

Networking Grants

Application guidance notes – Round 2 – September 2024

Background

The [International Science Partnerships Fund](#) (the "ISPF") is a science-led fund that responds to geostrategic priorities, seeking to leverage science and research partnerships for diplomatic, trade, prosperity, security, and other secondary UK benefits, and contribute to global development challenges.

The ISPF's main objectives are:

1. **Impactful research and innovation (R&I)**: international science delivers bigger, better science than we can do alone, with higher impact than domestic science.
2. **International influence**: place the UK in a position where it can shape and influence global standards and norms that are aligned to UK interests and values.
3. **Leveraging UK science reputation for domestic gain**: strengthens perception of the UK and UK research and development (R&D) in partner countries.
4. **Tackling global challenges**: will support and deliver on the strategic priorities of His Majesty's Government (HMG).
5. **Developing global science capability**: strengthens research capacity.
6. **Delivered through trusted partners**: plans for high-impact partnerships ready to go, and at risk of being lost through any further delay.
7. **Scalable and flexible**: designed to expand to invest additional funding as well as respond to changes in HMG priorities around partners and themes, complementing broader funding landscape.

Overview

The Academy of Medical Sciences is pleased to be able to offer Networking Grants funded through the ISPF, in partnership with the British Academy, the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Royal Society (collectively, the four National Academies).

The aims of the Networking Grants are to:

- Pump prime new interdisciplinary partnerships between research communities, policymakers and practitioners in developed and developing countries and in the UK.
- Provide opportunities for researchers drawn from a wide spectrum of disciplines to forge new links and generate innovative ideas.
- Establish sustainable partnerships between UK researchers and those in developing and developed countries to serve as a foundation for sharing knowledge and skill transfer to allow them to conduct excellent research with impact.

Goal

The key goal of the Networking Grants is to bring together international teams to strengthen global research capability and build the capacities and relationships required to support this. This will pave the way for future funding applications and build a pipeline of talent for future research.

Remit

The Networking Grants are available to all research within the four National Academies' remit. The remit can broadly be described as research within natural sciences, including physics and chemistry, mathematics, computer science, engineering, agricultural, biological and medical research, social science, humanities, the scientific aspects of archaeology, geography, experimental psychology and clinical or patient-oriented research.

Work streams

The Networking Grants have two funding streams through which applicants can apply. These are the ODA stream, which is for ISPF priority countries on the [DAC list](#), and the non-ODA stream, which is for developed countries that have been identified as a priority by the ISPF. Please read the information below for the specifics of each stream.

Non-ODA

The non-ODA funding stream is for those looking to build a network with the UK from a selection of developed countries that have been identified for support by the ISPF: US, Canada, South Korea, India, Japan, Israel and Switzerland.

Applicants from Singapore, China (excluding Special Administrative Regions of China), Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Germany, France and the Netherlands are also eligible to lead a Networking Grant. For this round of the Networking Grants, no DAC-listed countries will be allowed to be part of the proposed network.

ODA

The ODA funding stream is for those looking to build a network with the UK from a selection of developing countries that have been identified for support by the ISPF: Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, South Africa and Vietnam.

In addition, all countries on the United Nations (UN) list of [Least Developed Countries \(LDCs\)](#) are eligible to lead a Networking Grant.

The ODA funding stream also has additional remit requirements to provide direct benefit to DAC-listed countries and to address at least one of the UN [Sustainable Development Goals](#):

1. No poverty
2. Zero hunger
3. Good health and well-being
4. Quality education
5. Gender equality
6. Clean water and sanitation
7. Affordable and clean energy
8. Decent work and economic growth
9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure
10. Reduced inequalities
11. Sustainable cities and economies
12. Responsible consumption and production
13. Climate action
14. Life below water
15. Life on land
16. Peace, justice and strong institutions
17. Partnership for the goals

Reporting

The lead applicant for each Networking Grant will be required to report on the award outputs via [Researchfish](#) in the March after their grant has finished, and for 5 years after the completion of their award. Click [here](#) for full reporting instructions.

They will also need to submit a Final Expenditure Report within 3 months of the end of the grant. They can complete the final expenditure form through their Flexi-Grant[®] account.

The Networking Grants

The grants are intended to fund activities that aim to build interdisciplinary networks through collaborative meetings, visits or workshops. A proportion of the grant can be used to obtain pilot data or conduct archival research or fieldwork; however, the main focus of the activities should be building networks rather than a research project, with the majority of the funds being spent on travel and event costs. Extended visits to carry out research are also outside the scope of this award.

