MADAR Grants Application Guidelines

The Maghreb Action on Displacement and Rights (MADAR مدار Arabic for 'path') facilitates research collaborations and commissions research projects to tackle the social and political challenges associated with migration and displacement in the Central Maghreb.

MADAR welcomes applications for research grants. We will fund research projects that meet the aims of the MADAR Network Plus. Grants range from £20,000 - £100,000 GBP for periods of 6 to 12 months. Projects have to be led by organisations in Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, or the UK, and can include Co-Applicants from anywhere in the world. The application deadline is **14 September 2022, 17:00 (UK).**

This document will cover the following topics:

1. **What is MADAR? What do we do?**
2. **Research Focus: Priorities and Themes**
3. **Funding Opportunities**
4. **What kinds of projects will be funded?**
5. **Who can apply?**
6. **What can the funds be used for?**
7. **How to apply**
8. **Timeline**

1. What is MADAR? What do we do?

Maghreb Action on Displacement and Rights (MADAR مدار Arabic for 'path') is a four-year project, funded by the AHRC Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), which aims to directly impact the lives of people affected by displacement in the Maghreb region. The Maghreb is at the heart of a fragile geo-political context, inhabited by growing numbers of vulnerable displaced people at risk and in need of protection.

MADAR aims to:

- Enhance capacity for research and innovation in the UK and in the Maghreb, with a particular focus on Early Career Researchers, civil society organisations, and research governance;

- Facilitate interdisciplinary research and cross-sector collaboration between researchers and practitioners working on displacement in the Maghreb;

- Generate evidence-based solutions to protect vulnerable displaced people in the Maghreb and facilitate uptake and utilisation by knowledge users through applied Knowledge Exchange and Impact strategies.

MADAR Network Plus is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and GCRF and is coordinated by Keele University in collaboration with research organisations and civil society organisations across Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria and the UK. MADAR Network Plus runs until March 2024.

2. Research Focus: Priorities and Themes

Priorities

MADAR will commission projects that address such questions via interdisciplinary, cross-sector, challenge-led, solution-focused research that aims to have a transformational impact on the humanitarian protection of vulnerable displaced people across the Maghreb region. Project proposals must fit in with one or more of our three priorities listed below. A proposal that makes no reference to any of these priorities will be ineligible. All projects should reflect upon the following:

1. **Addressing the after-effects of harm:** To what extent are the immediate protection needs of displaced people addressed? Can they access food, shelter, healthcare, education, and work?

2. **Reducing risk exposure:** How do broader cultural and socio-economic factors hinder or facilitate the protection of displaced people? To what extent are displaced people integrated into Maghreb countries? How can racism and interculturality be more effectively addressed to reduce and prevent harm?

3. **Promoting change:** What are the existing local, national and regional protection measures (e.g. legislative frameworks) for South-South displaced people in the Central Maghreb region? What impacts do they have? What are the gaps? Are the existing legislations effectively implemented?

Themes

We are especially interested in projects that address the following key interconnected themes:

1. **Vulnerability and protection**
   How do migration and displacement render people vulnerable? What are the protection needs arising from this, and how might these be addressed?
   - This may involve reflecting on gender-based vulnerability to violence or harm that informs the experiences of women, men, and other genders; vulnerability due to sexuality; vulnerability due to age; vulnerability in forced displacement (along migration routes and at borders) and as a result of trafficking.

   - Projects may focus on specific groups who are vulnerable due to their characteristics and/or circumstances, as well as the intersections and relationships that produce vulnerability.

2. **Space, community and integration**
   What is day-to-day life like for displaced people and migrants in Central Maghreb host societies, and what are the barriers to integration economically, socially, legally and politically?
   - Addressing this question may involve consideration of the complexities of residence, access to rights, and spatial integration; the economic aspects of displacement and financial dimensions of life within the host society; inter-community relations, and interculturality, including the organization of displaced people as a community and political integration.

   - Projects may approach the Maghreb as both a region of transit and onward migration, and a destination.

