REPHRAIN National Research Centre on Privacy, Harm Reduction

and Adversarial Influence Online

Impact Booster Awards

Call details and guidance notes

Call overview

We are offering funding opportunities via Impact Booster Awards to current REPHRAIN projects to support the development of external impact from REPHRAIN research in collaboration with partner organisations. These awards will support knowledge exchange, innovation and impact from REPHRAIN funded research. We encourage proposals that particularly focus on proof-of-concept prototypes or developing evidence through real-world feasibility studies in community, industry or policy settings. Examples of outcomes from Impact Booster Awards include production of guidance, policy input or commercial output. Proposals with partner organisations from a range of sectors (industry, Third Sector or UK public sector organisations such as the NHS, Borough or City Councils, Schools or Local Education Authorities) are welcomed. International external partners will also be considered.

Call details

The Impact Booster Award programme will support successful projects with an indicative maximum funding per award of £30,000 at 100% fEC (of which 80% will be funded by REPHRAIN). This value should be ***matched equally in cash by the partner organisation***. This is an open, rolling call and submissions will be welcome until **December 2023.** We expect projects to last up to 12 months. All funded projects must be complete, with all deliverables, by **31 May 2024.** Applications should be submitted at https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=rephrainiba1 as single PDF and will go to a standing panel reviewing proposals on a monthly basis. Decisions on funding will be notified within 1 month from submission.

REPHRAIN researchers should cost their projects using the same process as they would cost a UKRI grant at 100% fEC. All costs should be inclusive of VAT and/or any other applicable tax. REPHRAIN will not reimburse costs associated with the development or submission of a proposal.

Proposals should be costed and approved by the applicant's organisation before submission.

Submission

Submissions should be made using the application form found on the REPHRAIN website. Please submit the application as a single PDF using the form and upload system at: https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=rephrainiba1. If you do not already have an EasyChair account you will need to set one up here. If you already have an account, you should be able to access the REPHRAIN Impact Booster Award submission page using your current credentials. Please ensure you select the role of author before submitting your application.

All documents must be completed in single-spaced typescript in Arial pt 11 or other sans serif typeface of equivalent size, with margins of at least 2cm. Arial narrow and Calibri are not allowable font types and page limits must not be exceeded.

Grant conditions

Successful applicants will receive an offer letter that will outline the terms of the sub-contract with REPHRAIN. These are standard UKRI terms and conditions, but with some minor amendments related to the source of funding and relationship with the REPHRAIN research centre. All projects will be required to get REPHRAIN ethics approval prior to commencing work.

Applicants should make sure that these terms are acceptable to their organisation before applying for funding. The terms are not negotiable. Copies of the draft contract are available [here].

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The long-term strength of the UK research base depends on harnessing all the available talent and the Research Councils together developed the ambitious UKRI Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan. In line with the UKRI's policies on equality, diversity and inclusion, we expect that equality, diversity, and inclusion are embedded at all levels and in all aspects of applicants' research proposals.

We are committed to supporting the research community in the diverse ways a research career can be built. Therefore, we welcome applications from researchers who job share, have a part-time contract, need flexible working arrangements or those currently committed to other longer, large existing grants.

Guidance for completing your application

Section 1: Applicant details

Only Principal investigators on current REPHRAIN projects are eligible for Impact Booster Awards.

Section 2: Partner organisation details

It is necessary that you have an external partner organisation for this funding programme. Agreement of their financial contribution should be sought prior to application. The external partner can be from range of sectors including industry, Third Sector or UK public sector organisations such as the NHS, Borough or City Councils, Schools or Local Education Authorities. International partner organisations may also be considered.

Section 3: Proposed start and end date

Impact Booster Awards are typically between 3 -12 months long and should be completed with all deliverables by 31 May 2024. Please indicate your preferred start and end dates and any relevant additional information.

Section 4: Approval

Your application and budget should be approved by your Head of Department before submission. Please complete the date the approval was received.

Section 5: IP declaration

Please confirm who owns any Intellectual Property and know-how related to your application.

Section 6: Project details (this section should not exceed more than 2 sides of A4)

Proposed title of project – along with a title that describes your project, please also provide a short title. This is how your project title will appear on the REPHRAIN website, newsletter and in social media.

