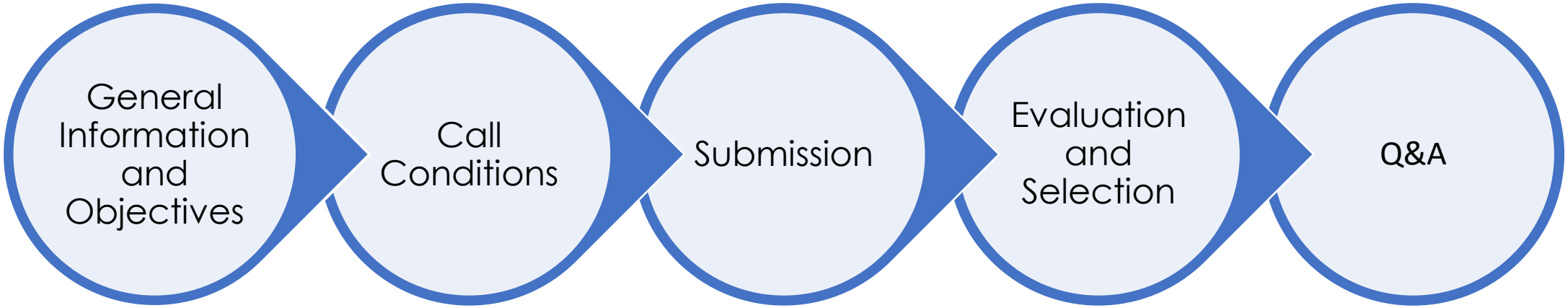
DRIVING GROWTH

Proof of Concept for Technology/Knowhow Applications

RESEARCH & INNOVATION FOUNDATION


General Information and Objectives
Call Conditions
Submission
Evaluation and Selection
Q&A

RESTART 2016-2020 Work Programme

Home Page - IRIS (research.org.cy)

RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes

RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes are a multi-annual development framework of Programmes for the support of Research, Technological Development and Innovation in Cyprus, which is co-funded by national and European resources and is implemented in conjunction with other national initiatives and Programmes.

The total budget of RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes is 215,505,000 Euros.

RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes «Work Programme Document», is the basic reference document and an important information source for interested parties regarding the supporting Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation of the Research and Innovation Foundation for the 2016-2020 period.

IRIS Portal

[Home Page - IRIS (research.org.cy)]

Proof of Concept for Technology / Knowhow Applications
CONCEPT/0525

Short Description / Σύντομη Περιγραφή

The "Proof of Concept for Technology / Knowhow Applications" Programme aims at the preliminary investigation of possible industrial applications of a technology/knowhow. Το Πρόγραμμα «Διερεύνηση Βιομηχανικής Εφαρμογής Τεχνολογίας / Τεχνογνωσίας» στοχεύει στην προκαταρκτική διερεύνηση των πιθανών βιομηχανικών εφαρμογών που μπορεί να έχει μία τεχνολογία / τεχνογνωσία.

Announcement Date:	Deadline:
26/05/2025	01/08/2025 13:00

Call Documents:
Call for Proposals (EL)
Call for Proposals (EN)
Part B – Technical Annex
Guide for Evaluators

General Information

Call Identifier	CONCEPT/0525
Call Budget	**€600.000**
Maximum funding per project	**€40.000**
Deadline	**1 August 2025, 13.00**

Co-financed by the Republic of Cyprus and the
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Objectives

Preliminary investigation of possible industrial applications of a technology/knowhow.

S3CY 2023-2030

- Advanced Materials
- Agrifood
- Digital Technologies
- Maritime and Shipping ecosystem
- Renewable energy
- Space
- Health
- Environment

Beneficiaries

- Research organisations
- Enterprises
- Other organisations

- Participation of partner organisations is allowed.
- The Host Organisation cannot be a Large Enterprise.
- The participation of Large Enterprises is allowed given that the consortium includes at least one Small or Medium Enterprise.

Activities, duration and budget

Activities	Only Industrial research
	Must fall within Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) 3-4
Duration	Up to 9 months
Budget	Maximum **€40.000** per project
	Total budget **€600.000**

Eligible costs

→ Personnel costs
→ Instruments and equipment
→ External services
→ Travelling abroad
→ Consumables
→ Other specific costs
→ Overheads

The calculation will be based on the simplified method
“Personnel costs plus 40% for covering the rest of the costs”

Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO)

→ Beneficiaries of this call will automatically become beneficiaries of the KTO services.

