Final Report
Open Research Area 8

December 2024

INTRODUCTION

This report, prepared by ORA 8 Technical Group (TG, see *Annex*), presents the delivery process of the Open Research Area (ORA) 8 competition.

The eighth round of ORA was based on an agreement between the Agence nationale de la Recherche (ANR; France), the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG; Germany), the Economic and Social Research Council of United Kingdom Research and Innovation (ESRC; United Kingdom), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC; Canada). The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) has participated as an associated partner. SSHRC was the coordinating agency and provided the ORA 8 Secretariat.

The same combination of funders has participated in ORA in the last three iterations (ORA 6-8). The National Science Foundation (NSF, United States) and the Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO, Netherlands) participated in past iterations:

Table 1: Participating and coordinating funding agencies ORA 1-8

Iteration	ORA 8	ORA 7	ORA 6	ORA 5	ORA 4	ORA 3	ORA 2	ORA 1
Year	**2023**	2021	2019	2017	2015	2013	2012	2010
Coordinator	**SSHRC**	ANR	ESRC	DFG	ANR	NWO	DFG	ESRC
ANR	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
DFG	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
ESRC	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NSF						√		
NWO				√	√	√	√	√
SSHRC	√	√	√					
(JSPS)	√	√	√	√	√			

DELIVERY MODEL

ORA 8 continued to implement a one-stage-one-application model as in ORA 7. In the past, ORA iterations took different delivery forms (changes from one iteration to the next are highlighted in blue):

Table 2: Delivery models ORA 1-8

Delivery	Delivery model
ORA 1-2	One stage, one application, one deadline, two countries minimum per application
ORA 3	One stage, one application, one deadline, three countries minimum per application
ORA 4	One stage, one application, one deadline, two countries minimum per application
ORA 5	Two stages, two applications, two deadlines, two countries minimum per application
ORA 6	Two stages, two applications, one deadline, three countries minimum per application

Delivery	Delivery model
ORA 7	One stage, one application, one deadline, three countries minimum per application
ORA 8	**One stage, one application, one deadline, three countries minimum per application**

ORA delivery model morphed based on feedback from researchers, adjudication panel members, the TG, the evaluation report (2016), and the Bonn Group members. Some changes that were implemented lead to unexpected results, such as the large number of applications received in ORA 5 and the resource-intensive delivery in ORA 6. The current model seems to be the most balanced to date.

TIMELINE

The delivery of ORA 8 lasted from November 2023 to September 2024. In October 2024, the results were announced to the applicants and made public on funders' websites. Successful applicants were invited to start their projects anytime from October 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025 (see *Post adjudication* below for more information about the start date).

Table 3: Timeline ORA 8

May 2023	Pre-call announcement
June 2023	Call launch
September 2023	Webinars for applicants
November 2023	Deadline for submitting applications
January 2024	Eligibility verifications
February-May 2024	External assessment
May-June 2024	Applicant response to external assessment
June 2024	Adjudication panel meeting
October 2024	Results packages released to applicants
October 2024-March 2025	Start of projects

CALL LAUNCH

ORA 8 Call was pre-announced in May 2023 and opened on June 14, 2023. All funding partners published the information about the Call on their websites. DFG's website was the central reference point for applicants and contained all documentation. National contacts were listed on the site for further details at a national level.

SSHRC monitored the Call inbox created specially for ORA 8 (ORA8@SSHRC-CRSH.GC.CA), responded to individual queries and coordinated more complex answers with the other funders. Two identical webinars (to accommodate different time zones) were delivered to interested applicants on September 21, 2023. On September 22, 2023, SSHRC delivered a third webinar in French for Canada's francophone community. Interested applicants from other countries participated in the French webinar, too. Overall, there were close to 400 people participating across the three webinars.

During the webinars, participants asked hundreds of questions in the Chat function. Understandably, due to time limitations, many questions were left unanswered. The Call Secretariat collected all these questions,

clustered them based on topic and provided answers in an updated FAQ document that was posted on DFG's website, along the Call documentation. In the past, FAQ was limited to questions with answers more difficult to find in the Call literature. However, given the complexity of the Call and the voluminous Call literature, this time we chose to add all questions asked during the webinar in the updated FAQ.

