

Evaluation criteria

The main criteria for approving a scientific transdisciplinary research proposal for the ACT centre support

The approval of a proposal involves evaluating its feasibility, originality, relevance, innovativeness and potential impact across multiple disciplines, the potential academic impact (publications) and its practical impact.

Here are seven basic criteria for evaluating proposals: The proposals must meet as many as possible of these criteria to increase their possibilities for acceptance.

The various criteria will have a different weight in the final grading of the proposal. A minimum grade is required for a proposal to be accepted. All issues mentioned must be addressed in the proposal.

1. Integration of disciplines

The project should go beyond mere multidisciplinary aiming at a true synthesis of ideas and methodologies. This requires a strong justification for why the research requires a transdisciplinary approach, explaining how insights from different disciplines will be integrated to address the research problem.

2. Research Problem and Objectives

The proposal should articulate a well-defined research problem, research questions, and objectives demonstrating the need for a transdisciplinary approach. The research questions must be broad and complex enough to warrant collaboration across multiple disciplines. Originality, innovativeness and impact (scholarly and practical) are important parameters of the proposed projects

3. Methodological Rigor

The proposed methods are rigorous, comprehensive, and innovative. Must be also appropriate for each discipline involved. The research design(s) must be robust and the methods should be transparent and replicable.

4. Academic Relevance and Societal Impact

Assess the relevance of the proposal as an academic topic and a real-world challenge. The potential of the proposal as a source of high-quality academic publications is of utmost importance.

5. Effective Communication and Collaboration Plan and Effective Dissemination

The plan must render a strategy for effective communication and collaboration among team members from diverse disciplines. This requires a clear communication strategy,

conflict-resolving mechanisms, and an understanding of how different perspectives will be integrated into the research process.

A strategy for dissemination of knowledge across disciplines (scientific publications, conferences) promoting collaboration and ensuring the broader impact of the research is also an important component of the plan.

6. Feasibility and Resources

The plan must present a realistic assessment of the feasibility of the proposed research including the availability of resources, expertise, and infrastructure justifying the amount required. Also, it is important to include in the proposal a well-defined budget and timeline that accounts for the complexities of transdisciplinary research.

7. Ethical Considerations

The proposal must assess the ethical consideration of the study, especially when dealing with diverse populations, private information, or sensitive issues. The ethical guidelines must be followed to ensure the well-being and consent of participants.