Applicant eligibility

Applications should focus on building a collaborative network involving a joint application between an overseas researcher ("the lead applicant") and a UK researcher ("the co-applicant").

Contact between the overseas researcher and the UK researcher prior to submission of the application is essential and the form will be jointly submitted by both researchers.

The overseas researcher and UK researcher should meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Have completed a PhD or have experience at an equivalent level.
- Have proven research experience in their field.
- Be affiliated with a university or research institute, either governmental or non-governmental, that is not for profit and has the necessary research capacity and capability to support the specified research.
- Currently hold a permanent position or fixed-term contract for the duration of the grant at the university or research institute.
- The overseas researcher does not need to be a national of the country but does need to be resident.
- The UK researcher should be resident within the UK for the duration of the award.
- Each application must have only one co-applicant in the network and they should be the UK researcher who jointly submits the application.

The co-applicant and UK Administering Organisation must agree to administer the grant and must make all the necessary practical and administrative arrangements for the duration of the grant. Further details about this can be found in the Academy's [Award Terms and Conditions](#).

The networks formed through these grants can be newly constructed collaborations, or may build on an existing network but focusing on a new project. Applicants may have more than one application in the round. However, each application would need to be based on a different research proposal and with different partners.

An individual may act as the lead applicant on a maximum of two Networking Grants, including those from Round 1. If they are listed as the lead applicant on any successful applications beyond this limit, they will be asked to act as a core partner and nominate a suitable replacement instead.

Core partners and collaborators

We understand that the networks may involve additional participants. Each application may include up to five other core partners and any number of collaborators, who will provide further expertise or represent additional countries in the network.

Core partners are expected to play a significant role in the network, have a PhD or experience at an equivalent level, be employed by a university or research institute and be based in one of the ISPF priority countries from the relevant funding stream.

There are fewer requirements for collaborators, who may be less heavily involved in the network, do not require a PhD, do not need to be employed by a university or research institute and can be based in a broader range of countries.

	ODA	Non-ODA
Lead applicant	Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, South Africa, Vietnam and all LDCs	US, Canada, South Korea, India, Japan, Israel, Switzerland, Singapore, China*, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Germany, France and the Netherlands
Co-applicant	UK	UK
Core partner	Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, South Africa, Vietnam and all LDCs	US, Canada, South Korea, India, Japan, Israel, Switzerland, Singapore, China*, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Germany, France and the Netherlands
Collaborator	Any	Any non-DAC listed country

*excluding Special Administrative Regions of China

Both core partners and collaborators can receive funding for eligible costs through the grant, including travel and subsistence. Full details and justification should be given for the involvement of all participants.

The expectation is for the major focus of the proposal and the network to be academic. However, the involvement of commercial participants whose input is advantageous to the network would be permitted if fully justified in the application. Such partners, however, would not be eligible to receive funding through the grant.

Enquires about eligibility can be directed to the Academy Grants team at NetworkingGrants@acmedsci.ac.uk.

Finance and project details

Value

Awards can be up to **£25,000**.

Start date

The award start date must be between 1 March 2025 and 31 March 2025.

Impact of COVID-19

The Academy will be as flexible as possible to support all our researchers around the challenges to their work from COVID-19. We acknowledge that COVID-19 may have an impact on the applicant's ability to carry out traditional in-person networking events, in the short term. We encourage applicants to be creative in considering how networking events might be delivered remotely, should this be appropriate.

For up-to-date information on the Academy's response to COVID-19, please see our [information hub](#) and [FAQs for applicants and award holders](#).

Duration of funding

Awards are for 1 year. Should the budget not be spent in full at the end of the award period, applicants may be able to apply for a no-cost extension.

Transfer of funds to overseas institutions

The funds associated with the award will be paid to the UK Administering Organisation in the first instance. The UK Administering Organisation must identify a safe and efficient way to transfer the funds to the Overseas Lead Organisation. It is expected that the majority of the funds will be spent in the country of the overseas researcher and countries of the core partners. We strongly recommend that all applicants, the UK Administering Organisation and the Overseas Lead Organisation read the Academy of Medical Sciences' [Award Terms and Conditions](#) before preparing an application.

