



## Trans-Atlantic Platform (T-AP) Digging into Data Request for Proposals (RFP)

Researchers must follow the main call for proposals for details regarding application, funding, selection criteria, proposal preparation and submission on the [call website](#).

### ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

#### 1. Introduction

The [Trans-Atlantic Platform \(T-AP\)](#) is a collaboration among key humanities and social science funders in Europe and the Americas. The Trans-Atlantic Platform aims to enhance transnational research collaboration and has identified, with the help of the social sciences and humanities research communities, a series of common challenges and strategic priority areas where such collaboration will bring added value.

#### 2. Partners

This call is supported by selected funding agencies from different countries. These countries are: *Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Mexico, Portugal, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.*

The complete list of T-AP Digging into Data Funding Organisations and the links to the restrictions they set on eligibility can be found on page 4 of the RFP and on the [call website](#).

#### 3. Scientific research topics

The T-AP Digging into Data Challenge is open to any project that addresses research questions in the humanities and/or social sciences by using techniques of large-scale digital data analysis and shows how these new techniques can lead to new theoretical insights. It is specifically aiming to advance multidisciplinary collaborative projects in digital scholarship that seek new perspectives and insights. Proposals may address any research question in the humanities and/or social sciences, utilising any data source to do so. Examples of research challenges that may be considered in projects include (but are not limited to):

- **Interpreting data:** using data-based analysis, modelling and simulation techniques to gain new insights into how an increasingly connected and digital world is changing the ways in which groups and individuals are interacting, including but not limited to the creation and development of creative, cultural, and societal processes and phenomena, as well as analysis of historical trends and linguistic change.
- **Novel application of data:** using one or more data sources which were not originally designed/generated/collected for research purposes, for example open data/open source systems or 'live' data generated in real-time, either alone or in combination to address humanities and/or social science research questions.
- **Employing multi-form and/or multi-source data in research:** exploring the potential for calibration, combination and interoperability of datasets in two or more different formats and/or from two or more different sources in order to address humanities and/or social science research questions.

For examples of projects that have been approved in the past in Digging into Data Challenges, see <http://diggingintodata.org/>. Note, however, that in these calls the prospect of answering pertinent social sciences and/or humanities research questions was not yet an evaluation criterion.

#### 4. Dates

T-AP Digging into Data Call announcement	March 1, 2016
Closing date for submission of proposals	June 29, 2016
Successful applicants notified after	April, 2017
Projects commence from (provided all relevant requirements are met)	June, 2017
Final end-of-grant T-AP Digging into Data Conference	early 2020

#### 5. Duration of projects

Each international project will have a duration ranging between 24 (twenty-four) and 36 (thirty-six) months.

#### 6. Application procedure

**6.1** Applications must be received by June 29, 2016 and must be submitted via the online submission system hosted by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), <http://www.diggingintodata.org/>.

German-based research teams must submit their proposal in parallel to the DFG online submission system following the instructions in the DFG Addendum. Brazil-based research teams must submit an abridged version of their proposal to FAPESP following the instructions in the FAPESP Addendum.

**6.2** The coordinator of each transatlantic project partnership must submit the joint research proposal on behalf of the whole partnership.

**6.3** Applications must be submitted in English.

**6.4** Researchers can participate in no more than 2 (two) applications and submit only 1 (one) application as main Principal Investigator/coordinator.

**6.5** Applications that are late, incomplete, or ineligible will not be reviewed.

**6.6** Please consult the relevant National Eligibility Requirements before applying.

**6.7 All research teams are strongly advised to contact their relevant Funding Organisations at least four weeks before the application deadline to check the eligibility of the national teams involved.** FAPESP will provide an official eligibility declaration to São Paulo Principal Investigators (who have to apply for it at least **45 days** before the T-AP Digging into Data deadline) and these declarations must be submitted with the T-AP Digging into Data proposal, otherwise FAPESP will not consider that project – see FAPESP Addendum. **Note that the formal eligibility of the Proposals will be determined only after June 29, 2016 (submission deadline) on the basis of all formal eligibility requirements (see 8).**

