



Call for applications for research funding

Climate change and modern slavery

November 2022

Call Overview

About the Call

The aim of this call is to generate new evidence on how policies on climate change can recognise, address and impact on modern slavery risks or linkages between modern slavery and climate change.

While international aspects, such as laws, policies or supply chains, might be examined, applications to this call must generate recommendations for UK based policymakers and decision-makers, such as businesses.

The essential objectives are to:

All projects must meet objective A, and then must meet either objective B or C.

- A. Develop evidence-based recommendations for policymakers and other decision-makers (such as businesses) about how policies on climate change can recognise, address and impact on modern slavery risks or linkages between modern slavery and climate change. Projects must:
 - a. Align to the Modern Slavery PEC's guiding principles on research, addressing effectiveness, equity and involvement of people with lived experience of modern slavery.
 - b. Use innovative methods, including people with lived experience of modern slavery within the design and outputs of their work.
 - c. Generate evidence of what works or could work, relevant for a business or policy audience

AND EITHER

- B. Generate evidence to influence the Environmental Social Governance (ESG) policies and strategies of businesses and investors.

ESG is a set of standards across three key factors which measure a company's impact on society, the environment and how transparent and accountable it is across these areas. These standards are often used by socially responsible investors to measure the sustainability and ethical impact of an investment in a business or company. They are a subset of non-financial performance indicators which examine how businesses operate in relation to the natural environment (e.g. waste and pollution, carbon footprint); how the business treats people (e.g. human rights and labour standards); and how the company itself is governed (e.g. board diversity, and corruption and bribery).

- a. Projects aiming to address this objective must work with one or a group of businesses or investors to co-develop and pilot a framework to track ESG policies and strategies to better connect environmental issues and impacts along with modern slavery risks, and how to address this combination of factors effectively. This should take account of existing obligations on large UK businesses under section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.
- b. Projects could include the generation (or testing, modifying existing) of standards, metrics, and/or performance indicators to enhance understanding and reporting on ESG strategies, which can more effectively connect environmental issues and

impacts with modern slavery risks and offer recommendations on how to address these.

- c. Projects may choose to adopt a sector-specific approach. In this case they should explain how the selection of sector/s was made, and include in the proposal a justification for this with reference to previous research and in terms of potential for the research to make a contribution.

OR

- C. Generate novel evidence on how modern slavery can be integrated into UK Government and devolved administration climate change policies ('mainstreaming').

Projects should consider policies such as net-zero, overseas aid funding for climate change programmes or policies around public procurement of goods and services in new industries and innovations that shape efforts to address climate change (e.g. renewable energy). Projects should consider how such climate change policies can reduce and respond to modern slavery risks. We would like to see applications covering at least one of the following:

- a. A review of the effectiveness of mainstreaming other challenges (such as violence against women) into UK climate change policy and analysis of the implications for mainstreaming modern slavery
- b. Comparative research on how other countries have mainstreamed modern slavery into climate change policies and analysis of the implications for UK policy
- c. A rigorous mapping of the potential (inadvertent) modern slavery harms that climate change policies might give rise to or need to respond to, drawing out clear recommendations for UK climate change and modern slavery policies
- d. Empirical evidence on how communities at risk of or affected by modern slavery can most effectively inform UK climate change policies and programmes

Project budget

A maximum budget of £100,000 at 100% full economic cost (FEC) is allocated for each of these projects. The Modern Slavery PEC expects to fund three projects in total: and we hope to fund at least one project under objective B and at least one project under objective C.

Glossary – project roles

Principal Investigator (PI) – the lead researcher or academic in charge of the project

Co-Investigator(s) (Co-I) – the collaborating researcher(s) or academic(s) working alongside the PI on the project

Partner/collaborator – organisations who are working with the research team to complete the project, which can be non-academic organisations

Project Team – the combination of PI, Co-I(s) and other researchers and partnering or collaborating organisations who are working on the project

Project team

The project may be led by either a UK higher education institution, an approved research organisation eligible to receive UKRI funding or a charity registered in the UK with a focus on modern slavery. Project teams must demonstrate collaboration between an approved research organisation and a UK based third sector organisation. UK based third sector organisations can receive up to 50% of the total budget.

