



**Australian Government**  

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**Australian Research Council**

*Social Sciences Collaboration*

Call for Proposals  
under

*ARC 'Linkage International Funding Rules  
for funding commencing in 2008'*

**Australian Research Council**  
***Social Sciences Collaboration***  
**Call for Proposals for funding commencing in 2008**

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## Acronyms

The following acronyms are used in ARC Funding Rules.

AEST	Australian Eastern Standard Time
AEDT	Australian Eastern Daylight Saving (Summer) Time
AIF	Australia-Israel Fellowship
AIMS	Australian Institute of Marine Science
ANSTO	Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation
APA	Australian Postgraduate Award
APAI	Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry)
APD	Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship
APDC	Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship (CSIRO)
APDI	Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship (Industry)
APF	Australian Professorial Fellowship
ARC	Australian Research Council
ARCIF	Australian Research Council International Fellowship
ARF	Australian Research Fellowship
AVCC	Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee
CE	ARC <i>Centres of Excellence</i> and ARC <i>Centres</i>
CoE	ARC College of Experts
CI	Chief Investigator
CRC	Cooperative Research Centre
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DP	ARC <i>Discovery Projects</i>
DSTO	Defence Science and Technology Organisation
ECR	Early Career Researcher
FF	ARC <i>Federation Fellowships</i>
GA	Geoscience Australia
GAMS	Grant Application Management System
GST	Goods and Services Tax
HECS	Higher Education Contribution Scheme
ICI	Internationally Coordinated Initiative
IRF	Indigenous Researcher Fellowship
LASP	ARC <i>Learned Academies Special Projects</i>
LCI	LASP Chief Investigator
LIEF	ARC <i>Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities</i>
LIF	ARC Linkage Industry Fellowship
LP	ARC <i>Linkage Projects</i>
LX	ARC <i>Linkage International</i>
NCGP	National Competitive Grants Program
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
NP	Network Participant
OI	Overseas Investigator
PI	Partner Investigator

QEII	Queen Elizabeth II Fellowship
RN	<i>ARC Research Network</i>
SPIRT	<i>Strategic Partnerships with Industry – Research and Training</i>
SRC	<i>ARC Special Research Centre</i>
SRI	<i>ARC Special Research Initiatives</i>
URL	Universal Resource Locator

## Key Dates

Closing times for *Linkage International* Internationally Coordinated Initiatives (ICI) Proposals are listed in Appendix 4, Column 2 of the '*Linkage International* Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2008' (*Linkage International* Funding Rules).

**The Closing Time for submission of *Social Sciences Collaboration* ICI Proposals is 5:00 pm AEST Friday 1 June 2007.**

The Closing Time for *Social Sciences Collaboration* Eligibility Ruling requests (Section 7.1 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules) is 5:00 pm AEST Friday 20 April 2007.

The Closing Time for requests relating to assessor exclusion is 5:00 pm AEST Friday 1 June 2007.

## Contacts

The ARC deals with thousands of Proposals each year. Where possible, researchers should direct requests for information to the Research Office within their organisation. Enquiries about the ARC '*Linkage International Social Sciences Collaboration* ICI' may be addressed to:

Postal:

**OR**

Courier:

*Linkage International* Coordinator  
Australian Research Council  
GPO Box 2702  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

*Linkage International* Coordinator  
Australian Research Council  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 8 Brindabella Circuit  
CANBERRA AIRPORT ACT  
2609

Email: [ncgp@arc.gov.au](mailto:ncgp@arc.gov.au)

Phone: (02) 6287 6600

Fax: (02) 6287 6638

Web: <http://www.arc.gov.au>

## Definitions for *Linkage International Funding Rules*

**Adjunct Appointment or equivalent** means that an Eligible Organisation has a formal agreement in writing with a researcher which is publicly acknowledged and which establishes an ongoing association with the Eligible Organisation, of the nature of a conjoint, emeritus or honorary academic or visiting fellow. It would be expected that the person's association would be listed in an official organisational publication and/or web site.

**Administering Organisation** means an Eligible Organisation which submits a Proposal for funding under *Linkage International* and which will receive and be responsible for the administration of the funding if the proposed project is approved for funding.

**Applicant** means the Administering Organisation. Funding under *Linkage International* is provided to Administering Organisations, not to individual researchers.

**ARC** means the Australian Research Council, as established under the ARC Act.

**ARC Act** means the *Australian Research Council Act 2001*.

**ARC Centre** means a research centre wholly or partly funded by the ARC and includes *ARC Centres of Excellence*, *ARC Centres* and *ARC Special Research Centres*.

**ARC Fellow** means a researcher whose salary is wholly or partly funded under an ARC Fellowship.

**ARC Fellowship** means, subject to this paragraph, a position held by a researcher where the salary is funded wholly or partly by the ARC and where the researcher has been nominated in a Proposal to hold a Fellowship. An ARC Fellowship may be awarded at a number of levels and in various ARC schemes. ARC Fellowship includes Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship (APD), Australian Research Fellowship (ARF), Queen Elizabeth II Fellowship (QEII) and Australian Professorial Fellowship (APF). The term also includes Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship (Industry) (APDI) (under the ARC *Linkage Projects* scheme) and Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship (CSIRO) (APDC) (under the former *APD CSIRO* scheme). For the purposes of these Funding Rules, it does not include an Australian Research Council International Fellowship (ARCIF), ARC Federation Fellowship, Indigenous Researcher Fellowship (IRF) or ARC Research Cadetship-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander award.

**ARC's Web Site** is <http://www.arc.gov.au>.

**Australian Postdoctoral Fellow** means a researcher whose salary is wholly or partly funded under an Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship (under the ARC *Discovery Projects* scheme).

**Australian Postdoctoral Fellow (Industry)** means a researcher whose salary is wholly or partly funded under an Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship (Industry) (under the ARC *Linkage Projects* scheme).

