

GRANTfinder

Update Bulletin

22 May 2018



Welcome to your **GRANTfinder** Update Bulletin.

GRANTfinder is Europe's leading provider of funding information. It is supported by an in-house team of researchers and keeps the UK's public, private and voluntary sectors up-to-date on the latest changes and trends in funding. The team researches funding changes each and every day to ensure that you have access to the information you need at the touch of a button. The most important changes are showcased in this bulletin.

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Arts, Culture and Heritage

IUK Launches Two New Competitions for Immersive Audience Experiences

Fund ID: S43795

Innovate UK (IUK) is the UK's innovation agency and, as part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) works with people, companies and partner organisations to de-risk, enable and support innovation, and promote UK economic growth.

IUK has up to £17 million available to invest in projects to test and generate new ideas for immersive experiences for audiences and transform the creative industries. The funding is part of the [audience of the future programme](#) within the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund.

Immersive experiences such as virtual, augmented and mixed reality have the potential to revolutionise the way people interact with the world. Industries that could benefit include advertising and marketing, architecture, fashion, film and television, gaming, publishing, museums, and music and performing arts.

There are two parts to this competition. Up to £16 million is available for four demonstrator projects for immersive experiences with audiences of more than 100,000 people. A further £1 million is available for early-stage projects that seek to understand customer needs for immersive experiences and the tools required to deliver them.

Demonstrator Projects

Demonstration projects must explore new ways of communication with mass audiences using new immersive technologies and experiences that are a significant advance on the state-of-the art in the chosen area. Areas with strong potential could include moving images, access to live sporting events, visitor experiences in museums and galleries, and music and theatre performance. Applicants must be able to access or use globally-recognised intellectual property (IP). IUK expects total project costs to be between £5 million and £10 million and for projects to last up to two years.

Projects must be led by a business, working with other businesses or researchers and include at least one SME.

Design Foundations

Early-stage projects should use human-centred design and look at audience behaviour to develop ideas for new products and services. Particular areas could include:

- advancing the state-of-the-art with immersive experiences that are desirable and fit-for-purpose;
- producing high-quality immersive content cheaper, faster and in a way that is more accessible;
- improving physical devices such as eyewear and controllers, or haptic feedback; and
- new digital platforms and services to deliver immersive content;

IUK expects total project costs to be between £20,000 and £60,000 and to last between two and six months.

Projects must be led by a business working alone or in collaboration with other businesses, researchers or cultural institutions and must include at least one SME.

Both competitions are now open. The deadline for applications for Demonstrator projects is midday on 1 August 2018 and the deadline for Design Foundations projects is midday on 4 July 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Applications Invited for Scotland's New Writers Awards 2019

Fund ID: S40780

The New Writers Awards offer an opportunity for early-stage writers in Scotland to develop their professional writing.

Selected awardees will receive:

- a £2,000 cash award, allowing them to focus on their work;
- tailored personal development opportunities, which can include mentoring from writers and industry professionals;
- training in PR, performance and presentation training;
- the opportunity to showcase work to publishers and agents; and
- a week-long retreat offering time, space and the freedom to create new work "in pleasant surroundings".

New writers who are aged over 18 are eligible to apply, providing they are based in Scotland and can demonstrate a strong commitment to developing a career in writing.

The next deadline for applications to be received is 4 July 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Business Support

Lloyds Bank Launches £100 Million Hinkley Point SME Infrastructure Fund ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43817

Lloyds Bank is providing the £100 Million SME Infrastructure Fund for Hinkley Point to help small businesses take advantage of supply chain opportunities in the construction of EDF Energy's Hinkley Point C nuclear power station in Somerset.

Construction of the multi-billion-pound nuclear power station is expected to put £200 million per year into the regional economy at its peak and provide over 25,000 job opportunities.

The Fund will help small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – not just in the South West but across the UK – to access discounted lending and become involved in one of UK's biggest investment and construction projects.

Support will be offered in the form of arrangement fee-free term lending, invoice and asset finance facilities to support SMEs in accessing the required finance related to contracts linked with the construction of Hinkley Point C.

