Matariki (MNU) Research Seed Fund 2023/2024

As agreed by Matariki Partners

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The Matariki Network of Universities (MNU) is launching a call for seed funding to develop a stronger relationship in globally-relevant fields of research between its partners, as described in "Guidelines for Matariki (MNU) Research Seed Fund 2023/2024".

At the meeting at Queen's University in September 2022, Executive Heads and International Leads agreed to implement a seed fund, starting with a two-year pilot phase. The pilot should trial a "modular" approach whereby partners only fund those parts of the projects related to their own researchers. Further details have been worked out by the planning group led by Uppsala University.

Additional information:

- Proposals will be invited for a maximum of £25,000 (total £210,000 per call/year)

- Wherever possible, the assessment panel will aim for even distribution between partners

- Project duration of 12-24 months

- Projects should involve at least two (2) MNU institutions

- Cost plans shall be issued in GBP and are to include the current exchange rate of project partners' own currencies

- New members added to the Network will be invited to participate in the second call

Each Partner University will:

- Make available £30,000/year for a pilot round with two (2) calls, in total £60,000

- Advertise calls

- Appoint one (1) central contact person for communications and the management of funds at their own institution

- Appoint one (1) panel member for assessment

- Fund their own expenses

- Stay in contact with the Central Secretariat and Uppsala University [Seed Fund Lead] during the process

Central Secretariat together with Lead Partner (Uppsala University) will:

- Liaise with MNU coordinators and/or central contact person for MNU Seed Fund at partner institutions during the process

- Distribute calls

- Collect applications (via an online platform)

- Arrange assessment panel meeting(s)

- Inform applicants after panel decisions

- Monitor the progress of projects

- Administer Progress Reports (after 12 months) and Completion Reports (after 24 months).

Each Partner University agrees:

· That each University will undertake their activities within the applicable rules, policies, and associated governance requirements of their own institution and jurisdiction; and

· To amicably settle any conflicts arising during the performance of the projects or from the above-mentioned procedures during the pilot phase, including any differences in their own governance requirements.

Time line:

Pre call: Early June 2023

Call opens: September 25th 2023

Submission deadline: December 8th 2023

Assessment and panel meeting: January 2024

Announcement of results: End of January 2024

Earliest start date of projects: February 2024

Latest start date of projects: April 2024