Eligible costs

- Funding must be requested in sterling (£)
- Consumables for obtaining pilot data, archival research or fieldwork (up to £5,000)
- Travel and subsistence costs (covering costs of international travel, visa costs and local travel)
- Costs associated with networking activities, e.g. accommodation, room hire and catering
- Administrative support to deliver the networking activities (up to £2,000)
- Technical support access at the university/institute level (e.g. accessing existing data management, statistical support services or archives available at the university/institute)
- Use of animals (covering the cost of licence fees, handling fees, procedure costs and animal purchase costs)
- Equipment essential for obtaining pilot data

A proportion of the travel and subsistence costs may be used to support the overseas researcher to travel to visit the UK researcher or other partner countries in the network. These visits must be for the purpose of developing the network, which may include transferring skills and training. Typically, they should last no more than 1 month. Any individuals whose international travel costs will be covered through this grant should be listed as members of the network in Section 6 of the application form. This type of grant is not intended for researchers wishing to visit another country not involved in the network or to attend international conferences/workshops that are not related to the proposed networking activities.

The cost of administrative and technical support should be fee-based only. Funding for the salaries of applicants or their research staff are not an eligible cost. As part of the £2,000 available for administrative support, applicants may request costs for the transferring of funds overseas; however, this should be proportionate to the size of the award and in line with the proportion of the grant due to be transferred to the Overseas Lead Organisation.

There is no provision for publication costs, bench fees, conference fees, departmental & institutional costs, overhead charges, membership charges, subscription costs, per diems, honorariums, medical insurance, excess baggage costs, costs associated with purely social events, expenses relating to accompanying dependents or contributions towards salaries.

Some provision may be made for computer and equipment costs; however, the applicants must demonstrate that the equipment is essential for obtaining pilot data, that the cost is proportionate to the needs of the network and will remain as the property of the Overseas Lead Organisation. The Academy reserves the right to deduct any ineligible equipment costs from the value of the award.

Local conditions should be respected for subsistence costs and all travel costs should be based on the most suitable and economical form of travel. Applicants will be required to provide a full breakdown and justification for each item of cost in the application form. Any additional costs that have not been outlined within these scheme notes would need to be confirmed with Academy staff prior to the submission of the application. Any costs that are deemed inadmissible or unreasonable will be automatically deducted from the total award amount.

Application submission and review process

Applications MUST demonstrate a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach, and the overseas researcher must commence the application on Flexi-Grant® as “lead applicant”. When the application has been initiated in Flexi-Grant®, the lead applicant will be able to add the UK researcher as a “co-applicant” and this will provide them with access to the application form.

There will be approximately 20–25 awards available for each funding stream in this round.

The closing date for applications is **Wednesday 23 October 2024** at 16:00 (BST).

Review process

- All eligible applications to the Networking Grants scheme will be assessed by the Networking Grants Awards Panel. The Panel membership is interdisciplinary and includes Fellows and community members of the Academy of Medical Sciences, the British Academy, the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Royal Society, alongside additional experts from DAC-listed countries.
- Proposals are initially reviewed and assessed by the members of the Networking Grants Awards Panel who have the most appropriate expertise. Following initial assessment, a shortlist will be drawn up.
- Shortlisted proposals are further assessed by the full Networking Grants Awards Panel, which will meet in February 2025 to make its funding recommendations.

Results of the competition will be announced in March 2025.

Enquires about this scheme can be made by email at NetworkingGrants@acmedsci.ac.uk.

A flow diagram summarising the application submission and review process can be found at the end of this document.

Selection and assessment criteria

The main criterion for the assessment of proposals is whether or not the proposed networking activity has the potential to develop into sustainable and interdisciplinary partnerships, which will ultimately result in long-term research exchanges and lead to further large-scale grant applications.

Successful applications should be strong in all the following respects:

For ODA only

- The overall programme is relevant to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- The primary benefit is focused on developing countries and the majority of funding will be spent in developing countries.
- The applicants have demonstrated their proposal meets key ODA requirements.

For both ODA and non-ODA

- The applicants have demonstrated that the network provides added value and extra opportunities beyond a single discipline, with the expectation that there will be interdisciplinary working and at least one core partner from a diverse research field on each application.
- There is evidence that the network has brought together novel combinations of perspectives and has a problem-and-solution-focused approach.
- The applicants have demonstrated that the networking activities will have high impact and lead to a long-term partnership beyond the tenure of the award, including applying for and winning larger grant funding.
- All researchers of the consortia are well matched and complementary and the programme is well supported by the research expertise and specialisation of the individual partners.
- The Overseas Lead Organisation and UK Administering Organisation involved in the Networking Grant can demonstrate a strong track record in delivering research and can provide supportive environments for the researchers involved.
- The Overseas Lead Organisation and UK Administering Organisation involved in the Networking Grant have demonstrated a commitment to make full use of the award (if successful) to strengthen research capacity and research excellence at their institutional level in the long term and can provide robust governance for the duration of the award.

