

Call for expressions of interest: Russian information operations in the Baltics

This document provides written responses to questions received since the launch of this and other calls issued by the Research Commissioning Centre on **6 March 2024**. Where relevant, we have edited the original to combine similar questions.

Q1: Security clearance is required but security clearance requires sponsorship. How is this managed prior to funding?

A1: We would expect applicants to already have a minimum vetting status of SC for this call.

Q2: My SC has expired, can I apply?

A2: You must have current SC to apply for this call.

Responses to questions related to all calls

Q1: Can a non-UK university apply? Or does the applicant need to be legally registered in the UK?

A1: Non-UK institutions are eligible to apply.

Q2: The guidelines state 'only legally registered organisations and consortia of registered organisations, not individuals, may apply'. Does this mean if I apply, I will submit my application on behalf of my institution?

A2: We will only award organisations rather than individuals. So, organisations are welcome to apply through individuals directly affiliated with those organisations, but we can't accept applications from individuals outside of organisations or working for organisations but applying on their own behalf.

Q3: Will the award incur VAT?

A3: This depends on the trading status of the applicant. As a US nonprofit organisation providing a public good, 3ie does not incur VAT for the management of the Research Commissioning Centre. If you are likewise applying as a not-for-profit organisation or registered charity, this award should not incur VAT.

Q4: Once awarded, who owns IP?

A4: Intellectual property in all material (including, but not limited to, reports, data and designs, whether or not electronically stored) produced by the applicant will be the property of the applicant. The applicant will be asked to grant 3ie and FCDO a worldwide, non-exclusive irrevocable and royalty-free licence to use all the material produced, where "use" shall mean, without limitation, the reproduction, publication and sub-licence of all the material and the intellectual property therein, including the reproduction and sale of the material and products incorporating the same, for use by any person or for sale or other dealing anywhere in the world.

Q5: Would we be able to freely use the IP for teaching and non-commercial activities?

A5: The IP may be used for teaching and non-commercial activities provided this is approved by FCDO.