A combined Food Systems Approach to Scaling-up Interventions to Address the Double Burden of Malnutrition

Call status
Open

Call launch date
25 February 2019

Application deadline
07 May 2019, 16:00 BST

UKRI-BBSRC will upload additional resource describing the scope of the call with 3 weeks of the launch of the call. This will be uploaded to the webpage in the format of a recorded webinar and will provide an audible description of the scope, thus enabling the information to be available to a wider audience across the whole community. UKRI-BBSRC will also add an FAQ factsheet compiling common queries regarding the call.

Eligibility

If you have any queries about eligibility please contact FNH@bbsrc.ukri.org

UK applicants

Applications must be led by an eligible Principal Investigator (PI) in the UK. For administrative purposes, UKRI-BBSRC is managing this call and standard UKRI-BBSRC eligibility conditions apply to UK applicants. See section 3 of the BBSRC Grants Guide and the UKRI list of eligible organisations (for further details).

The Principal Investigator and her or his research organisation:

i. will be identified as the PI on the Je-S form and will be responsible for submitting a single Je-S proposal on behalf of all participating organisations;

ii. will be the recipient of the award, and will manage and be accountable for the finances of the partnership in accordance with the terms and conditions of the award, including disbursing funds to the other eligible participating organisations and fulfilling UKRI's financial and scientific reporting requirements.

Overseas Co-Investigators

Applications may additionally include (for this call only) eligible Co-Investigators (Co-Is) based in any of the DAC countries listed in the Downloads section.

Overseas Co-Is should hold a position of lecturer level or equivalent status in a university or other recognised higher education institution or other research institution, or other 'not-for-profit' organisation with a credible and relevant research capacity, based in an eligible DAC country (see list of eligible countries in Downloads section). This includes researchers at both
national institutions of eligible DAC countries and establishments of international organisations located in those countries.

**For this call only**, academic researchers from overseas research organisations not based in DAC countries may be Co-Is if they provide expertise not available in the UK or a DAC country. We would not expect high-income country Co-I costs to exceed 30% of the total award value. Overseas Co-Is should hold a position of lecturer level or equivalent status, in one of the following:

i. a university
ii. a recognised higher education institution
iii. a recognised research institution

a 'not-for-profit' organisation with a credible and relevant research capacity.

**All applicants named on the Je-S form must be registered as users of the Joint Electronic Submission (Je-S) system well in advance of submitting the application. Please note that the Je-S registration process for overseas Co-Investigators could take up to 3 weeks and thus, are advised to register as early as possible.**

**Researcher Co-Investigators**

A Researcher Co-Investigator describes a postdoctoral research assistant (PDRA) or equivalent (being ineligible to be either Principal or Co-Investigator in his or her own right) who has made a substantial intellectual contribution to the formulation and development of the proposal, and would be engaged in the ensuing research. This status can be used by a PDRA as evidence of involvement in acquiring research funding.

Researcher Co-Investigators based at the institution(s) of either the UK Principal or Co-Investigator(s) may be included. Researcher Co-Investigators based at the institutions of overseas Co-Investigators (described above) are **not** permitted. For detailed guidance, please see Section 3 of the BBSRC Grants Guide.

Funding for any type of studentship, whether in the UK or overseas, may not be requested on applications to this call.

**Project Partners and collaborators**

As detailed in Section 2 of the BBSRC Grants Guide, researchers or others not eligible to be Co-Is may be included in proposals as Project Partners or collaborators. Neither Project Partners nor other collaborators would receive funding from UKRI.

Project Partners or other collaborators may be based in universities or other institutions, or be independent researchers. They may also be potential users of research outcomes, including commercial organisations. Collaboration with industry is encouraged where relevant, but must not compromise the ODA compliance of the proposed research by inappropriately restricting use of its outcomes by potential beneficiaries (see section below on ‘Data sharing, open access and intellectual property’).

**Sub-contracting**

Where necessary - for example, because of the lack of the required expertise in eligible institutions - aspects of the proposed research may be sub-contracted to an otherwise ineligible organisation.