The team must be made up of at least one Principal Investigator (PI) and one Co-Investigator (Co-I). A PI is someone who leads the research team, they will be based at the lead organisation and will have overall responsibility for ensuring the project completes on time and within budget, and they have reporting responsibilities to the Modern Slavery PEC. Co-Is are researchers who collaborate with the PI to complete research, they may be based at a different organisation and their roles and responsibilities must be set out in the project application. Project partners are organisations who are working with the research team to complete the project, they can be non-academic organisations.

The PI, who leads the research team, can be either an academic, researcher or professional with relevant research experience working at the lead organisation. We will accept Co-PIs on this call, meaning that two individuals are responsible for the project. The project team must consist of at least one academic or research organisation and one UK based third sector organisation. International organisations are eligible to partner on bids up to a maximum of 30% of the total budget.

Key Dates

Action/Activity	Deadline
Call announcement	November 2022
Call webinar	1pm (UK time) 23 November 2022
Call deadline	4pm (UK time) 12 January 2023
Decision to successful team	January 2023
Project start	March 2023
Delivery of final outputs	November 2023

Call Webinar

The call webinar will be held on 23 November 2022 at 1pm (UK time) to go through the scope of the call and answer questions from potential applicants. Following the webinar, a recording of it can be found on our [YouTube channel](#). The Q&A from the session will be unrecorded, questions and answers will be put into an FAQ document which will be shared on the call page on the Modern Slavery PEC website.

Introduction

About the Modern Slavery PEC

The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre (Modern Slavery PEC) was created by the investment of public funding to enhance the understanding of modern slavery and transform the effectiveness of laws and policies designed to address it.

It's designed to provide independent, impartial and authoritative insight and analysis on modern slavery based on high quality research it commissions, aiming to have a transformational impact on the understanding of modern slavery and the responses to it.

The Centre brings together academics, policymakers, businesses, civil society, survivors and the public on a scale not seen before in the UK to collaborate on solving this global challenge. The Modern Slavery PEC's approach is rooted in human rights.

Led by the [Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law](#) (part of the [British Institute of International and Comparative Law \(BIICL\)](#)) the Centre is a consortium of universities and Independent Research Organisations with a track record in world-class work on modern slavery. The Modern Slavery PEC is funded and actively supported by the [Art and Humanities Research Council](#), with additional support from the [Economic and Social Sciences Research Council](#), on behalf of the [UK Research and Innovation](#) (UKRI), from the Strategic Priorities Fund.

Modern Slavery PEC: more than a funder

Our mission is to transform the effectiveness of policies and laws addressing modern slavery by using the evidence produced through the research we fund and co-produce.

Our focus is on ensuring that those we seek to influence have access to the best available evidence and can draw from this when decision-making. We are highly focused on the practical impact of research.

We don't just fund research, we also translate the evidence produced-into practical recommendations for decisionmakers to drive real policy change, and we work to promote it to wider audiences to enhance the understanding of modern slavery.

We aspire to facilitate new collaborations in modern slavery research between those who have not previously worked together. By doing so, we hope to bring together the many different actors in the modern slavery space to maximise their collective influence.

This is why we work closely with research teams throughout the lifetime of projects to maximise the impact of the research on policy making and other key areas.

Our aim and guiding principles for research

We support research which provides innovative, independent, impartial and authoritative insight and analysis on modern slavery. Our aim is to drive policy change and have a transformational impact on the understanding of modern slavery and the responses to it.

We aim to change the way in which modern slavery research is done through our guiding principles of **effectiveness, equity and survivor-involvement**. We aspire to facilitate new collaborations in modern slavery research including by supporting equitable partnerships between organisations, including those who have not previously worked together. By doing so, we hope to bring together the many different actors in the modern slavery space to benefit from their expertise and maximise their collective influence.

The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre prioritises the equitable inclusion of people of all backgrounds and experiences across all the work undertaken by the Centre. The Modern Slavery PEC strongly encourages that, where appropriate, applications involve people with lived experience of modern slavery in the design and/or implementation of the project. We design our calls with the aspiration for projects funded by them to be inclusive, and to encourage a greater diversity of applicants and approaches to modern slavery research.

