

## FAPESP PUMP-PRIMING AWARD GUIDANCE NOTES

BBSRC is pleased to invite applications for the FAPESP Pump-Priming Award (FAPPA) scheme. The aim of this award is to provide short term pump-priming to new collaborations between BBSRC funded research groups in the UK and Brazilian Research groups in the São Paulo State. Successful UK applicants will be funded by BBSRC while their São Paulo based counterparts will be funded by FAPESP. Priority will be given to applications in the area of food security and/ or Bioenergy and Industrial Biotechnology.

**There is no specific deadline for applications to this scheme; however proposals must be received by BBSRC no less than 12 weeks before the proposed start date.**

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### ELIGIBILITY

Applications must be made by a Principal Investigator (PI) who is currently in receipt of BBSRC research funding. **In addition, the associated BBSRC grant must have started before the application is submitted and must have at least 6 months remaining from the start of the award.**

The table below provides further information about eligibility criteria:

#### Eligible:

- PI on an active BBSRC responsive mode research grant
- PI on an active BBSRC themed research grant
- Recipient of a fellowship award from BBSRC.
- PI or Co-I on a current BBSRC Strategic Lola or Initiative grant with funding of over £1M
- PI or Co-I on a current BBSRC Institute strategic programme grant at a National Institute of Bioscience:
  - Babraham Institute;
  - Institute of Biological Environmental and Rural Sciences;
  - John Innes Centre;
  - Roslin Institute;
  - Rothamsted Research;
  - The Earlham Institute;
  - The Pirbright Institute;
  - Quadrum Institute.

#### Not Eligible:

- A BBSRC studentship award, including:
  - CASE Studentships;
  - Doctoral Training Partnerships;
  - Collaborative Training Partnerships.
- BBSRC grants which do not have research as the primary objective including:
  - Flexible Talent Mobility Accounts
  - Impact Acceleration Accounts
  - Follow on funding.
- BBSRC funding within an academic department.

As these awards are funded jointly with FAPESP a number of conditions also apply to the São Paulo based collaborators:

- The partnering PI in São Paulo Brazil must be currently in receipt of FAPESP research funding as a PI or Co-I in one of the following forms:
  - Thematic Projects
  - Young Investigator Awards
  - Research, Innovation and Diffusion Centers (CEPID)
  - Engineering Research Centers (CPE)
  - Institutional Research Development Plan (PDIP)
- On behalf of both sides of the collaboration, the UK applicants **must** submit a single joint application to BBSRC, which will have a budget request to BBSRC for the UK partners and a budget request to FAPESP for the São Paulo based researchers.

BBSRC will contact FAPESP and a joint decision will be made on funding (See application process for further details).

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## SCOPE

BBSRC will contribute up to £35,000 for the UK side of the collaboration, while FAPESP will match this with equivalent research effort. It is envisaged that applications will be for a balanced partnership, not specifically in monetary terms but with equivalent research commitment and efforts from both partners. We expect the collaborative activities funded under this award to last for around 2 years, although we will consider shorter or longer awards on a case by case basis. We also expect research groups to try and access other sources of funding to complement this award. This could be direct funding from other sources, or funding 'in kind' from host organizations or collaborators.

Funds in this scheme are provided for travel, subsistence and other collaborative activities, such as workshops or exchanges. They are **not** for the support of salary costs, overheads or items of equipment as these will already be covered by current national funding. However they may be used to support a modest level of direct research costs, including consumables and access to specialist equipment to support research to gather preliminary data to support new applications under the UKRI/ FAPESP Agreement. **These direct research costs may not account for more than 50% of the total value requested from BBSRC.**

## COVID-19

Taking into consideration the COVID-19 pandemic, applicants must follow travel advice set out by their institutions and the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office before departure and should check travel guidance for countries of interest when preparing an application.

BBSRC will not cover the cost of any time spent in quarantine as a result of travelling on a FAPPA. To manage risks associated with travelling, applicants should make optimal use of remote working solutions.

