# Afbeelding met tekst, vectorafbeeldingen  Automatisch gegenereerde beschrijving

Early-Stage Innovation

Template for the application of a project for strategic basic research for clusters within the Moonshot innovation program

VERSION April, 2024

**This document explains how to complete a proposal for an Early-Stage Innovation (ESI) project within the Moonshot innovation program. Where relevant, the link with the Moonshot objectives/strategy must always be made.**

All necessary information and documents which are important when preparing the application can be found on the Moonshot website: [www.moonshotflanders.be](http://www.moonshotflanders.be). The following documents are available for download at www.moonshotflanders.be/downloads:

* Context document "The Flemish industry carbon circular and low in CO2 in 2050 through the development of marketable innovative technologies in Flanders by 2040”, containing relevant background information concerning the Moonshot innovation program (such as the high-level objectives of the program and the specific objectives of the four Moonshot research trajectories*)*;
* Manual for ESI projects within the Moonshot innovation program (version April 2024) containing relevant background information;
* Cost model and corresponding Excel-template to prepare the project budget;
* Methodological framework for the sustainability assessment and Excel template.

We recommend that you always check whether you have the most current version of these documents and templates.

The application must be submitted electronically via the spearhead cluster Catalisti to the Agency for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, acting for the decision-making committee at the fund for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, together with the signed statements. It is this version that is used to determine the date of submission. Keep in mind that only files up to 15 MB are allowed via e-mail. Please use moonshot@catalisti.be to submit your proposal.

Questions regarding the submission of the application can be addressed to:

Catalisti vzw

BlueChem

Olieweg 95

2020 Antwerpen

moonshot@catalisti.be

Helga Pien

Account manager Moonshot program

VLAIO

Ellipsgebouw

Koning Albert II-laan 35, bus 16

1030 Brussel

tel: 02 553 05 84

helga.pien@vlaio.be

# The Application

The application for an ESI project consists of 4 different parts and 5 appendices:

**Part 1** Project sheet and project summary (in English – maximum 3 pages)

**Part 2** Description of the intended valorisation and transfer of knowledge (in English – maximum 25 pages)

**Part 3** Scientific project description (in English – maximum 30 pages)

**Part 4** Expertise and track record of the consortium (in English – maximum 5 pages × N in which N = number of participating research teams[[1]](#footnote-2))

**Appendix A** Administrative data and the project summary in Dutch.

**Appendix B** Additional substantiation of part 2 (i.e., the valorisation chapter) of the ESI proposal: justifying letters from companies, perhaps additional confidential information related to valorisation (e.g., a draft business plan, details of freedom-to-operate analysis, list of Background IP).

**Appendix C** Term sheet

**Appendix D** Description work package sustainability impact and valorisation path.

**Appendix E** Excel file with the project budget using the mandatory Excel template. The budget application template can be downloaded at: <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/1763>

In formulating your project proposal, the following general points are important:

* The stated **maximum number of pages** include the literature list and other references. The text is written on normal A4 pages using “Calibri” font with a minimum font size of 11 or equivalent, with reasonable line spacing and margins. It is imperative that you do not exceed these maxima. Consider that a good project proposal does not necessarily need to meet the set page limit.
* **Parts 1-4** of your project application are **mandatory to complete in English**.
* **Appendix A and Appendix B** are only intended for use by VLAIO and can be formulated in Dutch or English except for the Dutch project summary. In principle, these appendices are not transferred to the external experts. The Dutch project summary (Appendix A) is essential basic information for the decision-making committee at the fund for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. This document also serves as a basis for formulating the support agreement in the case of a positive decision. Please formulate it carefully and in line with the other parts of your ESI project proposal.
* Please note that no other appendices are requested than Appendix A (administrative data), B (valorisation-related information), C (term sheet), and E (budget file). Not requested addenda (such as e.g., scientific elaborations, CVs, etc.) are not considered in the evaluation process.
* When preparing an ESI project proposal, it is essential to interact early with the interface or transfer service of your institution (i.e., [www.ttoflanders.be](http://www.ttoflanders.be)).