We intend for all of the research that we fund to align with our guiding principles. We therefore expect all research that the Modern Slavery PEC funds to support diversity and inclusion with respect to the people who carry out the research and in terms of facilitating novel, cross-disciplinary teams.

Background and context for this call

There is an increased understanding of the links between climate change and modern slavery, both in the vulnerabilities that climate change can create, and also in ensuring that actions taken to tackle climate change considers modern slavery as part of a just transition.

A previous [Modern Slavery PEC Policy Brief](#) set out the growing body of research looking at the nexus between modern slavery and climate change, which has identified a cyclical relationship between these issues, where social and environmental harms are intertwined:

- Activities associated with biodiversity loss, environmental damage or which contribute to climate change have been shown to involve forced or child labour in certain contexts and sectors, such as deforestation in the Amazon and overfishing in the Thai seafood industry.
- The impacts of climate change-induced events (such as drought and floods) are likely to increase vulnerability to modern slavery among low-income communities in the Global South through negative impacts on livelihoods.
- Policies being enacted to respond to the threat of climate change, such as restricting polluting economic activity, may have unintentional impacts on those groups (the rural poor, marginalised communities) that are also at greatest risk from modern slavery.

Much of the existing evidence in this field looks at specific industries or population groups and considers how climate change impacts that group's vulnerability to, or impact on, modern slavery. As such, we are looking to fund research that considers what works, or could work in improving policies and practices in this area. This should include lived experiences of affected communities throughout the work.

In accordance with the Modern Slavery PEC's strategic objective of facilitating collaboration, successful teams will work cooperatively alongside the Modern Slavery PEC for the duration of the project to maximise the impact of your work and to ensure alignment with our objectives.

Aim, scope, and objectives of the research

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- c. A rigorous mapping of the potential (inadvertent) modern slavery harms that climate change policies might give rise to or need to respond to, drawing out clear recommendations for UK climate change and modern slavery policies
- d. Empirical evidence on how communities at risk of or affected by modern slavery can most effectively inform UK climate change policies and programmes

Key elements of the research

The successful applicant will confirm their methodology in collaboration with the Modern Slavery PEC. Applications must demonstrate the following components in their application:

- Methodology is rigorous and appropriate to meet the research call objectives and feasible to deliver within the nine-month timeframe of the project
- Methodology sets out a clear rationale for its approach to appropriate and meaningful involvement of people with lived experience of modern slavery in the research.

Required outputs

The successful applicant will deliver a full report as well as a Modern Slavery PEC Research Summary, tailored for relevant audiences including recommendations for policymakers, and other actors as appropriate. The outputs will be co-produced with the Modern Slavery PEC team so there should be ample time (c. one month) included in the proposed project timeline for the sharing of drafts to enable comments and feedback to be incorporated.

- A full report should be no more than 10,000 words (excluding references/annexes)
- A Modern Slavery PEC Research Summary, of no more than 2,500 words
- A workshop with the Modern Slavery PEC to discuss interim findings
- Presentation of interim findings to key audiences such as businesses and/or policymakers (which may be delivered in written or verbal format). The Modern Slavery PEC will help to convene this session.

What we want to see in your application

- Proposals that set out clearly how they will meet the objectives of the call
- Proposals that are feasible to deliver within the nine-month timeframe
- If the proposal will build on an existing programme of research on modern slavery and climate change, the application must be clear on how the project would deliver novel insight aligned to the Modern Slavery PEC's guiding principles
- Clear plans to involve key audiences throughout the research, for example engaging with businesses relevant to objective B

The Modern Slavery PEC would welcome proposals that include innovative ideas for presenting data, e.g. with visualisation of results in a format to enhance understanding and to support the uptake of evidence by our key audiences.

The project team will be required to present interim findings to the Modern Slavery PEC team and other relevant audiences at a suitable mid-point during the research, either virtually or in person at a time agreed with the research team in the revised workplan (see below).

