

# Climate and Health Award: Advancing climate mitigation solutions with health co-benefits in low- and middle-income countries

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This funding call will generate a body of evidence on the health effects of climate change mitigation interventions in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). This call builds on Wellcome's previous funding, Advancing climate mitigation policy solutions with health co-benefits in G7 countries. This award will fund transdisciplinary research teams, led by an applicant at an LMIC-based organisation.

Research funded will investigate health effects alongside the social and economic impacts of planned or implemented greenhouse gas mitigation strategies. It will reflect local priorities and produce evidence to drive positive climate and health outcomes.

## Overview

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Lead applicant career stage:	<u>Established researcher</u>
Administering organisation location:	<u>Low- or middle-income countries (apart from mainland China)</u>
Frequency:	One-off
Funding amount:	£500,000-£2 million per project
Funding duration:	2–4 years
Coapplicants:	Accepted

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## Next deadline for applications

Preliminary application deadline: 18 February 2025

### Application process timeline

## Why are we launching this call?



Building evidence on the health effects of climate change mitigation can help drive ambitious, health-protective mitigation actions. However, almost no evidence currently exists on the health effects of climate change mitigation interventions in LMICs.

LMICs have historically contributed least to the climate crisis and are already feeling its most acute health impacts. Because of this, high-income countries (HICs) need to go further and faster to decarbonise. Still, the transition to a low carbon economy is critical for LMICs as well (18 out of 30 of the highest emitters today are LMICs). These emerging economies are making decisions in key sectors that could lock-in high-emissions and leave potential health gains unrealised. We want to support evidence generation that will put LMICs at the forefront of this change – defining how climate mitigation action can be positive for health and support local priorities.

This award prioritises research based in and led by LMICs because:

1. LMICs will have a lot to gain from this transition being done well. As a continent, Africa is home to 60% of the best solar resources globally ([IEA, 2022](#)). A transition to renewables could improve air quality, helping to prevent premature deaths from air pollution which currently kills 5 times more people in LMICs than HICs. It could also reduce energy poverty, increasing energy access to the 775 million people globally without electricity, and create jobs ([Lancet Countdown, 2023](#)).
2. LMICs face major risks if transition decisions do not account for both climate and health impacts (for example, low carbon biofuels that cause air pollution). Without centring health, mitigation actions could further entrench extractive industries that are bad for health and worsen inequality.

Through this call, we want to support LMIC-led research that reflects local contexts and priorities, builds capacity and generates evidence that leads to better climate, health, social and economic outcomes.

## Who can apply



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### The team

The team must:

- be transdisciplinary, meaning the team combines knowledge from different scientific disciplines with that of public and private sector stakeholders and citizens. See this OECD report for further information on what we mean by transdisciplinary. We'd like to see these non-academic stakeholders as co-applicants or collaborators on the application. However, we recognise building these partnerships takes time and effort. So, teams with a clear plan for how to develop partnerships with non-academic stakeholders within the first year of the grant can also apply. Academic partnerships should be in place at the point of application.
  - be of an appropriate size for the proposed research. Teams must consist of at least two applicants (one lead applicant and one coapplicant) and must not exceed eight applicants (excluding collaborators).
  - include either a lead applicant or coapplicants from each country where the research will take place. We encourage teams that draw on global expertise, but they must be LMIC-led.
  - have a strong track record of research in climate change mitigation and health.
  - have experience of using research to influence policy or practice.
  - have experience conducting research in collaboration with government, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) or other relevant advocacy organisations.
  - promote a diverse, inclusive and supportive research environment.
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## Lead applicant

The lead applicant must:

- Be employed by an eligible organisation in a low-or middle-income country (LMIC) that can sign up to our grant conditions. This can include a sole-trader or self-employed person's business.
- Be a leader in their field, with the experience needed to drive and lead a collaborative, large scale research project and the necessary support structures in place to enable this.

- Have experience of people and research management, as appropriate for their career stage.
- Have a permanent, open-ended, or long-term rolling contract at their host organisation for the duration of the award.
- Be able to contribute at least 20% of your research time to this project.

### Read about who can't apply

### Find out when lead applicants can request salary costs, and what other costs can be covered

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### Coapplicants

Coapplicants can be based at the same or different organisations as other applicants, including in different countries. They can be based anywhere in the world (apart from mainland China), be at any career stage and come from any relevant discipline.

Each coapplicant must:

- Be based at an eligible organisation that can sign up to our grant conditions. This can include a sole trader/self-employed person's business.
- Be essential for delivery of the proposed project and make a significant contribution, for example in designing the proposed research and lead a specific component of the project. Their involvement should be justified in the application, demonstrating the value of their contribution to the team.
- Have a guarantee of space from their administering organisation for the duration of their commitment to the project, but do not need to have a permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract.
- Be able to contribute at least 20% of their research time to this project.

Find out when coapplicants can request salary, and what other costs can be covered.

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## Collaborators

Collaborators are distinct from coapplicants. They support the delivery of the project but don't lead on a specific component of the research. For example, collaborators could support by:

- sharing facilities
- providing access to tools or resources
- providing expertise on working in different countries
- sharing subject-specific or technical knowledge and guidance

Collaborators are not assessed for eligibility, nor are they required to give a minimum research time commitment to the project.

Collaborators are not paid for their input, but you can request costs for their expenses. In your application, you will need to confirm that you have contacted your proposed collaborators, and they are willing to participate. Collaborators do not need to confirm their participation themselves. There is no limit to the number of collaborators on an application.

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Read about the different [applicant roles at Wellcome](#).

**If you've spent time away from research**

## Career breaks, parental leave, sick leave

You can apply for this award if you have spent time away from research (for example, for a career break, parental leave or long-term sick leave). We will take this into consideration during the review of your application.

## Retirement

If you have retired, you must contact us before applying. You must have a guarantee of space from your administering organisation for the duration of the award.

## Working part-time

Lead and coapplicants can be part-time. Part-time applicants should still be able to contribute at least 20% of their research time to the project. Their part-time work should be compatible with delivering the project successfully.

