

Supplementary Grant Award Guidance

Industrial Energy Transformation Fund Application Guidance

Phase 1: Spring 2021



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Overview

This Supplementary Grant Award Guidance (SGAG) is designed to complement the Innovation Funding Service guidance for the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund (IETF) Phase 1: Spring 2021 Competition. This covers both strands of the competition:

- Deployment of Energy Efficiency Technologies in Industry
- Energy Efficiency and Decarbonisation Studies

The SGAG replaces the Innovate UK General Guidance document for those competitions.

Please note that we try to ensure that the information published in this guidance is up to date and accurate. However, the information given is not a substitute for taking legal or professional advice, which is the responsibility of the applicant. We cannot accept any liability for actions arising from the use of our guidance.

Before you start an application

You need to read the competition guidance covering the scope and eligibility rules for the IETF in either the Energy Efficiency Deployment or Studies strand of the competition to which you are applying. The competition guidance is hosted by Innovate UK on the Innovation Funding Service, which includes information on how to complete your application.

We strongly advise you not to leave your submission to the last minute before the deadline. If you experience technical difficulties there will be no extension. Late submissions are not considered and Innovate UK is not able to enter into any discussion regarding this.

Your application

We will not send your application for assessment if you:

- deliberately increase word count using punctuation
- use unprofessional, aggressive or threatening language
- submit with a notable lack of content

You can submit an application that was unsuccessful in either strand of the previous IETF competition that took place in Summer 2020. However, some application questions have changed, so please ensure that the project is eligible and the questions are answered in full. You can improve your application based on the assessors' feedback.

Contact us

If you need more information on the application process, please email Innovate UK at ietf@innovateuk.ukri.org or call the competition helpline on 0300 321 4357. Their phone lines are open from 9am to 11:30am and 2pm to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

Innovate UK will not tolerate abusive language in any written or verbal correspondence, applications, social media or any other form that might affect staff.

To make a complaint please follow the Innovate UK complaints procedure. For information on whistleblowing, see the UKRI whistleblowing policy.

The application process

Apply on the Innovation Funding Service

The Innovation Funding Service is an online application process. You need to create an account in the service to start an application, or sign in to your existing account.

Applications are separated into sections, which all need to be completed to submit your application. You cannot submit an application unless you have correctly completed each section. Applications not submitted via the Innovation Funding Service, for example which are sent by email will not be accepted.

Please note that once you submit your application, you will not be able to make further changes to your application.

Full guidance for completing each section is found within the Innovation Funding Service.

Collaborating in the Innovation Funding Service

Organisations may collaborate on applications to the IETF. The applicable collaboration rules are stated in the eligibility section of the Innovation Funding Service guidance for this competition. This section outlines the different roles of organisations who intend to work collaboratively in completing an application and setting up a project on the service.

Lead applicants

The lead applicant represents the lead organisation for the application. As the lead applicant you will be responsible for:

starting an application

- adding people from your organisation to the application and removing them
- adding partner organisations you wish to collaborate with, where applicable, and removing them
- assigning questions
- answering questions relevant to you
- reviewing answers given by team members
- submitting the application before the deadline
- accepting the terms and conditions on behalf of your organisation
- uploading permitted appendices

You should only add people who are directly involved in the project. If your project wants to change who is leading the application, the new person will need to start a new application.

Partner organisations

Partner organisations are invited to join an application by the lead applicant. They will receive an email invitation from the Innovation Funding Service and will need to accept the invitation and create an account, or sign in to an existing account.

As a partner you are responsible for:

- completing project costs and finance details for your organisation
- inviting other people from your organisation to help with the application
- answering questions assigned to you by the lead applicant
- accepting the terms and conditions for your organisation

Partners can see:

- all application questions and answers
- their own organisation's finance details
- the application finance summary

Neither the lead applicant nor partners can view the financial details of any of the other organisations involved in the application. They can only view their own.

Partners are not able to:

- start an application
- invite people from other organisations
- assign questions
- submit the application

Uploading your documents

The funding opportunity you are applying for will provide guidance on uploading documents and file naming conventions.

If you need additional help or support

Innovate UK is committed to making support for applicants accessible to everyone.

We can provide help for applicants who face barriers when making an application. This might be as a result of a disability, neurodiversity or anything else that makes it difficult to use our services. We can also give help and make other reasonable adjustments for you if your application is successful. If you think you need more support, it is important that you contact Innovate UK as early as possible during your application process.