3. **Advocacy and action research**
   How can action and research, together, address urgent protection needs? How might actors and organizations across sectors collaborate to enhance inter-institutional knowledge?
   - Addressing this question may involve exploration of the role of the media; how displaced people are represented; how disinformation and negative stereotypes are circulated; and how high-quality information may be shared across sectors. It may encompass how perceptions interact with legislative frameworks, policy, and knowledge production by research entities in the region.

   - Projects should approach these questions both practically and critically – working to create change through cross-sector and interdisciplinary partnership, whilst reflecting on the dynamics between action and research.

The above themes are intended to be illustrative of ***key areas rather than exclusive*** and are deeply inter-connected – proposals which cut across these and other areas are encouraged. Proposals are expected to engage with protection and vulnerability in the contexts of displacement. Proposals should bring together a range of perspectives including social and political scientists, the creative arts, and humanities.

3. Funding Opportunities

There are two types of grants available — Large and Small — with different criteria.

- **Large Grants:** MADAR will fund 2-8 large grants ranging from £30,000 to £100,000 pounds sterling (project duration 6-12 months). The large grants can be led by organisations in the UK and/or the Central Maghreb. The focus must be on one or more countries of the Central Maghreb (Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia), though other additional Maghreb countries can also be included.

- **Small Grants:** MADAR will also fund 5-18 small grants ranging from £20,000 to £30,000 pounds sterling (project duration 6-9 months). The small grants must be led by organisations in the UK and/or the Central Maghreb. The focus must be on one country of the Central Maghreb (Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia).

	LARGE GRANT	SMALL GRANT
Number	2-8 grants*	5-18 grants*
	*The number of projects funded in each category is not predetermined	
GPB	£30,000 - £100,000 at 100% fEC*	£20,000 - £30,000 at 100% fEC*
	*fEC = full Economic Costing	
Research Focus	Any of MADAR's research priorities and themes	Any of MADAR's research priorities and themes
Country Focus	Must include one or more of the Central Maghreb countries of Algeria, Morocco, and/or Tunisia Other Maghreb countries may be included in addition	Must focus on one of the Central Maghreb countries of Algeria, Morocco, or Tunisia
Project Team	Must be led by an organisation either in the Central Maghreb (Algeria, Morocco, or Tunisia) or in the UK Other organisations from elsewhere in the world can be included as Co-Applicants	Must be led by an organisation either in the Central Maghreb (Algeria, Morocco, or Tunisia) or in the UK Other organisations from elsewhere in the world can be included as Co-Applicants
Earliest Start Date	1 February 2023	1 February 2023
Latest End Date	31 January 2024	31 January 2024
Project Duration	6-12 months	6-9 months

If you have any questions, you can email us at madar.networkplus@keele.ac.uk

4. What kinds of projects will be funded?

Funding may be used for *any research related activity*, for example new collaborative research projects including but not limited to:

- Pilot projects
- Exploratory and innovation studies
- Data exploration
- Fieldwork and support for projects led by early career researchers (with mentoring where appropriate)
- Conferences
- Workshops and seminars
- Fellowships, exchanges and placements

We are particularly interested in research that takes a cross-sector and collaborative approach to addressing protection needs. In a rapidly changing context (influenced by conflict, the COVID-19 pandemic, and other forms of volatility), projects should consider how urgent action may be taken.

Aside from the criteria set out in relation to eligibility (see below), projects may take an approach that is arts-based, qualitative, quantitative, or uses a mixture of methods. The methodological approach should be in conversation with the work of cross-sector partners and collaborators and should aim to strengthen capacity where possible and needed. Applicants should consider how these approaches may transform public perceptions, policies, and NGO action in the Maghreb.

Applications should consider potential impacts, and how these support MADAR's aims and priorities, and must include a project timeline as well as an impact plan. Project teams should draw collaboratively on the knowledge of partners and organizations to set out the specifics of how they will contribute to change and action on urgent protection issues.

