

Collaborative Research Action (CRA) Climate & Cultural Heritage (CCH) 2023

This Call is jointly organised between the Joint Programming Initiatives Cultural Heritage and Global Change (JPI CH) and Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe (JPI Climate) and the Belmont Forum. The Call aims to support transdisciplinary and convergent research approaches on cultural heritage and climate change, to foster collaboration among the research community across several regions, and to contribute to knowledge advances and policy change at the global level.

Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) were established to pool national research efforts and foster the implementation of the European Research Area (ERA) to address grand societal challenges. JPIs are flexible intergovernmental partnerships with the aim of better aligning the research and innovation investments spent at the national level. They involve countries that voluntarily agree to work in partnership towards common visions encapsulated in Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas and implemented through joint activities.

The Belmont Forum is a group of funding agencies from around the world that support transdisciplinary, globally-representative research groups and coproduction/participatory methods to address various global environmental change topics. Topics are addressed through Collaborative Research Actions (CRAs).

The available funding in this call is over 15M€ from Funding Organizations in: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Spain, Thailand, Türkiye, the United Kingdom, the United States.

For further information, please contact representatives of these organizations and/or the Thematic Program Office (see contact details at page 19).

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Funding Annexes specific to each Funding Organizations are available as separate files on the CRA webpage.

1. Call Themes

Introduction

Climate change is having an increasing and lasting impact on our environment and society. This is the context within which cultural heritage - tangible and intangible - is threatened by well-known, new and more extreme risks. Researchers have already been investigating the impacts of climate change on the environment, on social systems and on the economy, however, as cultural heritage becomes more vulnerable, there is still much to be done to complement existing findings, engage societies in heritage discussions, and improve the degree of resilience, in order to inform the development of robust prevention and adaptation policies and strategies.

Yet, while cultural heritage is acknowledged as being more urgently challenged by climate change, global agreements, such as the 2015 Paris Agreement, the 2022 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also acknowledge the potential of cultural heritage to play an active role in the transition towards a more sustainable and resilient future. It is vital that research further explores how to make cultural heritage a readily available resource for climate mitigation, adaptation and for sustainable development.

The call aims to support excellent, collaborative, transnational, transdisciplinary¹, innovative, fundamental or applied research projects focused on cultural heritage and climate change in order to contribute to knowledge advances and policy change at the global level.

Themes

The call will address three complimentary themes: The Impact of Climate Change on Cultural Heritage (Theme 1); Cultural Heritage as a Resource for Climate Mitigation and Adaptation (Theme 2); and Sustainable Solutions for Heritage (Theme 3).

1.1. The Impact of Climate Change on Cultural Heritage

Climate change has an impact on our environment, society and economy, including on our cultural and natural heritage. With the regressive change of climate parameters, such as more extreme temperatures and precipitation, and sea level rise, and with the increasing frequency of extreme weather events, cultural and natural heritage and their environments are exposed to harsher levels and/or new types of risks.

¹ In the context of this call, transdisciplinary research is considered as research including 1) researchers from more than one of the following research fields: social sciences, humanities, natural sciences (physical and biological sciences), technology, including all sub-disciplines therein and 2) at least one societal partner (i.e. policymakers, citizens, industry, civil society organizations etc.). Transdisciplinary projects should use participatory, co-design, co-development and co-implementation approaches.

The identification of these risks remains a challenge. By definition, a risk evaluation has to consider hazards (physical events, recurrence, probability, magnitude, duration, spatial extent, etc.), vulnerability (sensitivity and adaptive capacity) and exposure (of population, environment, heritage). Until now, these aspects have often been handled separately, with a focus on exposure, and often utilising long-standing climate parameters. As society faces new risks, a more holistic and integrated evaluation of climate change risks on cultural and natural heritage and their environments is needed to address compound problems with cultural and historical significance. Moreover, this evaluation also raises awareness of how climate change affects and will continue to affect cultural heritage and to highlight the urgent need to act.

