

ACADEMY OF FINLAND

**Strategic research programmes,
call for letters of intent
5 November–9 December 2015**

This call has two stages. The call text presents guidelines for both stages; the first for letters of intent and the second (to be opened in February 2016) for full applications. The second call stage is open only to those invited to submit full applications.

The Academy of Finland funds cutting-edge and innovative research aiming at scientific breakthroughs and supports the utilisation of the results of that research. We are Finland's leading expert organisation in science and science policy. In that role, we focus on strengthening the position of science and research.

Our funding is based on open competition and independent peer review. We are also committed to promoting equality in research and open science.

Read more about us on www.aka.fi/en. More information on strategic research funding is available at www.aka.fi/src.



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AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO APPLYING

When?

The Academy of Finland has two main application rounds each year: September and April.

In September, for example, we invite applications in the following funding opportunities: Academy Project funding, targeted Academy Project funding and funding for research posts (i.e. Academy Professor, Academy Research Fellow, Postdoctoral Researcher and clinical researcher).

In April, for example, we invite applications within research programmes and for targeted Academy Project funding.

The deadlines of the following funding opportunities may differ from our main deadlines: Academy Programmes, strategic research programmes, research infrastructures, two-stage calls, funding applied for by sites of research, and calls linked to international or national research collaboration.

Be sure to check the deadline separately for each call in the call text. We will not process applications that have not arrived by the deadline.

What?

Our funding schemes are presented on our website under [Our funding opportunities](#).

How?

We post open calls on our website under [Apply now](#). For detailed guidelines on how to apply, visit these sections on our website:

- 1) [call texts](#) describing all available funding opportunities
- 2) [how-to guide to our online services](#).

Also read our [step-by-step guide to applying](#), which is a brief summary of the most important steps you will need to follow to submit your application.

In connection with our main calls, if relevant, we also publish a “What’s new” summary describing any new and revised guidelines for that particular call.

We require that you carefully read the call text and the guidelines mentioned above before submitting your application.



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1 GENERAL GUIDELINES

These are the application guidelines for calls by the Strategic Research Council (SRC) at the Academy of Finland. The guidelines for SRC calls differ somewhat from the Academy's general guidelines (cf. [the Academy's September 2015 call](#)).

1.1 FOR APPLICANTS

Who is eligible to apply for SRC funding?

The SRC's calls are intended only for applications by research consortia. The consortium application is submitted by the principal investigator of the consortium. The PI must be a researcher with a doctoral degree and at least at the docent level. The consortium must be based on true collaboration where the work packages are distributed equally and appropriately between the parties. The research work must not rely too heavily on only one subproject or research environment. The composition of a consortium cannot be changed after the call deadline has expired.

Criteria for consortia applying for funding:

- They must consist of at least three research teams.
- The teams must be from at least two different organisations (e.g. universities, research institutes or business companies).
- The researchers must represent at least three different scientific disciplines.

Detailed guidelines on how to draft a consortium application for the first stage of SRC calls are available in Appendices 1.2 and 1.3 of the call for applications; the guidelines for the second stage are available in Appendices 2.3 and 2.4.

As a rule, the projects to be funded must benefit Finnish research and society or international collaboration. This rule also applies when there is a foreign organisation involved in the consortium. Business companies, too, can apply for SRC funding. The general conditions of the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers and the Academy of Finland's general conditions and guidelines apply to all Academy funding. The EU's state aid rules are applied if the consortium to be funded includes parties that aim to engage in commercial activities.

Restrictions

In SRC calls, an applicant can be a *consortium PI* only in one consortium. In addition, an applicant can be a *subproject PI* only in one application per each programme.

However, if an applicant (consortium PI or subproject PI) does submit more than one application within a programme, we will only review the first application to arrive.

A PI of a consortium that received funding from the SRC's April 2015 call is not eligible to apply for funding in this call. A subproject PI who is participating in a consortium that received funding from the 2015 programme A Climate-Neutral and



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Resource-Scarce Finland cannot apply for funding from the supplementary call to the same funding programme.

Directors of the Academy of Finland's Centres of Excellence may apply for SRC funding, but not as consortium PIs.

What does the funding cover?

What the Academy's funding covers depends on the funding opportunity. You can apply for funding to cover, for example, the following direct research costs:

- the research team's work (salaries)
- research costs
- travel
- national and international collaboration and mobility
- preparation of international projects
- publishing costs (e.g. open access publishing using the golden route).

In the SRC's calls, the funding also covers the following costs:

- salaries of consortium PI and subproject PIs
- other costs mentioned in Chapter 3 of the call for applications.

The Academy's funding can also cover VAT costs, but only on certain conditions; read more on our website under [How to enter value added tax on the application](#).

In calls implemented under the full cost model, Academy funding can be used to cover both direct project costs (e.g. direct salaries) and indirect costs (e.g. costs for premises). Both types of costs are covered with the same percentage. Read more on our website under [Full cost model](#).

We require that the site of research (e.g. university department) provides the research project with all **necessary basic facilities**. These are determined based on the nature of the research and are the same as those available to other research staff at the site: office and laboratory premises, equipment (incl. computer equipment), and telecommunications, telephone, mailing, copying and library services, etc.

In the application, applicants give a **cost estimate** including an estimate of the annual amount of funding needed, itemised by type of expenditure. They must also include a **funding plan**, that is, all funding granted to the project and funding that will be provided by the site of research if the project is launched. The cost estimate must be realistic and **justified by type of expenditure in the research plan**.

Support to international researcher mobility

The Academy also funds international researcher mobility:

- in research projects



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- **as a mobility allowance** for mobility from Finland as part of a project's research costs:
 - researchers with dependants €1,500/month
 - researchers without dependants €1,050/month
- **as grants** to non-EU researchers coming to Finland to work for periods shorter than a year.
- with our funding opportunity *International researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements* as research grants or personal grants.

Read more on our website: [Calculation of support to international researcher mobility](#).

In addition to this special funding, international researchers can be hired to work on Academy-funded research projects.

Salary costs of principal investigator

In calls by the Strategic Research Council (SRC), the guidelines for salary costs differ from the Academy's usual salary cost guidelines. Read more in Chapter 3 of the call for applications. The funding is primarily intended for **the salaries of full-time researchers working on the projects and for other research costs**.

Strategic Centres for Science, Technology and Innovation

Based on information available in autumn 2015, the format for the activities of the Strategic Centres for Science, Technology and Innovation (Finnish acronym SHOK) may change. It is also possible that Tekes' funding for strategic centres will be gradually discontinued. Information on how this will perhaps affect the Academy of Finland's funding will be posted on the Academy's website as it becomes available.

The Academy's funding opportunities promote leading-edge scientific research at strategic centres.

The research may be either directly affiliated with a specific centre or scientific research that serves a centre's thematic area. If your research plan is tied in with a thematic area of one or several strategic centres, please follow the guidelines below.

When submitting your application, select on the list in the online services the strategic centre with whose thematic area the research is affiliated.

1. If the application **is directly affiliated** with a strategic centre, attach a statement issued by the centre:
 - confirming the project's affiliation with the centre
 - describing the project's role in and significance to the centre's operations
 - describing the form and contents of the collaboration between the project and the centre.
2. If the application is not directly affiliated with a strategic centre, but it **has relevance** to the centre's thematic area, justify this in the research plan.



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The applications are reviewed in line with the Academy's general practices and criteria. Read more on our website under [Review criteria](#) and [Strategic Centres for Science, Technology and Innovation](#) and at www.shok.fi/en.

When is an application reviewed, and when is it not?

Details on the review of applications submitted to SRC calls are available in Appendices 1.1.2 (first stage) and 3 (second stage) of the call for applications.

The funding is based on a scientific review of research plans and applicants. The Academy of Finland mainly uses foreign experts as reviewers. You have the right to submit your application in Finnish or Swedish, but **we ask you to submit it in English** in order to facilitate international peer review, ensure an equal preparation of funding decisions and ensure a smooth processing of applications.

For justified reasons, we may decide not to review an application. The reasons that are considered in these cases are presented on our website under [Review criteria](#).

Guidelines on required appendices

You can make your application easier to review by drafting the appendices according to the guidelines we have provided.

Appendices to applications submitted to SRC calls follow separate guidelines (Appendices 1 (first call stage) and 2 (second call stage) of the call for applications).

Open science

We require that Academy-funded projects commit to open access publishing. We urge them to make their research data and methods freely available. The application must include, as part of the research plan, a publication plan and a data management plan. Read more in Appendix 4 (Open science) of the call for applications.

