**Enhancing equality, diversity and inclusion in BBSRC-funded networks- FAQs**

**Q: Am I eligible to apply?**

Standard BBSRC eligibility criteria apply. If you are the grant holder, a network manager or part of the existing leadership team for an existing BBSRC funded network, you are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity. Please liaise with the network leadership team before submitting your EOI or application.

**Q: When will I receive an acknowledgement for my expression of interest?** You will receive acknowledgement of receipt of your EOI. To support the creation of the best grant proposals, BBSRC office will, where necessary, aim to coordinate the development of joint applications and collaborations where the aims and overall visions of the expressions of interest correspond. To do so, BBSRC office staff may contact you following your EOI submission to discuss this further.

**Q:** **Can we change the Project Lead between the EOI and Full Stage?**

Yes. Project leads are encouraged to submit an EOI before they submit an application during the full proposal stage.

**Q: Is my organisation eligible to apply, i.e. is this an open call?**

This opportunity is only available to existing networks currently in receipt of BBSRC funding, however, for other networks, learned societies or organisations who may not be eligible to apply as a project lead but wish to be involved, we encourage them to submit an expression of interest as a project partner or collaborator.

**Q: Is my project within remit of the opportunity (only for fulls)**

***A:*** Ask the ‘project lead’ to provide a 1-2 page summary of the project before forwarding to the respective research council

**Q: Will this opportunity open again in the future and when?**

This is a pilot activity.

**Q: Where are embedded images allowed and what sections?**

Embedded imagines are allowed in the following sections of the application: Governance, Your organisation’s support.

**Q: How long is the assessment process and when will we receive the outcomes of our application? –** we aim to hold the panel meeting in July 2024. Outcomes will be shared within 2 weeks of this meeting.

**Q: What funding is available, and do you have a rough estimate per award? –** should be on funding finder

**Q: What is the ‘Resubmission Policy’?**

You cannot resubmit your application when the full proposal stage has closed on the 25th June 2024 4:00pm UK time.

**Q: Can funds for equipment purchase be requested?**

The awards are to be used to fund activities, such as mentoring or conference fees, but should there be a clear justification to fund equipment, this may be considered.

**Q: What is the minimum and maximum time length the award should be?**

The awards are for a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 12 months.

**Q: Does the opportunity allow for more than one application from one research organisation?**

Yes. However, we encourage networks to submit as a consortium and to collaborate with other relevant communities such as the learned societies where possible, to maximise ideas generation and impact. We encourage applicants to communicate with other members of your organisation during the EOI stage to find out if other networks are currently being funded at your organisation and could therefore be potential collaborators.

**Q: Can a Project Lead make multiple applications for one opportunity?**

No. In addition to reviewing applications against the criteria listed, BBSRC will consider the network, area of focus and institutional balance as part of the decision-making process to ensure a balanced and diverse investment portfolio.

**Q: How does a project partner submit an EOI?**

The EOI can be found on the funding finder page, in the ‘Additional Information’ section. Please submit this as a PDF to EDINetworksCall@bbsrc.ukri.org.

**Q**: **Will the funding be for maximum of one year even if the exciting network runs for more than one year?**

Yes, the maximum duration is 12 months.

**Q: Can these funds be used to support consumables e.g. for a short term training exercise or knowledge exchange visit?**

Yes.

**Q: Do you have a webpage listing all the BBSRC networks?**

No. However, we have identified internally who our networks are. If you are a BBSRC-funded network, including those who received funding from other UKRI councils and are co-funded by BBSRC, and you have not yet been contacted by BBSRC about this funding opportunity, please get in contact via EDINetworksCall@bbsrc.ukri.org.

**Q: What communications can be expected after submitting an EOI e.g. introductions to networks, partnering opportunities?**

When you submit an EOI, please also give us permission to share your contact details with others who we think might be interested in partnering with you. BBSRC will aim to facilitate collaborations and if we receive expressions of interest that have aims and objectives that align, we will aim to put the applicants in contact with one another.

**Q: What about funding for scoping exercises especially looking for policies on EDI across the region**

Yes, this can be included.

**Q: If the existing BBSRC network runs out before May 2025, but the project is completed before that deadline, would it still be eligible?**

You need to have funding until 31st March 2025. This project needs to take place during the lifetime of the network’s existing funding.

**Q: Do all PI/Co-I from the existing network have to be applicant for this funding or only few members can apply on behalf of the network?**

We don’t expect all members of the network or the network’s leadership team to be in the core team for this project. We do encourage you to draw upon the expertise that exists within your network. If you are a member of a network and are not in the leadership team but would like to apply on behalf of your network, please ensure you have a letter of support from the network lead.

**Q: Do groups who are in receipt of BBSRC funding outside of research e.g, FTMA or IAAs be project leads?**

This will need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Please submit an EOI.

**Q: Are you expecting us to include EDI experts on the project team?**

We expect you to consult or include individuals who have lived experience or a professional or personal understanding of the challenges and the potential solutions that this project can support. This could be an opportunity to collaborate with project partners.

**Q: What stage the Evidence and Metrics project (Roslin Institute) is at? Are there any outputs available or is it still underway?**

These projects have only just been awarded and will be taking place over the next 12 months. They have been included in the presentation as example of scale, how they address particular challenges and the collaboration across all eight of our strategically funded institutes.

**Q: For qualify for consotia application, how many minimum number of partners do we need?**

There is no minimum or maximum number of partners. If you require more information about project partners, please email EDINetworksCall@bbsrc.ukri.org.

**Q: Are there any restrictions on the number of UK versus international partners?**

There are no minimum or maximum number of partners. If you plan to collaborate internationally, please contact EDINetworksCall@bbsrc.ukri.org for more information.