

Knowledge-building Project for Industry

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COMPLETED

Application type: Collaborative and Knowledge-building Project**Application deadline:** 4. September 2019, 13:00 CEST**Relevant thematic areas for this call:**

Environment-friendly energy and CO2 capture and storage, Oceans, Petroleum

Target groups: Research organisations**Amount of funding presumed available for this call for proposals:**

NOK 460 000 000. The amount of funding available for this call for proposals is distributed across four research programmes. The final decision on funding awards will be taken in conjunction with the call for proposals for Innovation Projects with an application submission deadline of 25 September for the same programmes.

Project duration: 24-60 months**Contact for the call:** Inger-Lise Rismark | iri@forskingsradet.no

Purpose

Knowledge-building Projects for Industry are to contribute to industry-oriented researcher training and long-term competence development in thematic areas of importance to the development of trade and industry.

Important dates

26 Jun 2019: Date call is made active**04 Sep 2019: Application submission deadline****13 Dec 2019: Announcement of funding awards****01 Jan 2020: Earliest permitted project start****01 Jun 2020: Latest permitted project start****31 May 2025: Latest permitted project completion**[Call for proposals](#)

Shortcuts

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About the call for proposals

The 2019 call for Knowledge-Building Projects for Industry is a coordinated call involving a number of programmes. The Research Council is able to move grant proposals across the various programmes without having to obtain the consent of the applicant.

Applicants may seek a minimum NOK 4 million in funding for a Knowledge-building Project for Industry.

The Norwegian-language call for proposals is the legally binding version.

Who is eligible to apply?

The call is open to [approved research organisations](#) in binding cooperation with relevant actors from Norwegian trade and industry.

Who can participate in the project?

Requirements relating to the Project Owner

- The Project Owner must be an [approved Norwegian research organisation](#). The organisation listed as the Project Owner in the grant application must have approved the submission of the grant application to the Research Council.

Requirements relating to the project manager

- The project manager's scientific expertise and capability to manage the project will be assessed by peer reviewers. There are no formal requirements for the project manager's qualifications.

Requirements relating to collaboration partners

- Projects are to be carried out by one or more research organisations in binding cooperation with relevant actors from Norwegian trade and industry and, when relevant, partners from other sectors.
- Research organisations other than the Project Owner may participate as partners in a project, carry out project activities and receive support on the same level as the Project Owner.
- All project partners are required to take active part in the planning and follow-up of the project.
- Project partners from Norwegian trade and industry are to provide cash financing for part of project expenses incurred by the Project Owner and collaborating research organisations. The amount of funding from the Research Council is calculated based on this cash financing amount. The support provided by the Research Council cannot exceed a maximum of four times the total cash contribution from the Norwegian companies.
- If a grant application incorporates a small number of partners, the project proposal must clearly describe how the knowledge developed under the project will be of benefit to larger user groups.
- Companies from outside Norway may contribute cash financing to a project, but this funding will not be calculated as part of the required cash financing. Thus this funding will be in addition to the financing provided by Norwegian partners from trade and industry.

The grant application must describe how the project incorporates the strategic objectives and priorities of the Project Owner and any research organisations/users participating as partners.

What can you seek funding for?

Under this call, the Research Council may cover up to 80 per cent of the costs incurred by research organisations that are necessary for the execution of the project. The remaining 20 per cent of the participating research organisation's costs is to be covered by partners from trade and industry in the project.

In order for the Research Council to calculate its amount of support, the grant application must include an overall project budget based on the following types of approved project costs:

- Payroll and indirect expenses relating to researcher time (including research fellowships) at the research institutions participating in the project. See here for [guidelines for calculating payroll and indirect costs in grant applications to the Research Council](#).
- Procurement of R&D services. The Project Owner and partners that are research organisations may jointly or individually procure R&D services from R&D-performing companies. Suppliers of R&D services for the project may not have the role of partner in the same project.
- Costs relating to procurement and use of scientific equipment. See here for [Research Council guidelines for calculating costs of equipment](#).

- Other operating expenses, including support for research stays abroad (Personal Overseas Research Grants) and travel expenses and other project-related costs not covered under the categories above. If the project is awarded funding, it is also possible during the project period to apply for Personal Overseas Research Grants for fellowship-holders. See here for more information about [the scheme for Personal Overseas Research Grants for fellowship-holders](#).

Only costs incurred by research organisations are to be entered in the project budget.

Conditions for funding

It is a requirement that funding for the projects does not constitute state aid. Support from the Research Council is to go to the non-economic activity of research organisations. Partners from trade and industry have a role as financiers. Any project-related activities carried out by collaborating companies are not to be included in the project budget.