Gender equality¹

The Academy of Medical Sciences is committed to supporting gender equality in the funding it provides. Applicants through the ODA funding stream must submit a Gender Equality Statement as part of their application, in accordance with this [policy statement](#)

¹ Official Development Assistance provided by Delivery Partners complies with the requirements of the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014, which refers to the “desirability of providing development assistance that is likely to contribute to reducing poverty in a way which is likely to contribute to reducing inequalities between persons of different gender”.

from the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy on Gender Equality in Research and Innovation Official Development Assistance (ODA), published in May 2021.

The statement must meet compliance standards as set out in the above publication and all applications will be reviewed at the eligibility and assessment stages to ensure they meet the necessary requirements. Not meeting the necessary requirements will mean that applications are automatically not fundable.

All ODA applicants are strongly recommended to review the above publication before designing and drafting their application. In addition, the [guidance document for applicants](#) may be especially helpful when preparing a Gender Equality Statement.

Applicants through the non-ODA funding stream will be asked to provide a policy document from the institution of the overseas researcher that explains how it seeks to reduce inequalities between people of different genders. If the institution has not published such a document, or if the proposal relates specifically to the issue of gender, the applicants must submit a Gender Equality Statement instead.

Completing the application form online

Applications must be submitted online using the Academy of Medical Sciences' Grants and Awards management system (Flexi-Grant®) via <https://acmedsci.flexigrant.com/>.

Applications must be started by the overseas researcher, who is then responsible for inviting "Participants" to the application. These individuals are:

- UK co-applicant
- Overseas Head of Department
- Overseas Finance Officer
- UK Head of Department
- UK Finance Officer

Once these individuals have been added into the Participants section of the form, their details will be copied into Page 15, "Declarations of support".

All applications must be approved by the Head of Department and the Finance Officer of the overseas researcher and the UK researcher. **These declarations must be completed before you can submit via Flexi-Grant®.** Late applications will not be accepted. An overview of the submission process is included below.



ORCID identifier

All applicants applying to the Networking Grants must include an ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) identifier in their application for it to be accepted for submission. ORCID maintains a registry of unique researcher identifiers and a transparent method of linking research funding, research publications, research data and any other research outputs to these unique identifiers. You can register for an ORCID identifier via <https://orcid.org/register>.

Completing the application form

The application form can be completed by using the navigation tabs on the application summary page, with each page categorised as follows:

- Page 1: Eligibility criteria – overseas lead applicant
- Page 2: Eligibility criteria – UK co-applicant
- Page 3: Proposal
- Page 4: Overseas lead applicant
- Page 5: UK co-applicant
- Page 6: Network
- Page 7: ODA compliance & Sustainable Development Goals (*for ODA applicants only*)

- Page 8: Gender equality
- Page 9: Financial details
- Page 10: Use of animals in research
- Page 11: Human tissues or subjects
- Page 12: Output management, sharing and subsidy control
- Page 13: Marketing feedback – overseas lead applicant
- Page 14: Marketing feedback – UK co-applicant
- Page 15: Declarations of support
- Page 16: Overseas lead applicant declaration
- Page 17: UK co-applicant declaration
- Page 18: Head of Department (overseas) declaration
- Page 19: Head of Department (UK) declaration
- Page 20: Finance Officer (overseas) declaration
- Page 21: Finance Officer (UK) declaration
- Page 22: Additional information on application

A full list of question fields to be completed as part of the application can be found below. Each box represents a page of the application form (some can be completed by both the overseas researcher and the UK researcher); the left-hand column contains the questions within each of these pages as set out in the form; the right-hand column contains useful guidance on its completion. A red asterisk (*) indicates which questions are mandatory and therefore must be completed before the application can be submitted. **Please read these guidance notes carefully as you complete the form.**

Pages 1 & 2: Eligibility criteria	
Eligibility criteria *	By ticking this box, I confirm that I meet the overseas/UK applicant eligibility criteria for the Networking Grants

Page 3: Proposal	
ODA/non-ODA *	Are you applying to the Networking Grants scheme through the ODA or non-ODA funding stream?
Proposal title *	Please give the full title of your project.
Lay summary *	Provide a lay summary of your proposal. This should be understood by a layperson. Explain why you have chosen to study this subject area and what it is about your proposal that you find particularly exciting, interesting or important. Please also explain the potential impact or wider benefits to society of your research. <i>(250 words max)</i>