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## OBJECTIVES

These awards provide resources to leading BBSRC funded research groups to prime-pump interactions with top FAPESP scientists in Brazil. The aim is to strengthen the scientific relationship between the UK - Brazilian research groups to the point where they can make highly competitive applications to BBSRC for full joint research grants under the [UKRI - FAPESP lead agency](#)

[agreement:](#)

The synergy between the [strategic priorities of BBSRC](#) and FAPESP have clear mutually beneficial complementarities in the areas of:

**Food Security:** defined as bioscience for a sustainable supply of sufficient, affordable, nutritious and safe food, adapting to a rapidly changing world. This includes the full range of research from basic studies through to application.

**Bioenergy and Industrial Biotechnology:** defined as energy and industrial materials from novel biological sources, especially second and third generation biofuels. Includes basic and underpinning studies through to application.

Priority will therefore be given to applications that address one or both of these priority areas; however applications in other areas will still be considered. It should be noted that these awards should **not** be used as a vehicle to support longer term collaborative interactions for existing projects as provision for these types of interactions is made through the [Brazil Partnering Award](#). They are also **not** designed to be used a long term substitute for full research funding.

A full description of how these awards sit alongside other initiatives to promote collaboration with Brazil can be found on the [UKRI website](#).

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## APPLICATION PROCESS AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

There is no specific deadline for applications to this scheme; however proposals **must** be received by BBSRC no less than 12 weeks before the proposed start date. All applications must be made through the Research Councils Joint Electronic System (Je-S). In addition to the Je-S proforma, the application should also include the following attachments:

### ***Case for Support***

Applicants **must** include a joint UK - Brazil Case for Support. This will be reviewed by BBSRC and FAPESP and **must** contain the following sections:

- [The main scientific objectives](#).
- [Summary of previous contacts](#) or links with proposed partners.
- [Action Plan](#) of work to be carried out and plans for joint grant applications (applicants may wish to present diagrammatically or as a Gantt chart).
- [Statement of added value](#). Indicate the benefit of the collaboration to:
  - The UK applicants BBSRC funding and UK science generally,
  - The São Paulo based collaborators FAPESP funding and Brazilian science generally.

The case for support should be a pdf file of **no longer than four sides of single spaced 11pt Arial text**.

Sao Paulo Researchers also need to submit the same proposal to FAPESP via SAGe. The SAGe online form should be downloaded and submitted to BBSRC by the UK PI. **Please use attachment type 'Non-UK Components when uploading this document to Je-S**.

### ***Additional Documents***

CVs and publication lists are **not** required; however applicants may wish to include any particularly pertinent recent publications. A Letter of Support (maximum one page) from, for example, the proposed collaborators and a short Proposal Covering Letter may also be included but are not mandatory.

## ***Equality, diversity and inclusion***

Additional optional attachment.

Applicants may wish to include further detail about the steps taken to ensure equality, diversity and inclusion (under 'other attachment' in Je-S, maximum one side of A4).

Within this document, applicants may wish to include an outline of how they have taken a meaningful, yet proportionate consideration of the steps taken to ensure an inclusive partnership. The following resources might be useful:

- **[equality impact assessment guidance and template \(PDF, 152KB\)](#)**

## ***Costs***

Applications should be made at **current costs** in accordance with subsistence, travel and research regulations at the applicant's institution. For each main activity, indicative costs should be shown. BBSRC may index approved costs so that the award will include an allowance for inflation. Any award made will be cash limited, and whilst funds should be used for the activities requested, the use of funds to allow activities that were not originally envisaged will be allowed as long as they are in pursuance of the overall objectives of the FAPPA.

## ***Support available for people with caring responsibilities***

Applicants are allowed to request additional care costs as part of a FAPPA proposal. These may cover the additional care requirements for visits, meetings and overseas travel undertaken as part of the supported activity. Costs which form part of someone's normal care arrangements must not be included and making arrangements for the care to be provided is the responsibility of the carer themselves. Costs should be reasonable and outlined in the 'Other Directly Incurred Costs' section of the Je-S application. Funds for supporting people with caring responsibilities should form part of the overall budget envelope.