#### 7. Funding principles

**7.1** Applicants must apply as a transnational research project partnership. Each transnational project is a partnership among a number of national research teams based in any of the participating T-AP Digging into Data countries listed above. Each project must:

- consist of at least three eligible research teams based in at least three of the participating T-AP Digging into Data countries;
- include teams from both sides of the Atlantic, i.e., from Europe and the Americas;
- include teams led by an eligible Principal Investigator; if more than one team from the same country is participating in the same proposal, they must work together and designate one single Principal Investigator; and
- designate one of the Principal Investigators as the project's main Principal Investigator/coordinator.

**7.2** The T-AP Digging into Data call will be implemented through a coordinated funding scheme where each Funding Organisation will fund its own national research teams within a transnational T-AP Digging into Data project partnership.

**7.3** The available country contributions and the upper limits to the budgets that can be requested per national project team are listed in the Funding Contribution Table below.

*T-AP Digging into Data Funding Organisation Funding Contribution Table*

			<b>Total funding available</b>	<b>Maximum funding that can be requested per project</b>
<b>Americas</b>	Argentina	MINCyT	Up to 3 projects (EUR 120 000)	EUR 40 000 per project; no personnel costs, only (in)direct costs
	Brazil	FAPESP	Up to USD 400 000	Up to USD 100 000 per project (including all overheads) for 36 months duration. For shorter durations, the ceiling value will be proportionally smaller.
	Canada	SSHRC	Up to 8 projects (CAD 1 000 000)	Up to CAD 100 000 per project
	Canada	FRQSC/ FRQNT	CAD 400 000	Up to CAD 75 000 (+ 27% indirect costs) as a premium for Quebec Province eligible researchers involved in a research project funded by SSHRC and/or NSERC to support intersectoral research and collaboration.
	Canada	NSERC	Up to 6 projects (CAD 600 000)	Up to CAD 100 000 per project
	Mexico	CONACYT	USD 400 000	No limit per project but total amount of funding awarded to projects cannot exceed USD 400 000
	US	NEH	Up to USD 750 000	Up to USD 175 000 if one US institution; up to USD 200 000 if 2 or more US institutions are working together. This is inclusive of indirect costs.
	US	NSF	Up to USD 750 000	Up to USD 175,000 if one US institution; up to USD 200 000 if 2 or more US institutions are working together. This is inclusive of indirect costs.
	US	IMLS	Up to USD 750 000	Up to USD 175 000 if one US institution; up to USD \$200,000 if 2 or more US institutions are working together. This is inclusive of indirect costs.
<b>Europe</b>	Germany	DFG	Up to 15 projects if standards of excellence are met. Funding comes from the regular individual research grants competition.	As in DFG's individual research grants scheme, there is no maximum allowable sum for individual projects. Note, however, that all budgetary items have to be well justified.
	Finland	AKA	4 projects (EUR 700 000)	
	France	ANR	Up to EUR 1 200 000	Up to EUR 180 000 per project
	Portugal	FCT	4 projects	Up to EUR 100 000 for Portuguese applicants coordinating consortia and EUR 80 000 for those participating in the consortia. If more than one Portuguese team participates in a proposal the max. must be shared.

	Netherlands	NWO	Up to EUR 1 000 000	Up to EUR 125 000 per project Up to GBP 150 000 (full fEC) for applications from a single UK institution; up to GBP 200 000 (full fEC) if two or more UK institutions are collaborating on a single application.
	UK	AHRC	Up to GBP 500 000	
	UK	ESRC	Up to GBP 500 000	

**7.4** Since funding will be awarded according to the terms and conditions of the relevant Funding Organisation, the actual costs that can be funded through the project may vary for national research teams in a given transnational project partnership. Applicants should therefore thoroughly check all national and/or regional regulations and rules of the relevant Funding Organisations.