You should aim to contact Innovate UK no later than 10 working days before the competition closing date.

What happens after you have submitted your application

How your application is assessed

After the deadline, applications that meet the eligibility, scope and overall guidance for this competition will be sent for assessment. You will be notified if your application is ineligible with full reasons as to why. Innovate UK has the right to declare applications as ineligible.

Applications are assessed by up to 5 independent assessors. The assessors are experts from business, academia and/or the public sector and are allocated based on the skills and expertise in the area relevant to your project.

Standard assessment process

The standard assessment process applied to most full stage applications is as follows:

- applications are allocated to assessors in a secure and confidential manner, taking into account conflicts of interest and expertise that best match the funding opportunity
- · each application is marked by a minimum of 3 assessors
- applications are assessed against the same set of scoring criteria. All applications are assessed on individual merit. You will need to pass minimum quality thresholds in order to receive funding

- each assessor must complete and submit a score-sheet with comments for each application they assess. This will form your application feedback
- a report is compiled to identify a ranked order of all applications based on the average of all assessor scores. This is known as the panel sheet
- the panel sheet is reviewed and moderated. Moderation involves checking for any outlying assessor scores, for instance, if one of the scores varies considerably from the other scores provided
- after assessment, a proposed list of projects for funding will be reviewed by both BEISled and Innovate UK-led panels. BEIS officials will submit a list of recommendations to BEIS ministers for a final decision, based on the panels' advice
- it is possible that an application that received lower assessors' scores may be recommended for funding over others in order to achieve a more balanced project portfolio. The decision will be based on your assessment score and the portfolio approach as described in the Innovation Funding Service guidance
- resubmissions are assessed by different assessors who do not have access to your previous application or assessment

Please note that while Innovate UK engages assessors to act on its behalf, it keeps the right of decision over scope and to whether a proposal is in or out of scope absolutely. Projects considered out of scope will not be funded.

You will be notified of the decision and receive feedback

This application window is being run jointly by Innovate UK and BEIS. After initial assessment, all data will be handed over from Innovate UK to BEIS. You will then be notified by email by BEIS as to whether your application has passed the initial assessment stage. This notification does not guarantee funding. Any funding will remain subject to due diligence to BEIS' satisfaction and agreement to our proposed form of Grant Funding Agreement. If you are the lead applicant you should ensure any application partners know of the initial decision. The decision on the initial assessment stage is not subject to a right of appeal.

Assessor feedback is provided to all applicants by email, whether or not they have passed the assessment stage. Feedback is made up of the comments provided by the assessors. This can take up to 4 weeks after you are notified of the initial decision.

The assessor feedback is intended to be constructive. Contradiction in your feedback may suggest that your proposal could be clearer or better justified, as well as reflecting the different views of assessors. Your feedback may contain points or comments that you may disagree with. The comments provided will be based on the individual assessors' interpretation of your project idea.

No additional feedback will be provided and addressing feedback with Innovate UK or the assessors in question is not permitted.

You may wish to address the assessor feedback in a resubmitted application, should you be eligible for any future rounds of the IETF. Please note that resubmissions will be reviewed by different assessors who will have no prior knowledge of the original application or its feedback.

Addressing assessor feedback in a resubmission does not guarantee success and the onus is on you to act on the suggestions made.

There is no right of appeal against the feedback provided and you should not use the complaints procedure should you disagree with a scientific or technical decision Innovate UK or BEIS makes regarding your application.

Assessor confidentiality and potential conflicts of interest

All assessors have to sign confidentiality agreements and declare any potential conflicts of interest. They must treat applications in the strictest of confidence and adhere to information protection rules.

Assessors working for Innovate UK are engaged as individuals, not as representatives of their employment. They must carry out an assessment of the applications themselves. They cannot ask anyone else to review an application in their place nor ask anyone to give another opinion of their assessment. All assessors will be briefed by Innovate UK to undertake assessments according to Innovate UK's requirements.

Innovate UK preserves the anonymity of the assessors and their names will not be provided under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

What happens if you are successful at the initial assessment stage

Applications that are successful at the initial assessment stage will then undergo due diligence carried out by BEIS. Applicants must be willing to dedicate sufficient resource to assist in completing this process.

A Grant Funding Agreement will only be issued following the satisfactory completion of due diligence by BEIS.

