T-AP call on Democracy, Governance and Trust (DGT) - frequently asked questions (FAQ)

Queries on Research Topics

What balance of themes would proposals be expected to address?

Each proposal may address 1, 2 or 3 of the nine themes outlined in the call scope document. The balance or focus of these themes is up to the applicant.

How is 'inter-disciplinary' research defined?

Interdisciplinary is understood as integration of information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, methodologies, concepts, or theories from two or more disciplines or bodies of specialized knowledge.

Which countries should research be focusing on?

There are no expectations regarding geographic focus for proposals – the focus should be on addressing up to three of the nine themes outlined in the call scope document.

Are there any pre-requisites for being classed as a 'researcher'?

Each funder has its own policy in this regard - please consult the national addenda on the on the DGT call website or contact your funders for more details.

Can a proposal bring in additional overarching themes?

No, it is expected that a proposal should aim to focus on its chosen themes of the nine outlined in the call scope document.

How far can the full application differ from the NOI?

Full applications can differ from submitted NOIs, but the Lead-PI and the chosen theme(s) cannot change.

Can a PI/Lead-PI be from an area outside of Social Sciences & Humanities?

The call does not pose constraints on this, but funders may have individual rules on this. Remember that partnership suitability in achieving a proposal's objectives is part of the evaluation criteria.

Team Composition

How many countries must be involved in the proposals?

*Each proposal must include investigators from at least **three** countries and include both sides of the Atlantic. Please note that for Brazil only researchers who work in the state of São Paulo are eligible to be a co-PI.*

Does the DGT call prefer collaboration between researchers from specific combinations of T-AP countries?

No, any combination is accepted as long as it covers both sides of the Atlantic.

Is there a requirement for a 'north-south' component to the team composition?

No, this isn't a requirement.

Does eligibility depend on researcher nationality or the location of the institution in which a position is held?

In most cases, it is the location of the institution. If in doubt, please contact your funding agency(ies).

Will teams involving more countries be looked upon more favourably?

No, any team which meets eligibility requirements will be considered equally based on the merits of their proposal.

Can researchers from non-T-AP participating countries be included in proposals?

Yes, as co-operations partners, but their ability to claim any funding will depend on individual funders' policies. Please consult the national addenda on the DGT call website or contact your funders for more details.

Is there a platform to contact international researchers to find possible partners?

No, T-AP does not keep a database of international researchers and it is the responsibility of applicants to find their own co-applicants.

Can I participate in two proposals?

One can participate in more than one proposal but can only be a PI on one proposal.

Is it possible to have two different institutions represented from one country?

Yes, but each funder's funding limit is per project – not per institution associated with a project. Furthermore, no matter how many institutions from a country, a proposal must choose only one co-PI for that country.

Can recipients of previous T-AP funding participate in a project for this call?

Yes.

How many members should a team have?

There is no pre-requisite amount of team members, this is up to applicants as to what size of a team is needed to achieve the project's objectives.

I have a Brazilian partner who works outside the state of São Paulo. Is s/he eligible?

No, only researchers who work at the state of São Paulo are eligible as a Brazilian co-PI. Brazilian researchers who work in other states can only participate as co-operating partners.

Funding Queries

Does this call include grants to graduate and undergraduate students?

Each funder has their own policy in this regard - please consult the national addenda on the DGT call website or contact your funders for more details.

I'm moving institutions during the lifetime of this call – do the funds remain with the applicant or the research institution?

Each funder has their own policy in this regard - please consult the national addenda on the DGT call website or contact your funders for more details.

Is there an upper limit on grant funding or funding for specific types of costs?

Each funder has their own funding limit which can be found on the DGT call website. Beyond this, information on eligible costs for individual funders can be found by accessing funders' addenda or contacting the funder individually.

Can institutions other than universities be included in project proposals?

In some cases, yes. Each funder has their own policy in this regard - please consult the national addenda on the DGT call website or contact your funders for more details. In most cases, such institutions will be considered co-operating partners and must provide commitment letters as part of Additional Documents.

If an application is successful, how will teams be funded?

Each national team involved in a successful project will be funded by their own funding agency(ies) according to that funder rules.

Application Queries

Do all Co-Investigators need an account on SAGe?

No, just the proposal's Lead-PI who will submit the Notice of Intent to Apply (NOI) and the full project proposal.

What details are expected in the NOI summary?

The NOI summary (max. 250 words) should outline the project's objectives and provide a brief overview of how the trans-Atlantic partnership will be used to meet these objectives. Moreover, the Lead PI should provide information on the themes covered and intended partnership and funders. See https://fapesp.br/15999/t-ap-dgt-2023 for the complete list of fields.

Will the content of the NOI be used later in the evaluation of the full proposal?