## Who can't apply



You cannot apply for this funding award if:

- your research team is led by a researcher who does not hold an employment contract with an organisation in an LMIC
- you intend to carry out activities which involve the transfer of funds into mainland China



- you cannot demonstrate that you can dedicate enough time and resources to the project if funded
- you are already an applicant on two applications for this funding call:
  - you can only be a lead applicant on one application and a coapplicant on another application
  - you can be a coapplicant on two applications
  - you must demonstrate that you have sufficient capacity for both projects if funded. The applications should be for different projects with no overlap of activities.
- you already have applied for, or hold, the maximum number of Wellcome awards for your career stage.

Find out how many Wellcome awards you can apply for, or hold, at one time depending on your career stage.

Check what kinds of research project aren't right for this scheme.

## Is your organisation right for this call?

The administering organisation is where the lead applicant is based. It is responsible for submitting your final application to Wellcome and managing the finances of the grant if it is awarded.

## Where your administering organisation is based

The administering organisation must be in an LMIC.

Other team members, coapplicants and collaborators can be based anywhere in the world apart from mainland China.

Your administering organisation can be a:

- higher education institution
- research institute
- non-academic healthcare organisation
- not-for-profit or a non-governmental research organisation

Commercial organisations are not eligible to apply as administering organisations for this call. However, coapplicants and collaborators can be based at commercial organisations.

## What your administering organisation must do

Your administering organisation must:

- Give you the workspace and resources they'll need for the duration of the award.

- Give you, and any staff employed on the grant, at least 10 days a year (pro rata if part-time) to undertake training and continuing professional development (CPD) in line with the principles of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. This should include the responsible conduct of research, research leadership, people management, diversity and inclusion, and the promotion of a healthy research culture.
- Provide a system of onboarding, embedding and planning for you when you start the award.
- Provide you with the status and benefits of other staff of similar seniority.

## Your research environment

### What is a research environment?

Wellcome believes that a diversity of people and expertise leads to richer understanding and more impactful discoveries. Excellent research happens in environments where people from all backgrounds are treated with respect, are supported and enabled to thrive.

Our definition of a research environment is not restricted to the quality of the infrastructure, but also considers the culture and behaviours that create excellent research practice. This includes research that is inclusive in design and practice, ethical and engaged with relevant community stakeholders, as well as open and transparent.

[Read more about research environment and culture.](#)

# Is your research right for this call?



## What your research proposal must include

Research proposals must include:

- **Interventions** – possible, planned or implemented climate change mitigation interventions. Climate change mitigation interventions must reduce current sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, avoid future GHG emissions (e.g. through leapfrogging), and/or protect sinks that sequester carbon from the atmosphere. Interventions can be actions, policies, initiatives or similar. They do not have to be officially labelled as ‘climate change mitigation interventions’, so long as they meet the above definition.

- **Outcomes** – Interventions should be assessed on:
  - **Climate outcomes:** through appropriate methods to quantitatively estimate current and/or future changes in GHG emissions or absorption (for example, IPCC guidance or GHG Protocol), including carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), or short-lived climate pollutants such as black carbon (BC).
  - **Health outcomes:** through quantitative measurements or estimates of health impacts (for example, all-cause or cause-specific mortality, years of life lost, DALYS, morbidity from communicable diseases, for example vector-borne diseases, or non-communicable diseases for example, respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, birthweight, cognitive and lung development in children, and mental health). Studies that model or measure changes in exposures that are known to have strong links to health outcomes (for example, environmental risk factors included in the Global Burden of Disease Assessment) are eligible. However, we will prioritise those that estimate changes in health outcomes.
  - **Wider social and/or economic outcomes:** through measured or estimated changes to the well-established social determinants of health (for example, housing, income or working conditions), social impacts of local priority (for example, gendered impacts or energy access), economic impacts of health outcomes (for example, Value of Statistical Life), economic impacts of the intervention itself (for example, cost, return on investment or jobs).
- **Adaptation** – Any maladaptation implications of the intervention. We encourage proposals to also look at win-win mitigation-adaptation scenarios.
- **Transdisciplinary knowledge generation** – Relevant non-academic stakeholders within the research team or a detailed plan for how to develop partnerships with relevant non-academic stakeholders within the first year of the grant. We are asking for a transdisciplinary approach to help ensure research relevance and impact.
- **Need** – A clear evidence gap and a clear demand or need for the proposed research from key stakeholders (for example, policymakers, NGOs, advocates, affected communities or industry) – responding to locally led priorities and challenges. The proposal must have a high-level theory of change, outlining the pathway from research to impact.

- **Equitable partnerships** – Evidence of equitable partnership principles in practice. The UK Collaborative on Development Research (UKCDR) has lots of resources on this topic; a good starting place is 'Four Approaches to Supporting Equitable Partnerships'.

## What your research proposal can include

Your research proposal can include:

- Interventions undertaken in any sector(s), for example: Energy; Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU); Transport; Buildings; Industry; Waste; and Land, Coastal and Ocean Sinks, and Engineered Sinks. Direct and indirect carbon pricing interventions are also eligible, including carbon taxes, emissions trading schemes, carbon crediting, taxes on fuels, subsidy removal.
- Interventions can be single solutions carried out within single sectors, multiple actions carried out in single sectors (e.g., system transitions), or multiple actions carried out across multiple sectors.
- Analysis of impacts at a local, sub-national, national or regional level.

- Best practice methods as outlined in Hess *et al.*, (2020) to model the health and wider social and economic effects of mitigation interventions in LMICs. Modelling studies should compare mitigation interventions against a business as usual / non-mitigation intervention. Studies can: (i) incorporate modelled changes in environment/systems (e.g. air quality modelling, noise modelling), ecosystem services modelling (e.g. system dynamics models) and/or behaviour (e.g. increase in physical activity, changes in diet choices) (Castillo *et al.*, 2021, Thierry *et al.*, 2021, Hess *et al.*, 2020); and (ii) combine this with modelled health outcomes (e.g. using exposure-response functions). Studies modelling demand-side/demand reduction policies (measures that “avoid demand for energy, materials, land and water while delivering human well-being for all within planetary boundaries”) must specify how the demand shift has been or would be achieved.
- Best practice methods to measure the health, climate, and wider social and economic effects of mitigation interventions in LMICs. Observational studies, e.g. natural experiments, can report the health effects of mitigation interventions; and/or experimental studies, such as randomised control trials, can directly measure the health effects of a mitigation intervention.
- Engaged research methodologies to build knowledge on how to promote uptake of evidence by key stakeholders (e.g. policymakers, NGOs, advocates, affected communities, industry).

