



**UK Research
and Innovation**



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Maximising UK Adaptation to Climate Change Research Projects Launch Webinar: 20 March 2024

Welcome

We will be with you shortly

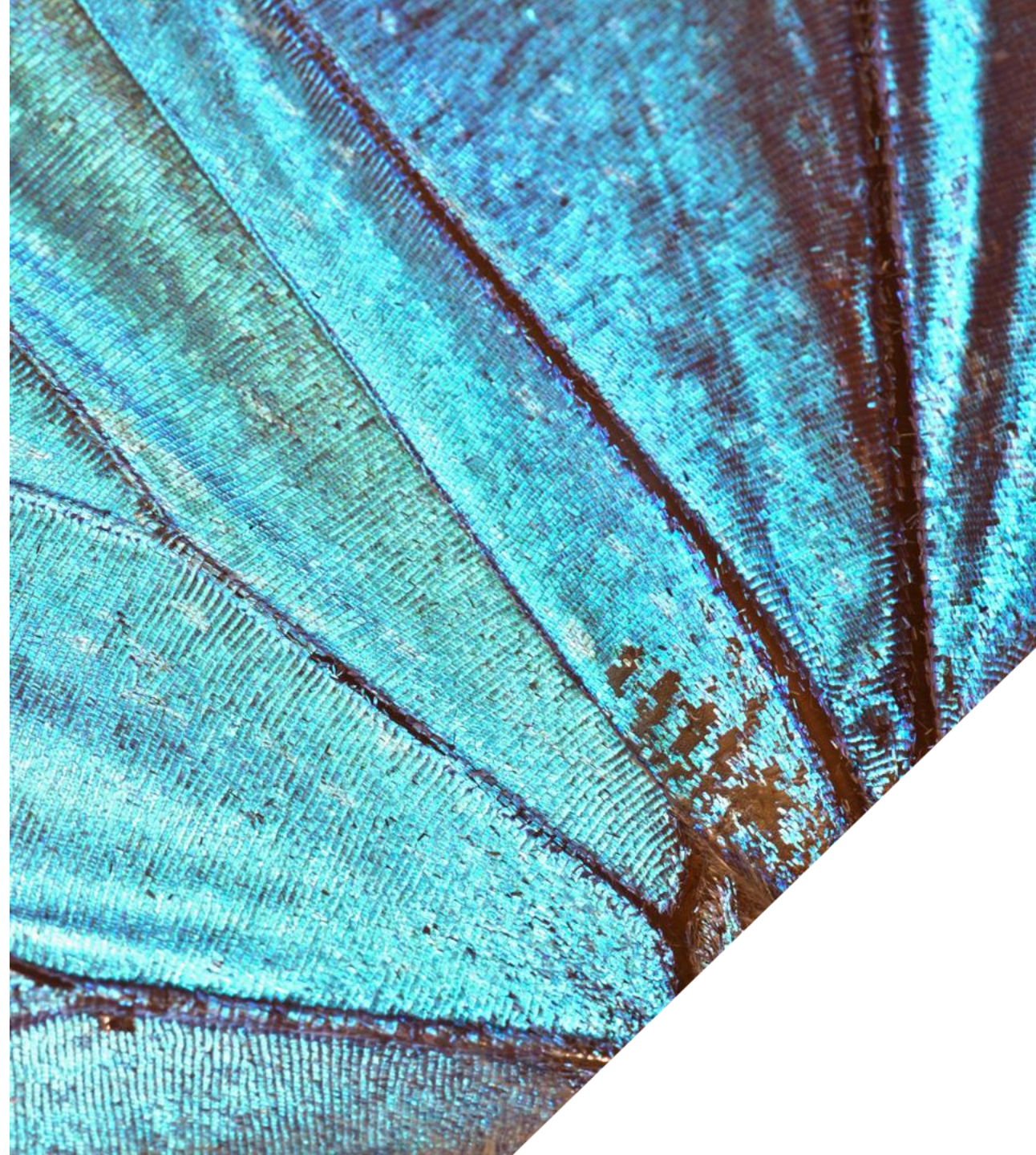
This webinar will be recorded

Please use the Q&A feature to post questions

You may use the chat feature to introduce yourself

Agenda

1. Welcome and overview – Wendy Matcham (NERC-UKRI)
2. Opening comments – Christopher Smith (AHRC-UKRI) and Gideon Henderson (Defra)
3. Policy context and background to the programme – Katy Peat (Defra), Wendy Matcham (NERC-UKRI) and Ashley Diggins (Defra)
4. Scope and budget of the research projects funding opportunity – Liz Rowse (UKRI-NERC)
5. Application process and timeline – Jen Wickens (NERC-UKRI)
6. Q&A
7. Close – Wendy Matcham (NERC-UKRI)





