Newton RCUK-Colciencias Research Partnerships Call 2017

Frequently Asked Questions

Below are a series of frequently asked questions for the Newton RCUK- Colciencias Research Partnerships Call 2017. Please note the numbers refer to the relevant sections in the application guidance

2.1 How do I know which council I should submit to?
You will need to apply to either the AHRC or the ESRC as lead council for your proposal. You should make this decision yourself based on the councils’ remit guidance below. Please contact RCUK if you are unsure.

Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)
Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

2.1.2 Do I have to hold an RCUK award to be eligible to apply?
No, for this call you do not need to currently hold or have held an RCUK grant, but you must meet the relevant Research Council’s eligibility requirements to be an applicant. Please see links in section 2.1 of the application guidance.

2.1.3 Does my research have to be within the theme identified in the call specification?
Yes, your research does need to be within the theme identified in the call specification. This call does not intend to be overly prescriptive and is open to proposals addressing many aspects of post-conflict transitions. The sub themes should be seen as examples and not an exhaustive list. However applicants are required to indicate which of the three overarching themes their application is addressing.

4.2 Do I submit a separate application to Colciencias?
Yes, applications on the UK side should be made to RCUK through their Joint Electronic System (Je-S) and applications on the Colombian side should be made to Colciencias through their institutional portal. A copy of the Colombian application form should also be submitted to RCUK as a non-UK components attachment type.

4.2.1 Can I submit offline instead of using Je-S?
No. All applications must be submitted via the Je-S system. Proposals submitted by email will not be accepted for processing.
5.1 How much time will my Research Organisation (RO) need to process my application before submitting it to the Research Council?
This will depend on your Research Organisation (RO). Please contact your research office to confirm.

5.2 If my application does not reach RCUK by the deadline can it still be considered?
No. The Je-S System will not allow proposals to be submitted after 16:00 BST (11:00am CLT) Thursday 30th November 2017.

15.2 Do all investigators need to be registered on the Je-S system?
Yes. For any submission through the UK Research Council online submission system, ALL named investigators (PIs and all Co-Is) must have a Je-S account. For this initiative, that includes all named UK and Colombian investigators.

15.2.1 How do I put the UK Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators on the Je-S form?
Please input the UK PI under the Principal Investigator and the Co-I under Co-Investigator as normal. Unlike with the Colombian Co-Is you will also need to record all the costs, including the number of hours.

15.2.2 How do I add the Colombian Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators to the Je-S form?
The Je-S form only allows there to be one Principal Investigator on a grant. Although in reality, grants under this call will have two PIs: one from the UK and one from Colombia. For the purposes of completing the Je-S form, please enter the UK PI on to the system as the PI. Please add the Colombian PI on to the Je-S form as a Co-I, as well as any other UK or Colombian Co-Is. Please add all Colombian Co-Is on to the form as in section 20.2.

15.3 Do I include my Colombian costs on the Je-S form?
No. These costs must be included within your Colombian application form. Please consult Colciencias’ call webpage for more information on the costs that can be included. The UK and Chilean costs must also be fully justified within your Justification of Resources.

15.3.1. How are grants paid?
UK Research Councils will pay the UK component of the award directly to the lead UK Organisation, which where necessary, will be responsible for disbursing the funds to other UK Co-Is. RCUK will pay the costs quarterly in arrears.

Colciencias will pay the Colombian part of the approved projects according to their regular procedure.

15.3.2 Can I apply for publication costs?
Publication costs are no longer awarded and should not form part of your application. This is in line with RCUK terms and conditions. These costs are available from your RO via the block grant they receive for publication costs.

15.6 My research involving humans will take place in Colombia/another country. Should I still put it into the Je-S form?
Yes, whether the research involving humans is taking place in the UK, Colombia or any other country it needs to be captured in the Je-S form.

15.7 I am planning to include animal research. Should I contact RCUK?
Yes, we are not expecting applications to include animal participation. If you are planning to include
15.9 The research requiring approvals will take place in Colombia, do I need to seek UK approval?
Yes, you must seek approval within the UK even if your research will take place in Colombia or another country. Please indicate the approvals you have sought/will seek within your application.

15.9.1 Do you require the approvals to make funding decisions?
RCUK do not require the approvals for making a funding decision but they must be in place before the project can start.

16 Can I nominate reviewers for my application?
Yes, although we cannot guarantee that these reviewers will be used to assess your application. If you would like to nominate reviewers for your application, please include a proposal cover letter including the name, organisation and email address for each reviewer. Please do not nominate more than 3 reviewers.

17 Will I have an opportunity to respond to reviewer comments?
Yes, there will be a PI response stage. You will receive the reviews via the Je-S system and you will have 5 working days to provide a response to reviewer comments.

18 What should my start date be in the Je-S System?
As stated in the call text, due to the tight timescales and funding restrictions of the Newton Fund, the proposed start date on the Je-S system must be before 14th May 2018.