## Kinds of research that are not right for this call

Research that is not right for this call includes:

- Interventions where adaptation is the central focus, with limited mitigation benefits.
- Interventions solely focused on healthcare decarbonisation.

- Only estimating or measuring impacts on social and economic outcomes that are indirectly related to health (e.g. GDP growth, job creation, income levels) without additional health outcome estimates/measurements.
- Studies focused solely on conducting systematic reviews, evidence syntheses or on the development of methods, models, tools or guidance.

[Read about the kinds of research we fund through this programme.](#)

[Check if your project is in scope with our team.](#)

## Research costs we'll cover



You should ask for a level and duration of funding that is justifiable for your proposed research. You must justify all costs within your application. We will assess the proportion of resource allocation between organisations based in LMICs and HICs.

[Learn how Wellcome grant payments work](#)



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staff

### **Lead applicant**

If you are based at a higher education institution, research institute or non-academic healthcare organisation, you can ask for a contribution to your salary if you hold a permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract that states you have to get your salary from external grant funding.

The amount we pay will be proportionate to the time you contribute to the award, for example if you contribute 30% of your time to the award we will fund 30% of your salary.

You will have to contribute at least 20% of your research time to this award.

Your administering organisation must confirm:

- that your employment contract states you must get salary recovery from external grant funding
- that they will underwrite the salary and post for the period of time that you will be working on the grant.

If you are based at a charity, non-governmental organisation (NGO) or social enterprise, you can ask for a contribution to your salary, equal to the time you will spend on the award.

### **Coapplicants**

Coapplicants must contribute at least 20% of their research time to this programme.

If any coapplicant employed on your grant holds a permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract that states that they have to get their salary from external grant funding, you can ask us for a contribution to their salary in your application.

The amount we pay will be proportionate to the time they contribute to the award, for example if they contribute 30% of their time to the award we will fund 30% of their salary.

Your host organisation must confirm:

- that the coapplicant's employment contract states they must get salary recovery from external grant funding
- that they will underwrite the post, including any salary costs not covered by Wellcome, for the period of time that the person will be working on the grant.

Coapplicants can also ask for salary where they:

- Are employed by a charity, social enterprise or commercial organisation. The amount they request must be proportionate to the time they will spend on the grant.

- Don't have a permanent, open ended or long-term rolling contract and they:
  - Will spend 80% of their time on this grant. In this case, they can ask for their full salary. Their post does not need to be underwritten and can be contingent on the application being successful.
  - Will spend less than 80% of their time on the grant. In this case, they can request salary proportionate to the time they will spend on the grant. The host organisation must guarantee space and salary support if they cannot get it from other sources for the period of time they are working on the grant. Their post cannot be contingent on the application being successful.
  - Are employed on the award as post graduate research assistants. If they are to spend 100% of their time on the award, their post does not need to be underwritten by the host organisation and can be contingent on the application being successful.

Alternatively, coapplicants may get their salary through employment on another grant.

### **Staff working on your programme**

We will cover the salary costs of all staff, full or part-time, who will work on your grant.

Staff members may include:

- research assistants or technicians employed on your grant
- experts with lived experience
- specialist service staff, for example data analysis, fieldwork and clinical studies
- project manager, if you have multiple applicants on your programme

- support if you or a member of staff employed on your grant is disabled or has a long-term health condition.

## **Teaching buyout**

If you're a humanities and social science researcher, you can ask for funds for research or teaching replacement to cover the cost of a temporary replacement lecturer. You must retain at least a 10% commitment to teaching.

Costs:

- can cover up to 33% FTE of your contracted time
- are usually for a person at a more junior level than the postholder
- can be spread across the full period of the grant.

If you already get buyout costs from another grant (funded by Wellcome or elsewhere), you can ask us for this cost, but only for the period of time on your Climate and Health Award when you won't receive buyout costs from another grant.

You must provide a letter from your employing organisation, confirming that your contract includes a teaching commitment. You should include this in your grant application.

## **PhD/Research Masters fees**

We do not provide studentships on this award. But if applicants employ a research assistant or a technician on the grant, they can ask for the costs to cover their PhD/Research Masters fees. Costs for fees can only be requested where the grant

period covers the full duration of the PhD/Masters degree. Each applicant can ask for fees for up to two research assistants or technicians in total on the grant, to a maximum of eight per team. Early-career applicants (up to and including holders of early-career fellowships) may not supervise a PhD student alone but can be a co-supervisor with a mid-career or established colleague.

Research assistants/technicians should be defined as staff members and incur a lower fee than the student rate. Where organisations do not have a staff rate, they may request fees at the home student rate. If no other rate is available, they may request the international student rate.

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### **How to cost salaries for research staff**

Staff salaries should be appropriate to skills, responsibilities and expertise. You should ask your host organisation to use their salary scales to calculate these costs, which should include:

- basic salary
- employer's contributions, including any statutory obligations (for example, National Insurance contributions if you're based in the UK) and pension scheme costs
- Apprentice Levy charges for UK-based salaries
- any incremental progression up the salary scale
- locally recognised allowances such as London allowance.

You should allow for salary pay awards during Year 1. If the pay award is not yet known, applicants should use the International Monetary Fund inflation rate, selecting the 'inflation, average consumer price' option as indicator.

From Year 2 onwards, you should use your organisation's current pay rates. We'll provide a separate inflation allowance for salary inflation costs.

Read about the [responsibilities of grantholders and host organisations for people working on a Wellcome grant](#).

