

ESPA Directorate: Open Access Funding for Journal Articles

Essential Information for Applicants!

The UK Government in 2012 committed to a shift towards open access publication of the results of all public-funded research in the UK. The UK Research Councils subsequently developed a [policy](#) (updated December 2016) to support open access publication and from April 2013, the Research Councils introduced a block grant to universities and eligible research organisations to cover the cost of article processing charges (APCs). More details are available on the RCUK website <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/openaccess/policy/>. The Department for International Development (DFID) also issued an [open and enhanced access policy](#).

Funded by two UK Research Councils and DFID and as an international research programme, designed to produce world-class research and evidence to promote the sustainable management and use of ecosystem services to support poverty alleviation, the Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) programme aspires to achieve 100% open access rates. To achieve this the Directorate has launched an open access fund to support eligible research. The fund will be open until 28th February 2018.

Important Criteria:

1. Applications can only be submitted by individuals who are or have been researchers on an ESPA grant.
2. Applications will only be supported from researchers who have been unable to obtain open access funding from their own research institutions such as through the RCUK block grants.
3. Supporting evidence (for example, an email or a letter) showing why funding has not been obtained must be provided from the relevant institutions and submitted to manager@espa.ac.uk.
4. Where ESPA funding is granted, the journal article must be made Open Access immediately at the time of on-line publication using the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license.
5. In most cases a successful applicant will be expected to invoice Research into Results (RiR) directly for the fee with the accompanying evidence from the journal. The applicant must clearly state when they would expect to invoice RiR. In the case where a journal will invoice RiR directly, this must be clearly stated including when this would be.

Notes:

- Applications must be submitted using the Arial font with a minimum size of 11pt.
- Please do not type information into parts of tables that have grey backgrounds. These sections will be ignored during processing.
- Please do not add or delete rows in any of the sections of the forms.
- Applications must be submitted to manager@espa.ac.uk.
- **Please note, that the Directorate is keen to see developing country authorship on publications emerging from the ESPA programme.**

Data Protection

Information about your application including the personal information provided on the forms will be processed and stored electronically by the ESPA Secretariat, Directorate and representatives of ESPA's funders (NERC, ESRC and DFID). The information contained in your application may be passed on to external reviewers in confidence. Reviewers will be asked to destroy information after the review and selection process is complete.

Your application and personal information will be stored by the ESPA programme for management purposes but will not be shared with other organisations outside the ESPA partnership. We will use details provided in the application only for correspondence about the call. In order to take advantage of all ESPA Directorate services and to link with other researchers and users of research, please register [here](#).

By submitting your application to the ESPA programme you have indicated your acceptance of these data protection terms and conditions.

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Section 1: Summary	
Information	Detail
Project Title	
Grant Reference	
Open Access Fee (£)	

Section 2: Applicant	
Information	Detail
Name	
Title (Ms, Mr, Dr etc.)	
Institution	
Email address	
Contact no.	

Section 3: Publication Details	
Information	Detail
Journal title	
Title of article	
Abstract	
Has the article been formally accepted by the journal?	
Estimated timescales for publication	

Section 4: Open Access Eligibility	
Information	Detail
Has ESPA been acknowledged in the publication according to ESPA's guidelines ?	
Is the article peer-reviewed, original (primary) research?	
Please provide the names and institutions of <i>all</i> authors	
If any institutions are UK based, please explain why open access funding cannot be obtained from any one of these institutions.	
If relevant, please	

provide any other details to support your application	
Have you submitted supporting evidence from the relevant institutions (if applicable) showing why open access funding cannot be obtained.	
How and when will you invoice Research into Results?	

Signed (Applicant)	
Date	

Signed and Endorsed (Lead Principal Investigator)	
Date	