UPGro Consortium Grants: NERC application and assessment processes

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Requirements

- **Deadline:** 16:00 BST/GMT+1/UTC+1 on 19th June 2014.
- Submit via JeS using the call UPGro Consortium Grants JUN14.
- Allow time to pass through your submitter pool if you have one.
- Ensure all individuals are added as soon as possible.

*LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE.*
Requirements (2)

• In English and in GBP (£).
• £1.9M at 100% FEC per consortium, start by 31st January 2015, up to four years in length.
• Cover at least two research themes.
• Research should be in Low Income Countries in SSA but research may be undertaken in Middle Income Countries.
• No restrictions on where applicants are located.
• Linkages with SSA institutions are established.
• No studentships.
• Applicants listed on a max of two applications.
Requirements (3)

• 10% of budget for Pathways to Impact and for Knowledge Broker events.
• Publications should be open access.
• Ensure fully justify resources requested in the JoR attachment.
• Set out how will deal with changes in global financial markets.
• Follow guidance on page lengths for attachments and font sizes.
The funders reserve the right to reject applications outright if these requirements are not met.
Joint grants

• Research partners should submit individual component/split/joint/child grants directly through JeS providing:
  – they meet the eligibility requirements for organisations and for individuals
    AND
  – they are requesting a minimum of £65k at 100% FEC

• If not, the options are:
  – be listed as a CoI on the lead grant (preferred)
    OR
  – be a contractor on the lead grant
Questions so far...

• Eligibility of individuals is at the time of application and can’t be changed during a grant.
• RCo-Is/Researchers same institution as PI/one of the Co-Is.
• Equivalent research experience for non-UK applicants is an equivalent to the postdoc/research length specified and must be justified.
• Project partners might contribution into the grant but don’t receive funds.
• Sub-contractors are just a contract on the grant so receive funds for some goods/services.
Questions continued...

- Equipment classification is item over £10,000; anything over £25,000 to include at least one quotation and RO must adhere to their procurement policies; anything over OJEU (currently £111,676) to include a business case (up to 2 sides) in advance and three quotations. The expectation is that the RO will contribute at least 50% of equipment.

- Agreement between research partners should be in place but not submitted.

- No set Pathways to Impact format but there is further guidance on NERC webpages.
Timetable/process

13\textsuperscript{th} May: workshop
- Completion of proposal and submission
19\textsuperscript{th} June: \textbf{deadline for submission in JeS}
- Office checks and peer review (3 – 6 reviewers)
14\textsuperscript{th} August: PIs invited to respond to reviewers
8\textsuperscript{th} September: \textbf{PI response deadline}
- Panel allocation
WC 20\textsuperscript{th} October: Moderating Panel and \textbf{interviews}
  (presentation followed by questions from the panel)
- PEB final decision and post meeting administration
November: grants awarded
31\textsuperscript{st} January: grants started by now
Further info

Check the guidance and annexes in detail: http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded/programmes/upgro/news/ao2014full/

Refer to the NERC Grants Handbook: http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/application/howtoapply/forms/grantshandbook.pdf

If in doubt, get in touch:
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JeS Helpdesk: JeSHelp@rcuk.ac.uk
+44 (0) 1793 44 4164 (Mon to Fri 8.30 – 17.00 (excluding bank holidays and other holidays))
Questions?