In order to evaluate the impacts of climate change on cultural and natural heritage and their environments, comparative studies need to be performed at varied diverse geographical zones, including mountain, coastal, islands, rural, and urban communities/systems, combining multiple climate parameters (e.g. compound effect of heat and drought, wind and precipitation) at episodic to gradual, long-term time scales. Studies are needed that span a broad range of materials, scales, and practices, ranging from buildings or monuments to sites and landscapes and all other forms of cultural heritage (museum collections, archives etc.) as well as intangible aspects of heritage. A wide range of evaluation tools can be used: from modelling and laboratory experiments to case studies of monuments, sites or landscapes.

This call aims to fund innovative research projects that use transdisciplinary approaches involving cultural heritage and climate research communities, that combine quantitative and qualitative methods, that study different geographical zones, and that consider cultural heritage embedded in its socio-environmental context at a broad scale in order to evaluate impacts on cultural heritage whether they are material, ecological, societal, historical, etc. Co-designed and co-produced research, addressing the pressing needs of decision-makers and cultural heritage managers, will also help to foster the science-policy-society interface and accelerate the uptake of research outcomes and implementation of solutions.

Researchers are invited to explore questions such as:

- How do we develop suitable methodologies to identify and evaluate the risks (exposure/hazards/vulnerability) of climate change on tangible and intangible cultural heritage using a transdisciplinary approach?
- How do we identify the most significant impacts of climate change and spatial differentiation of these effects on cultural heritage and their environments, and how do we improve cultural heritage resilience in the future?
- How can we predict potential impacts in order to inform mitigation and adaptation strategies?
- How can we inform more sustainable and effective conservation strategies to both save energy and limit the need for periodical conservation interventions?

- How can we enhance our insights into the costs / economics of (inter)national adaptation and mitigation measures for cultural heritage?
- Climate change may in the future cause inevitable change for some cultural and natural resources. How can heritage management refocus its efforts towards working productively with, rather than against, inevitable change?
- How can we come to terms with loss and develop mechanisms to select where to invest resources from a long-term perspective and when and what to let go?
- How can the impact of conservation methods and materials be assessed in the response and resilience of cultural heritage objects to climate fluctuations?

1.2. Cultural Heritage as a Resource for Climate Mitigation and Adaptation

Cultural heritage is both a primary resource in the negotiation of societal transformations, climate change impacts and trajectories for sustainable development, and an archive of previous successes and past resiliencies. Cultural heritage represents a selection of historical actions, processes and knowledge constituting examples of adaptive practices, including traditional and nature-based practices. Thus, heritage-based knowledge has the potential to contribute to a deeper understanding of climate change and the effects of climate change on societies in different chronological, spatial and cultural contexts. Consequently, diverse uses of cultural heritage can contribute to the development of adaptive solutions to present and future climate change challenges.

Potentially, scenarios and predictability of present and future effects of climate change can be enhanced through the use of knowledge on tangible and intangible cultural heritage, including landscapes, sites and the history and traditions of how societies have interacted with their environment. Historical and cultural heritage-based data and heritage structures can provide both pre-existing and unanticipated knowledge of relevance to climate adaptation strategies. Importantly, knowledge based on cultural heritage can inform both successful and unsuccessful risk and disaster management and preventive strategies of different and intersecting effects of climate change.

There are important lessons to learn from the past and from cultural heritage for the present and the future. Heritage-based research can be especially informative regarding human behaviour and root causes, such as the roles of social, cultural and institutional organisations at different levels of societies, including promotion of, or hindrances to, knowledge transfer for successful management and adaptation. There are challenges in assessing and evaluating the relevance of such information for reproductive and retro-innovative strategies in present climate mitigation and adaptation strategies, for instance in landscape planning.

A major challenge, requiring more transdisciplinary research is how to transmit cultural heritage-based knowledge, including historical, cultural, and traditional adaptive practices, to present and future climate adaptation research and practice. There is a need to develop transdisciplinary methods and models, for instance landscape approaches, experimental archaeology, local

knowledge, museum studies and ethnography, to transmit cultural heritage-based knowledge for climate adaptation at different scales and levels.