The due diligence will review a number of matters including but not limited to:

- your total eligible project costs to check that they meet our funding criteria
- the financial viability of all industry partner organisations, also known as an organisation or enterprise in difficulty test
- the reason why you need public support to proceed with the Project and why it could not proceed in the absence of public support

- the amount of grant requested this must be the minimum necessary to enable the project to proceed
- the compatibility of support for the project with the relevant subsidy control regime
- whether you have, in our view, failed to meet the requirements of a funding agreement for a current or previous public funding award made.

You may be asked to provide further details during this process. BEIS reserves the right to exclude your application if the requirements of the due diligence checks are not met or if the checks identify any discrepancies with the information provided that are deemed unacceptable. We may also decide against awarding you funding, or suspend grant payments, if we deem that you have failed to meet the requirements of a funding agreement for a current or previous public funding award made. If the results of the due diligence process are satisfactory, you will be issued a Grant Funding Agreement which you must sign and return to BEIS. You will need to ensure ongoing compliance with conditions contained in the Grant Funding Agreement to receive grant funding. You will also be provided with guidance documents explaining the monitoring requirements.

We will not be responsible for nor will we make any commitment in respect of costs that you may incur prior to the issue of any Grant Funding Agreement.

If your project is a collaboration you will be asked to provide a collaboration agreement. An example of this is in the <u>Lambert toolkit</u>.

Innovate UK or BEIS may choose to promote your project as part of our communications. If you have any queries about public relations or media coverage email IETF@beis.gov.uk.

Monitoring officer

You will be assigned a monitoring officer who will work with you throughout the project. They will help to make sure your project complies with our terms and conditions. They are not responsible for project management.

Claims and auditing

Costs are only eligible if they are incurred and paid between the project start and end dates. Claims may be subject to an independent audit. You must submit an independent accountant's report (IAR) with your final claim.

As standard, funding should be claimed quarterly in arrears. Once audits and reports are complete and approved, the claimed funds are released.

All participants must provide evidence to support each claim made.

Claims must be paid into an account in the name under which you have applied to be able to receive grant payments.

Your banking provider must have a clearing facility and must be authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

If your bank provider does not have a clearing facility, we can accept it if there are no sanctions and it is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

Even if BEIS has paid grant payments to you before, we will request some further details from you which you can provide alongside your signed Grant Funding Agreement.

Activities the competition will support

The IETF Phase 1: Spring 2021 supports the following categories:

- energy efficiency deployment projects
- feasibility studies
- engineering studies

Energy Efficiency deployment projects

The IETF will support the onsite deployment of technologies that improve the energy efficiency of an industrial process or processes. Eligible technologies must have been proven to work through successful operations and/or be qualified through test and demonstration.

The intention is to support the commercial roll out and permanent installation of technologies at industrial sites, rather than general research, development, and testing of a technology solution. Technology developers are not eligible to apply as lead applicants.

Feasibility studies

A feasibility study aims to investigate a chosen technological solution and the technical, economic and operational impacts that this technology would have if it was to be deployed to the process in the future.

Applicants carrying out a feasibility study of technologies associated with energy efficiency should aim to demonstrate the economic case for the technology and associated emissions reductions, while ensuring that the technological barriers are identified and are manageable.

For deep decarbonisation feasibility studies, applicants should demonstrate that the technology is sufficiently well-developed and feasible to be used in the process, while increasing understanding of the economic impacts that deploying the solution will have on the process. Feasibility studies should not be carried out as part of an options analysis, as a single technology should have been already identified prior to the study.

If you are carrying out a feasibility study it must:

- investigate a defined technology solution that meets the eligibility criteria of the fund.
 Technologies must improve the energy efficiency, reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of an industrial process or achieve both.
- establish whether or not the potential technology is technically and commercially viable at the lead applicant's site.
- enable the applicant to reach a conclusion on whether further development of the proposed technology solution is cost-effective, with the aim of eventually deploying the technology permanently
- in the case of energy efficiency, this is likely to focus on determining the costs and benefits of the scheme, alongside how it would perform with regards to the existing process (including any potential impacts on operability, environmental benefits and scheduling of the plant).
- for deep decarbonisation studies, these should focus on the technical barriers
 associated with deploying this technology and any specific barriers to deployment within
 this process, in addition to an assessment of the economic impacts of deploying this
 solution.