The Fund can also be used by businesses that provide indirect services to the power plant through an agreed contract such as hotels, transport, catering, facilities management and security services.

David Beaumont, South West Regional Director, SME Banking, Lloyds Bank Commercial Banking said:

"Hinkley Point is a huge investment for the South West and the UK and we want to help small and medium-sized businesses take advantage of the opportunities that exist in the supply chain.

"Whether it's construction, catering or transport services, our £100m fund and support will ensure that businesses have the financial backing they need to capitalise on this multi-billion-pound construction project."

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Launch of the Jewelfund Supporting Aspiring Jewellers from Anywhere in the World ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43812

The Jewelfund offers grants to jewellers to help support them in starting and growing their own jewellery businesses. Jewellers from anywhere in the world with a passion for creating jewellery and are in need of some additional funding to launch or grow their business will qualify for assistance.

Applicants can apply for one of two £1,000 grants to spend on a specific area of a business.

The funder hopes to run this fund each year and the amounts may change as it grows.

Applications are open to anyone over the age of 16 who has an operating jewellery business (pre-launch businesses can apply but will need to provide a business plan). Applicants must be using the funds to further their jewellery business.

The money can be used towards the costs of anything that will improve a business and help it in the long-run. Some examples might include:

- Jewellery tools or supplies
- CAD work or outsourcing to create a new collection
- A new website
- Rebranding
- Hiring staff or freelancers
- Stock, such as creating more for a bigger wholesale contract

- Workspace rental
- Training and mentoring (taking courses, investing in training)
- Updating packaging or point-of-sale
- Shows or events
- IT equipment or furniture for a home office

A portion of the funds can be used towards the applicant's salary.

All applications need to be received by Saturday 30 June 2018.

Funding Call to Support Future Development of 3D Printing Platform

Fund ID: S20449

Additive manufacturing (3D printing) offers potential for the modernisation of European industry. This Call for Proposals aims to establish a virtual support platform connecting 3D printing-related facility centres located in different EU countries to improve services for innovative SMEs, and to test and validate a selection of 3D printing-based industrial projects.

The Call for Proposals aims to address the following three specific objectives:

- Support the development of a pan-European platform of existing facilities (including available infrastructure and services provided) that are used particularly by SMEs for testing, validating and eventually integrating new 3D printing solutions into their products and process.
- Identify and support 10 industrial user cases (through the platform) for testing and validating 3D printing solutions in different application fields.
- Make concrete recommendations on how to ensure the sustainability of this platform at EU level in the future, and conduct a gap analysis of available support services for 3D printing at national level.

Activities foreseen under the project need to demonstrate a clear European added value by supporting European integration and transnational cooperation. Proposals should contain a description of the management structure and processes of the project and the role of the lead applicant in the project management and implementation, what measures will be taken to ensure that high quality standards are applied by all consortium partners, how the achievement of objectives will be monitored, and appropriate corrective measures (such as redistribution of tasks and budget) will be taken, if needed

Applications are accepted from legal entities established in an EU Member State. Consortia must be composed of a minimum of three different legal entities located in at least three Member States.

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects is estimated at €800.000. The maximum duration of project is 36 months. The EU contribution will be up to 80% of the total eligible cost of the action.

The deadline for applications is 2 August 2018.

Applications Open for 2019 EU-Japan Centre Nanotech Cluster Mission

Fund ID: S2643

Established in 1987, the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation is a venture between the European Commission and the Japanese Government. It aims at promoting all forms of industrial, trade and investment cooperation between the EU and Japan. The EU-Japan Centre organises Cluster Missions within the framework of the European Commission (DG-ENTR) policy aimed at promoting SME internationalisation through Clusters.

The Cluster Missions aim to:

- Support cluster organisations and their SME members in their efforts to access global value chains and develop strategic worldwide partnerships and business cooperation.
- Give European SMEs the opportunity to enter the Japanese market and establish technology or business partnerships and therefore increase their innovation capacity and make them more competitive on the global scale.

