



Met Éireann Research Call Programme

Call for Proposals



TRANSLATE

2020

1 TRANSLATE - Important call information

1.1 Objectives

TRANSLATE is a competitive research call for applications aimed at standardising national climate projections for Ireland and developing climate services to meet the Irish adaptation sector's climate information requirements. The research call's objectives are:

1. To standardise climate projections for Ireland;
2. To document & prioritise sector specific climate service requirements;
3. To develop sector specific climate services;
4. To develop climate service communication strategy and material.

1.2 Dates

- Call deadline: 10/07/2020 at 17:00
- The system will automatically prevent application submission after the deadline.
- Results expected: September 2020

1.3 Submission platform

Please use the Met Éireann grant platform to submit your application (best with Edge, Firefox or Chrome), following the instructions therein: <https://meteireann.grantplatform.com/>.

1.4 Support

If you have any questions on the application process, please contact Met Éireann's Research Funding Office by email to researchfunding@met.ie.



2 TRANSLATE - Background information

Climate services are scientifically based information and products that enhance users' knowledge and understanding about the impacts of climate on their decisions and actions. These services are made most effective through collaboration between providers and users.

MET ÉIREANN, along with its partners, have been helping to develop climate projections for Ireland for some time. In 2003, the Community Climate Change Consortium for Ireland (C4I) was established in Met Éireann to produce the first regional climate projections for Ireland. Met Éireann are also partners in the international EC-EARTH climate modelling consortium working with leading experts from 12 European countries to develop and run state-of-the-art climate projections. More recently, an abundance of high quality climate models have become more readily available.

Similar to other countries, Ireland requires an official standardised set of climate projections. This by no means precludes users from taking advantage of the many other climate projections available but it would help standardise national and cross sectoral decision making. This call for proposals is not aimed towards the running or development of any climate models but rather to review existing climate projections and to advice on an appropriate national climate projection standard. TRANSLATE is also aimed at ensuring that these projections as well as new value added products/reports are easily accessible to all potential users.

The documentation and prioritisation of the needs of all climate sensitive sectors in Ireland are required. Standardised national climate services to meet these needs are to be developed. These standardised climate services, developed on the back of standardised projections, will be used to establish national climate services to not only assist the next iteration of national adaptation plans but also to benefit all Irish climate sensitive sectors.



3 TRANSLATE - Call for applications

MET ÉIREANN is now calling for applications to specifically address the two research topics described below (Topic 1 and Topic 2).

Applicants are invited to select either Topics 1 & 2 combined, Topic 1 or Topic 2. Synergies between Topic 1 and Topic 2 are expected and, should an applicant choose to select either Topic 1 or Topic 2 only, they will be expected to collaborate with the other Topic. Should an applicant choose Topics 1 & 2 combined, they should demonstrate how synergies between the two sub-topics (Topic 1 and Topic 2) will be achieved.

- Total expected budget for Topics 1 & 2 combined: €600k. Total expected months: 24.
- Total expected budget for Topic 1: €200k. Total expected months: 18.
- Total expected budget for Topic 2: €400k. Total expected months: 24.

Topic 1 and Topic 2 are expected to run in parallel.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS: the lead applicant should have a permanent contract with an Irish High Education Institution¹ (HEI) and should include an international climate services expert partner in their proposal.

3.1 Topics 1 & 2 combined

Expected deliverables:

- A. To standardise climate projections for Ireland:
 - A definitive set of agreed standardised projections suitable for delivery through existing national data portals.
 - Using all available downscaled data for Ireland, deliver a literature review and peer reviewed publication outlining available climate projections for Ireland, concluding with recommendations on the most appropriate projections to use as an operational national baseline for all Irish socio-economic sectors.
 - Guideline report on how to evaluate future uncertainty is expected to be produced.

¹ As recognised by t <https://www.education.ie/en/Learners/Information/Providers-of-Higher-Education/List.html>. For any clarification please contact researchfunding@met.ie.



