



VIDA

value-added innovation
in food chains

Evaluation process

D 2.4 of the Work Package 2



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1. Introduction

A set of evaluation criteria and a scoring system for each of the three VIDA funding schemes was created, it will be hosted and highlighted on the [VIDA website](#) and on [Clou5](#) to ensure that potential applicants fully understand the criteria against which their proposals will be assessed.

Additionally, to make the process easier for the applicant, guidelines are going to be available on [VIDA website](#) and [Clou5](#).

All applications must comply to the latest version of the 'VIDA Terms and Conditions', which are available on the [VIDA website](#).

2. Main requirements for applicants

The VIDA Voucher Scheme is open to SME's meeting the following criteria:

- The applicants must have the SME status in accordance with the SME definition of the European Union¹.
- Applicants must be a member of a VIDA cluster **or** be headquartered in a VIDA territorial scope (see [Annex 1](#)).
- Applicants need to be active in one of the following sectors:
 1. Food production and processing chain
 2. Water
 3. Energy
 4. KET supply chain
- Applicants need to submit their application via the VIDA platform called 'CLOU5'² using the templates provided in the respective open groups: Innovation Support Voucher³ (ISV), Validation Voucher⁴ (VV) or Demonstration Voucher⁵ (DV). Clou5 is accessible via the [VIDA website](#) or directly via www.clou5.net.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en

² <https://www.clou5.net/groups/profile/36889/vida-project-vouchers>

³ <https://www.clou5.net/groups/profile/36623/vida-innovation-support-voucher>

⁴ <https://www.clou5.net/groups/profile/36887/vida-validation-voucher>

⁵ <https://www.clou5.net/groups/profile/36891/vida-demonstration-voucher>

3. Assessment

For each type of voucher (ISV, VV and DV) the applicants first need to fulfil the above-mentioned main requirements. The assessment for each Voucher is described points 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3.

3.1. Innovation Support Voucher (ISV)

The evaluation process starts with the assessment of the eligibility of the applicant, according to the criteria set out in [main requirements](#).

Innovation Support Voucher applications will be evaluated throughout the whole open call period by the Application Review Panel consisting of neutral VIDA Partners. The assessment period takes max. 8 weeks starting from the application date. The applicant will receive an email about the outcome of the assessment. The successful applicant will need to sign a formal contract with the VIDA coordinator (Grant Agreement). The validity of the voucher is 6 months starting from the contract date. Remuneration is further explained in 'VIDA Terms and Conditions'.

3.1.1. Evaluation process for ISV

After succeeding the main requirements, the application will be reviewed by three members of the Application Review Panel. The scoring system set for the ISV voucher is shown in table 1. These points will be assessed, based on the answers written in each submitted application form.

To be considered for funding, joint actions must pass a threshold of 60% of the maximum score. To ensure consistent minimum quality for all award criteria, each sub-criterion needs to score at least half of the points available for that criterion. Reference is made to the 'VIDA Terms and Conditions', in which the applied evaluation criteria are detailed.

Table 1 Scoring system for the Innovation Support Vouchers

Application Section Number	Description	Question	Weighting	Max.score	Max. Weighted score
1. Technical excellence (SME and knowledge provider)					
1.1 Description of the joint action	Please submit a test scope, brief description of the joint action which sets clear objectives, the outcome and impact, and timescales.	To what extent has the applicant written the aims, expected planning and outcomes of the requested action? Does the applicant mention if the proposed action would help the development of the company?	4	5	20
1.2 Knowledge provider	Please describe the competences of the knowledge provider, mentioning their expertise in the specific subject and the action which is going to take place.	To what extent does the applicant demonstrate evidence of the expertise and experience of the chosen knowledge provider? Does the applicant give further motivation for choosing that specific provider?	4	5	20
2. Innovation					
2.1 Innovativeness of the envisaged solution in the target sector (VIDA scope)	Please provide details on the Innovativeness of the envisaged solutions and how these are related to the improvement of the use of water, energy and Key Enabling Technologies in the food sector.	To what extent does the applicant demonstrate that the technology/service/action is innovative and relevant for the purpose of the VIDA scope (Food, water, energy, KET)?	12	5	60

3.2. Validation Voucher (VV)

The evaluation process starts with the assessment of the eligibility of the applicant, according to the criteria set out in main requirements.