**Australian Professorial Fellow** means a researcher whose salary is wholly or partly funded under an Australian Professorial Fellowship (under the ARC *Discovery Projects* scheme).

**Australian Research Council International Fellow** means a researcher whose salary is wholly or partly funded under an Australian Research Council International Fellowship (under the ARC *Linkage International* scheme).

**Australian Research Fellow** means a researcher whose salary is wholly or partly funded under an Australian Research Fellowship (under the ARC *Discovery Projects* scheme).

**Centre Director** means the person appointed to direct the programs of a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre.

**Chief Investigator** means a researcher who satisfies the eligibility criteria for a Chief Investigator as specified in Section 5.2.

**Commonwealth** means the Commonwealth of Australia.

**Commonwealth-funded Research Centre** means a research centre substantially funded from Commonwealth competitive research funding sources and includes ARC Centres, CRCs and NHMRC Program Grants. It does not include Research Networks funded by the ARC.

**Earnings** means the amount paid as remuneration for work a person undertakes or services he/she performs. It includes amounts paid under employment and/or consultancy arrangements.

**Eligible Organisation** means an organisation which is eligible to apply for and receive funding under the *Linkage International* Funding Rules as specified in Section 4.1.

**Federation Fellow** means a researcher whose salary is funded under the ARC *Federation Fellowships* scheme.

**Funding Agreement** means the agreement entered into between the ARC and the Administering Organisation if the Administering Organisation's Proposal is approved for funding. This agreement sets out the terms and conditions under which the Commonwealth is to provide funding and the Administering Organisation is to be responsible for administration of the funding and the conduct of the project.

**Funding Rules** means this document.

**GST** has the meaning as given in section 195-1 of the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*.

**Host Organisation** means an organisation at which a Fellow undertakes her/his research while holding an ARC Fellowship or ARCIF.

**Indigenous Researcher Fellow** means a researcher whose salary is wholly or partly funded under an ARC Indigenous Research Fellowship (under the ARC *Indigenous Researcher Development* scheme).

**Medical and Dental Research** means research and/or training which, in the opinion of the ARC, has a significant focus on clinical medical (including dental) outcomes.

**National Research Priority** means a national research priority referred to in subsection 1.2.3 and further detailed in Appendix 1.

**Overseas Investigator** means a researcher who satisfies the eligibility criteria for an Overseas Investigator as specified in Section 5.3.

**Overseas Organisation** means the employer of an Overseas Investigator. For the purpose of these Funding Rules, Overseas Organisation does not include an overseas organisation controlled by an Australian higher education organisation.

**Partner Investigator** means a researcher who satisfies the eligibility criteria for a Partner Investigator as specified in Section 5.4.

**Proposal** means a request to the ARC for the provision of financial assistance for a research project.

**Queen Elizabeth II Fellow** means a researcher whose salary is wholly or partly funded under an ARC Queen Elizabeth II Fellowship (under the ARC *Discovery Projects* scheme).

**Research Office** means a business unit within an organisation that is responsible for administrative contact with the ARC regarding Proposals and research projects.

**Special Condition** means a special condition specified in a Funding Agreement which governs the use of the funding provided by the ARC.

Australian Research Council  
***Social Sciences Collaboration***  
Call for Proposals for funding commencing in 2008

## **1 Introduction**

### **1.1 Overview**

- 1.1.1 This document (this Call) invites Proposals from Eligible Organisations (see Section 2.1 and Appendix 1 of this Call) for funding collaborative research Proposals between Australian and British researchers in the fields of social sciences. All Proposals must comply with the Australian Research Council (ARC) '*Linkage International Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2008*' (*Linkage International Funding Rules*), available at <http://www.arc.gov.au>, as well as the requirements described in this Call.
- 1.1.2 All parties involved in Proposals should read and understand the *Linkage International Funding Rules*, this Call, and the ARC's draft Funding Agreement (which is available at <http://www.arc.gov.au>) before submitting a Proposal to the ARC. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their Proposals are complete and accurate.
- 1.1.3 The *Linkage International Funding Rules* are current as at February 2007 and were prepared in accordance with the requirements of the ARC Act in force at that time. The *Linkage International Funding Rules* and this Call are subject to change at any time, for reasons including any subsequent amendment to, replacement of or supplementation of the ARC Act.
- 1.1.4 Funding under *Linkage International* is provided to Administering Organisations, not to researchers. That is, the ARC will accept a Proposal only from an Eligible Organisation and not from any individual researcher or researchers.
- 1.1.5 However, if, in the opinion of the ARC, any researcher nominated in the Proposal as a CI, OI or PI has caused or has significantly contributed to the failure of an organisation to meet its obligations under any current or previous funding agreement with the ARC, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend for approval any or all Proposals involving that researcher.

### **1.2 Background**

- 1.2.1 The ARC has a signed agreement with the Economic and Social Sciences Research Council of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (ESRC) to fund collaborative research in the social sciences and related disciplines involving researchers in both countries.
- 1.2.2 The ARC and ESRC are both charged with the fostering and support of social science research within their own countries. Both Councils also recognise that the very best research in all countries may be delivered by working with, and

benchmarking against, the best researchers internationally. To this end both Councils welcome, encourage and support applications for research which cross national boundaries and involve internationally collaborative teams.

- 1.2.3 For the purposes of this call, the ARC and the ESRC have agreed that collaborating researchers within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) and Australia, who come within their respective jurisdictions, may apply to their respective Council in each country.
- 1.2.4 The ARC '*Linkage International* Internationally Coordinated Initiative *Social Sciences Collaboration*' will be formally conducted under the ARC's *Linkage International* Funding Rules. The key details and criteria relating to the specific *Social Sciences Collaboration* are summarised at Appendix 4 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules.
- 1.2.5 The ESRC will fund an equivalent program for counterpart UK applications under its Small Grants scheme. For each Proposal submitted to the ARC under this *Social Sciences Collaboration* initiative, a counterpart application must be submitted to the ESRC. Full details can be found on the ESRC website at <http://www.esrc.ac.uk>.