Researchers are invited to explore questions such as:

- How can we assess and apply insights from the history of climate adaptation, how communities and societies coped, mitigated and adapted in the past due to climate change, for future climate adaptation and mitigation?
- How can cultural heritage-based knowledge be evaluated for relevance and translated to present climate mitigation and adaptation needs? How can it contribute to understanding the complexity and interaction of different climate risks and effects of human behaviour and strategies?
- How can cultural heritage-based knowledge be transmitted to present and future climate adaptation and mitigation research, management, policy and practice? For instance, historical landscape and resource management, and systemic knowledge (e.g. regarding water and forest management)?
- How can we utilize embedded knowledge and resources that previous generations have left us for climate impact mitigation and CO₂ reduction (e.g. adaptive reuse, prevention of CO₂ emissions from peat soil subsidence)?
- How can knowledge of past climate mitigation, adaptive and coping capacities influence institutional decision making, including societal and community planning processes? Which policy instruments (e.g. incentives, tax reduction, other support) are effective in achieving behavioural change that promotes adaptive heritage based-strategies for mitigating climate change?

1.3. Sustainable Solutions for Heritage

Sustainable solutions for heritage facing climate change need to embrace contexts, meanings and importance of heritage to diverse communities, present and future. Stressing the need for multivocality, local or national narratives are challenged by global and local heritage movements. It is from these contexts that climate change solutions for heritage must emerge to be truly sustainable.

Narratives often do not take into account traditional or indigenous knowledge and skills when defining sustainable solutions as these are often hard to identify and share due to lack of engagement and recognition of local communities. Yet local solutions may have a better chance of being grounded because they are close to the originators and implementers. By understanding the local origins of sustainable solutions, obstacles that may be faced to achieve sustainability can be highlighted, challenged and overcome. Engaging communities by integrating their heritage into sustainable policies should start by engaging local researchers in the research. Co-designed and co-created solutions can also enhance public awareness, strengthen mitigation and adaptation and

build resilience. Involving stakeholders should ensure that the research contributes to an inclusive social dialogue and develops solutions for technical or behavioural change, for example, for reducing CO2 emissions and developing wind and green energy infrastructures. Solutions that integrate heritage into global sustainability and climate strategies should include consideration of materials, data, tools and models to support fieldwork in all domains from meteorological data, imaging and visualisation to understanding heritage transformation, new conservation parameters and enhanced risk reduction to deliver policy-relevant research outcomes. Participatory heritage and sustainability research can also lead to bridging the gaps between nature and culture.

Researchers are invited to explore questions such as:

- What is the role of heritage in global strategies tackling climate change? How should we deal with "non sustainable heritage"?
- How can new knowledge about restoration of natural and cultural heritage contribute to strengthening the linkages between different fields of heritage and enable a holistic approach to developing sustainable solutions?
- How can interventions and solutions of the past be re-innovated for sustainable practices today (e.g. the use of historical materials and techniques adapted to local conditions)?
- How can heritage be made 'future proof' given inevitable change? How do we manage conflicting interests, such as the preservation of historic features with the need to implement climate adaptation measures (e.g. water drainage in cities, reusing historic features such as filled canals)?
- How could the field of cultural heritage learn from other disciplines with regard to climate adaptation solutions? And what are the preconditions for re-applying and upscaling such insights and strategies?
- How can knowledge among indigenous peoples and local populations contribute to new solutions about the use and safeguarding of cultural environments in the face of climate-related challenges?
- To what extent can co-development and co-production of research among regions that are already adapting to climate change and others that predict they will face similar challenges in the future, co-create novel solutions? What methods would work best?
- How can the use of digital technologies for modelling and prediction enable researchers and communities to understand the levels of resilience provided by different sustainable solutions?

2. How to apply

Applicants must submit their proposals in English and electronically on the Belmont Forum Grant Operations (BFgo): <http://bfgo.org>

All call documents, including guidelines for applicants and national eligibility criteria, and the submission portal can be found on BFgo.

