

# CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS #1

This call for project proposals is part of the innovation space BIOTEXFUTURE, a 5-year, cross-industry R&D programme, funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), focusing on transforming the textile industry from petroleum-based to bio-based.

## *What we are looking for*

We welcome project proposals that contribute to our vision: convert the textile value chain from petroleum-based to bio-based. In this call, we are open to projects that address at least one of the five **research areas**:

- Substrate/material development
- Technical product and process development
- Textile finishing
- Textile circular economy
- Societal transition towards bioeconomy (accompanying research)

The **interdisciplinary applicants** (at least one industrial and one research/university partner) must use **agile project management** methods. We expect the applicants to continuously provide **pre-competitive demonstrators to be used in the “Reallabore”** of the accompanying research. These “Reallabore” may include (but are not limited to) living labs, educational workshops, focus groups, social media-enabled interactions, experiments, stakeholder, and co-design workshops.

## *Funding formats*

### **Seed Fund Project**

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Do you have an idea that revolutionises the textile industry but needs a **proof of concept**? Then you should apply for a Seed Fund Project.

We aim for project proposals with a duration of **six to twelve months** and a project **budget of up to € 100,000** (excl. “Projektpauschale”). Besides developing early-stage demonstrators, the projects must aim on creating the foundation for a BIOTEXFUTURE Accelerator Project. The **deadline** for submitting project proposals (five pages) is **31 December 2020**.

### **Accelerator Project**

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Do you already have an idea or proof of concept and are looking for a chance to **accelerate your idea to be used on an industrial scale**? Then you should apply for an Accelerator Project.

We aim for project proposals with a duration of **two to three years** and a project **budget fitting the proposal**. The **1st deadline** for submitting project sketches (max. 15 pages) is **28 February 2021**. The 2nd deadline for submitting project proposals (max. 25 pages) is 1 May 2021

## **Contact**

The BIOTEXFUTURE Project Management Office (PMO) is available for further questions. **It is required to contact the PMO before submitting a proposal** (details at the end of this document).

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**Language – please note:**

In order to make it as easy as possible for interested organizations to discuss this call, English was chosen as language. This is also the business language of BIOTEXFUTURE to be as inclusive as possible. Documents that are exchanged with the funding agency (e.g. general communication, applications to be submitted) must be in German. Likewise, standard details of the funding will mostly be in the original language (German).

# 1 About BIOTEXFUTURE

## 1.1 Public funding by BMBF

BIOTEXFUTURE is one of four innovation programs supported by the (German) Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) within the framework of the "Nationalen Forschungsstrategie BioÖkonomie 2030" through the funding measure "Innovationsräume Bioökonomie".

BIOTEXFUTURE runs for a total of five years and has started in November 2019. The program is jointly led by RWTH Aachen University and adidas.

## 1.2 Motivation

Plastics form the basis for products in all areas of life. Life as we know it today would be unimaginable without the multitude of different plastics. This is especially true for textiles. More than 73 % of all fibres used to manufacture textile products are based on plastics that are almost completely produced from crude oil. With a production volume of 88 million tons of man-made fibre material per year, the textile and apparel industry produces an enormous volume of plastic material, only 9 % of which is based on renewable raw materials so far. The intensive use of plastics on this scale is a major challenge for society with ecological, economic, and social problems of the most varied kinds. High time for a radical change of direction.

## 1.3 Vision & goals

The vision of BIOTEXFUTURE is to convert the entire textile value chain completely from petroleum to bio-based.

To this end, the consortium has defined three core objectives:

1. BIOTEXFUTURE develops a bio-based raw material basis for plastics that are sustainable in their entirety – according to the Triple Bottom Line of Sustainability: economical, ecological and, social.
2. BIOTEXFUTURE consistently maps the application in the textile industry from biopolymer production to end product (e.g. ready-to-wear clothing).
3. BIOTEXFUTURE addresses the overall societal change towards a bioeconomy from a social and economic perspective.

