Belmont DR³ FAQ

Please note that this document forms part of the overall guidance for submission, and should be read alongside the Instructions for full Proposals and the UKRI Organisational Annex.

Are Project Partner and Subcontractor costs permitted?

Organisations that do not meet the minimum criteria to be research partners but offer valuable partnerships may be eligible to receive funds from the awards based on the following requirements:

*Third sector organisations (e.g., NGOs, charities and other non-profit civil society organisations)* – These organisations are eligible to receive a modest contribution to their costs on the project funded by UKRI at 100% of direct costs. These costs must not exceed 1 year FTE across the whole award (e.g., 33% of one post for 3 years or 50% of one post for 2 years) in staff costs per organisation. Any non-staff costs must be reasonable; indirect costs and overheads are not allowed. The total costs associated with all project partners must not exceed 20% of the total award (100% fEC). All staff costs must be based on basic salaries (i.e. not day rates). Travel costs to the mid-term and end-of-term Belmont Forum International Opportunities Fund Programme Meeting, if appropriate, should be included within this budget.

*Government departments and business* – while projects are encouraged to work with International and UK government departments and businesses, they are not eligible to directly receive funds from the award.

*Sub-contracts* – Sub-contracts are eligible costs on proposals submitted to this call but should only be used for the procurement of goods and services. Sub-contracts are not permitted for research partners providing intellectual input into the project, where a project partner relationship is more appropriate.

The costs for subcontractors are tied to the country managing the sub-contract. If a DAC list research partner organisation is managing a subcontract it will be awarded at 100%. If a UK partner is managing a subcontract it will be awarded at 80%. The most appropriate country should be chosen to manage the sub-contract based on the overall governance arrangements. They should be included under ‘Other’ costs in the appropriate partner’s funding request on the Belmont form.

Can individuals be part of more than one consortium?

Individuals may be only be part of one consortium. Investigators may be listed as either Lead PI, Co-PI (Partner PI) or Senior Personnel on only one proposal.

Postdoctoral Fellows

Funding for one postdoctoral research assistant (at the level of Researcher Co-Investigator) in the UK, and a further one in the DAC-list country, may be included. They must be closely involved with the project (if funded), and be employed at least 50%FTE on the grant at the same institution as one of the Principal Investigators (but not necessarily at the time of application). The PDRA would not be eligible to take over the grant from the named Investigator (whether Lead or partner Principal Investigator).
They should be listed under ‘Other Personnel’ in the relevant PI’s section of the Belmont Forum Proposal Form.

**Funding outside the UK**

GCRF funding for this CRA is reserved to researchers in the UK and the developing world – researchers from countries who are not on the DAC-list of recipient countries will not be eligible to receive any funding (This includes countries who will graduate from the DAC-list during the lifetime of the project). However, they are eligible to join a consortium if they supply their own funding.

Please note that researchers from countries outside of the participating funders (either supported as a DAC-list country under GCRF or bringing their own funding) would not count towards the requirement to have participants from “at least three of the resource providers featured in the annexes”.

**Ineligible Costs**

As per the annex, items of equipment costing over £10,000 are not eligible to be funded.

Fees and stipends for Masters/PhD students are not eligible; however, if the student will contribute to the project or its activities, costs for participation in project work or event attendance (such as travel and subsistence, but excluding conference fees) are eligible. If a graduate student is included as a Research Assistant, please make their role within the proposed consortium clear in the application.

Otherwise, standard rules on eligible costings apply; if in doubt, please refer to the guidance supplied by the Research Council whose remit your work falls under, or contact Liam Haydon (Liam.Haydon@ukri.org) directly.

A general FAQ can be found here: [https://www.ukri.org/files/legacy/documents/fecfaq-pdf/](https://www.ukri.org/files/legacy/documents/fecfaq-pdf/)

**Presenting UK costings**

Please supply costings at 100% fEC. UKRI will fund in accordance with the principles of Full Economic Costing, generally at 80%fEC in the UK, and at 100% fEC in the DAC-list country, and this will be calculated for successful grants once they are submitted to UKRI via Je-S.

The UK and DAC-list country costings should be given as separate partners in section 12 (Funding Plan), and detailed separately in section 19 (Funding Justification).

However, you should explain how costings between those partners interact e.g. split costs for shared use of facilities, or if one team is travelling to meet the other or conduct joint research.

For section 12, you should use the GBP-EUR exchange rate established by the European Central Bank on the date of submitting your application to the Belmont Forum (or as near to that date as is practicable). You **must** also provide a table outlining the costings in pound sterling (GBP) in section 19, including the exchange rate used and the equivalent figures in Euros. Payment from UKRI will be made in GBP, and so this table will be used as the basis for payment for successful applications.
The Funding Justification document should outline and justify the time each member of staff is allocating to the project (salaries do not need to be justified). All elements of the spending outlined in section 12 should be fully justified. There is, however, no need to include justification for UK estates and indirects calculated using TRAC; Please do include justification for estates and indirects (which should be no more than 20% of the total direct costs) for organisations in countries on the DAC list of recipient countries.

It should be clear from the Funding Justification document how the spending maps to the costings given in section 12, including staff listed as ‘Other’ for each PI.

### Version History

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