

10 TIPS for submitting a successful small dam removal 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 cannot review unrequested supplementary materials. Please be clear and concise, write in short sentences and paragraphs, list or bullet activities, outputs and outcomes. Avoid jargon or acronyms.

3

Explain what is unique about your project

Explain why your project is worth supporting and any special features we should consider in our review.

4

Tell us how you selected your small dam(s)

Demonstrate that your small dam removal project has 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

Demonstrate clearly how your project will lead to dam removal

Pre-demolition projects should demonstrate that their successful completion will result in the dam(s) being ready for removal, i.e. we are unlikely to support projects if there is uncertainty that the dam(s) can be removed. Stand-out projects will clarify how the project activities will lead to dam removal. *Category A1 and A2 applications only**

7

Give correct DMS coordinates and submit high-quality photos

Provide the correct coordinates for the barriers in the application! Double-check them before submitting. Reviewers also 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 end of the project. Ensure all costs are in Euros and provide a full breakdown of costs. The Proposal will form part of the grant contract if you are awarded a grant. Therefore, all information, budgets, and activities must be 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 on 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.