**7.5** Researchers from other countries/regions than T-AP Digging into Data partner countries/regions may participate in the project. However no funding can be applied for them from the T-AP Digging into Data programme (unless otherwise stated within the individual agency Addendum). A formal letter guaranteeing their own funding for participating in the T-AP Digging into Data project must be appended to the application. The successful execution of a project cannot depend on these outside participants.

## 8. T-AP Digging into Data Eligibility Requirements of participating Funding Organisations

Each Funding Organisation has its own restrictions on the eligibility of potential applicants. The links below refer to the Addenda containing each Funding Organisation's eligibility rules, requirements, funding mandates, policies, eligible costs and procedures. Please consult these RFP Addenda before applying.

			<b>Contact Person(s)</b>	<b>Link to Eligibility Requirements</b>
<b>Americas</b>	Argentina	MINCYT	Monica Silenzi ( <a href="mailto:msilenzi@mincyt.gob.ar">msilenzi@mincyt.gob.ar</a> ) Alejandra Davidziuk ( <a href="mailto:madavidziuk@mincyt.gob.ar">madavidziuk@mincyt.gob.ar</a> ) Agustina Velo ( <a href="mailto:avelo@mincyt.gob.ar">avelo@mincyt.gob.ar</a> )	<a href="#">MINCYT RFP Addendum</a>
	Brazil	FAPESP	Vera Schmidt ( <a href="mailto:chamada_digging@fapesp.br">chamada_digging@fapesp.br</a> )	<a href="#">FAPESP RFP Addendum</a>
	Canada	SSHRC	Mika Oehling ( <a href="mailto:mika.oehling@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca">mika.oehling@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca</a> )	<a href="#">Canadian Funders RFP Addendum</a>
	Canada	FRQSC/ FRQNT	Étienne Carbonneau ( <a href="mailto:etienne.carbonneau@frq.gouv.gc.ca">etienne.carbonneau@frq.gouv.gc.ca</a> )	
	Canada	NSERC	Dave Bowen ( <a href="mailto:dave.bowen@nserc.crsng.gc.ca">dave.bowen@nserc.crsng.gc.ca</a> )	
	Mexico	CONACYT	Humberto Aarón Sandoval Herrera ( <a href="mailto:asandoval@conacyt.mx">asandoval@conacyt.mx</a> )	<a href="#">CONACYT RFP Addendum</a>
	US	NEH	Jennifer Serventi ( <a href="mailto:jserventi@neh.gov">jserventi@neh.gov</a> )	<a href="#">NEH RFP Addendum</a>
	US	NSF	Joan Maling ( <a href="mailto:jmaling@nsf.gov">jmaling@nsf.gov</a> )	<a href="#">NSF RFP Addendum</a>
	US	IMLS	Trevor Owens ( <a href="mailto:tjowens@imls.gov">tjowens@imls.gov</a> )	<a href="#">IMLS RFP Addendum</a>
<b>Europe</b>	Germany	DFG	Matthias Kiesselbach ( <a href="mailto:Matthias.Kiesselbach@dfg.de">Matthias.Kiesselbach@dfg.de</a> )	<a href="#">DFG RFP Addendum</a>
	Finland	AKA	Satu Huuha-Cissokho ( <a href="mailto:satu.huuha-cissokho@aka.fi">satu.huuha-cissokho@aka.fi</a> )	<a href="#">AKA RFP Addendum</a>
	France	ANR	François Héran ( <a href="mailto:Francois.Heran@agencerecherche.fr">Francois.Heran@agencerecherche.fr</a> )	<a href="#">ANR RFP Addendum</a>
	Portugal	FCT	Gonçalo Zagalo Pereira ( <a href="mailto:goncalo.zagalo@fct.pt">goncalo.zagalo@fct.pt</a> )	<a href="#">FCT RFP Addendum</a>
	Netherlands	NWO	Anne Westendorp/Alice Dijkstra ( <a href="mailto:diggingintodata@nwo.nl">diggingintodata@nwo.nl</a> )	<a href="#">NWO RFP Addendum</a>
	UK	AHRC	Thomas Trehwella ( <a href="mailto:t.trehwella@ahrc.ac.uk">t.trehwella@ahrc.ac.uk</a> )	<a href="#">UK Funders RFP Addendum</a>
	UK	ESRC	Samantha McGregor ( <a href="mailto:samantha.mcgregor@esrc.ac.uk">samantha.mcgregor@esrc.ac.uk</a> )	

