

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – Maritime Connected funding opportunity

Application Process

1. Is this an expression of interest or a full application?

It's a full application. Applications must include the project objectives, outputs, expected outcomes, budget details, and all other relevant information.

2. What is the difference between this call and other calls from the Lloyd's Register Foundation, like the GSEC funding call? Can an applicant apply for both?

Applicants can apply to more than one funding opportunity within the Foundation. Each call has a different purpose, so applicants are advised to understand the nature of the calls to assess their project eligibility before applying.

It must be clear that the applications are separate projects. Applicant must have the capacity to deliver both projects.

While we do not discourage submission of multiple applications, we will not want to have multiple applications to increase the chances of success as we will not fund the same activity from multiple grant calls.

3. Can an individual submit application?

Yes, individuals can apply. However, there would need to be a strong reason demonstrating how the application would still address the need for connection. As an example, if an individual was applying to attend a conference, to bring a new voice to discussions, a stronger application would be from the conference delivering organisation, working with the individual.

4. What are the reporting requirements for this call?

Reports will vary depending on the activity and scale of the project. This will be discussed with the applicant at the post-decision stage.

Geographic Scope

5. Are certain regions prioritized or excluded under this call?

No specific regions are prioritized in this call, but Lloyd's Register Foundation has launched ocean centres in India, Indonesia, Philippines, Bangladesh, Brazil, Ghana, and Kenya—so we encourage applications from these countries.

Ultimately, our focus is on applications that define the safety challenge, connect the community, and justify the relevance of the location for the project being implemented.

6. Can ocean centres apply or be involved in projects?

Ocean centres themselves are not expected to apply. Their involvement in a project should be meaningful.

Eligible Costs

7. Is software (e.g. platforms for websites or online communities) eligible for funding?

Software costs will be considered on a case-by-case basis, if it is essential to delivery of the project. Applicants should contact us in advance if software is needed to deliver the project.

Partnerships

8. Can associate partners be included in the application?

Yes. There's no formal category for "associate partners," but partnerships are strongly encouraged. All partners should be actively involved and clearly described in the application form.

There is no limit to the number of partners for an application. Where voices are needed, the number of partners identified will reflect the scale of the issue. We will only contract with the organisation that will lead on the partnership.

9. Can projects be led by a UK researcher working with perspectives in multiple Global South countries?

Yes, Maritime Connected is about connection. However, there should be clear justification that the work is being locally led with evidence of where the perspectives are based.

10. Can any organisation lead the grant, or must it be UK-based?

Any organisation globally can lead and receive funding. Most funding is expected to go to organisations outside the UK, preferably, more from the developing economies where most safety challenges are likely to exist.



Funding Decisions

11. How will funding decisions be made?

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis when they are received, not when the call is closed. However, the speed of decisions will vary with the size of grant. Applications for smaller amounts will be made more quickly.

12. Will projects be match-funded?

This will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If the project will add other perspectives or learn from other projects, match-funding may be considered.

13. Can the project start before the funding call close?

Projects can only start once grant agreements are signed.

Expected Outputs

14. Are academic papers expected as outputs?

Not typically. Outputs will vary (reports, roadmaps, action plans, blogs etc) depending on the project and should be action oriented and suited to the community level.

Eligibility Criteria

15. Is early education considered under the Maritime Connected call?

No. This grant call is about connecting communities that experience safety challenges and is not targeting education.

16. Can the call fund a workshop for a safety challenge that can lead to bigger research?

Yes, catalytic exploratory funding could lead to bigger research. However, the Foundation will not commit to further funding that may arise from the application.

17. What falls under qualitative research? Will ethnographic research qualify?

Yes. Research which goes deep to uncover perspectives which are less known in a different context will be considered.

18. How does the project copyright work?

There is a standard contract on the Foundation website. As a principle the Foundation wants all intellectual property developed through its funding to maximise social impact. Our starting position on intellectual property is that it remains with the Foundation, but this can be discussed at the decision-making stage.

19. Will quantitative research qualify under this funding call?

Generally, this call is about connecting perspectives, convening and uncovering perspectives typically unheard, as such, this may not be considered.

20. Is co-funding expected?

It is not a requirement, but applicants are welcome to include that information.

21. Is funding available for doing engineering research on safety challenges?

No, the ethos of maritime connected is about connecting perspectives.

22. Will projects on seafarer living and well-being be considered?

Yes, seafarer wellbeing is relevant. Projects that offer perspectives that lead to solutions are welcome.

23. If the application is to develop a film to develop between two unconnected groups, will there be follow up funding for the recommendations from the project?

The Foundation will not commit to funding further activity that may arise from the application. This would be subject to a separate application to the Foundation or other funders.

24. Is there an expected duration for funding a project? Can a multi-year project be submitted?

Project durations may vary depending on the nature of work being carried out. Multi-year projects will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