Research ethics

The ethical issues of the research must always be described in the research plan; they are reviewed as part of the scientific review. The **ethical issues and duties** to be considered at the application stage are listed on our website under [Ethical guidelines](#). We require that all Academy-funded research is conducted following [the guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity](#), including [the recommendations on ethical review in human sciences](#).

Mobility plan and partners, use of infrastructures (second call stage)

You must describe the mobility, the partners and the use research infrastructures both in the application (in detail) and in the research plan.

In the application under *Mobility*, describe how the project's researchers will be mobile in Finland and abroad during the funding period. The mobility must support



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the project. If applying for funding for a research post as Postdoctoral Researcher or Academy Research Fellow, also account for previous mobility (*Previous mobility*).

In addition (under *Partners*), describe how other Finnish or foreign researchers working with their own funding will contribute to the project.

Under *Research infrastructures*, describe which international and national infrastructures will be used and how this will be of benefit to the project.

Research infrastructures refer to a reserve of research materials, services, equipment and facilities enabling research and development as well as researcher training and developing research and innovation capacity. Read more about research infrastructures under [Research infrastructures](#) on our website.

Please note that applicants need not provide in-depth accounts of mobility or use of research infrastructures **at the first stage of SRC calls**.

1.2 FOR SITES OF RESEARCH

Terms and conditions of funding

The Academy of Finland will fund a research project only if the site of research undertakes to provide the researcher with the necessary basic facilities for research.

The Academy allocates the funding to the researcher's host organisation. Grants for research abroad (mobility grants) may also be allocated directly to the researcher.

Academy funding to organisations outside the central government (e.g. universities) is seen as a discretionary government transfer. Since the funding is allocated not to individual researchers but to their host organisations, the organisation – not the researcher – is regarded as the recipient of the transfer (as per the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers), and will accordingly be required to assume all related obligations. The host organisation receiving the transfer is permitted to use it solely to fund the research carried out by the PI named in the application.

Staff to be hired with Academy research funding must have an employment relationship with the site of research or the organisation receiving the funding.

For detailed conditions and guidelines (revised annually) on use of funding and reporting, see [How to use the funding](#) on our website.

In contrast to other research programme funding by the Academy, the SRC's funding covers all costs, that is, the contribution comes to 100% of the estimated total project costs. Sites of research need not contribute to the costs with their own funding.

Commitment by site of research

The Academy will fund a research project only if the application includes a commitment by the site of research. You must agree on this commitment **in advance**



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with a representative of the site of research. After the call has closed, we will request the commitment by the site of research from the person indicated in the application. Read more on our website under [Commitment by site of research](#).

In calls where full costing is applied, you must – before submitting your application – determine from your own organisation **the coefficients and the VAT practice** of the site of research, and agree on them with the commitment issuer. The coefficients will be valid during the entire funding period.

The competent person of the site of research issues the commitment in the Academy's online services on behalf of the site of research. By issuing the commitment, the site undertakes to, for instance:

- secure the necessary basic facilities for the project, which are the same as those available to other research staff at the site: office and laboratory premises, equipment (incl. computer equipment), and telecommunications, telephone, mailing, copying and library services
- (in non-SRC calls) fund the project in accordance with full costing with the funding contribution presented in the funding plan.

At the application stage, sites of research must check that the following information is entered correctly:

- the coefficients (overheads, indirect employee costs and effective working hours) of the site of research (regarding projects to which full costing is applied)
- [the VAT practice](#)
- the Business Identity Code.

A prerequisite for Academy funding is that both the applicant and the site of research commit to the guidelines issued by the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity on [responsible conduct of research and procedures for handling allegations of misconduct in Finland](#).

If the funding is a discretionary government transfer awarded to organisations outside the central government (e.g. universities), the site of research also undertakes to act as the recipient of the transfer on behalf of the applicant and will accordingly be required to assume all related obligations.

1.3 HOW APPLICATIONS ARE SUBMITTED AND BECOME PENDING, PUBLICITY AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

How applications are submitted and become pending

Letters of intent for the present SRC call can be drafted and submitted in the Academy of Finland's online services as of Thursday 5 November 2015. The non-negotiable deadline for letters of intent is Wednesday 9 December 2015 at 16.15.

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Please note that consortium PIs can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects have completed their parts. To ensure smooth drafting and submission, please submit your application as early as possible.

According to section 17 of the Finnish Administrative Procedure Act and section 8 of the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector, the sender is responsible for the application arriving by the set deadline.

An application becomes pending at the Academy when the online application and the obligatory appendices have been submitted in the online services. The system will confirm the successful submission by sending an email to the address provided by the applicant.

NB! The system will not accept applications that lack obligatory details or appendices.

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure not to exceed the maximum lengths indicated in the guidelines.

For guidelines on how to submit an application in the Academy's online services, see the [How-to Guide](#). If you run into problems in the online services at the time of submission, please contact us before the deadline (the contact persons are named in the call text), either by phone or via [Questions and feedback](#) on our website.

Supplementing the application

You can make changes (e.g. change appendices) in an application you have submitted to the Academy, but you must make them **before the deadline expires**. To do this, log in to the online services, open the application, make the necessary changes and resubmit the revised application by the set deadline. The resubmitted application will replace the earlier version.

If you notice that your application lacks important information **after the deadline has expired**, immediately get in touch with the call's contact person, who can open the application for your supplementary additions. The additions will be taken into account insofar as it is possible in view of the review and decision-making process. An important addition is, for instance, an invitation by a foreign university.

Do not submit any new appendices via the so-called additional information feature; such appendices will not be saved as part of the application.

You must immediately notify us if you receive funding from other sources for the same purpose after your application to the Academy has been submitted.

Applications are public documents

Under the Finnish Act on the Openness of Government Activities, an application and its appendices are public information; research and interaction plans, plans of intent, abstracts and progress reports, however, are not. For example, the CV is a public document and as such must not include any confidential information.

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Public project description

The popular description of the project is an important part of the application. The description is a way for the Academy and researchers to disseminate information on Academy-funded research to the scientific community, stakeholders and the public at large. The description should therefore be as readable as possible, written for a nonscientific audience. It must give the reader a brief summary of the key points of the research. Read more under [Public description of project](#) on our website.

If a project is granted funding, we will publish the project description on our website. The description is written by the applicant when drafting the application. **We cannot edit project descriptions – it is the applicants themselves who are responsible for the content, clarity and style of the descriptions.** They will remain accessible on our website for several years.

Finnish- or Swedish-speaking applicants write their descriptions in Finnish or Swedish. All applicants must also write a description in English to facilitate international peer review.

1.4 INFORMATION ON DECISIONS

The dates for Academy funding decisions are posted on our website under [Funding decisions](#). You can also [search our decisions](#) for the funded projects, their public descriptions and the call-specific fact sheets.

Applicants will receive an automatic **email message** after the decision has been made. After receiving this message, you can log in to the **online services** with your user ID to view the decision. You can also read the decision conditions and read the expert reviews on your application, if such reviews were used in decision-making.

1.5 HOW TO RECEIVE THE FUNDING

After being granted funding, you must check and accept it in the online services without delay. The system will then send a notification to the commitment issuer at the site of research. That person must also accept the granted funding, after which the system will notify the funding to the finance administration of the site of research, whereupon the funds will be made available for use.

The funds can be paid only after both the applicant and the representative of the site of research have accepted them as received.



2 SRC CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT, AUTUMN 2015

The Strategic Research Council (SRC) at the Academy of Finland provides funding to solution-oriented and phenomenon-based research.

Each year, based on the SRC's proposal, the Finnish Government decides a number of strategic research themes, which the SRC then builds into research programmes. The SRC also decides which projects receive funding. In order to receive funding, the research must be societally significant and scientifically high-quality

The SRC's first three funding programmes were launched in autumn 2015. [The programmes include 16 projects](#) selected after a call organised in spring 2015. In the present call, the SRC is announcing four new programmes, which will start in 2016.

In addition, the SRC will open a supplementary call within the 2015 programme A Climate-Neutral and Resource-Scarce Finland.

The SRC's funding programmes run for 3–6 years. Because the 2016 call will provide funding under five different strategic research themes, the SRC has decided that the 2016 call will involve three-year funding. This will give the SRC knowledge of more concentrated programmes so that it can further develop its funding processes. The 2016 call has two stages.

[The Government decided](#) the 2016 themes for strategic research on 15 October 2015. On 2 November 2015, the SRC announced that it had formulated those themes into four strategic research programmes, one for each theme.

