



Matariki Network Research Seed Fund Application (2025/2026)

Privacy Notice

Privacy Notice: The information on this form will be used by the Matariki Network, for the administration of the Matariki Network Research Seed Fund call for 2025/2026, and will be managed in accordance with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulations. In submitting this form you consent to the information which you provide being held and processed by the Matariki Network for the purposes specified above.

Matariki Network Research Seed Fund Application Form 2025/2026

This form is to be submitted by the lead applicant. Application deadline: 15th December, 12pm GMT. The Matariki Network of Universities (MNU) is launching a research seed fund to help develop a stronger relationship in globally-relevant fields of research between its members. Proposals are invited for up to £25,000 (total £210,000 per year/call), for projects lasting 12-24 months. Proposals must include researchers from at least two (2) MNU institutions, with any bi-lateral projects having a strong element for multi-lateral collaboration. Proposals including more than two MNU partners are *strongly* encouraged. Bilateral project proposals should include plans for engagement of other Matariki members in the project.

For enquiries about the Matariki Research Seed Fund application process, please first contact your local Matariki Network Coordinator and institution's research office.

Further Matariki Network contacts include:

The Matariki Network Secretariat: matarikinetwork@durham.ac.uk and Ellen Sjöholm at: ellen.sjoholm@uu.se.

Further Information for the 2025/2026 Research Seed Fund can be found in the Guidelines. Your proposal will be reviewed by a joint panel of members of the Matariki Network, and the outcome will be notified to you at the end of February 2026.

Proposals will be assessed based on the following criteria:

Academic quality of the proposal including ambition, value for money, impact and originality (50%);
Importance of funding for the likely success of any future, external grant applications (25%);
Clarity of intentions, including a tentative project timetable (25%).

Proposal Summary

1. Project Title *

2. Project Start Date - Projects must start no later than 1 May 2026. All expenditures must be spent and final reports submitted by no later than 2 months following the end of your project. *

3. Project End Date - Projects must start no later than 1 May 2026. All expenditures must be spent and final reports submitted by no later than 2 months following the end of your project. *

Lead Applicant

Please note that the MNU Research Seed Fund particularly welcomes and strongly encourages applications from Early Career Researchers (ECRs) (up to 6 years from PhD, excluding periods of leave or career breaks) though does not exclude submissions from other groups.

4. Lead Applicant Name *


5. Lead Applicant Institution *

- ☐ Durham University
- ☐ University of Otago
- ☐ Queen's University
- ☐ University of Tübingen
- ☐ Uppsala University
- ☐ University of the Western Cape

6. Lead Applicant post held *

7. Lead Applicant Department/School *

8. Lead Applicant Email *

9. Are you an ECR? (6-years post PhD excluding periods of leave or other career breaks.) *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Co-Applicant

10. Co-Applicant Name *

11. Co-Applicant Institution *

- ☐ Durham University
- ☐ University of Otago
- ☐ Queen's University
- ☐ University of Tübingen
- ☐ Uppsala University
- ☐ University of the Western Cape

12. Co-Applicant post held *

13. Co-Applicant Department/School *

14. Co-Applicant Email *

15. Are you an ECR? (6-years post PhD excluding periods of leave or other career breaks.) *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s):

16. Are there any additional Co-Applicants involved in the project? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s):

17. Co-Applicant Name

18. Co-Applicant Institution

- ☐ Durham University
- ☐ University of Otago
- ☐ Queen's University
- ☐ University of Tübingen
- ☐ Uppsala University
- ☐ University of the Western Cape

19. Co-Applicant post held

20. Co-Applicant Department/School

21. Co-Applicant Email

22. Are you an ECR? (6-years post PhD excluding periods of leave or other career breaks.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s):

23. Are there any additional Co-Applicants involved in the project? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s):

24. Co-Applicant Name


25. Co-Applicant Institution

- ☐ Durham University
- ☐ University of Otago
- ☐ Queen's University
- ☐ University of Tübingen
- ☐ Uppsala University
- ☐ University of the Western Cape

26. Co-Applicant post held

27. Co-Applicant Department/School

28. Co-Applicant Email

29. Are you an ECR? (6-years post PhD excluding periods of leave or other career breaks.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Additional Matariki Network Partners

30. Do you have any additional project partners who are members of a Matariki Network institution? If so, please list them and include their name, department and position, institution and email. *

Additional External Partners

Additional external partners from outside the Matariki Network can be involved, however, their involvement will be at their own cost and not funded by the Matariki Network Seedfund.

