposal.

- *expenses related to stocks* (only materials, consumables and similar products necessary for the development of the project);
- *expenses with services performed by third parties - financial audit expenses and expenses for open access publishing, in the amount of max. 10% of the amount of funding from the state budget (subcontracting expenses)*
- **Travel expenses** related to travel in the Republic of Moldova or for participation in scientific events abroad (only for the presentation of scientific papers resulting from bilateral collaboration, where the co-authors are researchers from both countries) only for organizations under public law;
- **Overheads** (indirect expenses) are calculated as a percentage of max. 20% of the total value of the project (including the budget of the partner/partners from the Republic of Moldova).

During the project, reallocations can be made between the budget categories: personnel expenses, logistics expenses and travel expenses, within the limit of 15% of the total project budget, with notification at the reporting stage and in compliance with the provisions of the funding contract concluded with Contracting Authority (does not involve the conclusion of an additional act to the funding contract).

7.2 For the Partner Leader/Partner Leaders from Republic of Moldova:

- The structure of the project team of each research organization in Republic of Moldova provides positions for senior researcher (over 8 years of experience in research activity, after obtaining the first PhD title), postdoc researcher (no more than 8 years from obtaining the first PhD title and under 40 years of age) and PhD students (in training for the first PhD). The recommended team structure is: 1 senior researcher position; 1 position of postdoc researcher and 2 positions of PhD students (citizens of Republic of Moldova) or a multiple of this structure;
- The Partner Leader is senior researcher;
- The positions of senior researcher and postdoc researcher must be nominated in the project proposal.

The budget allocated to the team from the Republic of Moldova is intended for research internships in the coordinating institution from Romania or for participation in scientific events where papers resulting from bilateral collaboration are presented.

The duration of a research internship, for the position of senior researcher, is of max. 60 days/year of the project. The research internship can be divided into max. 4 time slots.

The duration of a research internship, for the position of postdoc researcher, is of max. 60 days/year of the project. The research internship can be divided into max. 4 time slots.

The duration of a research internship, for the PhD position, is of max. 120 days/year of the project. The research internship can be divided into time slots, but the duration of a time slot is at least 30 days.

✓ For the research internships in Romania the following are provided:

- accommodation and per diem for senior researcher or postdoc researcher: 500 lei/day (lump sum);
- accommodation and per diem for PhD: 250 lei/day (lump sum);
- travel expenses (lump sum in the amount of 1.500 lei).

✓ For participating to scientific events, travel expenses are provided according to the legislation applicable to the institution from Romania.

- ✓ The total or partial non-use of the amounts allocated to a partner from the Republic of Moldova is considered an economy in the project budget. Unused amounts cannot be transferred to the coordinating institution in Romania, nor to another partner institution in the Republic of Moldova.

8. Ethics

The Project Director has the obligation to ensure that the funding application complies with the regulations stipulated by Law 206/2004 regarding good conduct in scientific research, technological development, and innovation, with subsequent amendments and additions, as well as other legislative regulations regarding the ethics specific to the project's research domain. Also, in case the project's domain requires getting approvals and specific accreditations, the Project Director will make sure to get them prior to submitting the funding application.

9. Equal opportunities

Equal opportunities, as well as gender equality, will be ensured for all participants, both in the programme implementation and at the project level, in accordance with national legal provisions and European practices.

In elaborating and implementing the funding application/project, the Project Directors must take all measures to promote equal opportunities between men and women. These must aim, as far as possible, a balance between women and men for all positions provided in the funding application/project, including the management level.

At the same time, to the extent possible, during the implementation of the project, mechanisms should be provided in order to try to recognize the types of gender prejudices, the moments in which they appear, and the forms they take, as well as the methods of recognition and prevention. In addition, attention should be paid to mainstreaming the gender equality dimension in the content of the research and in all processes, mechanisms, or outputs provided for in the funding application.

10. The procedure for submission, evaluation and selection of the project proposals

Submission of the project proposals will be done by the coordinating institution in Romania, using the online submission platform, <https://uefiscdi-direct.ro>. It is compulsory for the submission of a project proposal to be done from an account created by the Project Director (the identification data to create an account on the platform must pertain to the Project Director). The funding application is written in English, according to Appendix 1.