# Part 1. General Data: Project Sheet and Project Summary

Maximum 3 pages.

|  |
| --- |
| 1.1Title of the project |
| * *Title (short, informative and clear)*
 |
| 1.2 Basic data  |
| * *Start date (the earliest possible start date is the first day of the month following the project submission):*
* *Project duration (for ‘full’ ESI projects: maximum 4 years):*
* *Total requested budget (€) (for ‘full’ ESI projects: maximum 3 million EUR)[[2]](#footnote-3):*
* *Total requested support (€):*
* *Total number of person-months:*
* *The list of participating partners in the consortium and the names of the promoters or project managers (without any further administrative data):*

 |
| 1.3 Summary scientific goals (maximum 1 page) |
| ***General goal*** *Describe in 1 or 2 sentences what the consortium wants to achieve with the proposed project. This is in essence the innovation to be achieved in terms of product, process and/or service.****Concrete objectives and criteria*** *Indicate explicitly the (interim) results to be achieved, such as specific knowledge, solutions to specific problems or concrete test installations, simulations, software, etc. List by sub-aspect the main quantitative and qualitative benchmarks, criteria, requirements, or standards, to be able to determine at the end of the project to what extent the expected results have been obtained.*  |
| 1.4 Summary potential impact/utilisation (maximum 1 page) |
| *Summarize Part 2 ‘Description of the Intended Valorisation and Knowledge Transfer’ of this project with attention for the most relevant topics out of the list below.**Based on the assumption that the envisioned project objectives will be achieved, describe briefly how the results will be exploited:** *Describe the path forward towards application/implementation: What follow-up project(s) will need to be undertaken to further mature the research conducted in this ESI? What should be in the focus of this/these follow-up project(s)? What are the envisioned objectives and outcome of this/these project(s)?*
* *Which applications/sectors are envisaged?*
* *Contribution to the high-level objectives of the Moonshot innovation program (CO2 emission reduction potential, improved process/product life cycle) and to the KPIs of the relevant Moonshot research trajectories (MOTs)?*
* *What potential impact is expected?*
* *How long will it take before the results obtained can be applied by the companies?*
* *How will the results be transferred (e.g., by bilateral R&D projects, licensing, etc.)?*
* *Willingness of the companies to go ahead with the project results?*
* *Describe the IPR strategy.*

*Give an overview of all companies that have agreed to participate in the industrial advisory board and to actively cooperate during and after the project (if relevant). Briefly describe their potential role in the valorization chain and their contribution to the project:**e.g.:**Company X (supplier of raw material, test material);**Company Y (product development, parallel R&D project).* |

**Part 2. Description of the Intended Valorisation and Knowledge Transfer**

This part contains an absolute maximum of 25 pages. Keep it as concise as possible.

|  |
| --- |
| *The assessment of the valorisation part of an ESI project proposal constitutes an essential aspect during the selection of the project. This part will be* ***evaluated and scored by*** *the industrial WAR members. The academic reviewers will read this section and provide feedback but will not evaluate or score it.* *The driving principle of the Moonshot projects is to enable innovative research that leads to solutions that can be valorised by their industrial implementation within the shortest possible time and thus contribute to achieve the objective of a carbon neutral industry in Flanders by 2040. To make your vision towards this objective concrete, it is important to provide quantitative answers to the questions/points listed below. This implies a need to translate scientific insights and breakthroughs into an industrial context where aspects of scalability and economics are evaluated as to their feasibility.* *The task of the applicants is to conceptualise an optimal* ***valorisation track that allows implementation of the technology by 2040****.* *The sustainability impact and path towards valorisation needs to be further refined during the execution of the granted project. Therefore, it is mandatory to foresee a work package on this. The standard work package description and allocated budget can be found in Appendix D.*  |
| 2.1. Strategic importance for Flanders  |
| ***Current problems and challenges to companies*** *Describe in this section the current problems or challenges of several companies that you want to tackle. Describe how large the available market/relevancy of the intended application is.****Contribution to solving the problems/challenges*** *Define the incremental and breakthrough innovation you envision and how the intended results of the ESI project will contribute to solving the problem and/or realising the economic opportunities. Describe how the innovation will impact the Flemish system. In case data on a Belgian level is used, how representative is this data for Flanders?* ***Value chain*** *Add a description of the full value chain/system – an example of the steps in the value chain is given in the figure – and indicate the part where your innovation will focus on.* *Indicate the companies or sectors along the value chain that are essential to realize your innovation and describe why they are essential. Don't provide merely a list of companies but clarify why the project results are important for these companies.* *How will your innovation impact the value chain and the broader system (in Flanders)? Consider socio-economic benefits and risks for the innovation and describe broader services that your innovation will provide to the value chain/system. For example, feedstock/energy availability or the link with existing infrastructure (incl. energy infrastructure). Are there synergies (e.g., integration into (an) existing asset(s)) to be expected? Which elements of scale can/will become stringent? What will be the (ideal) location of the plant? How is circularity considered? Do you expect an impact on your timeline due to required permits (e.g., safety aspects, building permits, emissions, use of toxic substances)?* ***Roadmaps, regulation, and policy measures*** *Add a link with the high-level objectives of the Moonshot innovation program (i.e., CO2 emission reduction potential and improved process/product life cycle), its roadmap (i.e., context analysis), and other (industrial) roadmaps and the challenges they describe. Provide an overview of the regulations and policy measures that could reinforce, obstruct, or delay the valorisation potential and describe how.* |
| 2.2. Potential scale of the impact  |
| ***Current systems/technologies (describe baseline scenario)**** *What are the existing and emerging systems/processes/solutions that will serve as your benchmark?*
* *What are the main (dis)advantages of your innovation compared to these benchmarks? In which areas does it make sense to switch to your innovation? Does the innovation have a chance to become mature, i.e., may become the new standard?*
* *What is the current TRL for the identified benchmark processes?*