Network objectives *	<p>Applicants are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a summary of the research aims and methodology of the proposal • outline the benefits of this grant to the network individuals and institutions • propose future plans for the collaboration <p><i>(500 words max)</i></p>
References	If applicable, please provide a list of references to support the statement above.
Project start date *	Please enter the proposed start date of the project. This must be between 1 March and 31 March 2025.
Networking activities *	<p>Please provide details of proposed visits, workshops and other activities of the network, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where you are intending to hold the networking activities • how many events you are planning to hold • key milestones for the proposal, including approximate dates for the completion of milestones <p><i>(250 words max)</i></p>
Subject group/area *	<p>Select the subject group/area that most closely defines the research area of the proposal from the tick box options.</p> <p>You may select more than one option.</p>

Page 4: Lead applicant	
Please ensure that your personal details have been filled out accurately. Errors in this section can cause difficulties in processing your application.	
Name *	Title, first name, surname and email address.
ORCID ID *	Enter your ORCID using the following format: http://orcid.org/0000-0002-1825-0097
Title of current position *	Please state the title of your current position.
Field of specialisation *	Please enter details of your field(s) of specialisation.
Current employer or institution *	You must add at least one organisation with a name, organisation type, complete address, phone number and email specified.
Current position start date *	—

Current position end date *	For permanent positions, please enter 31 December 2050.
Country *	Select the country where your current employer is based.
Summary of current research *	Provide an outline summary of your current research. Please also include a brief comment on the strength of your organisation. <i>(150 words max)</i>
Academic qualifications & career history *	List all your qualifications and career history in reverse chronological order. <i>(400 words max)</i> The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence for your academic merit as possible.
List your five key and/or relevant publications *	Provide details of authors, titles and references for up to five of your most relevant publications in refereed journals, in reverse chronological order. You should choose the most relevant to the application to support your case.
Impact of COVID-19	<p>Please briefly outline any issues you have experienced that can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic and have directly impacted you and/or the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Publications • Funding • Research time • Institutional support • Other <p><i>(500 words max)</i></p> <p>You may wish to read the Academy's 'Top tips for factoring COVID-19 into grant applications' article for further advice on completing this statement. As part of their statement, applicants are asked not to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. name any third-party individuals; 2. identify the relationship with any third parties; 3. otherwise include anything that might identify the third party. <p>The Academy encourages applicants to use phrases such as 'a close relative had COVID-19 and required significant support in order to recover' or 'I had to carry out caring responsibilities in addition to my research and admin workload, which had an impact on the amount of time I could dedicate to my research'.</p>

Please ensure that your personal details have been filled out accurately. **Errors in this section can cause difficulties in processing your application.**

Name *	Title, first name, surname and email address.
ORCID ID *	Enter your ORCID using the following format: http://orcid.org/0000-0002-1825-0097
Title of current position *	Please state the title of your current position.
Field of specialisation *	Please enter details of your field(s) of specialisation.
Current employer or institution *	—
Current position start date *	—
Current position end date *	For permanent positions, please enter 31 December 2050.
Summary of current research *	Provide an outline summary of your current research. Please also include a brief comment on the strength of your organisation. <i>(150 words max)</i>
Academic qualifications & career history *	List all your qualifications and career history in reverse chronological order. <i>(400 words max)</i> The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence for your academic merit as possible.
List your five key and/or relevant publications *	Provide details of authors, titles and references for up to five of your most relevant publications in refereed journals, in reverse chronological order. You should choose the most relevant to the application to support your case.

<p>Impact of COVID-19</p>	<p>Please briefly outline any issues you have experienced that can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic and have directly impacted you and/or the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Publications • Funding • Research time • Institutional support • Other <p><i>(500 words max)</i></p> <p>You may wish to read the Academy's 'Top tips for factoring COVID-19 into grant applications' article for further advice on completing this statement. As part of their statement, applicants are asked not to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. name any third-party individuals; 2. identify the relationship with any third parties; 3. otherwise include anything that might identify the third party. <p>The Academy encourages applicants to use phrases such as 'a close relative had COVID-19 and required significant support in order to recover' or 'I had to carry out caring responsibilities in addition to my research and admin workload, which had an impact on the amount of time I could dedicate to my research'.</p>
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<p>Page 6: Network</p>	
<p>Each application may involve up to five other core partners and any number of collaborators, who will provide further expertise or represent additional countries in the network. Full details and justification should be given for the involvement of all participants.</p> <p>Core partners are expected to play a significant role in the network, have a PhD or experience at an equivalent level, be employed by a university or research institute and be based in one of the ISPF priority countries from the relevant funding stream.</p> <p>There are fewer requirements for collaborators, who may be less heavily involved in the network, do not require a PhD, do not need to be employed by a university or research institute and can be based in a broader range of countries.</p> <p>Please note that the lead applicant and co-applicant should not be included in this section.</p>	
<p>Core partners</p>	<p>Please provide the name, institution and country of the core partners, with a brief description of their involvement in the network, and how their expertise will directly contribute to the success of the project.</p>