Applications are open for the next Nanotech Cluster/SME mission at the International Nanotechnology Exhibition and Conference in Tokyo from 29 January to 1 February 2019. The programme targets participants from SMEs (large companies may apply but will not be given priority) and clusters from the EU or COSME partnering countries, active in sectors covered by the trade fair, ie Nano Materials, Nano Evaluation and Measurement, and Nano Fabrication Technology.

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- Display their technology at one of Japan's leading trade shows.
- Meet potential business partners.
- Create new business opportunities.
- Develop partnerships and business cooperation on global markets.
- Attend match-making events.
- Increase their innovation capacity and become more competitive on a global scale (as an SME).
- Prepare the ground for practical cluster cooperation across borders and make a more strategic use of transnational cluster cooperation on markets outside Europe in areas of strategic interest (as a cluster).

SMEs and clusters receive a €600 grant, but must pay a 100% refundable deposit of €1,000 to guarantee a place on the mission. The EU-Japan Centre covers all costs directly related to the mission, but the participants' companies must cover travel costs to/from Japan, accommodation and any other costs not covered directly by the EU-Japan Centre (living expenses).

The closing date for applications is 2 October 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Applications Open for Vulcanus in Europe Programme

Fund ID: S2953

Organised by the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation, the Vulcanus in Europe programme contributes to the improvement and stimulation of industrial cooperation and of improving mutual understanding between Japan and the European Union.

The programme offers EU industrial companies the unique opportunity to host a Japanese student as a trainee for eight months (August-March). The student will be following a postgraduate course in one of the following disciplines: engineering (mechanical, electrical, electronics, civil, nuclear, etc); architecture; biology, chemistry, biotechnology, physics; metal materials, ceramics; computer science, telecommunications; production systems.

By hosting Japanese students from high-tech, scientific and technical fields, the company:

- Gains an insight into Japanese business culture.
- Benefits from a valuable addition to its workforce.
- Is assisted in the development of its business with Japan.
- Establishes close links with future high-profile staff in Japanese industry, who will be familiar with Europe's business culture.

The EU-Japan Centre funds a 15-week language course for the student and pays the student a grant to cover the travel and accommodation costs. The costs to the host company are a total of €6,600, national taxes and costs linked with wages, visas and work permits, if applicable.

All EU companies in industrial sectors within the EU are eligible to apply for the Vulcanus in Europe programme, irrespective of whether established business contacts with Japan already exist.

The deadline for applications to participate in the 2019-2020 Session is 23 September 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

British Business Bank Launches £500m Managed Funds Programme to Increase Finance Options for UK Firms

Fund ID: S43807

First announced by the Chancellor in the 2017 Autumn Budget, the £500 million Managed Funds Programme (MFP), provided by British Business Investments through the British Business Bank, has been launched.

The programme, part of the Government's response to the Patient Capital Review, will help to address the UK's patient capital funding gap. It is designed to increase access to longer-term finance for ambitious and innovative, high potential companies by drawing in more institutional resources to the UK's venture and growth capital markets.

Significant investments will be made in a number of large-scale, private sector-managed 'funds-of-funds'. The successful funds-of-funds managers will then invest in venture capital and growth schemes that provide capital to innovative, high-growth-potential businesses.

Catherine Lewis La Torre, CEO of British Business Investments, said:

"Through this Managed Funds Programme, prospective investors will be able to access high quality venture and growth capital funds that

will be investing in the success stories of tomorrow."

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Grants4Apps Global Accelerator 2018 Offers Support for Digital Health Start-ups

Fund ID: S43191

The Grants4Apps Accelerator is a Berlin based mentoring programme intended to support and develop digital health start-ups.

There is a focus upon digital health solutions that address the stipulated healthcare and life sciences' challenges, including:

- Digital Therapeutics
- Blockchain
- Heart Disease Prevention
- Virtual Trial Solutions
- Women's Health
- AI for R&D
- Neuro/Cognitive Solutions
- Patient-Physician Engagement

Applications are welcome from legal entities or persons from anywhere in the world as long as they are over the age of 18.