***Expected economic impact*** *Add a back-of-the-envelope economic estimate of CAPEX and OPEX and identify the critical parameters to show the potential economic impact of your innovation. E.g., How big should the plant be, or what process performance is required, to become profitable? Will it be a centralized or decentralized system? Provide evidence to substantiate the expected impact of the entire process. Provide a quantitative description and motivation of the boundary conditions, the starting assumptions, and describe the uncertainty.****Expected environmental impact*** *How does your innovation lead to (more) carbon circularity and/or CO2 reduction/avoidance as compared to the baseline scenario? What are the preconditions that will enable the estimated, quantified CO2 savings? Provide evidence to substantiate the expected impact.*  |
| 2.3. Fit with the Moonshot program and valorisation objectives |
| ***Quantitative contribution to MOT Goals and KPIs (i.e., effect of upscaling)****What is the contribution of the impact on the KPIs of the relevant MOTs (quantified estimation based on described influencing parameters and calculations in section 2.2)?* ***Fit and interaction with other Moonshot projects*** *Position your project proposal with regard to other projects of the Moonshot innovation program and describe how the interaction with those projects will be addressed.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Project acronym** | **Relevance to [project]** | **Involved [project] partners** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

***Valorisation objectives*** *Formulate the valorisation objectives (VO) as concretely as possible and in line with the intended project results (i.e., academic objectives and work packages) and link these with the interest of the companies.* *Preparatory interaction with companies* *Describe the process of how you conceived the project proposal. Which preliminary interactions with companies did you have in preparing your project proposal? Describe the support and commitment of the companies and their willingness and readiness to go ahead with the project results. Add a table in which you indicate the interested companies and clearly link these with the VOs.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **VO1** | **VO2** | **VO3** | **Main interest in the project** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |

