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Research and Innovation Action



EUROPEAN SMES ROBOTICS APPLICATIONS

GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

The Second Open Call for ESMERA Experiments (ESMERA-SOCE)

The Second Open Call for ESMERA Experiments

Project acronym:	ESMERA
Project grant agreement:	No: 780265
Project full name:	European SMEs Robotics Applications
Project web address:	http://esmera-project.eu
Call title:	The Second Open Call for ESMERA Experiments
Call identifier:	ESMERA - SOCE
Full call information:	http://esmera-project.eu/Open-Calls
Call publication date:	02.09.2019
Proposal submission deadline:	02.12.2019, at 18.00 (Brussel's time)
Proposal submission web address:	http://opencalls.esmera-project.eu
Expected duration:	9 months for experiments in Phase 1 (max 18 months for experiments advancing to Phase 2)
Total budget:	€2,750,000 (maximum 20 experiments for the Phase 1 and maximum 10 experiments for the Phase 2). Maximum funding per proposal: €200,000 (€75,000 for the Phase 1, €125,000 for the Phase 2, including 25% indirect costs)
More information:	opencalls@esmera-project.eu

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1. General Information

This guide is related to the Horizon 2020 project ESMERA (European SMEs for Robotic Applications, Grant Agreement Number 780265, www.esmera-project.eu). The project focuses mainly on EU SMEs that are oriented towards the development of novel technologies and are in need of both technical and business support to accelerate the transfer of their ideas to the market. ESMERA aims to support EU SMEs in materializing, testing and promoting robotic technologies through:

- Providing industrial challenges defined by key EU companies and user organisations (in the areas of such as energy, manufacturing, agri-food, construction, emergency response, retail, healthcare, etc.) and stimulating SMEs to compete to address real-life problems that already have a market,
- Engaging a number of competence centres (CCs) that can provide an environment for development, evaluation, testing, and demonstration,
- Offering direct financial support through a cascade funding mechanism,
- Offering mentoring and support in developing business cases and managing the complete chain from “idea to market product”,
- Involving industrial associations and networks that can directly promote the developed solutions to their members.

ESMERA is organizing Open Calls asking SMEs developing robotics technologies and proposing their innovative application ideas to the problems that have already a market. The Open Call mechanism offers funding opportunities to small, focused projects (called *experiments*) with a duration of 18 months (split into two 9-month phases) and the maximum budget per experiment is 200,000€ (75,000€ for Phase I, and 125,000€ for Phase II). Funding will support experiments in real industrial settings involving robotic technologies using the ESMERA platform. ESMERA will fund 32 experiments (12 for the first Open Call and 20 for the second Open call) for the Phase I and 16 winners among them (in total ESMERA-FOCE and ESMERA-SOCE) will be funded for the Phase II. All research experiments that are selected for funding have to directly address the problems that have already a market and eventually to be demonstrated in a relevant environment in order to ensure that the results are directly applicable. ESMERA will provide all necessary means for them to carry out research including support during RTD activities and support for commercialization.

The Open Call mechanism is organized in full compliance to the guidelines provided in the “[Good practices and templates for organizing open calls under the H2020 Financial Support to Third Parties scheme](#)”¹ set out by the European Commission.

2. Expected Contributions and Impact

The project asks for contributions that propose innovative robotics solutions to develop robotic technologies while competing with each other to solve real-life problems that are defined by industrial end-users. To this end, technologies such as nearly autonomous robots or human-robot collaboration are expected to be applied and demonstrated in real-world scenarios.

ESMERA introduces the notion of *challenges* which originate from the needs of EU companies and end-user organisations in different sectors that employ different processes that have not yet been, partially or fully, automated by robotics. The challenges defined by ESMERA can be found on our website (see [ESMERA Challenges](#)²). Considering that the major robot providers and system integrators have not yet

¹ https://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/downloads/page/h2020guidancenote_financialsupport2thirdparties.pdf

² <http://esmera-project.eu/challenges/>

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managed to provide solutions for given problems, the project gives a great opportunity for testing radically new concepts. The principle of the mechanism relies on the mobilisation of existing [CCs](#)³ which are offering expertise in robotics, equipment, services applicable for multiple technological development purposes to SMEs in developing their proposals and providing assistance both in the proof of concept and the industrialization/ commercialization of the product. The project's ambition is to implement innovative Application-Oriented Research Experiments in robotics with European SMEs that are driven by the defined challenges. In conjunction with the support mentioned above, innovation potential is expected to be very high.

