

What makes a strong consortium?

- **Read the competition brief, collaboration is required**
 - 4th September - online briefing event: [watch the recording](#)
- **To lead a project**
 - Business of any size (including sole traders and partnerships)
 - Academic institutions cannot lead or work alone
- **Projects with partners that cover a supply chain are generally stronger. Consider English Farmers**

Collaboration criteria:

- **For this competition you must be collaborative**
- **In all collaborative projects there must be:**
 - At least two grant claiming partners
 - Evidence of an effective collaboration
- **This means one partner must not account for more than 70% of the eligible costs and you must include rationale for the collaboration and describe the structure in the application**

You have a great consortium – what could go wrong?

- **Who owns what?**

You will need a consortium agreement, so start early

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/university-and-business-collaboration-agreements-lambert-toolkit>

- **Collaborate in all aspects of the bid, especially the writing**

No passengers – check everyone knows what they get and how much they have to contribute

- **Check the number of bids you can be part of – (*a business can only lead on one application but can collaborate on any number*).**
- **Too many or too few partners**
- **Subcontracts**
- **Leave plenty of time**

From start to finish be prepared

Key Dates:

- Competition opened: 13 October 2025
- Competition closes: 3 December 2025 - 11:00am
- Applicants notified: 3 March 2026
- Projects from: 1 July 2026
- Projects to end by: 30 June 2028