The amount of funding awarded by the Research Council may not exceed a maximum of four times the total cash contribution from Norwegian companies.

If the project is awarded funding, the Project Owner must enter into collaboration agreements with all project partners. Partners that are not research organisations may not be granted ownership rights to results generated under the project.

The Research Council's allocation for the first year and any pledges for subsequent years will be disbursed in accordance with the conditions set out in this agreement and the General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects. Projects seeking funding under this call must satisfy the following requirements in particular:

- Annual project account reports must be submitted to document incurred project costs and their financing.

Professional development plan for post-doctoral research fellows

If the project includes funding for post-doctoral fellowships, a professional development plan must be drawn up for the post-doctoral fellowship period and submitted to the Research Council by at the latest three months after the post-doctoral research fellow is formally employed. The professional development plan must be signed by the employee and the immediate superior, and it must be updated in connection with any significant changes during the fellowship period. For more information, please see the document "[Mandatory professional development plan for post-doctoral research fellows \(docx\)](#)" and the information on [Personal Post-doctoral Fellowships](#) on the Research Council website.

Archiving of research data

The Project Owner (R&D organisation) is responsible for selecting the archiving solution(s) to use for storing research data generated during the project. The Project Owner must specify the planned solution(s) in connection with the revised grant proposal.

Relevant thematic areas for this call

The topics encompassed under this call are grouped into the following thematic areas: Environment-friendly energy and CO2 capture and storage, Oceans, Petroleum.

Special requirements and guidelines may be indicated in some of the thematic areas.

Environment-friendly energy and CO2 capture and storage

Renewable energy (wind, hydropower, solar, bioenergy, geoenergy, other), The energy system (components, systems technology, markets and organisation), Energy consumption in buildings, built-up areas and industry, Energy consumption in transport, Energy policy (economics, societal issues, environmental impacts and sustainability), CO2 capture and storage

Please remember to select the topics most relevant to your project proposal in the grant application form.

NOK 140–180 million for research on environment-friendly energy

Funding is available under the Large-scale Programme for Energy Research (ENERGIX) for new projects within all the thematic priority areas set out in the work programme:

- renewable energy (solar, wind, marine, bioenergy, geothermal and hydropower);
- the energy system and markets;
- efficient use of energy in buildings and industry;
- energy for the transport sector;
- energy policy, economics and sustainability.
- The programme promotes the long-term, sustainable development of the energy system to enhance the competitiveness of Norwegian trade and industry and facilitate the transition to a low-emission society.

Strategic guidelines:

- The ENERGIX programme will also accept grant applications for Knowledge-building Projects in which the results are specifically targeted towards the public sector and government administration as the key users. These projects will be exempted from the stipulations relating to financing, allowing government agencies or public actors to contribute in-kind activity in addition to or in lieu of cash financing. Aside from this, the application assessment process and remaining guidelines will be the same as for Knowledge-building Projects for Industry. (This applies only to the thematic area “Environment-friendly energy”.)
- Consortia that submitted a joint application but did not receive funding under the 2018 call for new FME Centres for Social Science-related Energy Research (FME Samfunn) may revise their applications and apply for an expanded Knowledge-Building Project for Industry (for up to roughly NOK 20–25 million in funding).

The ENERGIX programme will give priority to the following:

- When assessing relevance and ranking grant applications, we will attach particular importance to how well the grant proposal addresses the thematic priority areas set out in the work programme and its attachment.
- When prioritising projects for funding, importance will be attached both to the assessment of scientific merit for each individual grant application and to achieving a balanced project portfolio. Consideration will therefore also be given to the distribution of proposed and ongoing projects among the thematic priority areas of the programme and the Centres for Environment-friendly Energy Research (FME). You may search the Project Databank to find ongoing projects and FME centres.
- Assuming all factors relating to scientific merit and relevance are essentially equal, priority will be given to projects led by women project managers.

ENERGIX work programme and attachment

The work programme provides an overview of

- challenges, objectives and priorities
- anticipated results, impacts and societal outcomes
- available resources and budget

See: [ENERGIX work programme and attachment \(pdf\)](#).

Contact persons for the ENERGIX programme

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NOK 10–30 million for research on CO₂ capture and storage

Funding is available under the Norwegian RD&D CCS programme (CLIMIT) within all the thematic priority areas set out in the work programme. This call encompasses both technological and social science-based research.