A common priority area for all themes is **the effects of immigration on Finnish society**. The SRC will take this priority area into consideration in each funding programme in the call. The funding programmes are:

- **Skilled Employees – Successful Labour Market** (original theme: Knowledge, know-how and the changing working life)
- **Health, Welfare and Lifestyles** (original theme: Health and the changing of lifestyles)
- **Security in a Networked World** (original theme: Overall security in a global environment)
- **Urbanising Society** (original theme: The dynamics of urbanisation)

In addition, the SRC will open a supplementary call within the 2015 programme **A Climate-Neutral and Resource-Scarce Finland**.

The SRC has about 52 million euros to distribute within the 2016 call. As a rule, the funding will be evenly distributed between the programmes. The supplementary call within the programme A Climate-Neutral and Resource-Scarce Finland will provide funding to 1–2 projects.



The projects will run for three years. The funding will start (retroactively) on 1 April 2016 and end on 31 March 2019. The SRC may open a supplementary call in 2018 under some (but not all) of the 2016 themes.

According to a preliminary schedule, the applications going through to the second call stage will be selected on 29 January 2016. The SRC estimates that the second stage decisions will be made on 9 May 2016.

2.1 SKILLED EMPLOYEES – SUCCESSFUL LABOUR MARKET

The Finnish Government adopted the strategic research theme **Knowledge, Know-How and the Changing Working Life** on 15 October 2015. The theme description is as follows:

Working life is in a state of global flux. Employment and career trajectories are inevitably being affected by robotisation, digitalisation, employees' changing knowledge and skill sets, etc. Traditional education and degree structures are no longer optimally suited to the changing conditions, but there is a need for new and more flexible ways of learning and adopting new ideas that cut across all stages of life. Research under this theme should respond to the challenges faced by educational institutions. Furthermore, it should provide concrete solutions for identifying and advancing the adoption of skills that will be needed in the future workplace so that skills and competencies match job requirements. The aim is to find ways in which the best existing research can be put to use in making the most of education, learning environments and skills as well as in anticipating the need for new skills and future occupations.

The permanent change in the labour market will also demand an examination of the need for institutional reform, for instance in labour market regulation and immigration policy. Furthermore, research under this theme helps shed light on the role of Finnish growth companies in the development of new skills and competencies and identifies the most critical success factors for these companies. Research under this theme should be able to present concrete ways in which the skills required in the future workplace can be identified and the assimilation of these skills can be promoted.

Based on this thematic framework, the Strategic Research Council adopted the SRC programme **Skilled Employees – Successful Labour Market** on 2 November 2015.

In their applications, applicants must address a number of programmatic questions. The questions must be addressed both in the plan of intent (first call stage) and in the research and interaction plan (second call stage).

In the **Skilled Employees – Successful Labour Market** programme, applicants must address question A, and at least two of the optional questions B, C and D.



OBLIGATORY QUESTION

A. What are the most important changes affecting knowledge and know-how, working life and the labour market, and how should these changes be addressed?

- Possible viewpoints: Which changes in society will most greatly affect working life, the labour market, knowledge and know-how, and learning (e.g. robotisation, digitalisation and employees' changing knowledge and skill sets)? How can officials, labour market institutions and the non-profit sector most effectively contribute to maintaining, developing and renewing knowledge, work duties and careers?

OPTIONAL QUESTIONS (applicants answer at least two questions)

B. How can the skills required in the future workplace be identified, developed, supported and implemented?

- Possible research questions: How can the skills required in working life and work duties be anticipated, recognised and adopted in education, the workplace and the labour market? Which new educational and degree modes, structures and institutions best serve work culture development? How can lifelong learning and skills acquisition be organised? How can a situation be created that matches skills and competencies with job requirements, and promotes different groups' opportunities to participate in working life and maintain skills needed in the workplace? How will migration affect the educational system and its ability to support needed working life skills?

C. How should the labour market and the way it works be developed?

- Possible research questions: Which institutional reforms in the labour market can best promote labour market renewal and adaptability, job creation, work participation and skills utilisation? What lessons can be learned from the most successful people, communities and companies? How can access to the labour market be made easier and how can incentive traps be reduced? How can the renewal of entrepreneurship be supported and entrepreneurial skills promoted?

D. How will immigration affect working life and the renewal of education, skills and competencies?

- Possible research questions: How will immigration affect the labour market and educational needs? How do we optimise the utilisation of new skills and opportunities provided by immigration? How will society respond to immigrants' educational needs that stem from a renewed working life? What changes need to be made in the labour market and in education so that immigrants' work participation can be guaranteed in the best possible way?



2.2 HEALTH, WELFARE AND LIFESTYLES

The Finnish Government adopted the strategic research theme **Health and the Changing of Lifestyles** on 15 October 2015. The theme description is as follows:

Research under this theme shall give special attention to mechanisms that, drawing on the results of scientific research over the past decades, can bring about permanent changes in people's behaviour. There is an abundance of information about health and wellbeing, but people in Finland are not following experts' lifestyle recommendations. There is also an abundance of knowledge about lifestyles that promote health and wellbeing, but that knowledge is not put to good enough use. A central concern under this theme is to identify different types of groups and their special interests and motivating factors. It is essential to consider the international context and cooperation: What successes have other countries had in the area of health and wellbeing, what lessons have been learned and what could be transferred or applied to Finland?

Research under this theme shall provide more information on how resources could be transferred from the treatment to the prevention of diseases. Research is needed so that information about health and wellbeing can be tailored in such a way that it better reaches and motivates different groups. The aim is to ensure that the information provided is taken on board and that it translates into health and wellbeing at all stages of the life cycle. In addition, the research can tackle questions related to the role and responsibilities of authorities. What impact do different instruments of influence and different solutions have, and what is their social acceptability? How can individuals be sustainably encouraged to take greater responsibility for their own health?

Based on this thematic framework, the Strategic Research Council adopted the SRC programme **Health, Welfare and Lifestyles** on 2 November 2015.

In their applications, applicants must address a number of programmatic questions. The questions must be addressed both in the plan of intent (first call stage) and in the research and interaction plan (second call stage).

In the **Health, Welfare and Lifestyles** programme, applicants must address question A, and at least two of the optional questions B, C, D and E.

OBLIGATORY QUESTION

A. What specific means to promote health and welfare and change lifestyles will the research address?

- Possible viewpoints: Which actors have an essential role to play in solving the chosen problem? At the international level, what measures and means have been developed to support positive transitions? What lessons have been learned and what could be transferred or applied to Finland?



OPTIONAL QUESTIONS (applicants answer at least two questions)

B. Which mechanisms can bring about permanent lifestyle changes and thus contribute to promoting health and welfare?

- For instance, how have ideas of health and welfare changed, and how will we define the health and wellbeing of different groups in the future? Which factors specifically promote or threaten health and welfare? How are these factors linked to socio-economic and cultural changes in society? How could the Finnish people better take on board recommendations for healthier lifestyles?

C. In what ways can resources be transferred from the treatment to the prevention of diseases in order to further promote health and welfare?

- Possible viewpoints: By what kinds of key mechanisms can authorities encourage individuals and groups to adopt healthy lifestyles and make healthy choices and to take greater responsibility for their own health, taking into account their varying values, attitudes and needs? What impact do different instruments of influence and different solutions have, and what is their social acceptability?
- What are the responsibilities and opportunities of authorities in the promotion of health and welfare? How can and should we transform societal structures and institutions in the interests of improved health and welfare? How will migration affect the public health and welfare system? How do we transfer resources from the treatment of diseases and the pile-up of social problems to the prevention of diseases and the promotion of positive transitions?

D. How can business companies, the non-profit sector and civil society (and the collaboration between these three) promote health and welfare?

- For instance, how can we tailor information about health and wellbeing in such a way that it better reaches and motivates different groups and so that the information provided is taken on board and that it translates into positive transitions supportive of health and wellbeing? How can individuals be sustainably encouraged to monitor and promote their own health?

E. How can immigrants be taken into account in such a way that measures designed to prevent diseases also contribute to promoting the health and welfare of immigrants?

- Possible viewpoints: How do we take into account the cultural backgrounds and values of immigrants in healthcare, disease prevention and welfare promotion? How will society respond to immigrants' health and welfare needs? How must immigration be taken into account in planning and deciding social, health and welfare services?



2.3 SECURITY IN A NETWORKED WORLD

The Finnish Government adopted the strategic research theme **Overall Security in a Global Environment** on 15 October 2015. The theme description is as follows:

In today's networked world, states are increasingly interconnected and interdependent not only in the realm of the economy, but also crisis management and security. It follows from this interdependence that in all states, including Finland, internal security and external security are inseparably interwoven.

