

Dundalk | NetwellCASALA

*Experiences Preparing a
H2020 Project as a Coordinator.*

Engaging | Enabling | Empowering

Practice & technology innovation for active and healthy ageing

NetwellCASALA (a living lab)

Enhancing longer living in smarter places.

- Initial formation of Netwell
 - Collaboration – Local Authority, HSE, DkIT
 - Atlantic Philanthropy (2006 – 2011)
 - Great Northern Haven (2010 ->)
- CASALA Applied Research
 - Enterprise Ireland (2009 – 2013)
- Themes
 - Age-Friendly Environments (Creative development)
 - Technology for Ageing (Ambient Assisted Living)
 - Places to Flourish (Transformative Change in Long Term Care)

Experience in EU - (*relationships*)

Projects, Networks and Partnerships.

- **FP7 / CIP /CSA**
 - 2 CIPs - Home Sweet Home (Pilot), Discover for Carers (Platform).
 - 3 CSAs – BRAID, HAIVISIO, AFE-INNOVNET
- **AAL Programme**
 - 2 AAL projects - Sponsor, Maestro (coordinate Irish partners)
- **Marie Curie**
 - Value Ageing (Capacity Building)
- **H2020**
 - ProACT - led by TCD (€4m, Proof of Concept) – (Tech Platform / coordinate Irish pilots)
- **ERDF / Interreg**
 - Changing Lives
 - ECME (PhD development programme)
- **Other Engagements**
 - European Innovation Partnership on Active & Healthy Ageing (one of 6 coordinators)
 - European Network of Living Labs
 - Associate partners: InSSight / EPSOS
 - Advisory Boards: DREAMING, PROACTIVE, Age-Platform Europe (Task Force)
 - Evaluation (FP7, JPI)

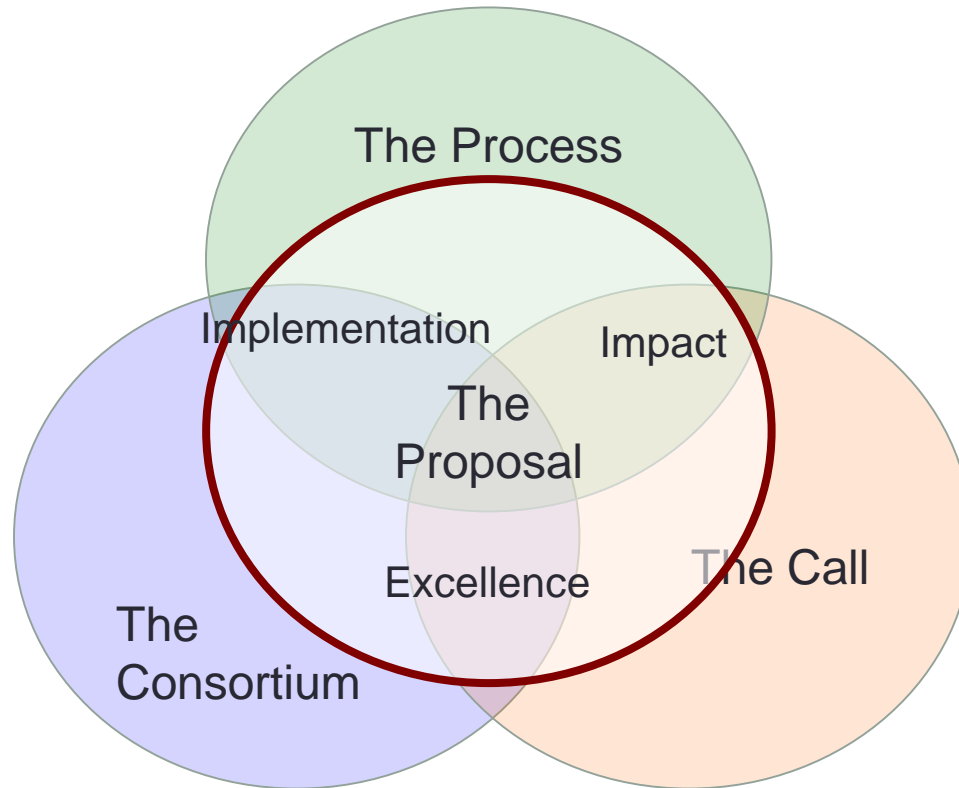
Preparing a Proposal as Coordinator

Goal: Produce an exciting and coherent proposal that has an excellent chance of being recommended for funding and of surviving negotiation.