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Context and background to the UK Adaptation to Climate Change programme

Katy Peat, Defra, Head of Adaptation Science

Wendy Matcham, NERC-UKRI, Head of Research:
Environmental Hazards and Health

Ashley Diggins, Defra, Head of Adaptation Economics

Background

This programme is the outcome of discussions between Defra, NERC, other UKRI partners, the CCC and Met Office.

Integrates the aspirations of two cross UKRI Themes (UKRI strategic themes of Building a Green Future and Building a Secure and Resilient World) to improve UK resilience to climate shocks whilst benefitting people and the economy.

Prioritises transdisciplinary approaches to maximise impact, cross-fertilise ideas and sharing of expertise.

Reflects the cross-UKRI involvement in the programme with representation from not only NERC but also ESRC, EPSRC, AHRC and MRC.

As part of the Impact Fund initiative, a key objective of this research programme is to focus on real-world policy impact.



Policy Context

Focuses on adaptation enablers, incentives and action.

Supports the implementation of the third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3) and development of the fourth Climate Change Risk Assessment through:

- **Dealing with climate risks in a systematic and human centric way**
- **Understanding the socioeconomic landscape to contextualise physical hazard information and give a true picture of climate impact**
- **Enabling adaptation through learning what works and what incentives are needed to enhance the adaptation landscape**

Addresses challenges identified in the latest [Climate Change Committee adaptation progress report](#):

- **Driving reductions in exposure and vulnerability to climate risks**
- **Increasing resilience of people, ecosystems and infrastructure to cascading climate impacts**
- **Understanding risks to the UK economy from climate change outside of the UK**



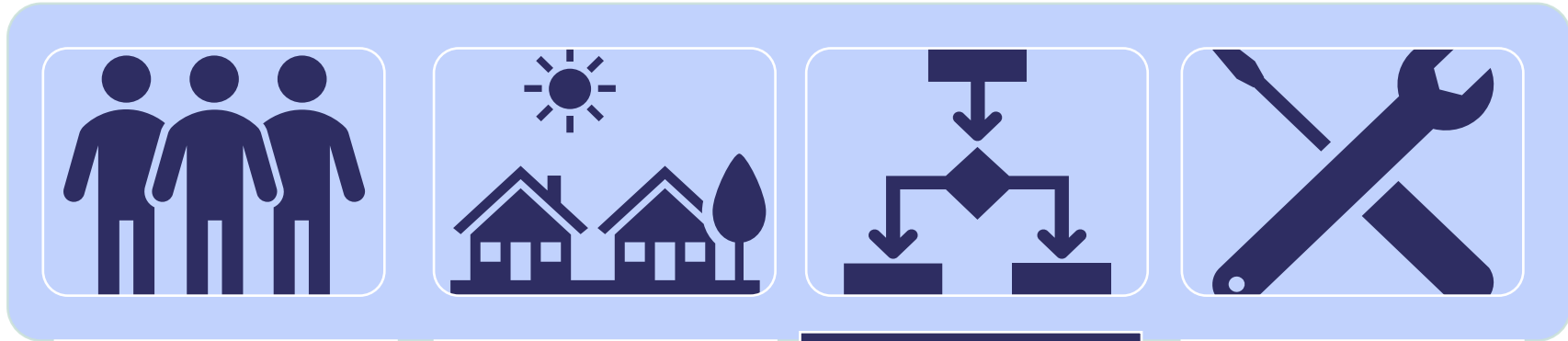
How is this programme different to previous UKRI-Government partnerships?

Scale of contribution: Equal partnership by UKRI and Defra.

