

Quick Reference

Please note that you must read the full Call document for guidance before submitting your proposal

UK ROK Civil Nuclear Research Programme Phase 2

Call type: Invitation for proposals

Closing date: 16:00 (GMT) on 20 November 2018

Funding Available: £1.5M to fund up to 4 research projects

How to apply: Single-stage submission for full proposals

Assessment Process: UK component proposals will undergo postal peer review followed by a joint UK ROK panel

Key Dates:

Activity	Date
Je-s opens for full proposals	5 October 2018
Deadline for full proposals	16:00 (GMT) 20 November 2018 Please note that this does not match the closing date for ROK proposals, which will be 18:00 (KST) 27 November 2018
Panel meeting	March 2019
Funding decision	April 2019
Grant start date	April 2019

Additional information: This call is run in collaboration with the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF). EPSRC funding available through this call supports UK-based researchers only, with the ROK-based researchers applying for funding from NRF for their component project.

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Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council

UK ROK Civil Nuclear Research Programme Phase 2

Call type: Invitation for proposals

Closing date: 16:00 on 20 November 2018

Related themes: Energy, Engineering, Physical Sciences, Manufacturing the future

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Summary

EPSRC, in collaboration with The National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF), seek collaborative research applications with UK and ROK-based principal investigator in the area of nuclear decommissioning and remediation. EPSRC will fund the UK-based research, and NRF will provide funds for the ROK-based component. This call represents the second phase of the UK ROK Civil Nuclear Research Programme.

Background

EPSRC, in line with UKRI priorities, recognises the importance of excellent international collaboration to maintain and further enhance the UK research. We work proactively with partners in various countries to set targeted joint funding initiatives to address global challenges. Along these lines, it is one of the aspirations of the Nuclear Fission Portfolio at EPSRC to continuously engage with international partners to exchange and build knowledge.

The UK-ROK collaboration in civil nuclear research was initiated in 2014. A bilateral workshop was held in March 2014 in Oxford and negotiations following the event culminated with the UK-ROK Civil Nuclear Research Programme (phase 1) call. Negotiations with the NRF for a second round of the collaborative project started in November 2017. A workshop was held on 4-5 July 2018 in Bath involving delegates from UK and ROK. The workshop was an opportunity to review projects awarded in the first round of the collaboration, and to identify potential areas of research for future UK-ROK activities in civil nuclear. The outputs from this workshop have been used in the development of this call. EPSRC would like to highlight that attendance to the workshop was not a prerequisite for eligibility to this call.

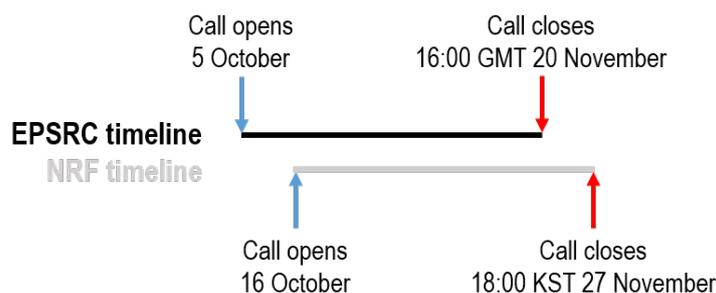
This call seeks to support up to four projects addressing one or more of the following thematic areas:

- **Waste management**, comprising characterisation, classification, separation and standardisation of separation techniques, cost and volume reduction, C-14 and tritium management, treatment of high α -wastes from re-processing,
- **Decontamination and environmental assessment**. This category includes decontamination and treatment of coils and effluents, assessment and monitoring, immobilisation, restoration, re-use, long-term decay modelling, assessment for disposal facilities, public acceptability.
- **Robotics** for decommissioning/decontamination, remote and underwater radiation assessment, radiation mapping.

This is a joint call between EPSRC and NRF. Thus all applications are expected to be collaborative between UK-based researchers and ROK-based researchers. The UK partner should submit their proposal part to EPSRC, and the ROK partner should submit their part to NRF.

Please note that:

The call will have a closing time of 16:00 on 20 November 2018. Please note that this closing time **does not coincide** with the ROK closing time of 18:00 on 27 November 2018 (see diagram below). EPSRC must receive the proposals by the closing time and no extensions to this date will be allowed. Please plan your joint submissions accordingly.



For more information about EPSRC’s portfolio and strategies, see our website:
<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/ourportfolio/>

Funding available

This call is run in collaboration with the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF), with EPSRC funding UK-based researchers and NRF funding the ROK-based researchers.