The ORA 8 Call Literature consisted in the following documents:
- ✓ ORA 8 landing on DFG's website
- ✓ ORA 8 Call specification
- ✓ Convergence Guidance for Applicants
- ✓ FAQ (updated after the webinar)
- ✓ (For France-based researchers only:) Modalités pour les participants français

The ORA 8 application consisted of:
- ✓ SSHRC's Convergence form
- ✓ Proposal template (including the narrative CVs)
- ✓ ESRC and/or SSHRC Finance forms
- ✓ SSHRC Terms and Conditions for Applying (if applicable)
- ✓ Letters of support (if applicable)
- ✓ Applicants requesting funding from ANR or DFG were required to additionally submit their proposals through their platforms (SIM or elan, respectively).

Most of the literature remained unchanged from ORA 7 to ORA 8, apart from adjusting to the change in submission platform. Each coordinating agency uses their own grants management system. In the past, ORA applicants submitted through DFG's electronic portal elan (ORA 5), ESRC's Joint Electronic Submission Je-S system (ORA 6), ANR's Electronic Submission System SIM (ORA 7), and SSHRC's Convergence Portal (ORA 8).

Grants management systems differ greatly, and applicants and university representatives must adjust each time to new requirements. For this reason, in each ORA round it was used a proposal template where applicants added the bulk of the information. The proposal template was then uploaded as an attachment to the online application form. We thus limited the information submitted directly through the online application form, with which applicants were not familiar.

The right balance is difficult to strike, and, for this reason, each coordinating agency decides, in collaboration with the TG, the best way to deliver ORA while maintaining a manageable level of administrative burden and increase facility for applicants.

ORA 8 continued to encourage applicants to consider equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in their research plans and proposals. EDI considerations could have been incorporated into the research team, research environment and research design.

Due to European restrictive measures, ORA 8 continued not to allow collaborations between project consortia and Russian or Belorussian institutions.

COHORT

Proposals were submitted through SSHRC's Convergence Portal. The deadline for submitting applications was on November 14, 2023. There were 144 applications submitted to the ORA 8 competition.

Eligibility and return-for-amendments

Partners conducted an administrative review of all applications and determined that six were ineligible. The *ORA 8 Call specification* clearly indicated that: "If a proposal is ineligible with one national agency the project will be rejected by all agencies concerned." Therefore, these six ineligible applications were not included in the competition. Teams of ineligible applications were informed before the results for the whole competition were ready. A seventh application was withdrawn by the applicant before the adjudication. Therefore, there were 137 applications that moved on to the adjudication stage.

At 144 applications submitted and seven removed from the competition, the eligibility rate at 95% is very similar to the one in previous competitions: average eligibility rate in all ORA iterations is 93% (see *Table 4* below).

ORA scheme has been implementing a return-for-amendments stage and we continued to do so in ORA 8. During this stage and after the eligibility checks, some applications with small technical errors were returned to applicants for corrections. Errors consisted in, for example, adding too many CVs or not enough, exceeding the allotted space for different sections, ineligible budget items or requesting funds beyond the budget limit, ineligible co-applicants, or missing national annexes. In total, there were 37 returns-for-amendments, that is, 27% of all applications.

While not all national funding agencies implement a return-for-amendments stage in their core funding opportunities, it has proven very useful for ORA due to its complexity. Most applicants are unfamiliar with the system used to submit applications and it is normal to see many technical errors.

Numbers and country participation

45% more applications were submitted in the current competition compared to ORA 7. A more in-depth analysis would be needed to determine the exact reasons for this increase, but some explanations could be: ORA 7 was launched during the pandemic in 2021; the research community was familiar with ORA 8, which had the same participating funders and the same delivery model as ORA 7; applicants had almost two more months to prepare their applications from the Call launch to deadline as compared to ORA 7.

Table 4: Eligibility ORA 1-8

Iteration	Received	Eligible	Eligible %
ORA 1	139	123	88 %
ORA 2	160	142	89 %
ORA 3	186	178	96 %
ORA 4	188	188	100 %
ORA 5	319	293	92 %
ORA 6	103	95	92 %
ORA 7	99	92	93 %
ORA 8	**144**	**137**	**95 %**
Total	1338	1248	93%

Researchers from the UK continued to participate in most of the applications (91%), followed by Canada, Germany (87% and 86%), and France (53%). Most of the main applicants were Canadian researchers (51) followed closely by UK (50). Only a small number of French researchers took this role (6). However, it is worth mentioning that the main applicant has the same role as all other national applicants with the added administrative responsibilities to submit the application and to be the main point of contact for the team.

