

GGR Demonstrators call 2019-2020 FAQ

Project team

1. Are cross-institutional bids welcome?

Yes. Applicants are asked to note that **both outline and full stage submissions must be made on single Je-S form** with one Research Organisation identified as the lead. The lead Research Organisation will be responsible for the management of the award.

For all proposals applicants should consider the management approach, and how this will support the effective working of the team and successful delivery of the outcomes.

2. What team size might be acceptable?

The team size and number of research organisations should be appropriate for the delivery of the project. It is expected that six to ten Co-Investigators may be named on the proposal. Clear roles for all applicants must be identified within the proposal.

3. Can additional Co-Investigators be added after the registration or outline stage?

Yes, provided they meet BBSRC's eligibility requirements. We recommend notifying BBSRC of such changes before submission. Major revisions to the scope of the project between outline and full stage are not permitted, unless in response to feedback.

Eligibility

4. Are international partners allowed?

No. Standard BBSRC eligibility criteria apply, as described in Section 3 of the [BBSRC Grants Guide](#). For information about project partners and collaborators, please refer to the [BBSRC Grants Guide](#).

5. If investigators are partly based abroad, but have positions at UK HEIs, are they eligible?

Yes, if they meet the criteria (including the requirement for residency) as described in Section 3 of the [BBSRC Grants Guide](#).

6. Can PhD studentships be included as part of a proposal?

No. Studentships and/or student resource may not be requested, or included, on BBSRC research grant proposals, including GGR Demonstrators. BBSRC studentships are only available through application to the various BBSRC training award schemes. Further information is available on the BBSRC website (bbsrc.ukri.org/skills/).

7. Can we include researcher co-investigators to these proposals?

Yes, but only if invited to the full stage. Information on research co-investigators is available in [BBSRC's grants guide](#), section 3.11.

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8. Can an investigator be involved in more than one GGR Demonstrator proposal?

Investigators may be involved in **no more than two** Demonstrator proposals. However, please note that investigators can only be involved on **one** proposal as a Principal Investigator.

9. Are Public Sector Research Establishments (PSREs) eligible to apply?

Public Sector Research Establishments (PSREs) with 10 or more researchers with PhDs (or equivalent) are eligible to apply. If PSREs wishing to apply have not previously applied for UKRI funding and are not currently designated IRO status they will be required to complete an eligibility form to ensure they have the required research capacity, systems and controls in place to manage the research and grant funding. PSRE applicants should contact GGR@BBSRC.ukri.org at the earliest opportunity to discuss their interests in applying.

Outline and Full Stages

10. Could you please clarify what information is required for the Expression of interest/outline stage?

Expressions of interest should be submitted through the [Je-S system](#) by **19th November, 4:00 pm, 2019**, as described in the Guidance for Applicants <https://bbsrc.ukri.org/funding/filter/2019-greenhouse-gas-removal-demonstrators/>. For this stage, only a Je-S proposal form, lead/PI CV, Case for Support and PSRE additional document are required.

11. Is it worth applicants contacting BBSRC before submission of an Expression of Interest to talk through their proposal?

Please email the call inbox GGR@bbsrc.ukri.org with your questions in the first instance. Where necessary, we would be happy to arrange to speak with applicants.

12. How will the outline stage be assessed??

Expressions of interest/outline proposals will be assessed by an expert panel comprising representatives of the national and international community. There will be no external peer review at this stage. Successful applicants will be invited to submit a full stage proposal based on the expert panel's recommendations

13. Will small changes be allowable between outline and full stage?

Yes. Changes to indicative costs provided at the outline stage are permitted. We recommend contacting us if the budget increases more than 10% from the outline stage.

14. Will applicants have to submit a new application to the full stage?

Yes. Those applicants invited to submit a full application need to submit a new Je-S proposal form and this application should include additional attachments – Case for Support, Pathways to Impact statement, Data Management Plan, Work Plan, applicant CVs, Justification of Resources, Cover Letter and Letters of Support as detailed in Section 4 of the [BBSRC Grants](#)

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[Guide](#). The closing date for the full stage will be in **May 2020 (date tbc)**.

15. How will the full stage be assessed??

The assessment of the full stage is by external peer review and assessment by the expert panel. As part of the assessment process, the expert panel may also invite the PI and Co-Is to an interview with the panel. The assessment panel will meet in **September 2020 (date tbc)**.

Scope

16. Are bids expected to contain a significant outreach element to confer impact?

A range of actions to ensure impact is realised should be considered for all proposals, appropriate to the nature of the proposed work. We recognise there are many forms of impact and that these are delivered through a range of measures.

17. Is there an anticipated duration for a project?

Projects may be up to 54 months (4.5 years) in duration.

Resources and budget

18. Can one request large equipment (above OJEU limit) on a GGR Demonstrator application?

Equipment may be sought as part of a GGR Demonstrator proposal, where the items of equipment requested are necessary for the successful delivery of the proposed research. Items of multiple-use equipment (i.e. where the equipment is necessary for the pursuit of the proposed research, but will not be fully occupied on it) may also be sought. The proposal must set out the other proposed uses and explain the overall benefit to BBSRC science of the equipment investment being sought.

Applicants should refer to the guidance on equipment in Section 5 of the [BBSRC Grants Guide](#) for detailed information.

19. Do you expect institutional commitment / financial contribution on GGR Demonstrators?

Our normal fEC rules apply to the GGR Demonstrators scheme. There is no requirement for a financial contribution from the institution. At the full stage, a letter of support from the Head of Department is required confirming and relevant institutional support.

20. Is there an upper limit for individual proposals?

Proposals must be up to a maximum of £4.5 million (80% FEC project value) and can be up to 4.5 years (54 months) in duration. We anticipate awarding up to five Demonstrators in the 2019/2020 call and the indicative total budget is £22.5M.

21. Are international subcontracts allowable?

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BBSRC considers eligible institutions to be best placed to determine how their work is undertaken. In the case of a grant proposal, if this involves sub-contracting aspects of the work to non-eligible institutions, for example due to the lack of appropriate expertise in eligible institutions, this is acceptable. See Section 2.51–2.53 of the [BBSRC Grants Guide](#) for further information about sub-contracting.

22. What financial information is required at the outline stage?

The Je-S form should include a summary of anticipated resources that would be requested at the full stage. Detailed justification of the resources requested is not required at the outline stage and resources requested may be refined at the full stage.

Assessment

23. What is the expected composition of the GGR Demonstrators Panel?

The GGR Demonstrators panel will comprise representatives of the national and international community. The panel membership will be published on UKRI-BBSRC website once the assessment of the full stage is concluded.

24. Are all assessment criteria weighted equally?

Proposals will need to meet all the assessment criteria to a high level to be competitive.

25. When is the outcome of the call likely to be known?

We are unable to give a precise date by which outcomes will be announced, but it is anticipated that we will be able to notify applicants by the end of October 2020.

26. When will I be able to start my grant?

All Demonstrators will have a start date of no later than 14th February 2021. There will be a mid-term evaluation of the project in August 2023. The programme will end in August 2025.