Engineering studies

An engineering study is a detailed project plan that identifies specific technical and operational requirements, equivalent to a Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED) study. The output of an engineering study is expected to be a full project plan, incorporating all of the information required to fully understand a project and to allow the project to be at a state where a final investment decision can be made.

Your project must provide sufficient detail to arrive at an investment decision at the end of the engineering study, with key technical and project scheduling work already complete, including indication of full confidence that the project is ready to be delivered on receipt of internal approval.

We expect your engineering study to show appropriate consideration of:

- technical approach including performance and commissioning and acquisition of materials, expertise etc.
- carbon reduction and other benefits analysis
- · health and safety, and permitting
- planning and consent
- environmental impacts
- · economic analysis and forecasting

- project delivery requirements and scheduling including identified contractors
- project risks and risk management strategy

Projects that span more than one category of activity

If your work is going to be split across categories, please email ietf@innovateuk.ukri.org for further guidance.

Subsidy Control

The IETF will support successful applicants through subsidies awarded in the form of grants towards the eligible costs of the proposal. Any subsidy awarded by the UK Government is subject to the prevailing subsidy control regime and applicants should familiarise themselves with the relevant rules set out below. Subsidy rules dictate the types of costs that applicants can claim grant support for, as well as the maximum level of grant funding that they can receive which may differ by organisation type, size, and location.

The subsidy control branch of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has lead responsibility within the UK for coordination and development of subsidy policy.

Before submitting an application for funding to Innovate UK, you must accept the terms and conditions of the funding. If you are in any doubt, you should seek independent professional advice about your eligibility.

Rules for applicants in Northern Ireland

The rules set out in this document apply equally to all applicants from England, Wales and Northern Ireland that are eligible to receive funding. Grants that are subject to Article 10 of the Northern Ireland Protocol in the UK/EU Withdrawal Agreement will also be subject to scrutiny from the European Commission. This is most likely to apply to applicants and partner organisations based in Northern Ireland, but in limited circumstances may also affect those in England and Wales.

If the European Commission considers a business or any enterprise to have been incorrectly in receipt of grant funding, that organisation or enterprise is likely to be required to repay any aid received to the value of the gross grant equivalent.

Eligible costs

The IETF will only award grant funding where it can be demonstrated that the costs applied for by the applicant are directly attributable to the study or deployment project undertaken.

Applicants will be asked to submit details and justification for the costs applied for. Applications will be assessed in terms of their value for money, and applicants should minimise the grant amount applied for to that amount which is needed to enable the project/s to be taken forward.

For the **energy efficiency deployment competition**, the eligible costs against which applicants can apply for support are defined as the extra investment costs necessary to achieve the higher level of energy efficiency.

These costs shall be determined as follows:

- where the costs of investing in energy efficiency can be identified in the total investment cost as a separate investment, this energy efficiency-related cost shall constitute the eligible costs;
- in all other cases, the costs of investing in energy efficiency are identified by reference
 to a similar, less energy efficient investment that would have been credibly carried out
 without the aid. The reference investment should be similar in terms of size, capacity,
 and all other technical characteristics, and meet relevant minimum standards. The
 difference between the costs of both investments identifies the energy efficiency-related
 cost and constitutes the eligible costs.

The costs not directly linked to the achievement of a higher level of energy efficiency shall not be eligible.

It is the responsibility of applicants to demonstrate that the costs they expect to be eligible are necessary, directly linked to achieving a higher level of energy efficiency and would not be incurred in a counterfactual case. Examples of the type of costs that are eligible would be subcontractor costs, material costs and labour costs.

Projects must improve the efficiency of the manufacturing process beyond existing standards currently required by relevant UK and international law in order to be eligible. The relevant laws and standards are subject to the location of the project. If the organisation or enterprise is located in England or Wales, companies must comply with UK laws and standards. If the organisation or enterprise is located in Northern Ireland, companies must comply with laws and standards set by the European Union. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they adhere to the relevant minimum standards prior to application. Aid will not be granted where improvements are undertaken to ensure that organisation or enterprise comply with existing standards.

Maximum Subsidy Thresholds

In the IETF competition there are defined rules as to the maximum subsidy that an organisation, referred to below as an organisation or enterprise, may claim. Organisation or enterprise are entities engaged in an economic activity, regardless of their legal status and the way in which they are financed. Subsidy here covers any aid provided by the IETF directly, in the form of grant funding, or through other government backed support measures.