Table 5: ORA 8 Country participation

Country	Applications	% of eligible	Main applicant
Canada	119	87 %	51
France	73	53 %	6
Germany	118	86 %	30
United Kingdom	124	91 %	50
Total	-	-	**137**

Canada-Germany-UK remains the strongest national grouping with 61 applications and Canada-France-Germany the weakest grouping with only nine applications.

Table 6: ORA 8 National partner grouping combinations

National partner grouping	Applications	Japan
Canada, Germany, UK	61	3
Canada, France, Germany, UK	31	5
France, Germany, UK	18	4
Canada, France, UK	18	3
Canada, France, Germany	9	1
Total	**137**	**16**

The ORA 8 national groupings are well aligned with those in the last three competitions with the same national representation.

Table 7: Proportion of national partner grouping combinations ORA 6-8

Canada	France	Germany	UK	ORA 6	ORA 7	ORA 8	Average
√	√	√		4 %	8 %	7 %	6 %
√	√		√	22 %	15 %	13 %	17 %
√		√	√	34 %	33 %	44 %	37 %
	√	√	√	18 %	27 %	13 %	19 %
√	√	√	√	22 %	17 %	23 %	21 %
				100 %	**100 %**	**100 %**	-

Fields of research

For fields of research, in ORA 8 we used the 2019 version of the Canadian Research and Development Classification (CRDC). This is a standard classification, inspired by the Frascati Model from 2015 of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, which is widely used in the EU.

Table 8: ORA 8 Discipline distribution

Discipline CRDC	# applications	% in total eligible
Psychology and cognitive sciences	24	18%
Economics and business administration	24	18%
Political science and policy administration	19	14%
Social and economic geography	16	12%
Sociology and related studies	16	12%
Other social sciences	12	9%
Health sciences	6	4%
Languages and literature	4	3%
Education	4	3%
Law and legal practice	3	2%
Computer and information sciences	3	2%
Media and communications	3	2%
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	1	1%
Philosophy	1	1%
Arts, architecture and design	1	1%
Total	**137**	**100%**

ADJUDICATION

The decision-making process for ORA 8 included the following steps:
- ✓ **Determination of eligibility**: following eligibility checks (above), all proposals not deemed to be within the scope of the Call, or which did not meet the core eligibility criteria were rejected.
- ✓ **External assessment**: eligible proposals were sent for assessment to external, independent referees for peer review.
- ✓ **Applicant response to external assessment**: main applicants (on behalf of all project participants) were invited to submit a response to comments received on their proposal by the external assessors.
- ✓ **Panel review**: proposals, external assessments and applicant responses were discussed, and funding recommendations were made by a joint adjudication panel.

In making final decisions, the guiding principle was scholarly merit (research excellence).

The evaluation criteria did not change from ORA 7 to ORA 8, but they were clustered under three criteria, with different weight in the final score, as follows:

Challenge: the aim and importance of the endeavour (45%)
- ✓ The originality and potential contribution to new scientific knowledge (theory, methodology, or practice)
- ✓ Appropriateness of research design
- ✓ Likely impact of the work

Feasibility: the plan to achieve excellence (25%)
- ✓ Feasibility of research design
- ✓ Communication plans
- ✓ Overall value for money
- ✓ Individual aspects of resourcing the proposal
- ✓ Ethical issues and data management

Capability: the expertise to succeed (30%)
- ✓ The appropriateness of the research team
- ✓ The appropriateness of the collaboration plans

External assessors were asked two things:

1. To place each sub-criterion on the following value scale:

N/A
Unsatisfactory
Satisfactory to good
Good to very good
Very good to excellent

2. To describe the proposal's strengths and weaknesses in relation to each large criterion: Challenge, Feasibility and Capability

External assessors were not asked to score the applications.

Panellists were asked to provide preliminary scores for each large criterion as follows:

Unsatisfactory	Bellow 3
Satisfactory to good	3 – 3.9
Good to very good	4 – 4.9
Very good to excellent	5 – 6

External Assessment

To assist the panel in making its funding recommendations, each proposal was reviewed by a minimum of two external assessors. Funders, before recruiting, would conduct conflict of interest checks. In addition, external assessors had to confirm that they were not in conflict of interest with the application before conducting their review.

For the 137 eligible applications, we recruited 299 external assessors: 116 applications had two reports, 21 applications had three reports, and four assessors did not submit in time.