## 2 Research areas of BIOTEXFUTURE

BIOTEXFUTURE consists of four technological research areas and one that is focused on the societal transition towards bioeconomy:

- Substrate/material development
- Technical product and process development
- Textile finishing
- Textile circular economy
- Societal transition towards bioeconomy

In the following, the research areas are defined, followed by potential topics eligible for funding in the respective research areas.

### 2.1 Substrate and materials development

#### *Description*

Within this research area the development of and utilization of bio-based raw materials and bio-based feedstock for the textile industry are in focus. This refers explicitly to the development of new bio-based raw material sources, which on the one hand are sustainable in terms of their environmental impact and do not compete with food and feed, and on the other hand are available in sufficient quantities for industrial use. These raw material sources should be used for the production of natural polymers (e.g. cellulose), bio-based building blocks, and molecules for the synthesis of polymers, as auxiliary materials or equipment in the textile industry. The overall aim is to lower the environmental footprint of textile products compared to current materials used. For this purpose, the development starts at the feedstock level. Therefore, an understanding of the environmental impact of the different feedstocks, their utilization, and the therefore needed technologies are required and need to be less harmful than current feedstocks (e.g. oil, petroleum). Both new and already developed and used raw material sources are to be addressed in this research field. According to this, higher risk basic research as well as scaling projects for well-developed approaches with higher TRL are possible.

#### *Topics that are eligible for funding*

From plant/biomass to polymer or textile:

- Utilization of natural polymers (extraction, refining, etc.)
- Utilization of bio-based building blocks and chemicals/molecules for use in polymer synthesis, as additives in polymers and/or basic material for auxiliaries (sizing, coating...)
- Understand and improve the footprint of bio-based materials by starting at the feedstock level (e.g. Regenerative agriculture)
- Utilisation of advanced natural materials able to replace synthetic textiles or high current impact natural materials?

- Understanding the potential for environmental harm (e.g. ecotoxicity) and the ability to biodegrade of bio-based fibres and textiles
- Associated production processes for novel bio-based materials that contribute to reduced overall footprint

Technology readiness level (TRL): 1-5

## 2.2 Technical product and process development

### *Description*

This research topic includes the development of production technologies for the manufacturing of textiles made from bio-based materials. The application fields are technical textiles, automotive, clothing and house & home. In this context, particular attention will be paid to scalability. The focus is on technologies from TRL 5 upwards. With the change from petroleum-based to bio-based materials, a new production process is usually necessary. The process development is also being funded under this topic. In addition to process and technology development, the development of product prototypes is also being funded. The pre-competitiveness of projects is important in this context. The product prototypes are to be made available to accompanying social science research. Also included in this research topic are projects that develop new business models that lead to the establishment of bio-based textiles in the market.

### *Topics that are eligible for funding*

Scaling of already further developed approaches/technologies

- Development of precompetitive products and production processes
- Development of innovative business models for the establishment of bio-based textiles

Technology readiness level (TRL): From 5/6 to 8/9

## 2.3 Textile finishing

### *Description*

The research area textile finishing is concerned with the development of bio-based substances for the finishing of fibres and textiles as well as the technologies for their production and application. The term "finishing" for fibres and textiles refers to standard and functional auxiliaries or finishes, such as sizings, avivages and additives for fibre and textile production and processing. Furthermore, dyes or dyeing auxiliaries for bio-based fibres and textiles are also included here. Both completely new or less developed research approaches with high innovation potential and low or medium TRL (1-4) are to be implemented and further developed. Research approaches for the substitution of traditional finishing processes and substances with high impact by bio-based solutions or solutions with lower footprints (e.g. water and CO<sub>2</sub>) are also implemented in this research area.