Successful start-ups may receive mentoring and coaching from Bayer Executives, €50,000 worth of financial support, networking opportunities and access to Bayer Experts and the use of office space for 100 days.

Over 100 Bayer experts are involved throughout the judging process and will be taking into account criteria such as company maturity, existing product prototypes, the team and how well the applicant fit with Bayer's areas of expertise.

The next deadline for submissions is 31 May 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Innovating for Growth - £10,000 worth of Business Support for London SMEs

Fund ID: S38642

The Innovating for Growth initiative has been set up to support London-based SMEs that have plans for growth. The programme offers -to-face customised support from business experts and professionals, combined with practical workshops. It can help businesses to grow into a new market, launch a new product or implement a new process.

Assistance is delivered in the form of expert advice and support on business strategy and sustainability, branding, intellectual property, product development and market exposure.

A package of advice and support worth £10,000 is available for each business the initiative supports. Those applicants who are successful will get tailored advice on:

- developing a growth strategy;
- refining a business model;
- product and service innovation;
- creating a marketing strategy;
- building a brand;
- maximising intellectual property; and
- business and market intelligence.

The scheme is open to innovative London-based small and medium-sized businesses that have clear plans for growth. Businesses must be trading in a London Borough and have proven sales.

Applications for the July - September 2018 cohort are now opened. The deadline for applications to be submitted is 15 June 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Children & Young People

Young Londoners Fund ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43815

London Mayor Sadiq Khan set up the Young Londoners Fund to help and support children and young people (aged 10 to 21 years) to fulfil their potential, particularly those at risk of getting caught up in crime.

The Young Londoners Fund aims to:

- Provide aspirational and positive activities to help support young people to make positive choices and reach their potential.
- Give new options to children and young people most at risk of taking the wrong path and stop them getting involved in violence and criminal activity.
- Improve coordination and capacity of London's youth offer so more children and young people can access services.

£30 million is being made available and will be divided between two funding rounds with:

- Small grants of £10,000 to £30,000 (maximum grant of £90,000 over three years).
- Medium grants of £30,000 to £50,000 (maximum grant of £ 150,000 over three years).
- Large grants of £50,000 to £500,000 (maximum grant of £1.5 million over three years).

Please note that the funding level depends on the type of organisation applying.

In addition, there is a budget for a small number of development grants of up to £5,000 for organisations who need further help to develop their project proposal and get their application ready to re-apply to the fund in 2019.

Applicants must apply as either a Sole Deliverer, a Sole Lead Applicant, or a Consortium.

The deadline for applications is 12 noon on 9 July 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Community Development

Smart Energy GB in Communities - Round 2

Fund ID: S42452

This is the third year of the £10 million five-year fund which was set up to support community based organisations that provide information about how to get and use smart meters, especially for those who may face barriers to getting a smart meter. The fund is being administered by the Charities Aid Foundation.

Round 2 offers grants of up to £7500 for projects aimed at assisting people who are severe and profoundly deaf to overcome barriers to engaging with the smart meter rollout. This target group may have barriers to engaging with the smart meter rollout such as concerns about the process of booking and getting a smart meter installed and needing to interact with people who do not understand their needs. They may feel they cannot do this themselves, and are reluctant to ask friends or family to help arrange getting a smart meter. There is particular interest in working with partner organisations that can help overcome these barriers and concerns.

Projects should be ready to start from 16 July and be completed by 7 December 2018.

Applications will be considered from registered charities, other registered organisations as well as unregistered organisations (such as Community Interest Companies, Charitable Industrial and Provident Societies, Housing Associations, Local Authorities etc.) working with Smart Energy GB's priority groups.

The deadline for Round 2 applications is 11 June 2018 (midday).

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Crime, Rehabilitation & Community Safety

Anti-Knife Crime Community Fund

Fund ID: S43537

The Home Office has launched a second round of the Anti-Knife Crime Community Fund with £1 million available for projects taking place in 2018/19.

The fund has been set up to support community projects which reduce knife crime and have a positive impact on young people at risk of carrying a knife and committing crime.