Research under this theme will support efforts to monitor, analyse and predict changes taking place in the security environment and to recognise and respond to new types of security risks. The information gained from this research will strengthen the capacity of the state to perform its core functions, such as securing the existence and operational integrity of the state, enhancing citizens' security and sense of security, and understanding global security and geopolitical changes (incl. new types of threats related to information networks, information dissemination, cyber security, extremist groups and radicalisation, or pandemics).

The main areas of research focus are the overall security and operational integrity of Finnish society and its ability to tolerate and respond to risks. A major focus is on national security of supply in our energy- and knowledge-intensive, digitalising and globalising society. Other key areas of interest include the interaction between internal and external security, citizens' experiences of insecurity at different stages of the life cycle, changing values and attitudes, and the impact of these changes on the development of national identity, unanimity and democracy.

Based on this thematic framework, the Strategic Research Council adopted the SRC programme **Security in a Networked World** on 2 November 2015.

In their applications, applicants must address a number of programmatic questions. The questions must be addressed both in the plan of intent (first call stage) and in the research and interaction plan (second call stage).

In the **Security in a Networked World** programme, applicants must address question A, and at least two of the optional questions B, C and D.

OBLIGATORY QUESTION

A. What changes are taking place in the global security environment, and what challenges will these changes pose to internal and external security in Finland?

- Possible research questions: Which dimensions of security (e.g. globalisation, geopolitics, digitalisation, conflicts, pandemics, extreme weather events, inequality, poverty, extremist groups and radicalisation) will affect Finnish society? How will these different dimensions influence each other, and how will the interplay between them alter the security environment? How will future security risks be anticipated?



OPTIONAL QUESTIONS (applicants answer at least two questions)

B. How can we improve threat preparedness and society's threat response capacity?

- Possible viewpoints: What interaction occurs between internal and external security? How must different security risks be taken into account in terms of Finland's national security of supply and operational integrity? What is the capacity of Finnish society to tolerate and respond to risks? How are changes in the public and private sectors and changes in the roles and duties of different societal actors affecting the management of security risks?

C. How does information on security threats and utilisation of such information enhance the management/attainment of security as well as citizens' overall sense of security?

- For instance, how can we enhance knowledge dissemination and the communications environment as well as the interaction between the producers and users of information? What kinds of information needs do different actors have? How do we guarantee the accuracy of information and the management of ramifications in public-sector policy-making?
- How will changing values and attitudes influence citizens' sense of security, the development of democracy and conceptions of national identity?
- How can we boost citizens' sense of security at different stages of the life cycle?

D. How will increasing immigration influence the security environment?

- For instance, what challenges will increasing immigration pose to Finland's internal and external security? What impact will increasing immigration have on the roles and duties of different societal actors and on the management of security risks? How will society's actions and decisions in immigration issues influence Finland's status in international networks? How can we use the cultural and linguistic diversity provided by immigrants to our advantage in improving internal and external security?

2.4 URBANISING SOCIETY

The Finnish Government adopted the strategic research theme **Dynamics of Urbanisation** on 15 October 2015. The theme description is as follows:

Urbanisation has advanced at great pace in Finland. Even so, we continue to lag behind other Western European countries. Finland has the advantage of coming from behind. We can look at how urbanisation has advanced in other countries and put this information to good use in our own processes of urbanisation. Research under this theme needs to solve questions such as how cities can respond to residents' needs, what adds to the appeal and competitiveness of cities, how cities support innovations, and how functional labour markets are created in cities. It is also



important to find ways in which the strengthening of cities can contribute to enhancing the vitality of surrounding regions.

Research under this theme will be aimed at increasing understanding of urbanisation and its impacts on the interaction between cities and regions and on the vitality of regions. The research approaches include, for example, digitalisation and resource efficiency. Information and solutions are needed about how to promote health and wellbeing, and about how urbanisation is affected by community planning, planning and land use policy, housing policy, taxation and industrial and commercial policy. Research can shed light on the impacts of urbanisation on how and where people will live in the future, on where the various functions of society should be located, on how mobility and transport should be arranged, on how social and health problems and opportunities will change, on how energy will be produced, on what kinds of resources will be available (e.g. quality of air, access to clean water, and food), and so on. Research is needed to explore the characteristics of centralised and decentralised community structures from different perspectives, specifically from the point of view of energy production and consumption, different industries, security of supply and self-sufficiency. Furthermore, research is needed into how the changing demography, the diversification of households and lifestyles, the growth of multi-place living, internationalisation and differences in people's values and practices influence the development of cities.

Based on this thematic framework, the Strategic Research Council adopted the SRC programme **Urbanising Society** on 2 November 2015.

In their applications, applicants must address a number of programmatic questions. The questions must be addressed both in the plan of intent (first call stage) and in the research and interaction plan (second call stage).

In the **Urbanising Society** programme, applicants must address question A, and at least two of the optional questions B, C and D.

OBLIGATORY QUESTION

A. How will urbanisation continue to develop, and what factors will influence this development?

- Possible research questions: How and where will people live in the future? Where should the various functions of society be located? How will the changing demography, the diversification of households and lifestyles, the growth of multi-place living, internationalisation and differences in people's values and practices influence the development of cities? What challenges will urbanisation pose to the housing markets? How has urbanisation advanced in other countries, and how can Finland put this information to good use in our own processes of urbanisation?

OPTIONAL QUESTIONS (applicants answer at least two questions)

B. How can we promote sustainable urbanisation?



- Possible research questions: With what measures can we ensure that urbanisation advances in ecologically and socially sustainable ways? How is urbanisation affected by community planning, planning and land use policy, housing policy, social, health, educational and cultural policies, taxation and industrial and commercial policy? In what ways do residents influence urbanisation, and how can cities respond to residents' needs? How is urbanisation affected by the characteristics of centralised and decentralised community structures from different perspectives? What adds to the appeal and competitiveness of cities? How do cities support innovations? How are functional labour markets created in cities?

C. What is the effect of urbanisation in regions surrounding cities?

- Possible research questions: How does urbanisation affect the interaction between cities and surrounding regions as well as the vitality of surrounding regions? How can the strengthening of cities contribute to enhancing the vitality of surrounding regions? How will different kinds of resources (e.g. energy, food, water, clean air, a clean natural environment and services such as social, health, educational and other services) be made available?

D. How will immigration affect urbanisation, and how should the effects be taken into account in urbanisation governance?

- Possible research questions: How and where will immigrants live in the future? How will society respond to immigrants' needs? How will immigration influence the housing markets? How should we take into account increasing immigration in regional and community planning and in decision-making processes? How can we use the cultural and linguistic diversity provided by immigrants to our advantage in terms of urbanisation?

2.5 A CLIMATE-NEUTRAL AND RESOURCE-SCARCE FINLAND, SUPPLEMENTARY CALL

The Strategic Research Council (SRC) will open a supplementary call within the 2015 programme A Climate-Neutral and Resource-Scarce Finland.

Applicants must address programmatic questions A–C. The questions must be addressed both in the plan of intent (first call stage) and in the research and interaction plan (second call stage).

Supplementary call for SRC programme A Climate-Neutral and Resource-Scarce Finland

1. What is the interaction between the circular economy (incl. both renewable and nonrenewable natural resources) and climate neutrality? How do different sectors such as traffic and transport, energy production, agriculture and forestry, construction, waste management and industry influence each other?
2. What kinds of changes in consumption, lifestyles and other human activity are needed in order to transition to a climate-neutral circular economy? With what



measures can we promote the implementation of those changes? How does this serve to boost exports and competence-based growth?

3. What are the key elements of a resource-scarce and climate-neutral society? Which means are supportive of a transition to a climate-neutral and resource-scarce society? In what ways can public, private and non-profit actors support a well-managed overall transition?



3 GUIDELINES FOR SRC CALLS

As a general rule, calls by the Strategic Research Council (SRC) are subject to the same conditions and guidelines as those which govern the Academy of Finland's other calls. In the following section, we present the most notable exceptions and special guidelines concerning SRC calls.

What does the SRC's funding cover?

You can apply for funding to cover, for example, the following direct research costs:

- the research team's work (salaries)
- salaries of consortium PI and subproject PIs
- coordination salaries (either as coordinator salary or as part of the consortium PI's salary)
- other coordination
- impact and interaction activities
- research costs
- travel
- key national and international collaboration and mobility of significance to the project's goals
- preparation of international projects
- publishing costs (e.g. open access publishing using the golden route)
- accounting.

