



Project Manager

– Biotechnology & Sustainable Agriculture

Location: Košice, Slovakia (partial onsite preferred; remote possible for highly experienced, self-driven candidates)

Position: Full-time

Start date: As soon as possible

About *ekolive*

ekolive is a Slovak-based deep-tech biotechnology startup pioneering regenerative solutions for sustainable agriculture. Founded in 2018, we specialise in harnessing natural microbial processes to restore soil health, reduce dependency on chemical inputs, and support the transition to climate-resilient farming. Our work sits at the intersection of science, innovation, and real-world impact, supported by EU-funded projects, strategic partnerships, and a mission-driven team.

We are a lean, agile, and fast-growing startup. That means we move quickly, pivot when needed, and expect every team member to think like an owner – taking initiative, solving problems, and contributing well beyond their job description. If you thrive on autonomy, love building something from the ground up, and are motivated by the challenge of scaling a science-based venture, you'll fit right in.

The Role

We are looking for a hands-on, resourceful, and highly organised Project Manager to help us identify, secure, and manage national and international R&D and innovation projects. This is not a traditional “process-following” role – it’s about proactively driving opportunities that align with our mission and pushing them forward with creativity, diligence, and a strong sense of ownership.

Key responsibilities:

- **Proposal Development:** Lead the end-to-end process of identifying relevant funding calls (EU, national, bilateral), building consortium partnerships, and writing compelling, high-quality proposals.
- **Project Management:** Oversee the administrative, financial, and reporting aspects of ongoing projects – ensuring timelines, deliverables, and compliance are met, while coordinating with internal technical leads.



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- **Pipeline Building:** Actively scout for new project opportunities that align with *ekolive's* focus areas: biotechnology, soil health, carbon sequestration, sustainable agriculture, and circular bioeconomy.
- **System Management:** Maintain and update our internal CRM/project management system to ensure clear visibility of all projects, deadlines, and stakeholder communications.
- **Team Support:** As a startup, we all wear multiple hats. You'll be expected to step in and support other business areas when needed – whether it's communication, partner liaison, or operational tasks.

Who You Are

- A self-starter who doesn't wait for instructions but sees what needs to be done and acts.
- Passionate about contributing to a purpose-driven startup – you find fulfilment in creating impact, not in rigid structures or work-life balance as a priority.
- Experienced in project proposal writing and management, ideally within EU frameworks (Horizon Europe, EIT, LIFE, etc.) or other international R&D programmes.
- Fluent in **Slovak** (native level) and **English** (excellent written and spoken) – this is essential.
- Organised, detail-oriented, and comfortable using digital project management tools.
- Able to work independently in a remote or hybrid setting, delivering outcomes without supervision.
- Pragmatic and resilient – you understand the constraints of a growing startup and see them as challenges to solve, not barriers.

What We Offer

- A key role in a mission-driven, science-based company with a real impact on European agriculture.
- The opportunity to grow with us – this is a chance to shape your role and contribute directly to our strategy.
- A small, dedicated team where your work will be seen, valued, and instrumental to our success.



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- Competitive salary aligned with our stage and team structure, with the possibility of virtual equity participation and performance-based rewards as the company grows.
- Flexible working environment, with a preference for partial presence in our Košice office to foster collaboration and team integration.

How to Apply

If you recognise yourself in this description and are excited by the prospect of building something meaningful – not just filling a job – please send your CV and a brief cover letter (in English) to ekolive@ekolive.eu.

In your cover letter, tell us:

1. Why you are drawn to a startup environment.
2. One example of a project or initiative you drove independently from idea to outcome.
3. Your experience with EU or international R&D funding programmes.

We welcome applications from those who may not tick every box but are eager to learn, adapt, and commit to our mission.

ekolive s.r.o.

Americká trieda 3, Košice, Slovakia

www.ekolive.eu

We thank all applicants for their interest; only those selected for an interview will be contacted.