The CLIMIT work programme and this call provide a broad technological description of CO₂ capture, transport and storage but do not encompass the use of CO₂. Thus this call is only open to grant applications relating to long-term storage of CO₂. Please note that projects relating to the use of CO₂ for EOR are still eligible under this call provided they involve long-term storage of CO₂.

Parallel to the Norwegian full-scale CCS project, there is a need for research and development that can lead in the long term to socially profitable

CCS technology, making it possible to implement CCS as an effective national and international measure for mitigating climate change.

The ENERGIX and CLIMIT programmes will cooperate on reviewing project proposals within the topic of hydrogen production and utilisation. Applications involving hydrogen from renewable energy as well as from natural gas with CCS within the same project will be reviewed by both programmes in consultation.

Strategic guidelines:

- Funding may be sought for Knowledge-building Projects targeting the entire hydrogen value chain. It will be important to have industrial actors affiliated with the projects.
- There is a lack of effective instruments and business models for CCS as a measure for mitigating climate change, and this call encourages social science-based research to address this.
- Grant proposals in the areas of CO₂ capture and CO₂ transport must seek to raise technological elements to a higher Technology Readiness Level (TRL). Grant proposals relating to CO₂ capture may also include a Technology Readiness Assessment when this is feasible.
- If the grant proposal addresses areas where no well-developed industry in Norway exists, the Research Council may permit cash financing from international partners to make up part of the cash financing required from Norwegian companies.
- In order to achieve commercialisation of CCS, it is essential that R&D results are communicated to a wider circle that also includes decision-makers. To this end, section 2.2 of the project description for all grant applications must include a communication plan that encompasses as a minimum the following elements:
 - Scientific publications.
 - Targeted communication directed towards national and international decision-makers. This may be in the form of participation in relevant national and international arenas.
 - A plan for how the project can help to raise understanding among the general public about CCS as a measure for mitigating climate change.

The CLIMIT programme will give priority to the following:

- Projects that incorporate cooperation with top international research groups. Partners from outside Norway should have their own funding plan that does not include support from the CLIMIT programme.
- Projects that make use of R&D infrastructure through [ECCSEL](#).
- Projects that incorporate doctoral degree education.
- Projects that help to carry out the [EU CCS and CCU Implementation Plan \(pdf\)](#).
- Projects that address R&D challenges identified in the [Mission Innovation initiative](#).
- Projects that have synergies with [Horizon 2020 and ACT projects](#).
- Projects containing work packages of both a technical and social science nature.
- Assuming that all factors relating to scientific merit and relevance are essentially equal, priority will be given to projects led by women project managers.
- When prioritising projects for funding, importance will be attached both to the assessment of scientific merit for each individual grant application and to achieving a balanced project portfolio. Consideration will therefore also be given to the distribution of proposed and ongoing projects among the thematic priority areas of the CLIMIT programme and its actors.

CLIMIT work programme

The work programme provides an overview of

- challenges, objectives and priorities
- anticipated results, impacts and societal outcomes

The CLIMIT programme has three focus areas with associated performance goals

- early full-scale CCS value chain in Europe;
- large-scale storage of CO₂ on the Norwegian continental shelf in the North Sea;
- future solutions for CCS.

See: [CLIMIT work programme \(pdf\)](#).

Attachment to the call for proposals for CLIMIT

> [Social science-based CLIMIT research \(pdf\)](#)

Contact persons for the CLIMIT programme

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Oceans

This thematic area is targeted towards the maritime sector.



Maritime sector

Please remember to select the topics most relevant to your project proposal in the grant application form.

NOK 80–110 million for maritime research

Funding is available under the MAROFF programme within all the thematic priority areas set out in the work programme:

- opportunities in the ocean industries;
- autonomous and remote-controlled vessels;
- digital transformation of the maritime industry;
- promoting greener maritime activities;
- safety and security at sea;
- the Arctic and northern areas.

Strategic guidelines:

Up to NOK 30 million is earmarked for projects that address research questions of relevance for the thematic priority area “Digital transformation of the maritime industry”. When allocating this earmarked funding, we will give priority to projects establishing new collaborative constellations between research and industry. Projects must be qualitatively comparable to other grant applications selected for funding.

The MAROFF programme will give priority to the following:

- Projects that incorporate doctoral degree education.
- Assuming all factors relating to scientific merit and relevance are essentially equal, priority will be given to projects led by women project managers.
- When prioritising projects for funding, importance will be attached both to the assessment of scientific merit for each individual grant application and to achieving a balanced project portfolio. Consideration will therefore also be given to the distribution of proposed and ongoing projects among the thematic priority areas of the MAROFF programme and its actors.