The funding application will be uploaded on the submission platform as an unprotected pdf. file (document generated from a text file into a pdf.).

10.1 Eligibility verification

The project proposals are verified by UEFISCDI's staff as well as the staff of National Agency for Research and Development from Republic Of Moldova (the institutional partner of UEFISCDI) in order to ensure that national eligibility criteria are fulfilled. Only the project proposals declared eligible by both funding agencies will enter to the evaluation process.

The list of eligible project proposals will be published on the UEFISCDI's website at <https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/>. At the moment the results are published, UEFISCDI notifies the Romanian Project Directors, by email, to the addresses specified by them in the funding applications.

Complaints concerning the fulfillment of the eligibility criteria can be sent by email at office@uefiscdi.ro or by fax to 021/311.59.92 within 3 working days from the date of publication of the results.

If, during or after completion of the evaluation phase, a non-compliance with any of eligibility criteria is found, the project proposal will be declared ineligible and will be excluded from the competition.

10.2 Evaluation process

The projects are evaluated by internationally recognized expert evaluators, preferably researchers from the Romanian and Moldavian scientific diaspora. The expert evaluators are PhDs (mandatory condition) with experience demonstrated through (non-cumulative): scientific articles, patents, research and development projects.

Each expert evaluator will declare in writing their impartiality, and competence in the domain to which the project proposal subject to evaluation belongs, as well as their confidentiality. The expert evaluator will be committed to inform UEFISCDI, in writing, at any time during the evaluation process, about any situation regarding the non-fulfillment of these conditions or about being in any conflict of interest.

If UEFISCDI finds or is notified of the existence of a conflict of interest or misconduct, it will take the necessary measures to replace the expert evaluator in question.

The evaluations are anonymous, ensuring the confidentiality of the expert evaluators.

10.2.1 Individual evaluation

Each eligible proposal is evaluated independently, online, by 3 expert evaluators. They will fill in the individual evaluation sheet identifying the strengths and weaknesses for each evaluation criterion, explicitly highlighting them, according to the evaluation sheet presented in Appendix 2. For each criterion/sub-criterion scores will be granted strictly according to the associated comments.

After the finalization of all individual evaluations, each expert evaluator has access to the other 2 expert evaluators comments and scores. If necessary, they can adjust their own initially granted scores and comments.

10.2.2 Rebuttal

After the completion of the individual evaluation, UEFISCDI's staff makes available to the Project Directors, in the accounts from the online platform for submitting project proposals, the concatenated sheet with the three individual evaluations (without scores), with the invitation to formulate, in writing, a point of view to the expert evaluators' comments.

If it is the case, the Project Directors' rebuttal, limited to 4.000 characters (including spaces), will be completed using a form available in the online platform for submitting project proposals, within 3 working days from the date of the initial rebuttal request. The point of view of the Project Director will be written in English and will consist strictly of a response to the critical comments of the expert evaluators, as they appear in the concatenated sheet without introducing new elements to the project proposal. The rebuttal of the Project Director is not mandatory, and its absence does not affect the evaluation of the project.

10.2.3 Reaching the consensus

After the rebuttal (if any), the expert evaluators are automatically notified of its existence in the platform.

They then determine the final individual scores, taking into account the rebuttal, if it is the case. Consensus is considered to have been reached if the difference between the scores granted by the three expert evaluators does not exceed 10 points. In this situation, the final score of the project proposal is the average of the three scores given by the expert evaluators.

If consensus was not reached after the individual evaluation (the difference is higher than 10 points), the expert evaluators can interact, through the online platform, and will adjust their scores and comments to reach a consensus.

Project proposals for which consensus is not reached will be evaluated by one more expert evaluator who fill in the individual evaluation sheet, having access to the comments and scores initially granted by the first three expert evaluators, as well as to the rebuttal (if any). To calculate the final score, the four individual scores are averaged, and the score farthest from the average will be eliminated. If there are two scores equally far from the average, the score of the expert evaluator with the lowest score on the first criterion from the evaluation sheet is eliminated.

Afterwards, the average of the three remaining scores is calculated, establishing the final score of the project proposal.