- Organisational Milieu
- Key Documents
- Patience
- Reviews (internally and externally)
- Pre-emptive Evaluation
- Commitment, Pain and Reward

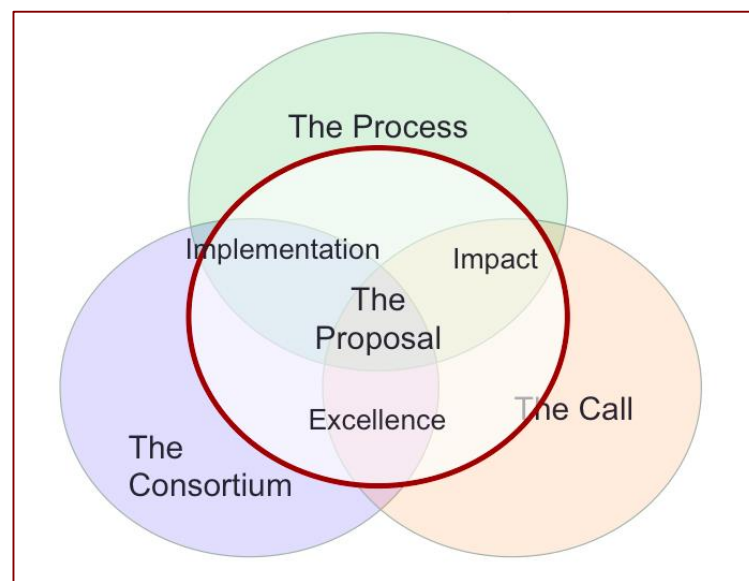
Organisational Milieu

Its not linear – it's a creative process with many interwoven strands !

