



# HOW TO MAKE YOUR PROPOSAL ATTRACTIVE?

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business  
performance  
consulting

Finance & Innovation  
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# BEST PRACTICES FOR A PROPOSAL



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# Your objective

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HOW?



**Which one do you prefer?**

**Which one will you offer to someone you care about?**



# Your objective

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Get your proposal  
Funded !



This project is funded by  
the European Union

HOW?

Cutting-edge science

Complete value chain  
with industrial  
involvement

Sound implementation

Huge socio-economic  
impacts

Effective  
dissemination,  
communication and  
exploitation plan



# Your objective

Get your proposal  
Funded !



This project is funded by  
the European Union

HOW?

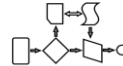
INNOVATION



VALUE CHAIN



IMPLEMENTATION



IMPACTS



DISSEMINATION  
COMMUNICATION  
EXPLOITATION



**MAKE IT EASY AND ATTRACTIVE !**



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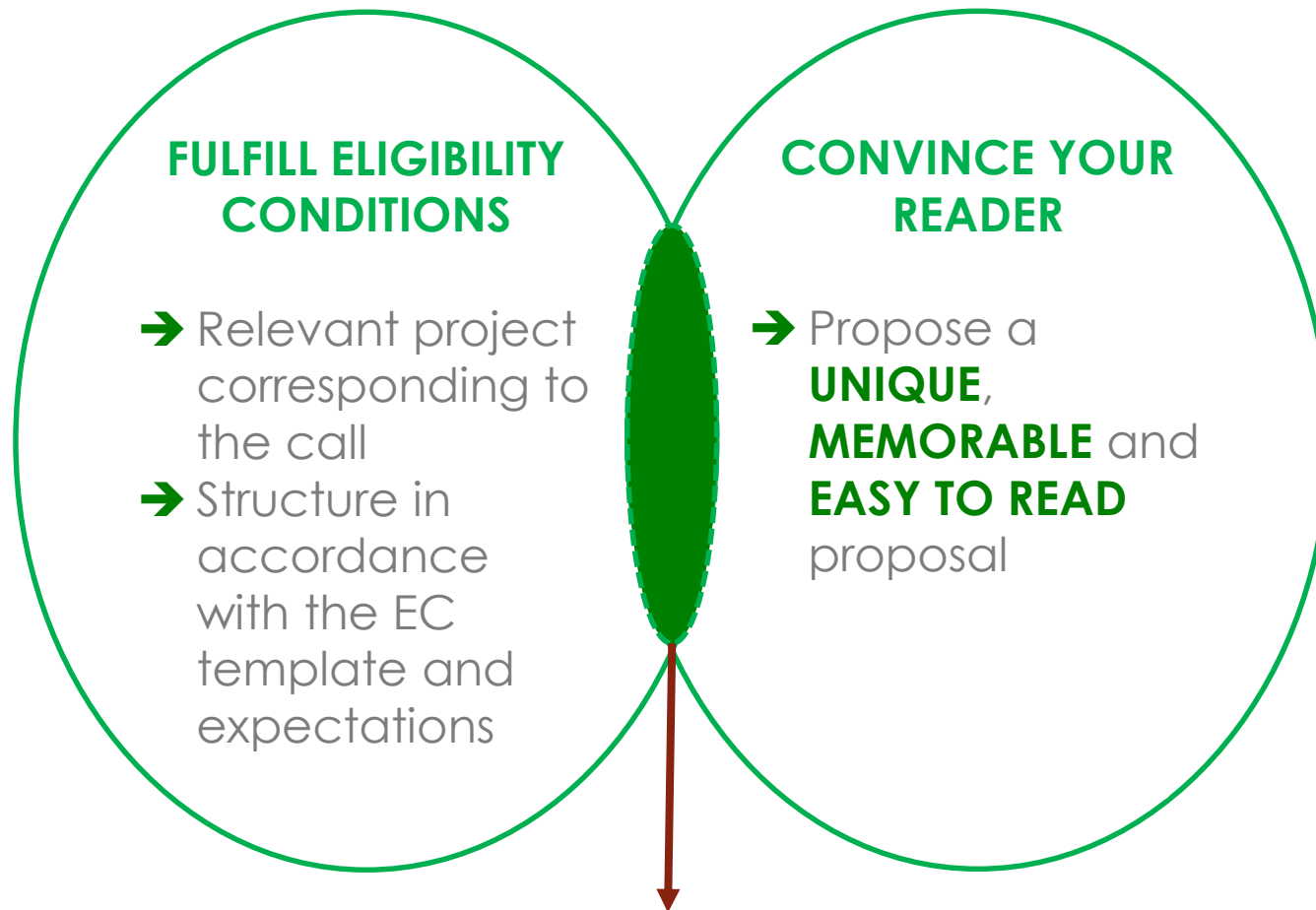


