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**The Flexpool mechanism in iDiv’s upcoming  
3rd funding phase:**

***Flexpool call for doctoral research projects***

**<Project title>**

**<Applicants’ and co-applicants’ names>**

**<Applicants’ and co-applicants’ affiliations>**

**<Date of submission>**

***\*\*\*General comments on the template for proposals\*\*\****

*Proposals are limited to 5 pages, including sections 2-5, plus 2 pages for sections 6-10; they must use Verdana 10 point font and 1.2 line spacing for the text; for the formation of tables other font size and line spacing are acceptable. Proposals not fulfilling these formal criteria will not be considered.*

## **General information**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Project title** |  | |
| **PI** | <name>  <contact address> | <affiliation> |
| **Co-PI 1** |  |  |
| **Co-PI 2** |  |  |
| **…** |  |  |
| **Keywords** | <please provide max. 5 keywords describing your research> | |

## **Summary**

*Please provide a concise and comprehensive summary of your research project with main objectives, hypotheses and expected contributions of the proposed work to the iDiv strategic missions.*

## **State of the art**

*Please explain briefly the state of the art of the studied field and its direct relationship to your proposed project. This and the next two sections must be concise and understandable without consultation of additional literature.*

## **Research questions / hypotheses**

*Please give a concise description of research questions and scientific objectives of your project.*

## **Work plan**

*Please give a concise account of the steps planned during the proposed funding period. Provide a description of the methods and quantitative tools (theoretical frameworks, models, algorithms) that you plan to use in the project: Methods / tools already available versus those that need to be developed. For experimental projects, a schedule detailing all planned experiments should be provided; for synthesis projects, the sources of the data and their availability needs to be indicated - as a proof of the latter, copies of formal data requests submitted to existing databases such as BExIS and BEF-data and others can be added as an appendix to the proposal. It is to be indicated if and to what extent the project requires the use of central iDiv facilities (e.g. experimental facilities, HPC).*

## **Project related own publications**

*Please list max. 5 own publications (by any of the applicants) relevant for the project; for each publication, please specify how it relates to and why it is important for the proposal (100 words max. each).*

## **Project fit to the iDiv strategy**

1. Research areas

*Please explain which research areas (molecular / complexity / function / society / change) are linked to the project and how the research questions may join the research areas. In addition, tick the respective boxes.*

*RA ‘molecular’*

*RA ‘complexity’*

*RA ‘function’*

*RA ‘society’*

*RA ‘change’*

1. Network and strategic missions

*Please summarize how your project links to existing themes or member networks, fills gaps in iDiv research and what key contributions will be provided to fulfil the iDiv strategic missions.*

## **Commitment plan**

1. Main *PI*

*Please specify how the PI contributed and / or will further contribute to iDiv’s activities (here please indicate when member status started).*

1. Co-PIs

*Please define co-PIs of your project and explain their specific roles.*

1. Collaborators

*Please define collaborators of your project and explain their specific roles.*

## **Mentoring strategy**

*Please specify how you plan to supervise your doctoral researcher within this project, including the role of the co-PIs. In case of JGL, please specify if you have an appointment that lasts long enough for the project and indicate whether you have supervision rights at your university. If not, please indicate a close contact that will serve as such.*

## **Previous Flexpool staff-funding**

*Please indicate which previous Flexpool staff-funding as main PI has been obtained so far.*

## **Budget plan**

1. Requested funds:

*Please clearly* *state which amount of funding is requested with respect to personnel and consumables. Please explain why the funds are needed and how they will be used. Please provide details on individual items where applicable. Direct costs (“Sachmittel”) should not exceed the budget of 10 k€ per year.* *Within the 10 k€ per year, max. 1 k€ can be allocated for publications and* *min. 1 k€ should be allocated to conferences / lab visits / workshops for PhD candidates.*

*Please note: Investments and basic equipment (incl. IT-equipment) has to be provided by the PI!*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Funding for** | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| **Staff** | Quantity | Quantity | Quantity | Quantity |
| PhD, 65% | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| **Direct costs** | Sum | Sum | Sum | Sum |
| Consumables |  |  |  |  |
| Travel (conferences) |  |  |  |  |
| Publication costs |  |  |  |  |
| <category> |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | **<sum>** | **<sum>** | **<sum>** | **<sum>** |

(All figures in euros)

1. Own contributions of the co-applicants:

*Please list infrastructural and financial contributions of the co-applicants. It is expected that significant extra funds are provided for experimental projects with high contributions particularly for small equipment and consumables. Investments and basic equipment (incl. IT-equipment) has to be provided by the PI!*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Names of (co-) applicants** | **Contributions to the project** |
| **<name of main PI>** |  |
| **<name of (co-) applicant 1>** |  |
| **<name of (co-) applicant 1>** |  |
| … |  |

## **Suggestions for internal / external reviewers**

*Please* *suggest at least four names of potential reviewers who could evaluate your proposal; while indicating the names, please choose preferably full members (see* [*our members’ list*](https://www.idiv.de/en/groups_and_people/members.html)*) or otherwise non-member scientists that are employed at one of the 11 iDiv partner institutions.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Affiliation** | **iDiv member?** |
| <name> | <affiliation> |  |
| <name> | <affiliation> |  |
| <name> | <affiliation> |  |
| <name> | <affiliation> |  |
| … | … |  |

## **Bibliography (max. 15 references)**

*Please use Verdana 10 point font and single line spacing for the text.*

## **Appendix**

* **CVs**

*Please provide CVs of all main PIs and co-PIs of your project. The CVs do not need to follow a specific format but should not exceed 1 page per PI.*

**Participation status:** *<PI, iDiv member or participant>*

|  |
| --- |
| **Name**: |
| **Nationality**: |
| **Institution, City, Country**: |
| **E-mail**: |
| **URL**: |
| **Professional status**: <Professor, Assistant professor, Associate professor, Senior scientist (> 5 years), Post-Doc (< 5 years), PhD-student, other> |
| **Education**  <Year type of education >  <Year type of education >  … |
| **Academic Positions**  <Year Position>  <Year Position>  … |
| **General expertise and its relevance for the project** |
| **Five important publications**  <*Example of bibliography style (Verdana 8pt):*  ***Bruelheide H****, Luginbühl U (2009) Peeking at ecosystem stability - Making use of a natural disturbance experiment to analyse resistance and resilience of a beech forest community.* ***Ecology*** *90:1314–1325.*  *Schuldt, A.,* ***Bruelheide, H.****, Durka, W., Eichenberg, D., Fischer, M., Kröber, W., Härdtle, W., Ma, K.P., Michalski, S., Palm, W.-U., Schmid, B., Welk, E., Zhou, H.Z. & Assmann, T. (2012): Plant traits affecting herbivory on tree recruits in highly diverse subtropical forests.* ***Ecology Letters*** *15: 732-739.*>  <…>  <…>  <…>  <…>  <…> |

## **List of abbreviations**

*If abbreviations are used, please list these as well as their corresponding definitions here.*

* **Report from the previous Flexpool project**

*If you have received funding from one of the preceding Flexpool calls, please provide   
a short report of the project, including its key publications.*