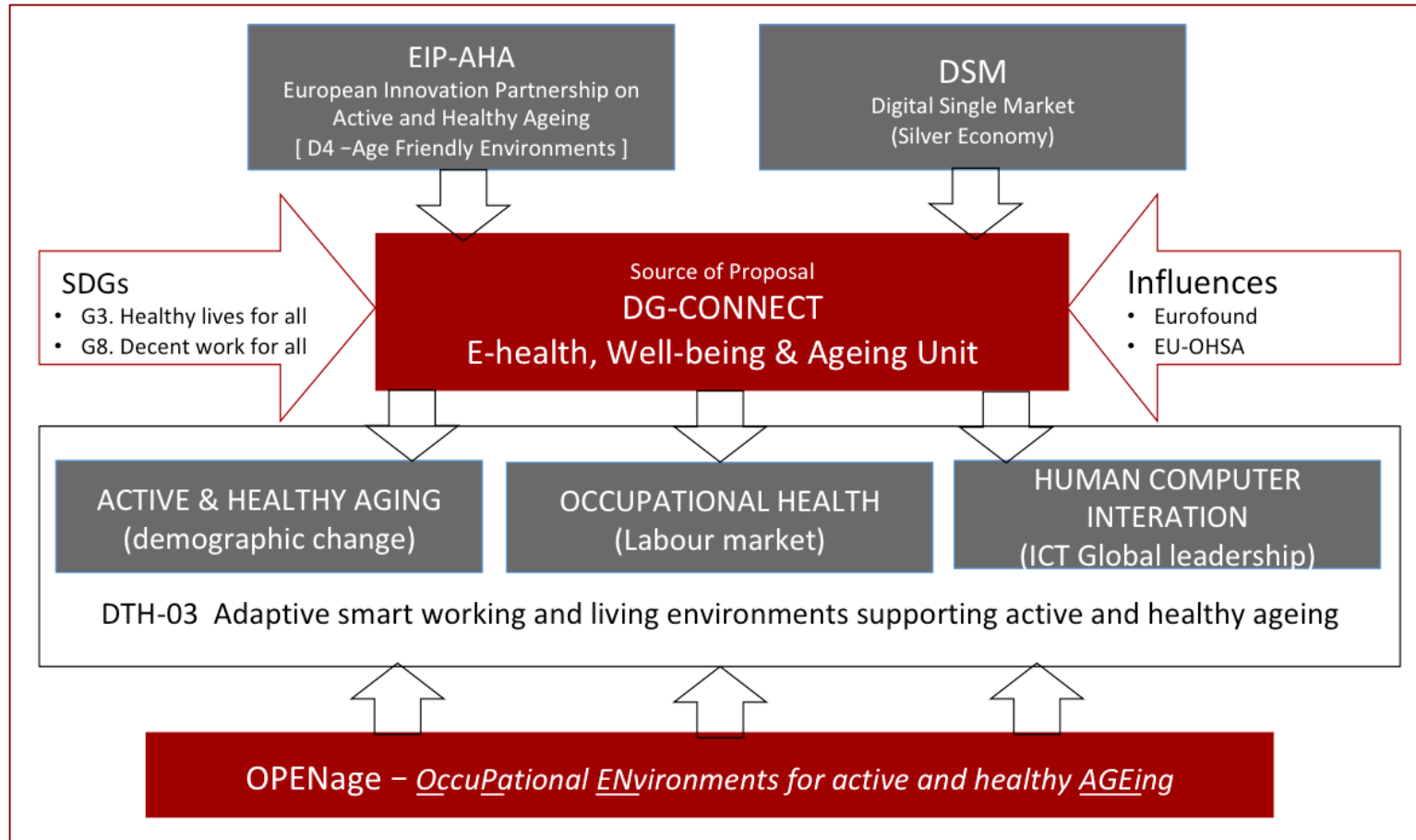


Courting !

- Interesting topics in the Demographic change strand
 - Age-friendly 'workplaces'
 - Standards/reference framework
 - Privacy / security / data-sharing
- Proposers Day (Budapest)
 - Finalist in Innovation Radar
 - Chats on these topics with some partners in our eco-system in Budapest and by phone.
- Opportunity Assessments
 - Strategic or opportunistic
 - Traction / energy / leadership
 - Competitive landscape
 - Capacity to follow through