Energy Efficiency Deployment Funding

The maximum funding that an organisation or enterprise can claim is £14 million per project submitted through the Energy Efficiency Deployment competition. An organisation or enterprise can fund and receive aid on multiple projects as long as it is able to show that each project is a separate investment. If aid has already been granted to an individual project, then the maximum aid that the project can receive is £14 million minus the amount already received.

The government can offer additional financial support towards the eligible costs incurred by businesses conducting projects in less economically advantaged areas. Please see the 'Assisted Areas' section for further details.

For full details on the costs you can claim please see the <u>Innovate UK Finance Guidance</u>. Please note that for the purpose of deployment projects, 'Capital Usage' (Section 7) in the project costs guidance is not an eligible cost. Also, under 'Other Costs' (Section 10), only costs directly linked to achieving the higher level of energy efficiency are eligible.

Studies Funding

The total eligible project costs for a feasibility study application must be at least £30,000. The maximum grant that can be awarded for a feasibility study is £7 million.

The total eligible project costs for an engineering study application must be at least £50,000. The maximum grant that can be awarded for a feasibility study is £14 million.

An organisation or enterprise can fund and receive aid on multiple projects as long as it is able to show that each project is a separate investment. If aid has already been granted to an individual project, then the maximum aid that the project can receive is £7 million for feasibility studies and £14 million for engineering studies, minus the amount already received.

For full details on the costs you can claim please see the <u>Innovate UK Finance Guidance</u>.

Organisations or enterprises in difficulty

It is not possible to provide grant funding to organisations where one of the following circumstances has occurred:

• In the case of a limited liability company (other than an SME that has been in existence for less than three years or, for the purposes of eligibility for risk finance aid, an SME within 7 years from its first commercial sale that qualifies for risk finance investments following due diligence by the selected financial intermediary), where more than half of its subscribed share capital has disappeared as a result of accumulated losses. This is the case when deduction of accumulated losses from reserves (and all other elements generally considered as part of the own funds of the company) leads to a negative cumulative amount that exceeds half of the subscribed share capital, which includes any

- share premium. Limited Liability company is defined as: "public companies limited by shares or by guarantee, private companies limited by shares or by guarantee."
- In the case of a company where at least some members have unlimited liability for the debt of the company (other than an SME that has been in existence for less than three years or, for the purposes of eligibility for risk finance aid, an SME within 7 years from its first commercial sale that qualifies for risk finance investments following due diligence by the selected financial intermediary), where more than half of its capital as shown in the company accounts has disappeared as a result of accumulated losses. A company where at least some members have unlimited liability for the debt of the company is defined as: "partnerships, limited partnerships, unlimited companies."
- Where the organisation or enterprise is subject to collective insolvency proceedings or fulfils the criteria under its domestic law for being placed in collective insolvency proceedings at the request of its creditors.
- Where the organisation or enterprise has received rescue aid and has not yet reimbursed the loan or terminated the guarantee, or has received restructuring aid and is still subject to a restructuring plan.
- In the case of an organisation or enterprise that is not an SME, where, for the past two years:
 - The organisation or enterprise's book debt to equity ratio has been greater than
 7.5 and
 - The organisation or enterprise's EBITDA interest coverage ratio has been below 1.0.

Funding rules

For this competition, BEIS requires that projects are led by businesses who must meet the eligibility requirements set out in the competition guidance. Other types of organisation can apply in collaboration with a business partner.

The funding rates you can receive will depend on the size and type of your organisation and your role in the project. Organisations fall into 3 categories:

- businesses
- research organisations
- public sector organisations or charities undertaking research activity

Business

A business is defined as an organisation or enterprise engaged in commercial activity. Businesses are categorised as micro, small, medium, or large, and this categorisation will

determine the levels of grant funding that can be claimed through both the energy efficiency deployment and studies competitions.

Businesses in **England** and **Wales** can determine their size based on the thresholds set out in the <u>Companies accounts guidance</u>, summarised in the table below. To fit within a size category, businesses must be within the value thresholds for at least 2 of the following criteria:

- average staff headcount
- annual turnover
- balance sheet total

Company category	Staff headcount	Turnover	Balance sheet total
Medium-sized	< 250	≤ £36m	≤ £18m
Small	< 50	≤ £10.2m	≤ £5.1m
Micro	< 10	≤ £632k	≤ £316k

A large business in this context means any enterprise which exceeds the thresholds in the table for at least two of the criteria.