→ All project consortia funded are required to contact the KTO for the preparation of a specialised Service Delivery Plan.

DRIVING GROWTH

IRIS Portal

Proof of Concept for Technology / Knowhow Applications
CONCEPT/0525

Short Description / Σύντομη Περιγραφή

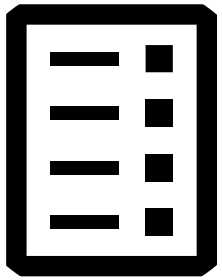
The "Proof of Concept for Technology / Knowhow Applications" Programme aims at the preliminary investigation of possible industrial applications of a technology/knowhow. Το Πρόγραμμα «Διερεύνηση Βιομηχανικής Εφαρμογής Τεχνολογίας / Τεχνογνωσίας» στοχεύει στην προκαταρκτική διερεύνηση των πιθανών βιομηχανικών εφαρμογών που μπορεί να έχει μία τεχνολογία / τεχνογνωσία.

Announcement Date:	Deadline:
26/05/2025	01/08/2025 13:00

Call Documents:
Call for Proposals (EL)
Call for Proposals (EN)
Part B – Technical Annex
Guide for Evaluators

DRIVING GROWTH

Parts of the proposal



Part A

- Filled online
- Registration of each participant to IRIS is required in advance

Part B – Technical Annex

- The "actual" scientific proposal
- Use the template found in the call documents

Other Annexes

- Annex with CVs (optional)

DRIVING GROWTH

Parts of the Proposal

2016-2020 RESTART SEARCH

THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOUNDATION

PROGRAMMES

FOR RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

AND INNOVATION

"RESTART 2016 – 2020"

PROPOSAL DETAILS	
PILLAR	I. SMART GROWTH
PROGRAMME	Proof of Concept
RIF PROPOSAL NUMBER	CONCEPT/0525
PROPOSAL TITLE	
PROPOSAL ACRONYM	

Co-funded by the European Union

Republic of Cyprus

RESEARCH & INNOVATION FOUNDATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION

This page does not count towards the page limit.

Participants must use the current template for the preparation of Part B – Technical Annex, for the respective Call for Proposals. The structure of this template must be followed when preparing your proposal. It has been designed to ensure that the important aspects of your planned work are presented in a way that will enable the experts to make an effective assessment against the evaluation criteria.

Please do not make any changes to the format/layout of this document as this will render your application ineligible.

The Cover Page, the Instructions, section headings and tables in this Part B template must NOT be removed. Only guidelines in **blue colour** may be removed.

Page Limit: A page limit of 20 pages will be applied. Any excess pages will be disregarded by evaluators. The Cover Page, the Instructions Page, the Checklist Table and the S3Cy Annex Table do not count towards this page limit. All tables, figures, references and any other element pertaining to this proposal must be included as an integral part of it and are thus counted against this page limit. The recommended number of pages included in each section of this template is only indicative.

Text format recommendations:

Recommended font types are Arial (used in this template), Calibri and Times New Roman. The choice of any other font type should ensure that the text is clearly legible.

The recommended minimum font size is 11 points, with standard character spacing and single line spacing.

To facilitate the successful submission of proposals, please duly complete the checklist provided below.

Any hyperlinks that direct to information beyond what is provided in the proposal, will not be considered by the evaluators for the evaluation of the proposal.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Early submission of proposals is recommended to avoid any last-minute technical difficulties and delays/inconvenience before the deadline. Please note that once submitted, proposals may be modified and resubmitted up to the deadline. The last valid submission will be taken into account in the evaluation. The IRIS Call will be automatically closed at the deadline and late submissions will NOT be accepted. RIF's Partner Support Center can assist you BEFORE the closing date and time if you encounter problems with the submission of your proposal. If you experience difficulties in submitting your proposal, you must contact the Partner Support Centre at support@research.org.cy or by phone at 22205000 in good time, providing all necessary information, so that RIF can provide you with the necessary assistance to allow your issue to be resolved before the deadline. The Host Organization and the Proposal Coordinator are responsible both for the timely validation of the proposal, which ensures the successful submission of the proposal before the deadline, and for ensuring that all required information and documents have been submitted as described in the Call.

DRIVING GROWTH

Parts of the Proposal

8. Smart Specialisation Sectors (S3Cy 2023-2030)

Please select **ONLY ONE** of the following S3Cy Priority Sectors/Focus Areas that the Project is applied.
The selection is obligatory and must be limited to a single Focus Area.