Voluntary and community sector groups can apply now for grants of up to £30,000. Applications for greater funding will be considered for projects with collaboration between partners.

The funding is for projects that demonstrate the following:

- Delivery of outcomes to stop knife crimes.
- A proven track record of delivering local interventions.
- Proven track record of ability to work with children and young people.
- Proven track record of ability to work in partnership with other organisations and services.
- Evidence of value for money.

Voluntary and community sector groups and organisations in England and Wales can apply.

The deadline for applications is 15 June 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Education, Employment and Training

Government Announces New Support for Young People Leaving Care and Starting an Apprenticeship

Fund ID: S38456

Care leavers will be boosted by a new £1,000 bursary payment if they opt to undertake an apprenticeship from August 2018, the Government has announced.

The extra financial support will be awarded to those aged 16-24 in order to help them during first year of their apprenticeship, as learners transition into the workplace for their practical studies.

This change is one of a small number of improvements – including increasing the number of apprenticeship funding bands - which will come into effect from August 2018.

The £1,000 bursary will be paid once to each care leaver in the eligible age range, when they start an apprenticeship after 1 August 2018. This comes in addition to the £1,000 currently being provided to both employers and training providers when they take on 16 to 18-year-olds or 19 to 24-year-olds who were in care or who have an Education, Health and Care Plan.

Apprenticeships and Skills Minister, Anne Milton, said:

"We know those leaving care can experience additional barriers to getting an apprenticeship.

"Everyone should get a chance to be able to start an apprenticeship and change their life, so I'm really pleased that as we see how we can make the apprenticeship system work better we are able to offer this extra support for those leaving care."

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

EaSI Call to Fund Deployment of Skills Assessments in the Implementation of Upskilling Pathways

Fund ID: S39321

The European Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) 2014-2020 is a European-level financing instrument managed directly by the European Commission to contribute to the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy, by providing financial support for the Union's objectives in terms of promoting a high level of quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions.

The overall objective of this EaSI – PROGRESS Axis Call is to support Member States (and other EaSI countries if they so wish) in their implementation of the Council Recommendation "Upskilling Pathways: New Opportunities for Adults" (December 2016). The specific objective of the Call is to support the deployment by national and/or regional authorities, as an integral element in their implementation of the Recommendation on Upskilling Pathways, of the provision of individual skills assessments (including literacy, numeracy and digital skills) for low-skilled / low-qualified adults (and in particular for priority groups identified by countries in the framework of the Recommendation, where relevant).

Proposals must be centred around one of the two or a combination of the two elements below:

- Tools for assessing the skills (including, literacy and/or numeracy and/or digital skills) of low-skilled/low qualified adults or priority targets groups as defined by the countries, where relevant, and/or;
- Arrangements for providing such assessments to low-skilled / low qualified adults or priority targets groups as defined by the countries, where relevant.

Proposals must include one or more of the following activities:

- Enlarging the scale or scope of existing assessment tools and arrangements for low-skilled / low-qualified adults that are considered to be effective (eg enlarging the scope of an existing assessment arrangement to cover a different target group); or
- Adapting to the needs of low-skilled adults existing assessment tools and arrangements that are considered to be effective (eg adapting an assessment so that it assesses basic literacy, numeracy or digital skills); or
- Developing new assessment tools and arrangements for low-skilled adults¹⁵ and/or testing them on a scale that allows conclusions to be drawn about their effectiveness.

This Call complements the support for low-skilled adults that is provided through the European Social Fund and Erasmus+, by assisting each focus participating country to develop coherent strategies for raising the levels of skills and qualifications for adults who lack an upper secondary education or with low proficiency in basic skills. This Call should also complement related activities (ongoing or future) taking place at national, regional or local levels.

The total budget earmarked for the EU co-financing of projects under this call is estimated at €1.5 million. The EU grant requested should indicatively be between €250,000 and €500,000. The Commission expects to fund between three and six proposals.

The EU grant may not exceed 80% of the total eligible costs of the action. Applicants must guarantee their co-financing of the remaining amount covered by the applicants' own resources or from other sources other than the European Union budget.