B. To document & prioritise sector specific climate service requirements:

- Sector specific user needs to be defined and documented through consultation and survey. This is expected to incorporate sectors identified in the Irish National Adaptation Framework, as well as the local authorities.
- In line with best international practice identify, prioritise and document common cross-sectoral requirements. Existing global, regional and national climate service initiatives should be considered.

C. To develop sector specific climate services:

- Localised, sector specific climate services based on the requirements identified in deliverable B. These should be developed and made freely available to meet the requirements of the Irish adaptation sector.
- Methodologies, developed software and data should be delivered to Met Éireann and subsequently made open source so that the services can be easily updated after completion of the project when newer projections become available.
- All climate services developed are to be based on standardised projections as defined in deliverable A.

D. To develop communication material:

- Policy guidance report for climate sensitive sectors with added information on the use of developed climate service products. This report should also include dedicated sections on at least Agriculture, Health, Water, Energy and Transport sectors.
- Dedicated guidance document on the use of climate projections in Ireland for adaptation.
- Develop suitable information dissemination material for all user types.
- All outputs of the project are to be suitable for dissemination through existing national data portal platforms, such as Climate Ireland.

Max. total budget: €600k. Max. total months: 24.



3.2 Topic 1

Expected deliverable:

A. To standardise climate projections for Ireland:

- A definitive set of agreed standardised projections suitable for delivery through existing national data portals.
- Using all available downscaled data for Ireland, deliver a literature review and peer reviewed publication outlining available climate projections for Ireland, concluding with recommendations on the most appropriate projections to use as an operational national baseline for all Irish socio-economic sectors.
- Guideline report on how to evaluate future uncertainty is expected to be produced.
- Collaboration with Topic 2 is expected.

Max. total budget: €200k. Total max. months: 18.

3.3 Topic 2

Expected deliverables:

B. To document & prioritise sector specific climate service requirements:

- Sector specific user needs to be defined and documented through consultation and survey. This is expected to incorporate sectors identified in the Irish National Adaptation Framework, as well as the local authorities.
- In line with best international practice identify, prioritise and document common cross-sectoral requirements. Existing global, regional and national climate service initiatives should be considered.

C. To develop sector specific climate services:

- Localised, sector specific climate services based on the requirements identified in deliverable B. These should be developed and made freely available to meet the requirements of the Irish adaptation sector.
- Methodologies, developed software and data should be delivered to Met Éireann and subsequently made open source so that the services can be easily updated after completion of the project when newer projections become available.
- All climate services developed are to be based on standardised projections as defined in Topic 1.



- Collaboration with Topic 1 is expected.

D. To develop communication material:

- Policy guidance report for climate sensitive sectors with added information on the use of developed climate service products. This report should also include dedicated sections on at least Agriculture, Health, Water, Energy and Transport sectors.
- Dedicated guidance document on the use of climate projections in Ireland for adaptation.
- Develop suitable information dissemination material for all user types.
- All outputs of the project are to be suitable for dissemination through existing national data portal platforms, such as Climate Ireland.

Max. total budget: €400k. Max. total months: 24.



4 TRANSLATE – Additional information

4.1 Supporting Data

Applicants should provide evidence that existing datasets are available and accessible (either reference open databases, or provide a statement of ownership or letter from the data owner to say it will be made available). All project proposals must clearly define the research question, methodology, expected outputs, expected impact and dissemination activities. For MET ÉIREANN hosted data, the relevant members of MET ÉIREANN staff should be contacted prior to submission to ensure availability (contact researchfunding@met.ie if you require specific information/contact details).

4.2 Duration of project

The Project may be up to 24 (for Topics 1 & 2 combined and Topic 2) or 18 (for Topic1) months' duration². The proposed project duration must be appropriate for the project described. Projects are expected to start approximately in Q4 2020 with latest possible start date of Q1 2021.