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### Visa and work permit costs

If you have named people on your grant whose salaries will be funded by Wellcome, you can ask for visa or work permit costs to help them take up their posts at the host organisation. You can also ask for:

- visa costs for the person's partner and dependent children
  - essential associated costs, such as travel to attend appointments at a visa application centre or embassy, and essential English language tests
  - Immigration Health Surcharge costs for the person, their partner and dependent children if they will be in the UK for six months or more.
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### Disability-related adjustment support

If you or a member of staff working on your grant is disabled or has a long-term health condition, you can ask for adjustment support to help you carry out your project.

Costs can include, but are not limited to:

- additional costs for staff to help with day-to-day activities related to your project

- assistive technology to help use computers, research equipment or materials – for example, text to audio software
- care costs for assistance animals if you need to travel.

We will not pay for capital or building costs, such as access ramps.

You can ask for these costs if your government and/or employer:

- does not cover any of the costs
- only covers some of the costs (if they do, we will only meet the shortfall).

The costs we provide must not replace the support you may get from the government or your organisation, who are responsible for providing these costs.

If you don't know what these costs are now, you can ask for them after we've awarded your grant.

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## materials and consumables

We will pay for the materials and consumables you need to carry out your project, including:

- laboratory chemicals and materials (for example reagents, isotopes, peptides, enzymes, antibodies, gases, proteins, cell/tissue/bacterial culture, plasticware and glassware)
- project-specific personal protective equipment (PPE) that is above the standard expected for the setting
- printing associated with fieldwork and empirical research

- associated charges for shipping, delivery and freight.
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## access charges

You can ask for the cost of access to shared equipment, facilities or services if they're essential to your project.

These may include materials and consumables, plus a proportion of:

- maintenance and service contracts
- staff time costs for dedicated technical staff employed to operate the equipment or facility.

We don't cover the costs of:

- estates and utilities
- depreciation or insurance
- other staff, for example, contributions towards departmental technical, administrative and management staff time.

We do cover these costs if related to animal housing facilities.

If the facilities or equipment were paid for by a Wellcome grant, you can only ask for access charges if:

- the grant has ended
  - any support for running costs and maintenance contracts has ended.
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## equipment

### Equipment purchase

You can ask for basic items of equipment that are essential to your research project.

Costs may include purchase, delivery, installation, maintenance and training, where necessary.

We will cover VAT and import duties if:

- the usual UK exemptions on equipment used for medical research don't apply
- you're applying from a non-UK organisation, and you can show these costs can't be recovered.

You can also ask for specialised equipment if:

- it is essential to the success of the proposed research project
- it is not available at your host organisation or through collaboration, and
- you'll be the main user and have priority access to the equipment.

If a complete piece of specialised equipment costs £100,000 or more, we expect a contribution of at least 25% of the total costs, including maintenance, from the host organisation or another source. In some cases, we may expect a larger contribution. We'll discuss this with you after we've assessed your application. Contributions can include benefits in kind, such as refurbishment or the underwriting of a key support post.

Multi-component items must not be broken down into component parts to avoid this contribution.

### Equipment maintenance

We will cover maintenance costs for equipment if:

- you are requesting it in your application
- it is existing equipment that is:
  - funded by us or another source
  - essential to the proposed research project
  - more than five years old
  - cost effective to keep maintaining it.

### Computer equipment

We will cover the cost of one personal computer or laptop per person up to £1,500.

We won't pay for:

- more expensive items, unless you can justify them
  - installation or training costs.
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## contract research organisation

We will provide funds if you need to outsource project work to:

- contract research organisations
  - other fee-for-service providers.
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## clinical research costs

If you need to carry out clinical research using NHS patients or facilities, we will cover some of the research costs.

Annex A of the guidelines for attributing the costs of health and social care research and development (AcoRD) sets out the costs we cover, and which costs should be funded through the Department of Health and Social Care in England, or its equivalent in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. If you're based in the Republic of Ireland, we would expect you to adhere to the spirit of these principles.

Read [more information on our clinical trials policy](#).

If your proposal involves clinical research using NHS resources, [check if you need to upload a SoECAT form](#) with your full application.

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## fieldwork expenses

We cover fieldwork costs if they're essential and you can justify them. Costs can include:

- survey and data collection, including communication and data collection services and any associated costs such as essential field materials, travel costs and language translation services
- the purchase, hire and running costs of vehicles dedicated to your project
- expenses for subjects and volunteers, including the recruitment of participants, their participatory fees and travel costs
- statistical analysis.

You can ask for other fieldwork costs that aren't listed here, but you'll need to justify them.

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## **travel and subsistence**

You can ask for these costs if you are applying from a higher education institution, a research institute, a non-academic healthcare organisation, a not-for-profit or non-governmental research organisation or a small company.

## **Travel costs**

## **Conference attendance**

You can ask for a contribution towards the costs of attending scientific and academic meetings and conferences, including registration fees and the costs to offset the carbon emissions of your travel. The limits are:

- Lead applicant – £2,000 a year
- Coapplicants – £2,000 each a year

- Staff employed on the grant – £1,000 each a year.

We provide costs to cover caring responsibilities for any staff employed on your grant to attend a conference. This includes childcare and any other caring responsibility they have. We will pay these if:

- Wellcome is providing the salary
- the conference is directly related to the research
- the caring costs are over and above what they would normally pay for care
- the conference organiser and their employing organisation are unable to cover the costs.

You can ask for up to £1,000 per person for each conference.

### **Collaborative travel**

You can ask for travel and subsistence costs for collaborative visits for you and any staff employed on your grant. You'll need to justify each visit and its duration.

### **Other travel**

We will pay for other essential visits, for example to facilities, libraries, archives, sample collection and for fieldwork. You can include subsistence costs.

### **Carbon offset costs**

This applies to all types of travel costs Wellcome provides.

You can ask for:

- the cost of low carbon travel where practical, even if it's more expensive (for example travelling by train instead of flying)
- project-related resources or activities that provide an alternative to travel, such as video conferencing, communication and file-sharing software
- costs to offset the carbon emissions of the journeys you make.

