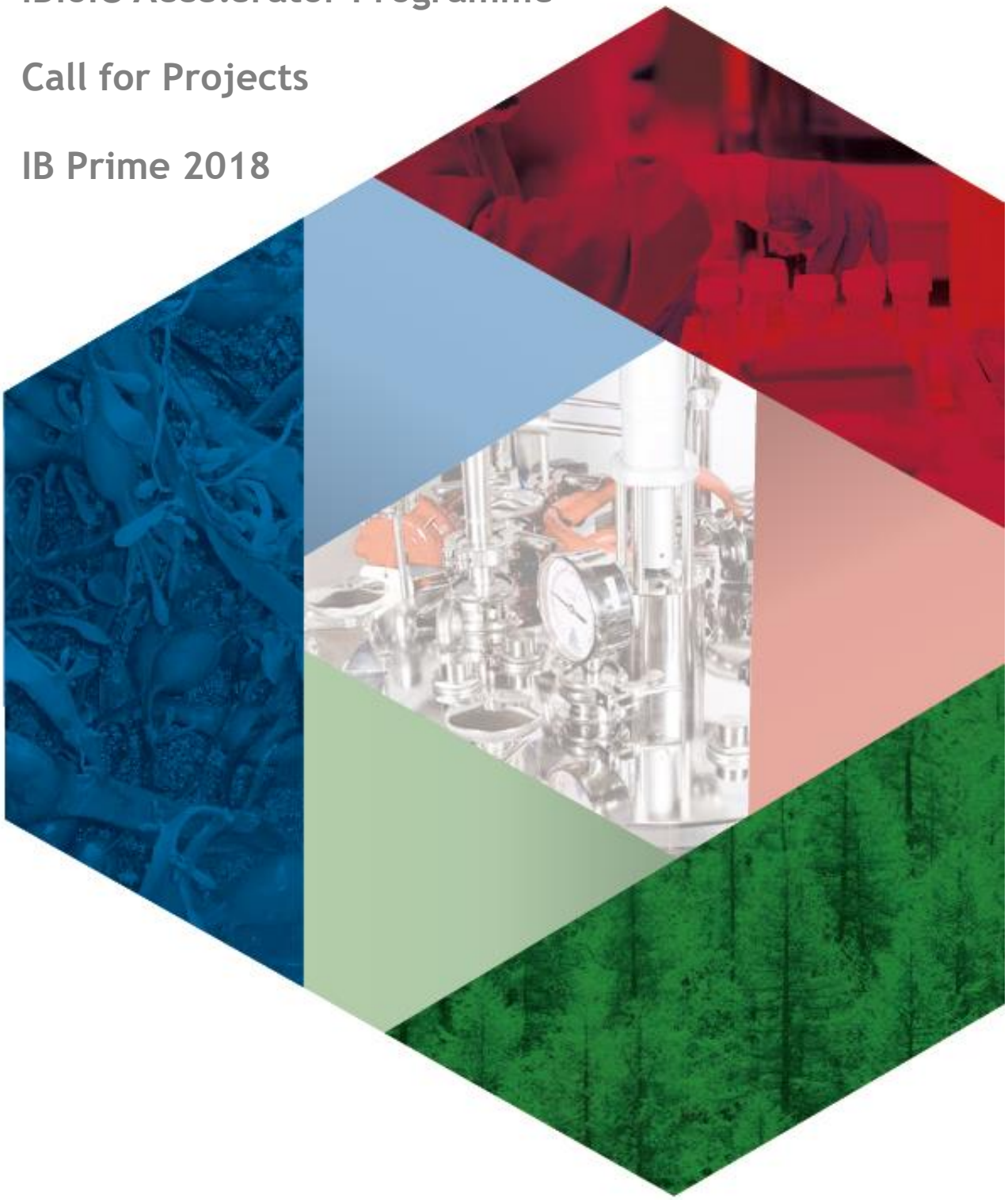
Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre

IBioIC Accelerator Programme

Call for Projects

IB Prime 2018



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Call for Projects
IB Prime 2018
Closing date: 31st October 2018

Summary

The Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre (IBioIC) invites applications for industry-led collaborative research projects from businesses with a foothold in Scotland or those who can deliver inward investment to help stimulate Scotland's Economy. Projects should focus on innovative applications to industrial biotechnology and address a real market need or commercial opportunity through collaborative knowledge exchange and research between Industry Members and at least one of Scotland's talented HEI research teams

1. Introduction

To date, the IBioIC Industry Led Programme has supported more than 40 collaborative research projects with a total project value of over £11 million and an application success rate close to 50%. The current call invites applications from companies addressing challenges in the IB sector, to head up projects alongside at least one of the Centre's Academic Partners. This is a unique opportunity for Industry to tap into the world class skills of Scotland's HEIs in areas directly relevant to exploitation in the field.