10.3 Publication of evaluation results

The list of project proposals, one for each of the 3 domains, and the final score obtained by each of them, in descending order, will be published on UEFISCDI's website at <https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/>. Project Directors are informed of the presence of the evaluation report in the accounts from the submission platform, <https://uefiscdi-direct.ro>, by sending a notification by email to the address specified in the project proposal.

Project proposals that have obtained less than 80 points are declared unfundable.

10.4 Complaints

The Project Directors can submit complaints within 3 working days after the date of publication of the evaluation results. The complaints can be exclusively about the procedural flaws that the candidate considers inconsistent with the specifications from the Information Package. The complaints will be sent by email to the address office@uefiscdi.ro or by fax to + 40 21 311.59.92.

10.5 The results of the competition

- ✓ The list of project proposals for each of the 3 domains, with the score established after resolving the complaints, is published on UEFISCDI's website.
- ✓ The projects are ranked based on the final scores, for each of the 3 domains, and proposed for funding within the allocated budget. The success rate applicable to each domain is related to the success rate of the competition (the ratio between the number of projects possible to be funded, within the competition budget, and the number of eligible project proposals).
- ✓ If there are two or more project proposals with the same final score, the tie will be made according to the score obtained for each evaluation criterion, in the order from the final evaluation report.
- ✓ The list of project proposals accepted for funding, as well as the list of reserve projects, are submitted, for approval, to the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization.
- ✓ After the completion of the competition, UEFISCDI will publish on the website at the list <https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/> of experts used in the evaluation process.

10.6 Negotiating the budget and signing the funding contracts

For the project proposals accepted for funding, a three parties funding contract will be concluded: the Contracting Authority – UEFISCDI, the Contractor – the Coordinating Institution from Romania, Contractor - The Partner Institution/Partner Institutions.

The responsables of the winning projects will negotiate with UEFISCDI the amount and structure of the requested budget. The base of the discussion is represented by the observations from the

Final Evaluation Report regarding the degree of correlation between the intended objectives and the requested budget.

The negotiated budget may not exceed the amount of the budget initially requested in the funding application. The funding contract is signed after the negotiation process.

In case there are funds available as a result of not contracting or reducing the proposed budget for projects accepted for funding or as a result of supplementing the budget initially allocated to the competition, negotiation and contracting of the projects included in the Reserve List will be initiated, in order of the obtained score, up to the concurrent coverage of the approved amount.

11. Main obligations of the parties

The Coordinating Institution/The Project Director and the Project Partners:

- Are responsible for the project implementation, with respect to the foreseen deadlines and allocated budgets;
- Elaborate and send to the Contracting Authority scientific progress reports throughout the project implementation and a final report at the time and in the format specified. Deadlines of intermediary reports shall be proposed by the Project Director in accordance with the work plan set out in the funding application;
- Ensure that the staff involved in the project has created and updated the scientific profile on the IT platform <https://brainmap.ro>, including the researchers from the Republic of Moldova;
- Provide updated information on the project implementation (at least the abstract of the project, team members, and obtained results,) on a web page;
- The involved institutions ensure the project team the access to the existing research infrastructure and administrative supports it for implementing the project;
- The project partners (if applicable) establish, by agreement, the intellectual property rights resulting from the implementation of the project.

UEFISCDI:

- Ensures the funding and monitoring of the project, according to the funding contract provisions with respect to the law;
- Processes personal data in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (RGPD 2018) and Law 190/2018 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data
<https://uefiscdi.ro/protectia-datelor-cu-caracter-personal>.

12. Failure in research

Failure in research corresponds to the situations in which, following the proper development of the foreseen activities in a research project, with the achievement of the deliverables assumed according to the funding contract, the results obtained are not in accordance with the preliminary ones (working hypotheses from the project proposal are not confirmed, the preliminary functionality in the project proposal is not validated).

For an ongoing project, the failure in research can be identified by the evaluation and monitoring commissions set up for this purpose by the Contracting Authority (according to the provisions of art. 87 of GO 57/2002, with subsequent amendments and additions and chapter 11 and 13, letter r of GD 1188/2022) regarding the National Plan for Research, Development and Innovation 2022-2027)

During the evaluation and monitoring, the commissions will determine if:

- ✓ The project research team complied with the funding contract, carrying out the planned activities in good faith, even if the results are not preliminary (expected) ones. This case falls under the risk of research;
- ✓ The project research team has inadequately carried out the activities provided in the funding contract or has not carried them out without notifying the Contracting Authority of the reasons that led to this situation. In these circumstances, the failures are attributable to the Contractor and the Contracting Authority may request the return of the funds used improperly.