 |
| 2.4. Valorisation strategy and plan of the project |
| *Based on the valorisation potential, you subsequently develop a concrete valorisation strategy and plan. Describe the potential business model that could be viable for Flanders. How much of the valorisation will take place outside of Flanders?* **IP management and valorisation** *Which IP will be generated and how will you manage and valorise this IP? Elaborate on the potential risk factors related to intellectual property rights (IPR) that might hamper the valorisation opportunities in Flanders. If such risk factors exist, indicate how you will deal with them. A freedom-to-operate (FTO) needs to be included in the proposal.**Demonstrate meaningful interactions with the target groups towards achieving valorisation. Are there R&D interactions and cooperation foreseen with one or more companies from the industrial Advisory Board that offer a demonstrable added value for the ESI project and that might result in the transfer of your research results to the industry? Which mutual agreement has been made between the consortium partners to facilitate the efficient operation of the research collaboration and of the further valorisation process[[3]](#footnote-4)? To what extent (present or future) will companies in Flanders be able to actually use the results? It is important to indicate which intentions (e.g., potential future agreements) you have for the anticipated interactions with the selected companies. In sectors and domains where exclusivity of knowledge transfer is common and obvious, your perspective on how to interact with the individual companies is very relevant.****Follow-up projects****Describe the path forward towards application/implementation: What follow-up project(s) will need to be undertaken to further mature the research conducted in this ESI? What should be the focus of this/these follow-up project(s)? What are the envisioned objectives and outcome of this/these project(s) to achieve effective economic valorisation?**In Appendix B, you can add supporting information, such as well-founded expressions of interest (LOI) and commitments by the companies that will participate in the industrial advisory board. A minimum of 5 LOIs is required.*  |

# Part 3. Scientific Project Description

This part contains an absolute maximum of 30 pages. Keep it as concise as possible.

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| --- |
| 3.1. Positioning with regard to scientific state-of-the-art  |
| *Describe concisely the situation of the academic and patent-related literature in the domain of the project. Which background information is available at the start of the project? Clarify how your project complements and overlaps with the state-of-the-art. In case of a follow-up project, indicate what has been reached in the (ongoing) preceding project, i.e. what is the status at the moment of writing and what is the perspective the initial data provides for a sucessful continuation.*  |
| 3.2. Academic project objectives  |
| *Describe as explicitly as possible the scientific project objectives that you wish to reach. What is the essence of the intended scientific progress from which the various concrete goals, criteria, activities, and the results can be understood? List explicitly the (partial) results that will have to be achieved. Per sub-aspect, mention the major target values, criteria, requirements, and norms (preferably quantitative) that at the end of the project determine to what extent the anticipated results were reached. How does success looks like for your project?*  |
| 3.3. Research approach and work plan |
| *Describe how the research project will be tackled and justify why this approach was selected and specific strategic choices were made. The approach must clarify how the scientific objectives will be reached, considering the proposed (sub)objectives and criteria.**From the perspective of this general approach, describe the set-up and cohesion of the work packages and the milestones. Also state how interim decision points and general project risks are considered. Describe in the work plan: WHAT (divided into work packages), WHY and HOW (research approach, work method), WHEN (planning) and WHO (division of tasks, synergy and complementarity). Add a Gantt graph for clarification.* *Indicate how the coordination and monitoring of the project will be organised and how the cooperation among the various partners will be structured. If applicable, also describe the role of the cluster organization(s) involved regarding the project and how the project is monitored/implemented after the possible end of the support to the cluster organization. Finally provide an overview of the deployed person-months per year. Use the table below.*

|  |
| --- |
| **Overview table of the deployed person-months** |
| **Work Plan** | **Partner** | **1st year** | **2nd year** | **3rd year** | **4th year** | **TOTAL** |
| **1** | **Partner 1** |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Partner 2** |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **…** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **…** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  |  |  |  |  |  |

 |
| 3.4. Project budget and requested support |
| *For the design of the budget and the clarification of the acceptable costs, reference is made to VLAIO’s cost model and the available Excel template. The use of the available Excel file template for the project budget is mandatory. The template can be downloaded at:* *Template budget application:* [*https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/1763*](https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/1763)*Guide to the cost model:* [*https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/1761*](https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/1761)*Only the global overview is copied to this section 3.4 of the application template and integrated into the PDF file for the experts.* |

# Part 4. Expertise and Track Record of the Consortium

## Fill in this part per participating research team. This part is maximum 5 pages × N in which N = number of participating research teams.