### **1.3 Objectives of the funding initiative**

- 1.3.1 The specific objectives of the *Social Sciences Collaboration* are to:
  - fund collaborative Australian/British Proposals in the fields of economics, economic and social history, political science, socio-legal studies, education, psychology, cognitive studies, linguistics, management and business studies, human geography, environmental planning, international studies, area and development studies, social statistics, demography, social science computing, sociology, social anthropology, social policy and social work; and
  - stimulate enhanced collaborations among social science researchers and create networks linking individuals and centres in Australia and the UK.
- 1.3.2 As an initiative formally conducted under the *Linkage International* scheme, the *Social Sciences Collaboration* aims to encourage and support high quality innovative research which involves internationally collaborative researchers and/or teams including the movement of researchers between research organisations and centres of research excellence in Australia and the United Kingdom.
- 1.3.3 For the purposes of this initiative the social sciences are defined as inclusive of the subjects of economics, economic and social history, political science, socio-legal studies, education, psychology, cognitive studies, linguistics, management and business studies, human geography, environmental planning, international studies, area and development studies, social statistics, demography, social science computing, sociology, social anthropology, social policy and social work.

- 1.3.4 Proposals involving cross-disciplinary research which extends outside these fields may be recommended if the Proposal substantially rests in one or more of the above fields and directly meets the objectives of the *Social Sciences Collaboration*.
- 1.3.5 The ARC will support only the highest quality collaborative Proposals. The ARC reserves the right to recommend to the Minister that Proposals not be funded if they are not of sufficient quality and/or do not meet the selection criteria.

## **1.4 The Social Sciences Collaboration initiative**

- 1.4.1 The ARC and ESRC will undertake peer review according to their normal procedures. The two Councils will liaise with each other before reaching their separate funding decisions, with the aim of funding high quality collaborative Proposals. Each Council will retain the right of final decision on their respective recommendations for funding.
- 1.4.2 Each *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal and the counterpart application submitted to the ESRC is to be identified clearly as a collaborative Proposal under the ESRC/ARC Agreement in accordance with specific guidance from each Council and is to be submitted on the relevant forms for each country and according to the rules and such closing dates as may apply in each. The text in the *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal should explain clearly the linkage and synergy between the Proposal and the counterpart application submitted to the ESRC.
- 1.4.3 While Proposals should clearly describe the linkage and collaborative synergy with the counterpart application submitted to the ESRC there is no guarantee that if a Proposal is successful in one jurisdiction its counterpart will be funded by the other Council. Accordingly the ARC may recommend funding of a Proposal even though its counterpart application submitted to the ESRC is not recommended for funding.

## **1.5 Fundamental principles and requirements**

### **1.5.1 Ethics and Research Practices**

- 1.5.1.1 The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) web site, <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au>, provides a series of publications which outline principles of ethical conduct in research. All Proposals and ARC-funded research projects should conform to the principles outlined in the following and their successor documents:
- a. the Joint NHMRC/AVCC *Statement and Guidelines on Research Practice* (1997);
  - b. as applicable, the NHMRC's *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans* (1999); and
  - c. as applicable, the NHMRC's other codes on animal research.

### **1.5.2 Conflict of interest**

1.5.2.1 All parties involved in or associated with Proposals and ARC-funded research projects are required to disclose to the ARC affiliations with, or financial involvement in, any organisation which has, or is likely to have, a direct interest in the subject matter or outputs of the project. Such parties are required to disclose to the ARC at the time of submission of Proposals, and in reporting on ARC-funded research projects, any conflict of interest which has the potential to influence, or appear to influence, the research and activities, publications and media reports, or requests for funding related to the Proposal/project.

1.5.2.2 If, in the opinion of the ARC, any party involved in or associated with a Proposal has failed to disclose any such conflict of interest, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend for approval any or all Proposals involving that party.

### 1.5.3 **Dissemination of research outputs**

1.5.3.1 The Australian Government makes a major investment in research to support its essential role in improving the wellbeing of our society. To maximise the benefits from research, findings need to be disseminated as broadly as possible to allow access by other researchers and the wider community.

1.5.3.2 The ARC acknowledges that researchers take into account a wide range of factors in deciding on the best outlets for publications arising from their research. Such considerations include the status and reputation of a journal or publisher, the peer review process of evaluating their research outputs, access by other stakeholders to their work, the likely impact of their work on users of research and the further dissemination and production of knowledge. Taking heed of these considerations, the ARC wants to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the research supported under its funding, in the most effective manner and at the earliest opportunity.

1.5.3.3 The ARC therefore encourages researchers to consider the benefits of depositing their data and any publications arising from a research project in an appropriate subject and/or institutional repository wherever such a repository is available to the researcher(s). If a researcher is not intending to deposit the data from a project in a repository within a six-month period, he/she should include the reasons in the project's Final Report. Any research outputs that have been or will be deposited in appropriate repositories should be identified in the Final Report.

## **2 Organisational types, roles and eligibility**

### **2.1 Eligible Organisations**

- 2.1.1 A *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal may be submitted to the ARC only by an Eligible Organisation. Eligible Organisations for the *Social Sciences Collaboration* are specified in Appendix 2 Item 1 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules* and Appendix 1 of this Call.