Funding available through this call is up to £1.5M and it is to support the UK component of up to four research projects. Projects are expected to be of up to 3 years in duration.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The long term strength of the UK research base depends on harnessing all the available talent and the Research Councils have together developed the ambitious RCUK Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan
<https://www.ukri.org/files/legacy/skills/action-plan-edi-2016/>

In line with the RCUK Diversity Principles, EPSRC expects that equality and diversity is embedded at all levels and in all aspects of research practice. We are committed to supporting the research community in the diverse ways a research career can be built with our investments. This includes career breaks, support for people with caring responsibilities, flexible working and alternative working patterns. With this in mind, we welcomes applications from academics who job share, have a part-time contract, need flexible working arrangements or those currently committed to other longer, large existing grants. Please see our Equality and Diversity webpages <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/equalitydiversity/> for further information.

Equipment

Equipment over £10,000 in value (inc. vat) is not available through this call. Smaller items of equipment (individually under £10,000) should be in the Directly Incurred - Other Costs heading.

For more information on equipment funding, please see:
<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/facilities/equipment/>

Eligibility

For information on the eligibility of organisations and individuals to receive EPSRC funding, see the EPSRC Funding Guide:

<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/howtoapply/fundingguide/>

A list of eligible organisations to apply to EPSRC is provided at:

<https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/eligibility/>

How to apply

Submitting an application

You should prepare and submit your proposal using the Research Councils' Joint electronic Submission (Je-S) System (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/>).

When adding a new proposal, you should select:

- Council 'EPSRC'
- Document type 'Standard Proposal'
- Scheme 'Standard'
- On the Project Details page you should select the 'UK ROK Civil Nuclear Research Programme Phase 2' call.

Note that clicking 'submit document' on your proposal form in Je-S initially submits the proposal to your host organisation's administration, not to EPSRC. Please allow sufficient time for your organisation's submission process between submitting your proposal to them and the call closing date. EPSRC must receive your application by 16:00 on 20 November 2018.

Guidance on the types of support that may be sought and advice on the completion of the research proposal forms are given on the EPSRC website (<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/howtoapply/fundingguide/>) which should be consulted when preparing all proposals.

Guidance on writing an application

Proposals should follow the standard EPSRC proposal structure and include the following documents:

- **Case for support** (up to eight sides A4), including
 - A track record (up to two sides of A4) detailing the relevant expertise that the investigator/team will bring to the research programme.
 - A description of the proposed research and its context (up to six sides of A4). This should include a National Importance Statement <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/applicationprocess/preparing/includinationalimportance/>
- **Pathways to Impact** (up to two sides of A4).

- **Collaboration outline** (up to two sides of A4). This document should describe how the two organisations in the UK and ROK will work together, as well as how this partnership will add value to the programme of research. This should be uploaded as 'other attachment'.
- **Work Plan** (one side of A4).
- **Justification of Resources** (up to two sides of A4).
- **CVs** (optional- up to two sides of A4 for any named researchers, visiting researchers and researcher co-investigators, if applicable).
- **Project Partner Letter of Support** (optional- where applicable, no page limit. Uploaded as part of the project partner section on Je-S).
- **Technical assessment for the use of major facilities** (optional- where applicable, no page limit).

Applicants should use the Ethical Information section on the Je-S form to demonstrate to peer reviewers that they have fully considered any ethical issues concerning the material they intend to use, the nature and choice, current public perceptions and attitudes towards the subject matter or research area. EPSRC will not fund a project if it believes that there are ethical concerns that have been overlooked or not appropriately accounted for. All relevant parts of the Ethical Information section must be completed. If the research will involve human participation or the use of animals covered by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 it is recommended that applicants pay particular attention to the guidance highlighted below. EPSRC reserves the right to reject applications prior to peer review if the Ethical Information sections are not completed correctly.

Further guidance on completing the Je-S form can be found at <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/Handbook/pages/GuidanceonCompletingaStandardG/EthicalInformation.htm>. Other relevant guidance includes: EPSRC's policy on animal use in research (<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/about/standards/animalresearchpolicy/>) and the Responsible Innovation Framework (<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/framework/>).

Please note that on submission to EPSRC **all** non-PDF documents uploaded onto Je-S are converted to PDF, the use of non-standard fonts may result in errors or font conversion, which could affect the overall length of the document.

For advice on writing proposals see:
<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/howtoapply/preparing/>

Assessment

Assessment process

EPSRC reserve the right to reject proposals which are considered to be outside of the Energy remit or the remit of this call without reference to peer review. UK component proposals will undergo postal peer review, whilst ROK component

proposals will be assessed by a ROK expert panel. Following this stage, both UK and ROK proposals will be assessed at a joint UK ROK panel.

Funding decisions will be made following the recommendations of the panel, and applicants will be informed of the outcome as soon as possible after the panel meeting.

Assessment criteria

Proposals submitted to this call will be assessed on their fit to the scope of the call, and to the criteria listed below. Please note that EPSRC reserves the right to reject proposals which are considered out of the remit of this call without reference to Peer Review.

