

## IPCEI Application Template

**Project Name**

**Company Name, City**

*(Please name the legal entity, including the legal identification number.)*

Company logo

**Project period:**

MM.YYYY – MM.YYYY

### Preliminary Note:

This Application Template (AT) is intended for the **first phase** of the two-step national evaluation process. In this preliminary stage, the objective is to gather a **clear and structured overview** of the project's main features, including its expected innovation content, alignment with IPCEI objectives, indicative cost structure, potential revenues, and the estimated funding gap.

The information collected will support the **initial assessment of the project's relevance and eligibility** under the IPCEI framework and will serve as the basis **for national pre-selection, admission to European match-making, and the second phase of the national evaluation**.

Applicants are kindly reminded that, should the project be **pre-selected and admitted to the second phase**, they will be required to submit a full **Project Portfolio (PP)** and a comprehensive **Funding Gap (FG)** analysis, in accordance with the latest standard templates published by the European Commission. The latest versions of these templates are available at [Guidance & Templates - Competition Policy - European Commission](#), where you will also find a technical guidance detailing the IPCEI process and all the conditions must be met by IPCEI participants.

**Following a positive outcome of the second phase of the national evaluation, the project will be admitted to the pre-notification stage with the European Commission.**

## **1 Introduction**

### **1.1 Company presentation**

a) A general description of your company

*Please give a description of the legal entity that is expected to be the beneficiary of the State aid including: full name, abbreviation to be used, seat and legal identification number, whether it is part of a group, whether it is a Joint Venture (if so, when it was created and who are the founders) and what are the main activities of the entity. Avoid general marketing and public relations (PR) type of statements and provide only a factual presentation. Please explicitly indicate if another entity from the same group is expected to participate in the same IPCEI with another project.*

b) Size of the company

*Please indicate the number of employees and whether your company qualifies as small, medium or large enterprise within the meaning of Annex I to the General Block Exemption Regulation<sup>1</sup> (GBER). Please also provide the supporting information (number of employees and annual revenues to demonstrate SME status). In case your company qualifies as a SME, please annex to the AT the necessary evidence to justify your declaration.*

c) Company in difficulty

*Please confirm that you are not a company in difficulty as defined in Article 2 (18) of the GBER<sup>2</sup> and point 20 of Rescue and Restructuring Guidelines<sup>3</sup>.*

### **1.2 Summary of the project**

*Please summarize in non-confidential and non-technical terms your project; be as concrete as possible and avoid marketing and PR language.*

*Please include the following information:*

- *Description of the project: what is it about and what are the expected outcomes (i.e., products, processes, services etc.).*
- *For research & development & innovation (R&D&I)/ first industrial deployment (FID) projects: short description of the major innovative nature of the project and how the project aims at delivering an outcome going beyond the global state-of-the-art in the sector concerned, thereby constituting an important added value compared to said global state-of the art (i.e., summarise the planned R&D activities); short description of the planned FID activities and how the FID part is based on R&D&I as described beforehand, and how therefore it would allow for the development of a new product or service with high research and innovation content, or the deployment of a fundamentally innovative production process, as well as how the FID itself contains an important R&D&I component which*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02014R0651-20210801>

<sup>2</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02014R0651-20210801>

<sup>3</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A52014XC0731%2801%29>

*constitutes an integral and necessary element for the successful implementation of the project and does not represent mass production or commercial activities.*

- *What/who will be the use/users of the planned outcome and main customers*
- *Duration of the project*
- *Location(s) of the project (municipality, region, state)*
- *Contribution to the development of the value chain*
- *Addressing market failures relevant to the sector and concretely affecting the project*

### **1.3 Contribution of the individual project to EU objectives and strategies**

To be eligible under the IPCEI framework, your project must clearly demonstrate added value at European level. Projects that are local or limited to national relevance without addressing cross-border challenges or generating benefits beyond a single Member State do not qualify for IPCEI support.

In this section, you are asked to identify how your project contributes to EU-level strategic objectives.

