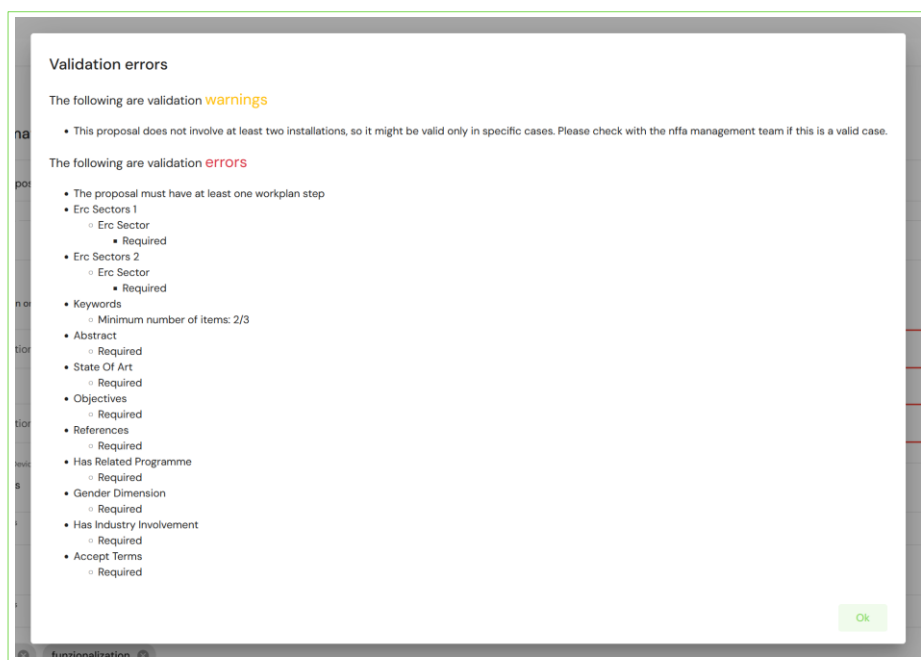


The following steps illustrate how to correctly fill out the research proposal form on www.nffa-di.it

You can find the proposal form explained in this document at the following [link](#).

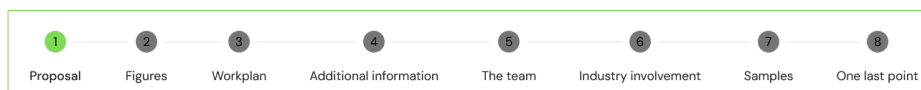
VALIDATION REQUIRED



The screenshot shows a 'Validation errors' dialog box. It contains two sections: 'Validation warnings' and 'Validation errors'. The warnings section has one item: 'This proposal does not involve at least two installations, so it might be valid only in specific cases. Please check with the nffa management team if this is a valid case.' The errors section lists several required fields that are missing or incomplete, including 'Erc Sectors 1', 'Erc Sectors 2', 'Keywords', 'Abstract', 'State Of Art', 'Objectives', 'References', 'Has Related Programme', 'Gender Dimension', 'Has Industry Involvement', and 'Accept Terms'. Each error item is followed by a 'Required' status. An 'Ok' button is located at the bottom right of the dialog box.

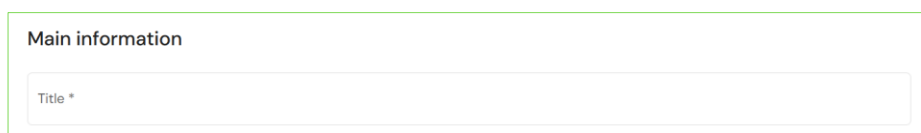
A draft can be saved at any moment without validating the correctness of the data inserted. The only requirement to save a draft of the proposal is that it has a title. To enable the "Submit" button first you need to validate the proposal. After you have validated the proposal, in case there are errors preventing you from submitting, a message listing possible validation errors will appear.

1. PROPOSAL



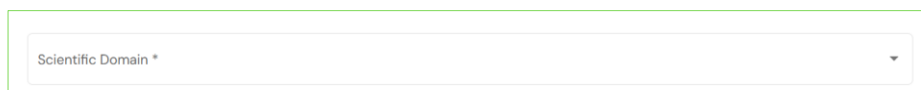
The screenshot shows a progress bar with 8 steps. The steps are: 1. Proposal (highlighted in green), 2. Figures, 3. Workplan, 4. Additional information, 5. The team, 6. Industry involvement, 7. Samples, and 8. One last point.

Progress bar
8 progress steps.