Collaborators	If applicable, please also provide a list of additional collaborators who will be involved in the network, including their name, institution and country. Please also include a brief description of their involvement in the network, and how their expertise will directly contribute to the project. <i>(250 words max)</i>
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Page 7: ODA compliance & Sustainable Development Goals (for ODA applicants only)	
Country/countries benefiting *	Which country/countries on the DAC list will directly benefit from this proposal?
Context of challenge *	How is your proposal directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges of these countries? <i>(250 words max)</i>
Benefits for country/countries? *	How do you expect that the outcome of your proposed activities will promote the economic development and welfare of a country or countries on the DAC list ? <i>(250 words max)</i>
Sustainable Development Goals *	Please select the primary (and secondary and tertiary, if applicable) Sustainable Development Goal that your research proposal will address.

Page 8: Gender equality	
Does your proposal relate specifically to the issue of gender? *	Your answer will determine which supporting documents we require from you regarding gender equality. However, it will not otherwise affect the assessment of your application.
Institutional gender equality policy (* for non-ODA applicants whose proposal does not specifically relate to gender)	Does the Overseas Lead Organisation have a policy document that covers how it seeks to reduce inequalities between people of different genders?
Institutional gender equality policy upload	If so, please upload a copy of the policy document.
Gender Equality Statement (* for ODA)	Please provide a Gender Equality Statement, outlining how the design, implementation and impact of the proposal will seek to reduce inequalities between persons of a different gender. It should address all the following

<p>applicants and non-ODA applicants without an institutional gender equality policy or whose proposal specifically relates to gender)</p>	<p>criteria, where these are appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have measures been put in place to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for people of different genders to be involved throughout the project? This includes the development of the project, the participants of the research and the beneficiaries of the research. • What are the expected impacts of the project (benefits and losses) on people of different genders, both throughout the project and beyond? • What are the expected impacts on the relationships between people of different genders and people of the same gender? For example, changing roles and responsibilities in households, society, economy, politics, power etc. • Are there any risks and/or unintended negative consequences on gender equality that need to be avoided, mitigated against and monitored? If so, how? • Are there any relevant outcomes and outputs being measured with data disaggregated by age and gender (where disclosed)? <p><i>(400 words max)</i></p> <p>This question should be completed with reference to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy’s policy document on Gender Equality in Research and Innovation Official Development Assistance (ODA) and the associated guidance document for applicants.</p>
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<p>Page 9: Financial details</p>
<p>Applicants must consult with the appropriate financial administrators before completing these details. For more information on how to allocate the budget, please read the guidance notes and refer to these when completing this section of the form.</p>

Budget *	<p>Please note that the Networking Grants scheme is able to provide a maximum of £25,000 over a 1-year period and that all funding must be requested in sterling (£).</p> <p>The following research expenses can be requested through the Networking Grants and the value requested for each one should be included in the relevant section of the budget table:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumables for obtaining pilot data, archival research or fieldwork (up to £5,000) • Travel and subsistence costs (covering costs of international travel, visa costs and local travel; travel costs should be based on the most suitable and economical form of travel) • Event costs associated with networking activities (e.g. accommodation, room hire and catering) • Administrative support to deliver the networking activities, including the costs of transferring funds overseas (up to £2,000) • Technical support access at the university/institute level (e.g. accessing existing data management, statistical support services or archives available at the university/institute) • Use of animals (covering the cost of licence fees, handling fees, procedure costs and animal purchase costs) • Equipment essential for obtaining pilot data (this must remain at the Overseas Lead Organisation beyond the duration of the award and the cost must be proportionate to the needs of the network)
Justification of costs *	<p>Please provide a full costings breakdown and justification in the boxes below.</p> <p>The breakdown should be specific, listing individual items and their associated cost in a transparent way.</p> <p>e.g. Accommodation for lead and co-applicant in UK for three nights = $2 \times 3 \times \text{£}100 = \text{£}600$</p> <p>Please note: costs should be proportionate to the needs of the network and the listing of high costs, or costs that are not sufficiently justified, will cause delays to the review process. All financial details will be checked by Academy staff to ensure that they are eligible.</p>
<p>The next four questions should only be completed if you intend to use animals in your research.</p>	
Total number of purchased animals	<p>Please provide the total number of animals to be used in your research for the tenure of the award.</p>