**How much time does a reviewer have to evaluate a project?**



# How your proposal should look like?

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**OPTIMIZE YOUR PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS !**





# Best practice #1 : MAKE THE READER ENDORSE YOUR OPINION

## INVOLVE YOUR READER

What does he wants?  
What is he looking for?



Instore  
a confident  
atmosphere



Raise  
common  
memories



Use "WE"



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# Best practice #2: FACILITATE THE READER'S WORK

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## EASE OF READING AND UNDERSTANDING

**Tinkle the reader's curiosity with questions**



**Use bulleted list**



**Make it possible to follow your idea through the titles of your subsections**



# Best practice #2 : FACILITATE THE READER'S WORK

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## 1 Excellence

- 1.1 Objectives
- 1.2 Relation to the Work Plan
- 1.3 Concept and methodology
- 1.4 Ambition

## 2 Impacts

- 2.1 Expected impacts
- 2.2 Measures to maximize impact

## 3 How do we do that?

- 3.1 Work plan – work packages, deliverables and milestones
- 3.2 Management structure and procedures
- 3.3 Consortium as a whole
- 3.4 Resources to be committed

## H2020 Template



# Best practice #2 : FACILITATE THE READER'S WORK

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## Customized Template



### 1 Car of tomorrow

- 1.1 Let's develop an hybrid, silent and autonomous car
- 1.2 Using an approach based on European needs...
- 1.3 ...based on hybrid motors, acoustics studies and artificial intelligence
- 1.4 ... to go beyond the current technological limitations

### 2 A car that will change our lives

- 2.1 Less CO<sub>2</sub> emission
- 2.2 Decrease of acoustic pollutions in our towns
- 2.3 Saving peoples' lives
- 2.4 Allowing business generation and job creation

### 3 How do we do that?

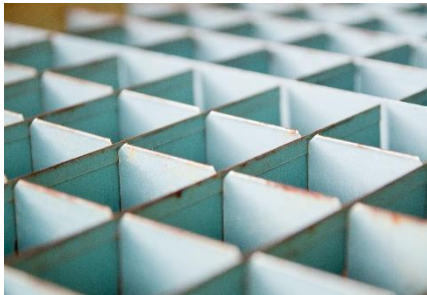
- 3.1 Through a specific plan (plan A) where each member of the team is included through a specific task related to his/her (super) skills but also including a **plan B**
- 3.2 Team structure and procedures
- 3.3 Done by the most suitable people composing a highly complementary team
- 3.4 Only possible through EU founding



# Best practice #3: BE REMEMBERED

## EASE OF READING AND UNDERSTANDING

Create  
a Framework



Clearly explain the  
mission you are going  
to accomplish



Use artwork, pictures  
and diagrams



***“A good sketch is better than a long speech” – Napoleon Bonaparte***





**As a person, How do you best remember a message?**



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## STORY TELLING



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# Why should you consider Story Telling?

