

Project Specification

Tender details – the opportunity

Company name	Biomir Life Sciences Ltd
Company address	8 Minors Crescent, Darlington, England, DL3 0DN
Description of company activity/SIC code	72190 - Other research and experimental development on natural sciences and engineering
Objective of the proposed innovation project– this MUST involve activity that results in the development of or introduction to the market of a new product or service (max 300 words)	<p>The main objective is to authenticate the nutritional properties, by giving scientific validation to the bioactive compounds present in natural products and utilise this information to formulate and commercialise natural sports nutrition/energy drink.</p> <p>Natural products are claimed to be enriched with phytoconstituents such as amino acids, proteins, carbohydrates, terpenoids and flavonoids which possess strong antibacterial, anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activities. Natural sources are used in the diet as healthy food and in addition to be a good source of basic nutrients; they also have important phytoconstituents with disease preventive and health promoting properties. Moreover, natural products are believed to have stronger defences and metabolic pathways. Recently, there is an increasing need for the consumption of nutrient rich diet from the natural sources. Despite of the various number of health benefits that these products carry, majority of the time natural products are thrown away or discarded as waste.</p>
Company's current situation – existing project team and innovation project development stage (max 400 words)	<p>The idea is at the conceptual stage, we are looking to work with a University / Research Institute to help authenticate and formulate natural sports nutrition/energy drink as an alternative to chemically produced nutrition/energy drink. The project team currently comprises 'subject matter' experts with several years of combined experience in Natural Products Chemistry, Healthcare, Pharmaceutical, Food, Nutrition and Agriculture sector.</p> <p>The team consists of:</p>

	<p>Samir Desai – Samir is the Co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Biomir. Samir is a Consumer Health and pharmaceutical professional with over 13 years of experience, Samir has excellent track record in development and delivery of important products. He holds a Masters degree in Drug Delivery and Formulation design from The University College London. Samir has extensive knowledge in building technology on improving the process of developing and commercializing niche products to allow rapid delivery to consumers. He has been in several leadership role across the industry leading and training quality and regulatory standard in multiple area.</p> <p>Dr Reju D' Cunha – With 20+ years international experience, Reju is a consultant and entrepreneur who has been involved with entrepreneurial activities in the UK as well as internationally. With a PhD in Natural Products Chemistry, he consults for global companies due to his interests, which revolve around identifying and developing innovative products for various sectors including pharmaceutical, medical technology, crop science, animal health and consumer health.</p> <p>We have the necessary skills to help ensure the idea is developed with the required MVP (Minimum Viable Product) and to ensure the idea is pushed from being a conceptual idea to an actual launchable product. We are currently in the process of requiring funding to enable to kick-start the project and the development work to start as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Business need – what expertise and support is required from a Knowledge Base to reach the objective(s) above? (max 400 words)</p>	<p>The expertise required are the Analytical, Authentication of natural products, Formulation development, Nutritional Product development from the University / Research Institute to develop the requirements for Biomir. We have the skillset and the experience to project manage the development activities</p> <p>The role of University / Research Institute in the proposed project would be focused on the chemical characterisation of natural products to assess the chemical variation within the species - this is relevant as optimum sources or varieties, or growth stages, may be revealed that are relevant to</p>

	producing the optimum and consistent commercial product. Additionally, chemical characterisation would enable compounds to be detected that are relevant to health, beyond their fundamental role in nutrition, i.e. secondary metabolites such as flavonoids etc. University / Research Institute should have nutritional expertise as well to be a research partner. As such we are looking to partner with University / Research Institute who have the ability to assist in NPD development and also assist in forecasting new product niches.
Please list six key words that describe your potential project, i.e. ICT, engineering, biotech etc.	Research, Development, Formulation, Product development, Commercialisation and Natural Nutritional Drink
Required timescales (if any) for Project Start and duration, and if applicable anticipated product launch date	Work to start February 2022 for an initial duration of 10 months. Launch date: 03 Jan 2023
Optional - company budget available to match fund KEEP+ grant (if known) please see 'Further details' for maximum funding amounts	
Company Contact for further information	Samir.Desai@biomir.co.uk
Required tender response date (min 20 working days from posting of advert)	31 January 2022
<p>Responses are sought from organisations classified as Knowledge Bases, defined under the ERDF Definition of the Knowledge Base: Higher Education, Further Education and Research Entities which are: UK Public Sector Research Establishments, Research and Development Organisations, Research and Technology Organisations.</p> <p>The Company is seeking a Knowledge Base partner to work with them to develop a project which, dependent on a successful Grant Application, will be supported by the KEEP+ ERDF project using one of the two types of intervention described below. Please also see KEEP+ website – www.keepplus.co.uk</p> <p>In Stage 2, if the grant application to KEEP+ is successful, the Company requires the expertise of the Knowledge Base partner, to work with them to deliver the solution i.e. the project intervention supported by the KEEP+ grant.</p>	
Criteria for Decision making	Assessment criteria are as follows

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise fit 50% • Timing fit 25% • Suitability of proposed methodology 25%
Date for Contract Decision	Minimum of 20 working days from date of advertisement
Tender response templates	Please approach the company for the exact format of your response.

Further details for potential respondents

You are responding to a tender for an activity which is eligible for part funding by the European Regional Development Fund, specifically under the KEEP+ Programme.

The KEEP+ Programme aims to support SMEs to develop new products and services by fostering long term collaborative relationships between Knowledge Bases – Universities and research institutions – and SMEs who need expertise and support for innovation.

Please see KEEP+ website for further information www.keepplus.co.uk or contact the KEEP+ project team 0845 196 4207 julie.benabdeljelil@anglia.ac.uk or 0845 196 4985 kayleigh.parkes@anglia.ac.uk

KEEP+ provides maximum allowable grants for its specific types of intervention. Those intervention types and maximum grant levels are as follows;

- KEEP Knowledge Exchange Embed Partnership (typically 12 months' duration) - this intervention involves a graduate working on a mid- to long-term activity with the support of a specific academic staff member, the graduate is based within the beneficiary company - grant allowance 50% of eligible costs and £10,000 capital.
- KEEP Research and Innovation Collaboration (no fixed duration) this intervention involves an academic colleague working on a short- to long-term activity, they are based at the Knowledge Base but with regular face-to-face interaction with the beneficiary company - grant allowance 50% of eligible costs plus a strict maximum of £10,000 capital.

The following is a guide to the types of cost that you should expect to occur should your application be successful;

- KEEP Knowledge Exchange Embed Partnership (typically 12 months' duration) – project development, associate wage, academic wage, administrative support, training and travel (on the part of the knowledge base employees), minor equipment (please note there is a potential separate grant for major capital purchases), recruitment



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

- KEEP Research and Innovation Collaboration (no fixed duration) – project development, academic wage, administrative support, consumables (please note there is a potential separate grant for major capital purchases)