The process of identifying and certifying situations that fall under the risk of research involves examining:

- ✓ How the activities within the project were carried out in accordance with the funding application, appendix to the funding contract (observance of the content and the timeline);
- ✓ How the (theoretical or experimental) results were obtained, including the achievement of deliverables associated with the objectives/activities, even if they differ from the preliminary ones from the funding application;
- ✓ How communication with the Contracting Authority was carried out regarding the discrepancies between the results obtained during the implementation of the project and those initially provided in the funding application.

Based on the reports of the evaluation and monitoring commissions, the Contracting Authority accepts the failure in the research, without the obligation to recover the funds spent from the state budget.

If the evaluation and monitoring commissions find that, through the Contractor's own fault, the steps/activities and objectives foreseen in the implementation plan for which funding was received have not been achieved, the project will be interrupted and the funding quota allocated from the programme budget will be returned to the Contracting Authority.

13. Call timeline

ACTIVITY	DEADLINE
Call launch	June 30th 2023
Funding application submission	September 15th 2023, 4 p.m.
Evaluation process	September - November 2023
Final results	November 2023

14. Appendixes

FUNDING APPLICATION

This document uses Times New Roman, 12 point, 1.15 interline space and 2 cm margins. Any changes to these parameters (except tables, figures or legends) are prohibited. Excess pages will not be considered by the experts in the evaluation process.

This document must be uploaded imperatively as an unprotected PDF file (document generated from a word processor file to a PDF, no scanned document), on the submission platform.

The Funding application is the only document sent to evaluators. The evaluators have no access to the information completed in the platform.

In each section of the application, the explicative text will be maintained.

Please, make sure that the funding application contains all the required information.

A. General Information (will be completed into the platform)**A.1. Coordinator (Romania)**

Name					
Legal representative					
Position					
Legal form		CUI			
Address		Town / District			
Registration Year					
Web site					
Principal investigator:					
First name		Last name		CNP	
UEF –ID (identification number www.brainmap.ro)		Position			
Tel.		Email			

A.2. Partner(s) (Republic of Moldova)

Name					
Legal representative					
Position					
Registration Year		CUI			
No. Trade register					
Address		Town / District			
Organization type					
Registration Year					
Website					
Partner leader					
First name		Last name		CNP	
UEF –ID (identification number https://brainmap.ro)		Position			
Tel.		Email			

B. Project Proposal

B.1. Project information *(will be completed into the platform)*

- Project title (max. 150 characters, including spaces);
- Summary (max. 1500 characters, including spaces);
- Acronym;
- Project Domain (Physical Sciences and Engineering; Life Sciences; Social Sciences and Humanities);
- Key words.

B.2 Project Director and Partner Leader(s)

(will be uploaded into the platform)

Excess pages will not be considered by the experts in the evaluation process.

B2.1 Project Director (Principal Investigator) - max. 4 pages

The narrative CV of the project director will be presented. The narrative must include the most 5 important contributions of the project director in his/her field of research (related to the theme of the project proposal).

B2.2 Partner Leader - max. 4 pages/person

The narrative CV of the Partner Leader will be presented. The narrative must include the most 5 important contributions of the partner leader in his/her field of research (related to the theme of the project proposal).

B.3 Motivation of the proposed theme in the current scientific context. Originality and degree of innovation - max. 5 pages

In this section, the principal investigator will detail the scientific context, the degree of novelty and scientific relevance, the scope and objectives, the approach to these objectives (project activities/plan), deliverables, and potential impact.

B.4 Project feasibility; Available resources - max. 3 pages

- *Existing research infrastructure in the host institution (Romania) relevant to the implementation of the project will be presented. The link from the platform <https://eertis.eu> must be indicated.*
- *If there is a complementarity research infrastructure in the institution (s) from Moldova Republic, this must be presented. Also, this research infrastructure must be registered on <https://eertis.eu> platform.*
- *Describe how the available research infrastructure is used by the involved teams in order to achieve the objectives of the projects.*
- *Describe how the research visits of researchers from Moldova Republic are planned and the expected added value of these visits.*
- *Briefly describe the expertise of the research teams and their contribution to the project.*

B.5 Project Budget:

Justify the estimation of the total costs for each line of the budget (excepting indirect costs).