In addition to submitting their proposals on the BFgo, applicants may be requested to submit additional documentation to the Funding Organizations, which they are seeking funding from. Before starting to prepare proposals, **applicants are therefore strongly advised to carefully read the Funding Organizations' Annexes and to contact their National Contact Points**, which can be found at section 8 of this Call for Proposals.

Applicants must **fill out all mandatory fields on the BFgo** for their proposal to enter the selection process and to be considered for funding.

Proposals will not be taken further into the competition, in case the following occurs and this cannot be corrected in a timely manner:

- do not meet the project requirements described in section 4,
- and/or do not comply with the eligibility criteria of the Funding Organizations which they seek funding from,
- and/or are incomplete.

Applicants will be informed of this decision via email.

Further details of the call and the application process are presented on the Belmont Forum website: <http://www.belmontforum.org>.

3. Call Timeline

This call consists of a one-stage submission and evaluation process, described in section 6. Applications received after the submission deadline will not be allowed into the evaluation and selection process.

Call launch	End of April 2023
Information webinar ²	16 May, 10:00-11:00 UTC
Deadline for submitting Full Proposals	8 September 2023, 20:00 UTC

² Registration is required in order to attend the meeting. Please sign up by filling out the form on <https://belmontforum.org/archives/news/pre-announcement-cultural-heritage-and-climate>

Eligibility checks	September
Evaluation by Panel of Experts	October – November
Funding decision	November
Funding decision communicated to applicants	December
Projects start	January – June 2024

4. Project requirements

4.1. Overview

Proposals must address **at least one of the three call themes**, with cross-cutting linkages across all three themes encouraged.

Proposals must be submitted by a **Consortium of minimum three Principal Investigators (PIs)** from three different countries, which **involves at least one Societal Partner (SP)**. Please see section 4.2 for further details on each of the roles within a Consortium.

LPIs and PIs must request funding from a Funding Organization, on behalf of their host institutions, and cannot participate in a self-funded or in-kind capacity. Please note that a researcher may be **involved in a maximum of two proposals as PI³ and cannot be involved in more than one proposal as LPI**.

Additional consortium members may participate in a self-funded capacity if the minimum requirement of participants from three countries requesting funding from three Funding Organizations is met (see section 4.3 for further details on the transnational requirements). They can join the Consortium as Associate Principal Investigators (API) or Societal Partners (SP), depending on their expected roles in the project. For further details on the different roles, please see section 4.2.

Consortia must be **transnational** and **transdisciplinary**. Please carefully read what transdisciplinary and transnational entails for this Call in section 4.3 and 4.4.

The projects must **last up to 3 years** (36 months) and start no later than 30 June 2024. Please see section 4.5 for further details.

4.2. Roles in a Research Consortium

A **Consortium Member** is any partner in a Research Consortium, being a Lead Principal Investigator, Principal Investigator, an Associate Principal Investigator or a Societal Partner.

4.2.1. Lead Principal Investigator (LPI)

Each Research Consortium must have a **Lead Principal Investigator (LPI)**, who acts as the coordinator of the Consortium.

Their role is twofold:

³ Except for research applicants based in Lithuania who can only be involved in one proposal as PI or other primary project implementer.

- Facilitating collaboration and communication across the Consortium including by: submitting the research proposal and, in case a project is funded, acting as the first contact point for project reporting and any other administrative aspects related to the project implementation.
- Leading research activities at their institution, like any other Principal Investigator (PI) – see below.

Please note that the LPI must be a researcher with solid experience of managing collaborative research projects. In addition to its role as the coordinator of the Consortium, the LPI must fulfil any duties expected of any PI.

4.2.2. Principal Investigator (PI)

In addition to the Lead Principal Investigator (LPI), each Research Consortium must include at least two **Principal Investigators (PIs)**.

Their role is to lead research activities at their respective institutions. The PIs are also responsible for the administrative and financial management of funds that will be transferred to their host institution by the Funding Organizations.