The costs for subcontractors are tied to the country managing the sub-contract. Eg, if a non-UK research partner organisation is managing a sub-contract it will be awarded at 100%. If a UK partner is managing a sub-contract it will be awarded at 80%. The most appropriate country should be chosen to manage the sub-contract based on the overall governance arrangements.
Remit

The proposed research must fit the scope of the initiative, as set out in the call text. It should also reflect elements of: new research to enhance coherence and impact of existing knowledge; communication and stakeholder engagement appropriate to the research. As a UKRI-wide initiative, it is expected that research will be interdisciplinary and span biological, biomedical and social sciences.

If you are unsure whether your proposed research would be appropriate for this call, please send an outline of your proposed work to FNH@bbsrc.ukri.org and BBSRC staff will be able to advise you.

ODA Compliance

All research funded through this call will form part of the UK’s Official Development Assistance, as defined by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Guidance on the definition and its interpretation is provided in the OECD ‘What is ODA?’ fact sheet and the UKRI website.

Applicants must consider the ODA relevance of their planned research throughout their proposal. In particular, how the project will work to alleviate poverty and promote welfare, and the strength of the developing country partnerships. Applicants must ensure that the title and abstract of their proposal reflects the ODA challenge that the research aims to address. In addition to addressing ODA relevance throughout their proposal, applicants must complete an ODA compliance questionnaire (see Downloads section). This is a standalone document which should make clear the ODA relevance of the proposed project without reference to other documents in the proposal (i.e. Case for Support, Pathways to Impact). Proposals which are not considered to be ODA compliant will be rejected without peer review.

To ensure ODA compliance, you should consider the following aspects when preparing your application:

- Your proposed research should investigate a specific problem or seek a specific outcome which will impact on the economic development and welfare of your partner country[ies] in the immediate or longer-term
- The benefit and relevance of the proposed research to your partner country[ies] should be clear
- You will need to consider the pathway to achieving impact (during and after the lifetime of the research grant).

It is now mandatory that the title and abstract of all GCRF proposals reflect the ODA challenge that the research aims to address.

Proposals can:

- Focus on a development topic or address an unmet capacity need in the partner country
- The primary benefit of the proposed research must be to the developing country(ies), although secondary benefits to the UK are acceptable and should be articulated where relevant.

UKRI does not expect research funded through this call to achieve demonstrable impact in the target country during the lifetime of the grant. However, applications will need to demonstrate the potential contribution of the proposed research to enhance the economic development and welfare of their chosen country(ies).
Exclusions

Applications will be rejected before peer review for proposals which:

- are outside the scope of the call;
- do not have ODA relevance;
- request funding for ineligible individuals or organisations.

Eligible costs

Up to £8.5 million is available, subject to the quality of proposals received. Total requested costs for each proposal should not exceed a maximum of £1 million (at 80% of their full economic cost; see Eligible costs section in the Guidance for Applicants).

Funds can be requested for up to 3 years. Projects must start by mid-February 2020.

UKRI strongly recommends integrated partnerships between researchers in the UK and DAC listed countries, with clear and complementary roles, and equitable divisions of responsibilities, resources, efforts and benefits between researchers in the DAC listed country and the UK. UKRI will fund the UK component(s) of any successful collaboration. UKRI will also fund overseas Co-Investigators, and associated costs, if eligible (see guidance below).

A single Je-S application (proforma) should be submitted by the research organisation of the UK PI on behalf of all participating organisations. Please take particular care to include sufficient costs to support an international project such as travel and subsistence in addition to salary (investigators and PDRAs) and consumables

Eligible UK costs

UK components should follow the guidelines outlined in Section 5 of the BBSRC Grants Guide and be costed on the basis of full economic costs (fEC). If the grant is awarded, UKRI will provide funding on the basis of 80% of fEC.