|  |
| --- |
| 4.1. Scientific expertise and track record |
| *Per project partner, indicate the scientific expertise and the resources (personnel, infrastructure, access to information/Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), etc.) of each partner, which will contribute effectively to the implementation of the ESI project. Justify your choice for including this partner in the consortium and indicate the expected synergy (or synergies) with the other consortium partners.* *Demonstrate the scientific expertise that is the most relevant for the central problem-definition of the ESI project based on the five most important publications. Discuss the preceding, the current and the planned research projects that connect specifically to the ESI project proposal at hand with indication of the financing mechanism (Flemish, federal, European Union support, bilateral contract with a company, etc.). Provide a concise interpretation of the crucial academic successes or breakthroughs that these previous projects achieved. Also add an overview of the relationship and the complementary aspect between the ESI project application and these related research activities.* *Also discuss your management experience with conducting multi-partner research projects (useful management experience does not necessarily come from the specific subject of the ESI project).*  |
| 4.2. Valorisation expertise and track record |
| *Show which competences and experiences each project partner in the consortium has in transferring research results. Describe the relevant experience and track record regarding valorisation activities and/or valorisation successes at the level of the researchers and research teams who are involved in the ESI project (thus, not on the higher levels of the institute or the department). The useful experience does not necessarily come from within the subject of the ESI project. When describing the experiences, relevant issues are: What is the track record of the project partners in valorisation? To what extent in the past has the project partner participated in industrial R&D projects of companies or of other forms of industrial services? Has the consortium partner contributed in the past to establishing new spin-offs? Are there patents that have already led to transfer? Are there data available about the economic impact of the transfer on the companies to which the transfer was made? Which valorisation performances did the project partner achieve with the previous and current (c)SBO projects? Have previous and current (c)SBO projects already led to subsequent R&D activities and further industrial developments in companies?*  |

# Appendix A. Administrative Data and Project Summary in Dutch

|  |
| --- |
| A.1. Project coordinator  |
| * *Research organisation type (legal entity, such as a university or strategic research centre)*
* *Name of the research team*
* *Department or unit to which the research team belongs*
* *Last name, first name, title and function of the project coordinator (promoter, supervisor, principal investigator) and perhaps also the operational project leader (i.e., the person who will undertake the daily management of the project)*
* *Other contact persons*
* *Addresses*
* *Telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, internet website*
 |
| A.2. Project partners |
| *Together with the project coordinator, these constitute the research consortium.**For each project partner:** *Research organisation type (legal entity, for example, a university or a strategic research centre)*
* *Name of the research team*
* *Department or unit to which the research team belongs*
* *Last name, first name, title and function of the project partner*
* *Other contact persons*
* *Addresses*
* *Telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, internet website*
 |
| A.3. Subcontractors (if applicable) |
| * *Research organisation type or company*
* *Last name, first name, title and function of the subcontractor*
* *Other contact persons*
* *Addresses*
* *Telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, internet website*
* *VAT number (in case of a company)*
 |
| A.4. Project summary **in Dutch** |
| *The content of this text is completely identical to the English text in paragraph 1.3 and 1.4 of Part 1 (in total maximum 2 pages)**The substantive project summary in Dutch contains the following two parts, each with a maximum of 1 page per part:** *a brief summary of the scientific objectives of the project;*
* *a brief summary of the possible impact of the project.*
 |
| A.5. Public summary **in Dutch** |
| *Additionally, provide a separate short public summary in Dutch in max. 500 words.* |

# Appendix B. Additional substantiation of Part 2 (the valorisation chapter) of the ESI proposal

*This Appendix contains:*

*- For a proposal with anticipated transfer to existing companies: The well-motivated letters of intent (LOI) of companies with a commitment to engage themselves in the industrial advisory board.*

* *It is essential that these statements are well motivated and not limited to general non-committal expressions of interest. Invite the companies to clarify the valorisation opportunities of successful project results in an explicit manner. Reflect and elaborate on the anticipated follow-up R&D activities and on concepts for future business cases.*
* *The LOI to participate in the industrial advisory board needs to be signed by a legal representative of the company.*
* *In their LOI, companies of the industrial advisory board must include (at least) their* ***commitment*** *to substantive input and a time investment to participate in bilateral consultations with the project executors and/or meetings of the advisory board. A financial contribution is not a prerequisite but will be positively assessed during the evaluation of the project proposal[[4]](#footnote-5).*

*- If applicable: The documentation of existing R&D collaborations with a company (or some companies) of the industrial advisory board.*

*- Available additional valorisation-related information, e.g., result of a freedom-to-operate analysis.*

*-* ***A list of each partner’s Background IP*** *needed to exploit the Foreground developed in the Moonshot ESI project or needed to allow the other partners to perform their project tasks.*