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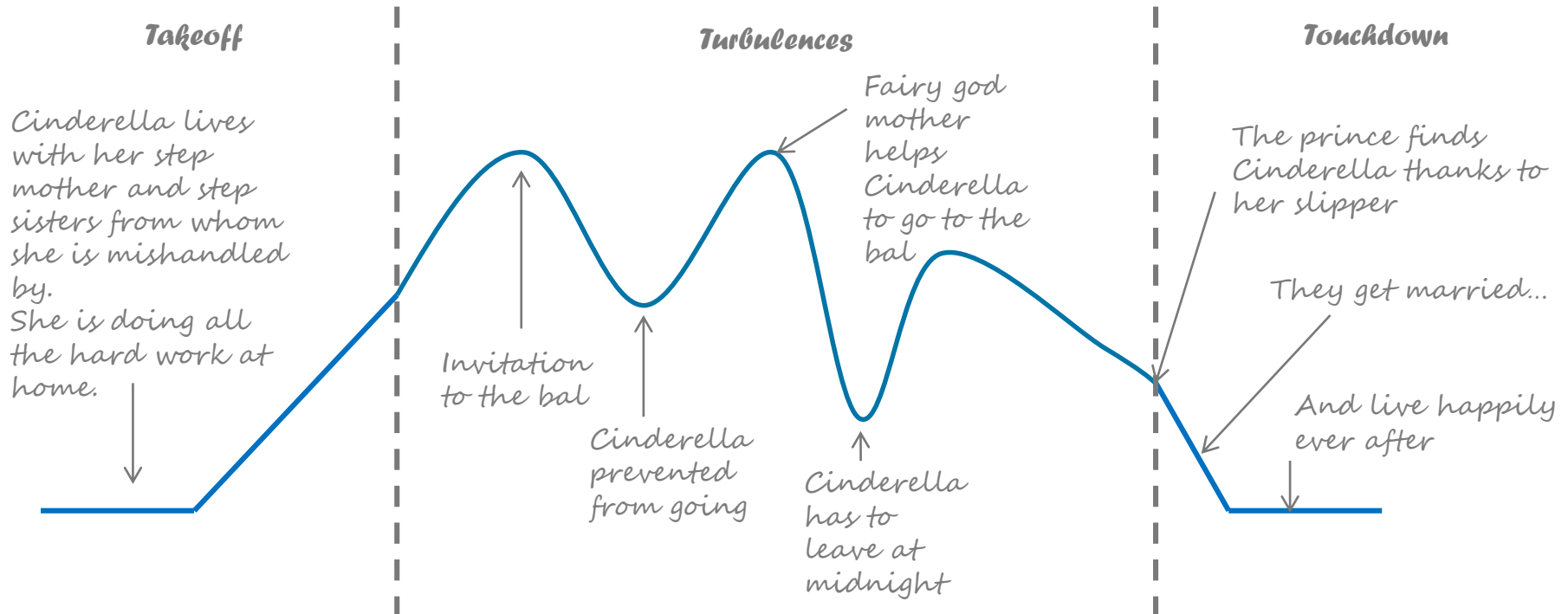


- ⚡ **Limited concentration time** of human brain
- ⚡ Human memory is **story based**
- ⚡ Helps us **to link information to emotion, AND clarify complex information,**
- ⚡ A story can be **recalled.**
- ⚡ The scheme of a story works for all kind of culture => **suits every people!**