Projects should be aligned to achieving Scotland's National Plan for Industrial Biotechnology and provide innovative solutions in one or more of the following key areas:

- Production of chemicals, intermediate chemicals, natural products and materials
- Production of peptides and proteins, e.g. recombinant biologics, enzymes, antibiotics
- Production of bioenergy and liquid or gaseous biofuels from sustainable biomass
- Use of enzymes / biocatalysts for new product development / improved process
- Cell factory construction and process physiology
- New or improved downstream processing for use in IB applications
- Integrated bioprocessing for complete utilisation of raw materials and manufacture of co-products

This paper sets out the processes and guidelines on how this competition will be operated. **Appendix 1** includes the Glossary of Terms used throughout the document.

2. Criteria for Accelerator Projects

To be considered for funding by IBioIC under this call, the following minimum criteria must be met:

1. The project must demonstrate a clear market need / commercial opportunity through the innovative use or application of biotechnology
2. The project must be championed and led by an IBioIC Leading or Core Industrial Member and should include at least one of IBioIC's HEI Partners. The project may consist of any number of Industrial Members and HEI Partners.
3. The project must demonstrate an economic, societal or reputational benefit to Scotland

3. Funding and State Aid

IBioIC will contribute a maximum of £50K towards HEI Partner costs on successful project applications.

This IBioIC contribution will only be made to the HEI(s) and shall not exceed 50% of total project costs, the other 50% must consist of eligible company costs and HEI contribution.

HEI Partner costs should be calculated on the basis of Full Economic Costing (fEC). The **IBioIC funding is awarded to Higher Education Institute Partners and will constitute a maximum of 80% of calculated fEC**, with the remaining portion provided by the HEI as an in-kind contribution.

Details of eligible costs are specified in the **IBioIC Project Financial Profile Template**.

The parties to a project application **must** ensure that the HEI Partner budget and involvement in the project has been calculated and approved in accordance with the HEI Partner's internal rules and procedures. The application form will require to be countersigned by an authorised signatory of the HEI Partner's Research Grants Department or equivalent.

Aid granted by the Scottish Funding Council funded Innovation Centres constitutes State Aid and is provided under SFC's Innovation Centre Programme 2014-2020 General Block Exemption Regulations Scheme reference Number SA. 43342. Further details can be found at:

http://www.sfc.ac.uk/Priorities/Innovation/InnovationCentres/InnovationCentresStateAid.aspx

Aid granted by IBioIC will be made under Article 25.

In the event that a project is approved for funding and the Industrial Collaborator's resource allocations change, this may have an impact on the IBioIC funding that can be made available (considering permitted aid intensities).

4. How to enter

Application documents can be viewed at www.ibioic.com/Accelerator.htm.

The Lead Industry Partner should complete the Accelerator Project Application Form and Financial Profile Template and submit online via email, project_submissions@ibioic.com **by 5pm on Wednesday 31st October 2018.**

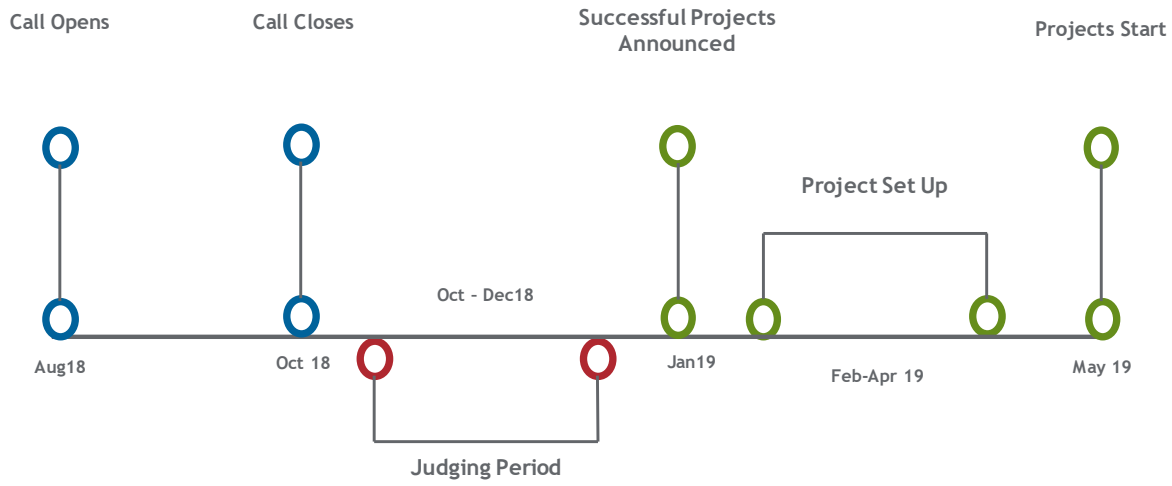
Whilst the intent is to keep entry requirements to a minimum IBioIC reserves the right to request further information through the review process.

