

Quick Reference

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

Call for Projects

Revised Closing date: 16 April 2021 12:00 GMT

Funding Available: UKCRIC will provide up to £420,000 to support a number of projects that align with UKCRIC's strategic pre-institute development.

How to apply: By application submission.

Assessment Process: Projects will be assessed and prioritised by the UKCRIC Coordination Node using specific criteria then scrutinised and approved by the UKCRIC Management Board.

Key Dates:

Activity	Date
Call conditions announced	01/03/2021
Revised Deadline for applications	16/04/2021 12:00 GMT
Revised Funding decision	30/04/2021
Latest project start date	01/09/2021
Latest project completion date	30/06/2022

Contacts:

General administrative enquiries: hello@ukcric.com

Informal feedback on project scope:

- Liz Varga, UKCRIC Coordination Node PI (from 01/04/2021) (University College London) l.varga@ucl.ac.uk
- William Powrie, UKCRIC Convenor, (University of Southampton) W.Powrie@soton.ac.uk
- Gordon Masterton, UKCRIC Deputy Convenor (University of Edinburgh) gordon.masterton@ed.ac.uk
- Paul Jeffrey, UKCRIC Director, Research Impact (Cranfield University) p.j.jeffrey@cranfield.ac.uk
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Introduction

UKCRIC www.ukcric.com is an integrated research capability with a mission to underpin the renewal, sustainment and improvement of infrastructure and cities in the UK and elsewhere. In 2016 UKRI provided capital funding for a range of laboratories, observatories and a data analytics facility. After five years these are largely in production. At the same time, the UKCRIC Coordination Node (UCL, Southampton, Birmingham, Cranfield and (soon) Edinburgh Universities) have been spearheading collaborative research, via missions, and via engagements, toward becoming a national, and internationally recognized, infrastructure and cities research institute. The Coordination Node has been awarded a one-year transition fund (from 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022) to facilitate the move to institute status.

The UKCRIC Coordination Node is calling for projects that meet its strategic priorities and which help to establish an institute in the next year. The UKCRIC Management Board will award a range of projects to individuals or groups on the basis of the applications received by the closing date of this call. There may be a second call for projects if the available funding is unallocated.

Scope

The scope of projects should be framed within the strategic priorities of UKCRIC and should be able to demonstrate a contribution to establishing a UKCRIC institute.

UKCRIC missions provide the framing for UKCRIC's strategic focus. UKCRIC missions are described at [UKCRIC missions](#) and cover areas of Environment and Sustainability, Adaptation and Change, Governance and Resilience, and Social Justice and Healthy Living. Note that missions are closely connected to the [EPSRC delivery plan](#) (productive, connected, healthy, resilient).

The UKCRIC Operating Plan provides a list of key performance indicators (KPIs) related to UKCRIC objectives. They act as a proxy for UKCRIC's strategic priorities and are listed in Appendix A. Projects must be relevant to one or more KPIs.

Pre-institute development requires an array of cross-cutting work including but not limited to: business case development, road mapping, community development, commitment and planning; industry engagement and alignment; strategies to manage uncertainty; outcomes specification and assessment; and transition to new narratives.

Funding available

A maximum of up to £420,000 (inclusive of VAT) is available. Further information relating to the source of funding and conditions can be found in the accompanying MOU.

Full costs may be claimed, but no overheads. We expect to fund a variety of project sizes to ensure we have a robust portfolio of contributions.

Projects may start as soon as April 2021 and must end no later than June 2022. However given the importance of institute development, we are expecting several projects to be biased toward an end date of December 2021.

A funding schedule which periodically releases funds will be agreed. The final invoice will be paid subject to a final report approved by the UKCRIC Coordination Node.

Eligibility

The call for projects is open to staff working for any university party to the UKCRIC (Brunswick) collaboration agreement (including Edinburgh University who will join from April 2021).

How to apply

Applicants from UKCRIC universities are invited to submit a two-page project overview, and a submission form with their details. These are provided in Appendix B and C of this document. Please send a completed submission form and project overview in PDF format by email to hello@ukcric.com by **12:00 GMT 16/04/2021**. The UKCRIC Management Board has ring fenced an additional £240,000 for essential projects.

Application guidance

Applications should include aims, objectives, methodology, outcomes (e.g. impact & publication plans; contribution to developing a UKCRIC Institute) and a brief justification of resources. It should enable the assessors to judge the scope and importance of your project. The methodology should be clear and explicit, comprehensible to a non-expert. Include any bibliographic references. The application may not exceed two sides of A4, including figures and references, using Arial font 11. A suggested template is provided in Appendix B. Contact details for the project team must be provided separately as indicated in Appendix C.

