

# 10 tips for submitting a successful application

- 1 Follow the guidelines**

Use the Information Guide for Applicants as a resource to enhance your application and increase your chances of success.
- 2 Write specific and clear answers**

We receive many applications and are unable to review supplementary materials that are not requested. Please be clear and concise e.g. write in short sentence and paragraphs, list or bullet activities, outputs and outcomes. Try to avoid jargon or acronyms.
- 3 Tell us what is unique about your project**

Explain to us why your project is worth supporting and any special features that we should consider in our review.
- 4 Tell us how you selected your small dam(s)**

We are looking for evidence that small dams projects have been carefully selected to maximise ecological impact at the catchment level. We are less likely to support projects that appear to have been randomly selected without a justification. *Category A & B applications only\**
- 5 Tell us why your project is ecologically significant**

Our aim is to support projects that will open up rivers and achieve a long-term positive ecological impact. Be sure to make it really clear how your project will benefit nature and why we should support it. *Category A & B applications only\**
- 6 Give correct coordinates**

Provide the correct DMS coordinates for the barriers mentioned in the application! Double check them before submitting. *Category A & B applications only\**
- 7 Submit high quality, clear photographs**

Reviewers check every photo submitted, please ensure they depict the barrier/area accurately. *Category A & B applications only\**
- 8 Ensure the budget and schedule of activities are correct**

Ensure that the full timeframe is presented from the start to the completion of the project. Ensure that all costs are in Euros and provide a full breakdown of costs. The proposal is the basis for the Grant Award Letter, therefore, it is essential that all information, budgets, and activities described are accurate and final.
- 9 Is it value for money?**

Reviewers consider which projects will most effectively achieve our aims with the available funds. Costs should be justified and relevant. For A & B grants: low-cost projects with high ecological impacts will score highly. For C grants: explain why the proposal is significant and its impact for the European dam removal movement.
- 10 Submit on time!**

We will not extend the deadline or accept late applications.

## What is **not** likely to score highly?

Projects that take many years to make an impact, expensive projects that have a low ecological impact and projects that do not meet the minimum eligibility criteria