Engagement in the programme:

- Call design
- Selection process
- Programme management and reporting
- Executive board





Research Themes

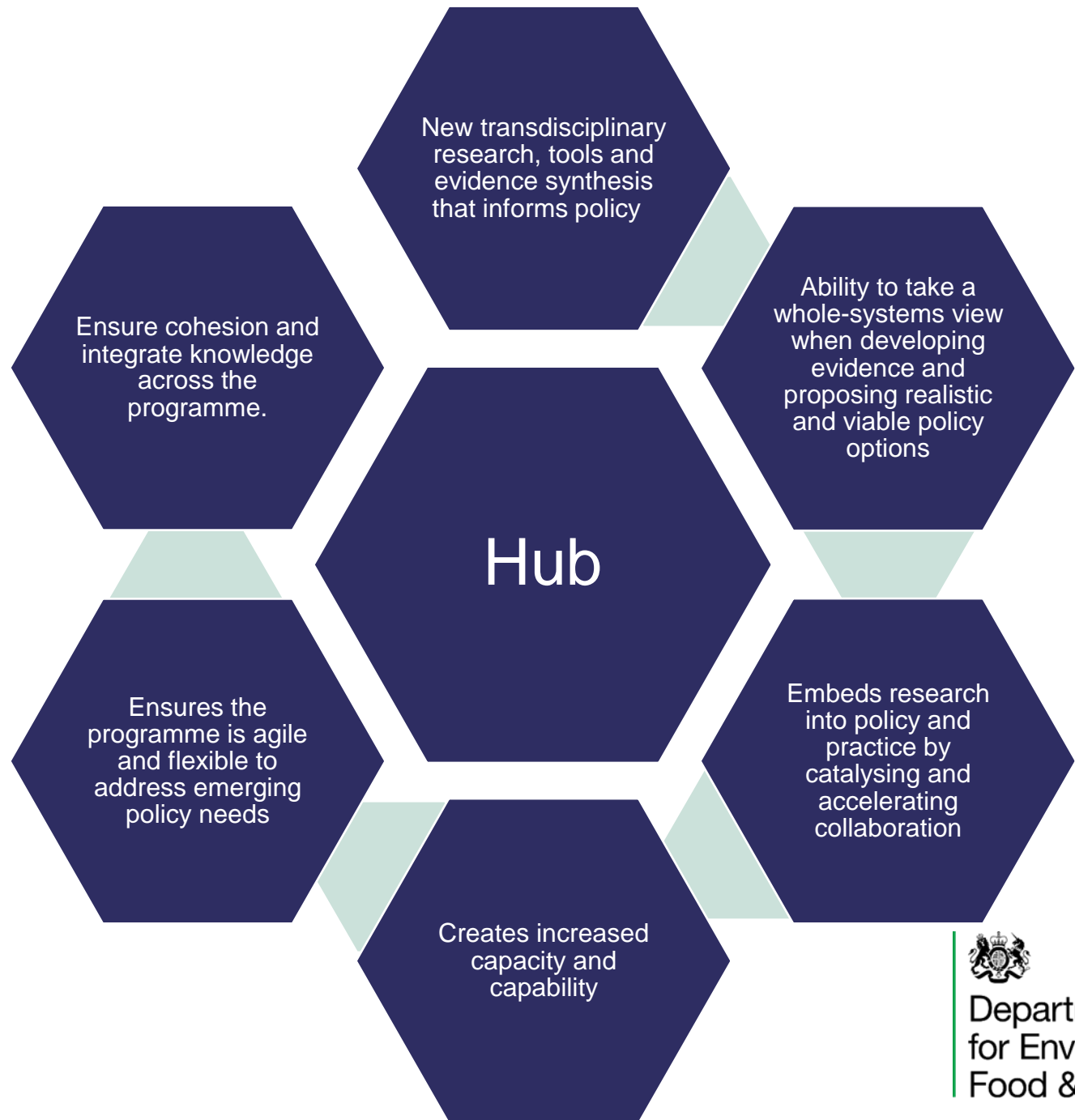
Societies' exposure and vulnerability

Adaptation Solutions

Future resilience and decision making

Enablers of adaptation

The Hub will work with and across research projects to **ensure join-up, identify synergies and summarise and communicate findings.**



Met Office involvement



- Applying national climate scenarios (such as UK Climate Projections (UKCP)) and other hazard information
- Performing climate attribution and monitoring
- Applied science to address third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3) risks in many sectors plus improving understanding of complex risks (compound, aggregated and cascading) knowledge integration, climate communications and synthesis for policy
- 10% overall research project fund





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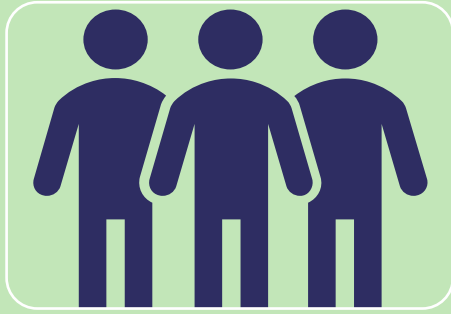
UK Adaptation to Climate Change: Research Projects: Funding opportunity scope