No, but the full application needs to include evidence that a NOI has been submitted (this evidence is the e-mail confirmation received when a NOI is submitted).

What do we need to do if a proposal has a new Lead-PI after the submission of the NOI?

*The new lead-PI will need to submit a new NOI **before the deadline of September 15th** (submitting the NOI after the deadline will be not accepted). In case of exceptional conditions, contact t-ap@fapesp.br explaining the situation and this will be examined by the DGT call working group.*

Does each national team have to submit its own proposal to its own funder?

In some cases, yes. Each funder has their own policy in this regard - please consult the national addenda on the DGT call website or contact your funders for more details. However, it is only the Lead-PI that needs to submit the joint proposal to SAGe.

If one funder rejects the national team, will the project be rejected?

Yes – please check team eligibility with funders before applying.

After we submit the NOI, will applicants hear from T-AP?

After submission of the NOI, you will receive a confirmation e-mail which needs to be attached to the full proposal submission. Beyond this, T-AP will not contact each project. However, individual funders may contact Lead-PIs if there are any issues related to eligibility.

Do I need to have an account in SAGe to submit the NOI?

No- the NOI is submitted via an online form, see https://fapesp.br/15999/t-ap-dgt-2023 .

After I submit my proposal via SAGe, can I change it?

You cannot change a submitted proposal, but you may submit a new one as long as it is before November 6th. If more than one proposal is submitted by the Lead PI, only the last one will be considered; all others will be ignored and returned to the applicant. Please see the proposal submission manual for details on how to re-submit a proposal.

I cannot find the proof of having submitted a NOI, what should I do?

Please email t-ap@fapesp.br before November 6th to get a copy of your receipt by email.

What should I include in the Additional Documents file?

This file should contain all documents that are not related to budget details and that are requested by the national addenda. Moreover, each co-operating partner should include a letter of confirmation of the partner's role and participation in the project.

I cannot remember my login or password in the SAGe system, what should I do?

If you cannot remember the password, request a new password via the SAGe interface. If you cannot remember your login, request help from chamada-tap@fapesp.br .

I have created my account in SAGe, but cannot insert my proposal, what should I do?

Most probably, you did not finalize the creation of your account (e.g., did not provide compulsory information). Please check your account for such missing information. If this does not work, please ask for help from chamada-tap@fapesp.br .

I have sent several messages to t-ap@fapesp.br (or chamada-tap@fapesp.br) and have had no answer, what should I do?

Please remember that the people who are responsible for answering these messages have many other responsibilities outside T-AP and may not be immediately available. Also consider time zone differences and national holidays in Brazil. Please contact your funder if urgent.

Until when can I ask for help from t-ap@fapesp.br or chamada-tap@fapesp.br?

In principle, until before midnight Brazilian time on November 6th. However, some requests (e.g., for problems with SAGe) may require involving several FAPESP teams and your problem may take more than 24 hours to be solved. We strongly recommend you get all necessary documents ready and try to submit before November 6th.

Do footnotes and appendices count as part of the application word limit?

Yes, these do count within the word limit and need to be included in the application text. It will not be possible to add appendices as additional documents.

What is meant by the 'receipt?'

The receipt is the confirmation e-mail that you receive from FAPESP/SAGe upon submission of the NOI. This e-mail needs to be included in the full application.

What are 'co-applicants' and 'collaborators' when applying to the T-AP DGT call?'

"Co-applicants" are members of national teams other than co-PIs. Unless a national addendum requires you to enter their details, we suggest you leave this line blank and provide more details in section B5 of the proposal (Project Management, Dissemination, and Communications Plan (PMDC).

"Collaborators" are the same as "cooperation partners" on page 5 of the proposal, where they are defined as "Researchers from countries other than T-AP DGT call partner countries and non-academic partners (e.g., business, civil society sector & industries) may participate in the project as cooperation partners." A formal letter guaranteeing cooperation partners' funding for participating in the DGT project must be included as part of the "additional documents" file.

Each funder has a different policy regarding whether or not to grant funding and the requirement to send a letter. To learn more about these members, you must contact the national funder addenda.

Only for UK applicants

Connection between the DGT call and UK policy makers – what does the requirement to engage with the Strategic Coordination Hub for Local Policy Innovation Partnerships (LPIP) mean?

Please note this engagement will commence when the T-AP projects launch, and the LPIP Hub can only engage with individual projects and applicants from that point onwards. In the meantime, as T-AP applicants work on their plans, UKRI encourages them to ensure they allow time within their engagement and knowledge exchange planning to connect with events or activities that the Hub promote externally, to look for opportunities being run by the Hub to share findings and connect with policy stakeholders, and to look at the Hub's web platforms for ways in which they can connect with the LPIP partnerships and stakeholders more broadly.