Please ensure you specify clearly in the description field if you are requesting the use of any Research Council Facilities. Any costs requested for the use of facilities at the Earlham Institute should be listed under The Genome Analysis Centre (TGAC) on the Je-S submission.

Eligible overseas costs

Costs associated with overseas Co-Investigators should be included in the Je-S submission as Exceptions. For eligible Co-Investigators’ institutions in DAC listed countries, UKRI will pay in full the Directly Incurred costs of the research, together with a contribution towards the Indirect and Estates costs of up to 20% of the staff related Directly Incurred costs.

Co-Is based in high-income countries outside of the UK can claim 100% of their direct costs but no indirect or Estate costs. The costs should be included within the Directly Incurred section as below. However, as the scheme is intended to fund work in low- and middle-income countries, high-income country applicants are advised to keep their costs claimed to a minimum.

All costs should be entered in pounds sterling (£).
To enable UKRI to meet transparency and external audit requirements, all overseas costs must be entered into the ‘Other Directly Incurred’ costs section, should be marked as ‘Exceptions’ and should use the following format:

In the description box enter – ‘Organisation: Country: Cost Category: Cost Description.

The Cost Categories for this call are as follows:
- **Staff**
- **Travel and Subsistence**
- **Other Indirectly Incurred Costs**
- **Indirect Costs**

**E.g.**
- University of Nairobi: Kenya: **Staff**: 1xPDRA  
- University of Nairobi: Kenya: **Travel and Subsistence**: 4x flights  
- University of Nairobi: Kenya: **Other Directly Incurred Costs**: 5x workshops including catering and accommodation

The following costs may be requested for overseas Co-Investigators:
- Costs for overseas Co-Investigators and any locally employed staff, i.e. percentage contribution of actual salary representing the proportion of each person’s time to be spent working on the grant. These costs must be entered as Exceptions under the Other Directly Incurred costs on Je-S at 100% fEC
- Travel and subsistence for overseas Co-Investigators. These costs must be entered as Exceptions under the Travel and Subsistence costs on Je-S at 100% fEC
- Costs charged by the overseas organisation and associated with the research, for example consumables and small items of equipment costing less than £10,000, field work, etc. These costs must be entered as Exceptions under the Other Directly Incurred costs on Je-S at 100% fEC
- A contribution towards Indirect and Estates costs at the overseas organisation. This should be calculated as 20% of the overseas research organisation’s Directly Incurred costs related to staff costs. This total should be entered as an Exception under the Other Directly Incurred costs on Je-S

An itemised breakdown of all resources requested to undertake the research project must be included in the Justification of Resources document.

Councils expect Directly Incurred staff to use timesheets so that their actual time is recorded against a project to form the basis of the costs charged. For more details of the audit requirements for Directly Incurred costs please see Section 5.6 of the BBSRC Grants Guide.

The following will **not** be funded under this call in either the UK or DAC partner countries:
- any types of studentships;
- items of equipment costing more than £10,000 or other capital expenditure.

**Due Diligence**

As part of UKRI funding assurance, non-UK research organisations may be requested to complete an UKRI Overseas Due Diligence Questionnaire. Please be aware that research organisations may be contacted by UKRI at any point during the review process. This is in order to expedite our assurance process. If UKRI does contact any non-UK research partner
organisation named on an application, the Lead organisation will be informed. For organisations hosting co-investigators due diligence checks are for UKRI’s assurance purposes only and do not replace the due diligence requirements of the lead organisation. However, when obtaining information from non-UK research organisations UKRI will request permission to share the information provided with the lead organisation. The lead organisation can then use this information for their own due diligence processes should they wish.

**How to apply**

If you have any queries about eligibility or costs please contact FNH@bbsrc.ukri.org

Apply using the Je-S website by **16:00 on 07 May 2019**. To ensure a proposal is submitted on time we suggest that it should be sent to your institution’s Je-S submitter pool approximately a week before this deadline. Please note that we are unable to accept late submissions.

