

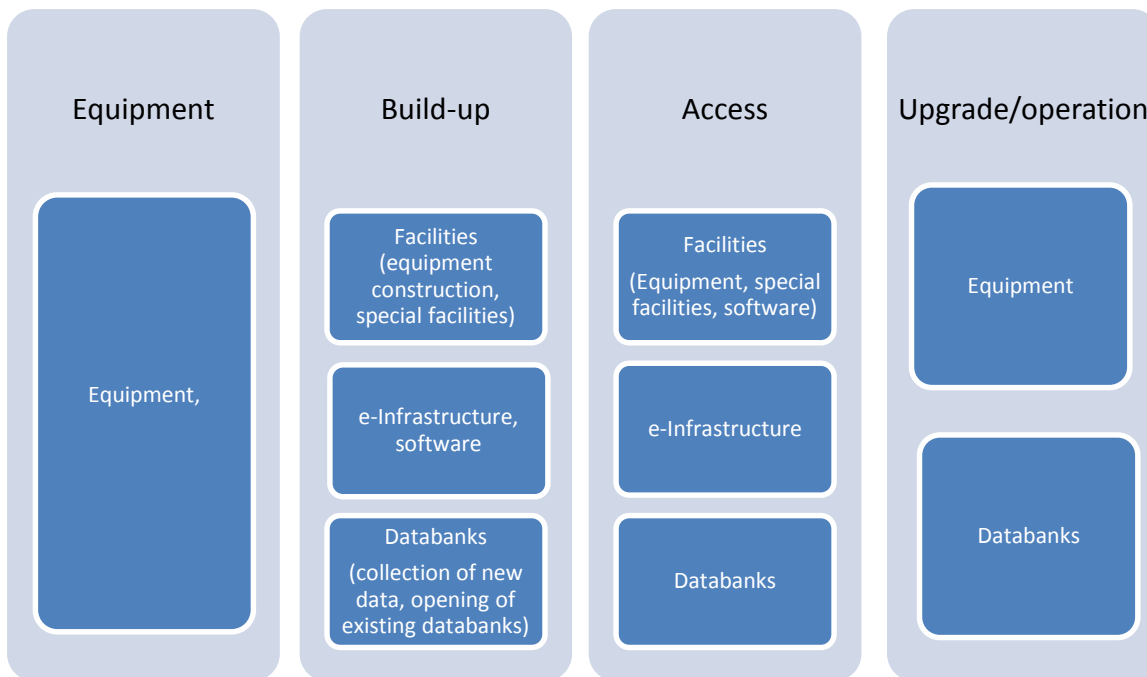
## 1 OBJECTIVES

To support research infrastructure in Iceland by co-financing purchase of equipment, databases, software and any other research infrastructure that is important for scientific progress.

## 2 TARGET GROUP

Universities, research institutions and companies.

## 3 GRANT TYPES



### 3.1 EQUIPMENT

For expensive research equipment. The purpose is to finance purchase of one expensive piece of equipment rather than many cheaper items.

### 3.2 BUILD-UP

For financing build-up of infrastructure including construction of equipment, special facilities, collecting data or opening up existing databanks or build-up of eInfrastructures

### 3.3 ACCESS

For facilitating the access of scientists to existing foreign or domestic infrastructure (databases, equipment, special facilities, software and e-Infrastructure).

### 3.4 UPGRADE/OPERATION

For update of already existing infrastructures or maintenance of infrastructure such as facilities, equipment and data banks. Eligible cost includes purchase of spare parts or salaries.

