



### **GSI Geoscience Research Short Call 2020 - Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. Are salaries eligible costs?**

Salaries for any staff member carrying out the research in the project are eligible (e.g. scholarship for PhD, salary for a researchers, developers etc.). However, salary costs for project supervision or management are not eligible – funding is only for research activities.

**2. Are overheads/indirect costs an eligible cost?**

Overheads/Indirect costs can be included in the budget but will not be paid in addition to the €30,000 limit. Indirect costs must not exceed 10% of the total direct costs.

**3. Can the GSI staff be named partners on a project?**

Yes, GSI staff can provide expertise, supervision, data etc. but cannot receive funding for their contribution.

**4. Can researchers outside the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland be funded?**

No. Funding is only available to researchers based Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland and adhering to all other criteria.

**5. Can a project include only researchers from Northern Ireland?**

No, projects led by a NI researcher must include a partner from the RoI (though it is not a requirement that the RoI partner is funded through the call)

**6. Can researchers outside the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland be collaborators/partners?**

Yes, there is no limit to the number or type of partner but they cannot receive funding.

**7. Are research performing agencies (e.g. Teagasc, EPA, Marine Institute) eligible for funding?**

Research performing agencies are not eligible for funding but are encouraged to join as partners.

**8. What if my project is not covered by themes outlined?**

All applications for GSI funding should comfortably fit within the themes outlined in the Terms and Conditions.

**9. Will my project be assessed more favourably if it has co-funding/in-kind contributions?**

No.

**10. Will my project be assessed more favourably if it has a GSI partner?**

No. Assessors will be asked to consider the overall team composition in the context of the project proposed.

**11. Is VAT allowable?**

Yes.

**12. Is a computer considered durable equipment (and therefore not an eligible cost)?**

If your company/institute considers computers a consumable or with a lifespan of less than 14 months, then it is an eligible cost. A computer is also allowable if you are hiring an additional staff member to do the work and they require a computer.

**13. What are 'references'?**

These are any publications, papers, published documents etc. that you have referred to in your text.

**14. Can Short Call funding be used to 'top-up' a previous project or complete a PhD project?**

No, Short Call funding can only be used for a stand alone project that has independent workflows, outputs and deliverables and that are not supported by other funds.

**15. Will there be a negotiation stage after the results are announced?**

No, there is no negotiation stage or opportunity to respond to reviewers comments. It is therefore advisable that you ensure your proposal is clear and considered before submission.

**16. Does the project have to start on November 1<sup>st</sup>?**

All contracts must be in place before the end of November, however if the project is less than 14 months the work can start after that date. All projects must be completed within 14 months of the contract start date.

**17. If a project is 'blue skies' or higher risk and does not achieve its goals, what happens?**

'Blue skies' projects should still have clear objective. A null answer is still valid and the project is still expected to deliver a full report to outline the project outcomes and potential future work to progress it.

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