

NERC GEF Loan Application Form

Guidance notes for completion



October 2017

Foreword

These guidance notes are designed to assist with the completion of the NERC GEF application form. If you have not used the Facility before we would advise that you contact the Facility before completing the form, to discuss your loan requirements.

The notes incorporate some information contained in the *NERC Grants Handbook* which sets out the regulations governing research grants awarded by the Natural Environment Research Council, grant application procedures and eligibility requirements. It also outlines the funding and facilities available to grant-holders, and details the responsibilities of NERC, Investigators and Research Organisations. NERC reserves the right to amend these regulations at any time and without prior notice. The regulations in effect at any time will be those contained in the most recent version of the NERC Grants booklet, available on the NERC website at: <http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/application/>

APPLICATION AND ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

For all applications for GEF equipment the Principal Investigator must submit the application form, together with a Case for Support (unless a Minor Loan where this is optional) to the Facility Manager (gef@nerc.ac.uk). The Case for Support must be completed in single-spaced typescript of minimum font size 11 point, Arial font, with margins of at least 2cm. References can be presented in a smaller font size provided it is sufficiently clear to ensure good quality reproductions. Applicants referring to websites should note that referees may choose not to use them. Any proposal in which the Case for Support does not comply with these specifications may be rejected.

Applications for GEF equipment are peer reviewed by the GEF Steering Committee (GEFSC), which meets twice a year. Applicants must ensure that their application is received by NERC by the requested closing date. The deadlines for receipt of applications to be considered at the bi-annual meetings of the Committee can be found on the GEF website (<http://gef.nerc.ac.uk/>). Every successful bid for equipment will be subject to the Facility [Terms and Conditions](#).

Urgent Applications : Only under the most exceptional circumstances will applications be handled outwith the committee meetings. Exceptionally, an application for a research grant may be submitted at any time for rapid consideration under an urgency procedure. This is permitted only in cases where the application has been prompted by an unexpected and transient scientific opportunity (e.g. earthquake, drought, temporary exposure or short-timescale event in an ecosystem). Time-limited logistical events, such as an unforeseen opportunity to participate in a particular experimental or observational programme or the availability of staff or facilities, will not be accepted as grounds for urgency.

n.b. A separate *Case for Urgency* must be submitted with these applications.

Minor GNSS Applications: The GEF is currently piloting a relaxed set of requirements for certain smaller loans of GNSS equipment, with the aim of reducing the administrative burden on PIs for whom such loans usually play a small, but enabling, part in a larger project. These "Minor loans" will have a streamlined application procedure with a more rapid turnaround, and reduced reporting requirements after the loan period (e.g. the case for support is optional and a much reduced scientific report is required).

In addition to the usual GEF conditions, a Minor Loan application must meet all of the following criteria (otherwise, the standard GEF application system will apply):

- The only GEF equipment that can be requested in a minor loan is GNSS receivers (up to 4)
- Minor loans must last less than 6 weeks, and should normally commence within 1-3 months of application

- Minor loans must constitute straightforward non-commercial use of the equipment, within the NERC or other Research Council remit
- Minor loan applications may only be made by users who can demonstrate previous experience of the type of equipment in question (e.g. involvement in a previous GEF loan)
- A PI or Co-I may not normally apply more than once for a Minor loan in any 6-month period

The decision as to whether or not an application can be accepted under the Minor Loans category rests with the Facility manager.

GEF EQUIPMENT

Details of equipment held by the GEF together with scheduling information can be found on the Facility website at <http://gef.nerc.ac.uk/>. The schedules can change fairly regularly and the GEF endeavours to keep them as up to date as possible. Borrowers are welcome to contact the Facility to be advised of the latest availability.

The equipment will be supplied fully serviced and in a condition safe to use; advice will be given on any maintenance required. Facility equipment can be complex to operate and occasional firmware and software updates can result in changes to operator procedures. It is usual for borrowers to attend a short training course near the start of their project, unless already completely familiar with the current level of requested equipment.

APPLICATION FORM SECTIONS

Please note that this form will require to be completed using Acrobat Reader v8.1 minimum. Each section of the application form will limit the amount of text able to be entered to the visible size of the box (except for section 8.9 Previous Publications where you may enter additional text if required).

As the form is stand alone and cannot include PDF attachments, the scientific Case for Support should be sent separately as a PDF or Word document.

If you have not applied to the GEF before, please submit your application *one month* before the deadline to enable us to check your application before it is considered by the committee.

Section 1 – Applicant details

- Please check that NERC [eligibility criteria](#) is met before continuing.

Section 2 – Project title

- A project title should be provided which properly describes the project to be undertaken –
n.b. a simple acronym or abbreviation will not suffice.

Section 3 – Equipment required

Details of equipment held by the GEF together with current scheduling information, can be found on the Facility website at <http://gef.nerc.ac.uk/>. If unsure, please contact the Facility.

