**Supergen Network Plus in Artificial Intelligence for Renewable Energy**

**Flexible Funding Call**

1. **Overview of the Call**

The Supergen Network+ in Artificial Intelligence for Renewable Energy (SuperAIRE) invites applications for flexible research funding to support high-quality, innovative projects that align with the Network’s strategic vision. This funding aims to accelerate the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) across the renewable energy (RE) sector, driving forward transformative research that contributes to net zero and long-term sustainability.

Proposals are expected to demonstrate alignment with [**SuperAIRE’s six core research themes**](https://superaire.org/ambition/) and address challenges at the intersection of AI and RE. Funded activities should contribute to the advancement of fundamental or applied research, foster cross-disciplinary or cross-sector collaboration, and offer potential for meaningful academic, industrial, or societal impact.

This call is open to researchers from eligible UK institutions and is intended to enable new ideas, methodologies, and partnerships that can unlock the full potential of AI in transforming the renewable energy landscape.

1. **Summary of Call Details**

**Total budget available:** £60,000 (100% FEC)

**Maximum award per project:** £20,000 (100% FEC)

In line with EPSRC policy, 80% of the Full Economic Cost (FEC) will be covered. The remaining 20% must be met by the applicant’s institution.

**Call opens:** 15th September 2025

**Call closes:** 5pm, 14th October 2025

**Proposal review meeting:** w/c 27th October 2025

**Notification of funding decisions:** w/c 27th October 2025

**Project completion deadline:** 30 June 2026

1. **SuperAIRE Alignment**

The SuperAIRE Flexible Funding is designed to enable innovative, high-quality research that advances the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Renewable Energy (RE) systems. Proposals should demonstrate how they contribute to SuperAIRE’s vision of accelerating the intelligent and digital transformation of the RE sector, strengthening the UK’s role as a global leader in AI-enabled energy innovation. Funded projects must align with one or more of the **six SuperAIRE research themes**, which define the strategic priorities of SuperAIRE:

* **RT1: Robust and trustworthy AI** – ensuring safety, transparency, and reliability in AI for RE applications.
* **RT2: Prediction and forecasting across scales** – advancing AI methods for accurate forecasting of resources, demand, and system behaviours.
* **RT3: AI-powered digital twins** – developing digital twins from component level to system-wide applications for optimisation, integration, and lifecycle management.
* **RT4: Intelligent control and management** – creating AI-based solutions for enhanced efficiency, resilience, and cost-effectiveness in the operations and management of RE systems.
* **RT5: Smart integration with energy systems** – addressing the challenges of coordinating multi-vector energy systems and integrating diverse RE technologies.
* **RT6: Robotics and autonomous systems (RAS)** – combining AI with robotics and computer vision to advance resource assessment, operations, and maintenance.

Flexible Funding supports a broad range of **research-focused activities**, including but not limited to:

* **Exploratory and proof-of-concept research**
* **Novel AI development for renewable energy**
* **Collaborative and cross-disciplinary research**
1. **Applicant Eligibility**
* This call follows the standard EPSRC eligibility criteria.
* An applicant can submit only one proposal as Project Lead under this call.
1. **Costs**

Total eligible cost per project is £20,000 (100% FEC). This will be funded at 80% FEC in-line with EPSRC funding policy. Your institution needs to fund the remaining 20% FEC. Applicants are required to follow their institution’s grant costing procedures and consult with their departmental costing team as part of the application process. Applicants must only include eligible EPSRC costs and Terms and Conditions of standard UKRI FEC grant awards apply.

Support from SuperAIRE may take various forms, including but not limited to:

* Staff time.
* Consumables.
* Travel for national or international research activities and collaborations.
* Activities aimed at disseminating the project outcomes, including organisation of outreach events such as workshops, seminars, or stakeholder briefings.

**Equipment costs are not eligible.**

1. **Application Process**

Applications, including the following two documents, should be submitted via email to superaire@warwick.ac.uk with the subject line ‘**SuperAIRE Flexible Funding Application – Project Lead Surname** ’ before **5pm, 14th October 2025**.

**6.1. Case for Support (Maximum 3 pages, Arial 11pt, minimum 2cm margins on all sides)**

Applicants should provide a comprehensive description of the proposed research activities, structured under the following subsections:

* **Track Record of the Core Team** – Briefly summarise expertise and prior work that demonstrates the team’s capability to deliver the project.
* **Background** – Briefly outline the context and motivation for the proposed work.
* **Ambition and Importance** – Describe the novelty, significance, and potential contribution of the research.
* **Methodology** **and Work Plan** – Explain the research approach, methods, and work plan.
* **Alignment with SuperAIRE Research Themes** – Indicate how the project aligns with one or more of SuperAIRE’s six core research themes.
* **Potential Impact and Expected Outcomes** – Outline the anticipated outcomes and potential academic, industrial, societal, or policy-related impacts.
* **Budget and Justification** – Provide a breakdown and justifications of the requested funding.

The completed Case for Support must be saved as a PDF and named using the following format:
**SuperAIRE\_FF\_[Project Lead Surname]\_C4F.pdf**

**6.2. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Information Form**

As part of the application process, applicants are required to complete the **SuperAIRE Flexible Funding – EDI Information Form**. It should be submitted as a separate attachment from the Case for Support. The data collected through this form will not be used in the assessment process or shared with the panel. It will be used solely to inform and improve our EDI practices, helping to ensure accessibility and inclusivity for all.

**6.3 Letter(s) of Support, if any. Co-funding from project partners is welcome.**

1. **Assessment Process**
2. **Eligibility Check**

The SuperAIRE Senior Project Manager will conduct an eligibility check for each application to determine whether all mandatory documents have been provided, and whether the applicant satisfies the eligibility criteria.

1. **Proposal Review**

Eligible proposals will be reviewed by the SuperAIRE Management Board.

Funding decisions will be made based on the following criteria:

* Research Excellence: The extent to which the proposed activity demonstrates high scientific and academic quality.
* Deliverability: The feasibility of delivering the proposed activities, based on the core team’s track record, available resources, planning, and the overall cost-effectiveness of the proposal.
* Impact: The potential of the proposed activity to generate meaningful impact, both within and beyond academia.
* Strategic Alignment: The extent to which the proposed work complements, or enhances, the SuperAIRE research themes.

The successful applicants may be asked to make amendments or reasonable adjustments if deemed necessary.

1. **Post-Award Requirements**

Successful applicants will be required to submit a final report detailing the project outcomes, use of funds, and how the work aligns with one or more SuperAIRE research themes. Recipients are also expected to actively engage with SuperAIRE activities.

1. **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

One of the core values of SuperAIRE is to promote EDI across all its activities and within the wider research community. Applications are welcome from all eligible individuals, particularly those from under-represented groups, as well as those returning from a career break or who have followed non-traditional career paths. EDI principles will be considered throughout the whole process.

1. **Contact and Further Information**

For all enquiries regarding this call, please contact:
**Email:** superaire@warwick.ac.uk

Further information about SuperAIRE can be found at:
**Website:** [www.superaire.org](http://www.superaire.org)

We also encourage applicants and interested colleagues to [**join the SuperAIRE community and subscribe to our Newsletter**](https://superaire.org/join-us/). Membership is open to anyone who wish to engage with our network, participate in events, and collaborate on advancing the role of AI in renewable energy.