In addition, SMEs and CCs will combine their strong know-how, experience and facilities in developing, customizing and applying novel technologies. It is therefore expected that during this process several innovative solutions will arise either through the customised research activities or through the application of existing technologies in different areas.

Special emphasis is given to step changes for Call-specific robot capabilities to be advanced in the following areas (but not limited to them):

- Configurability,
- Interaction capability, perception, sensing,
- Decisional autonomy in terms of context awareness,
- Dependability,
- Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs),
- Inspection robots,
- Actuation,
- Flexible and dexterous manipulation,
- Mobility,
- Cognitive ability, and
- Autonomy.

Step changes are either multiplicative advances in technical capability (quantifiable metric changes) or a categorical step-change in a technology that radically alters what can be achieved at an application level.

There are no limitations regarding the hardware elements used in the experiments. However, the applicants are strongly encouraged to develop solutions in the following areas (but not limited to):

- Collaborative human-robot manufacturing environment,
- Mobile platforms,
- Modular or reconfigurable robots/cells,
- Safety components,
- Automatic Guided Vehicles (AGVs),
- Virtual Reality/ Augmented Reality (VR/AR) platforms as part of a robotic solution,
- Additive manufacturing robotic cells, and
- Haptic teleoperation interfaces and other novel human-robot interfaces.

Each experiment will be evaluated either in a setup defined by the applicants or in a test area in the responsible CC. For more details for each existing Competence Centres, please check the website for [CCs](#). For the evaluation, the necessary parts will be provided, and different setups will be assessed by external

³ <http://esmera-project.eu/our-network/>

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experts. The experiments will be required to provide a minimum set of information (i.e. videos, presentation) that will be used for the evaluation of their experiment by the reviewers (see [Proposal Template](#)⁴).

3. Activities, Eligibility and Funding

Activities eligible for funding:

The activities that are selected as experiments only cover Research and Technology Development (RTD) activities, aimed at a significant advance beyond the established state of the art. Thus, RTD is the only eligible activity within ESMERA. Other types of expenses are not eligible for funding.

Cost categories eligible for funding:

The research experiments are funded at 100% of their total (respecting the funding rules for H2020) and funding mainly addresses effort (research, dissemination and communication, management and demonstration) and other costs (consumables, travel and accommodation). It should be noted that equipment is not funded by ESMERA since it is provided by CCs or organizations supporting the challenges. Only the costs of leasing or renting of equipment are considered eligible if the need for it is justified in the experiment proposal. In any case, the experiment participants are allowed and free to also use their own equipment, if available.

Participants of the experiments are allowed to sub-contract 10% of the budget, but sub-contracting should not cover the core activities of the experiment. The subcontracting tasks, objectives and reasons to subcontract should be specified very clearly in the proposal.

Each experiment proposal will include justifications of costs and resources. Checking the consistency between these costs and the expected work of the experiment will be part of the evaluation of experiments.

Funding rates and payment schemes:

In ESMERA, one or more organizations can apply for funding by submitting a proposal describing their goal and business value, the technical plan to achieve it and an estimate of the involved cost. The non-profit third parties will be funded for 100% of their total costs for the experiment (direct costs including 25% indirect costs). Funding for the profit-making third parties is 100% of their respective direct cost (including 25% indirect cost). The financial support provided by ESMERA will cover the maximum amount of 200,000 € ([EC funding rules for H2020 apply](#)⁵) per experiment for both phases, with the involved organizations committing to finance the remaining share. Additionally, the funding for per beneficiary (as defined in EC⁶) will not exceed 200,000 € (in total of ESMERA-FOCE and ESMERA-SOCE).

Third parties can receive pre-financing of up to 40%. Further payments will be made upon successful completion of milestones, deliverables as specified in the respective contract with the coordinator of ESMERA and are measured against Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) defined for each individual experiment as a basis for the bi-monthly monitoring of the experiment. The total interim payment is up to 40% of the total budget within the duration of the experiment and a final one is given upon its successful finalization.

