Call for Proposals- ACES Seed Projects
Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are overseas organisations eligible for funding?
The funding rules mean that overseas collaborators are not eligible to receive funding directly as a project partner. However, they can be included as a sub-contractor in the project and receive funding that way. Of course, this will mean reduced funding for the lead organisation.

2. Are private companies eligible for funding?
As above, private companies not eligible to receive funding directly as project lead or as a project partner. However, they can be included in the project as a sub-contractor.

3. Is there room for innovation in systems, data analysis, modelling packaging, BMS, etc.?
Yes. We want to capture innovations in systems engineering, power electronics and power management etc. here as well as developments in chemistry.

4. Are variations on current technologies in scope, e.g., tweaks to electrolytes to enable operation for hot/cold climates?
Yes. This call isn’t just about developing new chemistries. We want to encourage our community to explore different approaches that will enable batteries and systems to work better and last longer in different and more challenging environments.

5. Is electric cooking in scope? This could be a very interesting application for battery technology.
Not directly. Clean cooking is a separate Ayrton Challenge in its own right, led by Loughborough University. However, if there are other applications for any technology developed then it could be in scope.

6. There is mention of potential of follow-on funding, how will that work?
Successful seed projects would be invited to submit a proposal into the larger research project call, which will open in 2025. All projects need to demonstrate a clear route to impact in target countries and/or a demonstrator on the ground at the end of it.

7. So, this call could be viewed as the first stage of a two-stage process?
Yes, although the larger research project call will not be restricted to just the successful seed projects and there will be no requirement to have submitted a proposal into the seed call to be eligible for funding in the larger project call.

8. I am unclear on the scope of the recycling theme; can you tell what’s in scope and what isn’t?
Batteries and cells are likely to be recycled in garages and other informal settings, this is the nature of the industry in many of the TEA target countries. What is needed are simple, safe
methods that could be used in these locations to help enable this to happen in a safer, more sustainable way.

The purpose of this strand is threefold; 1) simple methods that can be used for recycling Li-ion cells 2) recycling methods for Na-ion and LFP as there will be a future need to recycle these cells and 3) can methods which are developed be disseminated in a way that people outside of a research/university lab can still recycle cells safely and efficiently and in a way that they can extract value (this applies to all chemistries).

9. **Is LFP in scope or not, it’s not clear to me.**
   LFP is not in scope for the alternative chemistries theme, as R & D in this area is well established. Where LFP is in scope is in the recycling theme, where further research into recycling methods for this chemistry is needed.

For more information please visit:

https://www.faraday.ac.uk/opportunities/aces-seed-project-call/