The Academy's funding can also cover VAT costs, but only on certain conditions; read more on our website under [How to enter value added tax on the application](#).

The funding cannot be used to acquire large-scale equipment.

Staff to be hired with Academy research funding must have an employment relationship with the site of research during the funding period. The funding is granted primarily to teams of researchers with doctoral degrees.

The funding covers all costs, that is, the contribution comes to 100% of the estimated total project costs. The funding is granted under the full cost model, but host organisations need not contribute to the costs with their own funding.

Funding

The projects to be funded will run for three years. The funding period will be 1 April 2016–31 March 2019. Applicants must draft their plans of intent to cover three years. To facilitate a swift start to the research, applicants should front-load their funding plans.

The SRC has about 52 million euros to distribute within the 2016 call. Funding will be granted to 2–4 consortia under each programme (1–2 consortia in the supplementary call). The total funding for three years is estimated at 2–4 million euros per consortium.



The funding covers all costs, that is, the Academy's contribution comes to 100% of the estimated total project costs. The funding is granted under the full cost model, but host organisations need not contribute to the costs with their own funding.

The terms and conditions for SRC funding are in line with the Academy's general funding conditions, with a few exceptions and specifications (e.g. PI's salary and 100% funding percentage).

Review and decisions

After panels have reviewed the letters of intent submitted at the first call stage, the SRC will decide which applicants will be asked to submit full applications. Each programme will have a dedicated panel composed of both Finnish and foreign experts in science and research relevance. The panels will review the letters of intent by looking at the societal relevance and impact of the proposed projects. They will also consider how well the projects match the programme objectives. The scientific quality of the projects will also be reviewed.

The review process and review questions are presented in Appendices 1.1.2 (first call stage) and 3 (second call stage) of the call for applications. The SRC will use the panel reports in selecting projects for the second stage.

Appendices to letter of intent

Obligatory appendices to letter of intent:

- **plan of intent**; no more than *six pages* in total
- **curricula vitae** for the consortium PI and the subproject PIs; no more than *four pages* each
- **lists of publications** by the consortium PI and the subproject PIs; in each list, clearly indicate up to *ten of the most important publications* for the project; the lists may include links to longer publication lists.

The obligatory appendices to be appended to the full application at the second call stage are listed in Appendix 2.1 of the call for applications.

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure to draft them in line with SRC guidelines. For guidelines on how to draft appendices, see Appendix 1 (first call stage) and 2 (second call stage) of the call for applications.

Make sure not to exceed the maximum length of appendices. Draft the appendices in English and append them to the application in the online services under *Appendices*. The only exception is the CV, which is appended under *Personal data/CV*.

How to apply

This is two-stage call. The non-negotiable deadline for letters of intent (first call stage) is 9 December 2015 at 16.15.

Draft the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select one of the following calls under *Open calls*:



- **SRC 2016: Skilled Employees – Successful Labour Market, letters of intent**
- **SRC 2016: Health, Welfare and Lifestyles, letters of intent**
- **SRC 2016: Security in a Networked World, letters of intent**
- **SRC 2016: Urbanising Society, letters of intent**
- **SRC 2016: A Climate-Neutral and Resource-Scarce Finland, letters of intent**

Please make sure you select the correct call.

According to a preliminary schedule, the applications going through to the second call stage will be selected on 29 January 2016. The names and project titles of successful applicants will be posted on the Academy's website.

The non-negotiable deadline for full applications (second call stage) is 10 March 2016 at 16.15. The SRC estimates that the second stage decisions will be made on 9 May 2016.

The guidelines for the second call stage are presented in Appendix 2 of the call for applications.

Contacts at the Strategic Research Unit

- Science Adviser Laura Kitti, tel. +358 295 335 152
 - Urbanising Society
 - A Climate-Neutral and Resource-Scarce Finland
- Science Adviser Jyrki Hakapää, tel. +358 295 335 020
 - Skilled Employees – Successful Labour Market
- Science Adviser Erja Hänninen, tel. +358 295 335 153 (Science Adviser Jussi Vauhkonen as of 1 February 2016)
 - Health, Welfare and Lifestyles
 - Security in a Networked World
- Senior Science Adviser Tiina Jokela, tel. +358 295 335 046
- Senior Science Adviser Tiina Petänen, tel. +358 295 335 091

More information is also available at www.aka.fi/src.



4 SRC MATCHING FUNDS FOR HORIZON 2020

The Strategic Research Council (SRC) at the Academy of Finland grants national matching funds to sites of research of projects that have received funding under [the Societal Challenges priority of Horizon 2020](#), the EU the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

Projects eligible to receive SRC matching funds must have received funding in 2015 or thereafter. The aim of SRC matching funds is to encourage research organisations to participate in preparing projects for upcoming EU funding calls.

SRC matching funds can be applied for by research organisations. The application deadline is open-ended. The application guidelines are available in [the Academy's September 2015 call for applications](#).



APPENDICES, GUIDELINES AND REVIEW PROCESS

As a general rule, calls by the Strategic Research Council (SRC) are subject to the same conditions and guidelines as those which govern the Academy of Finland's other calls. In the following section, we present the special guidelines concerning SRC programme calls.

APPENDIX 1: SRC GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS OF INTENT

APPENDIX 1.1: GUIDELINES FOR APPENDICES TO LETTER OF INTENT

1.1.1 Structure of plan of intent

To guarantee the uniformity and quality of the review, applications must follow a comparable structure. In the letters of intent, applicants must therefore draft the plan of intent following the structure provided. The plan must not exceed *six pages*.

The plan of intent must describe the goals and activities for the three-year funding period 1 April 2016–31 March 2019. It must be drafted according to the structure below, keeping in mind that the plan will be reviewed by international experts.

Structure of plan of intent:

- project title (no more than four words) and consortium abbreviation
- principal investigator and site of research
- deputy PI and site of research
- subproject PIs and sites of research

The following aspects should be described in the plan of intent:

1. central idea of the research
2. how the application addresses the programmatic questions, what activities have been planned
3. previous research around the topic, research methods and material
4. expected results
5. interaction (stakeholders, objectives, means and implementation)
6. scientific merits and competence of the consortium (merits and competence of consortium PI and subproject PIs)
7. competence of the consortium (i.e. consortium PI and subproject PIs) in terms of the promotion of societal influence and research impact.

1.1.2 Review of plan of intent

In the review of letters of intent, attention will be paid to the following aspects:

- societal relevance and impact (items 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7)
- quality and scientific impact of research (items 1, 3, 4 and 6)

The letters of intent submitted to each programme will be reviewed by a dedicated panel composed of both Finnish and foreign experts in science and research relevance. The panels will issue a written report and give an overall rating for each



application. The SRC will make its decisions based on these reviews. Successful applicants will be asked to submit full applications.

The panels will reach a consensus and produce a joint report on each letter of intent. They will also rate each letter of intent, focusing on the following questions:

- Why and how does the proposed research match the programme?
- How are societal relevance and impact as well as interaction represented in the application?
- Is the proposed research of high international quality? How is it positioned across fields of research?
- How do the consortium and its distribution of work promote project implementation?

1.1.3 Curriculum vitae

Applicants must present their scientific merits as comprehensively and truthfully as possible and in such a way that they facilitate comparisons between applicants. We therefore ask you to draft your CV in accordance with [the model of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity](#).

Your CV should be a concise presentation of your scientific merits in particular and of your other achievements relevant to the implementation of the research plan. Fill in your CV taking into account the nature of the call, your research career stage and the practices of your own scientific discipline. Please note that you do not have to fill in each item. *Please write your CV in English and make sure that it does not exceed four pages.* Name the attachment following the format surname_CV.

CV contents and structure

In applications submitted to SRC calls, we will pay more attention than usual to CV sections 12 (Societal impact of research), 13 (Positions of trust in society and other societal merits) and 14 (Other merits).

