

SUPERGEN Wind Hub

Flexible Funding Call – Round 3

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The current Flexible Funding Call is for proposals up to £120,000 at 80% of FEC. The total funding being made available to the call is £240,000. The call is open to all eligible for EPSRC funding. Flexible funding will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Consortium Agreement. Successful applicants will be required to fully engage with and apply for membership of the Hub, if that is not already the case, and become signatories of the Consortium Agreement.

Scope

The growth of the wind sector since the 1980s has been a significant health and safety challenge. Today, safety is one of the key drivers of the wind sector in the efforts towards making wind energy reliable and sustainable.

The scope for this call comes under the general heading of safety. Proposals should focus on tackling challenges under the following headings that impact directly or indirectly to safety.

- Impact on technology of offshore wind turbines
- Access to fixed and floating offshore wind turbines
- Logistics and their improvement's impact on safety
- Socio-economic and human factors

The specific connection to the above should be made clear in the proposal.

Deadlines

Thursday 27 April 2017	Launch of Flexible Funding Round 3
Friday 26 May 2017	Close of Flexible Funding Outline Proposals
Friday 23 June 2017	Invitation for Flexible Funding Full Proposals
Thursday 27 July 2017	Flexible Funding Full Proposals Deadline
Friday 29 September 2017	Flexible Funding Round 3 Decisions

Application procedure

The Flexible Funding Call has two stages.

Stage 1 – Outline proposal (due by Friday 26 May 2017 @ 1700 hrs GMT)

- 2 pages (track record, research challenge and approach, novelty and timeliness, aims and objectives and indicative budget)
- Reviewed internally by the Hub
- A maximum of 10 applications will be requested to submit a full proposal.
- Outline proposals should be submitted to michelle.morrison.100@strath.ac.uk with the subject: **SUPERGEN Wind Flexible Funding – Outline Proposal.**

Stage 2 – Full proposal (requested) (due by Thursday 27 July 2017 @ 1700 hrs GMT)

- Track record and additional 2 pages.
- Case for support 6 pages (research challenge, novelty and timeliness, aims and objectives, programme of work including methodology, management including integration into SUPERGEN Wind Hub, impact and dissemination and 3 potential reviewers).
- Budget and Schedule.
- 3 reviews of each proposal will be sought, typically 1 from the shortlist proposed by the proposer, 1 international, 1 from industry or an existing member of the Hub.
- The final decision will be ratified by the Industrial Advisory Board.

Review Criterion

The criteria on which proposals will be assessed are primarily the following:

- Sufficiently high/excellent quality as supported by the external reviews.
- The track record of the applicants.

Other criteria that will be taken into account are the following:

- The extent to which the research proposal meets Wind Energy research priorities as identified by the Consortium.
- The novelty of the proposed research.
- The potential for further development.
- The goodness of fit to the current programme and the additionality that would be brought in terms of increasing its scope and linking into other research programmes.
- The extent of additional support such as independent part-funding from other sources including industry and in-kind support such as internal researchers' time, data etc.
- The extent to which there is a strong collaborative element, particularly with the existing Consortium research programme.

The research priorities take cognisance of the following:

- National and international Wind Energy research roadmaps.
- Priorities identified by EERA JP Wind, ETIP and European Wind Energy Academy, through direct involvement by partners in these programmes.
- Discussion and feedback from the Industrial Advisory Board at their 6-monthly meetings.
- Discussion at the 6-monthly General Assemblies.