## ***Assessment criteria***

Applications to this call will be assessed internally by BBSRC and FAPESP. This light-touch internal assessment allows applications to be processed swiftly and can be applied as the applications are based on existing BBSRC/ FAPESP grants that have already undergone robust peer review. Proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:

- The value added to science through the partnership by enhancing priority areas.
- The future joint research likely to accrue from the collaboration and particularly whether this work has the potential to lead to applications under the [UKRI - FAPESP joint funding of research scheme](#)
- The uniqueness of the opportunity and expertise of the partners.
- The opportunities for early career scientist exchanges.
- Whether the collaboration is a new linkage or an ongoing partnership (if collaboration is ongoing, what new aspects are brought to the partnership).
- The level of the contribution made by the UK and Brazilian institutions towards the development of the award.
- The relevance of the partnership to **Food Security and/ or Bioenergy and Industrial Biotechnology** research funded by BBSRC.

A final decision will be made jointly between BBSRC and FAPESP.

## ***Collaboration agreement.***

Where the grant is associated with more than one research organisation and/or other project partners, the basis of collaboration between the organisations, including ownership of intellectual property and rights to exploitation, is expected to be set out in a formal collaboration agreement. It is the responsibility of the Research Organisation to put such an agreement in place before the research begins. The terms of collaboration agreements must not conflict with the Research Councils' terms and conditions.

Arrangements for collaboration and/or exploitation must not prevent the future progression of research and the dissemination of research results in accordance with academic custom and practice. A temporary delay in publication is acceptable in order to allow commercial and collaborative arrangements to be established.

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## **GRANT MAINTENANCE**

### ***Transfers***

Should the award holder transfer to another eligible Institution, the transfer of their FAPPA will be subject to BBSRC, FAPESP and host institution approval.

### ***Termination***

If a FAPPA is terminated early, BBSRC and FAPESP will only be responsible for funds already spent and will not be liable for the remaining instalments of the award.

### ***Final expenditure***

Expenditure should be in accordance with the Institution's regulations and detailed in the appropriate section of the Final Report form and signed off by the Finance Office. The balance of funding due, normally 10% of the cash limit awarded, will be paid on receipt of the Final Expenditure Statement and the reconciliation of actual expenditure. FAPESP applicants should present an expenditure report by the dates stated in the grant contract.

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## **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

All Grant Holders must use researchfish® to record key findings and specific outputs from their grants. Grant Holders can enter information into researchfish® at any time throughout the year and submit during the annual Submission Period.

For further information and updates please see: <https://www.ukri.org/manage-your-award/reporting-your-projects-outcomes/>

The success of each FAPPA will be measured against the following criteria:

- Completion of the objectives set out in the application.
- The added value to science within BBSRC's and FAPESP's remit.
- Whether the FAPPA has led to further funding opportunities and in particular whether it has led to a successful application under the UKRI - FAPESP lead agency agreement.
- The value to wider UK international Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) objectives and to the scientific and technological development of the State of São Paulo and Brazil.
- The promotion of further UK - Brazil scientific collaboration.

BBSRC and FAPESP may also ask for further details of the project for publicity purposes.

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## DATA SHARING NOTICE

UKRI carries out the processing of personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The information you provide will only be used by UKRI for the purpose of carrying out reviewing and assessment for making a funding decision. By providing your information you are consenting to its use as detailed above.

UKRI is committed to protecting personal information and will ensure appropriate safeguards are in place to protect the information supplied by the applicant. Further relevant information is available in the [Privacy Notice and the Data Protection Policy](#).

The information you provide will only be used by UKRI BBSRC and its partner, Brazil's Sao Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) and used only for the purpose of carrying out reviewing and assessment for making a funding decision.

The information you have provided will only be shared with Brazil's Sao Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) for this purpose.