## **3 Investigator types, roles and eligibility**

- 3.1.1 The researcher roles and eligibility requirements available for *Linkage International* participants are described at Section 5 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*.
- 3.1.2 Section 14.3 and Appendix 4 Column 4 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules* lists the roles available under the *Social Sciences Collaboration* as:
- a. Chief Investigator (CI);
  - b. Overseas Investigator (OI); and
  - c. Partner Investigator (PI).
- 3.1.3 All CIs, OIs and PIs nominated on a Proposal must satisfy the eligibility criteria for their nominated role as specified in Section 5 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*.
- 3.1.4 At the time of the submission of a Proposal all obligations regarding previously funded projects involving the nominated CIs on the Proposal must have been fulfilled to the satisfaction of the ARC. Such obligations include the provision of satisfactory progress and final reports.
- 3.1.5 Each *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal must include at least one CI and at least one OI. One OI must be a researcher from the UK.
- 3.1.6 Only those OIs who are employed in overseas organisations and who are providing significant commitment, intellectual input and relevant expertise to the project are to be listed as an ‘OI’ on the Proposal.
- 3.1.7 The first-named CI will be considered the ‘Project leader’ and must be an employee, or holder of an adjunct appointment or equivalent, at the proponent Eligible Organisation.
- 3.1.8 *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals need not include Partner Investigators and/or input from organisations which are not Eligible Organisations. However, a Proposal may be strengthened by the involvement of these parties. Where there are Partner Investigators, they are required to make a significant contribution of material resources from their organisation.

## **4 Types of research supported**

4.1.1 Subject to Sections 3.4 and 3.5 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules and Section 4.2 of this Call, the *Social Sciences Collaboration* supports the development of excellent collaborative research between researchers in Australia and the United Kingdom, including:

- a. pure basic research which is experimental and theoretical work undertaken to acquire new knowledge without looking for long-term benefits other than the advancement of knowledge;
- b. strategic basic research which is experimental and theoretical work undertaken to acquire new knowledge directed into specified broad areas that are expected to lead to useful discoveries. It provides the broad base of knowledge necessary to solve recognised practical problems; and
- c. applied research which is original work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge with a specific application in view. It is undertaken either to determine possible uses for the findings of basic research or to determine new ways of achieving some specific and predetermined objectives.

## **4.2 Areas of investigation/work not supported**

4.2.1 Areas of investigation/work not supported under *Linkage International* are detailed within Section 3.4 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules as follows:

- a. Medical and Dental Research.
- b. activities leading solely to the creation or performance of a work of art, including visual art, musical compositions, drama, dance, films, broadcasts, design and literary works. These areas are generally covered by other Commonwealth of Australia Government funding such as the Australia Council for the Arts;
- c. scholarly investigations that, while important in themselves, do not lead to conceptual advances or discoveries, or to novel practical outcomes or applications. Projects such as uncritical compilations and purely descriptive catalogues or editions that do not involve original research are not funded;
- d. production of teaching materials, even though some research may be involved in their production;
- e. compilation of data, unless this is an integral part of a project, in which case the Proposal must include a statement indicating the research objectives to which the data would contribute; and/or
- f. development of research aids and tools (including computer programs), unless they form an integral part of a Proposal, in which case the Proposal must include a statement indicating the research objectives to which these activities would contribute.

4.2.2 If the ARC considers that a Proposal seeks funding for a project that involves

any of the items not permitted under Sections 3.4 or 3.5 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules, then to that extent part or all of the Proposal will not be recommended or approved for funding. However, if the ARC considers other parts of the proposed project remain worthy of support, the ARC may recommend that a reduced amount of funding be approved for the Proposal.

## **5 Funding**

### **5.1 Level of funding**

- 5.1.1 All amounts referred to in the *Linkage International* Funding Rules and this Call are to be read as exclusive of Goods and Services Tax (if any), unless expressly stated otherwise.
- 5.1.2 *Social Sciences Collaboration* projects are expected to commence in 2008. The maximum level of funding which will be provided by the ARC for a *Social Sciences Collaboration* project is \$250,000 total funding over the life of the project.
- 5.1.3 The ARC may recommend partial funding of *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals. Funding must be used only for purposes that are consistent with the *Linkage International* Funding Rules, this Call, and the Funding Agreement.
- 5.1.4 The ARC reserves the right to recommend the levels of funding allocated to a project at levels which may differ from those requested in the Proposal.
- 5.1.5 If a Proposal seeks funding for a project that involves items that the ARC does not permit, including those specified in Sections 3.4 and 3.5 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules, then to that extent part or all of the Proposal will not be recommended or approved for funding.

### **5.2 Duration of funding**

- 5.2.1 Funding for *Social Sciences Collaboration* projects may be awarded for 1 to 5 years, subject to sufficient funding being available for *Linkage International*, the provisions of the ARC Act and continued satisfactory performance of the project. Funding for approved projects will commence with effect 1 January 2008 unless other arrangements are approved by the ARC.
- 5.2.2 The ARC may recommend funding for a project for a period different from that requested in the Proposal.
- 5.2.3 The duration of the proposed *Social Sciences Collaboration* project should match the duration of the counterpart project proposed to the ESRC. Where the duration of counterpart projects do not match, this must be fully justified within the Proposal.

## **6 Budget Items Supported**

- 6.1.1 Subject to the restrictions on budget items listed in Section 3.5 of the *Linkage*

*International Funding Rules* and Section 7 of this Call, the *Social Sciences Collaboration* funding may be sought for:

- a. personnel (salaries and on-costs), including research associates, technicians, laboratory attendants, but excluding those items detailed in subsection 3.5.2b (Salaries of CIs, OIs and PIs) and 3.5.2e (Research support for OIs and PIs) of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*;
- b. equipment;
- c. maintenance; and
- d. travel.

## **7 Budget Items not supported**

- 7.1.1 Areas of investigation/work not supported and restrictions on budget items under all categories of *Linkage International* are specified in Sections 3.4 and 3.5 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*.
- 7.1.2 A Proposal for funding under the *ARC Social Sciences Collaboration* must not duplicate request for funding for items requested in the counterpart application submitted to the ESRC.