Key Performance Indicators:

⁴ <http://www.esmera-project.eu/open-calls/>

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/applying-for-funding_en.htm

⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf

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All proposals apart from considering the industrial KPIs specified by the Challenge Provider for the challenge should suggest an additional set of limited but sharp and appropriate individual KPIs according to the technical approach, which may be fine-tuned during the preparation of the contract. Relevance and appropriateness of KPIs will also be evaluated based on the feasibility of the objectives.

Entities eligible for funding:

All applicants have to meet [the conditions set out in H2020 conditions to be eligible for funding](#)⁷ in order to be considered eligible for the ESMERA project. Because of expected step change contributions, the Call welcomes, in particular, consortia of partners offering complementary, multi-disciplinary competences. A consortium should consist of a solution provider (an SME⁸) and other partners depending on their needs (e.g. another SME, large company, research institutions, universities). The consortium must consist of the members who do not have a conflict of interest with the partners in the ESMERA consortium. The contribution in the experiment of each member of the consortium and a justification of their competences shall be defined in the proposal and will be evaluated by the ESMERA external experts.

In ESMERA, financial support may be provided to any legal entity possessing a validated Participant Identification Code (PIC) where you may find the details at [EC web-page](#)⁹. At the moment of submission though, the entity can apply with the provisional PIC. Once these conditions are met, financial support can be given to natural persons, public or private bodies, research organizations, non-profit organizations, small and medium enterprises, international organizations of EU interest, established in an EU Member State or in an Associated Country (you can find the list of countries eligible for funding in the [General Annexes of H2020 Work Programme](#)¹⁰).

Maximum funding and the possibility to participate in several proposals:

Applicants are allowed to participate more than one proposal, but they must be aware of each proposal is individual and the participants cannot combine budget for different projects. A two-stage financing model is assumed in the ESMERA project in which the maximum amount of funding will be dedicated to the individual proposals is 200.000 € (the maximum budget for the first phase (proof of concept) is 75.000 € and it is 125.000 € for the second phase (industrial leadership and business support)). For the organizations that were funded in ESMERA-FOCE must consider the funding per beneficiary rule in EC which says that the funding per beneficiary will not exceed 200,000 € (in total of ESMERA-FOCE and ESMERA-SOCE).

4. Proposal Submission

The proposals will be submitted via a web platform at <http://opencalls.esmera-project.eu>. Here the applicants will be able to:

- enter the proposal information and partner data,

⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/from-evaluation-to-grant-signature/evaluation-of-proposals/elig_eval_criteria_en.htm

⁸ SME: Based on the definition provided by the European Commission in http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en, SMEs are defined as:

- Staff headcount is less than 250, and
- Annual turnover is less than or equal to €50m or annual balance sheet total is less than or equal to €43m.

⁹ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/participant-register>

¹⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2016-2017/annexes/h2020-wp1617-annex-a-countries-rules_en.pdf

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- upload their proposal (the proposal template can be downloaded from www.esmera-project.eu/Open-Calls),
- submit the requested budget,
- have access to supportive documentation, and
- download their proposal and requested budget.

It is the proposers' responsibility to ensure the timely submission of proposals. The complete proposal consists of (i) the completed and uploaded proposal template and (ii) the completed web forms.

Once the requested information has been entered, the portal will allow you to download a combined scientific-administrative document for your reference. You can edit your submission as many times as you like, and the version submitted most recently before the deadline will be considered for evaluation. However, the deadlines given in these guidelines are binding and proposals submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

Shortly after the effective submission of the proposal, an acknowledgement of receipt thereof will be sent to the e-mail address of the proposal coordinator named in the submitted proposal. The sending of an acknowledgement of receipt does not imply that a proposal has been accepted as eligible for evaluation. For any given proposal, the experiment coordinator acts as the main point of contact for ESMERA.

Upon receipt by ESMERA, proposals will be registered, and their contents entered into a database to support the evaluation process. Eligibility criteria for each proposal will also be checked by ESMERA before the evaluation begins. Proposals that do not fulfil these criteria will not be included in the evaluation. A proposal will only be considered eligible for evaluation if it meets all following conditions: (i) it was received before the deadline given in the call text; (ii) the template and web form (all sections) have been completed and (iii) the eligibility criteria set out in [Section 3- Activities, eligibility and funding](#) are met.