To ensure an equal and fair evaluation of merits, we recommend the following order of presentation in the CV:

1 Full name and date

- surname (also earlier surnames), first names
- gender
- date of writing the CV

2 Date and place of birth, nationality, current place of residence

- date and place of birth
- nationality
- current place of residence (contact details, if necessary)



3 Education and degrees awarded

- degree title (most recent first), educational institution, major subject, date and place of graduation (contact details to facilitate verification of the highest degree earned)
- title of docent: field, university and date when conferred

4 Other education and training, qualifications and skills

- other studies aiming at a degree, qualifications or supplementary education and training: name, extent, organiser, start and (estimated) completion date of education or training
- other skills

5 Languages

- mother tongue
- other languages: achieved proficiency and certificate date or self-assessment of proficiency

6 Current position

- current position, employer and place of work, start and end date of employment (possible part-time nature of work must be stated, brief job description if necessary)
- research career stage, if not directly evident from the foregoing: 1) early-career researcher or doctoral student; 2) postdoctoral researcher; 3) independent researcher; or 4) leading researcher (professor, research director)
- grant researcher: source, purpose and period of grant
- full-time student: institution and major subject
- secondary occupation, additional work experience, other commitments relevant to the application (e.g. commitments in a company)

7 Previous work experience

- earlier employment relationships and grant periods (most recent first), including longer-term visits abroad: job description, employer and place of work or funding organisation, start and end date of the employment (possible part-time nature of work must be stated, brief job description if necessary)
- earlier secondary occupations, additional work experience, other commitments relevant to the application (e.g. commitments in a company)
- career breaks: family leaves, military or nonmilitary service, other leaves of absence (with start and end dates), other reasons. NB! The inclusion of career breaks is voluntary, but it may have a positive impact on the review and eligibility of the researcher, for instance, when the call presumes a specific career stage.

8 Research funding, leadership and supervision

- major research funding (grants and appropriations): source of funding, funding period and amount of funding



- role in preparation of funding applications for a research team (name of PI)
- leadership of research work
- supervision of postdoctoral researchers (number of supervised researchers or their names and graduation dates), supervisory role (main/primary/responsible or secondary supervisor)
- experience as officially appointed supervisor to undergraduate and postgraduate students/doctoral students (cf. above)

9 Merits in teaching and pedagogical competence (if necessary, supplemented with teaching portfolio)

- pedagogical training and competence
- involvement in curriculum planning and course implementation: subject, study hours, course level and duration
- development of teaching methods
- supervision of theses
- merits in the training of responsible conduct of research and innovation practices (subject, study hours, course level and duration)
- teaching awards

10 Awards, prizes and honours

- awards, prizes and honours granted for scientific, artistic or research merits or on the basis of the recipient's academic career

11 Other scientific or academic merits

- service as a pre-examiner or as an opponent of a doctoral dissertation, or as a member in dissertation committees (abroad)
- evaluation of academic/scientific or artistic competence (e.g. title of docent)
- member of international peer review panels for funding applications (e.g. European Research Council)
- memberships and positions of trust in scientific and scholarly societies
- membership in national or international expert groups, evaluation or steering committees, as well as other expert duties
- positions as editor-in-chief, editor, or member of editorial boards of scientific and scholarly journals and publication series
- referee for scientific and scholarly journals
- administrative responsibilities at higher education institutions or at research organisations, responsibilities in the higher education community
- invited keynote lectures abroad

12 Societal impact of research

- merits related to the application of research results
- participation in societal preparatory and policy-related processes
- merits related to the production and distribution of research results and data
- merits related to science communication, science popularisation and media appearances as an expert
- invention disclosures, patents and other commercialisation-related merits (e.g. spin-off companies and trademarks)



13 Positions of trust in society and other societal merits

- significant societal positions of trust, expert duties and assignments (also scientific policy advice tasks)
- other societal merits, honours, medals, decorations, and Finnish military rank (optional)

14 Other merits

1.1.4 List of publications

At both the first and second stage of SRC calls, the consortium PI and the subproject PIs must list *no more than ten of the most important publications for the project*. The lists may include links to longer publication lists. The consortium PI and the subproject PIs append their lists to their own applications. Name the attachment following the format surname_pub.

APPENDIX 1.2: GUIDELINES FOR CONSORTIUM APPLICATION (FIRST CALL STAGE)

Appendix 5 of the call for applications shows an illustration of the various steps involved in drafting a consortium application.

The consortium itself selects the principal investigator of the consortium. The consortium PI bears the responsibility for the drafting and submission of the consortium application. The PI is also responsible for reporting on the research of the consortium. **The consortium PI can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects (i.e. the subproject PIs) have completed their own applications in the online services.**

A consortium application is one joint application. The applications and appendices of consortium subprojects will be joined together with the consortium PI's own application. The consortium PI's application includes details and appendices for the PI's own project as well as the consortium's joint plan of intent, abstract and public description. The consortium PI will enter the consortium project's name, keywords, research fields and partners on behalf of the whole consortium. The **subproject PIs** will complete their own applications filling in only **their own project's** cost estimate and funding plan as well as all other required fields.

The consortium's cost estimate and funding plan must be as realistic as possible. They must follow the cost coefficients (overheads, indirect employee costs, effective working hours) used by the site of research in question. Each site of research of the consortium parties must be asked for their commitment, as is standard practice at the Academy of Finland.

Please note that the section Who is eligible to apply for SRC funding? of the call for applications presents a few restrictions.



APPENDIX 1.3: SUBMITTING A CONSORTIUM APPLICATION IN THE ONLINE SERVICES (FIRST CALL STAGE)

The joint consortium application is started by the consortium PI. The PI will log in to the Academy's online services, select the correct SRC call under *Open calls* and click on *New application*. First select the language of the application and then *Application of consortium PI*. Then enter the name and abbreviation of the consortium.

Under *Consortium parties*, the consortium PI enters the PIs (i.e. team leaders) of the consortium subprojects. Please note that the consortium PI can enter the consortium parties on the application only after the parties have signed up to the Academy's online services. When the consortium PI starts writing the name of a subproject PI on the online application, the system will give a list of persons with the same name who have already signed up. If the name of a subproject PI is not on the list, he or she must first sign up.

After this, the consortium PI sends the consortium parties an email message to indicate that they have been added to the consortium. The message includes a link with which subproject PIs can log in to the online services to draft their own applications and appendices under *My applications > Incomplete*.

On the application form, each subproject PI enters the subproject's research costs and the cost coefficients (overheads, indirect employee costs, effective working hours) and VAT practice of the site of research. They should also enter information on the subproject's research teams and all other details requested on the form. Applications should include only the requested appendices. The consortium PI will then complete his or her own application with the corresponding details. **The consortium PI will receive an automatic message after the subproject PIs have completed their applications.**

The joint consortium application (consortium PI's application and subprojects' applications) must be submitted by the set deadline. **Please note that the consortium PI can submit the consortium application only after all subprojects have completed their own applications.**

All consortium parties can follow the progress of the application in the online services. The PDF version of the application is updated as information is saved in the system. **The application deadline is non-negotiable.** We will only process consortium applications that have been submitted by the deadline. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the first-stage deadline has expired.



APPENDIX 2: SRC GUIDELINES FOR FULL APPLICATIONS

APPENDIX 2.1: APPENDICES TO FULL APPLICATION

Obligatory appendices:

The consortium PI appends to his or her own application:

- research and interaction plan (no more than 19 pages), drafted according to consortium guidelines and including a two-page executive summary.

The consortium PI and subproject PIs append to their own applications:

- curriculum vitae (no more than four pages); name the attachment following the format surname_CV; read more in Appendix 1.1.3 of the call for applications
- list of publications; clearly indicate the ten most important publications for the project; the lists may include links to longer publication lists; name the attachment following the format surname_pub; read more in Appendix 1.1.4 of the call for applications.

Case-specific appendices:

- CVs for persons essential to the interaction (no more than four pages per person), if these are not included in the above CVs (the consortium PI appends them if necessary)
- letters of commitment from the most important organisations named in the research and interaction plan (each party appends them if necessary)
- statement by an ethics committee (the consortium PI appends it if relevant); the ethical aspects must always be specified in the research plan
- progress report on all Academy-funded research projects by the consortium PI and the subproject PIs that have not submitted final reports (each party appends)
- descriptions of collaboration with business and industry, if relevant
- extract from the Register of Companies for any companies receiving research funding within the consortium (each party appends if relevant)
- invitation by foreign university or research institute, if research will be conducted abroad in the form of researcher mobility (each party appends)

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure to draft them in line with Academy guidelines. See Appendices 1 and 2 of the call for applications for guidelines on the obligatory appendices to applications for SRC funding (plan of intent, CV, list of publications and research and interaction plan). For guidelines on case-specific appendices, go to our website at [Appendices required](#).

Make sure not to exceed the maximum length of appendices. Draft the appendices in English and append them to the application in the online services under *Appendices*. The only exception is the consortium PI's (i.e. the applicant's) CV, which is appended under *Personal data/CV*.



APPENDIX 2.2: RESEARCH AND INTERACTION PLAN (SECOND CALL STAGE)

The research and interaction plan is a joint plan for the whole consortium. The plan must be drafted to cover the three-year funding period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2019. The guidelines for the research and interaction plan used in SRC calls differ from the Academy of Finland's usual research plan guidelines. The research and interaction plan must not exceed 19 pages (Times New Roman 12 pt or corresponding).

