



Societies and Cultures Institute (SCI) Development Fund

Internal Call Document 2022/23

Introduction:

The International Institute for Cultural Enquiry (IICE) is transitioning to become the Societies and Cultures Institute (SCI) on the 1st August 2022, with a new website being launched in winter 2022. The Societies and Cultures Institute sits within the new Faculty of Humanities, Arts and the Social Sciences and has become the fifth cross-disciplinary UoE Institute.

Two previous rounds of Development Funds have been awarded by IICE and the projects supported can be found [here](#).

We have a maximum of £30,000 to award through the Development Fund in academic year 2022/2023. This can support an individual project with a **maximum value of £7,000**.

Aims of the Development Fund:

To support HASS led challenge-facing and curiosity driven interdisciplinary research, by enabling HASS PIs to develop collaborations and partnerships, test innovative ideas or build an evidence base.

It will provide vital development funds for emerging research projects that address challenges in a disruptive and innovative manner and have the potential to be submitted to an external funding Call within one year of the Development Fund period ending.

In 2022/23 the aim is to support at least:

- One project that are a HASS- STEMM collaboration.
- Two projects that specifically develop international partnerships.

Eligible Activities:

Applications can be made for activities to develop research projects for up to £7,000 and ALL awarded money must be spent by 31st July 2023.

The funding can cover all Directly Incurred costs, including:

- Travel and subsistence
- Fieldwork and consumables
- Website/marketing costs
- External engagement/networking activities (workshops, conferences, seminars etc)
- Outreach activities (exhibitions, community engagement, public lectures and visiting speakers etc)
- Contribution to an Intern placement

Please note:

1. This does NOT need to go through your Research Services Cluster for costing or approval.
2. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure they have approval from their department to conduct the research should their project be awarded.

Assessment Criteria:

All projects must be:

1. **Interdisciplinary:** Applications must include a minimum of TWO co-applicants from different HASS disciplines OR at least ONE co-applicant from a STEMM discipline.
2. **Challenge-led or curiosity driven:** All projects must clearly show a response to a cultural or social priority or problem. This can be at an international, national or regional level.
3. **External partnerships:** Applications must have the potential to aid the development of at least one external partnership.
4. Aware of the ethical considerations and any ethical approvals needed.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. Research Excellence:

- How novel is the research idea?
- Does it respond clearly to a cultural or social priority or problem?
- How impactful could the research be?
- What scope is there to submit to an external funding call?

2. Interdisciplinarity:

- What advantages does working with the chosen collaborators bring to the research?
- Are inter-disciplinary methods providing a disruptive or innovative approach?
- Are the collaborators appropriate to deliver the aims, objectives and chosen methodology?

3. Value for money:

- Are the resources that have been asked for essential to test innovative ideas or build an evidence base?
- How realistic is the potential to develop external partnerships?
- Are the resources that have been asked for enabling **international partnerships** to develop or a **HASS-STEMM** collaboration?
- Are the resources that have been asked for likely to position the PI to be able to apply to an external funder?

4. Ethics:

- Have details of any ethical approvals needed been explained?
- Have details of any special ethical issues arising from this research been explained?

Scoring System:

Each application will be assigned a final score from three reviewers, and then discussed at a Panel meeting. The highest ranked applications will be awarded funding.

Score	Description
6 (Outstanding)	The proposal is OUTSTANDING in terms of its potential scientific merit.
5 (Excellent)	The proposal is EXCELLENT in terms of its potential scientific merit.
4 (Good)	The proposal is IMPORTANT as it has considerable potential merit.
3 (Satisfactory)	The proposal has SIGNIFICANT potential scientific merit but is not of a consistently high quality.
2 (Fair/Some Weakness)	The proposal will add to understanding and is WORTHY of support but is of lesser quality or urgency than more highly rated proposals. Such proposals are unlikely to have a significant influence on the development of research.
1 (Poor)	The proposal is FLAWED in its scientific approach, or is repetitious of other work, or judged not worth pursuing; or, though it possibly has sound objectives, appears seriously defective in its methodology.

Timeline

Submissions open:	Monday 11 th July 2022
Application deadline:	Monday 5 th September 2022 at 09:00
Assessment and funding decisions:	By Monday 26 th September 2022
Projects to start:	1 st October 2022 onwards
Latest project end date:	31 st July 2023

Submitting Applications

All applications must be submitted using the Societies and Cultures Institute (SCI) Development Fund Application Form 2022/23, adhering to the word limits for each section. Please submit by email to culturalenquiry@exeter.ac.uk.

The deadline for Proposals is 09:00 on Monday 5th September 2022. Projects should be costed as accurately as possible before submission and will be checked prior to allocation of the award.

Any queries, please email: culturalenquiry@exeter.ac.uk.