

UK Research  
and Innovation



## UKRI-GCRF Collective Programme Climate Resilience Knowledge Manager call

### Costs incurred by non-UK institutions and partners

#### Supplementary advice for applicants

The budget limits on grant proposals refer to the total cost of the application - this is known as the **full economic costs (fEC)**.

For UK institutions the fEC is not the actual cash contribution paid by the ESRC. The actual cash contribution, known as the 'ESRC contribution', is 80% of the fEC. However, in recognition of the potential effect of the '80% rule' on non-UK organisations, the programme will support **in full (100%)** all the **direct costs** of the proposal incurred by non-UK institutions.

Developing countries\* (i.e. those on the [DAC list and who are unlikely to graduate from the DAC list during the course of the project](#)) may charge **overhead/indirect costs** of up to 20% of the total direct costs (e.g. staff costs, T&S, conferences) incurred by that organisation.

If a proposal is recommended for funding, ESRC may ask for evidence of the costing basis for **all** direct and indirect costs, and budgets may be reduced if costs are considered excessive.

\*From 2020/21, the UK's partnerships with **China and India** under the Global Challenges Research Fund and the Newton Fund will have a renewed focus on delivering global development impact. The UK will continue to work in close partnership with these countries on cutting-edge research, with the primary objective of delivering benefit to developing countries around the world, as well as secondary benefits in the UK, China and India. It is expected that international applicants from China and India will make a significant contribution to their own research costs, including covering their own overheads.

## Completion of Je-S proposal

When completing the Je-S proposal it is essential that applicants make it clear, where appropriate, which costs will be incurred by UK institutions and which will be incurred by non-UK institutions. This will ensure that, if your proposal is successful, the ESRC can identify any non-UK direct costs which should be funded at 100% fEC and the appropriate level of indirect costs, in line with the guidance above.

It is important to note that where non-UK costs are specified, these refer to the costs incurred by non-UK institutions, and **not** overseas travel and expenses incurred by members of UK institutions.

The following procedure has been agreed to allow applicants to identify costs relating to non-UK institutions. **All costs must be entered in pounds sterling (£).**

- For all proposals, the fEC of the application must be entered into the budget sections of the form as instructed in the Je-S helptext. The Je-S form was originally developed for proposals from UK research organisations and hence automatically calculates the 80% ESRC contribution. **To ensure that non-UK costs that should be paid at 100% are recorded correctly, you must follow the procedures set out below.**
- It is essential that the Je-S proposal names all institutions, known individuals and/or project roles involved in the bid, to ensure costs requested in the budget can be appropriately linked to these. The staff duties section of the Je-S form may be the most appropriate place to enter this information.
- All project costs relating to non-UK institutions must be prefixed as '**non-UK**' and must be entered into the budget section of the Je-S form as follows:
  - Enter non-UK applicant allocation under 'Directly Allocated' **but enter the salary rate as zero.** Their salary and any other salary-related costs must then be entered under 'Other Directly Incurred Costs'
  - All other non-UK staff salaries and related costs should be entered under 'Other Directly Incurred Costs'
  - Any non-UK overhead/indirect costs should be entered under 'Other Directly Incurred Costs'
  - Travel and subsistence costs directly incurred by non-UK institutions should be entered under 'Other Directly Incurred Costs'.

These costs **must be clearly identified on the form as non-UK costs in order to be funded at 100%**, using the format 'Organisation: Country: Cost Category: Cost Description' as detailed in the Je-S guidance. In addition they **must be marked as 'Exceptions'** using the tick box: this will allow the Je-S form to correctly calculate the total cost of the project and an accurate figure will be shown. An itemised breakdown of all resources requested to undertake the role must be included in the 'Resources' section of the Je-S form.

Applicants must also state clearly in the 'Justification for resources' attachment which costs in the proposal relate to non-UK institutions and therefore attract the 100% direct cost rate. Where sufficient justification is not provided for any item it may be cut from any successful award. Please also refer to the appropriate call specification, call-specific Je-S guidance and Je-S helptext for further details.

If a proposal is recommended for funding, ESRC may ask for evidence of the costing basis for all direct and indirect costs, and budgets may be reduced if costs are considered excessive.

## **Contact**

If you have further questions on any of the above, please email:

[climateresilience@esrc.ukri.org](mailto:climateresilience@esrc.ukri.org)

Enquiries relating to technical aspects of the Je-S form should be addressed to:

Je-S Helpdesk [jeshelp@je-s.ukri.org](mailto:jeshelp@je-s.ukri.org)

Telephone +44 (0)1793 444164

The Helpdesk is staffed Monday–Thursday 08:30–17:00, Friday 08:30–16:30 UK time (excluding public and other holidays).