Legal entities properly established and registered in the following countries are eligible as applicant (or as lead applicant and co-applicant in the case of a consortium):

- EU Member States.
- Iceland and Norway in accordance with the EEA Agreement.
- Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.

To be eligible, the mono-applicant or lead applicant in case of consortium must be a public entity in charge of national or regional policies and actions for upskilling/re-skilling adults. Any co-applicants must be public or private entities (profit or non-profit making) involved in the organisation and/or financing and/or provision of services to adults such as skills assessment, validation of competences, education and training, orientation and guidance.

The deadline for applications is 6 July 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Health and Social Welfare

£1m Fund for Social Care Digital Innovation

Fund ID: S43808

The Local Government Association (LGA) in collaboration with NHS Digital is providing funding for digital innovation in social care, with projects ranging from new assistive technology to data analytics to predict demand.

The £1 million Social Care Digital Innovation Programme (SCDIP) will be awarded to local authorities, with social care responsibility in England, that put forward projects that support innovative uses of digital technology in the design and delivery of adult social care.

Local authority bids should focus on one of the following three themes:

- Efficiency and strengths-based approaches
- Managing marketing and commission
- Sustainable and integrated social care and health systems.

The funding is split into two phases; a discovery phase (£20,000) and an implementation phase (up to £80,000). This expression of interest is for the discovery phase. Six of the 12 local authorities participating in the discovery phase will progress to implementation phase in the autumn.

The deadline for expressions of interest is 1 June 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Housing

Housing Advisers Programme 2018/19 Open to Applications

Fund ID: S43809

The Local Government Association's (LGA's) Housing Advisers Programme is designed to support local authorities deliver a project that helps meet the housing need of their local area. It aims to be simple, flexible, and locally-led.

The programme funds the provision of an independent adviser to offer bespoke expert support to local authorities undertaking a specific project that works towards: delivering homes, reducing homelessness, or generating savings or revenues.

The local authority will lead on the project, with the advisor providing expert support. The advisor might provide help with:

- Scoping out the project
- Identifying skills need
- Technical expertise
- Relationship development
- Advising on delivery.

The projects will need to complete before the end of March 2019.

Local authorities in England are eligible to apply.

The programme will fund adviser support for up to £14,000 to each council. For 2018/19 the programme will also consider supporting a smaller number of larger projects, by funding adviser support for up to £28,000 for these projects.

The deadline for applications is 26 June 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Research and Development

IUK Launches Robotics and AI: Inspect, Maintain and Repair in Extreme Environments Competition ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43816

The Robotics and AI: Inspect, Maintain and Repair in Extreme Environments Competition is administered by Innovate UK (IUK) – the UK's innovation agency, part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI); and funded by the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF).

IUK is investing in business led-collaborations to develop robotic and artificial intelligence (RAI) systems that remove humans from infrastructure inspection, maintenance and repair in extreme environments.

The challenge is to develop technologies and systems that make unmanned operation the standard approach in areas such as off-shore energy, nuclear energy, mining and space.

In this competition individuals can apply to take part, on behalf of their organisation, in a five-day residential Innovation Lab, which will run from 10 to 14 September 2018. The attendees will work together to develop collaborative proposals for research and innovation projects.

After the Innovation Lab the developed project collaborations will have three weeks to finalise their proposals before submitting them for assessment.

To apply for the collaborative residential workshop (the Innovation Lab) applicants must:

- be nominated to act as a representative on behalf of an organisation;
- attend on behalf of a UK-based business, academic organisation, research and technology organisation (RTO) or charity;
- have the technical competence necessary to collaborate with other participants on solutions to the challenge.

To apply to attend the Innovation Lab, applicants must:

- commit to attending all five days on a residential basis at the nominated UK location (to be announced in the next few weeks);
- show they are able to work collaboratively and have the relevant skills, expertise and experience to represent the organisation;
- describe the financial and other resources the organisation can commit;
- be from an organisation that is eligible to submit a project proposal.