Table 9: ORA 8 External assessor recruitment per agency

Funder	# of external assessors recruited	% of total assessors recruited
ANR	77	26 %
DFG	70	23 %
ESRC	70	23 %
SSHRC	82	27 %
Total	**299**	**100 %**

Table 10: ORA 8 External assessor location

Country	# of external assessors	% of total external assessors
Canada	87	29%
United Kingdom	85	28%
Germany	50	17%
France	26	9%
United States	12	4%
Italy	5	2%
Switzerland	5	2%
Netherlands	5	2%
Australia	3	1%
Sweden	3	1%
Belgium	3	1%
Norway	3	1%
Other*	12	4%
Total	**299**	**100%**

(*) Algeria, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Singapore

As it is always the case, some reports came in very late or not at all and we had to recruit new external assessors and ask them to review applications on a very short notice. These delays pushed the next stages in the delivery process to the limit. We tried to mitigate for this by using a three-stage process.

Applicant response to external assessment

Following written peer review, but prior to the adjudication meeting, the main applicants were invited to submit (on behalf of all project participants) a response to comments received on their proposal. The intention behind this step is to allow applicants to correct any factual errors, conceptual misunderstandings, or to respond to any questions highlighted in the comments from assessors on proposals. Applicants were not allowed to change or re-constitute the proposal in light of the comments received. Applicants were not obliged to submit a response, but all of them were encouraged to do so.

While the external assessment process started early (February 2024) and progressed steadily, some reports were late. This pushed the applicant response phase. In order to avoid sending all the applicant responses to the panel very late, we decided to do three rounds, as the external assessor reports became available. We sent a message to all main applicants explaining the process and providing the following timeline:

Table 11: ORA 8 Applicant response timeline

Timeline	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Friday – heads-up email	April 26	May 3	May 10
Monday – access to peer-review reports	April 29	May 6	May 13
Sunday – deadline to upload the applicant response	May 5	May 12	May 19

In a small number of cases (approx. 5 applications), the external assessor reports were persistently late. We informed the main applicants and the panel of the situation. In the end, the late reports and applicant responses were all submitted before the adjudication meeting.

Once panellists had access to applications, external assessment reports and applicant responses, they could start their work.

Adjudication panel

The adjudication panel for ORA was jointly recruited by the participating agencies. For ORA 8 we recruited one panel for the whole cohort, as we did in ORA 7.

ANR, DFG, ESRC and SSHRC recruited collaboratively 21 panel members and one Chair. The Chair, Rianne Mahon, was the highly regarded Vice-Chair from ORA 7. A Vice-Chair was recruited from among the panel members. The average number of applications assigned to members was 13.

The disciplinary coverage of the panel was determined based on application information.

Table 12: ORA 8 Adjudication Panel composition

Name	Position	Institution	Recruited by
Rianne Mahon (Chair)	Distinguished Research Professor Emerita	Carleton University	SSHRC
Campbell Leith (Vice-Chair)	Professor of Macroeconomics	University of Glasgow	ESRC
Thorsten Bonacker	Deputy Executive Director	Philipps - University of Marburg	DFG
Boris Braun	Professor	University of Cologne	DFG
Ryan Bullock	Canada Research Chair & Associate Professor	University of Winnipeg	SSHRC
Anastasia Christakou	Director of the Centre for Integrative Neuroscience and Neurodynamics	University of Reading	ESRC
Wim De Neys	Research Director	Université de Paris, National Center for Scientific Research	ANR
Chris Deeming	Reader Social Work and Social Policy	University of Strathclyde	ESRC
Danai Dima	Professor	City, University of London	ANR
Bernd Dollinger	Professor of Theory and History of Social Pedagogy	University of Siegen	DFG
Laura Hammond	Professor of Development Studies	School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London	ESRC
Monika Heupel	Professor of International and European Politics	University of Bamberg	DFG

Name	Position	Institution	Recruited by
Alf Kimms	Chair of Logistics and Operations Research	University of Duisburg-Essen	DFG
Ilias Kyriopoulos	Assistant Professor	London School of Economics and Political Science	ANR
Fabrizio Li Vigni	Permanent researcher	National Center for Scientific Research	ANR
Stefan Liebig	Professor	The Free University of Berlin	DFG
Julie MacArthur	Canada Research Chair & Associate Professor	Royal Roads University	SSHRC
Stephen McBride	Canada Research Chair & Full Professor	McMaster University	SSHRC
Joshua Neves	Canada Research Chair & Associate Professor	Concordia University	SSHRC
Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu	Full Professor	University of Saskatchewan	SSHRC
Anthi Revithiadou	Professor	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	ANR
Rhiannon Turner	Director of the Centre for Identity and Intergroup Relations	Queen's University Belfast	ESRC

All panellists were invited to an Orientation session on May 16, 2024, after they were given access to competition materials.

