

Programme Call – Concept Papers Guidelines

How to Format your proposal

- Page count: a maximum of three pages, (including diagrams, excluding references) single line spacing, standard character spacing (neither expanded nor condensed)
- Font: Arial. Colour: black: Size: 11-point font or larger
- Margins: At least 0.5" margins all around
- File Type: PDF

Section 1: Technical concept

Proposers are required to provide a concept paper no longer than 3 pages in length that outlines:

1. Programme alignment. Applicants must propose research related to approaches for cooling the Earth as per the aims and scope described in the solicitation document.
2. Description of research and methodology. A brief summary of the proposed research project, and how it supports the objectives of the programme. A description of the approach or methodology that will be employed to address the research objectives, including:
 - a. A description of the approach, research or capability proposed.
 - b. Any data (this may include scientific rationale) to support your proposed concept – supporting data, journal articles, blogs, code or other materials may be referenced or linked to in the submission if they directly support your paper.
 - c. Identification of the technical and non-technical challenges or obstacles that must be overcome to achieve the research goals. This includes potential risks and mitigation strategies. Proposers suggesting outdoor experiments will be required to indicate briefly how they plan to comply with the principles for outdoor experiments outlined in the programme thesis and/or flag areas in which they anticipate that they will require support or additional resources in order to comply.
3. An overview of the proposed activity of work, any key metrics and milestones and any dependencies and assumptions. Where physical experiments are proposed, project teams will need to convince the reviewers as to why the measurements/perturbations that they intend to make are the right things to measure/perturb, and how the results would substantially advance the validation

or invalidation of the approach on the grounds of practicality, scalability, safety or impacts.

4. An overview of the proposed project team including information about the expertise of the research team, relevant experience, skills, and capabilities. Stage One applications do not need to cover all the nodes shown in Figure 1 in the solicitation document. However, if proposers are able to identify additional expertise that is likely to be required as the project progresses it would be useful to flag that at Stage One, together with the strategy and timeline for introducing this expertise into the project.

Section 2: Timeline, Budget and Additional questions

In completing your application you must also provide answers to the following questions. Answers to these questions are not included in the 3 page cap. You should complete these questions in the application portal so there is no need to format these in a specific way.

Budget: How much funding do you need?

Please complete the table below providing an estimate in GBP (inclusive of VAT where applicable and all other costs) of what you consider a reasonable funding amount for your project. It's ok if you're not sure – give your best estimate.

Cost Type	Budget (£ Inc VAT)
Labour	
Materials	
Subcontract	
Equipment & Facilities	
Travel	
Other	
Subtotal	
Indirect Costs	
Total	

At the full proposal stage we will ask you to complete a summary cost template which can be downloaded [here](#).

Prior to contract signature when the scope of work has been agreed we will ask for a detailed cost breakdown which can be found [here](#).

Timeline and additional questions:

Question	Guidance
<p>Are you proposing to contribute funding?</p>	<p><i>(Where you or your organisation are proposing to contribute funding to the project please let us know. If yes, tell us how much funding you/your organisation plan to contribute.</i></p> <p><i>ARIA will fund 100% of project costs and contribution of funding is not essential; however, we welcome proposals that contribute funding in cases when such funding will strengthen the potential success. In these cases, this funding contribution will be considered as part of the overall strength of the project proposal)</i></p>
<p>How many months will you need to work on your proposed project?</p>	<p><i>(There is no minimum length for a proposed project. The maximum length is 60 months)</i></p>
<p>Are you planning to give a portion of the work to external subcontractors?</p>	<p><i>(If yes, let us know what work you plan to give to a subcontractor. Subcontractors are any proposed third parties that you plan to enter into a contract or agreement with for services necessary for the delivery or management of the project)</i></p>
<p>Are there any other factors or restrictions that might impact your freedom to operate and deliver the project?</p>	<p><i>(Please provide a short description of any import/export restrictions; security, ethical, legal and regulatory restrictions that you are aware of)</i></p>
<p>Does your proposed research require the support and use of a NERC facility?</p>	<p>If so, please list the facility(ies).</p> <p><i>(You should also contact the NERC facility, service or High Performance Computing (HPC) consortia lead before submitting your concept paper. You should contact Marine Planning</i></p>

	<i>directly if your proposal requires use of NERC's marine facilities. Details and facility costs do not have to be included at concept paper stage.)</i>
Are you proposing to perform substantial parts of the proposed project outside of the UK?	<i>If yes, please provide a brief summary of your proposed plans and the countries involved.</i>
Additional questions about you/your organisation that can be found in the application portal.	