This is a collection of the frequently asked questions (FAQ) about this call. It includes questions that have been posed in connection to and during our information webinar. Please note that it is the call text available at the call page that is the guiding document for your proposal. This FAQ only includes short answers related to specific questions. If you can’t find the answers you need amongst these questions or from reading the call text, please contact the international call secretariat or your national funding agency.

Content:
1. Elements of the proposal
2. The Consortium
4. Funding
5. Other
Elements of the proposal

Q: What is the focus on the call? exchange of research results (within this 1,5 years) or the development of a long-term exchange of information (e.g. platform)?

A: Projects should build upon already existing research, ongoing or completed projects, networks and initiatives with focus on leveraging synergies and enhancing impact. The call is not aimed at completely new research.

Q: For the first stage proposals is it already necessary to submit at least three separate applications with the respective funding agencies or is one from the lead organisation sufficient?

A: For the first stage you have to submit one transnational application. In the second stage it is depending on the rules of the different funding agencies if an addition national application is necessary or not.

Q: Can you please explain further what a problem holder is?

A: The problem owner is the one affected by the issues to be solved - e.g. municipalities.

Q: Which kind of partners are to be included in section 11.2 “Individual project partners“ of the full proposal form? Also self-funded and sub-contracted partners or only funded partners?

A: Please include funded and self-financed partners in the description in section 11.2 – sub-contracted parties are not needed to be listed.

The Consortium

Q: Can an NGO be a lead partner?

A: This is depending on the national eligibility rules. You can find them in the Annex of the call text.

Q: If applying from the UK, can we nominate both UK funders, or must we choose between either ESRC or AHRC?

A: Please get in contact with AHRC and ESRC to clarify this question.

Q: If the lead partner has practical and existing experience in the proposal area, do the consortium partners need to also have similar experience/past projects in the same area?

A: No, there is no need to have a similar experience/past projects. It is a benefit for the project to have complementary partners.

Q: Can there be more than one problem holder in a consortium?

A: Yes, there can be more.
Q: Must each country have a problem holder?
A: At least one relevant non-academic stakeholder, or problem owner or practitioner as a partner or as self-funded partner has to be in the consortium. Alternatively, one organisation of this group can participate by providing a letter of intent, where concrete commitments are stated how to be involved in the project and how to deal with project results.

Q: Do the 3 main partners have to be academics?
A: No, there should be an active cooperation between all stakeholders throughout the project

Funding

Q: Can the budget be pooled to pay for one RA across the project countries?
A: In case you want to pay another organisation which is not directly fundable by the call, you have to check if it is possible with subcontracting.

Q: In the UK the funding is limited to strategic and applied research activities (no innovative actions) - how does this impact the potential role of a UK partner in a consortium?
A: You have to structure the roles in your project according to the types of research which can be funded by the different funding agencies.

Q: What are the funding guidelines/rates i.e. for travel costs, overhead costs etc.?
A: This is depending on the rules of the different funding agencies. Please check the national annex of the call text.

Q: Could you explain again about the amount of funding: Is it that partners from three different countries get together only the maximum amount of the funding agency from the lead partner, or do they get funding from their respective agencies?
A: It is depending on the limits of the own funding agency what the national maximum per project is.

Q: Is an increase in budget possible between the first and second stage?
A: The first stage assessment process involved both a ranking process and an evaluation of the budget. We would therefore not expect to see significant changes to the proposal as the ranking decision was carried out based on the proposals’ current budgets, aims and objectives.

Other

Q: How many joint meetings are planned within the course of the project? Where will they take place and how many days will they go on?
A: The JPI UE plans to organise a kick-off meeting between March and May 2021. The other meetings are depending on your project activities.