Dr Liz Rowse, Senior Programme Manager
Strategic Programme Generation & Delivery

Aim

- This funding opportunity will fund world leading, high impact transdisciplinary research projects to put the UK at the cutting edge of practical and futureproof climate adaptation involving researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders.
- The funded projects will work directly with the climate change adaptation hub to ensure knowledge exchange between research and policy.
- UKRI will facilitate introductions between the hub and the successful research projects following award announcements, to enable discussion and plans to be developed around how best to work together to enable knowledge mobilisation.

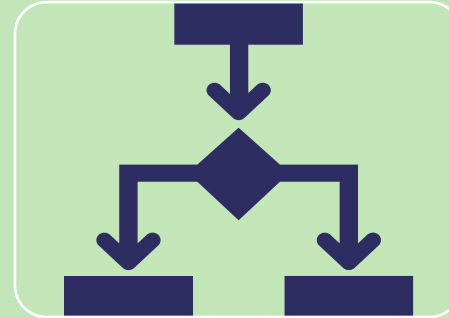
Research Themes (4)



Societies' exposure and vulnerability to extreme climate hazards



Adaptation solutions

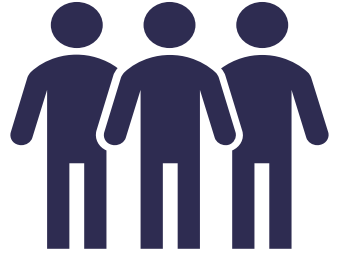


Future resilience and decision making



Enablers of adaptation

(1) Societies' exposure and vulnerability to extreme climate hazards



Implications of societies' exposure and vulnerability to extreme climate hazards (including droughts, floods, wind, heatwaves) considering the increasing threat and potential impacts of multi, cascading, and individual hazards on people, the economy and the built and natural environment.

Could include:

- current and predicted risks of exposure to extreme weather on the UK
- the implications of climate tipping points and high impact, low likelihood events on weather extremes
- UK's current vulnerability to and ability to respond to extreme weather events across different groups in society and communities, economic geographies and major infrastructures assets
- development of new adaptation interventions, including consideration of spatial distribution of hazard
- sustainable use, assessment and modelling of land use types

(2) Adaptation solutions

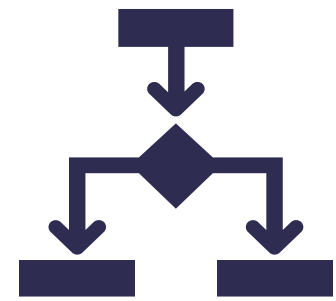


Analysis of different adaptation solutions to effectively address climate change impacts, could consider a group of hazards or a particular climate risk.

Could include:

- the evaluation of adaptation interventions
- what existing and emerging adaptation actions would most benefit from being deployed at scale?
- cost benefit analysis in an adaptation context for pragmatic decision making to inform policy, including co-benefits of adaptation solutions
- what are the social thresholds for adaptation action and transformational adaptation?
- what transformational changes are required to support societal goals on, for example, net zero, land use, food production
- what are the UK limits to adaptation?

(3) Future resilience and decision making



Planning and future resilience, using tools and creative aids to help inform decision making under uncertainty

Could include:

- identifying appropriate decision-making frameworks to provide a causal link between adaptation solutions and relevant climatic threats
- exploitation of existing data and climate and or hazard models to support decision making, for example through storyline development, evaluation of uncertainties, new insights into model results and incorporating co-benefits of adaptation
- use of information on present day and near-term climate risks to enhance our understanding of future climate risks
- design, improvement, management and use of IT in monitoring and modelling of the performance of infrastructure systems for better adaptation solutions
- understanding and engaging stakeholders and communities in the design, delivery and outcomes of adaptation solutions
- case studies of use of decision making under uncertainty tools in practice
- are there geopolitical trends which might impact the UK's ability or need to adapt?

(4) Enablers of adaptation



Identifying and influencing the enablers conducive to effective climate change adaptation.