5. Projected Timelines

The competition is open to applications between 20th August 2018 and 31st October 2018. Once submitted applications undergo a three stage assessment:

- Internal check for funding eligibility by the IBioIC Project Team
- Technical assessment by the IBioIC SAB reviewers
- Commercial assessment by the IBioIC CAB reviewers

It is anticipated that successful project applications will be announced in January 2019 with award letters issued shortly afterwards. The project set up period includes time for signing funding terms, collaboration agreements and hiring of PDRAs. It is expected that all projects will be launched by 1st April 2018 at the latest.



6. Project Selection Criteria

Projects will be selected on their technical and commercial merits by the SAB and CAB respectively. The criteria by which all projects will be judged are set out below.

Technical Merits will include (Maximum score 100):

a. **Technical Viability** (Projects should have a good likelihood of technical success) (typically 20 points).
b. **Technical Ambition** (Projects should have a degree of ambition as well as being feasible) (typically 20 points).
c. **Non-commercial scientific benefit to the project** (Projects should show an additional benefit such as reputational and should deliver impact to IB within Scotland) (Typically 20 points).
d. **How novel is the project** (Projects should prove that there is a strong possibility of patentable intellectual property ("IP") being generated) (typically 10 points).
e. **Collaborative working** (Consideration of collaborative working, knowledge exchange, use and exploitation of IP, IP ownership of project outputs has been discussed) (typically 10 points).
f. **Project Timelines and Resources** (Projects should be industry led and completed within realistic timelines with appropriate milestones and deliverables) (typically 20 points).

Commercial Merits will include (Maximum score 100):

a. **Breadth of applicability** (Projects should address an identifiable commercial or scientific barrier with a view to marketing a solution) (typically 15 points)
b. **Path to Market** (Projects should consider the path from current TRL to commercialization) (typically 15 points)
c. **Benefit versus cost** (Applications should demonstrate a commercial benefit on top of the cost of the project) (typically 15 points)
d. **Time to market and market appraisal** (Application should make an appraisal of the potential market share, competition and timeline to market (typically 15 points)
e. **Economic impact on project partners** (Applicants should demonstrate that the project could generate additional growth through market, employment or IP opportunities) (typically 10 points)
f. **Governance, Management Processes and Risk appraisal** (applications should demonstrate an industry led approach and consideration of potential risks(typically 15 points)
g. **Funding profile** (the financial information provided should be adequate and realistic for the proposed project (typically 5 points)
h. **Track record of success** (applicants should highlight project specific expertise and previous successes) (typically 10 points)

The processes followed and decisions taken by the SAB and CAB shall be minuted and made available to any Member requesting them. The decision of the Governing Board to award funding shall be final without calls for dispute.

Feedback from the project review process is available to all applicants on request.

7. Guide to completing the application form

Word limits
Suggested maximum word limits have been used throughout the application form. Due to the volume of applications received, judges appreciate concise answers to each question. Supporting material can be submitted in a separate document but should be clearly marked with the relevant section number(s). Please note that any additional information provided is reviewed at the judge's discretion.

Project Title: Should be descriptive but brief
Core Theme: A few words to describe the key research area
Lead Company Name: Details of the Lead Partner
HEI Partner Name(s): The HEI Partner collaborating on the project
Other Project Collaborator(s): Details of additional Industry Partner's and HEI's Partner's collaborating on the Project
Proposed start date: Proposed start date should take into account recruitment time and contractual negotiations
Duration in Months: The total time expected for the project to reach completion.
Non Confidential Lay Project Abstract (<150 words): This information will appear on the IBioIC website on award of the project
Project Objectives: A few brief statements of the scientific and commercial objectives of the project
Lead Industry Company: Please include the contact details of the Lead Partner
HEI Collaborator: Please include the contact details of the principal investigator
Other Collaborator 1: Space for additional contacts
IB Area and Relevant Theme: Please tick the boxes in each section as relevant to the project
Project Technology Readiness Levels covered (1-8): Please use this section to state the TRL level at the start and that expected at the end of the project. IBioIC projects should demonstrate progression through TRL
Project outputs: Please tick the boxes in each section which are relevant to the project and provide brief details where appropriate.