Other researchers (senior researchers, post-doctoral researchers, PhD students etc.) can be part of the PI's research team. Please read the Eligibility Requirements for each Funding Organization to know what costs are eligible for funding.

Please note that in each consortium there can only be one PI per country. If appropriate and allowed by the Funding Organizations which its organization receives funding from, the PI can collaborate and make subcontracts with other institutions from the same country.

4.2.3. Associate Principal Investigator (API)

An **Associate Principal Investigator (API)** is a Consortium Member who contributes to the research activities of the project either in a self-funded or in-kind capacity. Please note that APIs cannot also apply for funding.

Their role must be described in the Full Proposal and **their participation in the project must be justified by a supporting letter** written on headed paper and signed by a legal representative of the organization which the API works for. This letter should provide information on the level of funds committed and how firm that commitment is. Where the contribution is in-kind, a monetary value of that contribution and details of what the contribution is should also be provided, if possible. The funds and in-kind contributions committed in the supporting letters must match those committed under “external funding sources” in section 13 (Funding plan) of the Proposal form. This letter **must be uploaded, together with the Proposal Form, on the BFGo by the application deadline of 8 September, 20:00 UTC.**

The number of APIs in a Consortium is not limited.

4.2.4. Societal Partner (SP)

Societal Partners (SP) are stakeholders (i.e. policy-makers, citizens, industry, civil society organizations etc.). There must be **at least one SP in every Consortium**. They are an indispensable part of the Consortium as any Consortium which does not include at least one Societal Partner will be deemed ineligible. The number of SPs is not limited.

Their role is to strengthen the societal impact (economic development, policy change, change of practice) and support of the project. SPs must be involved in the co-development and co-implementation of the project. Their contribution to the project must be clearly demonstrated in the proposal. They can contribute to a project in an advisory and collaborative capacity to help explore the knowledge transfer/exchange potential and impact of the proposed research.

Their participation in the project **must also be justified by a supporting letter** written on headed paper and signed by a legal representative of the organization which the SP works for. This letter should provide high-level information about the SP's contributions to the project, including any potential funds committed and/or any in-kind contribution, for which a monetary value should also be provided, if possible. The funds and in-kind contributions committed in the supporting letters must match those committed under "external funding sources" in section 13 (Funding plan) of the Proposal form. This letter **must be uploaded, together with the Proposal Form, on the BFGo by the application deadline of 8 September, 20:00 UTC**.

SPs are typically not eligible for funding. SP must therefore participate in an in-kind or self-funded capacity. However, SPs may:

- Request funding from one of the Funding Organizations, if its National Annex explicitly states that it can fund non-academic organizations;
- Agree with one or several of the PIs' teams that part of the PIs' budgets is dedicated to covering the costs associated with their participation in the project (e.g. travel and meeting costs), providing that this is allowed by the relevant Funding Organizations.

SPs are invited to work closely with the LPI to identify the most financially viable ways to participate in CCH 2023 projects.

4.3. Transnational

Each Consortium must involve:

- **three or more research partners** (PIs, including one LPI),
- representing **at least three different countries**, which
- request **financial support from at least three Funding Organizations** (see the full list in section 8).

Any Consortium that does not comply with these requirements will be deemed ineligible and will not be evaluated.

Each Consortium must also involve at least one Societal Partner, but their participation in the project does not count towards the requirement of involving at least three research partners.

4.4. Transdisciplinarity

In the context of this call, transdisciplinary research is considered as research involving:

- researchers from more than one of the following research fields: social sciences, humanities, natural sciences (physical and biological sciences), technology, including all sub-disciplines therein⁴.
- And at least one Societal Partner (i.e. policymakers, citizens, industry, civil society organizations etc.). Transdisciplinary projects should use participatory, co-design, co-development and co-implementation approaches.

In evaluating the scientific quality of the research proposals, the Panel of Experts will specifically consider whether the proposal demonstrates a transdisciplinary approach, as defined above. Please refer to section 6.2 for the evaluation criteria.