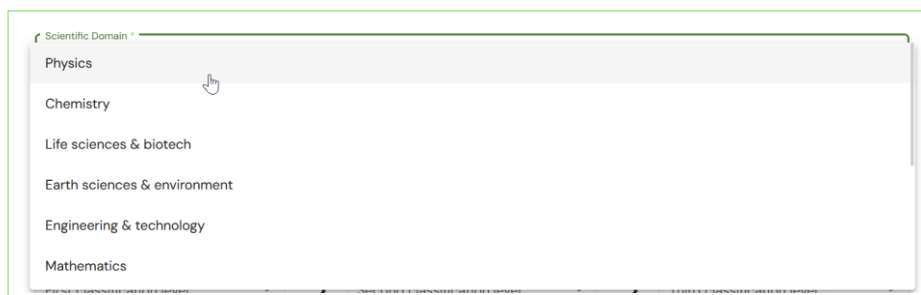
The screenshot shows the 'Main information' section of the form. It contains a text input field labeled 'Title *'.

Title *
Required to save the draft.



The screenshot shows the 'Scientific Domain *' dropdown menu. It is currently set to 'Physics'.

Scientific Domain



The screenshot shows the 'Scientific Domain *' dropdown menu with a list of options: Physics, Chemistry, Life sciences & biotech, Earth sciences & environment, Engineering & technology, and Mathematics. A mouse cursor is hovering over the 'Physics' option.

ERC sectors

Two ERC sectors, in order of relevance. Download the [sector list](#) and complete the field with the selected codes.

ERC sector 1

First classification level

>

Second classification level

>

Third classification level *

ERC sector 2

First classification level

>

Second classification level

>

Third classification level *

ERC Sectors

Third classification level is mandatory, but you need to first select level one and two to filter the level 3 list.

Material System / Device *

Max 100 characters

Material System / Device

Max 100 characters
Chemical and/or physical and/or functional definitions/keywords of the system you want to develop/investigate. (e.g. TiO2 (chemical) nanoparticles (physical) antibacterial (functional)).

Application *

Max 100 characters

Application

Max 100 characters
What is the system used for? In which field? (e.g. Functional antibacterial coatings in medical devices).

Keywords *

Min 3 items, separated by a comma

Keywords

Min 3 items, separated by a comma

Abstract *

1000 to 2000 characters

0/1000

Abstract

1000 to 2000 characters

State of the art *

1500 to 3000 characters

0/1500

State of the art

1500 to 3000 characters

Objectives *

1500 to 3000 characters

0/1500

Objectives

1500 to 3000 characters
Please clearly describe the objectives of your proposal and their relation to PNRR missions, if any.

References *

Up to 10 references, separated by a semicolon

References

Up to 10 references, separated by a semicolon

2. FIGURES

Figures

Click or Drag and drop your images here!

Figures
Allowed formats: jpg, png, bmp, gif.
Please do not upload TIFF images.

Figures




Fig. 1

Caption *

3. WORKPLAN



Although not mandatory, NFFA-DI proposals are strongly recommended to include access to more than one type of technique and Installation (e.g. Lithography and Growth, Upscale to intermediate TRL and Theory, etc.). This is an element of evaluation for the proposal ranking. Proposals can include any number of experimental steps, for a maximum allocated time of 20 UoA/proposal (1 UoA corresponds to a full working day). Please, check carefully other specific requirements (<https://nffa-di.it/en/get-access/guidelines-for-proposal-submission/#Proposalrequirements>).

Steps

Technique

Search technique

AFM – Atomic Force Microscopy

ALD – Atomic Layer Deposition

AMM – ATOMS AND MOLECULES IN MOTION

ARPES – Angle Resolved Photoelectron Spectroscopy

Bonder – Wafer Bonder

Add Step

Steps

If you don't have selected techniques on your wishlist, search technique in the dropdown menu.

Step 1

TA1 – Technique A1

What is the purpose of this research step? – (For scientific evaluation) *

Max 1000 characters

What is the purpose of this research step?

Max 1000 characters

Please explain the scientific goals you intend to achieve by accessing this set-up/method, how it relates with previous/following steps and what you expect to learn. This field is particularly important for the scientific evaluation of your proposal.

What is your measurements/processes plan? – (For scientific evaluation) *

Max 1000 characters

What is your measurements / processes plan?

Operating units that coincide with the affiliation of one or more team members will not be assigned. Max 1000 characters

Please describe how you plan to conduct the experiment (e.g. sequence of single measurements/processes with that technique). Tell us also the timeline of this step: do you plan to start immediately after the previous step or do you need to postpone it (why and how long?). This field is particularly important for the scientific evaluation of your proposal.

