



Funding for cross-disciplinary pilot projects

Our Plant-based future – a GSC Living lab

As a part of [UCPH Green Solutions Centre](#) Living Lab "*Our Plant-based future*", we can fund small scale pilot projects, where the main activity is to develop and test specific solutions (technical, products, ideas, concepts, etc.) within the transition to more plant-based food production. Development of solutions must be based on cross-disciplinarity and co-creation with end-users. The amount per pilot project is DKK 100-300,000 and the time period is max. 11/2 years

This memo describes the concept/tool, framework and decision-making processes for funding.

The concept/tool

A small-scale pilot project can be based on the following (see it as examples)

- an existing research project, that can be boosted with development and test of a solution and a cross-disciplinary approach
- a collaboration between UCPH and external partners or be seen as a pre-project for an application based on co-creation and development of solutions
- an academic commitment, for example, arising from existing UCPH infrastructure

For *Our Plant-based Future*, existing UCPH infrastructure will generally mean facilities in Taastrup and Frederiksberg. Regardless of the starting point, the main objective is to develop and test one or more solutions (technical, products, ideas, concepts, etc.) in a cross-disciplinary set-up and interaction with one or more end-users.

The pilot project must be anchored in and professionally run by 1-3 researchers (or other with relevant academic training) with a desire for a cross-disciplinary approach to a green solution, and funding can be used to employ one or more persons to carry out the work in practice, and other project related costs (analysis, consumer related tasks ect.). It will be up to the researcher(s) who run the pilot project how the project is staffed and organised.

Frameworks for pilot projects

The funds can be used for salaries for the person(s) (VIP and TAP) who will carry out the tasks in the project and for other project related costs (analysis, lab facilities, consumer related tasks ect.). The project must be managed and run by one or more researchers, but the actual execution can be carried out by, for example, a research assistant and/or a postdoc with competencies within the field. The most important element is the specific content, the development of the specific solution in a cross-disciplinary and user-inclusive set-up, as well as learning from the process and the possibility of testing the solution.

The approach to an *Our Plant-based Future* Living Lab pilot project is:

- The '*Living*' part must be conceived as activities in a specific environment and with a specific end-user or other type of user in mind.

- The 'Lab' part is thought as a reduction in reality (removal of noise) and a sharp/exploratory approach to questions based on hypotheses. In addition, there must be an element of upscaling and testing along with an end-user or similar.
- The GSC Living Lab offers the cross-disciplinary explorative space for idea development and testing.

The Living Lab Manager can help initiate the cross-disciplinary exploratory space, offer general sparring and clarification, make external contact and other supporting tasks. In addition, the Living Lab management team can assist with development and sparring in relation to the Living Lab approach required in the pilot projects, to ensure that the concept is continuously tested and improved.

The amount per pilot project is DKK 100 -300.000 and with a project period of max. 11/2 years. As a rule, there can be no more than three ongoing pilot projects in *Our Plant-based Future* lab.

Finances and decision-making

Applications and questions must be sent to the Living Lab manager (memo@science.ku.dk), who will check that the requirements have been met. The applicant and the LAB management group meet and discuss the pilot project and the set-up, in order to ensure that the tool is developed to suit its purpose. The adjusted application is submitted for evaluation in the GSC Development Group and on the basis of a recommendation from the group, the GSC coordinator makes a decision on the allocation of funds.

The concept for pilot projects will be continuously adjusted as to fit the purpose, and the GSC Development Group will receive information on an ongoing basis.

Requirements for pilot projects and applications

- Researchers and academic knowledge across UCPH (min. two faculties) must be involved in project development/specification
- End-User(s)/external partner(s) (e.g. company, authority or NGO) must be involved (part of the project development phase may be to identify and establish contact with relevant end-users)
- Students can be included, and the pilot project may be combined with Living LAB [funds for student projects](#) (5.000 – 15.000 Dkr/student)
- Development and testing of one or more solutions must be included. The solutions may well be at idea/concept level, but they have to be able to be described specifically.
- The project must be communicated on an ongoing basis, and as a minimum, one open event must be held, in which results etc. are presented. This could take the form of a final event. The GSC secretary can help with this part
- The application must include
 - Max. 10,000 keystrokes (4 standard pages), exclusive of references and budget
 - Project idea, including a description of the cross-disciplinary project/idea as well as proposals for end-user, including:
 - Which faculties (min 2) and researchers are involved and with what angles
 - Description of the expectations for the solution(s)
 - How the Living Lab approach will be used/concretized in the project (see above under "The approach in an Our Plant-based Future Living Lab pilot project")
 - Budget. The funds can be used to pay for UCPH employees, materials, analysis, rental of equipment, consumer-related tasks, etc.