**Topics that are eligible for funding**

Finishes and Coatings encompasses

- Bio-based auxiliaries for fibre and textile processing
- Auxiliaries and basic materials for textile finishing including functional coatings and finishes as well as coloration for bio-based textiles
- Additives and technologies to replace traditional high impact finishing processes and which enable a circular economy

Technology readiness level (TRL): 1-5

**2.4 Circular economy****Description**

Circular economy minimizes resource use and waste production, emissions and energy waste by slowing down, reducing and closing energy and material cycles. The focus of this main research topic is the development of recycling technologies for bio-based textiles ensuring bio-based textiles of the future fit into a circular economy. Funding will be provided for projects focusing on the extraction of raw materials from textile waste (production and consumption) and recycling pathways (existing and new) for bio-based textiles. Both basic research and the scaling up of known technologies are eligible for funding.

**Topics that are eligible for funding**

Development and utilization of technical approaches for a circular economy of bio-based textiles

- Use of textile waste and other waste as a feedstock for new bio-based textiles
- Development of recycling technologies suitable for bio-based textiles (mechanical, chemical, biological, etc); both new and existing polymer recycling technologies which bio-based textiles could drop into
- Understanding end-of-life and potential for circularity of bio-based textiles
- Understanding the potential for environmental harm (e.g. ecotoxicity) and the ability to biodegrade bio-based fibres and textiles if materials escape the circular model

Technology readiness level (TRL): 1-7

**2.5 Societal transition towards bioeconomy**

This research area is the accompanying research (“Begleitforschung”) of BIOTEXFUTURE.

**Motivation and goals**

In order to successfully drive the transition towards a textile bioeconomy, various technological challenges need to be solved. However, it is also essential to consider the societal and market perspective, which include all perspectives that look at the bioeconomic transition beyond (technical)

research and development. These perspectives are represented by a broad range of stakeholders that may promote or inhibit the transition towards a textile bioeconomy, including consumers, NGOs, policy makers, bioeconomy experts, and many more. Understanding these key stakeholders and enabling meaningful interactions with them is highly important for the success of BIOTEXFUTURE.

Therefore, the accompanying research within the next phase of BIOTEXFUTURE should aim at reaching the goals:

1. Further enhance the understanding of the perspectives of key stakeholders that are most important for a successful transition towards a textile bioeconomy.
2. Based on this understanding, create meaningful interactions between BIOTEXFUTURE and key stakeholders in order to ensure that bioeconomic solutions (from the technical BIOTEXFUTURE projects) have the best chances to turn into successful innovations on the market.

### ***Important points for the funding eligibility of projects***

In order to reach the first goal, submissions should demonstrate (1) a strong track record in realising quantitative and qualitative research settings on the highest level of scientific excellence, but also (2) the ability to use this excellence in order to conduct efficient and pragmatic research settings with a sharp focus on generating results that are relevant for the success of BIOTEXFUTURE.

To reach the second goal, submissions should demonstrate the ability to realise different formats enabling meaningful interactions between BIOTEXFUTURE and key stakeholders. These formats may include (but are not limited to) 'Reallabore', living labs, educational workshops, focus groups, social media-enabled interactions, experiments, stakeholder workshops and co-design workshops.

Submissions should encompass a network of excellent project partners that may come from different fields, including (but not limited to) sociology, innovation management, market/consumer research, and communication.

### 3 What we are looking for in this call

In this call, we welcome proposals for two types of projects: Seed Fund Projects and Accelerator Projects. The following table summarizes the characteristics and motivation behind the two formats.