**For detailed proposal characteristics and guidelines and more detailed descriptions of this transnational funding opportunity, please consult the next pages of this Request for Proposals (RFP) below.**

## Trans-Atlantic Platform (T-AP) Digging into Data Request for Proposals

### 1. Programme Description/Scope

#### Overview of T-AP Digging into Data

The [Trans-Atlantic Platform \(T-AP\)](#) is a collaboration among key humanities and social science funders in Europe and the Americas. The Trans-Atlantic Platform aims to enhance transnational research collaboration and has identified, with the help of the social sciences and humanities research communities, a series of common challenges and strategic priority areas where such collaboration will bring added value.

Building on the successful Digging into Data Challenge, which has challenged the research community to help 21<sup>st</sup> century digital scholarship since 2009, the T-AP Digging into Data call is the first to be supported by (associate) partners in the T-AP Platform; it provides researchers on both sides of the Atlantic an opportunity to jointly request funding for collaborative research projects.

The four overarching goals of the T-AP Digging into Data Challenge are to

- address humanities and social sciences research questions by using innovative research techniques in large-scale data analysis; and show how these new techniques can lead to new theoretical insights;
- stimulate transatlantic research collaborations that provide added value to digital scholarship in the humanities and social sciences, i.e., above what can be accomplished by single-nation efforts;
- foster interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers in the humanities, social sciences, computer sciences, library science, archival science, information sciences, mathematical and statistical sciences, engineering, and other fields, around questions of data analysis; and
- promote efficient access to and sharing of the materials for research by working with data repositories that hold large digital collections.

The T-AP Digging into Data Challenge is open to any project that addresses research questions in the humanities and/or social sciences by using techniques of large-scale digital data analysis. It is specifically aiming to advance multidisciplinary collaborative projects in digital scholarship that seek new perspectives and insights. Proposals may address any research question in the humanities and/or social sciences, utilising any data source and computer science techniques to do so. Examples of research challenges that may be considered in projects include (but are not limited to):

- **Interpreting data:** using data-based analysis, modelling and simulation techniques to gain new insights into how an increasingly connected and digital world is changing the ways in which groups and individuals are interacting, including but not limited to the creation and development of creative, cultural, and societal processes and phenomena, as well as analysis of historical trends and linguistic change.
- **Novel application of data:** using one or more data sources which were not originally designed/generated/collected for research purposes, for example open data/open source systems or 'live' data generated in real-time, either alone or in combination to address humanities and/or social science research questions.
- **Employing multi-form and /or multi-source data in research:** exploring the potential for calibration, combination and interoperability of datasets in two or more different formats and/or from two or more different sources in order to address humanities and/or social science research questions.

The T-AP Digging into Data Challenge will bring together international research teams from both sides of the Atlantic to advance research and to share their results openly, so that others may learn from them.

The following list of research Funding Organisations participate in the T-AP Digging into Data call.

*List of Funding Organisations Participating in the T-AP DiD Call*

Americas	Argentina	MINCYT	Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva
	Brazil	FAPESP	Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo
	Canada	SSHRC	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
	Canada	FRQSC/FRQNT	Fonds de Recherche du Québec Société et culture// Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies
	Canada	NSERC	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
	Mexico	CONACYT	Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología
	US	NEH	National Endowment for the Humanities
	US	NSF	National Science Foundation
	US	IMLS	Institute of Museum and Library Services
Europe	Germany	DFG	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
	Finland	AKA	Suomen Akatemia
	France	ANR	Agence Nationale de la Recherche
	Portugal	FCT	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
	Netherlands	NWO	Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek
	UK	AHRC	Arts and Humanities Research Council
	UK	ESRC	Economic and Social Research Council

This Request for Proposals (RFP) explains how to apply to the T-AP Digging into Data Challenge. **Please note that each national/regional Funding Organisation has also produced an RFP Addendum with information specific to its respective rules, requirements, funding mandates, policies, eligible costs and procedures. Please consult the appropriate Addenda prior to applying.** All of these documents are available on the [T-AP](#) and [Digging into Data Challenge](#) websites.