4.5. Project duration

Projects must last up to three years (36 months).

Projects must start by 30 June 2024 at the latest. A consortium must agree on a common starting date of the project.

Project extensions may be granted, providing that they are agreed upon by the Consortium Members and by the involved Funding Organizations.

Consortium Members are encouraged to agree upon and sign a Consortium Agreement. Such a Consortium Agreement may be required by Funding Organizations in their National Annexes.

5. **Proposal requirements**

5.1. General requirements

Consortia must fill out all mandatory fields on the BFGo for their proposal to enter the evaluation process and to be considered for funding. To be eligible, a proposal must include all mandatory information requested in the Proposal Form.

⁴ Please note that some Funding Organizations have restrictions as to what disciplines they can fund. Please refer to their Annexes to ensure that your application is eligible to funding.

In filling out the online proposal form, it is expected that consortia consider the following:

- Proposals should clearly describe how the proposed project will deliver on one or several of the chosen themes;
- Proposals should include well-justified budgets, partitioning of funds, and allocation of responsibilities and time. Proposals should include well thought out and detailed data management, project stakeholder engagement, and communication management plans. Plans for providing broad public accessibility of data, results, and findings should be described.
- The active input of involved stakeholders (including but not limited to relevant policymakers, regulators, NGOs, communities, or industry) in the research and innovation contents is a key criterion and should be clearly demonstrated in the application.
- Proposals should also detail the impact and dissemination strategy, external communications activities, including the development of introductory and valorization videos for the Kick-Off and End-Term meetings, planned social media activities as well as any other externally facing communication activities foreseen as a result of this work.

This Call encourages global geographic diversity within a Research Consortium in order to increase the scalability and applicability of the project outcomes; and the integration of diversity and gender perspectives⁵ in the project plan and outcomes, where relevant. This Call also encourages the creation of Research Consortia that provide opportunities for early career researchers to participate.

5.2. Budget and eligible costs

Research Consortia are expected to include one overall project budget in the Proposal Form, expressed in euros (€ / EUR). The budget for each Partner in the Research Consortium must be eligible according to the eligibility requirements of the Funding Organization which it seeks funding from, including a potential budget limit per Partner. Individual Funding Organizations may require separate budget forms, submitted at the national or regional level and in the national currency. Please check each Funding Organization's annex carefully on this point.

A detailed budget justification is required in the Proposal Form. Applicants are also required to explain the source of any additional funding.

Partners involved in funded projects are expected to participate in coordinated activities throughout the lifespan of the project including Kick-Off, Mid-Term, and End-Term activities to be held at the Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress (SRI) or at any other relevant events as agreed with the Thematic Programme Office of this Call. **The expenses for these activities should be accounted for in the budget to allow participation from three Research Consortium**

⁵ Diversity is understood as the diversity distribution and gender balance within the Consortium but also the inclusion of diversity perspectives and analysis in the activities, where relevant.

members. The TPO recommends that each LPI/PI budgets up to 3K€ per LPI/PI for each of the three annual valorization event and that API and SP also budget for such travel expenses.

Please be aware that certain funding agencies participating in this Call have adopted policies that may not allow funding for individuals if there is a person, public or private institution, company, or association from Russia or Belarus involved in the Consortium in any capacity (LPI, PI, API, SP). Consortia may be deemed ineligible for this reason.

5.3. Specific requirements

Please note that some Funding Organizations request Applicants to also submit their proposal form and/or a specific budget form on their respective platform. Please refer to each Funding Organization's Annex and contact their representatives for further information.

6. Selection procedure

6.1. Evaluation Process

This Call includes one stage of submission and evaluation. Eligible Full Proposals will be assessed by a Panel of Experts (PoE). The PoE is a committee composed of scientific experts and relevant non-academic assessors (e.g. relevant policy makers, regulators, NGOs, communities or industry) with expertise relevant to the fields of research and theme of this Call. All aspects of the proposals will be assessed against equally weighed evaluation criteria. Each proposal will be assessed by at least three PoE members and discussed at a plenary meeting, where the PoE will agree on a qualification and recommendation for funding for each proposal. This recommendation will be submitted to the Funding Organizations.