	Seed Fund Project	Accelerator Project
In scope	Projects that address at least one of the four technical research areas (see Section 2). <b>The research area “Societal transition towards bioeconomy” is excluded from this funding format.</b>	Projects that address at least one of the five BIOTEXFUTURE research areas (see Section 2)
Project duration	6-12 months	2-3 years
Project budget	Up to €100,000 (excl. “Projektpauschalen”, see more information in Section 4)	Flexible – based on the scope and number of partners
Public funding rate	Max. 67%	Max. 67%
Partners	At least one industry partner	At least one industry partner
Motivation/Aim	<p>Project partners shall validate critical application/usage requirements. In addition, acceptance tests of the application in cooperation with potential future manufacturers and partners should be conducted.</p> <p>The developed demonstrator(s) has (have) to serve as a basis for an improved communication about tangible outcomes (instead of abstract models).</p> <p>The results of the projects funded in this format shall provide a substantiated decision basis for potential following Accelerator Projects.</p>	<p>Based on a well-documented proof of concept, project partners shall develop technology and transfer measures to transform the textile industry from petroleum to bio-based OR based on initial research project partners may accelerate a field of learning crucial to the overall success and acceptance of a bio-based textile economy.</p> <p><b>Proposals focusing on the technical research</b> areas should address the topics eligible for funding as well as the respective TRL. The applicants shall overcome the technology gap and develop a minimal viable process and/or product or pilot process and/or product. The development must be pre-competitive.</p> <p><b>Proposals focusing on the societal transition towards bioeconomy (accompanying research)</b> should enable meaningful interactions between BIOTEXFUTURE partners and key stakeholders.</p>

## 4 Administrative funding details

### 4.1 Funding recipients (“Zuwendungsempfänger”)

As BIOTEXFUTURE is funded by the BMBF, the general guidelines for BMBF-funded projects apply:

*Antragsberechtigt sind Hochschulen, außerhochschulische Forschungs- und Wissenschaftseinrichtungen sowie Unternehmen der gewerblichen Wirtschaft in der Europäischen Union. Sofern die Zuwendung nicht als Beihilfe zu qualifizieren ist, muss der Zuwendungsempfänger seinen Sitz in Deutschland haben. Sofern die Zuwendung als Beihilfe zu qualifizieren ist, kann verlangt werden, dass der Zuwendungsempfänger zum Zeitpunkt der Auszahlung der Zuwendung eine Betriebsstätte oder Niederlassung in Deutschland hat. Es sind insbesondere kleine und mittlere Unternehmen (KMU – entsprechend der KMU-Definition der EU) zur Antragsstellung aufgerufen. Die Definition der Europäischen Gemeinschaft für KMU ist unter [http://ec.europa.eu/small-business/faq/index\\_de.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/small-business/faq/index_de.htm) einzusehen.*

### 4.2 Funding requirements

All applicant partners must have joined the BIOTEXFUTURE “Innovationsbündnis” when submitting their project proposals. To join the “Innovationsbündnis”, please reach out to [Thomas Köhler](#) (ITA/RWTH) and [Christine Anstaett](#) (adidas).

As BIOTEXFUTURE is funded by the BMBF, the general guidelines for BMBF-funded projects apply:

*Die Partner eines Verbundprojekts treffen Absprachen zum Umgang mit gewerblichen Schutz- und Urheberrechten und regeln ihre Zusammenarbeit in einer schriftlichen Kooperationsvereinbarung. Vor der Förderentscheidung über ein Verbundprojekt muss eine grundsätzliche Übereinkunft über bestimmte vom BMBF vorgegebene Kriterien nachgewiesen werden. Einzelheiten sind dem "Merkblatt für Antragsteller/Zuwendungsempfänger zur Zusammenarbeit der Partner von Verbundprojekten" zu entnehmen, das von Antragstellern und Zuwendungsempfängern zu beachten ist (BMBF-Vordruck Nr. 0110, Fundstelle [https://foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy\\_index.php?auswahl=easy\\_formulare](https://foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy_index.php?auswahl=easy_formulare); Bereich BMBF; Allgemeine Vordrucke und Vorlagen für Berichte).*

### 4.3 Funding type, scope, amount

As BIOTEXFUTURE is funded by the BMBF, the general guidelines for BMBF-funded projects apply:

*Die Zuwendungen können im Wege der Projektförderung als nicht rückzahlbare Zuschüsse gewährt werden. Die Höhe der Zuwendung pro Vorhaben richtet sich im Rahmen der verfügbaren Haushaltsmittel nach den Erfordernissen des beantragten Vorhabens. Die Vergabe von Unteraufträgen ist in beschränktem Umfang möglich.*