It should be noted that English is the official language for ESMERA Open Calls and the proposal and other supportive documents must be in English. Moreover, all documents in the reporting period also must be in English. The applicants must use the [provided template](#) in the project website and clearly explain their project in each step. Proposers can ask their questions to the help desk via opencalls@esmera-project.eu email address and questions received from proposers will be published on our website in [FAQ section](#) as additional information.

5. Ethical Issues

Research activities in Horizon 2020, and particularly in ESMERA, should respect fundamental ethical principles, particularly those outlined in "[The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#)¹¹". Therefore, questions about ethical issues are to be addressed in the proposal text, if ethical issues apply to an application experiment, before and during the runtime of the research activities within ESMERA, including the approval by the relevant committees and the compliance with the recent General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Additionally, applicants must clearly state that there is no active engagement between the ESMERA consortium partners and the Challenge Provider of the challenge they address, that would compromise the fair and unbiased character of the ESMERA project.

¹¹ https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-ethics_code-of-conduct_en.pdf

6. Pre-proposals

As a special service to potential applicants, pre-proposals can be submitted via the ESMERA Open Call Platform during the first nine weeks after publication of the call. A member of the staff of the ESMERA Project will respond to pre-proposers within a reasonable period. If this will be longer than five business days, the applicants will be informed. The response will be limited to clarifying whether the proposal fits into the scope of the call. Please note that it is not mandatory to submit one and it has no influence on the evaluation of the full proposal. Moreover, the pre-proposers should follow the pre-proposal template in [ESMERA open call webpage](#)¹².

7. Proposal Evaluation and Selection

Only the eligible proposals (see [Section 3 - Activities, Eligibility and Funding](#)) are considered in the evaluation and the evaluation process will be performed in two steps. In the first step, the experts will review each proposal according to the technical/research excellence, expected impact and implementation (see [Section 9 - Proposal evaluation criteria](#)). Each proposal will be evaluated by at least two acknowledged evaluators with different expertise in the technology field or in the application area(s) and in business development. In the case that there is a strong deviation between the reports, a third independent expert evaluates the proposal. Only external experts (independent from the ESMERA consortium and also without a conflict of interest with any proposers¹³) will be involved in the evaluation process and will have confirmed their independence and neutrality before.

All experts perform evaluations in their private capacity, not as representatives of their employer, their country or any other entity. They will sign a declaration of confidentiality concerning the contents of the proposals they read and a declaration of absence of any conflict of interest. Both the confidentiality and the conflict of interest rules will follow [the Code of Conduct set out in Annex 1 of the H2020 Model Contract for experts](#)¹⁴.

The outcome of the first step will be a ranked list of all proposals based on individual scores obtained by each proposal. In the second step, during a physical or virtual panel meeting, the most promising candidates will be identified based on individual evaluations. The chair of the panel will inform all participants about the results of evaluation and selection. A public summary report will be published on the [project website](#) within 30 days of the end of the selection procedure.

8. Redress Procedure

Upon receiving the evaluation results the applicants have two weeks to start the redress procedure by sending a complaint via [the proposal submission platform](#). Please note that the Redress Committee will not call into question the judgements made by qualified expert evaluators, nor will it take into consideration any new information or explanations not included in the original proposal. More details about the redress procedure can be found in Guidelines for Redress Procedure in [ESMERA open call webpage](#).

¹² www.esmera-project.eu/Open-Calls/

¹³ Proposer refers to the SMEs/entities participating in a consortium applying for an experiment.

¹⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/experts_manual/h2020-experts-mono-contract_en.pdf

9. Proposal Evaluation Criteria

1. Technical/ research excellence	Score (weight 40%)										Comment
	Not Good					Excellent					
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity of the adaptation / integration / extension of the method (are the technical approaches described in detail and is the technical feasibility describing the duration of different phases considering the individual challenge description justified? Is it explained in the proposal how the proposer adapt/ integrate/ extend the method/ hardware or software components/ sub-systems/ frameworks/ middleware etc. during their experiment?) Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical quality of the outcomes (is the technical outcome of the proposal good enough to be selected?) Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical excellence with regard to the state of the art in the field (does the proposer describe the starting point of their technological development? Is the added value in terms of technology/research that the proposer will develop described? Are the currently available linked activities on that field outlined and how does the proposed 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