IUK is looking for a broad range of disciplines and backgrounds, bringing together people who would not normally work together, ensuring the equality, diversity and inclusion of participants.

The competition is now open and the deadline for applications is midday on Wednesday 11 July 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Launch of EIC Horizon 2020 Blockchains for Social Good Prize ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43811

Horizon 2020 is the EU's programme for research and innovation. It will run from 2014-2020 and is the successor to the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). Innovation prizes, also known as inducement prizes, are an instrument of Horizon 2020 which help to deliver breakthrough solutions to problems of societal interest in Europe such as energy security, climate change, ageing society, public health and so on.

The EIC Horizon 'Blockchains for Social Good' prize has been established to develop scalable, efficient and high-impact decentralised solutions to social innovation challenges leveraging Distributed Ledger Technology (DLTs), such as the one used in blockchains - a continually growing list of records, called blocks, which are linked and secured using cryptography.

DLT in its public, open forms is widely considered to be a ground-breaking digital technology supporting decentralised methods for consensus reaching, as well as sharing, storing and securing transactions and other data with fewer to no central intermediaries.

In the wake of the widespread public attention for Bitcoin, several financial applications based on blockchains are already under development. However, the potential of DLTs to generate positive social change by decentralising processes related to local or global sustainability challenges is still largely untapped.

Social application areas in which decentralised solutions based on DLTs have shown clear benefits over conventional centralised platform solutions include, but are not limited to:

- Demonstrating the origin of raw materials or products and supporting fair trade and the fair monetisation of labour.
- Allowing for a greater visibility of public spending and a greater transparency of administrative and production processes.
- Participation in democratic decision-making by enabling accountability, rewarding participation and/or anonymity.
- Enabling the development of decentralised social networks or clouds, or of decentralised platforms for the collaborative economy.
- Managing property, land registry or other public records.
- Contributing to financial inclusion.

Applicants are expected to put in place software platforms or services, accessible online on the web or through mobile apps, in the form which is most convenient for the intended purpose, in line with the above objectives. Participants must clearly indicate in their application which of the above areas is their main area of focus.

This challenge is targeted at a wide range of actors: individuals, social entrepreneurs, civil society organisations, research centres from technological and social disciplines, creative industries, students, hackers, start-ups, and SMEs. Tackling this challenge requires a multidisciplinary expertise.

The contest will be open to any single person and legal entity or groups of legal entities established in EU Member States or in countries associated to Horizon 2020. Joint applications by a group of participants are admitted. In this case, the participants must appoint a 'lead participant' to represent them towards the Commission.

The total value of the prize is €5 million, which will be divided equally amongst five winners who will each receive €1 million.

Lead applicants should register their interest in applying by emailing ec-bc4good-prize@ec.europa.eu by the 2 April 2019 deadline.

Only participants that have completed a registration by the registration closing date may submit an application. Applications may be submitted between 16 May 2018 and 3 September 2019 by the lead participant via the Participant Portal [Submission Service](#).

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Euratom Nuclear Fission, Fusion and Radiation Protection Research Call Open

Fund ID: S39689

The Euratom Programme supports nuclear research and training activities with an emphasis on continually improving nuclear safety and radiation protection. It adds to the wellbeing of EU citizens by contributing to the development of a safe and low-carbon energy system at European level, in both the short and longer term, whilst also addressing other useful applications of nuclear research in the medical and industrial sectors.

The 2018 Euratom Work Programme focuses on nuclear fission, fusion and radiation protection research, and is organised in seven sections:

- Nuclear safety.
- Decommissioning and environmental remediation.
- Radioactive waste management.
- Education and training.
- Radiation protection.
- Promote innovation in nuclear safety.
- Fusion research.

Under the 2018 Call, proposals are invited from legal entities established Member States of the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) against the following topics:

- NFRP-2018-1: Safety assessments to improve accident management strategies for Generation II & III reactors.
- NFRP-2018-2: Model development and safety assessments for Generation IV reactors.
- NFRP-2018-3: Research on the safety of Light Water Small Modular Reactors.
- NFRP-2018-4: Improved nuclear data for energy and non-energy modelling applications.

