**Scotland Beyond Net Zero**

**Seed Fund Application form**

Please complete this form and submit by 23rd August at 5pm. You should submit this to [k.symons@ed.ac.uk](mailto:k.symons@ed.ac.uk) and [sbnz@ed.ac.uk](mailto:sbnz@ed.ac.uk). **You MUST include ‘seed fund application’ in the subject line and ensure any attachments include your project title and the name of at least one lead applicant in the text.**

Please note that this application will be assessed by an interdisciplinary team who will not necessarily be specialists in your topic, so we advise that you use straightforward language to describe your project and explain any specialist terms.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **APPLICATION DETAILS** | |
| Lead applicant name, job title and institution (University 1) |  |
| Email address for lead applicant 2 |  |
| Lead applicant name, job title and institution (University 2) |  |
| Email address for lead applicant 2 |  |
| Project title |  |
| Proposed start date |  |
| Proposed end date |  |
| Total amount requested in GBP |  |
| Allocation of funding across partners |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **PROJECT DETAILS AND AWARD CRITERIA** |
| **Please provide a non-technical description of your proposed project (max 300 words).** |
|  |
| **Quality and relevance (max 300 words)**  Please explain how your project meets our quality and relevance criteria:  Your proposal should clearly explain the objectives of your research or collaboration activities, how you will go about fulfilling them, and likely results. Your proposal should strongly align with Scotland Beyond Net Zero strategic priorities and the goals of the seed fund. Research should also align with one or more Scotland Beyond Net Zero themes, and this should also be clearly described in the proposal. Your proposal will be assessed on overall alignment with the seed fund’s priorities, along with the soundness of the research concept and its potential to lead to future high-impact collaborative research. |
|  |
| **Impact (max 300 words)**  Please explain how your proposal meets our impact criteria:  We would like to know how your proposed research or collaboration activity would contribute to the relevant field of research and to Scotland’s transition to net zero. We also want to know about your pathways to impact - if your research and collaboration were to be scaled up, what contributions would you make to Scotland’s transition net zero (and beyond), and how would you achieve that impact? We understand this is a relatively small award so are also interested to hear about potential future impact were your collaboration to continue. |
|  |
| **Co-creation of research across partnership (max 300 words)**  Please explain how your proposal meets our co-creation criteria:  We aim to support distinctive collaborations between academia and society. Your application must propose a partnership between at **least one other SBNZ university member plus a partner from a non-university organisation (e.g. industry, community group, local or government)**. This can be a brand-new partnership, or can be new activity between partners who have worked together before. You should set out how your partnership will work together to co-create relevant research challenges and activities. |
|  |
| **Sustainability of collaboration (max 300 words)**  Please explain how your proposal meets our sustainability of collaboration goals:  Applicants should explain how the project will develop or strengthen a durable collaboration across SBNZ, for example a brief overview of any long-term plans for any further engagement, plans to scale up the research, or plans to attract further funding.   The proposal should explain the composition of the team, including a short track record statement of each applicant (1-2 sentences) which sets out the applicants’ relevance to the specific research proposal and how each member will contribute to the project aims. This statement should be anonymised. It should also explain what the partners will gain from the project. |
|  |
| **Project plan and costs (max 300 words)**  Please explain your project plan.  The proposal should provide a credible project plan with milestones that are achievable with the budget and timeframe available. The application should explain the role of each partner in the delivery of the project (if not fully explained in the response above), and each partner should have a valid role which is supported by resources allocated in the budget. The proposal should include a realistic and detailed timeline and budget which is deliverable by the end of July 2025.  The budget should clearly set out the resources requested by each university partner, as well as the total award requested.  We expect to award funds of between £5,000 and £15,000. |
|  |
| **PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS (Max 300 words)** |
| Please explain and provide evidence for the proposed partnership arrangements, and explain how the partnership relates to research goals. Evidence for partnership arrangements with non-university partners can range from letters of support and commitment to participate in the research, to commitments to contribute to funding the research – this will be assessed on the basis of appropriateness to the specific proposal.  You can include evidence here if it makes sense to do that, or please attach supplementary documents to your email if necessary. **You MUST ensure any attachments are labelled with your project title and name of at least one lead applicant.** |
|  |