6.2. Evaluation criteria

The PoE will review the proposals under the following – equally weighed – evaluation criteria:

6.2.1. Scientific quality

Scientific quality and innovativeness of the goals and objectives of the research plan

- How relevant is the proposal in addressing one or several of the call themes and objectives?
- Does the project present a credible and up-to-date state of the art?
- Does the proposal demonstrate a transdisciplinary approach, as defined by this Call?
- Are the objectives, research hypotheses and proposed methodologies of the project clearly explained and justified?
- Are the objectives coherent with the expected outcomes, given the methodology to be used and the data to be collected?
- Does the proposal demonstrate conceptual and/or methodological innovation, or justify clearly why an existing approach has been chosen?
- Does the proposal contribute to scientific excellence and significant progress toward the state of the art in its own field and/or across different fields?
- Does the proposal adequately describe the dissemination of generated knowledge in relevant scientific fora?

6.2.2. Quality of the Consortium

Collaboration between natural, social sciences and humanities, and other sciences where relevant

Competence and expertise of team and complementarities of consortium (transdisciplinary / inclusion of all necessary expertise)

- Does the consortium mobilize more than one disciplinary field (social sciences, humanities, natural sciences (physical and biological sciences), technology, and all sub-disciplines therein,) as well as at least one societal partner?

- Considering the project's objectives and proposed methodologies, is the consortium a well-balanced, complementary and fit-for-purpose partnership of disciplines and expertise?
- Do the Consortium Members (the Lead Principal Investigator and Principal Investigators) have the necessary knowledge, expertise and experience to conduct and deliver the project?
- What is the added value of the international cooperation?
- Are the scientific contributions of each of the partners clearly described and explained? What would this funding allow the consortium to do that it could not do otherwise?
- Does the consortium represent a diversity in terms of seniority within the consortium and can capacity building be expected?
- Does the proposal integrate diversity and gender perspectives⁶ in the consortium, project plan and desired outcomes, where relevant?

6.2.3. Stakeholder Engagement and Societal/Broader Impacts

Engagement of Societal Partner(s) and other relevant stakeholders (relevant policy makers, researchers, regulators, NGOs, communities or industry) and the effectiveness of proposed knowledge exchange activities

Expected impacts: e.g. societal, policy related, economical

- Have Societal Partner(s) and other stakeholders been engaged in the development of the project (co-development)? Does the proposal clearly describe how Societal Partner(s) and other relevant stakeholders will be involved throughout (co-implementation)?
- Does the proposal have a clear strategy for disseminating the results of the project with a range of societal actors?
- Will the outcomes of the project contribute to policy-development and/or of practice and/or economic development? Are the project's expected benefits for society credible and clearly explained?

6.2.4. Resources and Management

Appropriateness of resources and funding requested

- How well conceived and organized are the proposed research activities? Is there an operational plan with well-defined milestones in place? Is the coordination plan adequate?
- Are the total funding requested for the project and the funding requested by each Principal Investigator well justified and cost-efficient for the expected outcomes?
- Are project risks and contingency options identified? Does the proposal show an awareness of ethical issues? Does it describe appropriate ways to deal with these?

⁶ Diversity is understood as the diversity distribution and gender balance within the Consortium but also the inclusion of diversity perspectives and analysis in the activities, where relevant.

- Are the data management processes during and beyond the project lifetime well described and relevant?

NB Although it is not an evaluation criteria in itself, applicants should consider the project's carbon footprint and adhere, where possible, to the guidelines developed by the JPI Climate on that matter (see Climate Friendly Climate Research⁷).

6.3. Funding decision and grant administration

The Funding Organizations will select projects for funding based on the recommendations of the PoE, considering the budgets made available by each Funding Organizations and the objective of funding geographically diverse research projects. The Thematic Programme Office will ensure the fair and equitable nature of the evaluation and selection process.