## **8 Researchers from Commonwealth-funded Research Centres**

- 8.1.1 Section 14.8 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules* describes conditions pertaining to researchers from Commonwealth-funded Research Centres and potential duplication of funding.
- 8.1.2 Commonwealth-funded Research Centres include, but are not limited to, ARC Centres of Excellence, ARC Centres, NHMRC Program grants and Commonwealth of Australia Research Centres.

### **8.2 Duplication with Commonwealth-funded Research Centres**

- 8.2.1 Funding will not be provided for research already funded by a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre or which could reasonably be expected to be supported by the Centre given its research program and its level of funding. The proposed research outlined in the *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal must not duplicate work that is or will be undertaken by a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre.

Letter showing association between the Proposal and a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre

- 8.2.2 If a *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal identifies a participant who is associated with a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre, and the person will continue to be associated with the Centre after 31 December 2007, the Proposal must include a letter from the Centre Director which:
- a. describes the relationship between the proposed research and the research undertaken by the Centre;
  - b. explains how, and explicitly states that, the proposed research does not duplicate work that is already funded or could reasonably be expected to be funded by the Centre; and
  - c. if Commonwealth funding for the Centre is likely, or is due, to terminate during 2008, provides details regarding the future of the Centre's research activities and the employment circumstances of the participant.
- 8.2.1.1 This letter should be no longer than one page. If such a letter is not provided in the Proposal, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend the Proposal for approval.
- 8.2.1.2 The ARC reserves the right to determine if a proposed project duplicates work funded or likely to be funded as part of a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre. In making a determination the ARC may have regard to, among other matters, the Centre application, Centre funding agreement, business plans, strategic plans and/or Annual Reports. If the ARC considers that any information contained in the *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal, the accompanying letter from the Centre Director and/or the Centre Annual Report is incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading in a material respect, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend the Proposal for approval. If, however, the ARC considers that parts of the proposed project remain worthy of support, the ARC may assess the Proposal in the usual way and instead recommend that reduced funding be approved for the Proposal. If the ARC becomes aware of duplication of funding after a project has been funded the project may be terminated and the Centre Director may be asked to show cause why any ARC funding for the Commonwealth-funded Research Centre should not be terminated.

### **8.3 Cross-scheme issues**

#### **8.3.1 Cross-scheme funding**

- 8.3.1.1 The ARC will not duplicate financial assistance for research and/or collaboration already funded by the Commonwealth of Australia. The ARC reserves the right to determine whether a Proposal duplicates or is likely to duplicate research and/or collaboration being funded by another Commonwealth of Australia source. In such circumstances the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend the Proposal for approval. However, if the ARC considers parts

of the proposed project remain worthy of support, the ARC may assess the Proposal in the usual way and the ARC may instead recommend that a reduced amount of funding be approved for the Proposal.

### 8.3.2 **Cross-scheme eligibility**

8.3.2.1 If a funding request for any proposed research project, salary or equipment has been or is being submitted under the *Linkage International* or any other ARC scheme or to any other Commonwealth of Australia funding body, each Proposal must be cross-referenced and summary details of all other funding and requests must be included in the Proposal. Proposals must indicate the level of funding obtained, or being sought, from all Commonwealth of Australia funding sources and must list all existing research funding from all Commonwealth of Australia sources. If these processes are not observed or the ARC determines that incomplete, misleading or inaccurate details were included in the Proposal, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend the *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal for approval.

8.3.2.2 The ARC may liaise with other funding agencies to discuss any overlap between proposed or existing research projects in order to avoid duplication of funding. The ARC may for this purpose disclose to that agency any information in a Proposal.

### 8.3.3 **Funding of Medical and Dental Research**

8.3.4 The ARC does not fund Medical and Dental Research under *Linkage International*. The ARC reserves the right to determine conclusively whether proposed research involves Medical and Dental Research.

8.3.5 The NHMRC funds a range of Medical and Dental Research. In some instances, it may not be clear to the intended Administering Organisation whether or not a Proposal would fall within this area of research such that it would not be funded by the ARC. In these cases, an Eligibility Ruling Request may be submitted to the ARC, by forwarding a summary of not more than two pages outlining the proposed research, according to the process described in Section 7.1 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules. The ARC may use the Eligibility Ruling Request to decide whether it would be willing to accept a Proposal involving the proposed research. For the purpose of determining a ruling in relation to proposed research the ARC may, but is under no obligation to, refer Eligibility Ruling Requests to the NHMRC in order to consult with the NHMRC about the likelihood of the NHMRC's funding research in the proposed research area. The intended Administering Organisation will be advised of the ARC's decision approximately two weeks after the due date for such requests.

8.3.6 In all cases, whether or not the above process is observed, the ARC reserves the right to decide whether a proposed project falls, or elements of a project fall, within the area of Medical and Dental Research. If the ARC considers that a Proposal falls within this area of research the Proposal will not be recommended or approved for funding.

## **9 Number of Proposals**

- 9.1.1 A person nominated as a CI on a *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal for funding commencing in 2008 may participate in only one *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal funded under this 2007 round. Submitting Proposals that exceed this limit may result in all Proposals involving the relevant researcher(s) not being recommended or approved for funding.
- 9.1.2 Subject to Section 14.8.1 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules and Section 8.2 of this Call, research funding received or sought elsewhere (outside the *Linkage International* scheme) has no impact on eligibility for funding within the *Social Sciences Collaboration*. Nevertheless, the time commitment of the researcher(s) named in the *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal will be considered during the assessment process.

## **9.2 Duplication**

- 9.2.1 Only one Proposal may be submitted to *Linkage International* in respect of a particular project in this funding round, regardless of any variation in the listed researchers and/or Administering Organisation. If the ARC considers that a project described in a Proposal is the same as or similar (in whole or in part) to a project described in another Proposal that is submitted in the same funding round, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend for approval any or all of those Proposals, or recommend that a reduced amount of funding be provided for that or any similar Proposal. The ARC reserves the right to determine whether Proposals are duplicates or sufficiently similar to warrant one or more Proposals' being not recommended for approval.

