ESRC Impact Acceleration Account
Funding Call - Health and Wellbeing

24th February 2021

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Agenda

1. Impact Acceleration @LU
2. ESRC IAA – benefits for academics and partners
3. Details of the scope of the Health and Wellbeing Call
4. The application process and what is expected
5. The support available during the application process and beyond
6. FAQs and Q&A
1. Impact Acceleration @LU

Mark Rushforth
Impact Acceleration@LU

- 2012: EPSRC
  - £968K (2012-2017)
  - £840K (2017-2020)
  - £630K (2020-2022)

- 2015: STFC
  - £50K (2015)
  - £50K (2016)
  - £35K (2017)
  - £100K (2018)
  - £120K (2019)
  - £50K (2020)

- 2018: GCRF IAA
  - £120K

- 2018: ESRC IAA Business Boost Fund
  - £30K

- 2019: ESRC IAA
  - £1M April 2019 – March 2023
  - £100K April 2020 – March 2021 specifically for Doctoral Students and Early Career Researchers

- 2018: MRC Proximity to Discovery: Industry Engagement Fund
  - £120K (2018-2019)

- Total External IAA Funding 2012-2023: £4,213,000
Impact Acceleration@LU

- Using small grants up to £15k to support engagement with external non-academic partners to promote partnership and collaborative working to achieve impact
- Encourage cultural and behavioural change around impact and greater awareness
- Insights into how external partners might apply and benefit from research
- Enabling new partnerships and developing existing ones
- Application process is designed to get applicants to think about impact through sustained partnerships
Impact Acceleration@LU

- Encourage researchers to focus on their value to the partner – use of **FAB analysis**
  - **Features** – the nature of the research
  - **Advantages** – what the application of the research delivers compared to current understanding
  - **Benefits** – reasons for applying the research
- Embed partner involvement and activities in a detailed project plan
- Develop successful follow on activity (funded through RCUK, InnovateUK etc)
- We always look to make promising projects fundable – through one-to-one engagement or facilitated workshops.
- **Not just about working with company partners** - all types of partner from all sectors
2. ESRC IAA – benefits for academics and partners

Laura Kornas
ESRC IAA Programme

- £1M – 4yr programme – 2019-2023
- Cross-institutional grant, hosted in FASS
- Provide grants <£20k
- Over 50 projects funded
  - Funded ~£250k through Launch Call in April 2019
  - Funded ~£175k through Responsive Mode to date
- Array of partners and sectors

![Partnerships by sector chart]

- Large Businesses: 3
- Government (Local, National, International): 6
- Public sector: 8
- SMEs: 14
- NGO/INGO/Non-profit/Charity: 15

From Violence to Dignity: Enhancing Understandings of Albinism in Malawi
Building on specialist preventative projects for women at risk of child removal through the family courts
Psychological safety, well-being and effectiveness in organisations
Co-creating the Future of the Past: Harnessing AI for Humanities Research
Collecting data stories of biodiversity in Morecambe Bay
Supporting social work practice in rural and remote settings – Co-developing Cumbria County Council’s systems
Bilingual STEM: Promoting science and multilingualism in migrant children and adolescents
Clarification

• *impact* vs *Impact*
• Engagement & partnerships
• Research
• Partner
• Social sciences
75% of projects have already identified follow-on activity with their partners, including activities leading to further funding from external sources.

90% said their projects had ‘led to additional opportunity’

85% said their IAA work had ‘increased their confidence to work with external partners’

85% said it ‘developed their skills in knowledge exchange’

80% partners cited ‘ongoing relationships’ and ‘networks for future collaboration’ as highest benefit

73% said it provided them with understanding of ‘how to apply research’
Project funded:

**Organic electronics: benefits, barriers and opportunities**

Dr Alison Stowell (LUMS) & Dr John Hardy (FST)

**Partners:** NeuDrive Ltd & Asecca

*Photograph of organic CMOS logic circuit on a one-micron-thick (μm) substrate*

3. Details of the scope of the Health and Wellbeing Call

Melanie Burton
Health and Wellbeing Call

The scope of this call is intended to be *broad* and open to applications that can demonstrate positive impacts on the health and wellbeing of individuals, communities, businesses and organisations or the wider economy and society.