The plan should provide clear answers to the questions raised in the review (see Appendix 3 of the call for applications). To guarantee the uniformity and quality of the review, applications must follow a comparable structure. *The research and interaction plans should therefore follow the structure provided.*

Structure of research and interaction plan (second call stage)

The research and interaction plan *will be reviewed by international experts* and must include the following information:

- 1 Principal investigator (PI) of consortium, deputy PI and team leaders and their sites of research, name and abbreviation of consortium, date of research plan**
- 2 Executive summary** (no more than two pages); drafted in line with the structure of the research and interaction plan
- 3 Central idea of the research**
 - Brief justifications: Why did you choose this particular programme? What issue will you be trying to solve?
 - What are the scientific and societal objectives of the research?
 - What is the societal impact of the research?
- 4 Previous research around the topic**
 - How is the consortium positioned in relation to its own fields of research?
- 5 Scientific and societal objectives of the research**
 - Hypotheses
 - How does the application address the programmatic questions? What activities have been planned?
 - How can the results of the research be made use of in society?
 - What are the objectives in terms of interaction and societal impact?
- 6 Research methods and material, data management plan** (according to the Academy's open science guidelines, see Appendix 4 of the call for applications)
 - Research methods, described so as to show the feasibility of the research
 - Critical points for success, alternative implementation strategies
- 7 Interaction** (stakeholders, goals, means and implementation)



- Who are the key actors in terms of the theme, the programme and the mobilisation and application of research results?
- What kind of information do users and beneficiaries need, and how have such needs been charted?
- What are the means and channels of interaction at various stages of the project?
- How will the interaction processes be designed to achieve an optimal timing from the users' and beneficiaries' perspective (e.g. in terms of law drafting)?
- How will the project interact with the media (incl. social media)?
- How will the interaction be implemented, and who is in charge of the implementation?

8 Expected results, schedules for research and interaction

- Expected results and schedules for research and interaction
- Potential for scientific breakthroughs
- Publication plan: publishing of research results, dissemination and communication to the scientific community according to the Academy's open science guidelines (see Appendix 4 of the call for applications)

9 Consortium's accomplishments and competence in terms of scientific and societal impact

- Merits and competence of consortium PI and subproject PIs
- Distribution of work, ensuring collaboration between research teams

10 Consortium cost estimate

- Cost estimate for consortium (total costs and funding plan) and cost justifications by type of expenditure; costs that do not pass through the books of the sites of the research must not be included in the total costs
- Costs of interaction activities

11 Ethical issues

- Description of ethical issues (e.g. ethical governance procedures, informed consent, anonymity of subjects) concerning the chosen topic, methods and data, as well as any research permits or information on pending permit applications

12 Key literature or bibliography

APPENDIX 2.3: GUIDELINES FOR CONSORTIUM APPLICATION (SECOND CALL STAGE)

Appendix 5 of the call for applications shows an illustration of the various steps involved in drafting a consortium application.

The consortium PI is selected by the consortium at the first call stage. At the first stage, the consortium also determines the composition of the consortium. The



composition cannot be changed after the first-stage deadline has expired. The consortium PI bears the responsibility for the drafting and submission of the consortium application. The PI is also responsible for reporting on the research of the consortium. **The consortium PI can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects (i.e. the subproject PIs) have completed their applications in the online services.**

A consortium application is one joint application. The applications and appendices of consortium subprojects will be joined together with the consortium PI's own application. The consortium PI's application includes details and appendices for the PI's own project as well as the consortium's joint research and interaction plan, abstract and public description. The research and interaction plan must describe the competence and research duties of the consortium parties as well as the added value generated by the consortium. The consortium PI will enter the consortium project's name, keywords and research fields on behalf of the whole consortium.

The subproject PIs will complete their own applications filling in only **their own project's** cost estimate and funding plan as well as all other required fields.

The consortium's cost estimate and funding plan must be as realistic as possible. They must follow the cost coefficients (overheads, indirect employee costs, effective working hours) used by the site of research in question. Each site of research of the consortium parties must be asked for their commitment, as is standard practice at the Academy of Finland.

The consortium application is processed at the Academy as one application. When a consortium is granted funding, each subproject of that consortium receives a separate funding decision and the funding is allocated to each subproject's site of research.

When the consortium project has started, the consortium can apply for changes in the subprojects' funding plans without having to change the consortium's total funding. After the funding period has ended, the consortium PI must submit a scientific report on behalf of the whole consortium.

APPENDIX 2.4: SUBMITTING A CONSORTIUM APPLICATION IN THE ONLINE SERVICES (SECOND CALL STAGE)

The joint consortium application is started by the consortium PI. The PI will log in to the Academy's online services, select the correct call under *Open calls* and click on *New application*. First select the language of the application and then *Application of consortium PI*. Then enter the name and abbreviation of the consortium.

Under *Consortium parties*, the consortium PI enters the PIs (i.e. team leaders) of the consortium subprojects. Please note that the composition of the consortium must be the same as in the first call stage.

After this, the consortium PI sends the consortium parties an email message to indicate that they have been added to the consortium. The message includes a link



with which subproject PIs can log in to the online services to draft their own applications and appendices under *My applications > Incomplete*.

On the application form, each subproject PI enters the subproject's research costs and the cost coefficients (overheads, indirect employee costs, effective working hours) and VAT practice of the site of research. They should also enter information on the subproject's research teams, mobility and all other details requested on the form. Applications should include only the requested appendices. The consortium PI will then complete his or her own application with the corresponding details. **The consortium PI will receive an automatic message after the subproject PIs have completed their applications.**

The joint consortium application (consortium PI's application and subprojects' applications) must be submitted by the set deadline. **Please note that the consortium PI can submit the consortium application only after all subprojects have completed their own applications.**

All consortium parties can follow the progress of the application in the online services. The PDF version of the application is updated as information is saved in the system. **The application deadline is non-negotiable.** We will only process consortium applications that have been submitted by the deadline.



APPENDIX 3: REVIEW OF FULL APPLICATIONS

The full applications by consortia invited to the second stage of the SRC call will each be reviewed in two programme-specific panels. The reviewers will assess the applications in terms of societal relevance and impact as well as scientific quality.

Relevance panels, composed of Finnish and foreign experts, will review the proposed projects for their societal relevance and impact. They will also consider how well the applications match the programme objectives.

International scientific panels will review the scientific quality of the research plans.

The projects to be funded will be selected by the SRC based the reviews of the relevance panels and the scientific panels.

The following section presents the review questions applicable to the second stage of the 2016 SRC call. The first part presents the review questions for the relevance panels, while the second part presents the questions for the scientific panels.

1 REVIEW QUESTIONS – SOCIETAL RELEVANCE

SOCIETAL RELEVANCE AND IMPACT: Project's relevance to the programme

- Societal relevance of the project
- Match with the programme

Guiding question: How does the application contribute to achieving the objectives of the programme?

SOCIETAL RELEVANCE AND IMPACT: Project's interaction with and impact on society

- Attaining stakeholders, networks and support to decision-making

Guiding questions: Does the research and interaction plan recognise the most important stakeholders? Are the means of interaction used in the different phases of the project sufficient? How will the research support decision-making in the public or private sector?

SOCIETAL RELEVANCE AND IMPACT: Implementation/feasibility

- Contents and implementation societally

Guiding questions: Are the contents and/or the implementation of the research particularly novel and important societally? Are the effects and scope of the expected research results relevant and realistic from a societal perspective? What kind of co-creation and co-design methods are used in the different phases of the project?

- Competence and expertise of consortium and other collaboration



Guiding questions: What are the merits and expertise of the consortium in terms of societal relevance and enhancing the impact of science? What is the appropriateness and quality of the management and coordination? Does the consortium have the appropriate competence to implement the interaction plan?

OVERALL ASSESSMENT, FINAL RATING (SOCIETAL RELEVANCE AND IMPACT)

- Main strengths and weaknesses of the project, additional comments and suggestions

2 REVIEW QUESTIONS – SCIENTIFIC QUALITY

An international scientific panel will review the scientific quality of the application.

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY: Research plan

- Scientific quality, renewal of science and feasibility of the research plan

Guiding questions: How does the project show scientifically significant and innovative outcomes? Does the plan include elements of science renewal? Are the objectives and hypotheses appropriately presented and is the research plan realistic? Are the research methods and materials appropriate? Is the management of the proposed plan appropriate and well planned? Does the research environment support the project, such as with appropriate research and/or technology infrastructures? Does the research support the principles of open science and open publishing?