Project milestones and timeline

Phase 1: Project set up

To begin our collaboration on the project, we will arrange an introductory meeting with your project team. We will agree an updated and detailed project timeline with key milestones and deliverables. This phase also will also include working with your team to develop a plan for policy impact.

Phase 2: Research

The Modern Slavery PEC will continue to work closely with you throughout your project. We will organise regular check-in meetings and work with you to finalise your research tools and support your ethics application. Project findings should be communicated and discussed with the Modern Slavery PEC at an early stage to enable early discussions of possible policy recommendations. The Modern Slavery PEC will work with you and your team to jointly develop a plan for communicating the project to targeted audiences, including branding. We will collaborate on communicating about the project throughout the project's timeframe.

Phase 3: End of project

As the project comes to an end, the research team will collaboratively produce research outputs with the Modern Slavery PEC, in line with internal guidance on drafting reports. All projects funded by the Modern Slavery PEC are required to produce, at a minimum, a full research report (max 10,000 words) and a co-developed Modern Slavery PEC Research Summary (max 2,500 words). The Modern Slavery PEC can facilitate engagement between your research team and relevant policymakers to maximise the impact of your project. Policy impact plans will be tailored for each project.

As an AHRC funded research team, you will also be required to report research outcomes to Researchfish. As this project was funded through the Modern Slavery PEC, we will be collating and uploading responses via our Researchfish submission. There is a requirement that a Principal Investigator reports outcomes until at least five years after it ends, so we (or AHRC/UKRI) will contact you annually to update on any outcomes.

Milestones and timeline	
Application process	
Action/Activity	Deadline
Call announcement	November 2022
Call webinar	1pm (UK time) 23 November 2022
Call deadline	4pm (UK time) 12 January 2023
Decision to successful team	January 2023
Project start	March 2023
Project milestones and deliverables	
Action/Activity	Deadline
Phase 1: Project set up	

Final workplan and methodology agreed	March 2023
Phase 2: Research	
Regular catch-ups with the Modern Slavery PEC (see ways of working with the Modern Slavery PEC)	Every 4 weeks
Presentation of interim findings to the Modern Slavery PEC team and key audiences	To be agreed alongside the revised workplan
Phase 3: End of project	
Completion of research activities	September 2023
Delivery of full draft of project report	September 2023
Delivery of the Research Summary in collaboration with the Modern Slavery PEC	October 2023
Collaboration with Modern Slavery PEC to finalise project report and other outputs	October 2023
Delivery of final outputs and policy impact activities with the Modern Slavery PEC	November 2023

Additional information for applicants

Ways of working with the PEC

Collaboration and co-operation are key values for the Modern Slavery PEC. As such we will work jointly with the successful research team from the outset and will co-design and co-create research outputs that are timely, relevant, accessible, and have the potential to deliver policy impact. The Modern Slavery PEC and the successful research team will meet every 4 weeks to check in on progress, discuss next steps and provide support. This support may include policy impact planning, communications work or operational support and will be tailored to each project.

Ethics and Safeguarding

There may be a need to collect primary data, e.g. via survey, semi-structured interviews or focus groups, from key people and organisations that work in this sector, in which case the applicant should detail their proposed plans and processes for gaining ethical approval before data collection begins. See the section below on working with people with lived experience where we outline our safeguarding and collaboration expectations.

The Modern Slavery PEC strongly encourages that, where appropriate, applications involve people with lived experience of modern slavery in the design and/or implementation of the project. Where a project undertakes new research directly involving vulnerable groups or people with lived experience modern slavery, projects should carefully consider ethics and safeguarding implications. In both the ethics and the safeguarding statements, applicants should include reference to organisational policies and processes around safeguarding, developing project specific policies where appropriate.

Data protection/GDPR

All data must be collated and stored in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018, the UK General Data Protection Regulation 2021 and, if necessary, the EU General Data Protection Regulation 2016. Applicants should detail their systems and processes for dealing with data securely. Proposals must cover how data will be transported/transferred, handled, analysed and stored, including retention schedules, within the Ethics Statement.