## **10 Application, Selection and Approval Process**

- 10.1.1 *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals will be received and considered by the ARC under the ARC's *Linkage International* Funding Rules.
- 10.1.2 Sections 7, 8 and 14.10 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules set out the Application, Selection and Approval processes for all categories of *Linkage International*.
- 10.1.3 Proposals for the *Social Sciences Collaboration* must satisfy the requirements specified in the *Linkage International* Funding Rules and the requirements specified in this Call. The key details and criteria relating to the *Social Sciences Collaboration* are summarised at Appendix 4 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules.

## **10.2 Selection criteria**

- 10.2.1 All *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals which meet the eligibility criteria will be assessed and merit ranked in accordance with the selection criteria

stipulated in subsection 14.10.1 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules* as follows:

**a. Investigator(s) (40%)**

Assessment against this criterion will take into account the parties who are to be involved in and associated with the project, including their:

- i. track record relative to opportunities;
- ii. capacity to undertake the proposed collaborative research in relation to the objectives of the *Social Sciences Collaboration*; and
- iii. commitments to other research programs, teaching, committee memberships and administrative duties.

**b. Nature and merit of the Proposal (60%)**

Assessment against these criteria will take into account the nature and merit of the Proposal in relation to the objectives of the *Social Sciences Collaboration* as indicated in subsection 14.1.6 and Appendix 4, Column 5 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*, including:

**i. Approach (25%)**

- does the Proposal aim to stimulate enhanced collaboration and create networks linking social sciences researchers in Australia and the UK?
- are the conceptual framework, design, methods and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, and appropriate to the aims of the Proposal?
- the value for money and budget justification, including where appropriate any cash or in-kind financial contributions to be made from non-ARC sources.

**ii. Significance and innovation (25%)**

- does the proposed collaborative research address an important problem?
- will the anticipated outcomes advance the knowledge base of the discipline?

**iii. National Benefit (10%)**

- what is the potential of the collaborative research to result in economic and/or social benefits to Australia from the expected results and outcomes of the project?
- is the collaborative research principally focussed upon a topic or outcome that falls within one of the National Research Priorities and associated Priority Goals, and if so how does it address the National Research Priority?

### **10.3 Application process**

10.3.1 *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals must comply with the Application

Process specified at Sections 7 and 14.10 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*.

- 10.3.2 A Proposal should be submitted as a mature research plan ready for implementation. The Proposal must contain all the information necessary for its assessment without the need for further written or oral explanation, or reference to additional documentation, unless requested by the ARC.
- 10.3.3 A Proposal should demonstrate the linkage and synergy between the Proposal and its British counterpart and how this is expected to stimulate enhanced collaboration among social science researchers and create networks linking individuals and centres in Australia and the UK.
- 10.3.4 Notwithstanding subsection 10.3.3 of this Call, a Proposal will be assessed as a discrete project.
- 10.3.5 All details in the Proposal must be current at the time of submission.
- 10.3.6 In submitting a Proposal, the Administering Organisation and the CIs, OIs, and PIs nominated in the Proposal are consenting to the Proposal's being assessed under the ARC's peer assessment procedures and to the release of the Proposal to third parties for assessment purposes.

#### **10.4 Certification**

- 10.4.1 The Administering Organisation must obtain the agreement of all parties necessary to allow the proposed project to proceed. These agreements must be attested to by hand-written signatures and certifications from all relevant persons and organisations involved in the Proposal. These agreements, certifications and signatures are to be retained by the Administering Organisation which must provide them if requested by the ARC. A form is available for this purpose on the ARC's Web Site. If the Administering Organisation fails to provide this material upon request, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend the Proposal for approval.
- 10.4.2 A Proposal must be submitted through the appropriate Research Office. If a Proposal has not been submitted through the appropriate Research Office/Chief Executive Officer for certification, the Proposal will not be recommended or approved for funding.

#### **10.5 Submission of Proposals**

- 10.5.1 *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals consist of two parts:
  - a. an on-line form which must be completed and submitted in the ARC on-line Grants Application Management System (GAMS) accessible via the ARC web site at <http://www.arc.gov.au>; and
  - b. additional text which must be submitted as part of the paper version of the Proposal, including relevant supporting documentation, investigator curricula vitae and signed certification.

## 10.5.2 **Format**

10.5.2.1 *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals must comply with the format requirements as specified in subsection 7.4.3 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*.

## 10.5.3 **How to complete and submit a Proposal**

10.5.3.1 *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals must comply with the submission requirements in subsection 7.4.4 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*.

10.5.3.2 A separate document, '*Linkage International Instructions to Applicants for funding commencing in 2008 - Social Sciences Collaboration ICI*', will be available from <http://www.arc.gov.au> to assist in preparing *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals.

10.5.3.3 Research Offices should submit forms in the ARC's on-line GAMS and forward the Proposal and a copy which must, as far as possible, identically match the contents of the submitted on-line application form. Proposals should be sent:

by mail to:

*Linkage International* Coordinator  
Australian Research Council  
GPO Box 2702  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

or by courier to:

*Linkage International* Coordinator  
Australian Research Council  
1st Floor, 8 Brindabella Circuit  
CANBERRA AIRPORT ACT 2609

## 10.5.4 **Number of copies**

10.5.4.1 In addition to the on-line form, a paper version of the Proposal must be submitted in duplicate (one original and one identical copy). The paper version must be clipped, not stapled. The paper version of the Proposal must be submitted with the additional text, including supporting documentation, interleaved appropriately (see '*Linkage International Instructions to Applicants for funding commencing in 2008 - Social Sciences Collaboration ICI*').