MAROFF work programme

The work programme provides an overview of

- challenges, objectives and priorities
- anticipated results, impacts and societal outcomes
- available resources and budget

See: The [MAROFF work programme \(pdf\)](#).

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Petroleum



Reducing greenhouse gases, energy efficiency and the environment, Subsurface knowledge, Drilling, completion and intervention, Production, processing and transport, Major accidents and the working environment

Please remember to select the topics most relevant to your project proposal in the grant application form.

NOK 120–140 million for petroleum research

Funding is available under the PETROMAKS 2 programme within all the thematic priority areas set out in the work programme:

1. Reducing greenhouse gases, energy efficiency and the environment
2. Exploration and increased recovery
3. Drilling, completions and intervention
4. Production, processing and transport
5. Major accidents and the work environment

The work programme also sets out the following cross-cutting priorities:

- The Arctic areas
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and energy efficiency
- Digitalisation
- Challenges related to the introduction and use of new technology

Funding is not available for generic projects focusing solely on these cross-cutting priorities. Applicants seeking to address the cross-cutting priorities must link these specifically to one or more of the thematic priority areas.

Strategic guidelines:

Improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions

At least NOK 25 million from the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy is set aside under the calls for Knowledge-building Projects for Industry and Innovation Projects for projects whose main objective is improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions on the Norwegian continental shelf.

Research cooperation with Canada

The PETROMAKS 2 programme encourages projects that incorporate binding collaboration between Norwegian and Canadian research organisations and/or companies that will be of benefit to both countries. In keeping with the PETROMAKS 2 work programme, we require the Canadian partners to cover their own project costs. No funding has been earmarked for this cooperation. The number and quality of the proposals received will determine how many projects can be awarded funding.

Research cooperation with Brazil

The PETROMAKS 2 programme encourages projects that incorporate binding collaboration between Norwegian and Brazilian research organisations that will be of benefit to both countries. In keeping with the PETROMAKS 2 work programme, we require the Brazilian research organisations to cover their own project costs through public or private funding. No funding has been earmarked for this cooperation. The number and quality of the proposals received will determine how many projects can be awarded funding.

The PETROMAKS 2 programme will give priority to the following:

- Assuming all factors relating to scientific merit and relevance are essentially equal, priority will be given to projects led by women project managers.
- Projects that incorporate doctoral degree education.
- When prioritising projects for funding, importance will be attached both to the assessment of scientific merit for each individual grant application and to achieving a balanced project portfolio. Consideration will therefore also be given to the distribution of proposed projects under all of this year's calls for proposals across the priority areas and actors under the petroleum portfolio.

PETROMAKS2 work programme

The work programme provides an overview of

- challenges, objectives and priorities
- anticipated results, impacts and societal outcomes

- available resources and budget

See: [PETROMAKS 2 work programme \(pdf\)](#).

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Requirements for this application type

Requirements that apply to all the programmes

The grant application form must be created and submitted via “My RCN Web”. You may revise and resubmit your grant application form multiple times up to the application submission deadline. We recommend that you submit your application as soon as you have filled in the application form and included all mandatory attachments. After the deadline, it is the most recently submitted version of the grant application that will be processed.

General requirements:

- The grant application, including all attachments, must be submitted in English.
- All attachments must be in PDF format and uploaded as an attachment to the grant application form.
- The project description must be written using the designated template at the bottom of this page. All items must be completed.
- If the applicant has submitted the same or similar grant proposals under another Research Council programme or scheme, this must be stated in the grant application.
- The latest permitted project start date for projects is 1 June 2020. Projects approved for funding that have not started by this date may lose their allocation.

Requirements relating to finances and budget:

- All project costs are to be budgeted in accordance with [Research Council guidelines](#).
- The amount of funding awarded by the Research Council may not exceed a maximum of four times the total cash contribution from Norwegian companies.
- The Project Owner and other partners must not be suppliers of R&D services or sub-contractors in the same project.
- Projects may not comprise state aid, directly or indirectly, to companies defined as an “undertaking”.

Requirements relating to research fellows:

- The Research Council will not be assessing the qualifications of candidates for doctoral fellowships. Individuals should therefore not be specified in the grant application, nor should their CVs be submitted. See here for more information about [doctoral research fellowships](#).
- The names of any candidates for post-doctoral fellowships who will play a key role in implementation of the project may be specified, in which case CVs for these candidates must be attached to the grant application. Read more about [post-doctoral fellowships](#) here.
- It is not permitted to employ an individual for more than one contractual period in the same position at the same institution. Please refer to [the regulations concerning terms and conditions of employment for the posts of post-doctoral research fellow, research fellow, research assistant and resident laid down by the Ministry of Education and Research \(in Norwegian only\)](#).