Any and all datasets produced in the course of this research will remain the property of the successful applicant. The final report will be co-branded with the Modern Slavery PEC, whilst the summary briefing will be branded as a Modern Slavery PEC output (for [example](#)). Both the successful applicant and the Modern Slavery PEC will be free to use the final report as they wish after the end date of the project subject to the agreed contract (see our [sample contract](#)).

For more information on how we handle your data please visit our [privacy policy](#).

Budget

A maximum budget of £100,000 at 100% full economic cost (FEC) is allocated for each project funded under this call. The Modern Slavery PEC expects to fund up a maximum of one project per objective for this work.

The project can be led by either a UK higher education institution, an approved research organisation which is eligible to receive UKRI funding, or a charity registered in the UK with a focus on modern slavery.

- The Principal Investigator (PI), who leads the research team, can be either an academic, researcher or professional with relevant research experience working at the lead

organisation. We will accept Co-PIs on this call, meaning that two individuals are responsible for the project.

- Higher education institutes and approved research organisations will receive 80% FEC (meaning for every £1 spent, they receive 80p of funding, with the organisation making up the 20p)
- Eligible UK based third sector organisations may partner on this call. They can apply for up to 50% of the project’s budget, they will be funded at 100% FEC (for every £1 spent, they receive £1 of funding, meaning the Modern Slavery PEC cover 100% of the full economic cost of their work on the project).
- International organisations are eligible to apply as partners to this call, they can receive a maximum budget of 30% and will also receive their funding at 100% FEC.
- The combined UK registered charity and international costs can account for 50% of the total budget of the project, for example in a £100,000 project, UK charities and international partners can receive £50,000 total (this might be to one charity, or split between several charities and international partners). This £50,000 will be paid by the Centre at 100% FEC
- Subcontractors are eligible under this funding call, this is a third-party individual who is not employed as staff on the grant, or a third party organisation, who is subcontracted by the host organisation to deliver a specific piece of work. This will be subject to the procurement rules of the host organisation. All costs that support the delivery of the subcontract are eligible and will be paid at 80% FEC, these should be outlined and fully justified in the stage two proposal and will be subject to the assessment panel.⁸
- We would expect budgets to be signed off at the time of application by your organisations research office or (for a higher education institute or research organisation) or by the appropriate senior manager (for eligible charities) to ensure a quick set up when the successful project is selected

What we want to see in your budget

- 1) All of the budget rules must be adhered to, if you are not sure if an item in your budget is eligible, email office@modernslaverypec.org to check first
- 2) In the Excel budget template, you must create a new line for each type of expenditure. For example:

Travel	Train ticket for PI (workshop 1)	£50
	Hotel for PI (workshop 1)	£75
	Train ticket for Co-I (workshop 2)	£50
	Hotel for Co-1 (workshop 2)	£75

We *do not* want to see block budgets, e.g. “Charity 1, £10k” we need to see costs broken down into the actual items of expenditure to be brought

Costings must be prepared in line with UKRI funding guidelines⁹ with the exception of the division of funds between UK higher education institutions or approved research organisations and UK based third sector organisations, where UK based third sector organisations can receive up to 50% of the funding, as outlined above.

We request that Principal (lead researchers) and Co-Investigators (co-lead researchers) are involved in only one application submission per call. There is no limit to the number of applications eligible organisations can submit, and the restrictions only apply to individuals within those organisations.

Eligible Costs

We will fund costs which are in line with AHRC's policies¹, with the following exceptions:

- All staff costs, including academic time, must be costed as Directly Incurred (DI) due to the profiling of the award. We unfortunately cannot pay Directly Allocated (DA) Investigator costs but support the inclusion of PI/Co-I time as a DI cost.
- Any costs for travel must be realistic under the current circumstances and we request that any activity involving travel has appropriate mitigations and alternatives suggested
- Given the short-term nature of the project we will not be awarding costs for equipment or capital infrastructure such as audio recording equipment or laptops
- The Modern Slavery PEC will cover the costs for the design of the research summary and the full report (in the Modern Slavery PEC branding), design costs for reports are therefore not eligible and will not be funded under this call.
- Dissemination activities will be led by the Centre in collaboration with the research team. We expect the team to set aside at least 3 days of time for communications work, which might include activities such as blog writing, podcast recording and potential media activities. It might also include potential time after the publication of outputs (circa 2 days) to maximise the impact of the research.
- Any other communications costs (such as a video, animation, infographics, data visualisation etc.) can be included but must be fully justified in the justification of resources. The design outputs should align with the evidence-generating objectives of the Modern Slavery PEC (e.g. the sharing of new knowledge, findings and recommendations from the research) and should not be used for campaigning.
- The creation of new websites is not an eligible cost under this call.
- Eligible participating charities can include overheads, up to a maximum of 10% of the total budget they have applied for.