Panellist were given access to these documents before the adjudication meeting:
- ✓ Applications
- ✓ External assessor reports
- ✓ Applicant responses to external assessment
- ✓ Other panellists' preliminary scores and narrative comments

Except in cases of conflict of interest, panellists read and provided preliminary scores for all applications assigned to them as either Reader A or Reader B. Scores and narrative comments were submitted before the meeting.

On June 12-13, 2024, the adjudication panel met in London, UK, at Caxton House. The meeting was attended in person by all panellists, but for two who could not travel at the last minute. These two panellists and other funder representatives attended virtually.

Before the meeting, the Call Secretariat prepared a meeting spreadsheet with applications ranked based on preliminary scores. During the meeting, panellists discussed the files, paying close attention to applications that were scored differently by the two readers. Following the deliberations, panellists arrived at consensus average scores for all applications. These averages determined the final ranking of the applications. The Chair signed the final meeting spreadsheet and, thus, the final ranking based on merit of all applications in the ORA 8 competition.

POST ADJUDICATION

ANR, ESRC, and SSHRC signed off on the funding decision on July 25, 2024. DFG's final decision was on September 30, 2024. The next day, on October 1, 2024, all results were deployed by the Call Secretariat, to all applicants, through SSHRC's SharePoint site.

ORA partners funded 12 applications out of 137, for a success rate of 9%. This is also the average success rate in all ORA iterations.

Table 13: Successful applications ORA 1-8

Iteration	Eligible	Successful	Success rate
ORA 1	123	15	12 %
ORA 2	142	10	7 %
ORA 3	178	15	8 %
ORA 4	188	20	11 %
ORA 5	293	16	5 %
ORA 6	95	13	14 %
ORA 7	92	13	14 %
ORA 8	**137**	12	9 %
Total	**1248**	114	9 %

Table 14: ORA 8 National partner grouping combinations for successful applications

Canada	France	Germany	UK	% of groupings in total eligible	# successful	% of groupings in total successful
√	√	√		**7 %**	1	8 %
√	√		√	**13 %**	2	17 %
√		√	√	**44 %**	3	25 %
	√	√	√	**13 %**	4	33 %
√	√	√	√	**23 %**	2	17 %
				100 %	**12**	**100 %**

The following projects were funded in the ORA 8 competition:

Table 15: Successful projects ORA 8

Title	Disciplines	Applicant	Affiliation	Country
Advancing health data justice: A comparative study of health-related data governance in Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom	Bioethics Health Policy Socio-Legal Studies Health Sociology Public Health	Amelia Fiske	Technische Universität München	Germany
		Sharifah Sekalala	University of Warwick	United Kingdom
		James Shaw*	University of Toronto	Canada
An international and intersectional exploration of weight stigma across the lifecourse of women	Social Sciences	Claudia Luck-Sikorski	SRH Hochschule für Gesundheit	Germany
		Taniya Nagpal*	University of Alberta	Canada
		Shelina Visram	Newcastle University	United Kingdom
Between Economy and Democracy: Reorganizing Research Evaluation	Sociology Social Studies of Science and Technology	Kean Birch	York University	Canada
		Anne Krüger	Weizenbaum Institute Berlin	Germany
		Andrea Mennicken*	London School of Economics and Political Science	United Kingdom