Total cost of purchased animals	Please provide the total purchase cost for animals used in your research for the tenure of the award.
Total procedure cost	Please provide the total cost of the procedure(s) outlined in your proposal for the tenure of the award.
Animals total cost	This amount should be included under the 'Use of animals' section in the budget table above, and should include licence fees, handling fees, procedure costs and animal purchase costs.
Administration of grant *	<p>The grant will be paid to the UK Administering Organisation in the first instance and will flow to partner institutions as appropriate. Please provide details on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the institutions that will receive a proportion of this grant, and • the amount of funding that will be sent to each institution <p><i>(250 words max)</i></p>

Page 10: Use of animals in research

It is important for us to know if any animals will be used in your research project and, if so, that you comply with the [Academy's Policy and Position](#) on the use of animals in research. The Academy is committed to being open about when, how and why animals are used in the projects we fund. In addition, we aim to ensure that every effort is made to replace, refine and reduce animals in research. For more information please see www.nc3rs.org.uk.

Applicants proposing to use animals in their research must ensure that the use of animals falls within the regulations stipulated in the UK Animals (Scientific Procedures Act) 1986 and subsequent amendments. Welfare standards consistent with the principles of UK legislation must be applied and maintained, wherever the work is conducted.

If your proposed research involves animal experiments, we encourage you to consult the NC3Rs [Experimental Design Assistant](#) (EDA) to help you design your study. This complements the [ARRIVE guidelines](#) (Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments) for reporting animal research. Our awardees are required to follow these guidelines when conducting research using animals to improve the design, analysis and reporting of animal research, maximising information published and minimising unnecessary studies. Further useful guidelines and practical information on the use of animals can also be obtained from the [3Rs resources library](#).

You are also encouraged to refer to the [PREPARE guidelines](#) when planning your animal experiments.

This section gives applicants the opportunity to explain the use of animals involved in their project proposals and measures in place to ensure openness about their use. Where non-human primates, cats, dogs or equines are used, anonymised information will be sent to the NC3Rs for review.

Does your proposal involve the use of animals or animal tissue? *	Select 'Yes' or 'No'. If you select 'Yes', it is mandatory to complete all the relevant questions on the 'Use of animals in research' page.
Does your proposal involve the collection of specimens and/or other materials? *	Select 'Yes' or 'No'. If you select 'Yes', it is mandatory to answer the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has specific permission been obtained from the host country to collect and, if appropriate, export specimens and/or materials?• Has the director (or another relevant decision-maker) at the site where the specimens and/or materials will be deposited indicated their willingness to accept them? You will also be asked to upload any documents of permission relating to the collection, export and deposition of specimens and/or materials.

Page 11: Use of human tissue or subjects

If your proposal features the use of human tissues or subjects, on this page you will need to confirm that the study has been approved and enclose details of the approval.

Research involving human participants is governed by principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki, the Nuremberg Code, and the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS), all of which set out requirements with regard to the rights and safety of research participants and standards for research design and conduct.

The Academy requires researchers to have the relevant regulatory and ethical approvals in place before the relevant research begins, although you may apply for funding before this. In the event of an award being made, commencement of any research involving human participants will be subject to these approvals being in place and sent to the Academy.

Does your proposal involve the use of human tissue or subjects? *

Select 'Yes' or 'No'. If you select 'Yes', it is mandatory to complete all of the relevant questions on the 'Use of human tissue or subjects' page.

Page 12: Output management, sharing and subsidy control

Output management and sharing

To maintain research integrity, institutions and researchers must ensure research outputs are preserved so that results can be verified and data reused in the future. The Academy expects all award holders to maximise the availability of research outputs.

You should consider your approach for managing and sharing research outputs at the research proposal stage. The Academy will review those plans as part of the funding decision.

We do not have a set format for data management and sharing plans. You can structure your plan in a manner most appropriate to the proposed research. The information submitted in plans should focus specifically on how the outputs will be managed and shared, detailing the repositories where data will be deposited. However, in considering your approach for outputs management and sharing, you should consider the following questions as briefly and unambiguously as possible.

1. What outputs will your research generate and what outputs will have value to other researchers?
2. Where and when will you make the outputs available?
3. If the research output is of high public interest, how will it be made accessible, not only for those in the same or linked field, but also to a wider public audience?
4. Specify whether any limits will be placed on the outputs to be shared, for example, for the purposes of safeguarding commercial interests, personal information, safety or security of the data.