## 2. Type of research that can be funded

T-AP Digging into Data proposals should address humanities and/or social sciences research questions by using innovative research techniques to analyse large and/or complex datasets and show how these new techniques can lead to new theoretical insights. Projects can propose to develop new tools and methods, but always with the goal of (better) improving how pertinent humanities and/or social sciences research questions can be addressed and describing what new theoretical insights these technical and methodological innovations will give rise to. Projects must constitute substantive integrated work. Costs for travel and subsistence, meetings, workshops and events organisation or dissemination can be requested (subject to national funding rules) as part of larger research operations, but proposals consisting solely of networking activities or requests for mobility funding are not invited.

## 3. Proposals must consider

### 3.1 Providing access to grant products and research outcomes

All funders of the T-AP Digging into Data Challenge endeavour to make the products and research results from their grants available to the broadest possible audience. The goal is for scholars, educators, students, and the international public to have ready and easy access to the wide range of publicly funded project outcomes. For projects that lead to the development of digital content, all other considerations being equal, the T-AP Digging into Data partners give preference to those that provide free access to the public. Detailed guidance on access and dissemination matters can be found in the instructions for the narrative in Section 8, below (see the heading “Regulations for uses and dissemination of knowledge & information”).

### 3.2 Data sources

The size, complexity and veracity of the dataset may vary, depending on the community collecting and using it. The T-AP Digging into Data Challenge is interested in exploring research that is done at a large scale – at the point where new computational methods must be employed. Recognizing this, for several years the Digging into Data programme has been curating [a list of digital data repositories in various fields](#) that are willing to make their data available to the wider research community. Applicants are welcome to consult this list (or make suggestions for additions) but are in no way required to limit their research to the listed data repositories.

### 3.3 Primary data collection is not funded

Primary data collection will not be funded under this call<sup>1</sup>. However, new datasets created through data linkage are permitted. It is part of our data policy that datasets generated from T-AP funded research, including through data linkage, should – whenever possible – be made available for re-use and deposited.

## 4. Application's contents

The application consists of a cover sheet and 10 separate documents that must be uploaded by the main Principal Investigator/coordinator of the transnational project to the [competition website<sup>2</sup>](#). On this website you will also find a step-by-step manual for submitting your proposal.

First you have to enter some basic information in the online web form which will be used as a cover sheet for your application documents:

- Title and acronym of the proposal
- Name and affiliation of each of the project PIs
- Total funding requested per partner country
- Discipline(s) covered by the project, and
- Start date and duration of the project

All of the following 10 documents should be saved as PDF (Portable Document Format) files prior to uploading via the [competition website<sup>2</sup>](#).

**4.1 Statement of significance** (maximum of one page): Provide an abstract of the project, written for a general audience, which explains the significance of the project. Please clearly indicate the names, institution and countries of the Principal Investigators of the research teams.

**4.2 Table of contents:** List all parts of the application and number all pages consecutively.

**4.3 Narrative** (maximum of ten pages, i.e., 5000 words): All pages should be single spaced, have one-inch margins, and the font size should be no smaller than eleven point. In the narrative, please discuss the following:

- a. Describe and discuss the objectives and research questions you are addressing in your project and make the case for their importance to the humanities and/or social sciences. Discuss your proposed methodology for addressing these questions.
- b. Provide a clear and concise summary of a state of the art survey of the relevant field. The goal of the survey is to call attention to similar work in the area of study. If there are existing projects that are similar in nature to your project, please describe them and discuss how they relate to the proposed project. This environmental scan should make it clear that you are aware of similar work being done; it should explain how the proposed project contributes to and advances the field.

