

VRG27 / Use of generative AI

WWTF emphasizes the importance of human responsibility for the content submitted at all stages of the application process. Furthermore, WWTF recognizes that the use of genAI tools is pervasive and can facilitate proposal writing, for example in relation to improving written language. However, substantial use of genAI must be declared as such for the sake of transparency.

“Substantial use” is defined in line with the European Commission’s definition: “[...] using generative AI as a basic author support tool is not a substantial use. However, interpreting data analysis, carrying out a literature review, identifying research gaps, formulating research aims, developing hypotheses, etc. could have a substantial impact.” ([EC 2026: Living Guidelines on the responsible use of generative AI in research. Fourth Version, October 2026](#))

This mainly concerns critical parts of scientific relevance, such as hypothesis formulation and the scientific project plan. Applicants will be required to provide statements on the use of generative AIs at both the short and full proposal stages. WWTF emphasizes the importance of human responsibility for the content submitted at all stages of the application process. Images depicting real-world scenarios produced by generative AI must be declared.

In review and evaluation processes WWTF does not allow AI to be used for the actual formation of judgments and decision-making.