

Guidance for Joint NERC-NSTC Proposals

Applicants considering international collaboration with researchers from Taiwan should note that this Call welcomes proposals jointly prepared and submitted by Project Leads from the UK and Taiwan under the terms of the NERC-NSTC MoU.

1. Context

In 2018 NERC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Taiwanese National Science and Technology Council (NSTC). The aims of this MoU are to strengthen existing and enable new research links between the UK and Taiwan.

This is a joint proposal with the Taiwanese National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), in which the UK researchers will be supported by NERC and the Taiwanese Researchers will be supported by NSTC.

2. Application and Assessment Process

Taiwanese applicants can request up to £15K per year, for up to two (2) years in duration. Funding from NSTC will be in addition to the funding awarded by NERC. Funds must be used according to the rules and requirements of the respective agencies for UK and Taiwanese researchers, as described in the GPSF announcement of each agency.

The UK and Taiwan partners are required to submit separate (but still joint in the work described) applications. Within each proposed collaboration, the UK partners must submit an application to NERC, while the Taiwan partners must submit an application to NSTC. Taiwanese applicants must apply through the NSTC's official website and follow the relevant application process.

A **NSTC budget form** should be included in the application to NERC.

The application submitted to NSTC should be identical to that submitted to NERC, with the addition of any specific documents required by NSTC. Taiwan applicants should consult NSTC for up to date details of their application procedure. NSTC contact email: Dr Ching-Mei Tang (cmtom@nstc.gov.tw).

Project titles should be prefixed by "NERC-NSTC:" in order to identify that they wish to be considered as a joint proposal.

Applications which are submitted only to NERC or NSTC will not be accepted.

Taiwan applications made to NSTC will be assessed to similar criteria as described in the standard NERC Global Partnerships Seedcorn Fund guidance. NERC and NSTC will jointly agree on selected projects for award from these assessments.

NERC-NSTC proposals must start by January 2027. Outcomes will be communicated to applicants in October 2026.

Data Sharing Notice:

NERC carries out the processing of personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

NSTC carries out the processing of personal data in accordance with its relevant regulations.

By providing your information you are consenting to its use as detailed above.

Application Checklist:

- ✓ The project title starts with 'NERC-NSTC:'
- ✓ Taiwanese Partners have submitted a corresponding application to NSTC.
- ✓ UK Partners have submitted a corresponding application to NERC including the NSTC budget form.