

TARGetAMR Network

Flexible Funding Initiative (FFI) – Application Guidelines

About the TARGetAMR Network

TARGetAMR is a UKRI-funded research network that aims to advance **transdisciplinary research in Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) genomics**.

A key objective of the network is to support **early-stage collaborative activity** that can mature into high-quality research outputs and/or competitive funding applications.

Flexible Funding Initiative (FFI): Purpose and Aims

- The **Flexible Funding Initiative (FFI)** is designed to **facilitate productive cooperative working across disciplines** and to stimulate **new transdisciplinary research activity** aligned with the TARGetAMR remit.
- The FFI will support **short-term, targeted activities** that:
 - Enable new or strengthened collaborations
 - Address clearly articulated research questions in **AMR genomics**
 - Demonstrate added value through transdisciplinary integration
- Supported activities may include (but are not limited to):
 - Research exchanges or secondments
 - Stakeholder engagement events
 - Pilot or feasibility studies
 - Small-scale collaborative research projects aimed at de-risking future larger grant applications

Eligibility and Scope

- Applications must:
 - Be within the **scientific and strategic remit of TARGetAMR**, with a clear focus on AMR genomics
 - Involve contributors spanning a **minimum of two UKRI Research Council remits**
- Proposals demonstrating **genuine integration between STEM and non-STEM disciplines** (e.g. social sciences, humanities, law, policy, ethics, implementation research) will receive a **score enhancement** during assessment.
- Applicants should clearly articulate:
 - The contribution of each discipline
 - How the collaboration lays the groundwork for, or goes beyond, multidisciplinary working to achieve **transdisciplinary outcomes**
 - **How the funding builds capacity, capability, and connectivity in AMR genomics**
- Funding is available for **eligible UK institutions**
- **Applications open Thursday 14th May 2026**
- **Applications close Friday 31st July 2026**

Funding Available and Project Duration

- **Funding limit:**
 - Up to **£30,000 per project at 80% full economic cost (fEC)**
 - Equivalent to **£24,000 cash value**
- **Project duration:**
 - Funded activity must not exceed **6 months**
 - Projects will be funded for up to **6 months**, with the option of a no-cost extension of up to 6 additional months, giving a maximum total duration of **12 months**
- **Project start:**
 - Projects must **commence by Monday 4 January 2027**
- **Project end:**
 - No projects may extend beyond **31 December 2027**
- **Payment of funds:**
 - Funds will be **awarded by UKRI upon completion of the project**, subject to delivery and compliance with UKRI terms and conditions.
 - A short final report will be required as evidence of project completion.

Assessment Process

- Applications will undergo **internal assessment** at TARGetAMR and be **ranked against the criteria of novelty, transdisciplinarity, feasibility, potential impact for AMR genomics, and the track record of the applicant/s commensurate with career stage.**
- Proposals will be reviewed in consultation with the **External Advisory Board (EAB).**
- Funding decisions will seek to ensure that supported projects:
 - Address **timely, relevant, and high-priority research questions** in AMR genomics (for which you may wish to consult the [TARGetAMR position piece](#) on the role of Microbial Genomics in delivering against the UK NAP)
 - Demonstrate **scientific quality, feasibility, and transdisciplinary integration**
 - Are positioned to deliver clearly articulated outputs, including, but not limited to:
 - Publications in **peer-reviewed journals or monographs**, and/or
 - The development of a **competitive external funding application** (e.g. UKRI, charity, international funders)

Application

Abstracts must be submitted directly through the online [Microsoft Form](#).

Applicants must also complete the [Excel Supplementary Information Form](#) and submit it to the TARGetAMR mailbox.

Please note applications will only be considered if both the Microsoft Application Form and the costing Excel spreadsheet have been completed and submitted to the TARGetAMR mailbox.