SMART SPECIALISATION SECTORS (S3CY 2023-2030) TABLE		
1	**Digital Technologies**	
1.1	**High Performance Computing and Quantum Technologies**	
1.1.1	Next generation quantum sensing technologies and devices.	☐
1.1.2	Develop applications on societal challenges and in areas such as energy, environment, climate, and health, natural disasters, urban development etc.	☐
1.2	**Cybersecurity**	
1.2.1	Innovative solutions of Cyber-physical security.	☐
1.3	**Digital Tourism**	
1.3.1	Develop applications and services for the promotion of tourism and the improvement of the tourist experience at all stages.	☐
1.3.2	Develop advanced decision support systems for management of tourism businesses and policy makers.	☐
1.4	**Education, Culture and Creative Industries**	
1.4.1	Develop innovative solutions to facilitate the integration of emerging technologies in next generation media.	☐
1.4.2	Develop innovative solutions to facilitate the integration of emerging technologies in the promotion of cultural content.	☐
1.4.3	Develop innovative solutions to facilitate the integration of emerging technologies in gaming for the creation of new experiences.	☐
1.4.4	Develop innovative solutions to facilitate the integration of emerging technologies in education activities.	☐
1.5	**Smart City Applications**	
1.5.1	Development of innovative solutions in an urban environment.	☐
1.6	**Advanced Manufacturing and Processing**	
1.6.1	Develop innovative approaches and methods for smart manufacturing and processing.	☐
1.6.2	Scaling down advanced manufacturing technologies to meet the needs and size of SME.	☐
1.7	**Acceleration of testing and demonstration applications on smart cities, cyber-physical security or agritech**	
1.7.1	Support testbed infrastructures and specific test cases for applications on smart cities, cyber-physical security or agritech.	☐
2	**Advanced materials**	
2.1	**Novel, safe, environmentally friendly, and commercially viable methods of recycling a wide range of composite materials and reuse of secondary raw materials**	☐
2.2	**Methods of processing of nano and composite materials**	☐
2.3	**Innovative materials with improved characteristics for industrial, construction, energy and health applications**	☐
2.4	**Use of nanomaterials for articles and components for earth observation and the aviation and space industry**	☐
2.5	**Innovative materials for environmentally friendly buildings and buildings with better performance under stress**	☐
3	**Agrifood**	
3.1	**Diversify and improve the competitiveness of the agrifood ecosystem**	
3.1.1	Develop products and services for farming, based on digital and data technologies.	☐
3.1.2	Improve the performance of farming and aqua farming equipment and tools.	☐
3.1.3	Increase the efficiency of plants and livestock, improve the nutritional characteristics of produce, develop innovative products.	☐
3.1.4	Research to provide scientific evidence for the support of applications for Protected Designation of Origin, Geographical Indication.	☐
3.1.5	Develop circular economy applications and methods aiming at the re-use of agricultural, livestock, aquaculture and food processing wastes.	☐
3.1.6	Develop methods for improving the quality and safety of food from farm-to-fork.	☐

