



# scottish universities insight institute

mobilising knowledge for a better Scotland

## SUII Call for proposals Autumn 2015

### Fostering cultures of innovation

*“... prosperity on a national scale – mass flourishing – comes from broad involvement of people in the process of innovation: the conception, development and spread of new methods and products – indigenous innovation down to the grassroots.” – Edmund Phelps*

The SUII call for proposals in autumn 2015 will focus on the theme of fostering cultures of innovation – one of the strands in Scotland’s Economic Strategy published in March 2015.

Applicants are asked to address one or all of the following questions (a balance across all questions will be sought for the programme as a whole):

- What are the main features of vibrant and effective innovation systems and cultures, which combine both creativity and practical implementation?
- How best can these features be stimulated and developed?
- What are the most effective ways of assessing progress in developing cultures of innovation?
- What are the implications for policy makers and practitioners (in the public, private and third sectors), who are trying to foster a culture of innovation and be more innovative themselves?

It is recognised that there are many different dimensions and focal points from which to explore innovation, these include:

- Innovation to improve resource productivity, increase resilience and improve sustainability – for example in support of the recently published UN Sustainable Development Goals<sup>1</sup>
- Innovation systems in different industries or places
- Product or process innovation in business
- Societal innovation and innovation in the institutions that underpin society
- Innovation in government, public services and social enterprises
- Innovation in managing change and responding to disruption and other challenges – for example when financial and other resource constraints are tightening
- Organisational and workplace innovation
- Putting innovative research into practice
- Models of collaboration and co-production to support innovation

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<sup>1</sup> <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html>



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Project proposals can be wide ranging in their scope or could focus in more depth on one aspect. Proposals are invited to be innovative themselves particularly in the format of events and engagement with non-academics.

Projects will be expected to draw on a wide range of disciplines and involve academics, policy-makers, practitioners and other stakeholders from Scotland and elsewhere to share their knowledge and experience, in order to generate fresh insights. Academics are invited to involve non-academic partners as early as possible in the design and development of proposals.

It is planned to invite an informal steering group of interested policy makers and practitioners to help guide the programme.

The programme will run in the first half of 2016 and will conclude with a conference at the end of 2016, which will aim to draw together the threads of the individual projects supported.

**Expressions of interest: 23 October 2015**

**Deadline for applications: 20 November 2015**

<http://www.scottishinsight.ac.uk/AbouttheInstitute/Callforproposals.aspx>

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