- NFRP-2018-5: Development of a roadmap for decommissioning research aiming at safety improvement, environmental impact minimisation and cost reduction.
- NFRP-2018-6: European Joint Research Programme in the management and disposal of radioactive waste.
- NFRP-2018-7: Availability and use of research infrastructures for education, training and competence building.
- NFRP-2018-8: Radiation protection research.
- NFRP-2018-9: Strategy for the exploitation of research results funded under Euratom Research and training Programmes in the field of radiation protection.
- NFRP-2018-10: Encouraging innovation in nuclear safety for the benefit of European citizen.
- NFRP-2018-11: Open data access for fusion research.

International European interest organisations are also eligible to receive funding from the Euratom Programme, as are legal entities established in countries when such funding is explicitly foreseen in the Call.

In carrying out the activities proposed in the Work Programme, due attention should be paid to education and training and to dissemination of research results through scientific publications, as well as to the exploitation of research results by the stakeholders concerned.

The estimated total budget for the 2018 Call is €69.79 million.

The deadline for applications is 27 September 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Launch of Three Horizon 2020 Call Topics Under 'Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation' Strand

Fund ID: S39721

The 'Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation' strand of Horizon 2020 aims to address the internal disparities which persist across the EU in terms of research and innovation performance. The aim is to tap into Europe's as yet unexploited potential in research and innovation and encourage greater commitment by the low-performing Member States and regions in order to enhance competitiveness.

The following three new Call Topics have now been launched under the 'Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation' strand in support of this ambition:

Support to JPI Urban Europe

JPI Urban Europe is a Joint Programming Initiative designed to support intra- and interdisciplinary research relating to urban issues on a transnational scale. The aim is to create more sustainable, resilient, and liveable places that can compete effectively on a world stage.

The outreach and opening of the JPI Urban Europe to third country partners is increasingly raising interest within third country partners of the JPI. Building on this momentum, the challenge is to further enhance the opening of the JPI to international cooperation and thus contribute to creating a coherent European Research Area that is open to international cooperation in the field of sustainable urban development.

All participants in proposals must be legal entities which finance or manage publicly funded national or regional programmes in the urban-related research and innovation domains or which are institutions mandated to represent the country/region in JPI Urban Europe activities.

The total budget available is €1.5 million.

Teaming Phase 2

Despite efforts to reduce disparities in country research and innovation performance in the EU, sharp differences among Member States still remain. Exploiting the potential of Europe's talent pool by maximising and spreading the benefits of research and innovation across the Union is vital for Europe's competitiveness and its ability to address societal challenges in the future.

Teaming will support the creation of new centres of excellence or upgrading the existing ones in low R&I performing countries, building on partnerships between leading scientific institutions and partner institutions in low R&I performing countries, that display the willingness to engage together for this purpose.

Teaming involves in principle, two parties: the main applicant organisation (the coordinator) established in a "Widening" country that must be either a national/regional authority or a research funding agency or a university or a research organisation; and a university or research organisation with an international reputation in research and innovation excellence.

The total budget available is €103 million.

Twinning

Driven by the quest for excellence, research intensive institutions tend to collaborate increasingly in closed groups, producing a crowding-out effect for a large number of promising institutions. This is the challenge that a specific Twinning action will try to address.

Twinning aims at significantly strengthening a defined field of research in a university or research organisation from a Widening country by linking it with at least two internationally-leading research institutions in other Member States or Associated Countries.

The total budget available is €30 million.

Applications are made via the Horizon 2020 online submission system on the Participant Portal [website](#).

The deadline for applications to all three Call Topics is 15 November 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

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- **Personalised homepage**
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- **RESEARCHconnect** is a complete specialised funding solution – offering a user-friendly, accurate and continuously updated package built for and designed by the academic research community. Whether you are an undergraduate student, professor, university or research institute, the RESEARCHconnect funding service will keep you up to date with the latest information on research grants and calls for funding from regional and local funds to European and international opportunities.

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