4.3 Host institute and location

The Host Institute must be a Higher Education Institute in the Republic of Ireland, however, as this research project will be one component of a larger research programme, member(s) of the successful team may be required to be located and attend for meetings in the MET ÉIREANN office (and remotely whenever required) an estimated 20% of their time per year for the duration of the project. This is to ensure integration of the research activities and outputs into the wider programme, and also to provide access to the facilities and data required.

4.4 Definitions

The Project – the Project is the overall research project as proposed by the Applicant. It should be of sufficient scale to deliver the research outputs and include nominated staff positions (e.g. Postdoctoral Researchers) as appropriate for the work.

Applicant – the Applicant is the person responsible for submitting, leading and managing the project. They must be employed in the host organisation on a permanent contract basis (their

² There may be an option to extend the project in which case a decision will be based on the annual reports submitted and a full review at month 24 (for Topic 1s & 2 combined and Topic 2) or 18 (for Topic1) and an assessment of the overall outputs and needs of the project at that time. All initial project descriptions must be limited to 24 (for Topics 1 & 2 combined and Topic 2) or 18 (for Topic1) months.



salary costs may **not** be charged to the Project) and will act as the primary point of contact. They must hold a qualification/have relevant experience in the aspect of the work to be undertaken (this must be demonstrated in their CV). The Applicant must have been awarded their PhD before September 30th 2017.

Collaborators – Collaborators have a specific role in the project but do not receive funding. They may be providing expertise, data etc. as appropriate to support the project.

Host organisation – this must be a Higher Education Institute in Ireland³. Valid tax clearance certificates must be supplied on request.

Authorised person – the Application must be signed by the Research Office/Authorised Official of the host organisation. The signature indicates the organisation's willingness and ability to host the award in terms of financial, human and physical resources required.

4.5 Eligibility

All criteria listed in the definitions must be adhered to.

Applications from researchers who are currently outside the Republic of Ireland (RoI) are only eligible if the Applicant will be physically and administratively hosted in an organisation in RoI, full-time, for the duration of the award.

CVs for the Applicant and each Partner / Collaborator must be submitted with the proposal and must demonstrate the ability of each to carry out their responsibilities within the project.

The lead applicant should have a permanent contract with an Irish HEI and should include an international climate services expert partner in their proposal.

4.6 Researcher profile and CVs

The Applicant must attach a CV which should be no longer than 4 pages and must include:

- Contact details
- Recent employment history
- Academic qualifications or equivalent experience
- Publications
- Other information relevant to the proposal*

³ As recognised by t <https://www.education.ie/en/Learners/Information/Providers-of-Higher-Education/List.html>. For any clarification please contact researchfunding@met.ie.

Partners / Collaborators must attach a CV which should be no longer than 4 pages and must include:

- Contact details
- Recent employment history
- Academic qualifications or equivalent experience
- Key Publications
- Other information relevant to the proposal*

*For all information regarding funding secured to date:

- You must clearly state your role in any project listed (Lead/PI/Partner)
- If you were an unfunded collaborator this can be included but it must be clearly stated you were not funded.
- Any funding awarded/decision pending must clearly state how much funding has been/may be awarded to the Applicant and not the total value of the project to the whole consortium or institute.

Misrepresentation of research grants awarded/pending is considered a serious breach of ethics and terms and conditions. Any misleading information found in applications for funding will result in the application being returned without review. Information provided may be queried with other named funding agencies if necessary.

4.7 Submission

The call comprises a one stage application process. Full proposals must be submitted using the <https://meteireann.grantplatform.com/> submission platform before the call deadline. Any applications not adhering to submission and formatting rules, or received after the deadline, will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed.

Proposals must be submitted by **5pm, Friday July 10th 2020**.



4.8 Format and Layout

Text font in the file submitted should be no smaller than Arial 11 with page margins no less than 2.5cm. All word limits outlined in the application template must be adhered to. Only PDF files will be accepted. Any pages beyond the limit will be excluded from review.