Validation Voucher applications will be evaluated by the Application Review Panel consisting of neutral VIDA Partners. Within the open call, there are set four cut-off dates for the evaluation of the proposals which are going to be published on [VIDA website](#) and [Clou5](#). The applications will be assessed as soon as possible upon submission, in any case within 4 weeks from the cut-off date. The applicant will receive an email about the outcome of the assessment. The successful applicant will need to sign a formal contract with the VIDA coordinator (Grant Agreement). The validity of the voucher is 6 months starting from the contract date. Remuneration is further explained in the 'VIDA Terms and Conditions'.

3.2.1. Evaluation process for VV

After succeeding the main requirements, the application will be reviewed by three members of the Application Review Panel. The scoring system set for the VV voucher is shown in table 2. These points will be based on the answers written in each submitted application form.

To be considered for funding, joint actions must pass a threshold of 60% of the maximum score. To ensure a consistent minimum quality for all award criteria, each sub-criterion needs to score at least half of the points available for that criterion. Reference is made to the 'VIDA Terms and Conditions', in which the applied evaluation criteria are detailed.

Table 2 Scoring system for the Validation Vouchers

Application Section Number	Description	Question	Weighting	Max.score	Max. Weighted score
1. Technical excellence, feasibility and viability (SME and service supplier)					
1.1 TRL Level	The technology for which you are requesting support must be at a TRL level of 6 or higher	To what extent does the technology meet the TRL level?	2	5	10
1.2 Test Scope	Please submit a test scope, which sets out clear objectives and timescales.	To what extent has the applicant written the aims, requirements and outcomes of the proposal clear?	2	5	10
1.3 Test Outline	Please provide a summary of your test in the selected research organization, pointing out the main key performance indicators and success criteria.	To what extent does the applicant have a clear understanding of the data they currently hold and the testing requirements to advance the technology within TRL 6 – 8?	2	5	10
1.4 Health and Safety Concerns	What are the specific H&S concerns and considerations?	To what extent does the applicant provide adequate documentation to demonstrate H&S compliance?	2	5	10
1.5 Risk	Please describe key risks associated with this test and how they will be managed and mitigated.	To what extent has the applicant identified risks and mitigations for risk within the assessments?	2	5	10
2. Innovation					
2.1 Innovativeness of the envisaged solution in the target sector (VIDA scope)	Please provide details on the innovative elements of your project.	To what extent does the applicant demonstrate that the technology is innovative and relevant in the frame of the VIDA scope (Food, water, energy, KET)?	5	5	25
2.2 Innovativeness from a value chain perspective	Please specify what makes this technology different from the BAT and what benefit could provide to the food value chain.	To what extent does the applicant demonstrate that the technology would be a milestone for the food-value chain?	5	5	25

3.3. Demonstration Voucher (DV)

Applications can only be handed in during the two call periods published on VIDA website. After each closing date, all applications that have been submitted for the Demonstration Voucher will be reviewed by the independent VIDA Advisory Board. The names of the involved experts are listed on the [VIDA website](#).

Funding will be based on quality, rationale and feasibility of each project. The assessment period lasts up to max. 8 weeks starting upon closure of the respective call. The successful applicant needs to sign a formal contract with the VIDA coordinator (the 'Grant Agreement'). The voucher is valid for 12 months upon signature of the Grant Agreement.

If an application in the first call has not been evaluated positively, the VIDA consortium will provide feedback and re-application is possible when the second call is opened.

3.3.1. Evaluation process for DV

The evaluation process starts with the assessment of the eligibility of the applicant, according to the criteria set out in [main requirements](#). After succeeding the main requirements, the application will be reviewed by three members of the Advisory board. The scoring system set for the DV is shown in table 3. These points will be based on the answers written in each submitted application form.

To be considered for funding, joint actions must pass a threshold of 60% of the maximum score. To ensure consistent minimum quality for all award criteria, each sub-criterion needs to score at least half of the points available for that criterion. Reference is made to the 'VIDA Terms and Conditions', in which the applied evaluation criteria are detailed.