Mandatory attachments

- A project description of maximum 10 pages using the designated template for this application type, found at the bottom of this page.
- CVs for the project manager and key project participants using the designated templates found at the bottom of this page. The CV for the project

manager is to be uploaded as attachment type “CV” in the grant application form, and other CVs are to be uploaded as attachment type “Other”.

- Letters of Intent describing the financial contributions of each partner must be attached to the grant application. The letters must also include an explanation of why the research project is important for the partners. The letters are to be uploaded as attachment type “Other”.
- For projects encompassing doctoral degrees, you must attach a Letter of Intent from the degree-conferring university/institution to the grant application.

Grant applications that do not satisfy the above requirements will be rejected.

Optional attachments

- Proposals for up to three international referees who are presumed to be impartial and qualified to review the grant proposal. This is to be uploaded under the attachment type Referees.

Links to websites and documents, as well as other attachments than those specified above, will not be included in the application review process.

Assessment criteria

In 2019 the Research Council is introducing three new assessment criteria: Excellence, Impact and Implementation. These criteria have been designed to be applicable for assessing basic and applied research activities alike.

Excellence

The extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, novel, and goes beyond the state-of-the-art

- Scientific creativity and originality.
- Novelty and boldness of hypotheses or research questions.
- Potential for development of new knowledge beyond the current state-of-the-art, including significant theoretical, methodological, experimental or empirical advancement.

The quality of the proposed R&D activities

- Quality of the research questions, hypotheses and project objectives, and the extent to which they are clearly and adequately specified.
- Credibility and appropriateness of the theoretical approach, research design and use of scientific methods. Appropriate consideration of interdisciplinary approaches.
- Where relevant, the extent to which appropriate consideration has been given to ethical issues, safety issues, gender dimension in research content, and appropriate use of stakeholder/user knowledge.

Impact

Potential impact of the proposed research

The extent to which:

- the potential impacts are clearly formulated and plausible.
- the outputs of the project address important present and future scientific challenges.
- the outputs of the project address important present and future challenges for the sector(s).
- the developed competence and expected results will promote future value creation, in the industry and/or development of the public sector?
- the outputs will address relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- the project will be undertaken in a responsible manner, with reference to relevant methodology for achieving this.

Communication and exploitation

- Quality and scope of communication and engagement activities with different target audiences, including relevant stakeholders/users.
- Involvement of the stakeholders/users in dissemination and utilisation of the project results.

Implementation

The quality of the project manager and project group

- The extent to which the project manager has relevant expertise and experience, and demonstrated ability to perform high-quality research (as appropriate to the career stage).
- The degree of complementarity of the participants and the extent to which the project group as a whole encompasses the expertise needed to undertake the research effectively, and provides added value.

The quality of the project organisation and management

- Effectiveness of the work plan, including the extent to which resources assigned to work packages are aligned with project objectives and deliverables.
- Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role.
- Appropriateness of the proposed management structures and governance.
- Appropriateness of stakeholder and user participation in the implementation and governance of the project.

Overall assessment of the referee/panel

The mark is derived from the panel's assessments of the three criteria Excellence, Impact and Implementation.

Relevance to the call for proposals

The extent to which the project satisfies the guidelines and stipulations set out in the call for proposals.

Administrative procedures

Once the grant applications have been received and the application submission deadline has passed, the Research Council will review them to ensure that they satisfy all the formal requirements relating to the call and attachments. Grant applications that do not comply with the requirements will be rejected.

Grant applications that satisfy the formal requirements will be distributed to referee panels comprised of international experts in the relevant thematic areas and disciplines. After the panel review, the most highly ranked applications will be assessed on their relevance to the thematic areas of the call.

The Research Council's final decision on funding awards will be taken by the portfolio board based on an overall assessment of the project portfolio. The project portfolio assessment will take the following factors into account:

- The grant applications' overall and individual marks;
- The thematic distribution of grant applications to each programme participating in the call;
- The relative volume and quality of grant applications under each of the programmes' other calls in 2019;
- The overall set of objectives for each programme;
- Guidelines in the allocation letters from the ministries, or changes in the financial or scientific framework of the programmes.
- The final funding decision will be announced in mid-December.

See here for [more information for applicants \(pdf\)](#).

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	Template Project Description Knowledgebuilding Projects for Industry 2019.docx	
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