- Ethical issues

Guiding question: Are there any ethical issues involved and, if so, how are they taken into account?

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY: Competence of applicant(s), quality of research collaborations

- Competence and expertise of the consortium and its collaboration partners

Guiding questions: What are the merits and scientific expertise of the research team? What is the significance and added value of the consortium for the attainment of the research objectives? What kind of national or international research collaboration is involved in the project?

- Benchmarking, international context

Guiding questions: How does the project relate to international research activities and knowledge?

OVERALL ASSESSMENT, FINAL RATING (SCIENTIFIC QUALITY)

- Main strengths and weaknesses of the project, additional comments and recommendations



APPENDIX 4: OPEN SCIENCE – OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING AND OPEN DATA

One of the Academy of Finland's science policy objectives is to promote open science. The Academy is also committed to promoting the practices outlined in [the Open Science and Research Roadmap 2014–2017](#) and to considering open science promotion in providing funding for research projects.

We require that Academy-funded projects commit to open access publishing. We urge projects to make their research data and methods freely available. The goal is to make research publications, data and material, metadata and methods widely available for further use. If researchers follow the principles of open science, they must do so with due consideration of research ethics and the judicial environment.

Open access publishing

The Academy of Finland is keen to stress the importance of quality in scientific publishing. We require that Academy-funded researchers make sure that publications produced with Academy funding are made openly available, where possible, by *storing parallel copies* in machine-readable formats in suitable repositories or databases. The publications should be available free of charge.

Articles can also be published in open access publication series, whereby the publisher is responsible for making the articles openly available. We recommend that researchers publish articles following either green or gold open access.

Green open access means that researchers publish their articles in traditional subscription-based scientific journals and deposit parallel copies in online open access repositories. The Academy allows for an embargo period following the practices of international funders. The embargo is no more than six months, except in the humanities and social sciences where it is no more than twelve months¹.

Gold open access means that a publication is immediately provided in open access mode by the scientific publisher. In this case, the publisher may charge an open access fee (article processing charge). This fee may be included in the research costs of the project. A parallel copy of the article should also be deposited in an open access repository.

The Academy does not recommend that researchers publish their work in *hybrid open access* journals. Hybrid journals may charge both an open access fee and a subscription fee.

Academy funding is also available for research costs arising from publishing of research results. This funding is applied for on the online form under *Funding for the project/Services* and justified in the research plan.

Open data

The Academy of Finland requires that applications to be submitted to the Academy include a data management plan for the research project or research infrastructure concerned. The plan should describe the following:

¹ [European Commission background note on open access to publications and data in Horizon 2020](#)



- how the project proposes to obtain and use its research data
- how the rights of ownership and usage to the data used and generated by the project are distributed
- how the data produced will be stored and subsequently made available
- how the data will be made available to other researchers both during and after the project.

We urge principal investigators of Academy-funded research projects to also store their research data and make them available through major national or international archives or storage services that are important in their own fields, such as the following:

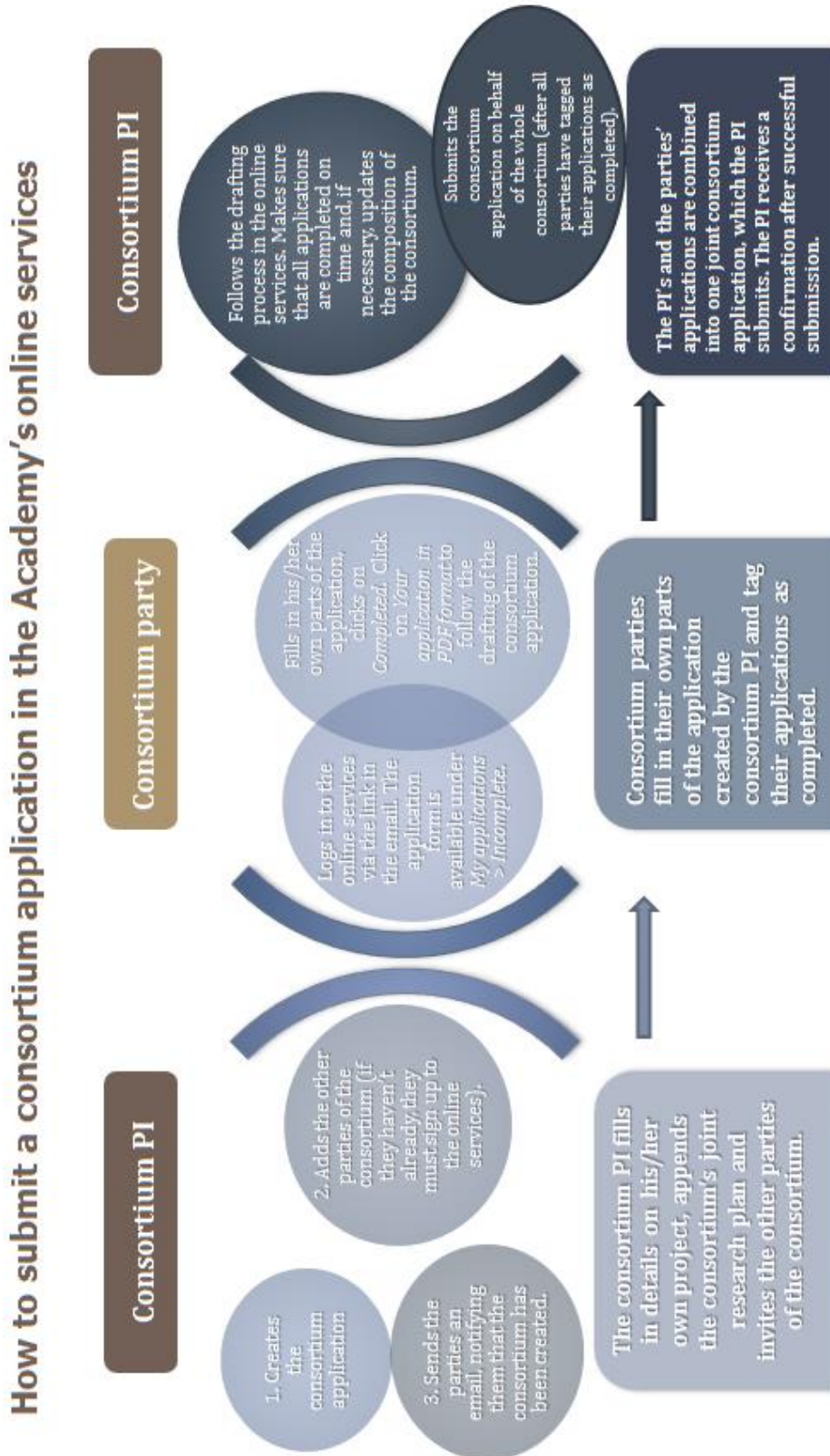
- [Finnish Social Science Data Archive \(FSD\)](#)
- [FIN-CLARIN consortium](#)
- [services by the Open Science and Research Initiative](#) of the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture:
 - AVAA open data publishing portal
 - Etsin research data finder
 - IDA research data storage service
- [CERN's Zenodo service](#)
- [EUDAT data infrastructure](#).

Learn more about open science

- [Open Science and Research Initiative](#)
- open science databank: avointiede.fi/fi/tietopankki (in Finnish)
- open science glossary: avointiede.fi/fi/keskeinen-sanasto (in Finnish)
- [Open Science and Research Roadmap 2014–2017](#)
- [Finnish Social Science Data Archive \(FSD\)](#)
- [FSD data management guidelines](#)
- [Publication Forum's classification of scientific publication channels](#)



APPENDIX 5: HOW TO SUBMIT A CONSORTIUM APPLICATION IN THE ACADEMY'S ONLINE SERVICES





About this call for applications

This call for applications is based on the criteria for research funding decisions by the Academy of Finland that are annually approved by the Academy Board. It is also based on the funding principles decided by the Strategic Research Council (SRC) at the Academy. The calls that will open in autumn 2015 come under the decision criteria adopted on 7 May 2015 and the funding principles adopted on 2 November 2015. The documents are available [on our website](#) (in Finnish).

The call for applications is prepared by a working group responsible for communication on the Academy's funding calls. Vice President for Research Marja Makarow approved the Finnish-language call for applications on 3 November 2015.

If any questions arise concerning the accuracy of information presented in the translated version of the call for applications, please refer to the official Finnish version.

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More information	Contacts listed in this call for applications (firstname.lastname@aka.fi)
Questions and feedback	Questions and feedback on our website