Table 3 Scoring system for the Demonstration Vouchers

Application Section Number	Description	Question	Weighting	Max.score	Max. Weighted score
1. Technical excellence, feasibility and viability					
1.1 TRL Level	The technology for which you are requesting support must be at a TRL level of 6 or higher	To what extent does the technology meet the TRL level?	1	5	5
1.2 Test Scope	Please submit a test scope, which sets out clear objectives and timescales.	To what extent has the applicant written the aims, requirements and outcomes of the proposal clear?	1	5	5
1.3 Test Outline	Please provide a summary of your test in the selected challenge, pointing out the main key performance indicators and success criteria.	To what extent does the applicant have a clear understanding of the data they currently hold and the testing requirements to advance the technology within TRL 6 – 8?	2	5	10
1.4 Prospective Users	Please specify the benefits, beneficiaries, the end user(s) and end use(s) being created by your innovation.	To what extent does the applicant demonstrate an understanding of the market and how the technology addresses the need?	1	5	5
1.5 Health and Safety Concerns	What are the specific H&S concerns and considerations?	To what extent does the applicant provide adequate documentation to demonstrate health and safety compliance?	1	5	5
1.6 Risk	Please describe key risks associated with this test and how these risks will be managed and mitigated.	To what extent has the applicant identified risks and mitigations for risk within the assessments?	2	5	10
2. Innovation					
2.1 Innovativeness of the envisaged solution in the target sector (VIDA scope)	Please provide details on the innovative elements of your project in relation to the selected challenge.	To what extent does the applicant demonstrate that the technology is innovative and relevant in the frame of the VIDA scope (Food, water, energy, KET)?	3	5	15
2.2 Innovativeness from a value chain perspective	Please specify what makes this technology different from the BAT and what benefit could provide to the food value chain.	To what extent does the applicant demonstrate that the technology would be a milestone for the food-value chain?	3	5	15

3. Impacts					
3.1 Economic Impact	Specify the expected impact in terms of competitiveness and growth of the business partners in the consortium, measured in terms of turnover and job creation.	To what extent does the applicant`s technology demonstrate a potential financial benefit benchmarked against other relevant technologies?	2	5	10
3.2 Social Impact	Please describe the social benefits of your project.	To what extent does the applicant`s technology demonstrate a potential social benefit benchmarked against the relevant alternative?	2	5	10
3.3 Environmental Impact	Please describe the Environmental benefits of your project.	To what extent does the applicant`s technology demonstrate a potential benefit for the environment or have a less adverse effect on the environment compared to the relevant alternative?	2	5	10

4. Gender Equality

VIDA seeks a gender balance. Therefore, applicants are invited to take all measures to promote equal opportunities between men and women in the implementation of the action. They must aim, to the extent possible, for a gender balance at all levels of personnel assigned to the action, including at supervisory and managerial level.

5. Cross-sectoral and cross-border linkages

VIDA fosters the cross-sectoral and cross-border innovativeness. Therefore, applicants to the Voucher schemes are invited to take all measures to apply these elements to their project action.

Annex 1: VIDA clusters and regions

To be eligible for VIDA vouchers the applicant must be:

- member of a VIDA cluster
- or**
- be headquartered in a VIDA territorial scope

For cluster membership information, please contact your preferred VIDA cluster.

VIDA clusters

- Clúster para el uso eficiente del agua (www.zinnae.org)
- Clúster Aragónés de Alimentación (www.aragonalimentacion.com)
- BalticNet-PlasmaTec e.V. (www.balticnet-plasmatec.org)
- Food Processing Initiative (www.foodprocessing.de)
- Watercampus Leeuwarden (CEW&Wateralliance: www.cew.nl / www.wateralliance.nl)
- Clean cluster (www.cleancluster.dk)
- Lombardy Energy Cleantech Cluster (www.energycluster.it)
- Nanoprogress cluster (www.nanoprogress.eu)

VIDA Territorial scope

- Spain (Aragón region)
- Germany (all regions)
- Denmark (all regions)
- Portugal (all regions)
- Czech Republic (all regions)
- Italy (Lombardy region)



clúster aragonés de
alimentación



wateralliance