Impacts to consider could include:

- How the proposed project may contribute to theorising displacement and protection in the Maghreb and beyond
- How the proposed project addresses gaps in the quantitative and statistical data of displacement and migration at regional and national levels
- How the project contributes to building capacity for local NGOs, providing a basis for rapid, responsive action and evidence-based solutions to urgent protection issues
- How the project may provide necessary support (administrative, legal, medical, psychological, etc.) to conflict-induced displaced people in the region
- How the project will be inclusive of people of all genders and how the research will contribute to reducing gender inequalities.

Projects must *produce outputs* that are appropriate to the aims and target audiences of the project. These may include but are not limited to: academic publications (journal articles, book chapters, edited books, monographs or conference papers), websites or digital resources, policy briefings, public engagement activities, training materials, exhibitions, films, videos/documentaries, performances or other creative outputs.

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- **Research quality, significance, and focus**: An excellent proposal is interdisciplinary, challenge-led and solution-focused, is based on existing scholarship, and brings together research and practice in addressing these challenges. Proposals should demonstrate the significance and importance of the project and its potential contribution to knowledge; the appropriateness of the research methods. Projects must be ODA compliant and LMIC driven (e.g. drawing on local/indigenous knowledge). Proposals must detail how they will identify and manage safeguarding risks, and ethical considerations. Proposals should address MADAR's priorities and challenges. Project proposals must fit in with one or more of our three priorities. A proposal which makes no reference to any of these priorities will be ineligible.

- **People and Management:** Including the quality and importance of the Co-Applicants' work to date; the ability of the research team to bring the project to completion; and the suitability of the opportunities which the project will make available to support the development of research staff on the project. Including the appropriateness of the project plan and timeframes; and the extent to which sufficient time and resources have been allocated to achieving each aspect of the project.

- **Outputs, dissemination and impact:** Including the appropriateness of the proposed plans for dissemination and impact; the likelihood that the outputs and outcomes of the project will be highly valued and widely exploited, both in the research community and in wider contexts where they can make a difference. Projects should include impact-driven outputs to focus on research (e.g. scientific publications), creation (e.g. creative outputs and/or dissemination strategies) and action (e.g. policy recommendations). Projects should include strategies for sustainability, scalability, and legacy of proposed interventions involving local and affected communities.

- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:** Proposals should demonstrate that applicants have considered issues such as gender, equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI).

- **Value for money**: Including the extent to which the likely outcome of the research will represent value for money; the resources requested are reasonable in the context of the project; there are appropriate processes and controls in place to ensure due diligence.

5. Who can apply?

All projects must include a Principal Investigator, and may include one or more Co-Investigators and/or Project Partners.

- **The Principal Investigator** (PI) has overall responsibility for the project and leads the research. The PI must be employed by an organisation with capacity to support the project. This will be the **Lead Organisation** on the project. The PI can be based in an academic or non-academic institution (as long as proposals are research-focused and include contributions from research-focused partners). Non-academic organisations should provide evidence of their capacity to lead and deliver research projects and attention should be given to issues such as support for the career development of researchers involved in the

project and access to appropriate support facilities (e.g. for data management) and advice (e.g. on research ethics, safety etc.).

- **Co-Investigators (Co-Is)** make a significant contribution to the research or to the project activities, and assist the PI in the management and leadership of the project. Co-Is can be based at the same organisation as the PI or at another organisation, and this can be either a research organisation or a non-academic organisation (such as a non-governmental organisations or a media or cultural organisations). Please note that international but non-DAC list researchers are not eligible to act as PI on applications, but can be named as Co-Is on the projects.

- **Project Partners** are organisations that play an integral role in the proposed research or in furthering the research's dissemination and knowledge exchange, but are usually less involved in the project than Co-Investigators. Project Partners are normally non-academic organisations, such as non-governmental organisations (NGOs), media or cultural organisations, businesses, or government agencies.

The Lead Organisation must be based in either Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, or the UK. If the Lead Organisation is based in the UK, the project must involve Co-Investigators and/or Project Partners from DAC list countries.

Co-Investigators or Project Partners can also be from other countries. UK Principal and Co-Investigators are normally expected to belong to a UK Higher Education Institution eligible for UKRI funding.