Consortia will be notified by the Thematic Programme Office of the outcome of their applications.

Funding decisions will be made by each individual Funding Organization for the funding requested to them by successful applicants. Subsequently, every Funding Organization administer the grants according to their own regulations and processes.

The research carried out in each country under this Call will adhere to the laws and regulations, including research ethics, participation of human subjects, etc. of the country. Each PI will be responsible for complying with its funding organization's intellectual property rights requirements and members of the consortium will work out any necessary intellectual property rights agreement among themselves prior to the start of the project.

7. **Contact points**

Specific questions about eligibility should be directed to the Contact Points listed in the table in section 8 and in each of the Funding Organization's Annex.

Any questions on the general eligibility can be directed to the Thematic Programme Office at cultural-heritage-climate-2023@anr.fr and cch@nwo.nl.

⁷ https://jpi-climate.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/JPI-CLIMATE-CFCR-Checklist_130920.pdf

8. Funding Organizations (including contact details)

Please note that some organizations below have not yet formally confirmed their participation in this Call. Applicants are strongly advised to contact each individual organization that they would like to seek funding from. In addition, some organizations may be added to this list after the Call launch.

Organization	Countries supported	Contact details
Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) on behalf of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF)	Austria	Susanne Meissner-Dragosits susanne.dragosits@ffg.at +43 0664 88641809 +43 57755 4406
Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO)	Belgium	Helena Calvo del Castillo helena.calvo@belspo.be
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic (MSMT)	Czech Republic	Mr. Daniel Hanspach Daniel.Hanspach@msmt.cz
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Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)	United Kingdom	David Selway HCCA@ahrc.ukri.org

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9. Additional information

9.1. Data Management and open access

Proposals must have a [reasonable and credible Data Management Plan](#) for open data access, which is a required element of all proposals to the Belmont Forum and funding agencies engaged in this Call.

Applicants will be requested to describe their Data Management Plan in their proposal. The plan should include information about types of data, information, models, software, workflows and code, or other digital products being generated by the project. It should outline the accessible archives or other open repository where these products and accompanying metadata will be housed.

Belmont Forum Open Data Principles are intended to improve and promote the dissemination of knowledge, the access to the data and their reuse thereby improving the efficiency of scientific discovery and maximizing the return on research funding. The funded projects are expected to make their best efforts to ensure open access to data as soon as possible. Awarded projects will be checked for compliance to open data procedures at the Kick-Off and End-Term valorization events using information provided to the BFgo reporting system.

Please note that Funding Organizations may have specific Data Management and Open Access requirements, which funded projects must adhere to. These are typically described in Funding Organizations' Annexes. Applicants are invited to consider those carefully and/or to contact Funding Organizations' representatives before submitting their application.

9.2. San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)

Funding Organizations of this Call are dedicated to applying the principles of the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA).

DORA is a global initiative that aims to improve the assessment of research and researchers, with the primary goal of discouraging the use of exclusionary metrics that are used for journals and publishers. In embracing DORA, the Funding Organizations supporting the CCH 2023 Call furthermore acknowledge that there is not one ideal type of researcher and that talent can mean a broad range of approaches in the context of scientific or scholarly research. In the CCH 2023 Call call the Funding Organizations therefore enable assessment focused on quality and context.

The evaluators will be asked to focus on the strength of the proposed research's scientific content and the strength of its related research outputs, rather than on any publication metrics or any research journals in which past research has been published or where research is expected to be

published. Journal-based metrics, such as the Journal Impact Factor, will not be taken into account in the evaluation of the proposals.

9.3. Reporting

Lead Principal Investigators will be requested to submit an annual report to the BFgo reporting system. The reports will be due each June 15th for the lifetime of the project. The inputs will be made available to all Funding Organizations in the Call. Please note that even though this annual report integrates information and progress from all Consortium Members, a LPI or PI may also have to fulfil the reporting requirement(s) of the Funding Organization which it receives funding from. Applicants will be informed about this during the granting administration.