Working with people with lived experience

As per our guiding principles, the Modern Slavery PEC encourages researchers to include people with lived experience in the appropriate aspects of their research project. We encourage all projects to consider whether they should have a specific safeguarding policy or framework to govern their work, and to highlight specific risks and mitigations in their safeguarding statement. According to organisations such as UK Collaborative on International Development Research (UKCDR), safeguarding means 'taking all reasonable means to prevent harm from occurring; to protect people, especially vulnerable adults and children, from that harm; and to respond appropriately when harm does occur'.² Policies should include consideration of rights of people with lived experience and whistle-blowers, and how the project addresses questions of equity, fairness, transparency and accountability. This should include all parts of the research chain, from research funders, planners and practitioners to participants and local community members, where everyone has the right to be safe from harm.³

We request that the following principles are adhered to when working with people with lived experience:

- Ground rules are established with the participants, including use of terminology, and agreed rules about withdrawal from discussions or activities.
- Participants are signposted to resources to support them (the Modern Slavery PEC can assist with these) and consider funds to support this if appropriate.
- People with lived experience are paid for their time (including being participants on interview panels and focus groups) and that this is done so in a manner appropriate to

¹ <https://ahrc.ukri.org/documents/guides/research-funding-guide1/> (from page 52)

² <https://www.ukcdr.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/safeguarding/>

³ <https://www.ukcdr.org.uk/resource/guidance-on-safeguarding-in-international-development-research/>

participants (considering cash payments or use of vouchers). We expect a minimum hourly rate of £10.90 (outside of London) or £11.95 (within London) for participants, based on the Living Wage Foundation's current rates, but we would encourage applicants to explore best practice in the sector and support higher rates of pay where justified in the justification of resources.⁴

- A risk assessment is carried out, specifically considering risks for those with lived experience. These risks and mitigations should be included in your Safeguarding Statement.

Application process

To apply for this call, applications must be made through our online form (<https://modernslaverypec.submit.com/>). The form includes the questions below. Where word limits are specified, these are the maximum word limits, please note the form will cut you off at the word limit:

Research team information

1. Lead researcher name, email address, organisation and department/unit/team
2. Lead organisation address and administrative email address (the email address of whoever will administer the onboarding of the award if successful)
3. Co-investigator names, organisations, email addresses
4. Partner organisations, contact names and email addresses

Basic project information

13. Project title
14. Which objective does this application address? (B or C)
15. Project start date
16. Project end date
17. Total requested (at 100% full economic cost)

Project details

18. Project description (500 words), including its aims, objectives and research questions. This must be suitable for a general audience so please ensure this is accessible to non-experts, and avoid acronyms or jargon where possible
19. Project scope (300 words), giving a clear definition of the scope of the research, including any additional changes to the scope beyond those specified in the call documentation
20. Methodology (500 words), a clear explanation and justification for the chosen approach and methodology responding to the aims and objectives and essential elements outlined in this call
21. Outputs (300 words), listing the outputs that the project anticipates producing. This must include those outlined in this call document.
22. Timeline (300 words), a detailed timeline incorporating the milestones and deliverables outlined in the call document
23. Team experience (500 words), details and relevant experience of each team member or organisation involved in the delivery of the project, and a description of why they and/or their organisations are best placed to address the research question
24. Equitable partnerships (300 words), a description of how the project envisages equitable partnerships between the organisations collaborating on the project, including the processes or structures that will be in place to support this. The Modern Slavery PEC expects all applicants to demonstrate their commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion in their project proposals.