## 10.5.5 **Closing time for Proposals**

10.5.5.1 Subject to section 10.5.5.3, the paper versions of the *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal must be received by the ARC, and the on-line form completed using the ARC's on-line grants application management system must be submitted, by **5:00 pm (AEST) Friday 1 June 2007**.

10.5.5.2 Proposals may be withdrawn but additions, deletions and modifications will not be accepted after submission, unless invited by the ARC.

- 10.5.5.3 If a *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal is received by the ARC after 5:00 pm (AEST) Friday 1 June 2007, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend the Proposal for approval. In deciding whether to recommend or not recommend such a Proposal the ARC may take into account whether:
- a. in the opinion of the ARC, exceptional circumstances apply; or
  - b. the Administering Organisation is able to provide evidence to the satisfaction of the ARC that all the documents were despatched by the Administering Organisation sufficiently in advance of the closing time for the documents to have been delivered by the closing time in the normal course of events.

## **10.6 Assessment and selection procedure**

- 10.6.1 Each Proposal will be initially assessed as a discrete project and may be recommended for funding regardless of the counterpart application.
- 10.6.2 Assessment of *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals will be undertaken in accordance with Section 8 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*.
- 10.6.3 Assessment of Proposals is undertaken by the ARC, which has the right to make recommendations solely on the basis of its expertise, and which may:
- a. consider if a Proposal satisfies the eligibility criteria set out in the *Linkage International Funding Rules* and this Call;
  - b. identify and consider any other matters that the *Linkage International Funding Rules* state may result in the ARC's not recommending a Proposal for approval;
  - c. assign assessors to review Proposals;
  - d. seek comments on assessors' reports from the parties involved in the Proposal;
  - e. rank each Proposal relative to the others on the basis of the Proposal, any assessors' reports, and any response to those assessment reports;
  - f. assess and recommend the amount of funding to be made available for a Proposal; and/or
  - g. prepare funding recommendations for the Minister as required by the ARC Act.
- 10.6.4 The ARC College of Experts assists with the assessment of Proposals. The ARC has procedures for managing organisational and personal conflicts of interest experienced by members of the College of Experts, members of other ARC Committees, ARC members, and other assessors, and for enabling individuals to withdraw from the assessment process for particular Proposals where any actual or perceived conflict may exist.
- 10.6.5 The ARC may refer recommended Proposals to the ESRC for further coordinated discussion.

10.6.6 ARC funding of a *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal may be subject to the decision of the ESRC to fund the counterpart application submitted to the ESRC.

10.6.7 Preference may be given for the funding of a *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposal where the ESRC has decided to fund the counterpart application submitted by the overseas counterparts.

#### 10.6.8 **Exclusion of Proposals**

10.6.8.1 In accordance with subsection 8.2.2 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules* the ARC may recommend exclusion of proposals at any time during the selection process.

10.6.8.2 In accordance with subsections 8.2.2.1 and 8.2.2.2 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules*, the ARC will not recommend for approval, and the Minister will not approve for funding, any Proposal that fails to satisfy the “eligibility criteria” set out in those Rules.

#### 10.6.9 **Assessment**

10.6.9.1 In addition to assessment by the ARC, a Proposal may at the ARC’s absolute discretion be assessed by external assessors. Assessors may be drawn from a range of organisations to reduce the potential for conflicts of interest. Proposals will be assessed against the criteria set out in subsection 14.10.1 of the *Linkage International Funding Rules* and subsection 10.2.1 of this Call.

10.6.9.2 The ARC reserves the right to make recommendations for funding to the Minister based on any number of assessments or solely on the assessment of the ARC.

10.6.9.3 Administering Organisations may provide written notification to the ARC naming any person or persons whom they do not wish to assess a Proposal. A “Request not to Assess” form is available from the ARC’s Web Site for this purpose. Such notifications must contain detailed justification and be submitted using the “Request not to Assess” form through the Administering Organisation’s Research Office. This notification must not accompany the Proposal. The notification must be received by the ARC by the closing time for Proposals, **17:00 AEST Friday 1 June 2007**, and be sent:

by mail to:

*Linkage International* Coordinator  
Australian Research Council  
GPO Box 2702  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

or, by courier to:

*Linkage International* Coordinator  
Australian Research Council  
1st Floor, 8 Brindabella Circuit  
CANBERRA AIRPORT ACT 2609

10.6.9.4 The ARC will consider the justification put forward to exclude any person as an assessor, but may choose not to give effect to such a request.

#### **10.6.10 Rejoinder**

10.6.10.1 Assessors' written comments, if obtained, may be provided to allow the opportunity for a rejoinder to the comments. Names of assessors are not provided. At the same time, the ARC may add questions to the material sent for rejoinder. A period of 2 weeks is given to submit a rejoinder to the ARC. Subject to section 10.6.10.2, rejoinders will not be accepted after the nominated closing time for rejoinder submissions. The ARC may limit the length of rejoinders which can be submitted. Rejoinders must be submitted through the ARC's on-line grants application management system.

10.6.10.2 The ARC may, in its absolute discretion, and only in exceptional circumstances, accept late rejoinders.

#### **10.6.11 Recommendations**

10.6.11.1 The ARC's recommendations will be submitted in accordance with the ARC Act to the Minister for Education, Science and Training (the Minister) for consideration. The Minister determines which *Social Sciences Collaboration* Proposals will be approved and the amount and timing of financial assistance to be paid to Administering Organisations for approved Proposals.

10.6.11.2 Under the ARC Act, the Minister may not approve for funding any Proposal that fails to meet the eligibility criteria set out in the *Linkage International* Funding Rules and this Call.

### **10.7 Offer of funding**

10.7.1 Administering Organisations whose Proposals are approved will be:

- a. notified in a letter of offer that will indicate the financial assistance to be offered; and
- b. provided with a copy of a Funding Agreement for signing.