4.9 Budgets

All values must be presented in Euro. Maximum allowable budget per project (including up to 30% contribution to indirect costs) is €600k for Topics 1 & 2 combined, €200k for Topic 1 and €400k for Topic 2.

4.10 Eligible costs

Examples of eligible costs (list not exhaustive)

- Total salary costs of the team members (including all pension, taxes etc.)
- Consumables (e.g. access fees)
- Software licenses
- Publication fees
- Travel
- Indirect costs (maximum 10% of direct costs)

Examples of non-eligible costs (list not exhaustive)

- Salary/staff costs for other staff in the Host or partner organisations (including mentors)
- Maintenance contracts
- Office equipment/furniture
- Durable equipment

If there are any queries regarding eligible and non-eligible costs please contact researchfunding@met.ie before submitting your proposal.



Financial reports signed by the Institute finance office will be required annually. Payments will only be made once these are received and approved by MET ÉIREANN.

Projects can be co-funded by cash/in-kind contributions from partner organisations though this is not a requirement; in such cases, the total cost of the project including the partner contributions and MET ÉIREANN funds requested must be included.

In-kind contributions can include personnel time, access to facilities, access to existing data, etc.

4.11 Budget Justification

This section should clearly justify the planned expenditure including expected timings.

4.12 Reporting

The project must be completed within the designated time. Annual reviews will be scheduled before the start of the project. These will include written activity and financial reports. In addition to the reports submitted as required deliverables throughout the project, a final report summarising the project's results must be submitted at the end of the project. Failure to submit these reports on time will result in payments being withheld and/or exclusion from subsequent MET ÉIREANN calls. Reporting templates will be provided.

As part of the reporting procedures, successful applicants may be asked to present their results (oral or poster presentation) at MET ÉIREANN event(s).

If the annual reports indicate that the project is (i) not adhering to the terms and conditions, (ii) is significantly behind schedule, and/or (iii) is not adhering to the projects described in the contract, MET ÉIREANN reserves the right to withdraw funding.

Additional costs may be requested if clearly justified however, funding is not guaranteed. Please contact researchfunding@met.ie if you have queries.

4.13 Project description

This section is a maximum of 3,000 words excluding figures and references and should comprise:

(i) Strategic context and rationale for the project including background information, state of the art and reasons for addressing the issue now. The projects should also clearly demonstrate how the results of the research will be incorporated into the wider programme of work in MET ÉIREANN's Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027 (see Appendix 3), and/or how the research will bring added value to that programme.

(ii) Objectives and scientific/engineering targets beyond the state of the art. This should outline how the project will expand our knowledge beyond current understanding and clearly outline the objective of the planned work.

(iii) Methodology & Implementation plan should include the approach to be used along with timelines, milestones for the project and any information relevant to the efficient management of the project.

(iv) Outputs. The outputs should be well defined, ambitious and realistic. They should link clearly to the milestones and timing of the project as well as the budget. Details must be provided alongside some examples, e.g.

- New models,
- New digital data set(s),
- Development of new methods, equipment, techniques, technology or cross-disciplinary applications, and
- Presentations at international conferences and publications in high impact journals.

4.14 Expected impact

This section is a maximum of 1,000 words excluding figures. The outputs of the project will be expected to be integrated into the wider MET ÉIREANN's Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027 (see Appendix 3) and activities. Details of how this can be achieved must be included.

This section should also comprise any additional impacts; positive impacts on two or more of the following should be described;

- Scientific discovery,
- Development of new methodology/toolkits,
- Development of new software/prototypes, and/or
- Significant contribution to policy and governance.

This section should clearly show how the project will impact these areas and whether the expected impact is short, medium or long term.

4.15 Communication and dissemination plan

Dissemination of the project outputs are expected as standard and a clear communication plan should be clearly described including timing of known conferences, events, outreach activities, etc.