Quality of the scientific research (Primary)

The degree of research excellence of the proposals will be judged in terms of:

- the research vision, ambition and adventure;
- its distinctiveness from other projects funded from the existing portfolio; and
- the appropriateness of proposed methodology.

National Importance (Secondary Major)

Assessors will be asked to comment on:

- how it contributes addressing key UK societal challenges. Note that due to the nature of the call, proposals will also be required to be relevant for ROK;
- how the proposed research contributes, or helps maintaining the health of other disciplines;
- the extent to which it has the potential to meet national strategic needs by establishing or maintaining a unique world leading research activity; and
- how it complements other funded UK research in the area, including any relationships to EPSRC portfolio.

Fit to the call (Secondary Major)

Assessment of the proposals submitted to this call will include:

- the relevance to the challenges identified in the call document; and
- the appropriateness of a UK-ROK collaboration, and working in partnership adds value to the proposed research.

Impact of the project (Secondary Major)

Including:

- potential impact of the UK research landscape in cross-disciplinary technology research;
- appropriateness and viability of potential user collaborations; and
- the plans for dissemination and knowledge exchange with potential beneficiaries of the research.

Reviewers will comment on the pathways to impact document with particular attention to:

- how complete and realistic these are;
- the effectiveness of the proposed activities in realising the impact; and
- the relevance and appropriateness of the collaborators.

Ability of the applicant team to deliver the research (Secondary Minor)

This criterion will be assessed in terms of:

- the leadership quality and experience of the PI;
- the balance of skills on the proposed project team; and
- the appropriateness of the partnership with ROK.

Resources and management (Secondary Minor)

Assessors will evaluate the:

- effectiveness of planning and resource management;
- appropriateness of resources requested, and whether they have been fully justified; and
- strength of the risk management strategy.

Guidance for reviewers

Information about the EPSRC peer review process and guidance for reviewers can be found at:

<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/assessmentprocess/review/formsandguidancenotes/standardgrants/>

Guidance for reviewing standard grants can be found here:

<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/assessmentprocess/review/formsandguidancenotes/standardgrants/>

Additional grant conditions (AGCs)

Grants will be subject to the standard UKRI grant conditions, as well as an additional condition on the fixed start date of projects (April 2019). Projects will be expected to be of up to 3 years in duration.

Moving forward

Submissions to this call will count towards the Repeatedly Unsuccessful Applicants Policy. Further information about the policy can be found at: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/applicationprocess/basics/resubpol/rua/>

Key dates

Activity	Date*
Je-s opens for full proposals	5 October 2018
Deadline for full proposals	16:00 20 November 2018
Panel meeting	March 2019
Funding decision	April 2019
Grant start date	April 2019

*EPSRC aims to adhere to the key dates as published, however there may be exceptions where the sift, prioritisation or interview meeting may have to change due to panel member availability.

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Change log

Name	Date	Version	Change
Victoria Mico	31/07/2018	1	Created call document
Victoria Mico	19/09/2018	2	Updated links and assessment criteria
Victoria Mico	27/09/2018	3	Updated assessment process and guidance
Victoria Mico	03/10/2018	4	Updated open/closing dates
Victoria Mico	04/10/2018	5	Updated NRF closing dates and added timeline diagram
Victoria Mico	08/10/2018	6	Specified duration of the projects

Je-S attachments Check List

Standard:

Attachment Type	Maximum Page length	Mandatory/Optional	Extra Guidance
Case for Support	8 pages	M	Comprising up to two A4 sides for a track record, and six A4 sides describing proposed research and its context.
Pathways to Impact	2 pages	M	
Workplan	1 page	M	
Justification for Resources	2 pages	M	
CVs	2 pages each	As Required by EPSRC	For named and visiting researchers, and researcher co-investigators only.
Project Partner Letters of Support	No page limits	As Required by EPSRC	Must be included from all named project partners. Must be on headed paper,

			and be signed and dated within six months of the proposal submission date.
Letters of Support	No page limits	As Required by EPSRC	In exceptional circumstances a maximum of three letters can be submitted.
Collaboration Outline	2 pages	As Required by EPSRC	Up to 2 sides of A4 to describe how the two organisations in the UK and ROK will work together, as well as how this partnership will add value to the programme of research. Please upload under 'other attachment'.
Technical assessment	No page limit	As required by EPSRC	
Proposal Cover Letter	No page limit	Optional	The cover letter can be used to highlight any important information to EPSRC. This attachment type is not seen by reviewers or panel members.
Other attachment	No page limit	As required, at EPSRC request only	This can be used for a document that does not fit under any of the headings above. This attachment type is not seen by reviewers or panel members.

Please ensure you adhere to the above attachment requirements when submitting your proposal. Any missing, over length or unnecessary attachments may result in your proposal being rejected.