---

<sup>1</sup> Note that FAPESP may sometimes make an exception for creating new Brazilian sources, if this contributes to the research. Please contact FAPESP to make sure.

<sup>2</sup> Note that some Funding Organisations (see listing on page 2) require that applicants must also upload the proposal to the relevant Funding Organisation(s) online submission system (see RFP Addenda for detailed instructions.)

- c. Discuss how the project addresses the overarching goals of the T-AP Digging into Data Challenge as described in this RFP, including the added value to the research endeavour of the proposed transnational partnership.
- d. Describe in detail the data chosen for the project. Demonstrate appropriate authorisation related to intellectual property or privacy issues associated with the data needed for the project. In the Letters of Commitment Section below, provide letters from the data guardians, indicating permissions to use the data, if appropriate.
- e. Provide a concise history of the project, including information about preliminary research or planning, financial support and/or in-kind contributions already received, and resources or research facilities available.
- f. Describe how your research project will assist in the training of students and newer-to-the-field researchers on your team.

**4.4 References cited** (maximum of two pages): Please put all references cited into one document.

**4.5 Data Management Plan (DMP)** (maximum of two pages): Applicants should jointly prepare a DMP for their project. The plan should describe how the project team will manage and disseminate data generated or collected by the project. For example, projects in this category may generate data such as software code, algorithms, digital tools, data sets, reports, articles, research notes, or websites.

**4.6 Project Management, Dissemination, and Communications Plan (PMDC)** (maximum of five pages): Applicants should jointly prepare a PMDC which also specifies how all project partners plan to implement it. The PMDC should contain four sections:

- a. **Roles and responsibilities:** Briefly describe how the project will be managed including reporting and decision making. List all members of the project team(s), their roles and contact details (including primary affiliation and country). Indicate the time allocated by those members to the project in days/hours over the course of the project.
- b. **Collaborations:** Please describe relevant present and past collaborations of the PIs and team members relevant to this proposal.
- c. **Work plan:** Describe the project's key aims and objectives and your work products (e.g., publications, software, etc.). Include a detailed quarterly work plan that describes tasks, deliverables and milestones. Discuss what "success" means for these deliverables and milestones and how you plan to measure it. Also discuss possible risks or barriers to success, their likelihood, and how you plan to avoid or mitigate them. These risks might be related to time (e.g., staff time, length of project), resources (e.g., money, materials), assumptions/expectations etc.
- d. **Dissemination and communication:** Identify the target audiences for your project's work products, how you will engage with them and how they will benefit. Describe your communication channels such as web pages, social media outreach (e.g., a project Twitter account and/or blog), training or mentoring opportunities, events, videos, or publications that the project team plans to create should it receive the award. Applicants should keep in mind that outreach is an important part of the T-AP Digging into Data Challenge, as one goal is to bring new research methods to the larger field. Please note that the funders encourage all resulting publications to be available via open access.

**4.7 Budget and justification of resources:** Each national team that is applying must submit a budget request. For example, if your project has a US team, a UK team, and a Canadian team, you should submit at least three budgets and a summary total budget overview of these team budgets. Each team budget should be prepared using a (relevant) template that is provided on the [competition website](#). On that website you can also find some sample budgets.

When you have completed the individual team budgets and the summary overview, please save them into one PDF. At the end of this PDF you should append the Justification of resources (see below). Please consult the relevant individual Funding Organisations' Addenda to ensure compliance with budget policies, allowable costs etc.

You should provide a justification of resources (JoR) for all national agencies involved in the funding request. Justification should be provided for the overall level of funding requested in respect to the



value added of the proposed research. The JoR should explain why the resources requested are appropriate for the research proposed taking into account the nature and complexity of the research proposal. The JoR should be no more than 1 page for each country participating in the project.

At the end of the grant period, the funders plan to sponsor a major conference to highlight all the funded projects. In your budget(s), please include funds for your Principal Investigators to travel to this conference. As the exact location has not been set yet, we recommend assuming it will be an international trip of approximately three nights.