In order to see the BBRSC Fund call in Je-S, select the ‘Documents’ section on the right hand side and then under the ‘Functions’ section select ‘New Document’ and follow the options from the drop-down menus:

Log in the Joint Electronic System (Je-S)
- Select Council: BBSRC
- Select Document Type: Standard Proposal
- Select Scheme: UKRI
- Select Call: UKRI GCRF - Developing combined interventions to address the Double Burden of Malnutrition
- Select ‘Create Document’

Applications must be submitted by UK Research Organisations that are eligible to receive funding from UKRI. Information about eligible organisations is available on the [UKRI website](https://www.ukri.org).

**Completing your Je-S submission and attachments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>It is now mandatory that the title and abstract of all GCRF proposals reflect the ODA challenge that the research aims to address. This requirement is in line with increasing transparency around GCRF funded research. Titles and abstracts of funded proposals will be made public via the International Aid Transparency Initiative databases as well as via Gateway to Research. Therefore it is essential that the ODA aspects, as well as the science, are adequately captured.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Once your application document is created, the Je-S form should for the most part be completed in the standard way using the guidance and help text available in the Je-S system. Please remember that all aspects of the proposal submitted to UKRI via Je-S should be jointly developed by, and submitted on behalf of, the whole of the project team.

Overseas Co-Is must be named on the Je-S proforma as applicants. However, their effort, salary, and cost estimate must be entered as ‘0’ under ‘Directly Allocated’. Costs for overseas Co-Is should be entered as described in the Eligible Overseas Costs section above.
Applications to this call will also be required to prepare and submit a number of additional documents as “attachments”. Guidance on the specific attachments you are required to submit with the Je-S application is provided below.

Unless otherwise stated, all documents should be prepared in English, should be jointly prepared, and should relate to the project as a whole and cover all project components. Documents should meet standard UKRI rules, as described in the Je-S Help text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attachment</th>
<th>Maximum page length</th>
<th>Attachment type on Je-S submission</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposal Cover Letter</td>
<td>1 side of A4</td>
<td>Proposal Cover Letter</td>
<td>Refer to <a href="https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/">https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Case for Support</td>
<td>10 sides of A4</td>
<td>Case for Support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined CVs</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>CV</td>
<td>A CV (max two sides of A4 per person) should be included for all named applicants and research staff. These should be combined into one PDF document and submitted on Je-S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters of support</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Letter of Support</td>
<td>All letters of support (maximum of one side of A4 each) should be combined into one PDF document and submitted on Je-S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justification of Resources</td>
<td>Maximum of 3 sides of A4</td>
<td>Justification of Resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Development Assistance (ODA) Questionnaire</td>
<td>1 side of A4</td>
<td>Non-UK component</td>
<td>Downloadable template on <a href="https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/">https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/</a> in Downloads section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathways to Impact statement</td>
<td>3 sides of A4</td>
<td>Pathways to Impact</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Management Plan</td>
<td>1 side of A4</td>
<td>Data Management Plan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diagrammatic Workplan</td>
<td>1 side of A4</td>
<td>Diagrammatic Workplan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Form</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Technical Assessment Form</td>
<td>Only required if a project requests access to UKRI Research Council facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Research Statement</td>
<td>1 side of A4</td>
<td>Other attachment</td>
<td>If applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Additional questions on the use of overseas” form</td>
<td>2 sides of A4 per questionnaire</td>
<td>Other attachment</td>
<td>Templates can be found here.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following documents must be prepared and uploaded as PDF attachments to your application:

**Proposal Cover Letter** (up to 1 side of A4)
Applicants’ Declarations of Interests are required to be added to the Proposal Cover Letter – please see the guidance provided at https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/

**Joint Case for Support** (up to 10 sides of A4)
Applicants wishing to apply to this call must provide a Case for Support, making the detailed scientific case for the proposed research. Applicants should complete this with the call assessment criteria in mind, and are encouraged to provide information on the following:

(a) Research track record of the applicants and specific expertise (and access to any specific infrastructure and equipment required to undertake the project) available for the research at the named organisations.