*Please complete the checklist below by selecting the relevant objectives and providing a short explanation for each selected item.*

(INSERT CHECK LIST RELATED TO THE SPECIFIC IPCEI)

<b>Objective (Tick where applicable)</b>	<b>Does your project contribute? Yes/No</b>	<b>Brief explanation (Max 60 words)</b>

*Table 1 Project contribution to the EU objectives and strategies*

#### **1.3.1 Contribution to the integration of the IPCEI**

*Please explain in short how your project concretely and uniquely contributes to this IPCEI (how does it concretely add significant value to the IPCEI as a whole).*

### **1.4 Technological and industrial impact of the project**

*Please describe the expected technological and industrial impact of your project, focusing on how it will contribute to strengthening the EU's strategic autonomy and industrial base in the relevant sector, and whether it addresses any critical dependencies or bottlenecks currently affecting the sector. This includes, where applicable:*

- *The development or deployment of breakthrough or key enabling technologies;*
- *The enhancement of innovation capacity, scale-up possibility, or industrial resilience;*
- *The creation or reinforcement of strategic value chains, including spillover effects across countries, regions, or industrial ecosystems;*
- *The expected development of technological leadership or competitiveness in specific domains;*
- *The impact on other economic sectors.*

*Please keep the description concise and factual. The maximum length is 150 words.*

## **2 Research, Development, Innovation and First Industrial Deployment**

### **2.1 R&D&I projects before IPCEI (for developing the IPCEI-project's outcome at earlier research stages)**

Please fill in the table below and provide the description of prior R&D&I activities, which were necessary for your planned individual IPCEI project and were carried out before the start of this project. Exclude any possible overlap in funding of previous R&D&I projects with the IPCEI project.

If you have no prior R&D&I project(s), please explain why.

Project Name	Context (national, EU)	Period (start-end)	Project Scope (objectives, partners)	Contribution to the scope of the IPCEI Project (specific inputs)	Total Cost [M€]	Source of Funding [M€]	Project Status

*Table 2 R&D&I projects before this IPCEI*

## 2.2 R&D&I and FID activities in the IPCEI project

### 2.2.1 Overview and structure of the project

Please provide a brief high-level description of how your project is structured in terms of R&D&I and FID activities. Indicate how many Work Packages (WPs) are planned for each phase, and explain the logical progression between them (**Max 100 words**).

Complete the table below by listing and detailing each WP. For each WP, clearly specify its type (R&D&I or FID), its specific target or objective, the timeframe (start and end month), the main technical challenges, and the key performance indicators (KPIs) that will be used to monitor progress.

Avoid duplicating the information required in the table within the narrative section. All key technical and planning elements must be included directly in the table.

WP	Type of activity (RDI or FID)	Target/Objectives	Duration
[Use a clear numbering or coding (e.g. WP1, WP2, etc.), a short title and a brief description of the WP's purpose]		[What this WP aims to achieve or develop.]	Timeframe over which that WP's activities will take place (e.g. "M1 – M18" for a WP lasting the first 18 months of the project).

Table 3 Breakdown of each WP, including objectives, duration, challenges, and key metrics.

### 2.2.2 Technological baseline and innovativeness of the project beyond the state of the art in the sector concerned

Please describe, to the best of your current knowledge and available market intelligence, the existing state-of-the-art in the sector concerned in the specific technological domain addressed by your project. Outline the current limitations, bottlenecks, or capability gaps in the technologies, processes or methodologies that the project aims to overcome.

Indicate clearly which parts of your project – including one or more specific WP where relevant – are expected to go significantly beyond the current state of the art.

Please note that the novelty of the FID activities must also go beyond the state-of-the-art.

Describe in what way your approach is novel or substantially more ambitious compared to existing solutions, highlighting how this innovation contributes to technological progress in the field.

In doing so, explain how your technological advancement exceeds current sector standards not only in terms of performance, but also with respect to technical complexity, integration challenges, and associated risks.

Explain briefly why the development beyond the state-of-the-art is technically challenging, considering the complexity of the R&D&I or FID effort required. Please note that the justification should refer to the technical and sectoral context, not to the internal strategic importance for the applicant.

If already available, you may briefly mention any measurable indicators (KPIs) that help illustrate the progress beyond the current state of the art. A more detailed comparative analysis of KPIs and demonstration of important added value – at project and WP level – will be required if the project is admitted to the second phase of the national evaluation process.

