Open call: Research – external stakeholder collaboration

Dear researcher,

You may have heard of the European Reform University Alliance (ERUA and RE:ERUA), and now we want to hear from you!

The Re-ERUA project focuses on "Research and Engagement for the European Reform University Alliance". RE:ERUA is the research unit linked to ERUA, the Alliance of European Reform Universities within the European Universities Initiative. Roskilde University has the role to stimulate ERUA to foster the engagement for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) of all sectors' organizations and citizens through good governance, mutual learning, agreed practices and multi-actor and public engagement initiatives in research and innovation. Shortly said, we investigate research and innovation from the perspective of participatory and inclusive societal engagement. As part of our work package, we explore fellow researchers' ideas and practices within collaborative research projects.

Hence, we are encouraging that you and at least one other partner in the alliance go together and show us what you do in terms of collaborating with external stakeholder/civil society. No matter the topic of research our focus is on learning from you in developing innovative collaborative research methodologies. Hence the collaborating processes is the scope of our interest and the content of the data we will collect.

Thus, this is an invitation for you to reach out to colleagues in the alliance and suggest a small pilot research experiment or for inviting an alliance partner into an already running research project focusing on social innovation and societal engagement both within civil society and the business sector across ERUA alliance partners.

This is an invitation for you to:

- Strengthen ongoing collaborations or establish new ones within RE:ERUA or with external stakeholders
- Scale best practices and methodologies to the entire alliance
- Communicate findings for an academic and general international audience

Researchers of *all levels of experience* and from the entire alliance are encouraged to apply.

Two collaborative research experiments will be selected to run in the spring 2023. (One has run in the fall 2022, so in total three locations will be selected). The aims of the collaborative experiments are to:

1. Explore sites of potential collaboration where new forms of responsible research focusing on societal engagement and innovation can take place.
2. Describe already pioneering projects of responsible research for RE:ERUA in order to potentially scale its methodologies to the entire alliance.

The methodologies and outcomes of the experiments and projects will be described and published in collaboration with the RE:ERUA research team at Roskilde University with input from its Board members and expert group researchers. The collaborative methods and collaboration with external stakeholders is the focus of this initiative, as we wish to increase knowledge about collaborative research methodologies in the alliance.

In order to apply for funding for conducting the pilot-projects the following must be described:

Criteria of selection

1. At least two alliance partners are involved.
2. The research experiment involves an external stakeholder, preferably a representative from civil society.
3. The research experiment describes its aim of social change and/or social innovation.
4. The research experiment is innovative in its collaborative research methodologies
5. It describes its take on responsibility (transparency, responsiveness, anticipation, inclusion, reflexivity).
6. The application reflects on how partners/research projects can learn from its approach.

Selection and evaluation process

The applications will be examined and evaluated by our selection committee consisting of the RE:ERUA board members and the RUC research wp3 team. In the evaluation process members of the board will estimate to what degree the applications match the described criteria of selection. These considerations will be noted in a shared internally between the selection committee where the top three project-applications will be passed on to the RUC wp3 team of RE-ERUA. Based on criteria on feasibility, learning, and innovative ambition, we will choose the selected pilot projects.

Timeframe

Deadline for applications for the open call is the 15th of November at 12:00 CET 2022
On the 16th of November the applications will be distributed amongst the board members.
On the 20th of November the board members will enroll their rating of the top three projects in our common evaluation matrix. The RUC team of RE-ERUA will choose the final project.
On the 21st of November the final decision of the project that will take place in the spring of 2023 will be made and the board will be notified.

Please send the application no later than the 15th of November 2022 with a max of 3 pages. Using the template (inserted below). Mail: Katia Dupret: katia@ruc.dk

Funding

In case of funding the applicants commit to engage in a reflexive documentation process facilitated by the WP3 team of how their project can be of value and inspiration to other projects in the alliance. The WP3 team will visit the project and it is to be suggested in the time frame how this could be feasible from the perspective of the project initiators. Please ensure substantial time to communicate and engage with the WP3.

The Economic frame counts for €10,000 per project, covering transport, accommodation, and a symbolic payment to external partners participating in the project.

Inspiration

The experimental collaborative research projects are aimed to be multi-disciplinary. Some *additional* keywords that may help you to consider your collaborative project as relevant are:

- Democratic use of technology
- Empowerment
- User involvement
- Citizen science
- Social, ethical, universal design
- Sustainability from a broad sense of the term
- Social entrepreneurship, responsible entrepreneurship, societal entrepreneurship
- Social change, transformative change
- Commons, ecosystems
- Embodied ethics
- Sustainable and social impact
- Developing methodology and outputs with external stakeholders from civil society and the business sector or public institutions

All the best from the RE:ERUA WP3 research team and WP3 board in responsible research and social innovation, University of Roskilde, Department of People and Technology

On behalf of the wp3 RE:ERUA group,

Assoc. Prof. Katia Dupret, Assist. Prof. Daniela Lazoroska, Phd.student Anna Umantseva, Post doc. Jennifer Eschweiler

Application template

RE:ERUA collaboration on pilot experiments for conducting responsible research (max. 3. Pages) in a PDF. Application deadline is the 15th of November 12hCET. To be sent to Katia@ruc.dk

1. Who are the alliance partners involved in the pilot collaboration? Please indicate university, department, research unit, name, and position

2. Please write a brief description of the overall purpose of the research project and its main research question.

3. What are the external stakeholders (preferably from civil society) involved in the pilot collaboration? Please indicate organization, contact person, contact details, role in the collaboration and main aim of the collaboration

4. What is the social change and/or social innovation aimed for with the pilot collaboration? How is it aimed to be operationalized?

5.. What are the collaborative research methodologies used/developed?

6. In what way is the pilot research collaboration responsible? In relation to transparency, responsiveness, anticipation, inclusion, reflexivity (rather explain few dimensions more concretely, rather than all in superficial manners).

7. What are the take aways from the pilot experiment? i.e. what is the learning and beneficiary outputs for the collaborating partners. (e.g., development of new research methodologies with the focus on collaboration, initiation of a collaborative bigger research project, joint academic writing on stakeholder involvement)

8. Timeline (Fall 2022, or Spring 2023) (Please include how you think the RUC wp3 team can visit)

9. Budget (broken down into travelling, accommodation, remuneration for researchers and external stakeholders etc.)