

National University of Singapore - University of Warwick Joint Seed Fund

2026 CALL DOCUMENT AND GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS

Purpose

The National University of Singapore (NUS) and the University of Warwick (Warwick) aim to promote early-stage collaboration among researchers on both sides through provision of funds to explore possible areas of research collaborations and to develop and reinforce lasting contacts with the very best researchers in their field.

Collaboration Fund

NUS and Warwick are committed to awarding up to 3 successful projects in the areas of humanities and computational social science.

Proposals with the potential for sustainability beyond the initial funding period will be given preference.

Funding and Project Duration

Budget requests should be no more than £5,000 from Warwick and S\$8,500 from NUS per joint project for a duration of one year. Funds can only be spent on activities that fit the purpose of this call. Applicants should itemise their budget using the budget template provided.

Each Institution's contributions will be used exclusively to fund its own researcher and their research expenses and will not be transferable between institutions. The award of any funds from either Institution will be subject, in each case, to the internal processes and procedures of such Institution. All travel activities must comply with the guidelines of the respective universities. Staff time including the Co-PIs time cannot be costed to the project.

Eligibility Criteria

Each application should have one Principal Investigator (PI) based at Warwick and one PI based at NUS. Only one proposal per PI per call is permitted.

At NUS, the fund is open to full-time academic staff only, with at least 75% time at NUS and a contract period that outlast the project period.

At Warwick, applicants must be permanent or fixed-term academic staff with a contract period that outlast the project period.

Adjunct/Honorary staff members whose home institution is neither NUS nor Warwick are not eligible to be PIs but can be listed as further co-investigators.

Applications must be completed on the template provided and within the page limit stated.

The joint proposal is to be uploaded to the application portal via this [link](#). Only applications submitted before the deadline will be considered.

Applicants will be required to engage with the dissemination of the outcomes of their initiative, including presenting at a colloquium or other events organised by NUS and/or Warwick following the completion of the initiative, as required.

Application Deadline and Project Milestones

Each application should have one PI based at Warwick and one PI based at NUS and should contain:

- A written case for support (maximum 2 pages) to include:
 - A description of the relevant research/training conducted in recent years;
 - A description of the activities and collaboration proposed;
 - Explanation of how the activities proposed will generate demonstrable added value to the PI / Research Group / Department / Faculty / College
 - A description of the opportunities available for leveraging funding, especially from overseas sources;
- A financial summary: Each application should provide information on the requested costs using the budget section of the application template (see 'Funding Requested').
- Two-page CVs of the Warwick and NUS PIs.
- **Warwick PIs** will also be required to complete and submit, at the same time as their application, the **Warwick Requirements Form** which includes an Export Control and Ethics check as part of University Financial Regulations.

Researchers from other institutions may also participate as Co-Investigators at their own expense.

Applications must be completed on the template provided and within the page limit stated.

Application Deadline and Project Milestones

- Joint grant call opens: 24 March 2026
- Deadline for the submission of joint application: 22 April 2026
- Release date of the results: w/c 13 July 2026
- Start date of the awarded projects: 1 August 2026
- Project Completion: 31 July 2027 (with no further extension)
- Project Report (First Year): 31 August 2027

Review and Selection of Applications

Each side will rank the proposals based on the following selection criteria:

- Technical merit: i.e. the importance/novelty of the project within its field or in terms of the challenges it seeks to address.
- Strategic merit/alignment: the selection committee will be guided by these considerations
 - - How the project advances the interests of both institutions;
 - A clear case of complementarity/synergy between the proposed applicants (the whole project outcomes being greater than the sum of its parts);
 - Funding potential (the ability to produce a convincing roadmap for future funding)
 - Potential for the project to include relevant third parties (e.g. commercial, governmental and non-governmental organisations) for greater impact.
- Joint capacity: i.e. the standing and track record of the academic involved, and the evidence of their shared commitment to achieving the aims of the project.

NUS and Warwick will then jointly decide on the final agreed selections.

At NUS, all eligible applications will be considered for funding by the Office of the Deputy President (Research & Technology),

At Warwick, all eligible applications will be considered for funding by the International Strategy and Relations (ISR) team, supported by members of the International Executive.

Expected Outcomes

Researchers are expected to achieve at least one of the following outcomes by the end of the project period:

- a. Researchers/students from one Institution shall carry out research under the Project in the other Institution; or
- b. Researchers from one institution shall give at least one specialized lecture in the other institution; or
- c. Jointly hold a physical/online workshop at either institution; or
- d. The submission of at least one joint co-authored refereed publication in a national/internationally recognized journal; or
- e. Jointly apply for national/international competitive grant or other sources of external funding; or
- f. Other outcomes of equal value.

Reporting

PIs are required to provide a report within 4 weeks of the end of the project period, to both isr@warwick.ac.uk and dprlimbn@nus.edu.sg, using a template provided. The narrative element of the report should provide details of the relevant activities supported and how these have addressed the objectives of the call. The financial element of the report serves as a Final Expenditure Statement and should detail the award amount and the award spent. Responsibility remains with the PIs to ensure that all expenses are charged to the correct award code.

To assess the longer-term impact of the funding, upon completion of the award, follow-up reports for up to three (3) years are required from Warwick PIs.

Application Portal

This is a joint call, and an application should be jointly submitted by the Warwick and NUS PIs.

The PIs from NUS and Warwick need to work together to prepare a single pdf application. The application needs to be submitted to only NUS using their application portal. **Please note that** Microsoft Form only allows people within the organization to upload files, NUS PI should upload the complete joint application (including the **Warwick Requirements Form**) and two-page CVs in a single pdf file on behalf of the team at this [application portal](#) before it expires on 22 April 2026 Singapore Time.

Contacts

Please contact your respective institution's coordinator if you have any queries about this grant:

University of Warwick

Email: isr@warwick.ac.uk

International Strategy and Relations

National University of Singapore

dprlimbn@nus.edu.sg

Office of the Deputy President
(Research & Technology)