



## Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems

### **STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO THE CRP APPLICATION FORM**

#### **FOR CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP SPONSORSHIP**

Please read this Guide carefully to ensure that your application is completed correctly and to the highest standard to assure its full consideration.

Do not hesitate to contact the CRP Secretariat at any time during the process of completing the Application Form if you encounter any problems or need any assistance: [TAD/PROG@oecd.org](mailto:TAD/PROG@oecd.org).

Sections marked with \* are mandatory and you will not be able to proceed to the next page without completing this section.

Because of this constraint, it is advisable to download the pdf model of the application form to prepare all required information in advance of completing the form.

You may “Save and Exit” the application form at any time and come back to it to continue completing it. When you “Save and Exit”, you will be given a link to your application form which you should save or e-mail to yourself to be able to go back to your application form.

When you have completed the application form, you will need to click on “Finish” on the last page of the form. *N.B.* You will then have a blank screen, but you will receive an e-mail informing you that your application has been submitted and which will include a copy of your application.



Step-by-Step Guide to the Application Form for Conference/Workshop Funding

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**1.a. Applicant - Please give your full contact details:**

1. *Title*: Use the drop-down list.
2. *First name* – or given name.
3. *Surname* – or family name.
4. *Gender*: Use the drop-down list.
5. *Nationality and Country*: Applicants should be either a national of one of CRP's member countries<sup>1</sup>, or work in a CRP member country.
6. *E-mail address*: Please check this carefully; when you submit your application form, an e-mail will be sent to this address confirming your application.
7. *Organisation*: This should be the highest level of your place of work, i.e. the university, ministry, federal or government agency or research institute.
8. *Full address of Organisation*: This should include your position (if appropriate) the institute, department, faculty, building, street and number, town or city, post (or zip) code and state, county or prefecture as appropriate. Please do not include the country in this address field, as this would be a duplication of the country field. Please separate the lines of your address with commas (“,”), e.g.:

Co-operative Research Programme, 2 rue André Pascal, 75775 Paris Cedex 16

**b. If any, please give the full contact details of your co-organisier(s) (to a maximum of three):**

9. Please complete this as necessary, again including all the information required as described above.

**2. Title of the event proposed for sponsorship**

10. It helps if the title is short but with the key words included.
11. Remember that the assessment panel will include individuals who are not necessarily experts in your field of research; the title therefore needs to make it obvious to them what the conference or workshop is about. This comment is also relevant for sections 4, 6 and 7.

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<sup>1</sup> CRP member countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France (from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021), Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States



**3. Please specify the Research Theme under which the application is made:**

12. Applicants should read the description of each Research Theme and topic within each Research Theme carefully, and contact the relevant Theme Co-ordinator to discuss their project. Please remember that the Research Themes and topics are about agriculture, food, fisheries and forestry issues.

13. More than one Research Theme can be ticked.

**4. Please give a brief description of your conference and explain its objective:**

14. This is an open field, with no limit on the number of words or characters. If you encounter a problem with your full text not being accepted, contact the [CRP Secretariat](#).

15. The online application form will not support sophisticated formatting, so please avoid graphics or anything too complicated. Please do not spend a lot of time formatting your text, as the formatting may be lost in the downloading of your application.

16. The answer here should specifically address the following selection criteria:

- The promise of a relevant contribution to the achievement of the objectives of the Programme (described on the CRP website and in the CRP brochure)
- The feasibility of achieving the goals set in the proposed work
- Scientific excellence – the need for defined and well-focussed objectives and the promise provided for both innovation and for increasing the level of debate and understanding of the underlying issues
- Crossing disciplines – the plans for the engagement and interaction of a range of relevant scientific disciplines, and the extent to which the conference demonstrates a readiness to engage others beyond the research community in an attempt to explore wider societal and policy-formation aspects

17. You should make direct reference to the selection criteria.

18. If you are applying for support of a digital conference, you should specifically explain that in this section.

**5. Briefly explain how your conference proposal relates to this Research Theme:**

19. The answer here should specifically address the following selection criteria:

- Relevance – the extent to which the proposal addresses the objectives of the work programme and its relevance to the theme objectives



**6. Please explain how your conference proposal will influence policy makers in the development of their national and international agro-food, fisheries or forestry policies:**

20. This section will be read by people who advise on national and international policies, so what do you want to tell them about why your proposal is important for them? For example, you should explain why it is important for policy makers to know about the issues presented and discussed, and how the outcomes of the event will provide information to help policy makers formulate best practices and appropriate policies.

21. The policy makers this section is aimed at may not be specialists. Try and avoid using over-specialised vocabulary.

22. Avoid statements like: “This conference will strengthen the science-policy interface.” or “The dissemination of the policy brief as well as the publication of the conference papers is expected to be recognised by policy makers.” This is not telling people that your proposal is important for helping form national and international policies.