(b) Background to the topic of research and its wider context, including current priorities and challenges relevant to the project in the participating countries.

(c) Details of the proposed research and activities to be conducted within the project, including the proposed programme of work, individual measurable objectives against which you would wish the work to be assessed, the proposed methodology and expected outputs, and the scientific excellence and novelty of the proposal.

(d) The project management plan must be included with the joint case for support.

**Combined CVs** (2 sides of A4 per named applicant and research staff)
Please provide a single combined PDF document, containing a CV for all named applicants and research staff involved in the project (both UK and overseas).

**Letters of Support** (up to 1 side of A4 per research organisation)
Please provide a single combined PDF document, containing an official letter of support from the Head of Department/Institute Director for each Research Organisation involved in the project (both UK and overseas). This should include a letter of support from the lead UK institution. All project partners and other collaborators are expected to provide a letter of support. Only directly relevant letters of support should be submitted. These should be on headed paper, signed and dated.

**Justification of Resources** (up to 3 sides of A4)
All resources requested to undertake the project should be fully justified. The Justification of Resources should provide a breakdown and full written justification of costs requested for the entire project.

**Official Development Assistance (ODA) Questionnaire** (up to 1 side of A4)
Please complete and attach the ODA Compliance Questionnaire (in Downloads section), explaining how your proposed research is compliant with ODA guidelines. This should be uploaded as an attachment type “Non-UK component”. Guidance on the definition of ODA and its interpretation is provided in the OECD’s ‘What is ODA?’ factsheet (see ‘External links’).

**Pathways to Impact statement** (up to 3 sides of A4)
Please include a statement on the significance and wider impact of the project which describes the likely impacts that will be generated by the proposed project. Applicants should highlight any opportunities for knowledge exchange and transfer and any wider socio-economic and environmental impacts and benefits of the research. This must be specific to the project and contain timelines and objectives. Please see the guidance provided at https://www.ukri.org/innovation/excellence-with-impact/

**Data Management Plan** (up to 1 side of A4)
Please include a description of the proposed data management and data sharing strategies across the whole consortium, including the management of intellectual property. Please see the guidance provided at https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/data-policy/common-principles-on-data-policy/
Diagrammatic Workplan (up to 1 side of A4):
Please submit a Gantt chart, or other diagrammatic work plan for the project, including timelines and milestones. The work plan cannot be used to extend the case for support. Applicants should ensure that work plan demonstrates equitable and integrated commitments to the project by overseas partners and UK participants, with appropriate divisions of responsibilities.

You should also check if you need to provide the following document:

Facility Form
Please use this attachment type to provide a Technical Assessment Form if your project requests access to Research Council Facilities, referring to the Je-S help for guidance. Failure to include the required forms will result in rejection of the proposal.

Animal Usage
Refer to Use of Animals in Regulation and Ethics section below.

Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call Opens</td>
<td>25 February 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for applications</td>
<td>07 May 2019, 16:00 GMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment of applications</td>
<td>September 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Decisions</td>
<td>October 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects start</td>
<td>Mid-February 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment process

There will be a single stage process involving the submission of full proposals that will be subjected to external peer review followed by assessment by an expert panel (comprising relevant experts from the UK and overseas) that will score and rank the proposals for funding. Applicants will be given an opportunity to respond to reviewers' assessments prior to the Panel meeting.

The following will be taken into account when assessing the proposal:

- ODA relevance;
- Scientific excellence;
- Fit to the scope of the call;
- Timeliness and promise;
- Capability of the research team;
- Appropriateness of the partnership between the UK and DAC country;
- Arrangements for project management;
- Economic and Social Impact
- Value for money.