Title	Disciplines	Applicant	Affiliation	Country
through Metadata in the Digital Era		Stephan Stahlschmidt	Deutsches Zentrum für Hochschul- und Wissenschaftsforschung	Germany
		Didier Torny	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique	France
Capitalizing on Transformation: A Recipe for Sustainable Food Systems	Environmental Policy Sustainable Agricultural Development Financial Systems and Banking Sustainable Development and Policy Environmental Sociology Political Economy	Truzaar Dordi	University of York	United Kingdom
		Alain Naef	Association Groupe ESSEC	France
		Sarah Ruth Sippel	Universität Münster	Germany
		Phoebe Stephens*	Dalhousie University	Canada
Deaf access by Deaf people - Deaf mediators, interpreters and translators	Discourse and pragmatics Social oppression and marginalization Sociolinguistics	Christian Rathmann	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	Germany
		Jérémie Segouat	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique	France
		Christopher Stone*	University of Wolverhampton	United Kingdom
Diaspora Politics and the International Mainstreaming of National Populism	South Asian Studies Political Science Anthropology Sociology	Laurent Gayer	Fondation Nationale Sciences Politiques	France
		Kazuya Nakamizo**	Kyoto University	Japan
		Srirupa Roy*	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	Germany
		Louise Tillin	King's College London	United Kingdom
Governing Jihad in Africa: Ideology, Political Economy, and Violence	Conflict Studies Political Science	Vincent Foucher	Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Bordeaux	France
		Yvan Guichaoua	Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies	Germany
		Eric Morier-Genoud*	Queen's University Belfast	United Kingdom
How curiosity enhances learning across childhood and adolescence: The role of metacognition and agency	Developmental Psychology	Yana Fandakova	Trier University	Germany
		Matthias Gruber*	Cardiff University	United Kingdom
		Pierre-Yves Oudeyer	Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique	France
Pathways for vocational training and informal learning in West Africa	Anthropology Development Studies Sociology	Erdmute Alber	Universität Bayreuth	Germany
		Cati Coe	Carleton University	Canada
		Dorte Thorsen*	Institute of Development Studies	United Kingdom
(Re-)claiming digital sovereignty in discourse, policy and practice	Communication Studies Science and Technology Studies Political Science European Studies	Stéphane Couture	Université de Montréal	Canada
		Francesca Musiani	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique	France
		Julia Pohle*	Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung	Germany
The Uncertain Future and the Affective Imagination	Psychology	Mohammed Abdellaoui	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique	France
		Chris Dawson	University of Bath	United Kingdom
		Samuel Johnson*	University of Waterloo	Canada
Virtual Mobilities of International Students: towards a new model for the internationalisation of higher education?	Sociology Education	Aline Courtois	University of Bath	United Kingdom
		Valérie Erlich*	Université Côte d'Azur	France
		Cathia Papi	Université TÉLUQ	Canada

(*) Main applicant
(**) Application with Japanese component

Partners' financial investment was as follows:

- ✓ ANR   € 3.02M
- ✓ DFG   € 5.67M
- ✓ ESRC   £ 5.02M
- ✓ SSHRC $ 3.52M

Applicants were invited to select a start date between October 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. ANR informed the TG that, due to budgetary restrictions, French applicants will receive funds only starting with January 2025. Initially, based on application information, there were five projects with French participation and start date before the end of 2024 that were affected by this decision. Four of them decided to push their start date to 2025.

While the preference is that national sub-teams within a project start their work at the same time, due to the situation above, this might not be the case.

Following the panel meeting, a panel statement was sent to applicants. This statement was based on minutes from the meeting and panellists' comments. Panel feedback was reviewed and signed-off by the Chair.

The Call Secretariat prepared results packages for all applicants that included a decision letter and panel feedback. In addition, all applicants received the external assessment reports. Results packages were made available to applicants on October 1, 2024.

Soon after the announcement of results, successful teams received the ORA 8 Final report template. This report will be used at the end of the grant to report on results to the funders. The report was drafted by the TG based on the ORA 7 version.

JAPAN SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCIENCE

In ORA 8 there were 16 projects with a Japanese component and one of them was funded by the ORA partners and JSPS. Two JSPS representatives attended the adjudication meeting in London.

Table 16: JSPS participation ORA 1-8

Iteration	Eligible applications	Applications with Japanese component	% of applications with Japanese component	Funded by ORA partners and JSPS
ORA 1-3	Not offered			
ORA 4	188	33	18 %	2
ORA 5	293	53	18 %	3
ORA 6	95	11	11 %	1
ORA 7	92	20	22 %	1
ORA 8	**137**	**16**	**12 %**	**1**

ANNEX – ORA 8 Technical Group

ANR
- ✓ Maria Tsilioni, Scientific Project Officer
- ✓ (Until December 2024) Charles Giry-Deloison, Scientific Project Manager

DFG
- ✓ Sigrid Claßen, Senior Program Officer
- ✓ Christiane Joerk, Program Director

ESRC
- ✓ Manija Kamal, Senior Manager for International Partnerships supported by Grant Delivery Team colleagues: Victoria Carr, Grants Delivery Manager, and Michael Lambert, Grants Delivery Officer
- ✓ (Until January 2024) Emily Hancock, International Senior Manager

SSHRC and Call Secretariat
- ✓ Diane Gagnon, Manager
- ✓ Paula Popovici, Senior Program Officer
- ✓ Nassim Zoghbi, Program Officer
- ✓ (Until June 2023) Adam Yake, Senior Program Officer