23. The answer here should specifically address the following selection criteria:

- Policy relevance – how and the degree to which the conference proposal will influence policy makers in the development of their national and international agro-food, fisheries or forestry policies

**7. Please give a non-scientific explanation of how you believe your conference will benefit society:**

24. In this answer you are aiming at an educated audience with a limited knowledge of science. Your answer should include a very brief description of the conference using simple non-scientific terms, and why the topic is important for society. Imagine you are trying to describe it and why it will be beneficial to not very close non-scientific acquaintances over dinner.

25. This answer should specifically address the selection criteria:

- Potential impact – the way in which the conference [...] could contribute to the public debate

**8.a. & b. Proposed dates of conference:**

26. Use the click-on calendar to select both the start date and the end date.

**9.a. Proposed venue - Country:**

27. Conferences and workshops must be held in one of the CRP’s member countries to be eligible for CRP sponsorship. Choose from the drop-down list.

28. If you are applying for support of a digital conference, you will still need to indicate which country the conference will be organised from.



**9.b. Proposed venue – Town or city Country:**

29. Please type in the town or city of the venue, together with the state, county or prefecture.

**9.c. Proposed venue – Additional information:**

30. Please include here the conference site/hotel if known at the time of submission, and any other relevant information.

**10. Estimated number of participants (for information only):**

31. This information is to help the Scientific Advisory Body assess the overall size of your event.

**11. Please give details of other sponsorship available for the conference: (for information only):**

32. Other sponsorship may be in-kind, e.g. donating the use of the conference hall, or financial. It is helpful for the Scientific Advisory Body to see the overall sponsorship sought. Please indicate if other financial help has been requested or confirmed, or will be sought. This information will help the Scientific Advisory Body in their assessment of the feasibility of the conference.

**12.a. & b. The Proposed List of Speakers for CRP Funding:**

33. You need to download the Excel document to provide a proposed list of speakers you would like to be funded by the CRP at your event. There are instructions in the Excel document to help you complete it. To help you start to prepare the proposed list of speakers in advance, [here is a link to the Excel document](#).

34. It is essential that the information in this section is correct, especially the spelling of the names of the proposed speakers. Should your application be successful, the CRP Secretariat will use the addresses, both postal and e-mail, in this list. It is not the responsibility of the Secretariat to correct or try and complete addresses that are wrong or incomplete.

35. To enhance the success of your application, the speakers in the Proposed List of Speakers for CRP Funding to be funded should represent *as broad a geographical spread of CRP member countries as possible*. It will be detrimental to your application if, for example, out of 12 speakers, five are from one country. The geographical spread of the speakers in this list is a selection criteria.

36. You should also aim to have a gender balance among the speakers. Gender balance is a selection criteria.

37. For your information, on current budgetary trends 10-15 speakers can be funded for each successful conference.

38. The CRP does not provide funding to people just to attend conferences; it must be anticipated that the people in this list will make a substantial presentation and submit a paper for the conference proceedings. Consequently, Session Chairs, who may contribute to the debate in the conference but who will not submit a paper for the proceedings should not be included in this list.





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39. Similarly, the CRP only provides funding for one speaker per presentation. If you have multiple speakers with one presentation title, we will only take one speaker per presentation into account when we work out the cost of your proposal.

40. N.B. Should your application be successful, the funding you receive may not cover all the speakers in your proposed list.

41. If you are applying for support of a digital conference:

- You should still complete this list with as much of the information as possible, although the postal address will not be necessary.
- You will need to add a worksheet to the Excel file and provide a draft budget for your digital conference, highlighting the technical support costs you would envisage any CRP funding being used for.

### **13 Proposed conference/workshop programme:**

42. The conference programme is an integral tool in helping the CRP's Scientific Advisory Body assess the value of the applications. Consequently, the more detail you can provide in the programme, the more helpful it is. You should ensure that your draft programme is as comprehensive as possible, giving:

- Likely timings of the sessions and individual presentations;
- Reference to all the speakers, on the proposed list of speakers for CRP funding and others: who they are, the proposed title of their presentation, the research institutes they are from and the positions they hold there;
- You should have question and answer time and discussion time built into and shown in the programme;
- Please include a time slot at the beginning of the conference for the CRP Theme Co-ordinator attending to give a brief presentation about the CRP. You should allow 15-20 minutes.
- There should be a wrap-up session on the lessons learned from the conferences during the Conference on how the subjects discussed should help inform the policy making community. This should be clearly identified at the end of the event in the programme. It is advisable that this session should be at least 45 minutes to an hour long.
- Including a speaker in the programme from the policy-making community to enhance the science-policy link is highly recommended.

43. It is important that on the programme – and any pre-event advertising, call for papers, etc. – that your event is **not** referred to as an “OECD Conference/Workshop/etc. on [Title of event]”. When you submit your application, there is of course no guarantee that your application will be successful and therefore OECD should not be mentioned on any paperwork other than your application form.