<p>5. How will data and metadata be stored, backed up and preserved, to ensure their long-term value?</p> <p>6. What resources (to include financial and time) will you require to deliver your plan?</p> <p>7. Does your institution have a data repository that is available to you?</p>	
<p>Please provide an outputs management plan *</p>	<p>Please read the scheme guidance notes and outline your plans for the management of your research outputs in a way that will achieve the greatest health benefit, maximising the availability of research data, software and materials with as few restrictions as possible. <i>(300 words max)</i></p>
<p>Subsidy control</p>	
<p>The UK subsidy control regime began on 4 January 2023. As part of this regime, the Academy is required to report to the UK Government on how award funding is being used when applications collaborating with commercial enterprises are awarded. The regime determines the lawfulness of monetary awards made using public-sector resources when given to businesses and other organisations that are engaged in economic activity.</p>	
<p>Questions *</p>	<p>You will be asked to outline any applied aspects of your work, with further questions asked if your proposal involves collaboration with a commercial enterprise.</p>

<p>Pages 13 & 14: Marketing feedback (this must be completed by both the overseas researcher and the UK researcher)</p>	
<p>Marketing feedback *</p>	<p>We are requesting this information to help us monitor the effectiveness of our marketing activities. This information is not used in the application review process.</p>
<p>Contacting you about relevant career development opportunities *</p>	<p>Would you like to receive the Academy's Careers newsletter via email?</p>

<p>Page 15: Declarations of support</p>	
<p>Contact details *</p>	<p>Please note: this page should only be completed once invitations have been sent to all the required individuals in the Participants tab on the summary page.</p> <p>Please check the details for the following six contacts for the application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas lead applicant • UK co-applicant

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Department at the Overseas Lead Organisation • Head of Department at the UK Administering Organisation • Finance Officer at the Overseas Lead Organisation • Finance Officer at the UK Administering Organisation <p>Please select 'Primary Applicant' as each individual's contact type by pressing 'Edit'. Describe their part in the application in the next field, where it asks you to enter the contact's position.</p> <p><i>Note: Please give your institutional/work address, not your home address.</i></p>
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Pages 16 & 17: Overseas lead applicant and UK co-applicant declarations	
Applicant declaration *	If you agree with the above statements, please tick the box. By checking this box, you are signing this form electronically. In doing so, you confirm that your electronic signature is the legal equivalent of your manual signature on this form.

Pages 18 & 19: Head of Department (overseas) and Head of Department (UK) declarations	
Head of Department declaration *	<p>If the applicant is the head of their department, or if their current supervisor is the Head of Department, an alternative referee must supply the Head of Department's statement, e.g. Head of School/Faculty.</p> <p>If you agree with the above statements, please tick the box. By checking this box, you are signing this form electronically. In doing so, you confirm that your electronic signature is the legal equivalent of your manual signature on this form.</p>
Contacting you about relevant career development opportunities *	Would you like to receive the Academy's Careers newsletter via email?

Page 20: Finance Officer (overseas) declaration	
Finance Officer declaration *	If you agree with the above statements, please tick the box. By checking this box, you are signing this form electronically. In doing so, you confirm that your electronic signature is the legal equivalent of your manual signature on this form.

Page 21: Finance Officer (UK) declaration	
Finance Officer declaration *	If you agree with the above statements, please tick the box. By checking this box, you are signing this form electronically. In doing so, you confirm that your electronic signature is the legal equivalent of your manual signature on this form.
Due diligence of award *	As per the conditions of the award, the UK Administering Organisation institution must undertake all appropriate due

	<p>diligence on the Overseas Lead Organisation and the lead applicant, as per the UK Administering Organisation's usual policy, and must provide a copy of such due diligence to the Academy on request.</p> <p>Please provide an explanation of the due diligence process to be followed to ensure against fraudulent use of funds. <i>(500 words max)</i></p> <p>Please see the Academy of Medical Sciences' Award Terms and Conditions.</p>
Due diligence document upload	<p>If you wish to expand on the due diligence process stated above, please upload your document here. Please note: a file upload is to aid the explanation above and is not compulsory.</p>

Page 22: Additional information on application	
Strengthening research capacity	<p>Please outline how this grant would be used to strengthen research capacity and research excellence at both the Overseas Lead Organisation and the UK Administering Organisation <i>(300 words max)</i></p>
Additional information	<p>Is there any further information that you consider might be useful to the Panel in its deliberations? <i>(300 words max)</i></p>

Summary of the application process