### **10.8 Appeals Process**

10.8.1 Appeals will be considered only against administrative process issues and not, for example, against committee recommendations or assessor ratings and comments.

10.8.2 Section 9 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules provides details regarding the appeals process.

### **10.9 Administration of Funding and Reports**

10.9.1 Section 10 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules provides details relating to the administration of funding and reporting requirements.

## **11 Other Matters**

### **11.1 Applicable law**

11.1.1 The ARC is required to comply with the requirements of the *Privacy Act 1988* and the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

### **11.2 Confidentiality**

11.2.1 The ARC will treat information contained in a Proposal as confidential. However, the ARC may disclose information contained in a Proposal, or otherwise provided to the ARC, to the extent that the information:

- a. is disclosed by the ARC to its advisers (including external assessors), officers, employees or other third parties in order to assess, evaluate or verify the accuracy or completeness of a Proposal;
- b. is disclosed to the ARC's personnel to enable effective management or auditing of *Linkage International* or any Funding Agreement;
- c. is disclosed by the ARC to the Minister;
- d. is shared by the ARC within the ARC's organisation, with the ESRC, or with another Commonwealth of Australia Department or agency, where this serves the Commonwealth of Australia's legitimate interests;
- e. is authorised or required by law to be disclosed;
- f. is disclosed in accordance with any other provision of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules and this Call or the Funding Agreement; or
- g. is in the public domain otherwise than due to a breach by the ARC of any obligation of confidence.

11.2.2 Where information contained in a Proposal is made available to third parties for evaluation or assessment purposes the ARC will require the third parties to maintain the confidentiality of the material.

11.2.3 Notwithstanding the above, and in addition to the exemptions listed at subsection 11.2.1 of this Call, the ARC may publicise and report offers or awards of funding, including information about the proposed research; the name of nominated CIs, OIs, PIs and their organisations; the name of the Administering Organisation and any other parties involved in or associated with the project; the title and summary descriptions of the project and its intended outcomes (including the national/community benefits that are expected to arise from the research); and the level and nature of financial assistance from the ARC. Administering Organisations should ensure that information contained in the project title and summaries would not, if released, compromise their own requirements for confidentiality (such as future protection of intellectual property).

### **11.3 Project description**

11.3.1 In making public information about a Proposal which has been approved for

funding the ARC may use a project description, including title and summary, which may differ from that provided in the Proposal.

## **11.4 Intellectual property**

11.4.1 Section 11.4 of the *Linkage International* Funding Rules provides details relating to the ownership of any intellectual property in a Proposal or which is created or developed from the conduct of a project funded under *Linkage International*.

## **11.5 Incomplete or misleading information**

11.5.1 It is a serious offence to provide false or misleading information to the Commonwealth of Australia.

11.5.2 If the ARC considers that a Proposal is incomplete, inaccurate or contains false or misleading information, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend the Proposal for approval. If an Administering Organisation and/or researcher nominated in a Proposal as a CI, OI or PI has provided the ARC with incomplete, unsatisfactory, inaccurate or misleading information in relation to any Proposal or in the provision of advice relating to reporting of progress of a project funded by the Commonwealth, the ARC may in its absolute discretion decide to not recommend the Proposal for approval and/or terminate projects involving that organisation/person if funded and require the Administering Organisation to repay some or all of the funding.

11.5.3 If the ARC believes that omissions, or inclusion of misleading information, are intentional, or if there is evidence of misconduct, the ARC may refer the matter for investigation with a view to prosecution under Commonwealth criminal law. The Commonwealth of Australia is committed to protecting its revenue, expenditure and property from any attempt, by members of the public, contractors, sub-contractors, agents, intermediaries or its own employees, to gain financial or other benefits by deceit.

11.5.4 Examples of misleading information and misconduct include, but are not restricted to:

- a. providing fictitious track records;
- b. making false claims in publications records (such as describing a paper as accepted for publication when it has only been submitted);
- c. failing to disclose to the ARC the existence, and nature of, actual or potential conflicts of interest of any of the parties involved in the Proposal/project (such as any affiliations or financial interest in any organisation that has a direct interest in the matter or outputs of the project).

## **11.6 Insurance and liabilities**

11.6.1 Administering Organisations are subject to the liability, indemnity and insurance provisions of the Funding Agreement. A draft Funding Agreement can be

viewed on the ARC website (<http://www.arc.gov.au>).

## **Appendix 1: Eligible Organisations**

Eligible Organisations for the *Social Sciences Collaboration*:

### **New South Wales**

Charles Sturt University  
Macquarie University  
Southern Cross University  
The University of New England  
The University of New South Wales  
The University of Newcastle  
The University of Sydney  
University of Technology, Sydney  
University of Western Sydney  
University of Wollongong

### **Victoria**

Deakin University  
La Trobe University  
Melbourne College of Divinity  
Monash University  
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT University)  
Swinburne University of Technology  
The University of Melbourne  
University of Ballarat  
Victoria University

### **Queensland**

Bond University  
Central Queensland University  
Griffith University  
James Cook University  
Queensland University of Technology  
The University of Queensland  
The University of the Sunshine Coast  
University of Southern Queensland

### **Western Australia**

Curtin University of Technology  
Edith Cowan University  
Murdoch University  
The University of Notre Dame Australia  
The University of Western Australia

### **South Australia**

Flinders University  
The University of Adelaide  
University of South Australia

**Tasmania**

Australian Maritime College  
University of Tasmania

**Northern Territory**

Charles Darwin University  
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education

**Australian Capital Territory**

The Australian National University  
University of Canberra

**Multi-State**

Australian Catholic University

**Museums and herbaria** which are Australian publicly funded organisations not directly funded to carry out research, but with research-related purposes and objectives.