**14. Please explain how you intend to publish the conference proceedings:**

44. Please refer to the *Conference Sponsorship Programme: Application Guidelines and Conditions* for further information.

45. You should give the name of the scientific journal/publisher you have either already agreed will publish the conference proceedings, or whom you propose to use. You should think which journal/publishers will give your proceedings the highest impact. Open access journals are preferable, provided it will be one with free access because of the obligation that the CRP's Governing Body Delegates have access.

46. It may be helpful to discuss this with the relevant CRP Theme Co-ordinator(s) when you contact them.

**15. In addition to the publication of the proceedings for scientific purposes, please explain how you anticipate disseminating the lessons learned at the conference more broadly to policy makers and to the general public, noting that a 2-3 page report summarising the major policy-relevant conclusions is required:**

47. Your plans for disseminating the lessons learned at the conference need to be well defined and proactive: using existing networks, direct communication to policy communities, using local and international media as appropriate. Simple posting of outcomes on a conference website or just through the use of in-house journals would be seen as too passive without a big mailing campaign to a broad range of interested parties.

48. Inviting participants from the policy community is one way to help in the dissemination to that community. You should indicate in this section anyone from the policy community you intend to invite.

49. This answer should specifically address the selection criteria:

- Potential impact – the way in which the conference and the dissemination of its results could contribute to the public debate
- Organisation and plans for participation and dissemination – the need for the plans for the conference to illustrate how outcomes will be delivered and disseminated in a way which contributes to achieving the objectives of the Programme

**16. Have there been workshops or conferences on similar topics recently? If so, please give details:**

50. Because the CRP wishes to have an impact on the policy debate with the events it sponsors, it prefers to fund events that are about new, innovative science or that present the science in novel ways or to novel audiences such as in a multidisciplinary arena. Consequently, it is important that your event is different from others that have happened recently or will be happening around the same time.

51. It may be useful to look outside your normal sphere; applications in the past have stated that there have not been any recent events on similar topics, when a search has shown that there have been.



**17. Is your event one of a series of regular conferences? If so, please explain why this particular session would benefit from funding from the OECD Co-operative Research Programme.**

52. The CRP prefers not to sponsor an event that is one of a regular series of conferences, workshops, meetings, unless you can clearly demonstrate the one-off significance of your event. However, an inaugural conference, or first of a proposed series would be of interest.

**18. Is your conference part of a larger conference? If so, please explain how you will ensure that it will be clearly identified as an OECD-CRP sponsored event.**

53. If you are proposing a workshop or symposium within a larger conference/congress, you must be explicit about how it will stand out from the rest of the conference/congress as a discrete, self-enclosed OECD CRP-sponsored event; for example, by it being focussed on the science-policy nexus of a particular question, or to set international standards for testing of a disease, etc.

**19. What is your previous experience of organising conferences, workshops or other significant meetings? Please list the most important meetings and say how you went about organising them:**

54. Your answer here should be broader than just a list of all the conferences, workshops, symposia, seminars, etc. that you have helped organised.

55. You should pick the most significant ones which have had a longer term impact, but of most interest to the CRP is how you organised them, the steps you took, how the organising team came together, who had what roles, how you advertised them, what the outcomes were, what you did with the outcomes.

56. The answer here should specifically address the selection criteria of the scientific record of the applicant.

**20.a. Have you contacted the relevant Theme Co-ordinator(s) prior to submitting your application to the Programme?**

57. Although only a click is needed here, without any explanation, you should note that that:

- It is extremely beneficial to your application to contact the Theme Co-ordinator(s) well in advance of the deadline (10 September) because their advice is invaluable;
- A quick e-mail just before you submit your application fulfils the condition of contacting them, but is not really sufficient “contact”;
- They note who has contacted them and when, so if “Yes” is ticked just to be able to submit the application and you have not actually contacted them, this will be noted.

**b. Name of the theme co-ordinator contacted:**

58. Choose the name of the Theme Co-ordinator(s) you contacted. You can choose more than one.





**21. Please explain how you found out about this Programme:**

59. The information you give in here is very useful to help the CRP monitor the reach of its Call for Applications for Funding and to improve it.

**22.a. Please upload your CV:**

60. This should be a comprehensive CV, not a short bio, so the Scientific Advisory Body can see your scientific career. However, please limit any list of publications to the most recent and relevant and try to keep the CV to 5 pages.

**b., c., d. Should there be more than one conference organiser, please upload Organiser 2's (3's, 4's) CV.**

61. Again, these should be comprehensive CVs, not short bios, as explained above.

**23. Prior to submitting your application form, please read this document to confirm that you have:**

62. In addition to reading the *Conference Sponsorship: Application Guidelines and Conditions*, check that you have uploaded the conference programme and your CV and those of any co-organiser(s).

63. Do not forget to tick that you have read and understood the *Conference Sponsorship: Application Guidelines and Conditions*.