1. Project Details
1.1. Overview
Include in response:
- What is the compelling market problem being addressed? (Is this a new market/new product)
- A description and justification of product Technology Readiness Level (TRL) before and after project
- Successful project outputs, both technical and commercial

1.2. Project Partnership
Detail all partners' area of expertise and their contribution to the project. Provide evidence that the existing strengths within the collaboration or proposed collaboration will deliver outcomes.
1.3. Scientific Background
Detail concisely the science that will be applied within this project at a level appropriate to first year science undergraduates. Diagrams can be used to complement text.
1.4. List up to 5 relevant publications in this research area
Please provide links where possible to published journals relevant to project

2. Collaborative working
2.1. IBioIC projects should be *industry led and collaborative*. Please provide an overview of how the Industry Partner(s) will work with the HEI Partner researchers in an industry focused manner. (<500 words)

Please include any knowledge transfer, opportunities for academic placement within the industrial workplace, plans to utilise PhD or MSc students and the benefits to the project.
2.2. MSc Students (<200 words) IBioIC offers a funded MSc course in industrial biotechnology. Please indicate if you would be willing to offer an industrial placement to an IBioIC funded MSc Student starting in May 2017; please provide a summary of the proposed project.

3. Project Costs

Full project costs should be detailed on the financial template provided with the application pack
Summary of costs
Please complete the proposed contribution values for the project
3.1 Justification of Resources
Please provide a short justification of resources requested with particular care taken with any capital depreciation, sub-contract and "Other" justifications
3.2. Other sources of funding
Please detail any other third party funding sources contributing to this project

4. Project Impact

When responding to the questions in this section please include figures to complement information provided.
4.1. Commercial Challenge (<250 words, Diagrams can be used to complement text.) –
What are the current barriers to exploitation/commercialisation (if any) of the technology and how will the project address these barriers
4.2. Intellectual Property
Include in response:

- Does the project require access to background IP to proceed? If so what does the background IP consist of? Who owns the background IP? Have the rights to use the background IP been secured
- Outline the potential for generation of IP and how IP ownership will be managed / distributed across project partners. What are the proposed rights to exploit the new IP?

4.3. What is the serviceable addressable market (i.e. the portion of the total market) that this product can impact? (<100 words)
Include in response:

- Detailed source of market information?
- And any assumptions you have made?

4.4. What is the potential market growth in 1 year/5years (<50 words)
4.5. What is the potential market share that the outcome of this project can access? (<50 words)
Include in response numbers for potential market share in 1 and 5 years' time to reflect the previous questions on market growth.
4.6. What is your route to exploitation after successful project completion? (<100 words)
4.7. Are you going to make/sell your developed product yourself? If licencing who is the 3rd party licensee? (<50 words)
4.8. What is the potential economic impact for each project partner and what is the potential economic impact to Scotland (<100 words)
4.9. If successful in receiving funding, is there any potential additional impact from the project i.e. reputational, environmental, or societal? (<50 words)

5. Project Management

Please show the split of work packages and time across collaborators. A detailed work package template will be requested for approved projects
5.1 Description of the work programme (<250words)
Please provide an overview of the project design including, processes, techniques, and equipment used
5.2. Project management and governance (<250 words)
Include in response:

- Management, roles and responsibilities of all project collaborators
- Communication plan including frequency/type of project meetings

APPENDIX 1 - Glossary of Terms

IBioIC	Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre
Accelerator Programme	The IBioIC programme of funding to support projects
HEI	Higher Education Institute
HEI Partner	HEI that has signed the IBioIC HEI Membership Agreement before being awarded funding
Lead Partner	An Industry Partner that leads the Project Team and the application for funding
Industry Partner	A company that is either a Core or Leading Member of IBioIC having signed a Membership Agreement with the University of Strathclyde on behalf of IBioIC
SAB	IBioIC Scientific Advisory Board
CAB	IBioIC Commercial Advisory Board
Governing Board	IBioIC Governing Board
Funding	Any funding to be awarded by IBioIC under the IB Prime Project Call and subject to the Funding Terms
Funding Terms	The terms and conditions of funding
Project	Any project that has received funding
Project Team	A combination of at least one Industrial Member and one HEI Partner that has formed a collaborative team to submit an application for funding
Collaboration Agreement	The collaboration agreement entered into by the relevant HEI Partners and Industrial Members on the project.