<p>project change the situation explained? Are the available technologies on the market and the advantages of the proposed project detailed?) Please explain reasons to give that particular grade.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriateness and feasibility of the envisioned Technology Readiness Level (TRL) in relation to the current TRL of the solution (is it feasible/ reasonable to achieve the proposed TRL level at the end of each phase? Are they clearly explained in the proposal? Please consider that there is no minimum TRL at this stage, but each proposal must achieve TRL5 at the end of Phase I and TRL6 at the end of Phase II. The proposals at higher starting TRL (≥ 3) will be positively evaluated.) Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<p>2. Expected impact</p>	<p>Score (weight 40%)</p> <p>Not Good Excellent</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p>	<p>Comments</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The degree of innovation and the quality of the work (is the proposed solution novel or is it the duplication of another project that has already done? Is the proposed impact realistic, transparent and measurable?). Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact assessment approach to KPIs (is it good enough to reach the foreseen KPIs in the challenge definition? Are the additionally-proposed KPIs achievable (economical, 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	

<p>scientific, social, environmental impact and improvement of the working conditions)? Please explain reasons to give that particular grade.</p>																								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of the possible results on the market with regard to the impact of the prior development (reality before and after the achievement) (does the proposed solution have a better impact than the solutions in the market?). Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>																							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to apply wider applications within the targeted industry or in general (is it possible to use possible solutions in different areas?). Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>																							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coherence, appropriateness and clarity of the business model (does the business plan include a realistic assessment of the size of the potential market, an analysis of competitor products, an assessment of manufacturing costs and retail price? Is the business model canvas filled out in detail?) Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>																							
<p>3. Implementation (Clarity of the work plan)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Score (weight 20%)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">Not Good</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Excellent</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Not Good										Excellent	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		Comments
Not Good										Excellent														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10															
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coherence, appropriateness, effectiveness of the overall implementation and integration approach (does the proposed plan explain the 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>																							

<p>implementation and integration clearly? Is there any point that is not specified in the proposal?) Please explain reasons to give that particular grade.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriateness of the work plan and scheduling (is the proposed workplan and schedule appropriate to do the proposed work?). Please explain the reasons why you think that it is not appropriate to achieve the proposed plan. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk management (is the risks of technology development and the plan identified properly? does the proposal indicate how these risks will be overcome?). Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity of the project plan (clarity of activities in Phase I and Phase II), identification of milestones and deliverables (are all activities for both phases explained properly? Is there any missing point?) Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coverage of the necessary competencies (are the specific roles for each partner described in the proposal? Are the main tasks attributed to each partner detailed? Are the previous experiences of each partner relevant to those tasks indicated? Please explain reasons to give that particular grade. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<p>Remarks</p>	<p>Comments</p>	
<p>It should be noted that the proposals addressing one of the proposed challenges will get 2 points</p>		

extra (only if they are above threshold). Please write here if the proposal is addressing one of the pre-defined challenges by ESMERA Consortium.		
Ethical implications and compliance with applicable international, EU and national law.		
OVERALL SCORE		Score: ?/32

Glossary/Acronym Terms

ESMERA: European SMEs Robotics Applications

SME: Small and Medium-sized enterprises form a specific target group for the experiments and the CCs in ESMERA. The term is used in the same way as defined by the EC (<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition/>).

Experiment: An experiment is a small to medium sized scientific research and/or technology development project carried out by a team of at least one SME and potentially additional research institutions, robot manufacturers and robot and automation users, which typically lasts no longer than 9 months (for each phase).

CC: Competence Centre is a physical infrastructure supporting different user groups by providing state-of-the-art hardware, software components, and support in the form of experienced staff.

RTD: Research and Technology Development.

Step Changes: Step changes are either multiplicative advances in technical capability (quantifiable metric changes) or a categorical step change in a technology that radically alters what can be achieved at an application level.

TRL: Technology Readiness Level

CP: Challenge Provider

Q&A: Questions and Answers

GDPR: General Data Protection Regulation

VR: Virtual Reality

AR: Augmented Reality

UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

AGV: Automatic Guided Vehicle

PIC: Participant Identification Code