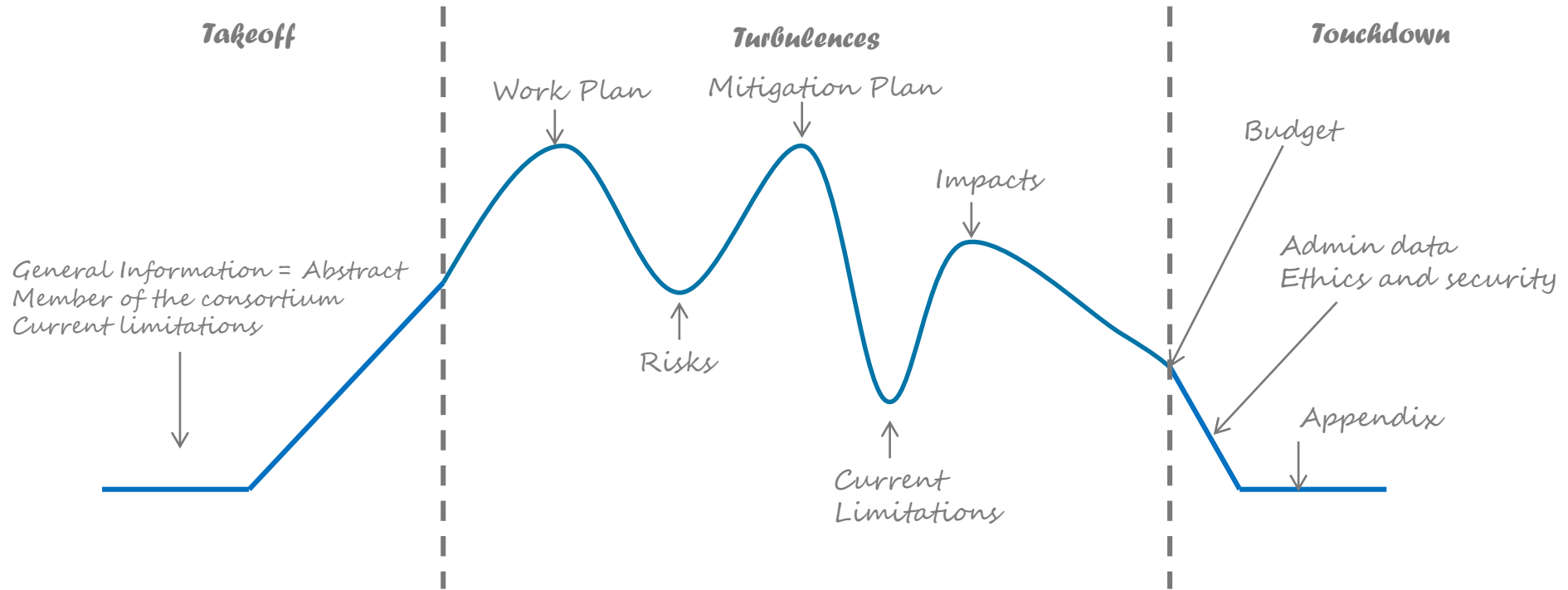
# What is story telling?



**-Cinderella-**



# What is story telling?



**- YOUR PROPOSAL -**



# Identify members

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## IDENTIFY THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF YOUR PROPOSAL

**Project leader  
and staff**



**People impacted by  
the project**



**Funders**



# What if X-men were a H2020 project proposal?

The coordinator



The consortium



Objectives :  
defend  
humanity  
against attacks

Excellence = super powers

Current limitation



Impact = save  
humanity

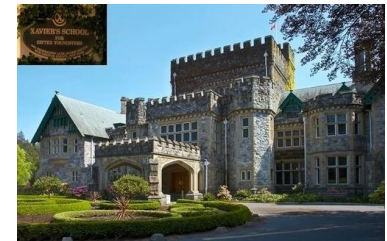
Work Plan

WP1 : Mutants'  
training  
WP2 : Plan A

Risk management

R1 : To Fail  
Risk level = high  
Mitigation plan = Plan B

Ressources/Budget



Depreciation, Lab,  
Training, Suits, Equipment,  
Travel and  
Communication...



H2020 Grants Required



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# Sum up of the keys elements to write an attractive proposal

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- ✧ Write to convince specialists **AND non-specialists**
- ✧ Choose **easily understandable terms**
- ✧ When in doubt, **simplify**
- ✧ Strategize around you « **win themes** »
- ✧ Get to the point **quickly**
- ✧ Use **clear language** and prioritize shorter sentences
- ✧ Leverage **colors, formatting**, and data to paint a persuasive picture
- ✧ Demonstrate leadership and innovation – **bring the « wow effect »**
- ✧ Provide supporting evidence and **facts** to show impact and excellence
- ✧ Write to **be remembered**





# Questions?





## Your contacts

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