3.2	**Support activities following the principles of agroecology aiming at increasing the resilience and sustainability of the farming system and reducing its environmental footprint**	
3.2.1	Make use of the "Accelerating farming systems transition: agroecology living labs and research infrastructures" European Partnership's research results and practices.	☐
3.2.2	Development of farming methods for local agricultural products, livestock and aquaculture that respect the natural cycles and the ecology of trophic chains.	☐
3.2.3	Quantification of the effects of agriculture, livestock and aquaculture on the environment and natural resources of Cyprus and develop mitigation methods.	☐
3.3	**Mitigate the climate change impact on the agrifood ecosystem**	
3.3.1	Effects of climate change on the agrifood ecosystem and quantification of impacts on resource availability for sufficient production, food quality and safety.	☐
3.3.2	Develop mitigation strategies.	☐
4	**Maritime and Shipping Ecosystems**	
4.1	**Digital technologies and Earth Observation for monitoring and decision making**	
4.1.1	Development of maritime informatics applications for ship optimisation.	☐
4.1.2	Cybersecurity applications for ships and fleet management.	☐
4.2	**Decarbonisation of ships**	
4.2.1	Development of decarbonisation of ships services such as optimisation of energy sources.	☐
4.3	**Equipment and tools for applications in shipping**	
4.3.1	Design and development of prototypes of small zero-emission vessels, unmanned vessels, drone and robots for ships inspections and repairs.	☐
4.3.2	Advanced materials that improve the performance of vessels.	☐
5	**Renewable energy**	
5.1	**Renewable energy production technologies**	
5.1.1	Green hydrogen, including, among other energy storage applications, use of renewable energy sources for hydrogen production etc.	☐
5.1.2	Small-scale wind energy systems for specific applications, e.g., houses, industry, wind farms assessment tools.	☐
5.1.3	Development of innovative solar heating and cooling technologies for the production of electricity, improvement of the performance of solar heating and cooling systems etc.	☐
5.1.4	Integration of PVs in the structures of buildings, greenhouses, vehicles or other structures for improving the design and performance.	☐
5.2	**Digital management and monitoring systems for the production and distribution of energy**	
5.2.1	Smart energy systems and smart grids, including innovative ways of optimising energy supply and demand based on sensors, software, and AI algorithms.	☐
5.2.2	Energy monitoring, intelligent control and optimisation of small PV systems, monitoring of PV systems for failure, maintenance and production forecasting.	☐
5.3	**Energy efficiency in urban environments**	
5.3.1	Smart technologies for buildings, including energy management and optimisation of energy use, energy production from different RES and energy storage.	☐
5.3.2	Innovations for energy efficiency in existing urban structures and exploitation of synergies with the "Driving Urban Transitions" European Partnership.	☐
6	**Space Ecosystem**	
6.1	**Exploitation and use of data generated from space-based infrastructures for downstream applications**	
6.1.1	Use earth observation and remote sensing technologies for monitoring and protection of agriculture production.	☐
6.1.2	Use earth observation and remote sensing technologies in the shipping sector for ship monitoring and management services and application.	☐
6.1.3	Develop applications and services for monitoring soil subsidence and instability with applications to the conditions of buildings and cultural monuments.	☐
6.1.4	Monitoring of climate change and environmental conditions to prevent environmental disasters and reduce risk with application in various areas.	☐
6.1.5	Use satellite earth observation and advanced remote sensing technologies for mapping and monitoring archaeological monuments and cultural heritage.	☐

Evaluation Procedure

> 2 independent evaluators

> Proposals have to be compatible

- with the Programme and the Call objectives.
- with the selected Priority Sector/Focus Area,
- with the "Do No Significant Harm" principle

> Proposed types of research have to be compatible with the TRLs allowed by the Call for Proposals

> Otherwise they are deemed as ineligible

Evaluation Criteria

1. Excellence	Weight 30%
2. Added value and benefit	Weight 40%
3. Implementation	Weight 30%

! Check the call text and the Guide for Evaluators. !

Ranking and selection

Proposals are ranked based on their score

For this call: At least 50% of the Total Call Budget will be dedicated to projects with an enterprise as the Host Organisation (provided such eligible proposals exist).

Ranking and selection

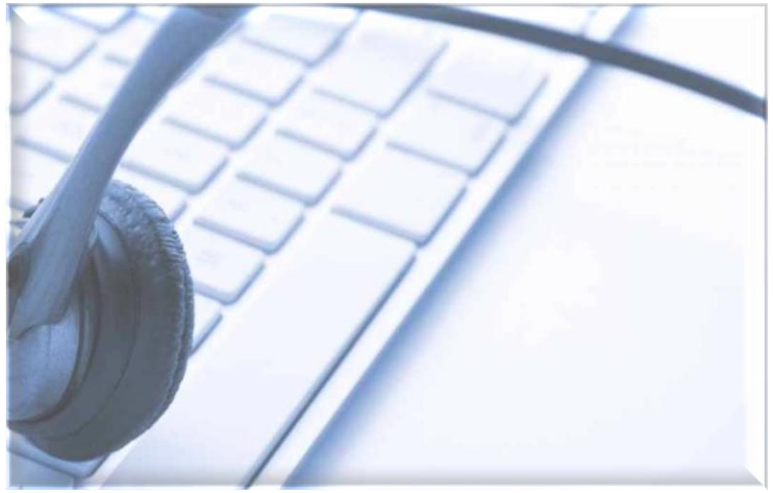
1. The top-ranked eligible proposals with an Enterprise as the Host Organisation will be prioritised for funding (provided such proposals exist) until their total budget covers at least 50% of the Total Call Budget.
2. The rest of the proposals are selected according to their ranking until the exhaustion of the Total Call Budget.

For any questions

RIF's Partner Support Centre

+357 22205000

support@research.org.cy



Thank you!

Research and Innovation Foundation (RIF)

P.O. BOX 23422, 1683 Nicosia
Tel.: +357-22205000
Website: www.research.org.cy