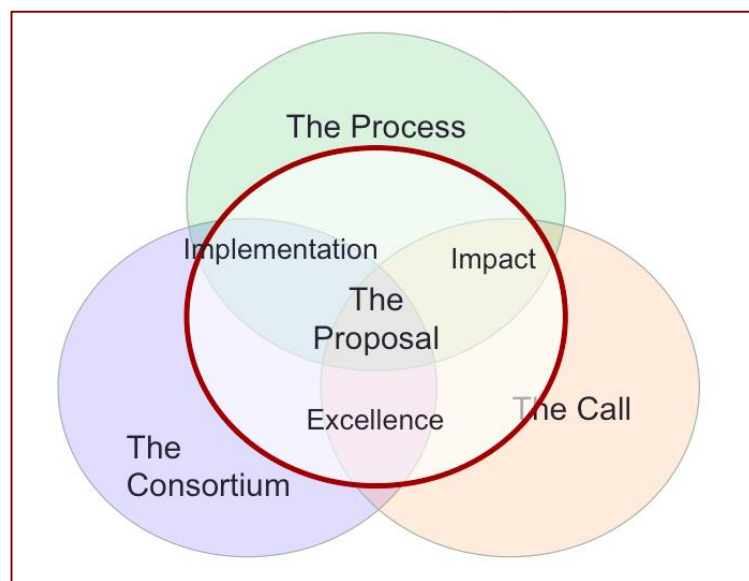


The Proposal Context *(trans-disciplinary)*



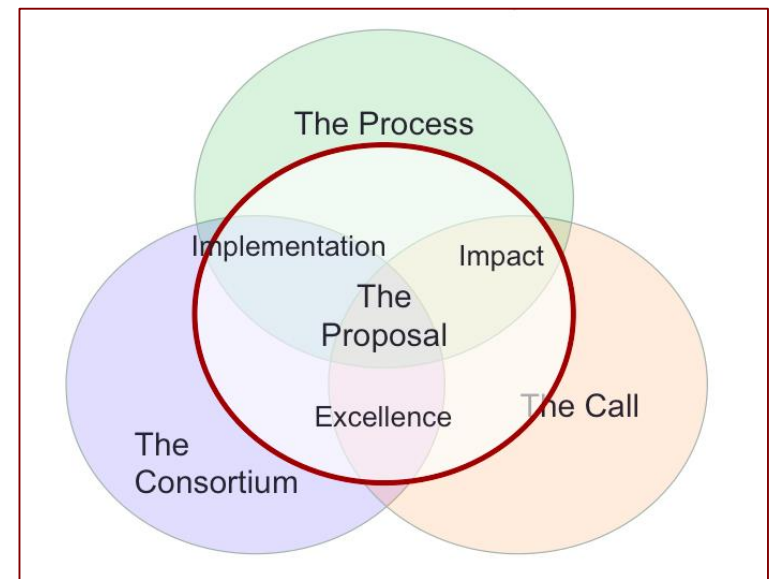
Shaping !

- Consortium – friends of friends !
 - Fusing two communities of interest (tech & behaviour science)
 - Meet the call's inter-disciplinary demands
 - Leadership and/or coordination
 - Coverage – (geography / sectoral)
- Getting underneath the call
 - Beyond the challenge, scope & impact
 - Breaking the legacy constraints to look afresh ! (privacy or self-management)
 - Segmenting, focusing, expanding
 - R&I – TRLs – from research to impact
- Seduction – from science to sales!
 - Selling it to ourselves
 - Selling it to our stakeholders
 - Selling it to the Commission



Refining !

- Consortium – keep it fluid
 - Filling gaps (SME, East Europe)
 - Skills sets (experiences/profiles)
 - Balancing/distributing workload
 - Risks - Brexit
- The writing process
 - From words and paragraphs to coherent narrative.
 - Coordinator as lead author
 - Managing 70 pages!
- Eyes on prize - impact!
 - Social / economic / environmental
 - Direct and indirect
 - Dissemination / exploitation
 - Results/assets – and sustainability



Key Documents

- A Project GANTT Chart - (1st Working Document: DD – 3 months)
 - Work-package organisation (PM, DCE, others ... ?)
 - Work-package Tasks / leaders
 - Resources/time – Duration - who / how long (MM / rates)
 - Inter-dependencies – critical paths / methodology / cycles etc)
 - Work-package descriptions (deliverables / milestones)
- Anchor Diagrams (Cohesion: – DD – 3 months)
 - Concepts / Architectures
 - WP inter-relationships
 - Logic Model: Objectives through to Impacts
- Budget Spread-sheet (Agreed 3 days before submission !)
 - WP / organisational allocations (MM) / Rates / Overheads / Funding rules
- The Proposal !
 - Part B 1 - 3 (Excellence / Impact / Implementation)
 - Part B 4 - 5 (Partner details / CVs / Ethics)
 - Part A (Administration / PICS / Budget / Ethics)

Patience !

- Collaborative Authoring -
 - Dropbox
 - Basecamp
 - Other – cut & paste ! – regularly !
- Expectations of partners – (and clusters of partners)
 - Driving partners
 - Science and technology partners
 - Policy, practice and pilot partners
- Timeframes
 - Making the decision and clearing the decks!
 - Sense of readiness – and readiness of related partners – internal sign-offs
 - 6 months: - 2 months intensive – 1 month manic !
 - Rewriting / formatting / pages / fonts - (what it looks like on the page)

Reviews / external supports

- By the consortium partners
 - Conference Calls (1 / fortnight)
 - Tended to be additive and supportive (part of production process)
 - (managing the timing of feedback / contributions)
- By 3rd party reviewers within consortium
 - Reviewers with H2020 experience
 - Not necessarily domain experts
 - Technical and also Commercial/legal – Ethics / GDPR
 - Very valuable – but often partial / based on in-complete drafts (fast moving)
- By 3rd party H2020 specialist (Hyperion)
 - On-line workshop
 - Significant additional preparation into workshop process
 - Vital feedback – sharpen / simplify / clarify / coherence / persuasion

Is getting 14/15 enough !