31. Are there any partners involved in the project from outside of the Matariki Network? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

External Partners

32. Institution Name of external partner(s) *

33. External Partner(s) Name(s) *

34. External partner(s) Department/School *

35. External partner(s) Email *

36. Please outline the external value that any additional partners will bring to the project that would not be present with only Network members (250 words max): *

Proposal Details

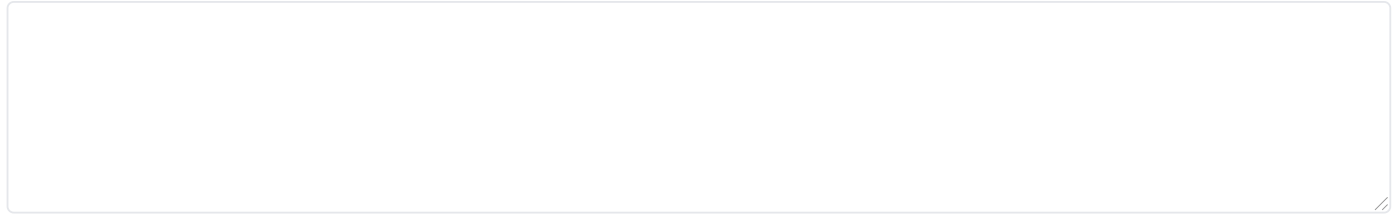
37. Summary - provide a summary of this project and if it fits into any United Nations SDGs (250 words max): *

38. Provide an overview of the project activities, including their goals, and purpose (500 words max): *

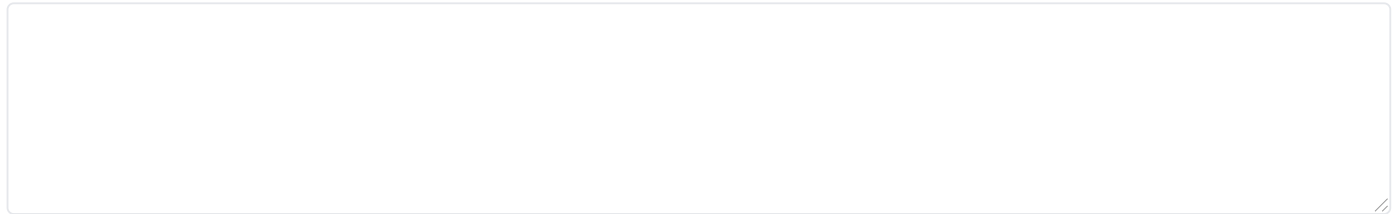
39. Please provide a bullet-point project timeline, including specific project activities and milestones. Please note that an interim report is required at the halfway point for any project running longer than 12-months: *

40. Briefly outline the expertise of the faculty participants for the project (250 words max): *

41. Describe how this project will lead to future grant success. Please include estimated timescales for future external grant applications and approximate value of any identified call (250 words max): *



42. Describe how joint working with Matariki Network partners adds value to this particular project, how it aligns to the Matariki Network's guiding principles and values, and how it will enhance Network collaboration overall (250 words max): *



Activity Budget

REMINDER: Projects must start by 1 May 2026. Projects must end no later than 24 months following their start, with all expenditures and final reports submitted by 2 months following the end of the project. In your application, please allocate your budget to the project year in which the funds will be spent. Your project funds will be transferred at one time, in agreement with the Matariki Network.

RESOURCES REQUESTED BY LEAD INSTITUTION: Please specify all applicable costings in full (in pounds sterling; maximum combined total for all applicants is £25,000).

PLEASE NOTE THAT AS THE APPLICANT YOU ARE OBLIGED TO SPEND THE FUNDS IN LINE WITH THE PROPOSAL BUDGET. If appropriate, you should seek approval for any significant change in the use of your funds prior to spending. Any unspent funds at the end of the project may need to be repaid.

NB – In the case of a project predicted to overspend, the judging panel reserve the right to adjust the project budget.

43. Please enter the name of the Matariki Network Institution submitting for the resources budgeted above. *

44. TOTAL (in GBP £)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

45. TOTAL (in GBP £)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

46. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

47. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

48. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

49. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

50. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

51. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

52. Cost of consumables (please specify)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

53. Cost of consumables (please specify)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

54. Research materials and research related costs (please specify)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

55. Research materials and research related costs (please specify)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

56. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

57. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

58. Justify the resources requested above. Please consider value for money (250 words max): *

RESOURCES REQUESTED BY SECONDARY INSTITUTION: Please specify all applicable costings in full (in pounds sterling; maximum combined total for all applicants is £25,000).

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Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

62. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

63. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

64. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

65. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

66. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

67. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

68. Cost of consumables (please specify)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

69. Cost of consumables (please specify)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

71. Research materials and research related costs (please specify)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

72. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

73. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

74. Justify the resources requested above. Please consider value for money (250 words max): *

75. Do you have other Co-Applicants who are requesting funding? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s): Activity Budget

RESOURCES REQUESTED BY SECONDARY INSTITUTION: Please specify all applicable costings in full (in pounds sterling; maximum combined total for all applicants is £25,000).