4.16 Review process and criteria

Once received, all applications will be checked for eligibility. Projects that are deemed ineligible, beyond the scope of the call, or not responding to project requirements will not be reviewed. Eligible applications will be reviewed by experts and assessed under the following criteria:

- Quality of Scientific/Engineering project described (40%);
- Impact (25%);
- Quality of the proposed team including Applicant and Collaborators (25%);
- Implementation, management plan and value for money (10%).

Please remember, the review panel will include international experts who may be unfamiliar with specific Irish acronyms etc.

The review panel will also include a senior member of the MET ÉIREANN Research Call Programme team to ensure relevance to the Programme. For this reason Applicants may not contact MET ÉIREANN staff to solicit information, lobby or discuss potential project applications. All queries must be directed to the MET ÉIREANN's Research Funding Office at researchfunding@met.ie. Applicants breaching this rule will be deemed ineligible.

4.17 Ethics

All proposals are expected to adhere to standard ethics rules (see EU ethics page⁴). Where organisational ethics guidelines are in place, the Applicant is expected to adhere to their ethics committee's guidelines.

4.18 Open research policy

MET ÉIREANN and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government support the National Open Research Forum policies. Applicants are expected to follow the National Framework on the Transition to an Open Research Environment, including open access to publications and data.

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/ethics_en.htm

4.19 Non compliance

Where proposals or awards are found to be non-compliant as per these Terms and Conditions or in breach of Contract, projects will be deemed ineligible (at initial review stage) or funding may be withdrawn.

4.20 Confidentiality

All applications and subsequent correspondence with applicants will be treated as confidential and will follow GDPR regulations. By submitting your application you are agreeing to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government's GDPR policy.

4.21 Acknowledgement

MET ÉIREANN, the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and Government of Ireland must be clearly acknowledged in all activities and outputs including publications, conference presentations, reports, events etc. High resolution image files of the relevant logos will be made available and must be included.

All dissemination and communication activities must be recorded and included in the final report.

4.22 Intellectual property and data management

Foreground Intellectual Property (IP) will remain with the Grantee, however, where research or product(s)/service(s) result from MET ÉIREANN Research Funding, the product/service will be provided free of charge to MET ÉIREANN and made available as open source. Where data is collected as part of a MET ÉIREANN funded project, a copy of the raw data must be provided to MET ÉIREANN and, where relevant, standard data formats should be used (e.g. INSPIRE). Specific terms and conditions relating to data use and data storage will be determined before the start of the project on a case by case basis.

4.23 Programme management

Any queries regarding the application process or project description should be submitted by email to researchfunding@met.ie.



APPENDIX 1 – Online Application Form

1. Application Start

- 1.1. Choose your Topic
- 1.2. Enter a proposal acronym
- 1.3. Click Save + Next

Application Start
Application Details
Application Team
Application Attachments
Application Criteria

Category

Expected deliverable:

A. To standardise climate projections for Ireland:

- A definitive set of agreed standardised projections suitable for delivery through existing national data portals.
- Using all available downscaled data for Ireland, deliver a literature review and peer reviewed publication outlining available climate projections for Ireland, concluding with recommendations on the most appropriate projections to use as an operational national baseline for all Irish socio-economic sectors.
- Guideline report on how to evaluate future uncertainty is expected to be produced.
- Collaboration with Topic 2 is expected.

Max. total budget: €300k. Total max. months: 24.