*Please keep the description concise and factual. The maximum length is 200 words.*

### 2.3 GANTT chart

*Provide a high-level Gantt chart in the table below.*

WP	Type of activity (RDI or FID)	Start Month	End Month	Key Milestones

Table 4 GANTT

## 3 Necessity and incentive effect of the aid

### 3.1 Incentive effect

Please indicate which of the following statements best reflect how the absence of public support would affect your decision-making. Multiple selections are allowed:

- ☐ The project would not be implemented at all
- ☐ The project would be significantly delayed
- ☐ The project would be carried out at a smaller scale or with a reduced scope
- ☐ The project would be implemented with lower technological or environmental ambition
- ☐ The project would be implemented with a higher level of financial risk or uncertainty
- ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3.1.1 Important market failures affecting the project

*Place name and explain in brief the important market failures that concretely affect your project, that are also relevant for the industry, and how the State aid will contribute to overcome these.*

### 3.2 Counterfactual scenario (in the absence of aid):

The counterfactual scenario should reflect the most realistic alternative course of action your company would pursue without public support. Please select the option(s) that best describe the likely scenario in the absence of aid. Multiple selections are allowed:

- ☐ No alternative project would be undertaken
- ☐ An alternative project would be developed with significantly reduced scope or ambition
- ☐ An alternative project would be implemented with a delayed timeline
- ☐ An alternative project would be implemented in a different location (e.g. outside the EU)
- ☐ A different investment with lower technological content or market relevance would be prioritised
- ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

*Be aware that the counterfactual scenario will be reviewed in more detail, including its credibility and consistency with financial projections, if the project is admitted to the second phase of the national evaluation process.*

### 3.3 Economic and financial information

This section requires a high-level overview of the project's key financial parameters, to support the preliminary assessment of its financial structure and the potential need for State aid.

You will be asked to distinguish between overall project costs and eligible costs (limited to the R&D&I and FID phases), and to provide expected revenues and a preliminary funding gap. All relevant data should be included in the Preliminary Funding gap (Excel document).

A full financial analysis, including discounted cash flows, will be required if the project is admitted to the second phase of the national evaluation process.

#### 3.3.1 Estimated costs of the project

*In the table below, outline the estimated **total costs** of your project and the subset of **eligible costs**, broken down by phase (R&D&I, FID, and Mass Production (MP)) and by cost category (in accordance with Annex I of the IPCEI Communication<sup>4</sup>).*

*Please note that eligible costs must be strictly limited to expenses directly and exclusively linked to the R&D&I and FID phases. Any costs related to MP (included in the table to show the overall project scale) commercial exploitation, or routine investments without innovative content are not eligible.*

*In line with the IPCEI Communication, where instruments, equipment, buildings or land are not used for their full useful life within the project, only the portion of depreciation costs corresponding to their use during the R&D&I and/or FID phases may be included as eligible costs. These depreciation estimates must be based on good accounting practice.*

*Operating costs are only eligible if they are necessary, directly attributable, and incurred strictly within the R&D&I or FID phases.*

Category	Estimated Total Costs (€)	Estimated Eligible Costs (€)
<b>RDI phase</b>		
Feasibility Studies and Permissions		
Instruments and Equipment		
Buildings, Infrastructure, and Land		
Materials and Supplies		
Patents and Contractual Research		
Personnel and Administrative Costs		
Other Costs		
<b>Total RDI Costs</b>		
<b>FID phase</b>		
Feasibility Studies and Permissions		
Instruments and Equipment		
Buildings, Infrastructure, and Land		
Materials and Supplies		
Patents and Contractual Research		
Personnel and Administrative Costs		
Other Costs		
<b>Total FID Costs</b>		
<b>MP phase</b>		<b>Not eligible</b>
Key investments		Not eligible
Production cost categories		Not eligible

<sup>4</sup> Communication from the Commission, Criteria for the analysis of the compatibility with the internal market of State aid to promote the execution of important projects of common European interest, OJ C 528/10, 30.12.2021 ("IPCEI Communication"), available at: [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52021XC1230\(02\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52021XC1230(02)).