*Bemessungsgrundlage für Hochschulen, Forschungs- und Wissenschaftseinrichtungen und vergleichbare Institutionen sind die zuwendungsfähigen projektbezogenen Ausgaben (bei*

*Helmholtz-Zentren und der Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft die zuwendungsfähigen projektbezogenen Kosten), die individuell bis zu 100 % gefördert werden können. Bei Forschungsvorhaben an Hochschulen wird zusätzlich zu den zuwendungsfähigen Ausgaben eine Projektpauschale in Höhe von 20 % gewährt.*

*Bemessungsgrundlage für Zuwendungen an Unternehmen der gewerblichen Wirtschaft sind die zuwendungsfähigen projektbezogenen Kosten, die in der Regel – je nach Anwendungsnähe des Vorhabens – bis zu 50 % anteilfinanziert werden können. Nach BMBF-Grundsätzen wird eine angemessene Eigenbeteiligung – grundsätzlich mindestens 50 % der entstehenden zuwendungsfähigen Kosten – vorausgesetzt.*

*Vorhaben von Großunternehmen können nur dann gefördert werden, wenn die Vorhaben ohne die öffentliche Förderung nicht oder nicht in gleichem Umfang durchgeführt würden oder wenn die öffentliche Förderung zu einer signifikanten Beschleunigung der Entwicklung führt – wenn also ein Anreizeffekt im Sinne von Artikel 6 AGVO vorliegt.*

*Die Bemessung der jeweiligen Förderquote muss die AGVO berücksichtigen. Die AGVO lässt für KMU differenzierte Aufschläge zu, die gegebenenfalls zu einer höheren Förderquote führen können. Gemäß Artikel 28 AGVO können beihilfefähige Kosten für die Erlangung, die Validierung und Verteidigung von Patenten und anderen immateriellen Vermögenswerten von KMU mit maximal 50 % gefördert werden.*

#### **4.4 Other funding terms and conditions**

As BIOTEXFUTURE is funded by the BMBF, the general guidelines for BMBF-funded projects apply:

*Bestandteil eines Zuwendungsbescheides auf Ausgabenbasis werden die Allgemeinen Nebenbestimmungen für -Zuwendungen zur Projektförderung (ANBest-P), die Besonderen Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen des BMBF zur Projektförderung auf Ausgabenbasis (BNBest-BMBF98) und die besonderen Nebenbestimmungen für den Abruf von Zuwendungen im mittelbaren Abrufverfahren im Geschäftsbereich des BMBF (BNBest-mittelbarer Abruf-BMBF), sofern die Zuwendungsmittel im sogenannten Abrufverfahren bereitgestellt werden.*

*Bestandteil eines Zuwendungsbescheids auf Kostenbasis werden grundsätzlich die „Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen auf Kostenbasis des Bundesministeriums für Bildung und Forschung an gewerbliche Unternehmen für Forschungs- und Entwicklungsvorhaben“ (NKBF 2017).*

## 5 How to apply for funding

### 5.1 Overview of the application process

The BIOTEXFUTURE Steering Committee (SteerCo) has been commissioned by the Projektträger Jülich (PtJ) to take on the responsibility for the success of BIOTEXFUTURE. Therefore, the SteerCo is responsible to select new projects for BIOTEXFUTURE. After the SteerCo has given the recommendation to fund a new project, the application will be forwarded to PtJ in the final stage of the application process. PtJ will then review the application according to formal criteria and approve the project.

Against this background, the onboarding of new projects requires a BIOTEXFUTURE-internal evaluation procedure before submitting the project proposal via easy-Online to PtJ. If necessary, external experts will be consulted during the evaluation procedure. In all application phases, applicants are supported by the BIOTEXFUTURE Project Management Office (PMO) (see contact section). In general, the PMO and SteerCo place great emphasis on ensuring that partners who submit an application receive a response as quickly as possible. Please note that no legal claim for funding can be derived from the submission of a project proposal.