The Lead Organisation for a project is often an academic organisation, such as a university or a research institute. Other organisations, such as NGOs, are also encouraged to apply for grants, but special care must be taken to ensure projects are research-focused. Lead Organisations without significant previous research experience are only eligible to apply for the Small Grant, and must include research-focused Co-Investigators or Advisors in the project. All Lead Organisations will have to provide evidence of their capacity to lead and deliver research projects and to carry out projects in accordance with our funder's terms and conditions (e.g. in respect to finances and good governance).

Please be aware that any project without UK involvement will receive an Advisory Board Member from the MADAR team.

Applications can be led by/include members of the Network Plus MADAR, providing all other eligibility criteria are met and they are not members of the UK based Network team.

6. What can the funds be used for?

Costs are funded as follows:

- Overseas Organisations from DAC list (LMIC) countries are funded at 100% FEC + up to 20% Overheads (overheads are up to 20% of the total eligible direct costs).
- Overseas Organisations non DAC list countries are funded at 100% FEC (no overheads).
- UK Research Organisations / HEI's are funded at 80% FEC (including overheads).
- UK Non Research Organisations / Non HEI are funded at 100% (no overheads).
- UKRI-recognised Independent Research Organisations (IROs) or Research Institutes are funded at 80% FEC (including overheads).

Applicants must devote funds from their budget to attend a grant holders' training and networking (on ethics, arts-based research, and collaboration between academic and non-academic Partners) and KEI event.

A contribution towards Overheads can be made for overseas organisations within DAC list (LMIC) countries, this should normally be calculated at up to 20% of the total eligible direct costs charged to the grant directly relating to the activities of the LMIC investigator.

If Overheads are claimed for international investigators in DAC list countries it is not also possible to request direct costs to cover basic office and facilities (e.g. library access etc.) and minor / day-to-day consumables (e.g. photocopying, telephone calls, etc.) although major additional research related costs (e.g. linked to specific research methods such as survey/ fieldwork costs or development of project-specific digital resources) may be requested as direct costs where appropriate.

Costs for equipment purchase under £10,000 should only be considered where significant use of equipment is required specifically and primarily or solely for the proposed research activity and/or where this is more cost effective than other options such as hiring equipment.

Costs may be included to support inclusive participation in development impact activities, for example in terms of translation costs or support for carers. These may be incurred by either the UK or Maghreb partners as appropriate. Where possible accessible venues and facilities should be selected.

Please note that the following costs are ineligible:

- Overheads cannot be requested for UK Non Research Organisations and for international co-investigators employed by academic organisations which are not based in a DAC list country (i.e. research organisations located in developed countries and their subsidiaries).

- Capital or infrastructure expenditure (e.g. basic office/ laboratory / accommodation furniture or equipment, building/ site construction, maintenance or refurbishment work, improvements to digital connective infrastructure, etc.) is not an eligible cost. However, additional costs incurred by existing facilities or infrastructures relating to their use as a part of the research or in the archiving of project-specific research data / outputs may be considered.

- Infrastructure costs cannot be requested, for example to make structural alterations to venues for improved accessibility.

7. How to apply

To apply, applicants will need to submit the following:

- **Application Form, please see template here** (this includes the following mandatory sections: Research Proposal, Ethics & Safeguarding Statement; ODA Statement; Gender Equality Statement).
- **Due Diligence questionnaire (financial risk) available here**
- **Budget plan (see template here)**
- **CV and publication list for PI and Co-Is**
- **Letters of support from all organisations involved**

Each application will be reviewed by Peer Reviewers selected from MADAR's team and Advisory Board supplemented by a pool of experts in the UK and in the Maghreb.

8. Timeline

Call launched	4 May 2022
Application deadline	14 September 2022, 17:00 (UK)
Peer review process	4 October 2022
Final outcome announced	Beginning of November 2022
Successful project preparatory phase	December 2021 – March 2022
Projects can officially start	1 February 2023
Projects end date	31 January 2024