GCRF Relevance Score

As well as being scientifically excellent, research supported by GCRF must meet the criteria for classification of expenditure as ODA. In deciding the GCRF relevance score, the Panel will consider the extent to which the proposal meets the criteria for ODA eligibility. We do not expect to fund any proposals through this scheme which score less than ‘High’ for GCRF relevance.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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</table>
| **High** | - The proposal identifies a credible development need primarily relevant to the chosen OECD DAC-listed country(ies)  
- The proposal demonstrates that the planned research activity is appropriate to addressing the identified development challenge(s)  
- The proposal shows clearly how the expected outputs and outcomes of the planned research activity will promote the economic development and welfare of the chosen country(ies)  
- The proposal clearly identifies key beneficiaries and impacts in the chosen country(ies)  
- The proposal demonstrates appropriate measures of success and how these will be monitored and reported |
| **Medium** | - The proposal identifies a development need and partially demonstrates that it is primarily relevant to the chosen OECD DAC-list country(ies)  
- The proposal incompletely demonstrates that the planned research activity is appropriate to addressing the identified development challenge(s)  
- The proposal partly shows how the expected outputs and outcomes of the work will promote the economic development and welfare of the chosen country(ies)  
- The proposal incompletely identifies key beneficiaries and impacts in the chosen country(ies)  
- The proposal demonstrates somewhat appropriate measures of success and partially demonstrates how these will be monitored and reported |
| **Low** | - The proposal does not identify a credible development need and/or does not demonstrate that it is primarily relevant to the chosen OECD DAC-list country(ies)  
- The proposal inadequately demonstrates that the planned research activity is appropriate to addressing the identified development challenge(s)  
- The proposal fails to show how the expected outputs and outcomes of the planned research activity will promote the economic development and welfare of the chosen country(ies)  
- The proposal does not identify key beneficiaries and/or impacts in the chosen country(ies)  
- The proposal fails to demonstrate appropriate measures of success and/or fails to demonstrate how these will be monitored and reported |

**Funding decisions**

UKRI will make the final decisions on the projects to be funded based on the recommendations of the assessment panel. There is a total budget of £8.5 million available for this call.

All applicants will be advised whether their application has been recommended for funding or will be rejected by UKRI. All applicants will also receive feedback on their application.

The lead Research Organisation will receive an offer letter detailing the level of award and the terms and conditions: it is the responsibility of the lead Research Organisation to distribute copies as necessary. Prior to the issuing of the offer letter, the applicant may be asked to provide further information if the Panel considers that an element of the grant needs further explanation or justification.
Applicants below the funding cut-off will receive a letter informing them that their application was unsuccessful. This letter will include details of UKRI’s resubmission policy.

Awards will be made under UKRI’s standard Terms and Conditions of Research Grants (see ‘External links’), with additional conditions specific to this call.

Post award considerations

Grant holders will be expected to comply with the award conditions and Grant Maintenance queries should be referred through Je-S. See: Joint electronic Submission (Je-S)

Due to GCRF financial constraints, grant extensions will only be considered under exceptional circumstances and will require UKRI agreement on a case-by-case basis.

Data sharing, open access and intellectual property

In accordance with UKRI’s terms and conditions of grants, the ownership and responsibility for exploitation of all intellectual assets, including intellectual property, arising from research funded under the UKRI GCRF - Developing combined interventions to address the Double Burden of Malnutrition programme will rest with the organisation that generates them.

Where a grant is associated with more than one research organisation and/or other project partner(s), there should be a formal agreement between them setting out the basis of their collaboration, including arrangements for ownership and management of intellectual property and rights to its exploitation. It is their collective responsibility to put in place such an agreement before the research begins.

The collaboration agreement must not conflict with UKRI’s terms and conditions or relevant national laws, nor compromise compliance of the research with the criteria for its classification as Official Development Assistance. It must not inappropriately restrict use of outcomes of the research by potential beneficiaries in any partner DAC county. Any licence(s) granted and subsequent commercial exploitation of the research outcomes are expected to be managed in a way that is consistent with the principles of Global Access (as exemplified by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (http://globalaccess.gatesfoundation.org)), i.e. that the findings of the research would be communicated promptly and broadly, and that products and technologies arising from the knowledge gained would be made available and accessible at reasonable cost to people most in need of them in developing countries.