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Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

78. TOTAL (in GBP £)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

79. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

80. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) - Duplicate *

81. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

82. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

83. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

84. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

85. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

86. Cost of consumables (please specify)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

90. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

91. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

92. Justify the resources requested above. Please consider value for money (250 words max): *

93. Do you have other Co-Applicants who are requesting funding? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s): Activity Budget

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

97. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

98. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) - Duplicate *

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100. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

102. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

104. Cost of consumables (please specify)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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110. Justify the resources requested above. Please consider value for money (250 words max): *

111. Do you have other Co-Applicants who are requesting funding? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s): Activity Budget

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116. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) - Duplicate *

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118. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

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120. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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127. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

128. Justify the resources requested above. Please consider value for money (250 words max): *

129. Do you have other Co-Applicants who are requesting funding? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s): Activity Budget

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132. TOTAL (in GBP £)

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133. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) - Duplicate *

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

145. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

146. Justify the resources requested above. Please consider value for money (250 words max): *

147. Do you have other Co-Applicants who are requesting funding? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Co-Applicant(s): Activity Budget

RESOURCES REQUESTED BY SECONDARY INSTITUTION: Please specify all applicable costings in full (in pounds sterling; maximum combined total for all applicants is £25,000).

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150. TOTAL (in GBP £)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

151. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

152. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) - Duplicate *

153. Travel (estimated dates/durations of visits and travel plans)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

154. Accommodation and Subsistence (please indicate the number of nights and cost per night)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

157. Hospitality for meetings / workshops

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

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Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

159. Cost of consumables (please specify)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

160. Research materials and research related costs (please specify)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

161. Research materials and research related costs (please specify)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

162. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 1 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

163. Other (these costs must be specified and justified)

Year 2 (£) - (complete applicable fields) *

164. Justify the resources requested above. Please consider value for money (250 words max): *

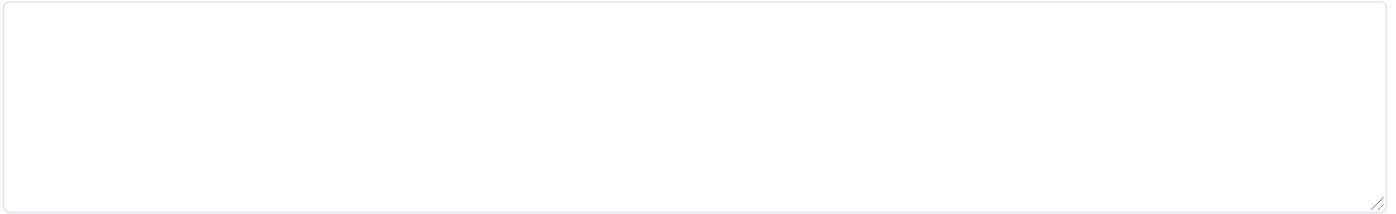
165. Do you have other Co-Applicants who are requesting funding? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Information

166. Please provide any additional information which may assist the panel in evaluating the application (250 words max):

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin grey border, intended for the respondent to provide additional information. It occupies the upper half of the page below the question text.

Signatures

167. Name *

168. University *

- ☐ Durham
- ☐ Otago
- ☐ Queen's
- ☐ Tübingen
- ☐ Uppsala
- ☐ UWC

169. Date *

170. Signature (Add your initials) *

171. Name *

172. University *

- ☐ Durham
- ☐ Otago
- ☐ Queen's
- ☐ Tübingen
- ☐ Uppsala
- ☐ UWC

173. Date *

174. Signature (Add your initials) *

175. By selecting 'Yes' you are confirming you (the Lead Applicant) have discussed this project with your Head of Department and your university research office and have their approval to proceed with this project. *

☐ Yes

176. Please enter the email of your Head of Department. *

177. By selecting 'Yes' you are confirming you (the Lead Applicant) have received confirmaiton from your project partners that they have discussed this project with their Heads of Departments and their university research offices have their approvals to proceed with this project. *

☐ Yes

178. Please enter the emails of your project partners' Heads of Departments. *

179. By selecting 'Yes' you are agreeing you will hand sign the signature pages once the PDF-copy is sent to you, hand sign them, and send a scanned version of the page(s) to the Matariki Network Secretariat (matarikinetnetwork@durham.ac.uk). *

☐ Yes

180. By selecting 'Yes' you are agreeing to provide the Matariki Network Secretariat (matarikinetnetwork@durham.ac.uk) a short CV (no more than 5 pages each) for the Lead Applicant and each Co-Applicant listed on the application. *

☐ Yes

Additional signatures if needed

181. Any other signatures *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

182. Name

183. University

- ☐ Durham
- ☐ Otago
- ☐ Queen's
- ☐ Tübingen
- ☐ Uppsala
- ☐ UWC

184. Date

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- ☐ Durham
- ☐ Otago
- ☐ Queen's
- ☐ Tübingen

☐ Uppsala

☐ UWC

188. Date

189. Signature (Add your initials)

190. Name

191. University

☐ Durham

☐ Otago

☐ Queen's

☐ Tübingen

☐ Uppsala

☐ UWC

192. Date

193. Signature (Add your initials)