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

Instructions for applicants from Sao Paulo

1. Introduction

1.1. 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.

1.2. This call is supported by selected funding agencies from different countries. These countries are: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Mexico, Portugal, The Netherlands, UK, USA. The complete list of T-AP Digging into Data Funding Organisations and the links to the restrictions they set on eligibility can be found at page 3 of the RFP and on the call website.

1.3. Proposals selected in this TA-P Digging Call will be linked to the FAPESP eScience Program. The main goal of the eScience program (www.fapesp.br/8436) is to encourage bold, novel, and unconventional approaches to world class multidisciplinary research that covers, among others, large-scale analysis of digital data in all fields of knowledge, including Social Science and Humanities.

1.4. Each TA-P Digging project is a partnership among a number of national research teams. Each national team is led by a Principal Investigator (PI) – see Funding Principles of the Call for details.

1.5. PIs from the State of São Paulo and who are team leaders must adhere to the following guidelines concerning the submission of funding requests for FAPESP.

2. Modality

2.1. Applications should be submitted as FAPESP Regular Research Awards, following the conditions and restrictions of such Awards, unless explicitly stated in this call. Rules for the Regular Research Award are available, in Portuguese, at www.fapesp.br/137 (Auxílio à Pesquisa Regular-APR).

2.2. Exceptionally for this call, proposals may
   a. have a duration of 36 months, or less
   b. request Post-doctoral (PD) fellowships
   c. request up to US$ 100,000,00 (one hundred thousand American dollars), including all overheads, for projects of 36 months’ duration. For shorter durations, the ceiling will be proportionally smaller.

3. Eligibility for submission to FAPESP

3.1 To submit proposals to FAPESP, under the Digging into Data Call for Proposals, the applicant must:

3.1.1 Have a doctoral degree or equivalent qualification.
3.1.2 Be formally associated to higher education and research institution in the state of São Paulo, Brazil.

3.1.3 Meet all additional eligibility rules for submission of request of a Regular Research Award - see www.fapesp.br/137 (Auxílio à Pesquisa Regular-APR)

3.1.4 Moreover, considering the exceptions applied to this call, the Sao Paulo PI must also have experience and proven competence in the scientific field of the project, demonstrated among others, by:
   a. Quality, regularity and impact of scientific and technological results of his/her research.
   b. Previous experience in scientific exchange and execution of research projects in collaboration with researchers from institutions in Brazil and other countries.
   c. Demonstrated ability to lead research groups with recognized results in the scientific community.
   d. Important elements for analysing the quality and impact of research results include:
      i. Publications in journals with a selective editorial policy; patents; other evidence/instruments of intellectual property; research results that have been adopted by companies or government instances; and other relevant information;
      ii. Experience in leading successful research projects related to the topic of the proposal under consideration;
      iii. Experience in training researchers, highlighting the recent activity of supervising graduate students and postdoctoral fellows;
      iv. Results obtained by the applicant from previous FAPESP grants.

3.2 Applicants must obtain from FAPESP a formal declaration of eligibility before beginning the preparation of the international project. This declaration must be requested at least 45 days before the closing date of the call. International submissions that do not include this declaration will not be considered by FAPESP.

3.2.1 To analyze eligibility, applicants must send an email to (chamada_digging@fapesp.br) with subject “Digging – request for analysis of eligibility”, attaching the following documents:
   1) Name and affiliation of the applicant
   2) Tentative title and a 5-line abstract of the project
   3) Estimated amount of budget to request to FAPESP
   4) Summary CV (FAPESP model) of the applicant
   5) Information about whether the applicant is currently PI of a FAPESP ongoing project (indicate project number)

3.2.2 Within 10 days of receiving this request, FAPESP will send the applicant a declaration as to the applicant’s eligibility within this call.

3.3 Proposals that do not comply with the terms of this Call will not qualify for analysis.
4 Funding principles and Duration of the Projects

4.1 FAPESP will award up to US$100,000 per proposal, according to the restrictions stated in item 2.2.c, to cover all the fundable items and overheads associated with the Regular Research Award modality (www.fapesp.br/137 - Auxílio à Pesquisa Regular-APR), for projects of 36 months’ duration; for shorter duration projects, the ceiling will be proportionally smaller.

4.2 In addition to the items provided for this modality, the proponents may include, as a budget item, a Post-Doctoral Scholarship, whose duration shall not exceed the term of the project. The approval of the Postdoctoral scholarship will depend on the applicant’s academic profile as stated in the rules outlined in www.fapesp.br/270#3.6.

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

5 Submission forms and additional documents required by FAPESP:

5.1 Besides the submission to the website hosted by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) (www.diggingintodata.org) the PI in the State of São Paulo must submit to FAPESP, by mail (please, see item 5.2 below), the following documents:

a. Research Proposal Form
b. Researcher’s Registration Form to be filled by the PI from SP
c. Summary of the CV of the team Principal Investigator from Sao Paulo
d. Budget worksheets specifically designed for this Call;
e. Sheet with members of the team.
f. A Letter of Agreement between the Higher Education or Research Institutions to which the national team PIs are affiliated, establishing how Intellectual Property rights, confidentiality, and publications will be treated jointly, in observance of the policies of each funding Party.

(i) Please note that the Letter of Agreement is not mandatory for the submission of proposals, but no approved project will be contracted before the presentation of a copy of the signed Agreement.

5.2 Submissions to FAPESP can only be accepted in paper, via mail, to the following address: Rua Pio XI, 1500, Alto da Lapa, CEP 05468-901 – São Paulo/SP, with “Chamada –eScience-DIGGING” written on the envelope. Only proposals with a stamped postmark date within the deadline of this Call will be processed.

5.3 No proposal will be accepted after the closing date for submission, nor will any addendum or explanation be accepted, unless those explicitly and formally requested by FAPESP or Partner Institutions.

5.4 Proposals submitted by any other means will not be accepted. Late submissions will be returned.
6 Analysis and Selection
6.1 The valid proposals will be evaluated by international reviewers and by an international committee coordinated by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), see the Call for Proposals for details.
6.2 The results will be announced by FAPESP at www.fapesp.br.

7 Contract for selected projects
Selected proposals will be object of a (FAPESP) grant contract to be signed by the PI in the State of São Paulo and an authorized representative of the Higher Education and Research Institution to which he/she is affiliated.

8 Grant cancellation
FAPESP may cancel funding if, during the grant timeframe, there appears a fact of sufficient gravity to justify cancellation, at the discretion of the Scientific Director, without prejudice of any other appropriate actions.

9 Information about this Call at FAPESP
Researchers from Sao Paulo should direct all questions exclusively to Dra. Vera Viviane Schmidt at chamada_digging@fapesp.br