If your project is selected for funding, you may be asked to provide additional funding documentation to clarify items in the budget.

**4.8 Résumés** (maximum length for one résumé is one page): Attach résumés for the Principal Investigators. You may use the format of your choosing. Regardless of format, please ensure that the résumé indicates all institutional affiliations, as this is required to ensure there are no conflicts of interest with peer reviewers. Please also include per PI a maximum of 10 most relevant publications and a listing of relevant present and recent collaborations/collaborators.

**4.9 Letters of commitment as appropriate:** A letter of commitment is typically written by a person or organisation that is committing something to your project: for example, giving you access to a collection of materials for your research or agreeing to make some kind of contribution to your project. Some Funding Organisations may also require commitment letters from the Principal Investigator's host institute. São Paulo team Principal Investigators must also append here the eligibility declaration they should request from FAPESP up to 45 days before the T-AP Digging into Data deadline. Please check the relevant national eligibility requirements.

**4.10 Appendices** (maximum of five pages): Attach any relevant samples, diagrams, or other materials critical to your project. Also attach any IRB/Ethics Review Board documentation, if appropriate. Note that the T-AP Digging into Data funders require that all funded research be conducted in accordance with relevant ethical and research integrity principles and be approved by the relevant ethical authorities. Please consult individual RFP Addenda for more information on each funder's ethics requirements.

## 5. Evaluation criteria

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the criteria below. Proposals must address all of these criteria as equally important.

- a. **Intellectual merit:** What is the potential for the proposed activity to advance knowledge and understanding and new insights within its own field or across different fields?
- b. **Quality, innovation and feasibility of the research plan:** Is the proposed project addressing new questions and/or new approaches? Is the research plan well-specified and feasible? Does the project provide value for money?
- c. **Broader impacts:** Does the proposal demonstrate the contribution that this project will make to society and/or to the pursuit of advancing academic inquiry?
- d. **Relevance to the challenge:** Does the project promise to meet the overarching goals of the T-AP Digging into Data Challenge? Those goals are listed on page 4.
- e. **Partnership and planning:** Does the proposal describe an effective and balanced transnational partnership? Is the partnership well coordinated and likely to extend beyond the funding period? Does the partnership have appropriate plans in place to address collaboration, data management, project planning and dissemination?
- f. **Sustainability:** Where relevant, does the proposal describe the sustainability of any resulting tools or other research outcomes beyond the life of the project?

## **6. Evaluation procedure**

The T-AP Digging into Data Proposals will be evaluated by international experts and subsequently be reviewed and ranked by an international peer review panel. Together these criteria will be used to determine overall scholarly merit.

The evaluation process involves five steps:

- a. Eligibility check: The Call Secretariat, in cooperation with the national Funding Organisations, will assess all proposals after the deadline to ensure that they meet the call's formal criteria (e.g., date of submission; number of participating countries; inclusion of all necessary information; appropriate limits on length, etc.) and that applicants are eligible to submit proposals according to the rules of the relevant Funding Organisations.
- b. Expert peer review: Each eligible proposal will initially be remotely reviewed, according to the review criteria listed above, by at least two international experts in the field of research of the proposal.
- c. Review Panels: Panels will be formed, consisting of international experts chosen by the Funding Organisations. Panel members, taking into account the written input from the expert peer reviewers, will discuss the merits of each proposal using the review criteria as a guide and issue funding recommendations.
- d. Funders Forum: After the Review Panel meetings, representatives of the T-AP Digging into Data Funding Organisations will meet separately, as a group, to put together the recommended slate of projects to be funded. In determining the slate, the guiding principle will be scholarly merit. In case of a tie in the overall grade, the group of Funding Organisations may also address such considerations as institutional, disciplinary, and geographic balance with the goal of creating a "balanced portfolio".
- e. Funding decision: The funding decision will be subject to formal approval by the national/regional T-AP Digging into Data Funding Organisations.