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## CONTACTS

For further information on the FAPPA scheme, UK applicants should contact:

For eligibility and administrative queries:

Sana Afzal  
Assistant Portfolio Manager  
International  
Email: [Sania.Afzal@bbsrc.ukri.org](mailto:Sania.Afzal@bbsrc.ukri.org)

Brazilian applicants should contact:

Carolina M Costa  
Advisor Research  
Collaborations  
São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP)  
Email: [chamada-bbsrc-fappa@fapesp.br](mailto:chamada-bbsrc-fappa@fapesp.br)

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## ANNEX 1: The Je-S application process

Applications **must** be made through the Je-S system. Applications sent directly to BBSRC or FAPESP **will not** be accepted

This text is designed to provide guidance on the Je-S application process and follows the same format as the Je-S application form. Please fill in each section as described:

1. Navigate to the [Je-S homepage](#) and login using your existing user name and password.
  - All applicants should have Je-S login details as these are required to apply for a BBSRC research grant.
  - If you do not have a Je-S username and password you will need to [register with Je-S](#)
2. In the **Account** section select **Documents**, then under the **Create** section select **New Document**.

### Add New Document

1. **Select Council:** Select BBSRC using the dropdown menu.
2. **Select Document Type:** Select Standard Proposal using the dropdown menu.
3. **Select Scheme:** Select FAPESP Pump-Priming Award from the dropdown menu.
4. **Select Call/Type/Mode:** Select FAPESP Pump-Priming Award from the dropdown menu.
5. **Select [Create Document]**, this will take you to the main Document Menu.

### Document Menu

Please note that the order of this scheme on Je-S is different to the order used on standard BBSRC applications. It was changed to reflect the information required for this scheme. Once you have completed each screen, select save and then next to move to the next section. Applications do not have to be completed in one session. You can return and re-edit any section prior to submission.

### Project Details

1. **Organisation:** Select an organisation using [Select Organisation](#) (opens a new search window).
2. **Department:** Select a department using [Select Department](#) (opens a new search window).
3. **Your reference:** Insert a personal reference to differentiate this application from other proposals you may be submitting through Je-S (20 character limit).
4. **Project Title:** Insert a Project Title (150 character limit).
5. **Type:** This field should have been auto-filled by the name of the call selected above.
6. **Start Date and Duration:** Use the drop down menus to select a start date. Note this **must** be at least 12 weeks from the date of submission. Select a duration in **months**. Note that this **must** be between 12 and 36 months.

### Applicants

1. Select [Principal Applicant](#)
2. Select [Add New Principal Applicant Item](#)
3. **Name:** Select the Principal Applicant using [Select](#) (opens a new search window).

4. **Post will outlast project?:** Check the appropriate box to indicate if the applicants post will outlast the proposed FAPPA. If the applicants post will not outlast the project, details must be given in the 'case for support' of how this project will continue.

5. If this is a joint application between two or more BBSRC grant holders select Co-Applicant. Add Co-Applicants in the same manner as described for Principal Applicants. All Co-Applicants **must** be registered with Je-S.

### Related Grants

1. Select **Add New Related Grants Item**

2. **Reference Number:** Fill in the reference number of the BBSRC Responsive Mode Grant, Institute Strategic Priority Grant, David Philips Fellowship or other BBSRC grant with which this project is associated.

Note that some grants, such as RCUK fellowships and certain specialist infrastructure grants may not be accepted by this field.

In this case, leave this box blank and clearly state your grant title, start and end dates and reference number at the start of the 'case for support'.

3. Save your selection and repeat the process for any further BBSRC grants relevant to this project.

### Project Partners

Use this section to provide details of the São Paulo based partners and any other contributing partners.

1. Select **Add New Project Partners Item**

2. Select an organisation using **Select Organisation** (opens a new search window).

If the organisation is not found select [**Add New Organisation**] and fill out required fields.

3. Select a department using **Select Department** (opens a new search window).

4. Select the contact using **Select Contact** (opens a new search window).

If the contact is not found select [**Add New Person**] and fill out required fields.

5. Enter the contribution of this partner to the project (each partner **must** have an associated contribution). Enter both the costs requested from FAPESP and those that will be provided from other sources,

The contribution can be 'directly' in the form of cash, equipment / materials, the secondment of staff or other. Alternatively it can be 'indirectly' in the form of use of facilities, staff time or other.