Technical specifications and ancillary* techniques needed – (for technical feasibility) *

*ancillary techniques are side control measurements, materials or processes for surface preparation or device fabrication

Technical specifications and ancillary techniques needed

Briefly describe the main technical specifications of the instrument/method you chose that are needed to successfully accomplish your experiment (e.g. resolution, source, detection mode, ...). Please tell us also if you need to access ancillary techniques, i.e. side control measurements (e.g. SEM for FIB, XAS or XPD for XMCD, RHEED for MBE), materials or processes for surface preparation or device fabrication. An ancillary technique is never considered as a separate research step. This field is particularly relevant to check the technical feasibility of your proposal. For access to lithography, please tell us whether you plan to work out electronic files for direct writing lithography methods during your stay or you plan to bring your own files. Please be informed that physical lithographic masks should be provided by you.

Sample cycles: At least one cycle is mandatory

Cycle 1:

Number of samples *

×

Number of measures/processes - (at different p...

= 0

+

Total cycles:

Sample cycles

At least one cycle is mandatory
Number of samples is required
Number of measures/processes is required

Equipment

☐ I will bring my equipment

i

Equipment

This tick box allows you to inform us of the intention to bring some of your equipment, if any.
In case you plan to bring your instrumentation (e.g. evaporators, targets, detectors, etc.) please provide a brief description to check compatibility and safety issues.

Estimated Units Of Access *

i

1 UoA = 8 hours | = 1 project for theory

Estimated Units of Access

1 UoA = 8 hours | = 1 project for theory
This is a measure of the time you need. Please give an estimate of the units of access needed for that research step. If you are not able to make an educated guess, please contact the TLNet for assistance. The estimate is not binding for NFFA-DI. The actual number of UoAs allocated to each research step will be determined by the TLNet after the feasibility check. Access to Fine Analysis at Large Scale Facilities in the SM and the ECM characterisation installations is limited to 6 UoAs per proposal (1 UoA is equivalent to a 8 hours shift - the typical measure of access time at LSFs), to be completed in 4 days at most. In well-justified cases, 3 more UoAs can be granted, for a total of 9 UoA still to be completed in 4 days at most. A maximum number of 20 UoA, summing up all steps, is set for any user project, up to 4 extra UoAs can be granted only in well-justified cases. Proposals claiming more resources should provide due justifications. A maximum cumulative usage for a given technique/installation at a given provider by the same user group is set at 50%. When such usage is exceeded, the user will get the appropriate message and proposals from that group will no longer be eligible. In any case, such users will be able to apply in the last two NFFA-DI calls if there is still remaining capacity.

Preferred site to conduct your research – (not binding for NFFA-DI)

Please consider the [eligibility conditions](#)

Preferred site to conduct your research

A preference for access to a specific NFFA-DI site can be indicated by the users, but this information is not binding for the NFFA-DI scheduling. Whenever suitable for the performance of the proposal NFFA-DI will grant access to a single site that includes all the installations needed. If there is a specific NFFA-DI site where you would prefer to perform your research, please choose from the list and explain the reasons for your preference. Remember that your suggestion is not binding for NFFA-DI and that you can only access NFFA-DI installations located in countries different from the country where the user group leader and the majority of the users are employed.

Reasons

Reasons

Please explain the reasons for your preference of the selected site.

Technique

Add Step

Add step n° X

Step 2

TB1 – Technique B1

Move

Change the order of the steps.

4. ADDITIONAL INFO



Additional information

Is this access request related to other open access program grants? *

☒ Yes ☐ No

Specify open access program and location *



Other open access program grants

If you have already obtained by other means other open access grants (such as beamtime at a Large Scale Facility co-located with NFFA-DI sites) for complementary work on the same scientific topic by other means, activate the corresponding tick-box and provide details when prompted. The info will be taken into account for an optimized access scheduling in case of acceptance of your NFFA-DI proposal.

Gender Dimension *

☐ Yes ☒ No

Please read the info on this field carefully



Gender Dimension

Could sex and/or gender analysis/differences be relevant in your research content or methods? Do you expect that your research findings affect male and females differently? (for more information see https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/gender_en.htm).

Previous Work in The Field

Up to 5 works, separated by a comma

Previous work in the field

Up to 5 references, separated by a comma.

Additional Notes



Additional Notes

If you have additional information on your proposal that you want to bring to our attention, please fill in the "additional notes" field.

5. THE TEAM

The team

Team Leader

Name

Robert

Surname

Smith

Email

r.smith@gmail.com

Add info on the composition of your user group. Remember that you, as main proponent, will be automatically added as user group leader once the draft is saved.