TRANSLATE

Save + next
Save + close
Preview
Submit application

2. Application Details

Application Start
Application Details
Application Team
Application Attachments
Application Criteria

Lead Applicant First Name

Lead Applicant Last Name

Lead Applicant Title

Lead Applicant Email



3. Application Team

Application Start	Application Details	Application Team	Application Attachments	Application Criteria
Team member #1 Delete				
First Name <input type="text"/>				
Last Name <input type="text"/>				
Title <input type="text"/>				
Email <input type="text"/>				
Organisation <input type="text"/>				
Project Contribution <input type="text"/>				

4. Application Attachments

Application Start	Application Details	Application Team	Application Attachments	Application Criteria
Project Description Select file		Max. 3,000 words, excluding figures, headings and references (i) Strategic context and rationale; (ii) Objectives and targets beyond the state of the art; (iii) Methodology & implementation plan (including team); (iv) Outputs (e.g. short description and deliverables/milestones table).		
Lead Applicant CV Select file		Max. 4 pages, evidence of formal career breaks, if applicable (e.g. parental leave) can be included in addition to the CV.		
International Partner CV Select file		Max. 4 pages, evidence of formal career breaks, if applicable (e.g. parental leave) can be included in addition to the CV.		
Letter(s) of Support (optional) Select file		For any team members, partners and/or collaborators providing in-kind or cash contributions (if applicable). For multiple letters of support, please attach one file only or use the add attachments button below.		
Approval of Authorised Person Select file		On organisation's letterhead. Template:		





5. Application Criteria

Application Start	Application Details	Application Team	Application Attachments	Application Criteria
Lead Organisation Type				
<input type="text"/>				
Lead Organisation Country				
<input type="text"/>				
International Partner Organisation Country				
<input type="text"/>				
<input type="checkbox"/> I declare that the information provided is accurate and correct. I agree that MET ÉIREANN's Research Funding Office may make any enquires it considers necessary to verify the information provided herein. I have read, and agree to, MET ÉIREANN's Terms and Conditions for this call.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Submission of an application represents an agreement by the applicant to obtain the relevant approval for any research which requires ethical and/or regulatory approval prior to the				

6. Submit Application

Any queries regarding the application process or project description should be submitted by email to researchfunding@met.ie.

APPENDIX 2 - Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are salaries eligible costs?

Personnel costs for the researchers carrying out the research are eligible. The total cost should include all pensions and PRSI contributions but not indirect costs (these are listed separately in the budget). All salary costs should be in-line with IUA salary scales (<https://www.iua.ie/for-researchers/researcher-salary-scales-career-framework/>). A contribution to stipends for summer students is allowable but must be in line with all Host Organisation HR practices.

2. Are overheads/indirect costs an eligible cost?

Yes, up to a maximum of 30% of total direct costs

3. Can researchers outside the Republic of Ireland (RoI) be funded?

Researchers who currently reside outside the RoI are eligible to apply but must be living in the RoI for the duration of the projects and physically based at the Host Organisation/MET ÉIREANN (excluding short term visits to other institutes).

4. Can researchers outside Ireland be collaborators/partners?

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

5. Is the lead applicant interviewed by MET ÉIREANN's reviewers?

No, the Applicant is expected to provide evidence (e.g. in their CV) of their suitability to deliver this proposed project.

6. Can the award be moved if the Applicant changes Institute?

Yes, but only with the agreement of both Host Organisations and MET ÉIREANN. The new Host Organisation must also fulfil the criteria as per the Terms and Conditions.



7. Are agencies such as Teagasc & Marine Institute or private entities eligible to host the project?

No, though they may be unfunded partners if appropriate.

8. Will my project be assessed more favourably if it has external co-funding?

No. Assessors will be asked to consider the overall project proposed and whether resources are appropriate.

9. Is VAT an allowable cost in the budget for items such as consumables?

Yes.

10. Can underspend from an individual year be carried forward?

Part of the budget for an individual year can be carried if justified. MET ÉIREANN must be informed of any planned changes to the budget.

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

If the Host Organisation considers computers a consumable or assigns a lifespan of less than one year, then it is an eligible cost.

12. What are 'references' in the template?

These are any publications, papers, published documents etc. that you have referred to in your text and project description, not personal statements from referees.



APPENDIX 3 – MET ÉIREANN’S Strategic Plan 2017 - 2027

Please read:

https://www.met.ie/cms/assets/uploads/2017/08/Met_Eireann_Strategy_2017-2027.pdf.