- Internal funding call open to all faculties
- Open to academic colleagues at all stages of their careers – individual or with colleagues
- Applications can be interdisciplinary and across faculties

**SCHEDULE:**
- 8 February – Call launched
- 22 March – Application deadline
- Panel review applications
- 31 March – Grants awarded
Guide to funding categories

As a guide, funding is considered under the following categories:

• **Seed Funding: £3,000 - £5,000**
  to stimulate new partnership working, develop new ideas.
  Typically over a 3-6 month period.

• **Growth Funding: £5,000 - £15,000**
  typically to support established partnerships, that already have clear routes to impact.
  Typically over a 6-12 month period.

• **Joint Funding: £15,000 - £20,000**
  (above £15k there is an expectation of cash match funding from the partner organisation.
  This does not have to be a 1-1 ratio though. Some level of contribution to demonstrate their commitment).
  Typically over a period of 12 months.
4. The application process and what is expected

Melanie Burton
Forms available

- Application Form
- Guidance Notes
- Available on the Impact Acceleration Account webpage
- Please read the guidance notes — tells you what we’re looking for in each section
- Discuss with your partner(s)
Application Guidance

Ideally 3 pages for main sections:

8. Summary
   - Plain English
   - Potential impacts achieved (remember FAB)
   - We will not fund primary research

9. Project Plan
   - Projects typically 3-12 months in length
   - Show interactions and timescales
   - Key activities undertaken by each partner
   - Want to see partner embedded in project

10. Why Partnership is best suited for impact
    - Why the particular partner(s) and what is their motivation

11. What is impact for each partner
    - Benefits for everyone involved
    - IAA projects should be done ‘with’ partners, not ‘to or on’ them

12. Sustainability of partnerships
    - How will the relationships be sustained post IAA
    - What could be achieved going forward
13. Budget
- fEC not applicable – o/heads are not allowed
- Don’t need to go through RSO – although can help
- Typical costs – additional staff, materials, consumables, (travel)
- VAT where applicable
- Partner match - contribution in kind or cash contributions

14. Equality Diversity and Inclusion
- EDI considerations in the development and delivery of the project – all partners
- Any new approaches

15. Responsible Research and Innovation
- RRI is about considering and acting upon potential impacts of the IAA project acknowledging these can be unpredictable and ambiguous (e.g. economic, social, environmental)
- 16. Confirmation that IAA funding is most appropriate
Top Tips

- Keep it clear and simple
- Write for a non-specialist audience
- Link to health and wellbeing
- Focus on the partnership and collaboration
- Focus on the desired impact
- How will this partnership lead to impact?

- What are the benefits
- Plan for "all" partners?
- Outputs and outcomes
- Tell us who will be doing what, how and when
- List the associated costs
- Mitigate for future possibility of Covid restrictions
- Break it down
- Aspirations for the partnership
- Alternative plan and timeframe, impact on costs
- Next steps
Submission deadline – 22 March

- Close of working day
- Submit completed form to email address given esrciaa@lancaster.ac.uk
- Check all sections completed
5. The support available during the application process and beyond

Melanie Burton
Support - application process

• Faculty Partnership Development Manager – talk to them
  • Partnership development expertise
  • Support with application form
• IAA team – esrciaa@lancaster.ac.uk
  • Queries or clarification
Support – post-award

• Meet with IAA Partnership Development Manager
• Project code assigned for costs
• We’ll keep in touch and monitor progress
• We’re available throughout - get in touch
• IAA team – esrciaa@lancaster.ac.uk
6. FAQs and Q&A
FAQs

• Is my area of research eligible – YES if in the social sciences
  But we don’t fund primary research activity

• Does my research have to be funded by ESRC - NO

• Who can be a Co-I – an LU colleague

• What if I don’t have an external partner – talk to your faculty PDM

• What costs are eligible – not indirect costs e.g. permanent staff costs

• When can I start – as soon as we have assigned your project code, start as per your project plan

• What if I’m delayed – contact us to discuss

• Can funds be used to pay partner costs – YES
• Recording will stop now
• Open to questions

Thank you