Assessment criteria

Projects will be assessed and prioritised by the UKCRIC Coordination Node. The UKCRIC Management Board will scrutinise and approve recommendations.

Assessment and prioritisation is as follows:

(a) Essential criteria

1 Equality Diversity and Inclusion

UKCRIC's diverse community of scientists, researchers, and practitioners is one of its greatest assets. Respect for individuals, their needs and diverse approaches, identities and knowledges, collegiality, and equity of opportunity are at the core of all our activities. In our work we will ensure inclusion by ensuring that the voices of disadvantaged stakeholders are both heard and inform practice.

2 Stakeholder orientation

Projects must identify target non-academic stakeholders ((types of) companies, government departments, voluntary and charity organisations, institutions, SMEs, etc.) together with methods for stakeholder engagement. Projects are strongly recommended to include a person with responsibility for stakeholder engagement.

(b) Prioritisation criteria

- Alignment with scope of this call (50% weighting)
- Deliverability: Objectives are realistic within the constraints of funding and time and the stated methods and project team will achieve deliverables (25%)
- Value for money; Applicants are encouraged to explore the possibility of matched funding (25%)

Feedback

Projects may be authorised subject to essential changes. These changes may require a re-estimation of costs and will be agreed in consultation with the project lead.

Appendix A

UKCRIC Coordination Node KPIs (Ox indicates the Objective identifier)

1. Number of new members (O1.1)
2. Website, newsletter, Annual Review reach (O1.1)
3. Number of UKCRIC members (O3.1)
4. Number of international academics visiting UKCRIC facilities to conduct research (O3.1)
5. Number of joint ventures, partnerships, and MoUs founded on UKCRIC facilities or research (O3.1)
6. Number of SMEs involved in UKCRIC projects and activities (O3.1)
7. Number of research projects with cross-sector involvement (O3.1)
8. Number of research projects with cross-disciplinary involvement (O3.1)
9. Number of research projects involving multiple UKCRIC members (O3.1)
10. Number of research projects involving non-UKCRIC UK collaborators (O3.1)
11. Number of research projects involving international collaborators (O3.1)
12. Number of research projects involving industry partners (O3.1)
13. Proportion of journal and conference papers with authors from multiple disciplines (O3.1)
14. Proportion of journal and conference papers with authors from multiple countries (O3.1)
15. All UKCRIC facilities operational (O3.2)
16. Number of discrete research awards secured by UKCRIC members which utilise the facilities (O3.2)
17. Number of peer reviewed journal publications acknowledging UKCRIC (O3.3)
18. Average IF of peer reviewed publications acknowledging UKCRIC (O3.3)
19. H index of peer reviewed publications acknowledging UKCRIC (O3.3)
20. Number of journal and conference papers with academic and industry authors (O3.3)
21. Number and nature of media articles (digital and print) about UKCRIC (O3.3)
22. Number of patents registered where UKCRIC facility played a role (O4.1)
23. Number of research degrees awarded to students who have worked with UKCRIC facilities (O4.1)
24. Number of spin-out companies formed from work conducted on UKCRIC facilities (O4.1)
25. Number of patents registered where UKCRIC facility played a role (O4.1)
26. Number and nature of prizes awarded related to work conducted on UKCRIC facilities (O4.1)
27. Number of KTP awards based on UKCRIC facility use (O4.1)
28. Number of talks about UKCRIC research at industry and policy events (O4.1)
29. Number and nature of prizes awarded related to work conducted on UKCRIC facilities (O4.1)
30. Number of conference presentations acknowledging UKCRIC (O4.1)
31. Number of UKCRIC organised or badged dissemination and information events (O4.2)
32. Number of talks about UKCRIC research at industry and policy events (O4.3)
33. Number and nature of media articles (digital and print) about UKCRIC (O4.3)
34. Number of post-graduate researchers using or being trained on facilities (O5.1)
35. Number of UKCRIC organised or badged dissemination and information events (O6.1)

Appendix B
UKCRIC project overview

Project title	
Brief summary or abstract	
Problem statement (justifying a gap)	
Objectives (setting out the vision of the project work)	
Deliverables (including the relevant UKCRIC KPIs)	
Programme of work (statement of how the project will be delivered) (you may include a top level work plan) (state how EDI and stakeholder engagement are addressed)	
Project team track record (showing that skills match to methods)	
Costs and justification of resources	

Appendix C

UKCRIC project submission form

Corresponding Author / Project Lead

Full name	
University (name and address)	
Email	
Phone number	

Co-Author 1 (duplicate as often as needed)

Full name	
University (name and address)	
Email	
Phone number	