## **7. Award notification**

Once the funding slate is approved formally, each Funding Organisation will send out funding decisions to all relevant (main or co-) Principal Investigators and award the funds to support the approved projects according to its usual practice. Applicants will be notified by e-mail in April, 2017. The main Principal Investigator/coordinator will be sent by e-mail a copy of the evaluation of the joint project. Note that for some Funding Organisations the actual funding will be dependent on a Letter of Agreement to be signed by the organisations the research teams are associated with establishing how Intellectual property rights, confidentiality, and publications will be handled in the project.

## **8. Regulations for uses and dissemination of knowledge and information**

**8.1** Open access to research results is strongly encouraged and intended to improve and promote the dissemination of knowledge, thereby contributing to scientific discovery, fostering innovation and maximizing the return of public funding of research. Funding recipients are expected to ensure that their research data and peer-reviewed papers are freely accessible online in accordance with the policy of the relevant national funding rules and/or constraints on data openness, e.g., as defined by ethics committees.

**8.2** The following conditions will apply to all research projects that are funded under the T-AP Digging into Data framework.

- a. In any publication of results, mention must be made of the support received in the framework of the T-AP Digging into Data. ("This work was supported in the framework of the Trans-Atlantic Platform by the following Funding Organisations: ...). The T-AP internet address <http://www.transatlanticplatform.com/> and appropriate acknowledgements to Funding Organisations should also be shown on the publication.
- b. All Principal Investigators must submit progress and financial reports following relevant Funding Organisation requirements. In addition, each progress report must include a section on the main (interim) results and outputs of the individual project and a section which should highlight the main (interim) results and outputs of the collaborative project as a whole.

- c. In addition all funded projects will be expected to do the following:
- Submit a final project “white paper.” The white paper should include contributions from all research teams participating in the transatlantic partnership and describe the results of the T-AP Digging into Data project. It should discuss how the project progressed over time, and how the project was managed; document meetings and important milestones; propose indicators to measure success; describe lessons learned (both positive and negative); document any software, algorithms, or techniques that were developed; discuss the success in addressing the project’s research question(s); and provide the researchers’ candid opinions about the success of the project overall. The white paper will be posted on the T-AP Digging into Data Challenge website, so that others may benefit from the research. The white paper will be due 90 days after the end of the grant period. The white paper should be about as long as a typical academic paper in your discipline. A white paper could in fact be a pre-press version (or an early draft) of an academic paper. More details will be provided at a later date. The text of the white paper may also be used to satisfy the reporting requirements of the project’s funding agencies, so there is no extra burden of time or resources for reporting the results of your project. Please consult the Addenda for individual funders for details. Please bear in mind that the paper will be a public document.
  - Deposit copies of any code developed under the grant into an appropriate repository. (How you preserve your code should be described in your Data Management Plan. Please see the instructions for the fifth attachment in Section 4 “Application contents” for details on the content of your Data Management Plan.)
  - Attend the end-of-grant T-AP Digging into Data Challenge conference. At the end of the grant period, the funders plan to host a major conference to highlight all the funded projects. Members from each project will be asked to participate and share the results of their team’s research.

### **9. Eligibility and budget check list for all T-AP Digging into Data Principal Investigators**

The main Principal Investigator/coordinator confirms that:

- All Principal Investigators are eligible according to all relevant T-AP Digging into Data general eligibility requirements and the relevant national eligibility criteria;
- the application is complete, i.e., the application sheet is filled out completely and all 10 required attachments specified in Section 4 are uploaded;
- all required commitment letters or e-mail(s) or required declarations have been attached;
- the information in the application is correct and in accordance with all relevant national and general T-AP Digging into Data guidelines and eligibility requirements;
- all budget items are eligible according to all relevant T-AP Digging into Data Funding Organisations’ eligibility requirements;
- the budgets in the cover sheet and those in the application are the same;
- the funding for the proposed project should not be sought from any other domestic or foreign source;
- the necessary permits and approvals are in place at the start of the project e.g., regarding ethical review, use of data; and
- pertinent documentation has been submitted to relevant funding agencies (please check all relevant Addenda).