Allocated budget / costs (Lei/Euro), the exchange rate is 1 EUR = 5 LEI										
	Staff costs ⁴		Logistics ⁵		Travel		Indirect costs ⁶		Total	
	Lei	Euro	Lei	Euro	Lei	Euro	Lei	Euro	Lei	Euro
Coordinator (CO)										
Partner 1										
Partner n										
Total budget										

Note: The table is mandatory and the budget values must be the same with the ones completed on the platform, <https://uefiscdi-direct.ro>.

C. Bibliography

⁴ - only for the Romanian coordinator

⁵ - only materials, consumables and similar products necessary for the running of the project (only for the Romanian coordinator);

⁶ - max. 20% of the project budget, only for the Romanian coordinator.

Evaluation Sheet

Criterion 1: Project Director and Partner Leader(s) - 40% of total score

(see section B.2 of funding application)

- *Evaluate to what extent the Project Director's / partner Leader(s)'s scientific output is internationally recognized.*
- *Evaluate to what extent the Project Director's / partner Leader(s)'s research output is relevant for the present project. Assess the quality and appropriateness of the researcher's existing professional experience in relation to the research proposal.*

Criterion 2: Scientific Excellence - 30% of total score

(see section B.3 of funding application)

- *Evaluate whether the problem/issue addressed by the project is clearly identified in relation to the state-of-the-art in the field.*
- *Comment on the originality and novelty of the proposed solution and assess the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious and goes beyond the current state of the art in the field.*
- *Evaluate the clarity and coherence of the research objectives. Are these objectives realistically achievable, measurable and verifiable?*
- *To what extent is the proposed methodological approach suitable for reaching these objectives?*
- *How effective is the work plan (timelines, deliverables) in terms of achieving the proposed objectives?*
- *Comment on the coherence of the project's approach in terms of activities and time scales.*

Criterion 3: Project feasibility - 30% of total score

(see section B.4 of funding application)

- *To what extent will the research infrastructure available at the host institution and human resource (research teams) ensure the successful implementation of the project?*
- *Evaluate to what extent the project activities will increase the research capacity / enhance the scientific performance of researchers from Republic Moldova. Does the project build the experience and the competence of the researchers /organizations involved?*

Criterion 4: Budget; this section will not be scored

(see section B.5 of funding application)

- *Please provide an overall assessment of the requested budget and evaluate to what extent it is justified by the proposed research activities.*

Note: There will be no score associated with this criterion, but the assessment will be useful to the funding agency.

Recommendations for Evaluators:

1. Propose a score only after consensus has been reached on the comments; make sure that the comments are concrete, complete (i.e. address all questions) and consistent with the semantics of each score, namely:

0	ABSENT	The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to <i>missing or incomplete information</i> .
1	UNSATISFACTORY	The criterion is addressed in an <i>inadequate manner</i> , or there are <i>serious inherent weaknesses</i> .
2	SATISFACTORY	While the proposal <i>broadly addresses</i> the criterion, there are <i>significant weaknesses</i> .
3	GOOD	The proposal addresses the criterion <i>well</i> , although <i>improvements would be necessary</i> . <i>A number of weaknesses/shortcomings are present</i> .
4	VERY GOOD	The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although <i>certain improvements are still possible</i> . <i>A small number of weaknesses/shortcomings are present</i> .
5	EXCELLENT	The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

2. When scoring each criterion use the full scale, from 0 to 5 – in 0.5 increments.
3. The scores must reflect the strengths and weaknesses and they must be in line with the comments. Scores **below 5, including 4.5, must be in accordance with the identified weaknesses, which should be clearly indicated** in the Consensus Report!
4. If **no weakness is identified, the score is 5**.
5. Each strength and weakness must be reflected **only once** in the report and the scores, i.e. there is **no double penalty, no double reward**.

Note: The final score will be calculated as a weighted sum of the scores for each criterion multiplied by 20 (final score between 0 and 100);

Final grade = $20*(c1*40/100 + c2*30/100 + c3*30/100)$ *ci is the score for criterion i.*