We won't pay for the core infrastructure that your host organisation should provide, unless you're eligible to ask for these costs under our overheads policy. Examples of these costs include:

- organisation-wide video conferencing packages
- high-speed broadband
- HD screens.

See our [environmental sustainability policy](#) for information on what you and your organisation need to do.

## **Subsistence costs**

If you're away for **up to one month** you can ask for subsistence costs. These include accommodation, meals and incidentals (for example, refreshments or newspapers).

If your administering organisation has a subsistence policy, use their rates.

If your administering organisation doesn't have a subsistence policy, please use the HMRC rates.

If you're away for **more than one month and up to 12 months**, we will pay reasonable rental costs only, including aparthotels. You should discuss appropriate rates with your administering and host organisations, or Wellcome, as appropriate. We expect you to choose the most economical options, booked in advance where possible.

If you're from a low- or middle- income country and will be working in a high-income country for **more than one month and up to 12 months**, you can also ask for up to £10 a day to cover extra costs, such as transport and incidentals.

If you're away for **more than 12 months**, we will pay the costs of your housing. You should discuss your needs with your administering and host organisations.

The allowance we provide will be based on family and business need. We will set the maximum allowance we pay for each location. This will be based on current market data or, where data is unavailable, in consultation with your administering organisation, using equivalent market rates. Please contact us if you need help calculating the costs.

We will cover the direct expenses you have to pay to find and rent a home. We will not cover the cost of utilities or any refurbishment.

## **Overseas research**

If you or any research staff employed on your grant will be doing research away from your home laboratory, we'll help with the additional costs of working on the project overseas. Please see the 'Overseas allowances' section for details.

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### **overseas allowances**

You can ask for these costs if you are applying from a higher education institution, a research institute, a non-academic healthcare organisation, a not-for-profit or non-governmental research organisation or a small company.

If you or any staff employed on your grant will be spending time in another country, we'll help you with the additional costs of working on the project overseas.

Our overseas allowances are:

- a contribution towards the personal cost of carrying out research overseas, to ensure that you are not disadvantaged
- provided on the assumption that you'll be paying income tax, either in your home country, or the country you will be working in (your personal tax is your responsibility)
- provided on the understanding that you or your partner will not receive equivalent allowances from elsewhere
- determined by the amount of time you will spend away from your home country.

### **Carbon offset costs**

We expect the people we fund to choose travel that has a lower carbon impact, where practical, even if it's more expensive (for example travelling by train instead of flying).



You can ask for costs to offset the carbon generated by the travel, as part of your overseas allowances. If carbon offsetting for travel is not part of your organisational sustainability strategy, you can ask us for a similar level of support for other sustainability initiatives. Your organisation must get our approval for other sustainability initiatives to be included in applications.

See our [environmental sustainability policy](#) for information on what you and your organisation need to do.

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### Partners and dependents travelling with you

If you will be away more than 12 months, we will provide overseas allowances for your partner and any dependants if they are travelling with you.

If you will be away for 12 months or less and can justify why your partner and dependants must travel with you, we may provide overseas allowances for them.

We define your partner as the person:

- you're married to
- you're not married to but with whom you've been in a relationship for at least a year

and

- you live with at the same permanent address and share some form of joint financial commitment with, such as a mortgage.

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## Outward and return travel

We will pay your travel costs at the beginning and end of your overseas work. Costs can be for air, ferry, train or coach fares.

All fares should be:

- in line with our environmental sustainability policy
- booked in advance where possible.

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## Baggage and freight shipping allowance

If you are away for **up to 12 months**, you can ask for up to 80kg of additional baggage or unaccompanied airline freight for your outward and return journeys.

If you are away for **more than 12 months**, you can ask for the costs of shipping your personal items at the beginning and end of your overseas work.

We will pay the full cost of transporting:

- half a standard shipping container if you're travelling alone
- a whole standard shipping container (20ft) if you're travelling with a partner and/or dependants.

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### Medical and travel insurance

We will pay the cost of your medical insurance and travel insurance.

If you will be working in a low- or middle-income country we will also cover the cost of emergency evacuation cover.

We won't pay for medical insurance if you will be based in the UK or Republic of Ireland.

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### Visas and vaccinations

We will pay the costs of visas, vaccinations and anti-malaria treatment.

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### Housing security

You can ask for this if you'll be based in a low- or middle-income country and it is necessary.

Costs can include guards, panic buttons and alarms. You should ask your employing organisation for advice on the level of security you need.

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### Accommodation and subsistence

If you're away for **up to one month** you can ask for subsistence costs. These include accommodation, meals and incidentals (for example, refreshments or newspapers).

If your administering organisation has a subsistence policy, use their rates.

If your administering organisation doesn't have a subsistence policy, please use the HMRC rates.

If you're away for **more than one month and up to 12 months**, we will pay reasonable rental costs only, including aparthotels. You should discuss appropriate rates with your administering and host organisations, or Wellcome, as appropriate. We expect you to choose the most economical options, booked in advance where possible.

If you're from a low- or middle- income country and will be working in a high-income country for **more than one month and up to 12 months**, you can also ask for up to £10 a day to cover extra costs, such as transport and incidentals.

If you're away for **more than 12 months**, we will pay the costs of your housing. You should discuss your needs with your administering and host organisations.

The allowance we provide will be based on family and business need. We will set the maximum allowance we pay for each location. This will be based on current market data or, where data is unavailable, in consultation with your administering organisation, using equivalent market rates. If you need help calculating the costs please contact us.

We will cover the direct expenses you have to pay to find and rent a home. We will not cover the cost of utilities or any refurbishment.

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## Education

If you're away for **more than 12 months** we will pay:

Local nursery or school fees

You can ask for these costs if you are in a location where there isn't free local education of the same standard as in your home country.

Costs include:

- local nursery school fees up to a maximum of 30 hours a week for 3 to 4 year olds
- local junior or secondary school fees, up to the end of secondary school education.

