A collaborative partner is defined as being actively involved in the project contributing intellectually as well as financial (incl. in-kind) resources. A service provider giving a discount on materials or services is a supplier.

Collaborative projects with partners from the third sector, international universities etc who plan to share the IP outputs may wish to use the questions on the ICF Form to support the development of the governance of their project including arrangements for relative responsibilities, intellectual property rights, financial contributions and access to data. However, the application does not need to be submitted under the ICF.

The company partner should be considered as a subcontractor and the application does not need to be submitted under the ICF.

If an industry partner wishes to act as both a subcontractor and project partner the application will still need to be submitted under ICF. You should read the guidance carefully.

The company partner should be considered as a supplier and the application does not need to be submitted under the ICF even if the materials are supplied at a discount.

If the company partner is providing a contribution based on their interest in the project but will not have access to results prior to publication they should be considered as a supplier and the application does not need to be submitted under the ICF. The industry partner is advised to provide a letter of support confirming this contribution. If materials are being supplied free of charge then a Materials Transfer Agreement may be required.

If the company partner is not making a financial contribution or claiming costs on the grant but is just supportive of the research and providing a letter of support then application does not need to be submitted under the ICF. This includes industry representation on governance structures for large consortia grants. Applicants may wish to consider using CDAs/NDAs for the members of any governance structures.