



Project management – an additional key for successful proposals

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Projects and project management face several, very diverse challenges; of which many with a high potential to jeopardize the success of a project. Increasing complexity of projects, e.g. regarding interdisciplinarity, internationality and interculturality, knowledge transfer, data sharing, or reporting demands of the funding agencies are aspects of projects which should not only be considered during the project lifetime. Many aspects need careful planning already before a project starts and should therefore be implemented in the proposals.

The benefit of well-planned and organized project management has been recognized by European and also national funding agencies, and they force scientists to not only coordinate their scientific work but also think in advance about the administrative aspects thereof, e.g. by requesting specific information on project management in proposal templates. Integrating a well-thought project management plan enhances the quality of the proposal and most importantly, will also increase the overall long-lasting scientific impact. It will therefore ensure a high value-for-money ratio for the funding agency. Research Support Offices (RSOs) can play a crucial role in the knowledge transfer of project management experience by providing such hands-on experience at an early stage of the proposal development and by this RSOs can contribute to the overall success of their institutions in applying for external funding.

This presentation will deal with the role of Research Support Offices and implementation of project management particularly in the pre-proposal phase.