Could include:

- how effective is the current policy landscape for incentivising public and private adaptation action, identifying trade-offs and opportunities for alignment?
- can regulations, standards and existing strategies be utilised to deliver for adaptation solutions?
- innovative finance-based approaches to mitigate and respond to the impacts of climate change on communities and the economy
- understand how short- and long-term funding and investment decisions inform climate risk over time, including uncertainties? How can private adaptation investment be made an attractive or lucrative investment?

Key details

- £12M funding available (Fund at 80% FEC)
- £2M funding available for each project (Fund at 80% FEC)
- research projects will be 2.5 years in duration (finish same time as the hub)
- transdisciplinary work across the remits of the participating UKRI councils
- research projects need to closely involve policymakers and other stakeholders in co-design and co-delivery
- adopt a system approach, including timelines, place-based approaches, health and social inequalities, as well as behavioural responses

Met Office involvement



- Met Office's total contribution for all research projects is up to £1 million.
- Each project can request up to £200,000 of indicative Met Office support that will be paid at 100% FEC and must be included in the maximum amount of £2 million allowable for each project.
- Applicants can speak directly with the Met Office to determine the activities and costings that will be associated with this partnership. No discussion can take place on the quality of the application.
- Met Office will engage with all the successful projects to ensure good alignment of its programme.
- Once the successful applications have been awarded, the Met Office will run a sandpit type workshop in November 2024 with all the research leads to co-develop a final version of the Met Office's overall contribution to the research projects.



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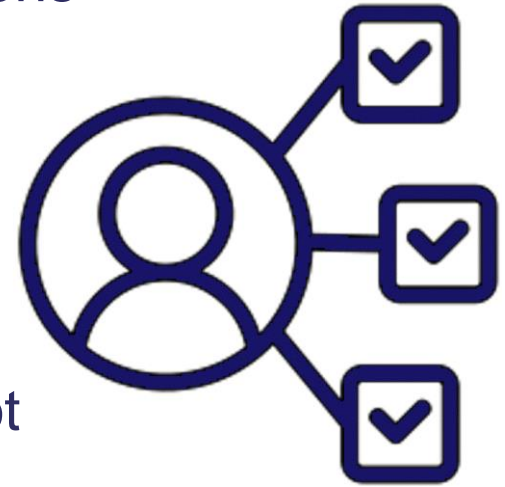
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UK Adaptation to Climate Change Research Projects: Application process and timeline

Dr Jen Wickens, Programme Manager
Strategic Programme Generation & Delivery

Eligibility

- ✓ Project lead and co-leads must be based at UK research organisations eligible for UKRI funding
- ✓ Standard UKRI eligibility requirements apply ([link](#))
- ✓ Max two applications (only one as project lead)
- ✓ Consortia composed of a range of disciplines and stakeholders
- ✓ Must meet NERC remit plus one additional UKRI council remit
- ✓ Co-leads based at UK business, third sector or government must not exceed 30% of the overall cost of the grant at 100% FEC
- ✗ No funded PhD studentships
- ✗ No international co-leads (expected to be project partners)
- ✗ Defra and the Met Office should not be included as project partners



How to apply

Submissions to this funding opportunity are via **The UKRI Funding Service (TFS)**. You cannot apply on the Joint Electronic Submissions (Je-S) system.

The project lead is responsible for completing the application process on TFS, but we expect all team members and project partners to contribute to the application.

Only the lead research organisation can submit an application to UKRI.

Stage 1 - Closing date for the Nol: 30 May 2024 at 4.00pm UK time (mandatory)

Stage 2 - Closing date for full submission: 16 July 2024 at 4.00pm UK time

How to apply

Stage 1 (NERC NoI Form)

The screenshot shows the UKRI online registration page. At the top left is the UKRI logo and 'Natural Environment Research Council'. The page title is 'Maximising UK adaptation to climate change research projects - Notification of intent'. Below the title, there is a 'Related links' box with a link to 'View submissions (admin)'. A purple box contains the text: 'Please complete this notification of intent and then continue to develop your full proposal in time for submission by the closing date for this funding opportunity. Please complete the form below, then click the 'Submit' button to register. Submission deadline is 16:00 GMT on 30 May 2024.' Below this is an information icon and a note: 'Please note that the information you include on this online form will be used to support UKRI and Defra in securing experts for our peer assessment process.' The 'Project lead' section contains form fields for Title, First name, Surname, and Organisation.

