

# Taighde Éireann-Research Ireland

## Clean Energy Transition Partnership (CETP)



## Joint Transnational Call 2024

### Taighde Éireann-Research Ireland: Guidance & Frequently Asked Questions

This FAQ document is specific to applicants based in Ireland and should be read in addition to the full call information and documentation available at: <https://cetpartnership.eu/calls/joint-call-2024>

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#### 1. What are the general consortium eligibility requirements for the CETP JTC 2024?

The consortium must comply with the following criteria:

- a minimum of three Beneficiary Partners (including one Coordinator) adhering to relevant national/regional eligibility criteria, from a minimum of three different countries participating in the selected Call Module. Of these three Beneficiary Partners, at least two must be from EU Member States or HE Associated Countries.
- The total effort of one Partner in the Project Consortium can be maximum 60% of the total project effort (measured in person months).
- The total effort of Project Consortium Partners from one country/region in the Project Consortium can be maximum 75% of the total project effort (measured in person months).

Please review the general eligibility criteria and call module requirements outlined in full in the Joint Call Text 2024 ahead of proposal preparation.

#### 2. There are several Irish funding agencies participating in this call. Who should I apply to?

Taighde Éireann-Research Ireland, the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) and the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) are all participating as Irish funding agencies in the Joint Call 2024. Applicants are advised to familiarise themselves with the differing eligibility and budgetary requirements across each agency to determine the most suitable funder for their proposal. Please refer to the [CETP Joint Call 2024 funding agencies table](#) and the Joint Call Text 2024 (Annex C – National/regional requirements) for further details.

**3. Can I apply to more than one Irish funding agency with the same research proposal?**

No, Ireland-based applicants must select and submit their proposal to only one agency, even if they meet the eligibility criteria to more than one funder. If the same proposal is submitted to more than one Irish funding agency it will be deemed ineligible.

**4. Can I apply to more than one Irish funding agency with a different research proposal?**

It is permitted for an applicant to apply to different Irish funding agencies with different proposals, if the respective requirements for each agency are met.

**5. Can more than one partner from Ireland be included in the same proposal?**

Yes, more than one partner from Ireland can apply once the CETP consortium criteria are met (a minimum of three beneficiary partners from three different countries. Of these at two must be from EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries – Joint Call Text Section 4.2)

If two or more Ireland-based applicants are partners on the same pre-proposal planning to carry out distinct work, funding can be requested separately by each partner to different participating agencies, adhering to each agency's own rules and requirements. Please note Research Ireland will fund only one partner per proposal.

For any queries, please contact the relevant agencies directly for confirmation ahead of proposal preparations and submission.

**6. What is the maximum budget for the Irish partner(s) awarded through Research Ireland? Is this the same for each Irish partner in the same consortia or is it the total for all Irish partners in the same consortia?**

The maximum Research Ireland budget portion of a proposal is €405,000 direct costs (for a coordinating partner) or €330,000 (for a non-coordinating partner), irrespective of the number of Irish partners involved in the consortium.

[The maximum total award, including overhead contribution, will be €530,000 for a successful proposal with an applicant who takes on the role of coordinator and €430,000 for a successful proposal with a non-coordinating Ireland-based partner].

## 7. What are the eligible costs associated with funding from Research Ireland for CETP JTC 2024?

Funding is provided for up to 100% of eligible costs up to the maximum amounts in Q6 above.

### Eligible costs

1. **Salary-related costs** for research personnel. Please use current SFI Team Member Salary Scales. The Irish partner cannot request their own salary.
2. **Small equipment costs** up to a maximum value of €50K
3. **Travel costs** with consideration for Research Ireland's Guidance for Sustainable Travel Policy
4. **Direct running costs** (materials and consumables)
5. **Dissemination and knowledge exchange costs**
6. **Subcontracting costs** are considered an eligible budget category however strong justification for subcontracting must be provided and pre-approved directly with Research Ireland in advance of proposal submission.
7. **Overheads** should be calculated as 30% of the direct costs, but excluding therefrom the cost of all equipment identified in the application

Unless otherwise stated, all rules regarding listed eligible costs apply as defined within Research Ireland's [grant budget policy](#)

### Ineligible costs

SFI will not provide a contribution towards the salary of the applicant, international co-applicants or collaborators. All additional ineligible costs apply as described in Research Ireland's [grant budget policy](#).

## 8. Can PhD students be funded through this call?

As detailed in the Joint Call Text 2024, the maximum duration of projects is 36 months. As per Research Ireland's Grant Budget Policy, four years' funding should be provided for all PhD students, where 3 years funding (covering both the stipend and fees) will be supported directly through the grant and the last year funding (covering both stipend and fees) will be covered by the host institution.

Where applications for funding advance from the pre-proposal to full-proposal stage of the review process, applicants will be required to provide Research Ireland with a letter of commitment from the host institution confirming that the financial support required for a fourth year of PhD funding (stipend + fees), will be covered by said institution. Please refer to Research Ireland's Grant Budget Policy concerning its current contribution and note that Research Ireland currently funds postgraduate student stipends at a flat rate of €22,000 per annum for up to four years. This will apply to all budgets associated with Grant applications to SFI from 2024, with reference to the Government of Ireland's Budget 2024. This figure may be adjusted upwards, further to the national review and consultation which are currently being undertaken. Furthermore, the Ireland-

based partner must submit a final scientific report at the end of the three-year funding period, even if the PhD extends beyond the term of the grant.

## **9. Can equipment be funded through this call?**

Items of equipment not exceeding €50,000 can be included in the budget. Only equipment purchases that are directly required for the research and are deemed not to be easily accessible elsewhere in Ireland are appropriate. All costs must be inclusive of VAT, where applicable. Please refer to Research Ireland's [grant budget policy](#) for further details on eligible equipment costs and national procurement rules.

## **10. Can access charges be included in as eligible costs?**

Access charges may be sought for use of infrastructure where pre-approved access charge plans are in place<sup>1</sup>. A listing of key contacts for access charge plans is available [here](#). In addition, requests may be included for accessing international databases and facilities or for the commissioning of experiments in international facilities/research labs where appropriately detailed justification is provided and where the required infrastructure is not available in Ireland. Costs must be listed as a separate line item and full details should be provided in the budget justification<sup>2</sup>.

If you have further queries, please contact Research Ireland at [eu-cofund@researchireland.ie](mailto:eu-cofund@researchireland.ie) or [emma.mcgrath@researchireland.ie](mailto:emma.mcgrath@researchireland.ie).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.sfi.ie/funding/sfi-policies-and-guidance/budget-finance-related-policies/Approved-SFI-Access-Charge-Plans-260722.pdf>