Where appropriate, collaboration with industry would be welcomed in research under the UKRI GCRF - Developing combined interventions to address the Double Burden of Malnutrition programme, provided that arrangements for ownership and exploitation of intellectual property would not conflict with the expectation of alignment with the principles of Global Access. Commercial organisations may participate in research as additional Project Partners, but are not eligible to receive funding from the programme.

Data management

Applicants to this call should give full consideration to the practical requirements for data sharing both within the research teams and to the wider community and describe how this will be conducted. Applicants should ensure that they have requested appropriate resources for data management and data sharing.

UKRI carries out the processing of personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). You can find a copy of the UKRI Privacy Notice here.
Regulation and ethics

Research to be funded under this call must comply with all applicable regulatory requirements in the countries where it would be conducted. Approvals must be obtained as necessary in the UK and other participating countries, but all of the proposed research should be carried out in a way that is consistent with the UK’s usual ethical standards, whether it would be carried out in the UK or elsewhere.

Ethical considerations

All proposals must demonstrate a commitment to the principles of good research conduct, as described in the UKRI Policy and Guidelines on the Governance of Good Research Conduct (see ‘Related links’).

Proposals should take account of the following principles for ethical research:

- research should aim to maximise benefit for individuals and society and minimise risk and harm
- the rights and dignity of individuals and groups should be respected
- wherever possible, participation should be voluntary and appropriately informed
- research should be conducted with integrity and transparency
- lines of responsibility and accountability should be clearly defined
- independence of research should be maintained and where conflicts of interest cannot be avoided they should be made explicit.

Researchers, research organisations and research ethics committees should consider ethics issues throughout the lifecycle of a research project and promote a culture of ethical reflection, debate and mutual learning. The lifecycle of research includes the planning and research design stage, the period of funding for the project, and all activities that relate to the project up to - and including - the time when funding has ended. This includes knowledge exchange and impact activities, the dissemination process - including reporting and publication - and the archiving, future use, sharing and linking of data.

We also expect non-academic stakeholders, including potential research users and intermediary organisations with a mandate to communicate research who are listed in the proposal, to be included and involved in both the early design and on-going conduct of research projects. This is especially the case where research is taking place within government systems, without compromising the independence or integrity of the research. There is recognition that the exploitation of new knowledge does not just occur at the end of a research project, but rather is embedded throughout the research process itself. The assessment panel will consider plans for involvement of non-academic stakeholders in the research process.

Use of animals

Experiments using animals funded by UKRI must comply with the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (ASPA), amended 2012 and any further embodiments. Institutions and grant holders are responsible for ensuring that all appropriate personal and project licences required under the Act have been granted by the Home Office, and that appropriate Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body approval has been given. All UKRI awards are made on the absolute condition that no work that is controlled by the Act will begin until the necessary licences have been obtained.

Applicants must ensure that all of the proposed research, both in the UK and any partner country, will comply with the principles of NC3R’s guidance on “Responsibility in the use of
animals in bioscience research” (see ‘Related links’) and with the Animal Use requirements in Section 4 of the BBSRC Grants Guide and MRC Guidance for applicants: 4. Proposals involving animal use. In particular, UK Institutions should be aware of the following aspect of the guidance relating to research or collaboration outside the UK:

“When collaborating with other laboratories, or where animal facilities are provided by third parties, researchers and the local ethics committee in the UK should satisfy themselves that welfare standards consistent with the principles of UK legislation (e.g. the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986), and set out in this guidance, are applied and maintained. Where there are significant deviations, prior approval from the funding body should be sought and agreed.”

All applications proposing to use animals in the UK and overseas should refer to the UKRI guidance and ensure they include a signed statement (uploaded as document type ‘other attachment’) from both UK (and overseas PIs), indicating that they have fully and appropriately considered this animal usage: BBSRC Animal Use in Research Guidance

Transfer of biological materials

Collection and exchange of material may occur between collaborating institutions, as necessary, in strict compliance with the legislation in effect in both countries.

Contact

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