## 4 GENERAL CONDITIONS

### 4.1 ELIGIBLE COST

- The minimum contribution of the Infrastructure fund is ISK 2 million for [Equipment](#), [Build-up](#) and [Upgrade/operation](#) and can be up to 75% of the total cost excluding VAT. **Proposal that do not adhere to these conditions will be rejected.** [Access](#) grants do not have a minimum.
- Price quotes from the manufacturer/service provider must accompany the proposal to confirm the amount applied for. Delivery cost cannot exceed 10% of total cost and must be included in price quote. Cost exceeding 10% is *not funded and not defined as other financing*. Cost due to contract announcements shall be included in cost explanation in the proposal. **Proposals not accompanied by price quotes will be rejected.**
- Salaries can be applied for in connection with [Build-up](#) and [Access](#) up to ISK 5 million and salaries are calculated in accordance with the Icelandic Research Fund recommendations. If salaries for operational personnel are applied for the previous year's data on the infrastructure usage shall be provided.
- Travel cost can be applied for in [Access](#).
- Application for retroactive funding will not be considered.
- Should the total cost change the Infrastructure fund contribution changes accordingly. If the total cost increases by 5% or more the grantee must get a premission from the Infrastructure fund before proceeding with the purchase.
- Should the grantee decide not to use the grant, the grant will be cancelled. The grant can only be used for the purpose stated in the proposal without strong arguments and the permission from the Infrastructure fund Board
- In the proposal the operational of the infrastructure shall be explained. Operational cost shall be estimated and the financing explained (if a user fee is planned, the service need of the infrastructure, how service cost will be met etc). Requirements of potential users regarding training etc. shall be explained. Devaluation cost are not to be included in operational expenses or user fees.

### 4.2 OTHER FINANCING

- Other financing must be secured at the proposal deadline and a statement thereon shall accompany the proposal. **Otherwise the proposal will be rejected.**
- Other financing is defined as a part of the cost in ISK and does not include construction work unless it is a part of the quote from the manufacturer.
- Normally, the other financing is not exempted from VAT. Applicants are responsible for the inclusion of VAT in the amount provided as other financing.
- Proposers are responsible for any changes that may occur regarding the other financing. If the other financing decreases below 10% the grant is rejected.

**No additional information is accepted after the deadline. All incomplete proposals will be rejected.**

## 5 EVALUATION

A special expert panel appointed by the Science Committee evaluates all proposals before presenting the decision to the Infrastructure fund Board.

In the evaluation of proposals the following points are taken into consideration:

- The infrastructure is important for research progress in Iceland and for the proposers research.
- The infrastructure creates new possibilities in research and/or is related to research projects already being funded by the Icelandic Research Fund.
- The infrastructure is important for education and training in the respective scientific field.
- Cooperation between institutions or institutions and companies is foreseen.
- Infrastructure realised with support from the fund shall be accessible to other research groups as capacity allows.
- Budget plans shall be realistic.

Please note that proposers shall under no circumstances contact the Board or the expert panel during the evaluation phase. All questions and comments shall be addressed to Rannís. Violation of this rule leads to rejection of the proposal.

## 6 CONTRACT

The Icelandic Centre for Research signs a contract on behalf of Infrastructure fund with the grantee. The contract shall state how the project will be financed as a whole. All proposers and responsible persons shall sign the contract. The contract includes a statement on how the infrastructure will be operated in cooperation between grantees. Grantees can provide their colleagues permits to sign the contract on their behalf if necessary. Grantees have 4 months from award announcement to finalise the contract and payments or the grant will be cancelled. Should the grantees need more time they can request so before October 1, 2015. If a grant is not finalised with a written contract or purchase of infrastructure before Jan 1, 2016 it will be cancelled.

Payments will be made from the Infrastructure fund on reception of invoices with the exception of salary payments which will be paid out in one payment upon the signing of the contract.

## 7 PAYMENTS AND FOLLOW-UP

- Equipment purchased for a grant from Infrastructure fund is VAT exempted up to the amount that the fund covers. The saved amount can *not be accounted for as other financing*.
- A consistency between invoices and list of items in the proposal is necessary to minimize any doubt regarding what part of the grant is being collected.
- It is not necessary for the grantee to collect all invoices before sending them to Infrastructure fund.
- Payment from Infrastructure fund is only possible on receipt of invoice and a bank transfer confirmation or a copy of a transfer from the accounting system of the institution (e.g. Oracle).

## Infrastructure fund – Rules for the grant year 2015



- If more than one institution/firm are part of a grant they are responsible for distributing the grant. The Infrastructure fund transfers the grant to one specific account.
- The staff of Rannís and/or the Icelandic national audit office may inspect, without warning, all communication with the manufacturer/provider and invoices after purchase of infrastructure. Suspected misconduct will be reported to the Board of Infrastructure fund.