As described above, BIOTEXFUTURE offers two funding formats: Seed Fund Projects and Accelerator Projects. Depending on the chosen funding format, there are some minor differences in the respective application process. The following table summarizes the key differences. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the BIOTEXFUTURE PMO team in case you have any further questions.

	Seed Fund Projects	Accelerator Projects
<b>STAGE 1</b>	<i>“Project proposal”</i>	<i>“Project sketch”</i>
Deadline	<b>31 December 2020</b>	<b>28 February 2021</b>
Requirement	All partners need to have joined the BIOTEXFUTURE “Innovationsbündnis”	
Deliverable	<b>Project proposal (max. 5 pages)</b> , incl. objectives, work plan, financials and exploitation plan	<b>Project sketch (max. 15 pages)</b> , incl. objectives, state of the art, work plan, financials and exploitation plan
Response	31 January 2021	31 March 2021
<b>STAGE 2</b>	<i>“Not applicable”</i>	<i>“Refined &amp; detailed project proposal”</i>
Deadline	-	<b>1 May 2021</b>
Deliverable	-	<b>Project proposal (max. 25 pages)</b> , incl. detailed interaction plan with BIOTEXFUTURE and bioeconomy stakeholders, detailed financial plan, detailed plan of demonstrators
Response	-	11 June 2021
<b>STAGE 3</b>	<i>“Formal submission via easy-Online”</i>	
Deadline	as soon as Stage 1 is passed	as soon as Stage 2 is passed
Deliverable	Project proposal (ca. 5 pages, formal “Vorhabenbeschreibung”)	Project proposal (max. 25 pages, formal “Vorhabenbeschreibung”)

## 5.2 Funding format 1: Seed Fund Project

### *Stage 1 – “Project proposal”*

In the first stage of the process, project proposals must be submitted by the coordinator or the designated lead organization of the planned research project to the PMO of BIOTEXFUTURE via e-mail (see contact). The **deadline for submitting** the project proposal is **31 December 2020**.

The project proposals are to be regarded as application documents for the subsequent application phase. The documents should at least present the conceptual idea and overall objectives of the planned project, introduce the consortium, and explain the motivation behind the application. A detailed work and financial plan should be included at this point. The project proposal must be self-explanatory, allowing evaluation without further research. The **template** to be used can be **obtained from the PMO** (see contact) and **must be used for the application**. All applicants are free to include further points which are deemed necessary for the understanding and evaluation of the project sketch. **The project proposal must not exceed five pages.**

### *Stage 2 – “Not applicable”*

No Stage 2 application necessary

### *Stage 3 – “Formal submission via easy-Online”*

In the final stage of the procedure, authors of positively evaluated project proposals are invited to submit their project applications to the PtJ via the easy-Online platform. The PtJ only reviews applications with a letter of recommendation sent by the PMO. The submission and assessment follow the familiar processes and regulations. The PtJ makes the final decision on the approval of funding considering formal criteria.

## 5.3 Funding format 2: Accelerator Project

### *Stage 1 – “Project sketch”*

In the first stage of the process, project sketches must first be submitted to the PMO of the innovation space BIOTEXFUTURE by e-mail (see contact). The **deadline for submitting** project sketches is **28 February 2021**. Project proposals should include the items listed below. Project sketches must include a project description and a comprehensible financial plan which is self-explanatory, allows evaluation without further research. The **template** to be used can be **obtained from the PMO** (see contact) and **must be used for the application**.