<b>Total MP Costs</b>		Not eligible
<b>Total Project Costs (All phases)</b>		<b>Total RDI + FID eligible costs</b>

Table 5 Estimated Total Costs

### 3.3.2 Estimated revenues

*Please provide a high-level estimate of the revenues expected from the project, distinguishing between the R&D&I phase (if applicable), the FID phase, and the MP. Estimates should include all relevant revenue streams directly resulting from the project (e.g., sales of products/services, licensing, cost savings), even if they are only partial or preliminary. No detailed projections are expected at this stage, but assumptions should be coherent and plausible. Please note that all revenues stemming from your activities in the phases indicated below are relevant. The categories of revenues indicated in the table are indicative of the most typical revenues, but it is possible to adapt it based on your own projections, if relevant.*

<b>Revenue Stream Description</b>	<b>R&amp;D&amp;I Phase (€)</b>	<b>FID Phase (€)</b>	<b>MP phase (€)</b>
Product Sales			
Licensing Income			
Cost Savings			
<b>Total Estimated Revenues</b>			

Table 6 Estimated revenues

### 3.3.3 High-level Business Plan assumptions

*Provide a brief overview of the business plan, outlining the rationale behind the cost and revenues assumptions made for the different phases (R&D&I, FID and MP). Please indicate the key cost categories, reference prices, and any macro-level financial assumptions used. Also, briefly describe the product or service resulting from the project, and indicate the target customers.*

***Please limit your response to a maximum of 120 words.***

**Note:** The funding gap estimate should represent a realistic financial need, not a theoretical maximum. When estimating the gap, consider any remaining value of assets at the end of the project (a terminal value) and how major investments depreciate over time.

If the project is admitted to the second phase of the national evaluation process, a full discounted cash flow analysis, in line with the IPCEI Communication and the Funding Gap Analysis based on the template provided by the European Commission, will be required. Applicants are encouraged to prepare their funding gaps as soon as possible, consistently with the preliminary funding gap that is submitted together with the application at this stage. Such early and consistent preparation will be helpful and save time in the next steps of the process.

### 3.3.4 Overview other public funding (including EU funding) and State aid cumulation

*Explain whether your project also applied for or receives other public funding, including other State aid or Union funding (such as the Innovation Fund or Horizon Europe programmes). Indicate the source and the amount of such other public funding. Clarify whether such other public funding covers the same eligible costs as the expected IPCEI aid.*

*Please note that while the funding gap is not required at this stage, any other public funding for the same eligible costs must be disclosed. Be aware that the total amount of public funding granted should not exceed the funding gap, which will be assessed and verified if the project is admitted to the second phase of the*

*national evaluation process. Detailed justifications and supporting documentation will be required at that point to ensure compliance with this rule.*

***Please limit your response to a maximum of 100 words.***

### **3.3.5 Other compatibility conditions**

*Please note that information on how your project complies with the eligibility and compatibility criteria of the IPCEI Communication will be requested at a later stage. In order to adequately prepare for such compliance, you can find relevant information in the IPCEI Communication<sup>5</sup> and on DG Competition's website<sup>6</sup>.*

*Please confirm here that in case you are selected as direct participant in the IPCEI, you are aware of and you commit to:*

- *Establish effective cross-border collaborations with other direct participants and actively work on these together with your collaboration partner until their successful completion;*
- *Actively deliver significant additional positive spillover effects stemming from your project, beyond your business as usual, beyond your Member State, the sector concerned and beyond the IPCEI;*
- *Actively participate for the lifetime of the IPCEI into the IPCEI common activities, collaborations, spillovers, etc. and provide your contribution and input when requested by the IPCEI coordinator or IPCEI governance bodies;*
- *Actively participate, for e.g. by providing swift and concrete input as requested by your MS necessary for drafting and preparing the IPCEI documents (e.g. Chapeau);*
- *Present to your MS annual reports for the execution of your project in the Commission submitted templates, that will be transferred by the MS to the Commission (this is without prejudice to any national reporting obligation);*
- *Provide further information on the compliance of your project with all eligibility and compatibility criteria of the IPCEI Communication (e.g. – compliance with DNSH principle), including through submission of project portfolio, funding gap and other Commission templates.*

☐ I confirm I am aware and I commit to respect the above-mentioned obligations within the IPCEI procedure.

## **4 Annexes to the IPCEI application template**

- I. List of abbreviations used in the AT.*
- II. Others as appropriate (please specify).*

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<sup>5</sup> See footnote 4.

<sup>6</sup> [https://competition-policy.ec.europa.eu/state-aid/ipcei\\_en](https://competition-policy.ec.europa.eu/state-aid/ipcei_en)