Team member

Search user

Search user by email, you will get one of the search results below.

Search result

Jenny Smith

j.smith@gmail.com

Add Member

User already registered on www.nffa-di.it.

No user found

f.smith@gmail.com

Invite to register

User not registered yet.

Team Members

Name

Jenny

Surname

Smith

Email

j.smith@gmail.com

Status: Pending Approval

Name

-

Surname

-

Email

f.smith@gmail.com

Status: Pending Invitation

When you click "Invite member" or "Invite to register", the new member will be invited to approve the inclusion in the proposal.

6. INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT



Industry involvement

Is there any kind of industry involvement in your proposal? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Industry involvement

In this section please let us know of links your research proposal has to industry or commercial opportunities (for example industry applicant or co-applicant, industry supported students or staff, joint grants with industry, patents, technology licensing, etc). We strongly welcome industrial involvement. The industrial partner may remain anonymous if needed, but its existence and typology should be declared. With industrial we mean any economic activity – private, public or mixed – that participates in the research project, or that finances it, or that has accesses to the data produced in agreement, or under contractual terms, with the proposers. These data are necessary in order to assess the industrial impact of NFFA-DI. The industrial use/impact is a very sensitive evaluation parameter.

Industry involvement

Is there any kind of industry involvement in your proposal? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please describe industry involvement in your proposal *

☒ One or more members of the team are employees of an industry or of a PPP (Public Private Partnership)

☐ Collaboration

Specify the employee(s) *

☐ r.smith@gmail.com

☐ j.smith@gmail.com

☐ f.smith@gmail.com

Involvement through employee(s)

Specify which team members are employees of an industry or of a PPP (Public Private Partnership). At least one selection required.

Warning: you must save your draft to see the list of team members.

Industry involvement

Is there any kind of industry involvement in your proposal? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please describe industry involvement in your proposal *

☐ One or more members of the team are employees of an industry or of a PPP (Public Private Partnership)

☒ Collaboration

Type of industrial collaboration in the project *

Involvement through collaboration

Type of industry involved *

Type of industry involved

7. SAMPLES

Samples and Safety Issues

Substance

Add Sample

Substance

Physical State *

Physical State

Depending on the physical state selected additional fields will be required

Chemical Formula

Chemical Formula

- ☐ Radioactive
- ☐ Oxidising
- ☐ Corrosive
- ☐ Contaminat
- ☐ Combustive
- ☐ Biological
- ☐ Carcinogenic/mutagenic/teragenic
- ☐ Inflammable
- ☐ Toxic
- ☐ Explosive

Safety

Nanostructured material or nanoparticles? *

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is the material mainly consisting of individual entities (constituent particles separable from larger parts) with at least one external dimension in the range 1-100 nm?

(the current definition is explicitly limited to particulate matter as used in the EC terminology for regulatory and nanosafety purposes)

Morphology

Aspect Ratio

Particle Size Distribution

nm

Specific Surface Area

m²/cm³

Nanostructured material or nanoparticles?

Is the material mainly consisting of individual entities (constituent particles separable from larger parts) with at least one external dimension in the range 1-100 nm?

(the current definition is explicitly limited to particulate matter as used in the EC terminology for regulatory and nanosafety purposes).

8. ONE LAST POINT

Resubmission or continuation

Is this a resubmission of a previous proposal? *

Yes No

Is this a continuation of a previous proposal? *

If the Access Review Panel detects that the proposal is a continuation of a previous one and this is not mentioned, the proposal will be given a low priority.

Yes No

Resubmission

Please let us know if this is a resubmission of a previous proposal by your research group, the previous ID and any related comment you want to share for the evaluation of your proposal.

Continuation

Please let us know if this is a continuation of a previous proposal by your research group, the previous ID and any related comment you want to share for the evaluation of your proposal.

If the Access Review Panel detects that the proposal is a continuation of a previous one and this is not mentioned, the proposal will be given a low priority.

Please remember that your submission will NOT be evaluated if you did not submit the final questionnaire and the report of your previous proposal(s).

If either Resubmission or Continuation are selected the following additional interface will appear

Previous Proposal *

Select the previous proposal or Other if not listed

Proposal ID

Select the ID from the list or Other if you don't find it in the list.

Previous Proposal *

Other (not listed)

Select the previous proposal or Other if not listed

Proposal submitted before July 2021

Proposal ID *

Specify the previous proposal ID

Other

Manually insert the ID.

Terms and Conditions

* I agree to NFFA-DI [terms and conditions](#)

Terms and Conditions

Read and accept [Terms and Conditions](#) for proposal submission and legal notices.