



GGR Demonstrators Workshop Q&A

General

Q: Will there be champions for this programme and how will they be chosen?

A: The Directorate Hub will act in this capacity for the programme, and there will not be a separate call for a Champion.

Q: Is there potential for the Demonstrators or Directorate Hub to commission research by companies and start-ups?

A: No, but there will be calls from Innovate UK in the latter part of the programme.

Q: What industry involvement will there be in the projects and programme overall?

A: Individual projects can subcontract companies for particular project components. It is envisioned that representatives from industry will participate in the Steering Committee.

Q: Will there be civic involvement in the Steering Committee?

A: The Steering Committee can include civic involvement.

Q: How is the impact pathway of the Hub distinct from those of the Demonstrators? Will the Hub and Demonstrators need to coordinate their impact plans?

A: The impact pathway of the Hub will have more of an overview, looking across the suite of Demonstrator approaches, whereas the Demonstrators will be focusing on their specific approach. There will be a kick-off workshop once all of the grants are funded to help co-ordinate activities.

Demonstrators

Q: Do the Demonstrator facilities have to be based in the UK? Is doing GGR in UK Overseas Territories within scope? Would UK-based demonstrators using techniques that are designed to work best elsewhere and have international market potential be within scope? If the focus is on UK demonstrators, will this have less value and be limiting?

A: This programme is focussed on GGR demonstration within the United Kingdom and so facilities in UK Overseas Territories and other countries are not within scope. UK-based



demonstration of techniques that are designed to work best elsewhere is also not within scope. However, technologies from this call can later be exported to other countries.

Q: What is the appropriate target scale for a Demonstrators project?

A: The appropriate scale of Demonstrators projects depends on the pathway to impact. These projects do not need to demonstrate large scale greenhouse gas removal, but the scale should be big enough to show that large scale use is feasible. Projects should aim for Technology Readiness Level 3 or 4, and show a capability of making a significant contribution to the 2050 UK emissions target.

Q: Would marine-based GGR facilities be within scope?

A: Yes, marine-based techniques are within scope.

Q: Would there be a conflict of interest if an academic who also has a company proposed a project that may also benefit their company?

A: Yes, this would be considered a conflict of interest.

Q: During the assessment process, how much weight will be placed on research excellence compared with the expected GGR capacity and the technology of the proposed facility?

A: Applicants need to show the potential ability to remove significant amounts of greenhouse gases and therefore the potential to be competitive, but research excellence is also important. Both of these aspects will be key during the assessment process.

Q: Are techniques that remove other pollutants that are relevant to air quality and public health, such as nitrous oxides and particulates, also within scope?

A: While air quality is a government priority, the primary aim of this programme is the removal of greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide. Nevertheless, it is acceptable for proposals to incorporate the removal of other pollutants when this will occur alongside the removal of greenhouse gases.

Q: Are there established criteria for selecting successful Demonstrator projects, such as the permanence of the capture mechanism, sustainability of the project, and the scale to be realised? To what extent is the nature and characteristics of the sequestration technique important in these criteria?

A: The panel will consider a range of criteria when assessing proposals, as detailed in the AO.



Q: Where proposals are using novel or emerging techniques, how will these be assessed against more mature and well-understood technologies?

A: The assessment panel will judge all proposals using the same criteria. For any novel or emerging technology, one of the key assessment criteria will be its ability to remove substantial amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere in line with the Royal Society report.

Q: To whom are the Demonstrators demonstrating? Whose responsibility is it to demonstrate to various stakeholders?

A: The Demonstrators will be demonstrating mainly to government, industry and the public; the Directorate Hub will have an important role in this. Therefore, demonstration to stakeholders is the responsibility of both the Demonstrators and the Directorate Hub.

Q: Are the projects expected to last beyond 4.5 years?

A: Current funding is only for 4.5 years. The continuation of projects beyond the grant period depends on the type of technology involved. In assessing proposals, the panel will consider the lifespan of the technology or project.

Q: Are subsequent uses of captured carbon within the scope of the call?

A: The Demonstrators will have flexible funding and can use that to fund the commercial use of the carbon that they capture.

Q: Is the seniority of the applicants important?

A: When assessing proposals, the panel will take into account the track record of the applicants. Applicants should consider ways of de-risking their project, particularly if they have concerns regarding the seniority of their team.

Q: What is the panel composition and size?

A: The panel, which has already been formed, consists of experts in the field of GGR and draws on a variety of expertise, including different technological approaches and life cycle analysis. The panel includes social scientists and environmental scientists, with some representation from industry.



Directorate Hub

Q: What will be the primary function of the Hub in terms of the Demonstrators and wider community? What is the best way for the Hub to engage with the wider community?

A: The Hub will play an important role in linking the Demonstrators projects and wider programme to other efforts in GGR, including international programmes.

Q: Do you envision that the Hub will be based at a single university?

A: The Hub can either be at a single university or be network based. The proposer will need to justify how their approach will best serve the needs of the programme.

Q: Is the Hub intended to be inclusive and have wide outreach beyond this programme?

A: The Hub will have an important role in communicating the objectives and results of the programme to the public and other sectors, although the Demonstrators will also have a role to play in this.

Q: Do you expect the Hub to generate knowledge on the risks and balance between emissions reduction versus emission capture?

A: The way that GGR relates to emissions reduction efforts is a key policy area and the Hub can choose to pursue research on this.

Q: Will the Hub take a role in catalysing and progressing innovation? At what point will Innovate UK become involved?

A: Innovate UK is represented on the Programme Board, has a say in the management of the programme, and has funds to run calls from year 3 of the programme. The Hub has flexible funding that it can invest in innovation.

Q: Will the Hub take a role in developing early career researchers and other forms of capacity building?

A: As detailed in the AO under section 4.2, there is an expectation that the Hub will support active career development programmes aimed at building research capacity.



Q: How will the Hub and Steering Committee work together in their coordination roles?

A: Please refer to Section 4.9 of the AO for details of how the Hub and Steering Committee will work together.

Q: Is it within the scope of the Hub to compare the different GGR approaches used in various projects?

A: One of the roles of the Hub will be to draw together and synthesise the results and conclusions of the Demonstrators projects and this will likely involve a comparison of the different techniques that have been demonstrated.

Q: How will industry engage with the Hub?

A: Industry should engage with an academic partner.

Q: Will the Hub be able to employ someone to specifically coordinate monitoring and evaluation?

A: Yes, the Hub will be able to do this.

Q: Can successful applicants at the expression of interest (EOI) stage for the Hub see the applications for the Demonstrators that have been successful at the EOI stage?

A: No, this is not possible due to confidentiality issues.