

CE-Hub Call for Feasibility Study Proposals

Call Details

The CE-Hub is looking to fund its third round of Feasibility Studies to accelerate Circular Economy research, innovation and implementation across disciplines, sectors and value chains.

The fund will provide the Circular Economy community with the opportunity to undertake speculative and potentially high-impact research to accelerate innovative solutions. Proposals that consider different scales (including regional and place-based research), new collaborations between sectors and disciplines, and involve early career professionals (from academia, industry and government), will all be encouraged. Funded projects will be expected to deliver a tangible piece of work that would achieve a specific output such as early-stage concept development, decision making tools and methods or demonstrator projects focussing on evidencing the transferability of Circular Economy principles across scales, disciplines and industrial sectors. The focus of this call explores the relationship between the Circular Economy and Wider Society.

Areas of particular interest include, but are not limited to:

- Public understanding of the Circular Economy and Net Zero;
- The role of the Circular Economy in addressing complex societal challenges, such as healthcare, cost of living crisis, inequality;
- The role of the media and public opinion in scaling Circular Economy solutions;
- User behaviour and circular business models;
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion;
- Analysis, measurement and demonstration of the social benefits of a Circular Economy,
- Changes in behaviour and / or mindset; and
- Organisational behaviour.

The total funding available for this call is £100,000 and we want to fund high-quality applications. Feasibility Studies will be funded to a maximum of £50,000 at full Economic Cost (fEC). Funding will be awarded at 80% fEC (total project value cannot exceed £50,000) Projects can be between 9 and 12 months in length and must be completed before the end of October 2024. Applications where a portion of the project costs are met by industry funding are also welcomed.

Selection Criteria

Applicants should consider that the following criteria will be used by the review panel when assessing the proposal:

- Multidisciplinary,
- Involvement of Early Career Researchers,
- Involvement of Industry and / or Government Stakeholders,
- Commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion,
- Complimenting the work of the NICER programme
- Demonstration of Circular Economy Principles across scales, disciplines and industrial sectors,
- Potential for the development of future funding applications,
- Potential to create strong dissemination materials,
- Pathways to accelerate the impact of the research to ensure rapid transfer to industry, government and other end users.

Key Dates 2023

Date	Action
Tuesday 28th February 2023	Call goes live: Public Announcement
Monday 20th March 2023	Webinar for interested participants
Friday 28th April 2023	Deadline for submissions (5pm)
Monday 5th June 2023	Invitations to Panel Pitch Day issued; Unsuccessful proposals advised
Friday 16th June 2023	Panel Pitch Day
Friday 23rd June 2023	Applicants notified of Panel Pitch outcomes
Friday 1st September 2023	Feasibility studies start
Tuesday 12th September 2023	Feasibility studies kick-off meeting
Friday 30th August 2024	Feasibility study completion