Each contribution **must** be given an associated value, however this value can be set at 0 if it is difficult to quantify.

The information provided in this section will be used to evaluate the contribution from other sources.

6. Save your selection and repeat with the remaining project partners.

### Objectives

Use the text box to provide a succinct overview of the proposed FAPPA objectives (1000 character limit). Applicants should list the main objectives of the proposed FAPPA. These objectives will be displayed on the BBSRC website and in BBSRC publicity and should therefore be concise and free from jargon and abbreviations.

## Resources

This section is used to detail the costs of the **UK side** of the proposed collaboration. All travel, subsistence and other collaborative activities should be entered as travel and subsistence. Any direct research component should be entered as other directly incurred costs. Full Economic Costing (FEC) is applied to any direct research component of these awards, but is not applied to the travel, subsistence and other collaborative activities. For all costs, applicants should ask for the full value of the activities that they wish to undertake and the BBSRC allocation will be calculated automatically.

1. Select Travel and Subsistence.

2. Click **Add New Travel and Subsistence Item**

3. **Destination and Purpose:** For travel items enter the country, city and institution (if applicable) of destination, the method of transport and the reason for travel e.g. flights to São Paulo x3 to attend meeting at The university of São Paulo.

For subsistence items enter the country and city (if applicable) where subsistence is required and the length of time subsistence is required.

For other collaborative costs, such as venue hire for workshops, enter the country, city and institution (if applicable), and give a very brief description of the activity.

4. **Overseas destination:** Check this box unless this activity occurs exclusively within the UK.

5. **Total £:** Enter the total cost of this activity in £.

6. Save your selection and repeat for the remaining travel and subsistence items.

7. Select Other Directly Incurred Costs.

8. Select **Add New Other Directly Incurred Costs Item**

9. **Description:** Enter a description for the directly incurred cost e.g. consumables for processing of Brazilian samples.

10. **Amount:** Enter to total cost of this activity in £.

11. Save your selection and repeat for the remaining directly incurred items.

## Resource Summary

This is a reference section which can be used to view the total cost of the project. No editing is required.

Please note that applicants must complete the sections on human participation, animal research, animal species, genetic and biological risks, ethical implications, approvals, and other issues by answering the relevant questions and filling in the text boxes. Further details can be found in the Je-S handbook.

## Attachments

Applicants **must** include a joint UK - Brazil Case for Support. This will be reviewed by BBSRC and FAPESP and **must** contain the following sections:

- The main scientific objectives.
- Summary of previous contacts or links with proposed partners.
- Action Plan of work to be carried out and plans for joint grant applications (applicants may wish to present diagrammatically or as a gantt chart).
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CVs and publication lists are **not** required; however applicants may wish to include any particularly pertinent recent publications. A Letter of Support (maximum one page) from, for example, the proposed collaborators and a short Proposal Covering Letter may also be included, but are not mandatory.

To upload a document:

1. Select **Add New Attachment**
2. **Document type:** Use the dropdown menu to select the document type.
3. **Filename:** Use [**Browse**] to select a file.
4. **Description:** Enter a description of the attachment which allows differentiation between documents of the same type.
5. Select save to upload the document and repeat for any additional attachments.

### Notes and Comments

There is no need to provide additional notes and comments with this type of application.

### Submit Document

Once you have completed all the above sections hover your mouse over the 'Document Actions' heading and select [**Check Document Validity**] to validate the document to determine if there are any critical errors which will prevent the submission of the application to the approver / submitter pool. If the document passes validation then select [**Submit Document**] from the top screen. Once a proposal has been submitted, the application process is complete and **the proposal can no longer be edited.**

### Contact

Note that BBSRC staff cannot access ongoing applications within the Je-S system and will therefore be unable to assist with issues directly relating to Je-S.

If you require help with your Je-S application, please contact: The Je-S helpdesk  
 Email: JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org  
 Tel: +44 (0) 1793 44 4164