[Link](#)

Stage 2 (TFS Application)

The screenshot shows the TFS application page. The title is 'Maximising UK adaptation to climate change research projects'. A 'Funding opportunity' tag is present. The 'Opportunity status' is 'Open'. The 'Funders' list includes: 'Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Medical Research Council (MRC), UK Research and Innovation'. The 'Co-funders' is 'Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)'. The 'Funding type' is 'Grant'. The 'Total fund' is '£12,000,000'. The 'Maximum award' is '£2,000,000'. The 'Publication date' is '14 March 2024'. The 'Opening date' is '14 March 2024 9:00am UK time'. The 'Closing date' is '16 July 2024 4:00pm UK time'. A 'Timeline' section shows: '14 March 2024 9:00am Opening date', '20 March 2024 10:00am Webinar', '30 May 2024 4:00pm Notification of Intent (NoI) deadline', and '16 July 2024 4:00pm Closing date'. There is a button to 'Print this guidance or save as PDF' and a 'Start application' button. A 'Guidance on good research' section has a link to 'Good research resource hub'. At the bottom, it says: 'Apply for funding for transdisciplinary research projects under the UKRI-Defra co-funded Maximising UK Adaptation to Climate Change programme. This is the second'.

[Link](#)



Application Assessment

TFS application:

- Summary of project
- ▪ Vision
- ▪ Approach
- ▪ Applicant and team capability to deliver
- ▪ Ethics and responsible research and innovation
 - Data management and sharing
 - Resources and cost justification

Assessment panel

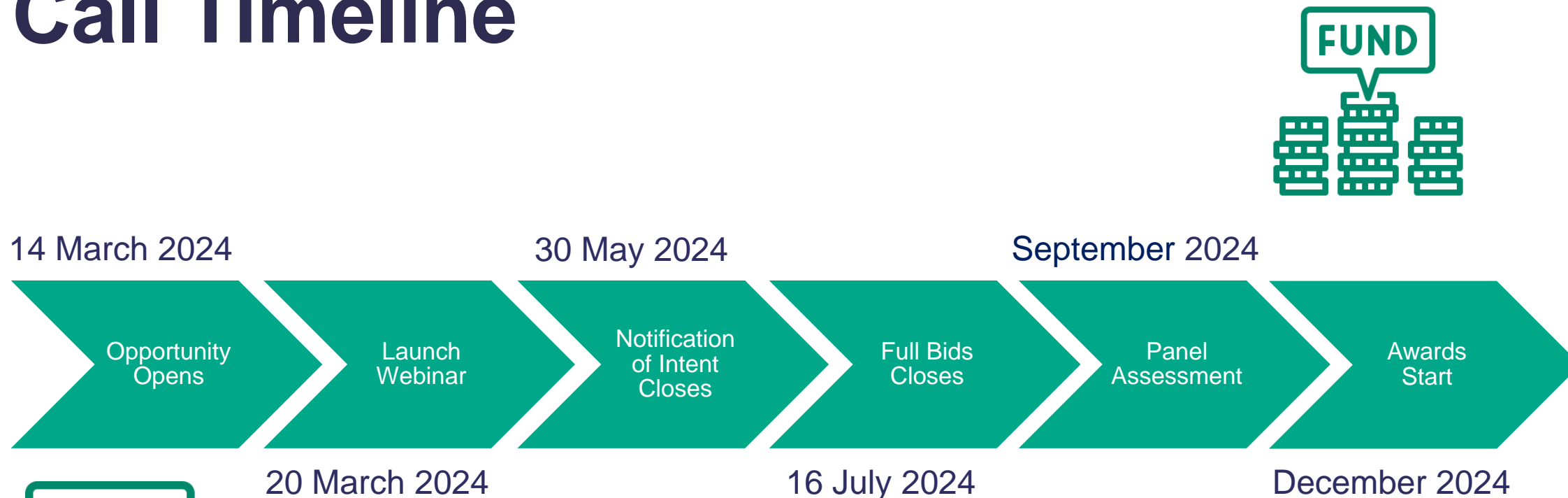
No PI response stage and no interviews

For more information, see the funding opportunity section 'Application questions'



Assessment
criteria

Call Timeline



Additional TFS help

Links to additional resources on how to apply through the Funding Service are given in the Funding Opportunity on Funding Finder.

Additional guidance can be sought from the dedicated support team:

support@funding-service.ukri.org

Telephone: 01793 547490



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Question & Answer Session



ukclimateadaptation@nerc.ukri.org



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Thank you for attending

**The webinar recording, slides and Q&A
document will be published on the UKRI
Funding Finder page shortly.**



ukclimateadaptation@nerc.ukri.org