An SDMX project proposal is much like a generic project proposal, in that it is created in response to the business needs or high-level requirements that were stated earlier in the project (and the Checklist for SDMX Design Projects steps).

The main functions of the proposal are to:

- summarise the business needs
- state the aims of the project and how the project’s deliverables will satisfy the business needs
- set the stage and provide a reference for the following checklist steps, especially in the PLAN & ORGANISE stage
- provide any information for the later steps in the project

If any constraints are known at this stage they should be included in the proposal such as:

- the available budget
- time limitations
- staff/resource availability
- location limitations, e.g. the pilot countries must be from the same continent
- technical limitations, e.g. the versions of SDMX that may/may not be used
- political restrictions, e.g. regarding confidential data sensitivity
- methodological constraints
- any other known risks

More detailed planning documentation, such as the roadmap and work breakdown will be covered later in the PLAN & ORGANISE stage. An option would be to add it to the SDMX project proposal to centralise the information and allow for easy revision of the document.

An SDMX project template will be included at a later stage.