#### Local international school fees

You can ask for these costs if local schools do not provide the same standard of education as in your home country. We will only pay the published termly school fees.

We will not cover the costs of:

- extracurricular activities, including field trips
- other extras including, but not limited to, uniforms, sports kit and equipment, transport, meals, books and electronic equipment.

#### Boarding school fees

We will consider paying the cost of boarding school fees in your home country if:

- a local international school is not available

- both parents, guardians or the sole care giver live outside the home country.

The allowance covers:

- up to a maximum of £30,000 a year for each child for the published termly fees only
- the cost of return airfares at the start and end of each school term, in line with our environmental sustainability policy.

We will not cover the costs of:

- additional annual leave airfares
- extracurricular activities, including field trips
- other extras including, but not limited to, uniforms, sports kit and equipment, transport, meals, books and electronic equipment.

We will cover the cost of providing special needs education as far as possible. Please contact us to discuss your needs.

We would not usually expect to provide an education allowance if you will be working in a high-income country.

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### Annual leave travel costs

If you will be away for **more than 12 months**, we'll pay for you to travel back to your home country for annual leave. This is in addition to your outward and return travel costs and depends on how long you will be away:

- 12-24 months – 1 annual leave trip
- 25-36 months – 2 annual leave trips
- 37-48 months – 3 annual leave trips
- 49-60 months – 4 annual leave trips
- 61-72 months – 5 annual leave trips
- 73-84 months – 6 annual leave trips
- 85-96 months – 7 annual leave trips.

All fares should be:

- in line with our environmental sustainability policy
  - booked in advance where possible.
- 

### Language lessons

If you will be away for **more than 12 months**, you can ask for up to 100 hours of lessons in the local language for you and/or your partner during the first 12 months of your visit.

We will cover 100% of the costs for local language school classes or up to 50% of the costs of individual tuition.

We will not cover the cost of examinations or personal learning materials such as DVDs and books.

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## public engagement and patient involvement costs

You can ask for costs that are essential to the project. These can include:

- materials, including printing and publishing
  - other costs relating to engagement activities that are essential to carry out your research, patient involvement (including under-served groups) and community engagement
  - dissemination of research results and findings arising from Wellcome-funded research and workshops.
- 

## overheads

You can ask for overheads if your grant will be based at a:

- university outside the UK
- research organisation that does not receive core funding for overheads
- charitable or not-for-profit organisation
- small or medium-sized commercial organisation

You can also ask for overheads on any part of your grant that is sub-contracted to any of the organisations listed above.

If you're based at a UK university you can't ask for overheads for sub-contracted activity if your university will include the sub-contracted funding in its annual report to the UK Charity Research Support Fund.



Overheads can include:

- estates, for example building and premises
- non-project dedicated administrative and support staff
- administration, for example finance, library, and room hire

The total cost for overheads should not be more than 20% of the direct research costs.

These costs must directly support the activity funded by the grant.

How to apply for these costs

In your grant application you must:

- give a full breakdown of costs (you can't ask for a percentage of the research costs)
- explain why these costs are necessary for your research
- include a letter from the finance director of your host organisation, or the sub-contracted organisation, confirming that the breakdown is a true representation of the costs incurred

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## **continuing professional development**

You can ask for these costs if you are applying from a higher education institution, a research institute, a non-academic healthcare organisation, a not-for-profit or non-governmental research organisation or a small company.

## Continuing professional development and professional skills training

You can ask for a contribution towards these costs.

Types of training can include:

- research leadership, professional and people management skills
- career development support
- responsible conduct of research
- diversity and inclusion
- promotion of a healthy research culture.

We expect your host organisation to provide and fund this training. However, if these types of training are not available, or the quality is inadequate, you can ask for up to £500 a year for you and each member of staff employed on your grant who will be:

- in a post of 12 months duration or more only and
- working on Wellcome funded awards for at least 50% full time equivalent.

You will need to justify these costs in your application.

## Research skills training

You can ask for costs to cover training for the technical and research skills you need to deliver your proposed research.

You can ask for whatever research skills training you need for you, and each member of staff employed on your grant, who will be:

- in a post of 12 months duration or more only and
- working on Wellcome funded awards for at least 50% full time equivalent.

You will need to justify these costs in your application.

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### open access charges

If your organisation receives open access block grant funding, you can ask them to cover your open access article processing charges.

If you're at an organisation that does not receive block grant funding, we'll supplement your grant when your paper has been accepted for publication.

You cannot ask for these charges in your grant application.

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### inflation allowance

#### How we calculate your inflation allowance

We will add an inflation allowance to your award. Your inflation allowance is based on your total eligible costs and the duration of the award.

We will use an inflation allowance that reflects the inflation rate of the country where the host organisation is based using data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). You'll receive the following allowance if the costs in your application are in pounds sterling.

AWARD DURATION (IN MONTHS)	INFLATION ALLOWANCE
0-12	0.0%
13-24	1.01%
25-36	2.04%
37-48	3.09%
49-60	4.13%
61-72	5.20%
73-84	6.28%
85-96	7.38%

The costs in your application must be based on current known costs, excluding inflation.

You should allow for salary pay awards during Year 1. These should be based on pay awards already agreed; if you don't know what the pay award is yet then use the IMF rate for the currency your award will be made in.

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## other costs

### Allowed costs

You may ask for the following costs (you will have to justify them in your application):

- specialist publications that are relevant to the research and not available in institutional libraries
- consultancy fees, including for lived experience experts
- expenses for subjects and volunteers – includes recruitment of participants, their participatory fees and travel, as well as interviewee expenses
- reasonable research-associated costs related to the feedback of health-related findings but not any healthcare-associated costs
- costs associated with developing an outputs management plan
- questionnaires, recruitment material, newsletters etc for clinical, epidemiological and qualitative research studies
- public engagement materials where dissemination (including printing and publishing) is a key activity of the project
- recruitment, advertising and interviewee travel costs for staff to be employed on the grant
- purchase, hire and running costs of project-dedicated vehicles
- project-specific personal protective equipment (PPE) that is above the standard expected for the setting
- activities in your capacity strengthening plan

- costs to host/a contribution towards hosting:
  - a conference
  - a session within a conference
  - a symposium
  - a seminar series
  - advisory board meetings, if appropriate.
- The meeting should either be:
  - for research purposes, for example data gathering
  - to disseminate your research findings, for example to policy makers.
- Costs can include:
  - travel and accommodation for keynote speakers
  - external room hire and catering
  - event publicity and conference materials
  - childcare and other caring responsibility costs for delegates
  - any costs related to accessibility and inclusion.