⁴ <https://www.livingwage.org.uk/>

Risk management, ethics and safeguarding

25. Risk management (400 words), a list of the risks that might impact delivery of the project and how these will be managed and mitigated
26. Ethics (400 words), describe the approach and process for ensuring the research is ethical
27. Safeguarding (400 words), describe the approach and process for ensuring any people at risk who are involved with the research are appropriately safeguarded, including highlighting any particular risks of the project, going beyond standard University safeguarding procedures where appropriate

Budget

28. Budget. Please upload a budget table as an Excel file using the template provided. This should detail the costs of each organisation, ensuring a line is added for each item of expenditure (please do not give a block cost per organisation, the panel would like to see the items to be purchased at each organisation line by line). For more information on how projects should be costed please refer to the Funding Scenario Examples attached here, as well as to this call documentation.
29. Justification of resources (500 words), explain the reasons why each budget line is being requested. You do not need to justify Estates and Indirect costs.

Additional information

30. This is not a requirement of the call, but projects may submit bibliographies, letters of support, GANTT charts, visual evidence, risk registers or other complementary documentation. This will not be scored but will assist in project set up and timelines should the applications be successful.
31. The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre is committed to supporting equality, diversity and inclusion across the work that we do and would like to understand the diversity of those who engage with us. As part of this we would be very grateful if you could complete this anonymous survey and share the link with all team members (including Co-Investigators and project partners) for completion. The survey can be found [here](#).
32. Are you happy for the Modern Slavery PEC to contact you with relevant news, updates, events and opportunities?

Assessment process

The assessment panel is expected to contain a mixture of experts including Modern Slavery PEC staff, academics, policymakers, industry experts and people with lived experience of modern slavery. With this in mind, applicants should make sure language is clear and that technical terms and acronyms are clearly explained.

The panel will score applications, using the AHRC grading system⁵ against the following headings:

1. Relevance of project description and scope to the aims and objectives of this call, including the generation of new evidence
2. Clarity of application, ensuring applications are accessible and easily understood by non-academic audiences (for example explaining all acronyms and technical language)
3. Methodology: rigour and appropriateness to the aims and objectives of the call
4. Timeline, milestones and deliverables, including how the team will mitigate risks
5. Knowledge and expertise of team and organisations involved and inclusion of a range of organisations including research and charitable organisations
6. Alignment with the Modern Slavery PEC's guiding principles for research:

⁵ <https://ahrc.ukri.org/peerreview/peer-review-handbook/the-review-process/grading-scale/>

- a. Demonstration of equitable partnerships between higher education/research organisation and third sector organisation
 - b. Effectiveness of the research project to meet the aims of this funding call
 - c. Appropriate consideration of the inclusion of people with lived experience
7. Appropriateness of ethics approach
8. Appropriateness of safeguarding approach
9. Budget and justification of resources, including the distribution of funds and tasks between organisations

All applications will be reviewed by an assessment panel convened by the Modern Slavery PEC that will include external independent reviewers. Each panel member will, independently score the applications using the six-point AHRC grading scale. Applications must score an average of 4 out of 6 (very good) or higher from two introducers for it to be assessed at the panel meeting. Projects with large discrepancies will be discussed at the panel meeting and the chair of the panel will decide on any disputes. Where appropriate, decisions will be moderated by an external panel. Outcomes of the assessment process will be communicated by [date].

Call webinar

We will hold a webinar for prospective applicants on 23 November 2022 at 1pm (UK time). The webinar will provide applicants with the opportunity to hear more about the Modern Slavery PEC and its objectives, hear a verbal overview of the call for research, the application process and hear more information on how the successful bid team will collaborate with the Modern Slavery PEC during the research.

We will publish a recording of the webinar on our [YouTube channel](#). A Q&A from the session will be unrecorded, questions and answers will be put into an FAQ document which will be shared on the funding call's page on the Modern Slavery PEC website.

Contacting the Modern Slavery PEC

The Modern Slavery PEC team can be contacted at office@modernslaverypec.org. Please allow two working days for a response.

If you would like to discuss partnerships with other researchers and practitioners, please sign up to our [Google Group](#) to get in touch with others in our network.