### Template for mandatory project outlines for

### Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre

**The project outline is the first step in a call for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre. Only applicants who submit a mandatory project outline by the deadline for project outlines will be qualified to seek funding under the final funding announcement.**

Applications that are not based on a project outline submitted by the deadline for the project outline will be rejected. Applications that are based on a submitted project outline but that clearly do not comply with the Requirements and guidelines for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre or other requirements in the call, will also be rejected.

Project outlines will be processed administratively within the Research Council, and written feedback will be provided. The feedback will focus on the formal requirements, and if a full application based on the project outline is likely to meet the objectives and fall within the framework of the call. Feedback provided on the project outline by the Research Council does not bind the Research Council in any way with regards to future application assessment.

It is the *responsibility of the applicant to determine independently* whether or not to prepare a complete application in response to the final funding announcement. The submission of project outlines also serves as a tool to help large institutions to prioritise and rank their various initiatives, and to help the Research Council to prepare the assessment process for the final application phase.

**Project outlines must be submitted using the template on the following page.**

Project outlines must be created and submitted via the Research Council’s *eSøknad* online application system.

Project outlines may be submitted in Norwegian (Bokmål or Nynorsk) or English. The project outline document (points 1–9) is not to exceed four pages. The page format must be A4 with 2 cm margins, single spacing and 11-point Calibri font. It is permitted to use 9-point font for the list of references and figure text.

The project outline must include a list of contact persons (name, telephone number, email address) for each partner in the proposed centre. The Research Council will contact these partners if the need arises. The list of contact persons is not to exceed one page.

Project outlines that do not follow this template or that are submitted after the deadline in the call for project outlines, will not be assessed, and those applicants will not be eligible to submit a full application under the final funding announcement.

**1. Title and contact information.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Working title of the centre |  |
| Project Owner |  |
| Contact person (name, tel., email) |  |
| Partners (list of contact persons to be included on the last page) |  |

**2. Short summary (maximum 1/3 of a page).**

**3. Potential to generate innovation, sustainable value creation and benefits to society.**

Describe how results from the centre’s activities will be important for generating innovation and sustainable value creation within the centre’s thematic priority areas. Also describe the centre’s relevance and benefit to society and which major societal challenges the centre will help to resolve. Describe this in relation to the participating user partners as well as for other segments of the Norwegian business sector or society.

**4. Research tasks.**

Identify and describe the research questions that will be examined. Define key research tasks and research-related targets. Explain their significance to future innovation, sustainable value creation and benefits to society. Describe the ways in which centre is nationally oriented and how it will consolidate and structure research efforts within its thematic priority areas. Also describe the steps the centre will take to encourage innovation and the plans for defining, mapping and following up research results that have innovation potential or societal value.

**5. Organisation.**

Describe the added value of organising the activities as a centre. Describe how the cooperation at the centre will be organised and why this structure has been chosen. What is the role of the partners in the performance of the centre’s activities, and what type of knowledge/expertise will they contribute? Describe how the centre’s activities will be managed and how the active involvement of all partners will be ensured and maintained. Describe how knowledge and results acquired through research activities at the centre will effectively be used by the partners.

**6. International cooperation.**

Describe plans for international cooperation at the centre and how such cooperation will benefit its activities. Describe how this international cooperation will enhance the ability of the business sector to innovate and create value or for use of project results in Norwegian society.

**7. Researcher training and gender balance.**

Describe the business sector’s and public sector’s needs for knowledge and expertise in the centre’s area of focus. Describe how the centre will help to meet these needs, and the plans for researcher training in relation to this. Describe how gender-related considerations will generally be incorporated into the centre’s activities.

**8. Preliminary budget and costs.**

Provide a budget outline with the various cost elements and how these will be distributed among each of the research-performing partners, as well as how the costs are to be financed.

**9. Relation to established centres and large-scale initiatives.**

Briefly describe how the proposed centre will expand upon or complement other established centres or large-scale initiatives.

**Attachment:**

A list of contact persons (name, telephone number, email address) for each partner in the proposed centre.

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| **Partner** | **Contact person** | **Telephone** | **Email** |
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