Overview of REPHRAIN funded project and the outcomes – provide a short summary of your REPHRAIN project and describe the current state of the research outcomes expected from it.

What is the opportunity to be exploited by the Impact Booster Award – describe the expected outcomes from your REPHRAIN project in terms of the ways in which impact could be made with an Impact Booster Award. Consider using a FAB analysis where Features = project outputs, Advantages = potential outcomes for partner and Benefits = potential impact (see further explanation and example below).

Proposed activities including indicative timeline with key stages/milestones – please clearly indicate the key activities undertaken by all parties, including a timeline and highlighting all key stages and milestones.

Outcomes of the Impact Booster Award and their potential impact – successful collaboration via the Impact Booster Awards should not only bring benefits to the parties concerned but also to the wider community/society. It is important to identify and discuss these with your partner organisation, in order to be clear, manage expectations and confirm this has been agreed with all partners.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) - in line with the UKRI's policies on equality, diversity and inclusion, we expect that equality, diversity, and inclusion are embedded at all levels and in all aspects of applicants' research projects. Please describe any activities that feature EDI and how new approaches might be adopted or developed to support this.

Responsible Innovation (RI) – use the following principles to describe the project's approach to RI:

- *Anticipate* – describing and analysing the impacts, intended or otherwise, (for example economic, social, environmental) that might arise. This does not seek to predict but to support an exploration of possible impacts and implications that may otherwise remain uncovered and little discussed.
- *Reflect* – reflecting on the purposes of, motivations for and potential implications of the research, and the associated uncertainties, areas of ignorance, assumptions, framings, questions, dilemmas and social transformations these may bring.
- *Engage* – opening up such visions, impacts and questioning to broader deliberation, dialogue, engagement and debate in an inclusive way.
- *Act* – using these processes to influence the direction and trajectory of the research and innovation process itself.

Section 7: Partner organisation

Please use this section to provide a short summary of what the value will be to the partner organisation and how this fits in with their strategic objectives.

Section 8: Justification of resources

Please describe briefly why the project represents good value and specifically how the funding contributed from both REPHRAIN and the partner organisation will be utilised.

Section 9: Requested budget

The budget for the Impact Booster Award project should be costed at 100% fEC and approved by the applicant's home institution prior to submission. The expectation is that the partner organisation will contribute at least 50% (as cash) to the total value of the project. REPHRAIN will then contribute to the remaining amount at 80% fEC. All costs should be inclusive of VAT and/or any other applicable tax. The total budget should be broken down as indicated on the table in the application form.

An **example** budget is provided (all costs are fictional):

		Description/detail	Costs (£) 100% fEC
Directly Incurred	**Staff costs**	Research Associate	20,000
	Travel	International conference	1,000
	Consumables	Quarterly meetings	2,000
	Other (please specify)		
Directly Allocated	**Investigators**	PI and Co-I	15,000
	Indirect costs		10,000
	Estates		12,000
	Total Project Costs		**60,000**
	Total Direct (invoiceable) Partner Contribution		**30,000**
	Impact Booster Award requested (80% contribution)		**24,000**

Section 10: Any other partner organisation contribution (in-kind, data etc) if applicable
This is not a requirement for Impact Booster Award funding but if any other contributions are being made by the partner organisation, please do detail them in this section.

FAB Analysis (Features, Advantages and Benefits Analysis) A rigorous means of establishing why a research outcome could potentially translate into impact.

- Feature – the nature and properties of a research outcomes;
- Advantage – what the application of the research delivers compared to current understanding;
- Benefit – the underlying reason or motivation for adopting an innovation which uses the research to deliver the cited advantages.

The FAB analysis can be carried by addressing each successive statement with the "So what" question (i.e. why is that important). For example

"The application of this operational research finding will result in lowering the scrap % in the manufacturing process" (Feature)
    So what?
"Manufacturing costs will be lower" (Advantage)
    So what?
"We can sell at a lower price and make the same margin on a higher volume or make a higher margin on the same volume" (Advantages)
    So what?
"We make a higher profit" (Benefit)

Note that:-

I.   a benefit (in this case a profit) is related directly to the mission of an organisation – in this case a profit making company

II. you may need to progress through a chain of several advantages before getting to the benefit

III. advantages are always a comparison – often ending in "better" - but this is never a satisfactory advantage unless you can say in what way better.