## **Disallowed costs**

We will not pay for:

- estates costs – such as building and premises costs, basic services and utilities\*
- phone, postage, photocopying and stationery, unless you can justify these within a clinical or epidemiological study
- page charges and the cost of colour prints
- research, technical and administrative staff whose time is shared across several projects and isn't supported by an audit record\*
- PhD stipends
- cleaning, waste and other disposal costs\*
- office furniture, such as chairs, desks and filing cabinets
- clothing such as lab coats and shoes
- non-research related activities such as catering, room and venue hire for staff parties, team-building events and social activities
- indemnity insurance (insurance cover against claims made by subjects or patients associated with a research programme)
- ethics reviews, unless you are in a low- or middle-income country
- radiation protection costs
- contingency funds
- organisation insurance
- clinical examination or course fees
- working capital costs of commercial organisations.

\*We will fund these costs in the case of animal-related research or if you are claiming them as part of your overheads (see overheads policy for more detail).

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## How to apply



### 1. Before you apply

- Make sure you read everything on this page.
- You do not need to contact us before you write and submit your application.
- We held a webinar about this award on 9 December 2024 at 10.30 GMT. We are currently processing the recording and will make this available here shortly.

### 2. Submit your preliminary application

- [View the preliminary application form.](#)
- Do not include information over and above the 1000 word proposal.
- Your application must be submitted by 17.00 GMT on the deadline day, 18 February 2025.
- Complete your preliminary application on the [Wellcome Funding Platform.](#)



### 3. Shortlisting of preliminary applications

- We will check your eligibility for the call and that your preliminary application is within the funding remit for this award.
- Wellcome staff will review your preliminary application.
- You will be informed of the decision on your preliminary application approximately one month after the preliminary application deadline.
- We are unable to provide feedback on applications that are not shortlisted.

### 4. Invitation to full application

If invited to submit a full application, you will complete your application on the Wellcome Funding platform. Shortlisted applicants will have approximately two months to prepare their full applications.

### 5. Submit your full application to your administering organisation for approval

- Complete your application form on Wellcome Funding platform.
- Submit it to the 'authorised approver' at your administering organisation for approval. Make sure you leave enough time for the approver to review and submit your application before the deadline. The approver may ask you to make changes to your application.

- If this is your organisation's first time applying for Wellcome funding, they will need to contact us to request an organisation account. Email [fundingsupport@wellcome.org](mailto:fundingsupport@wellcome.org) with your organisation's:
  - Name
  - Address
  - Country
  - Team email address for the people who will approve and submit your application (this is usually a research management team).
- We will create the organisation account and provide access to the approvers. Review our [guidance for research offices](#).

## 6. Administering organisation approves and submits it to Wellcome

Your application must be submitted by 17:00 BST on the deadline day.

## 7. Committee review

- A committee will review proposals and make funding recommendations to Wellcome.
- Committee members will be chosen based on their expertise within the relevant research field. Committee membership will be comprised of a diverse range of international members and will take into account Wellcome's [diversity and inclusion priorities](#).
- Once the committee has been appointed, we will update this webpage to include its details.

## 8. Funding decision

- Final funding decisions will be made by Wellcome.
- You will receive an email notification of the funding decision soon after the decision has been made in August 2025.
- The reasons for a decision will be provided to unsuccessful applicants in writing.

### Where to apply

You need to apply for this scheme on the Wellcome Funding Platform. You can save your application and return to it at any time.

Get some tips to help you write your grant application.

Download application questions

Start application

## Timing considerations for your application

You must leave enough time to make sure:

- you read everything on this page before applying
- you and your coapplicants to complete the application
- your administering organisation to review, offer feedback and for you to apply any amendments suggests
- you submit the pre-application to Wellcome by 17.00 GMT 18 February 2025.

## Getting support with your application

If you need further support with completing your application, [please contact us](#).

### Disability support

If you are disabled or have a long-term health condition, we offer support to help you with the grant application process. We can also provide support completing your project. For example, providing costs for assistive technology or assistance animals.

[View our disability-related support for applicants](#).

# How applications are assessed



The application process consists of two stages:

- a preliminary application stage, where proposals will be shortlisted
- a full application stage, where shortlisted applicants are invited to submit full applications for review by a committee of experts.

## Preliminary applications

All preliminary applications will be assessed on:

- Whether the research aims and objectives are clearly articulated and in line with the above stated research priorities (see what your research must include).
- Whether the proposed team structure includes expertise in climate change mitigation and health, and details proposed or already established non-academic stakeholder collaborations.
- The likelihood that evidence generated will fill a need relevant to policy or practice, driving action that delivers positive climate and health outcomes.
- The appropriateness of the project timeline and budget.

## Full applications

All applications will be evaluated using the same weighted assessment criteria.

## Essential criteria and weightings

### Feasibility (20% weighting)

- The research objectives are clear and achievable.
- Work packages are clear and will deliver on the research objectives within the proposed timeframe.
- Equitable partnership principals are demonstrated and resourced.
- Sufficient resources have been allocated to complete the work, and the proportion of funds allocated to organisations located in LMICs is appropriate.

### Research Methods (30% weighting)

- The proposed research uses best-practice methods to answer research questions.
- The application demonstrates that the research team is aware of current and relevant research and knowledge. The proposed research may challenge paradigms but is built off sound principles.
- Engaged research practices are used to support research uptake. For example, co-design activities are planned at the implementation phase of the proposal.