For projects based in **Northern Ireland**, please read the <u>definitions of different organisation</u> <u>sizes</u>.

Businesses in assisted areas

The government can provide additional funding to project costs claimed by businesses located in less economically advantaged areas, known as "assisted areas", that would benefit from additional support.

Being located in an assisted area does not confer any right to financial assistance; rather, it allows the public sector to provide certain types of assistance if it wishes.

Aid can be given to SMEs in 'a' and 'c' areas and to large businesses in 'a' areas for investment in the activities covered by the energy efficiency deployment competition only. The IFS guidance for <u>deployment</u> and <u>studies</u> provides details on the uplifts available to companies depending on their size and location.

To determine if you fall into an 'a' or 'c' area, please use the **UK** assisted areas map.

Research organisation

When referring to research organisations, the department uses the following definition:

"research and knowledge dissemination organisation" or 'research organisation' means an entity (such as universities or research institutes, technology transfer agencies, innovation intermediaries, research-oriented physical or virtual collaborative entities), irrespective of its legal status (organised under public or private law) or way of financing, whose primary goal is to independently conduct fundamental research, industrial research or experimental development or to widely disseminate the results of such activities by way of teaching, publication or knowledge transfer. Where such entity also pursues economic activities, the financing, the costs and the revenues of those economic activities must be accounted for separately. Organisations or enterprises that can exert a decisive influence upon such an entity, for example in the quality of shareholders or members, may not enjoy a preferential access to the results generated by it."

Within this competition, this means:

- universities (higher education institutions)
- non-profit research and technology organisations (RTOs), including catapults
- public sector organisations (PSO)
- public sector research establishments (PSRE)
- research council institutes
- research organisations (RO)
- charities

This list is not comprehensive and is subject to change and exceptions.

Any research organisations_in your project team undertaking non-economic activity as part of the project can share up to 30% of the total eligible costs. If your project team contains more than one research organisation undertaking non-economic activity, this maximum is shared between them.

- universities: 80% of full economic costs (as set out by the Je-S application system described below)
- all other research organisations: 100% of eligible costs

Research organisations should be non-profit distributing to qualify. They should explain how they will disseminate the output of their project research as outlined in the application.

Research organisations which are engaged in economic activity as part of the project will be treated as business enterprises for the purposes of funding.

Full economic cost (FEC) and Je-S system

Universities, higher education institutions (HEIs) and other research organisations which are registered on the Je-S system should submit their costs through this. Submitted and approved costs should then be added onto the specific application. These will then be submitted.

Only 80% of the FEC is allowable as eligible costs for Je-S applicants. The remaining 20% should not be shown on the finance table or forms. Research costs submitted through Je-S must be in line with business and participation rules.

Public sector organisation or charity

Public sector organisations and charities can work with businesses to achieve innovation through knowledge, skills and resources. These organisations must not take part in any economic activity or gain economic benefit from a project. They can apply for 100% of funding for their eligible costs under the following conditions:

- they are undertaking research (this may be experimental, theoretical or critical investigation work to gain knowledge, skills or understanding vital to the project)
- they meet requirements for dissemination of their project results and they state in the application how they will do this
- they include their eligible costs for research purposes in the total research organisation involvement
- they make sure they are not applying for funding towards costs which are already being paid by the public purse such as labour and overheads.

Third sector

Third sector organisations are primarily voluntary and community, such as associations, self-help groups, mutuals and cooperatives. Third sector organisations can be non-funding partners in a project.

Wider Applicant Support

If you need help with any of the rules please contact customer support service ietf@innovateuk.ukri.org or telephone 0300 321 4357. Our phone lines are open from 9am to 11:30am and 2pm to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

The Knowledge Transfer Network

If you want help to find a project partner or for general advice on developing and improving your application, contact Jenni Mcdonnell, jenni.mcdonnell@ktn-uk.org, at the Knowledge Transfer Network.

KTN is a network partner of Innovate UK. It links new ideas and opportunities with expertise, markets and finance through our network of businesses, universities, funders and investors. From agri-food to autonomous systems and from energy to design, KTN combines in-depth knowledge in all sectors with the ability to cross boundaries.

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