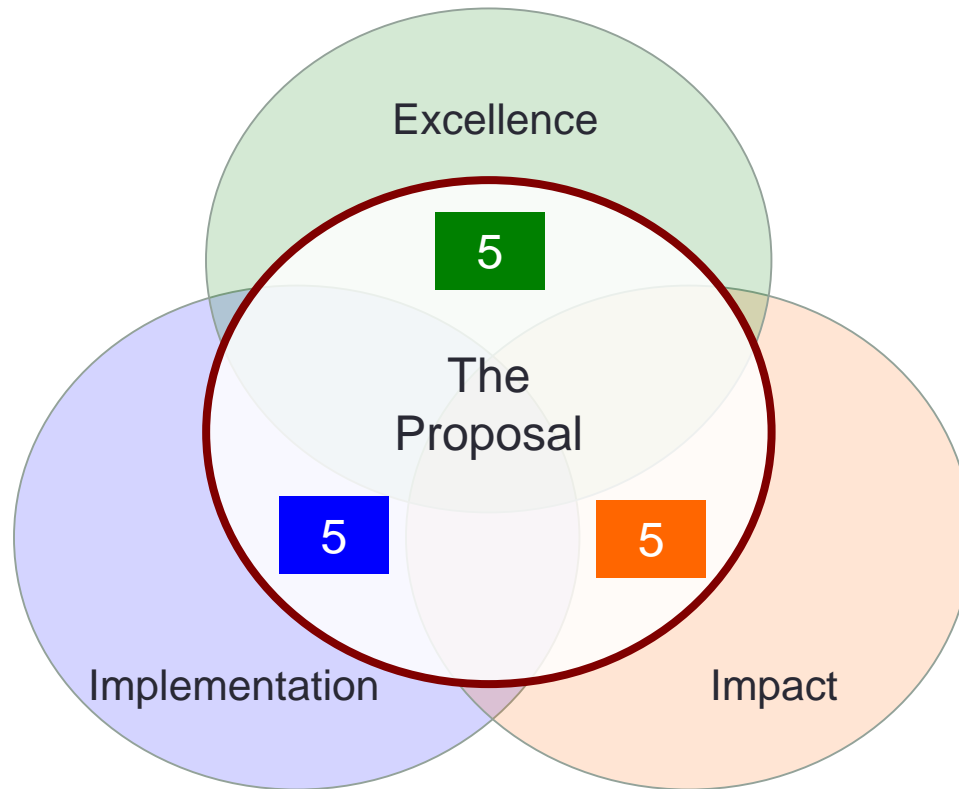
- Key proposal components:
 - The abstract in Part A (complete towards the end)
 - The opening paragraphs in sections 1 & 2.
 - Ambition / quantification
- Do the answers to these questions leap out:
 - Where has this topic come from / who is it for / their concerns ?
 - What problem is it addressing - why is it important, why now ?
 - What is the scientific question ?
 - How is it different / what is new in the approach ?
 - Why invest in this particular consortium / are risks mitigated ?
 - What are the results/assets – how will they impact / sustain ?

Commitment, Pain and Reward

- Effort and energy:
 - Talk to colleagues so they can buffer work-load: (other projects may be in peak demand periods also !)
 - Talk to family so that you can spread domestic work-loads: (for evenings / week-ends / leading up to submission)
 - Be tolerant of different languages and disciplinary conflicts across partners
 - Exhaustion/unsocial – pace yourself - picking up the pieces afterwards.
- For our research centre:
 - Research income and sustainability.
 - Opportunity to ‘control’ a project with enhanced possibility to ‘make a bigger difference’ in our field.
 - Enhanced reputation – helping to make it easier the next time.

Competitiveness

Excellence may not be enough !



Thank you



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