### Research Team (20% weighting)

- The leadership and management approach are convincing and coherent. Local researchers are substantively involved in the leadership, design and delivery of the research project (at minimum one applicant from each country where the research will take place).

- The research team is transdisciplinary and includes an appropriate combination of expertise to execute the research.
  - Where partnerships with non-academic stakeholders still need to be established, a clear plan for how to develop these partnerships is outlined and can be feasibly executed within the first year of the grant.
- The research team includes the necessary skills to execute the project. Relevant skills may include:
  - prior experience of researchers engaging with policy, practitioners and/or implementation partners
  - knowledge brokering competencies such as the ability to act as a bridge between research producers and users
  - the ability to facilitate social learning and translate research for different contexts and audiences.

#### Impact of Research (30% weighting)

- Research outputs will fill an evidence gap.
- Research outputs will resolve a demand for evidence (e.g. a direct demand, long-standing issue, debate or critical question) by stakeholders who can drive actions that deliver positive climate and health outcomes.
- The research will lead to actionable evidence to support policy and/or practice to drive actions that deliver positive climate and health outcomes.
- The proposal has a high-level theory of change, outlining the pathway from research to impact.

#### If you are funded



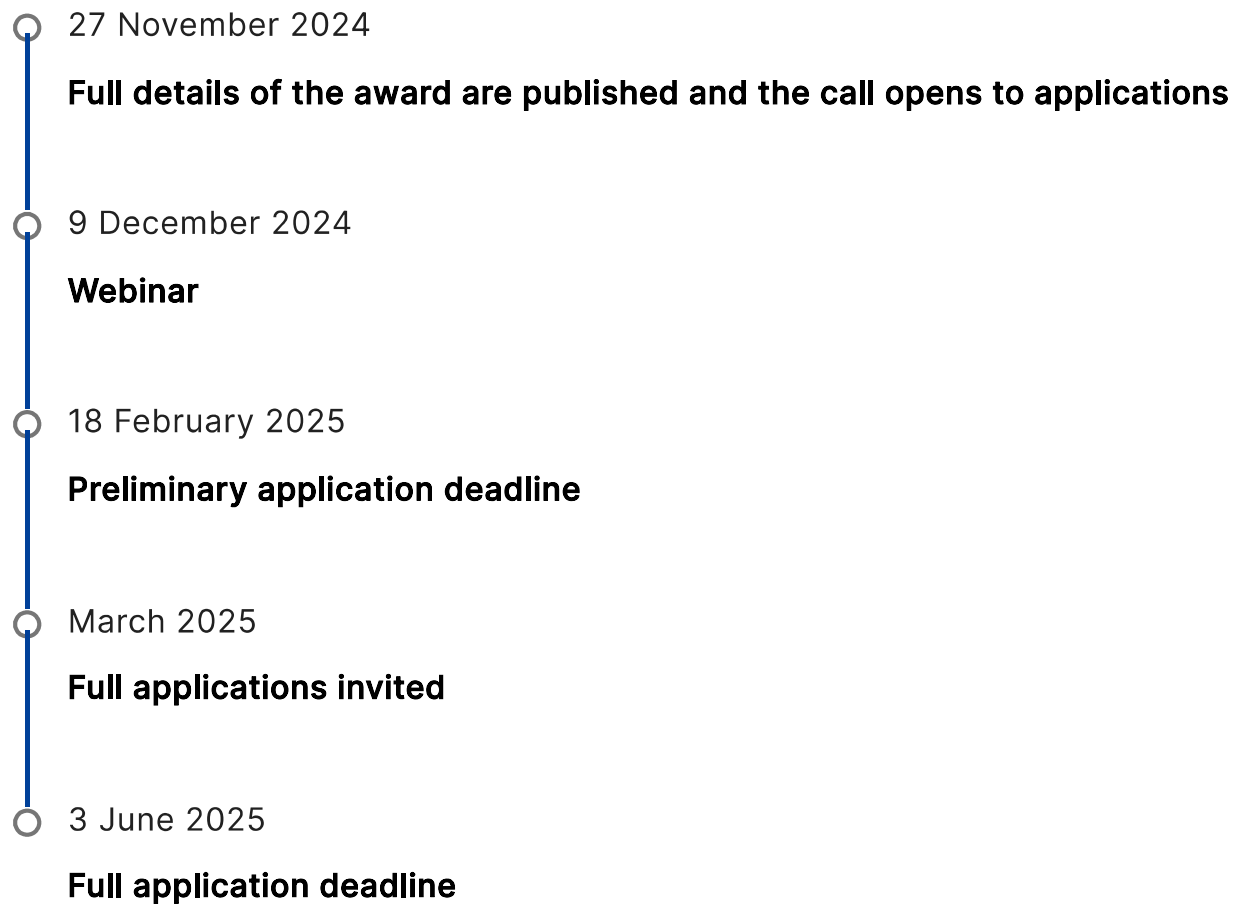
All successful applicants to this call will be supported with cohort support, organised and provided by Wellcome. The intention of the cohort support is to meet any developmental needs identified by the cohort, share learnings between the cohort, and help maximise the impact of research outputs.

## Key dates



You must submit your application by 17:00 GMT/BST on the deadline day. We don't accept late applications.





Contact us

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## Eligibility, what we offer and application questions

If you have a question about eligibility, what we offer or about completing the application form using Wellcome Funding, send our funding information advisers a message.

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[Send us a message](#)

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## Scope questions

If you are unclear about whether your proposed idea would be in scope for this funding call, you can send a very brief summary of your idea (no more than 200 words) by **31 January 2025**.

Please include the title of the call 'Advancing climate mitigation solutions with health co-benefits in low- and middle-income countries' in the subject line.

Based on the information provided, we will aim to reply to your email within one week, with an 'in scope' or 'out of scope' response.

Please note that this is not a requirement and will not impact your likelihood of being funded. The confirmation that a proposed idea is in scope does not constitute an active invitation to apply for the call.

We do not answer questions on the competitiveness of proposals.



[climatemitigation@wellcome.org](mailto:climatemitigation@wellcome.org)

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