***- Optional: short list of maximum 5 experts to be avoided.***

*To reduce any possible conflict of interest because of (especially industrial) competition and to allow for an impartial and balanced evaluation, applicants may submit* ***a short list of a maximum of 5 experts to be avoided****. This holds especially for industrial experts or possibly also experts from universities and research organizations insofar they have a significant affiliation with a competitive company or spin-off development. This must be done at the moment of the initial project application. The short list must be specific, i.e., based on the name of the expert or at least of his or her specific research group or department. It is not possible to exclude experts at the higher level of the research organization or university, or to object to experts which are active in a particular domain.*

# Appendix C: Project Term Sheet − Agreement Framework R&D&I (model access to foreground knowledge at market conditions)

*This term sheet is prepared in close interaction with the TTO services and should not be changed. By signing the submission of the project proposal, a legal representative of each project partner will automatically agree to adhere to the principles described in it. Upon approval of the project proposal and project start, a Collaboration Agreement will be set up and signed by all partners, according to the principles agreed upon.*

The project partners commit themselves to act in conformity with the Framework for State aid for Research and Development and Innovation (Framework R&D&I) and therefore worked out the principles as elaborated hereafter, which will be further worked out in the collaboration agreement.

**Research in the research part of the project is a non-economic activity with sufficient independence.**

The project partners will perform the project as an Effective Collaboration as described in the above-mentioned Framework R&D&I, which means that:

The participating Research and Knowledge Dissemination Organisations (or in short ‘Research Organisations’), which are independent parties, will collaborate to exchange knowledge or technology, and to achieve a common objective based on the division of labour where the parties jointly defined the scope of the collaborative project, contribute to its implementation, and share its risks, as well as its results. This is explained in Section 2.1 ‘Strategic importance for Flanders’, Section 3.3 ‘Research approach and work plan’ and Section 2.4 ‘Valorisation strategy and plan of the project’ of this application.

The project budget that is being referred to under Section 3.4 ‘Project budget and requested support’ of this application demonstrates that the Research Organisations are contributing to this project relative to the division of labour and therefore share the financial risks related to the project. Section 3.3 ‘Research approach and work plan’ of this application explains that the Research Organisations share the technological, scientific, and other risks related to the project. Section 3.2 ‘Academic project objectives’, Section 3.3 ‘Research approach and work plan’ and Section 2.4 ‘Valorisation strategy and plan of the project’ of this application explain that the Research Organisations share the results related to the project.

The activities that the Research Organisations execute in the framework of the research part as described in Section 3.3 ‘Research approach and work plan’ of this application fit in the research roadmap of these Research Organisations and are in conformity with the primary tasks of the Research Organisations concerned; the research goals set for the research part are decided in an independent way by the Research Organisations themselves. In addition, all profits generated by Knowledge Transfer activities of the research results, that are (jointly) conducted by the Research Organisations, are reinvested in the primary activities of the Research Organisations.

The project partners of this project commit themselves not to make arrangements that restrict or hamper the independence of the Research Organisations in the project involved.

**Avoidance of indirect State aid to the undertakings that participate in the industrial advisory board of the project.**

Upon approval of this collaborative Moonshot ESI project, the Research Organisations that execute the project agree that a collaboration agreement will be concluded, including agreements with respect to the intellectual property rights (IPR) on the project results (ownership, access rights and licenses) according to the principles of article 4 of the 'model collaboration agreement', as also mentioned on the FWO website under 'explanatory document to the strategic basic research collaboration agreement', which then will be further elaborated and refined.

In addition, the Research Organisations that execute the project will also assemble an advisory board, which will serve as a sounding board during project execution. An advisory board agreement will be executed between the Research Organisations and the industrial partners (i.e., undertakings) that will take part in the advisory board of the project.

Intellectual property - ownership

The collaboration agreement and the advisory board agreement determine that the results of the project will be the property of the Research Organisation(s) carrying out the project work that generates those results.