1. Objectives
  - 1.1. Overall objective of the project
  - 1.2. The project's relation to the objectives of support policy and the vision of the innovation area
  - 1.3. Scientific and/or technical objectives of the project
2. State of the art science and technology
  - 2.1. State of science and technology
  - 2.2. The applicants' work to date
3. Detailed description of the work plan
  - 3.1. Project-related resource planning
  - 3.2. Milestone planning
4. Exploitation plan
  - 4.1. Prospects of economic success
  - 4.2. Scientific and/or technical prospects of success
  - 4.3. Scientific and economic connectivity
5. Division of labour/cooperation with third parties
6. Necessity of the grant

All applicants are free to include further points which are deemed necessary for the understanding and evaluation of the project sketch. **The project sketch must not exceed 15 pages.**

### ***Stage 2 – “Refined & detailed project proposal”***

In the second stage of the procedure, applicants with a positively evaluated project sketch will be invited to submit a full project proposal. The prepared project proposals must be submitted by the coordinator or the designated head of the planned research project to the PMO by e-mail (see contact) no later than **01 May 2021**.

Project proposals should complement the positively evaluated project sketch and include the items listed below. A template is available from the PMO (see contact person).

- Detailed description of pre-competitive demonstrators developed within the project
- Detailed financial plan for all project partners
- Detailed interaction plan with the accompanying research conducted within BIOTEXFUTURE
- LOIs of stakeholders and communication plan describing the interaction with them

All applicants are free to include further points which are deemed necessary for the understanding and evaluation of the project sketch. **The full project proposal must not exceed 25 pages.**

### ***Stage 3 – “Formal submission via easy-Online”***

In the final stage of the procedure, authors of positively evaluated project proposals are invited to submit their project applications to the PtJ via the easy-Online platform. The PtJ only reviews applications with a letter of recommendation sent by the PMO. The submission and assessment follow the familiar processes and regulations. The PtJ makes the final decision on the approval of funding considering formal criteria.

## 5.4 Evaluation criteria

The following evaluation criteria will be used in order to assess submissions at all stages.

Criteria	Related questions
Originality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is this an innovative topic?</li> <li>▪ Is it already known in research or industry/state of the art?</li> <li>▪ Is the proposed work a straightforward extension or a significant step forward?</li> <li>▪ Is each partner's contribution ahead of the state of the art?</li> </ul>
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To what degree will the project contribute to the vision of BIOTEXFUTURE ("Convert the textile value chain from petroleum- to bio-based")?</li> <li>▪ Does this idea fit the scope of at least one of the BIOTEXFUTURE research areas?</li> <li>▪ Is the topic already covered by other BIOTEXFUTURE projects?</li> </ul>
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does the project idea address a problem of high economic and social relevance?</li> <li>▪ Is a positive impact on industry, society, experts and/or consumers in terms of a sustainable bioeconomy evident?</li> <li>▪ Can the desired results be implemented in the industry in the short or medium term?</li> </ul>
Consortium quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does the consortium include industrial and research/university partners?</li> <li>▪ How excellent are the partners in their field?</li> <li>▪ Is the consortium qualified for the proposed research?</li> </ul>
Potential impact on accompanying research (TransitionLab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To what degree do the applicants show an understanding of the relevance of the accompanying research?</li> <li>▪ Does the project proposal include a well thought out interaction plan? Does the project aim at producing relevant and transferable results to be used in potential Reallabore?</li> </ul>
Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Are the envisioned methods and tools appropriate?</li> <li>▪ Are the research objectives well-defined and achievable?</li> </ul>
Adequateness of funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is the amount of funding well justified?</li> <li>▪ Are sufficient resources for staff and consumables taken into account?</li> <li>▪ Are sufficient funds allocated for communication and distribution measures?</li> </ul>
Adequateness of schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is the project schedule reasonable and well planned? Are relevant milestones and demonstrators identified? Does the schedule allow/encourage agile work?</li> </ul>
Exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Are there opportunities for successful implementation of results in the short, medium, or long term? Are the economic uses of the potential results realistic and sufficiently assessed? Are scientific and/or technical opportunities foreseeable? Are the possibilities of the next innovation steps/projects addressed?</li> </ul>

## 6 Contact

In case you have any questions or want access to the application template, please reach out to the BIOTEXFUTURE Project Management Office (PMO). **We are looking forward to your submissions!**

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