



Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council

# Advice from the Panel



# Heilmeier's Catechism

1. What are you trying to do?
2. How is it done today, and what are the limits of current practice?
3. What's new in your approach and why do you think it will be successful?
4. What is the impact if successful?
5. What are the risks and the payoffs?
6. How much will it cost?
7. How long will it take?
8. What are the midterm and final "exams" to check for success?



# Both IPS and CLASP

## Joint considerations

- Avoid acronyms, especially technical ones they may not be understood.
- Good identification of requirements e.g. what solutions (even low tech) can be applied and are already available- explain why the proposed project will be better than the best current alternative and what the market/need is.

# Both IPS and CLASP

## Joint considerations

- Diagrams are almost always essential to understanding the proposal, but need to be relevant, and with good descriptions
- Thought needs to be given to the specific risks involved for the proposed project rather than generic risks, especially when they are connected together.
- Think about how an application will be read. The panel will not necessarily be experts in the technology or area being proposed and this needs to be taken into account.

# IPS

## Key Points

- Applications need to have calculations/ graphs to show the benefits. Include models/data to give an idea of what level of improvements can be made.
- Route to market/supply chain should be clear and identifiable where possible. Project partner involvement across the whole supply chain makes a much stronger application.

# IPS

## Key points continued..

- Market statements should be included but should only refer to realistic numbers i.e. focusing on what percentage of the market applicants think their technology will occupy.
- Proposals for the development of sensors, such as cameras, should discuss performance quantitatively in terms of signal to noise, resolution, and collection time.

# CLASP

## Key points

- Need to show how individual projects relate the overall programme theme and the added value they bring.
- Risk management is important, and thought needs to be given to how to overcome problems which may occur, especially when work packages are reliant on previous ones to be successful.

# CLASP

## Key points continued..

- Letter's of support should outline the level of commitment people are willing to give (including end users), rather than simply saying this is a good idea.
- Applicants should be able to describe the background need for the technology, and how it fits the aims of the programme in no more than half a page.



Take home message is:

**Don't leave the panel to second guess applications, and follow the guidance documents/assessment criteria- this is what the panels will use.**