Transfer of the results to users

When IPR or user rights arising out of research results obtained by a Research Organisation are transferred to an undertaking/organisation for the purpose of further valorising the results, the following provisions apply:

* The research results are available on an equal and non-discriminatory basis to all undertakings/organisations within the EU;
* A compensation in accordance with normal market conditions is payable which is equal for all undertakings/organisations within the EU, including members of the advisory board of the project and undertakings/organisations taking part in the project implementation (as non-funded partners or subcontractors). Possible contributions of the undertakings/organisations to the costs of the Research Organisations towards the results may be deducted;
* The revenues from the Knowledge Transfer are reinvested in the primary activities of the Research Organisations.

# Appendix D: Description work package sustainability impact and valorisation path

*This appendix contains the description of WP0 on the sustainability impact and valorisation path. This WP is obliged in each project and the description below can directly be integrated in the project proposal template. There needs to be a clear connection between the scientific developments, the sustainability impact assessment and the valorisation path. Therefore, this WP includes the organisation of meetings between the scientific researchers, sustainability experts and the business development managers to have a clear interaction and multidisciplinary view on the innovations.*

*For the sustainability impact performed in this WP, it is mandatory to follow the methodological framework for sustainability and use the Excel template developed for Moonshot. This will be provided by the Moonshot team.*

**WP 0 Sustainability impact and valorisation path**

*Task 0.1 Sustainability impact*

An early assessment of the sustainability impact (i.e., economic and environmental) of the innovation value chain is crucial for its successful development. It serves to guide researchers towards the most sustainable configuration, given the Moonshot context, of their development by setting clear research targets and as such help to define the technology roadmap towards implementation (see task 0.2). This assessment will be done using the methodological framework on sustainability for Moonshot and the accompanying Excel template. The goals are: (i) to have a substantiated estimate of the economic and climate change impacts with the aim to identify the hot-spots (i.e. understand where the impact is coming from) and with these to update research targets from the proposal phase and define the next steps towards implementation; (ii) to compare the economic and climate change impact with the state-of-the-art and emerging technologies and (iii) understand the contribution of a project to the specific MOT goals and KPIs.

A first version of the sustainability assessment needs to be ready mid-term the project. Based on feedback from the industrial stakeholders and new insights from the technical work packages, a final version of the Excel template needs to be submitted at the end of the project. Both versions should be sent to Catalisti for a quality check.

*Task 0.2 Valorization path*

A technology roadmap will be established. The exercise starts by describing the innovation (on the level of device, process, …), stakeholders and type of exploitation. It aims to bring low TRL innovations to deployment. The roadmap includes a stage-gate process with a timeline for the identified research targets that need to be set to reach market implementation and its valorization. Next to the definition of technical and valorization-related milestones, different technical, economic, environmental and market-related hurdles will be identified. The results from task 0.1, as well as from the technical work packages will be used.

A minimum of one meeting per year is organized between the research team, the sustainability experts and the business development managers from the different institutes involved.

Mid-term the project, a meeting is organized with the advisory board members to discuss the first results from both task 0.1 and task 0.2. Also, the responsible project manager from Catalisti/Flux50 should be invited to this meeting. The goal is to complete the analysis with the insights and perspective from the industrial stakeholders.

*Milestones:*

Milestone 0.1 – Excel template completed and checked before advisory board meeting

*Deliverables:*

Deliverable 0.1 – Presentation of the sustainability impact and valorization path to the advisory board (mid-term project)

Deliverable 0.2 – Excel template (end of project)

Deliverable 0.3 – Report or a self-explanatory presentation with a description of the valorization path and hurdles (end of project)

**Allocated budget**: max. 10 PM for WP0

*It is highly recommended to include a sustainability expert in the consortium.*

*In case you have any questions concerning potential sustainability experts to involve, you can find a single point of contact per organization below:*

* *Gwenny Thomassen (UGent)*
* *Sophie Van Schoubroeck (UA)*
* *Miet Van Dael (VITO)*
* *Giovanna Sauve (KUL)*
* *Tomas Wyns (VUB)*
* *Sebastien Lizin (UHasselt)*
1. For an ESI consortium with four participating research teams, this chapter may include maximum 20 pages. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The project duration and total requested budget must be in accordance with the approved motivated application form. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. **Appendix C**: A **term sheet** is required between the partners of the consortium. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. In any case, research organisations have the full ownership of their ESI project results and the State Aid Framework for R&D&I remains fully applicable. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)