- Please provide as much detail as possible e.g. for GPS equipment, please specify the required accuracy. If an RTK survey is being undertaken, radio transmitter licences may be required to comply with the particular regulations of the country where the project is being undertaken.
- Applicants making use of Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) within the UK are required to hold a licence available from [OFCOM](#).
- In the event of the GEF being unable to supply the total desired equipment, it may be that the applicant can manage with less than requested and may wish to provide details of the minimum acceptable. The GEF is happy to be contacted to discuss a possible alternative provision.
- Include any specific requirements for peripheral equipment such as the desired numbers of solar panels and regulators etc.
- If the equipment currently available from the GEF is regarded as insufficient for an experiment, users are encouraged to include equipment upgrades or purchases as capital expenditure in NERC grant applications. Users should not be deterred from applying for these upgrades because the costs will not be considered by the Peer Review panels, providing it is made clear that ownership of the equipment will pass to the NERC/GEF at the end of the grant/period of use. However, the capital cost will be included when calculating the full cost of the grant, and therefore must not increase the total value of the grant above the relevant maximum value for the type of grant applied for. We recommend that anyone intending to use GEF equipment contact the facility prior to submitting NERC grant applications so that any potential equipment upgrades or purchases can be identified at an early stage.

Section 4 – Period of loan

- To avoid confusion and potential delays to another customer, it is important to be as accurate as possible with the loan dates. The *start date* should be the required date of delivery to your institute, and the *return date* should be the date that the equipment will be delivered back to the GEF premises.
- The borrower may be required to defray extra costs incurred by the next user for any delay in returning equipment, unless agreed in advance with the Facility Manager.
- To allow sufficient time for the committee to process applications, successfully reviewed projects can not expect to begin until 8 weeks after the application deadline. For those wishing to undertake projects beginning in early summer (e.g. May/June), applicants should apply before the deadline of the previous winter meeting in October/November. The deadlines for receipt of applications to be considered at the bi-annual meetings of the Committee can be found on the GEF website (<http://gef.nerc.ac.uk>).

Section 5 – Funding of the project

- It is important to provide the requested information on NERC funding (including the NERC reference number), even if pending a grant outcome.
- For loans to be used for *commercial* purposes, full details must be appended. There is normally a rental charge for the equipment on these loans.

Section 6 – Personnel

- Please provide details of all personnel who will be using the equipment and whether they have been trained. The GEF can provide operational training in the Facility laboratories and if considered necessary, in the establishment of the applicant.
- When requested, but subject to the necessary financial provisions, this support can include practical help during the early stages of fieldwork. Experience has shown that overseas projects are susceptible to equipment problems arising during transit and GEF assistance is most often required when the equipment is initially deployed.

Section 7 – PhD students

If this application forms part of a student's PhD, then full details should be provided.

- 7.1 The PhD student/s should complete a resume of their research related to this project and why this equipment loan is important to their thesis. Also it should be made clear whether the research is totally or partially dependant on this project.

Section 8 – Research justification

- Please submit **separately**, a scientific Case for Support. For the GEF application, the case should include 2 x A4 sides of text with a further 2 sides of diagrams. It is important that the diagrams should be sufficiently large and clear enough to cope with any scanning/photocopying process. The axes of graphs should be clearly labelled.
- To maintain compatibility with NERC Grants procedures, the case must be completed in single-spaced typescript of minimum font size 11 point, Arial font, with margins of at least 2cm. Applicants referring to websites should note that referees may choose not to use them. Any proposal in which the Case for Support does not comply with these specifications may be rejected.

The Case for Support should address the following points:

- Underlying rationale, scientific and technological issues to be addressed, relevance to users and the potential scientific, practical and socio-economic benefits.
 - Specific project objectives, aims and hypotheses to be tested, including their potential relevance to UK and international research work in the field, relevance to the NERC mission and anticipated achievements and outputs, including datasets.
 - Methodology and approach.
 - Programme and/or plan of research.
- 8.2 The stage at which the project has reached can include funding details – e.g. funding applied for.
- 8.3 To assist with solar panel planning etc, it is useful to include approximate lat/lon coordinates

of the field area.

- 8.6** NERC encourages all users to archive the data collected during their projects at a suitable NERC data centre. A list of NERC data centres can be found [here](#). Customers are responsible for downloading and archiving all of the data collected during their fieldwork. However where this has proved difficult, the GEF will attempt to recover and archive any missing data. SEIS-UK provides expert support and methodology for archiving the very large amounts of seismic data obtained during field projects.
- 8.7** It is useful to provide as much detail of the survey procedure as possible. This could highlight such details as - tying in with local basestations (GPS), or CMP surveys and survey layouts (GPR), sampling rates and deployment methods (Seismic).
- 8.8** Please include details of any software packages (and which versions) to be used to process the data.
- 8.9** NERC request that the specific GEF loan number is associated with the resulting publication e.g.

Loan 581..

Someone, E., Else, D., and Other, C., **2008**, Crustal structure etc., *Geophysical Journal International*, 100: pp1000-1001

Next, F., One., and the Geophysics Group, **2008**, Seismic etc., *Geophysical Prospecting*, 56 (1): pp5-20, doi:10.1111/j.1365-2478.2007.00665.x

Loan 595..

Smith, E.R., Jones, G.J., Bloggs, J.R., **2008**, Snow accumulation etc., *Geophysical Research Letters*, 30: L01706, doi:10.1029/2007GL032529

Sections 9 & 10 – Science Themes & Research Areas

- The Science Themes and Research areas should be completed in order to provide NERC with important annual statistical data and output performance indicators. For the particular project being applied for, please select one or more of the Science Themes which form the latest NERC Strategic Priority, and also one or more of the appropriate scientific Research Areas. Further information on Science Themes and Research Areas is available on the [NERC website](#).

Section 11 – Authorisation

The form must be signed by both the Principal Investigator as applicant, and also by the Head of Department.

Please return by email to gef@nerc.ac.uk and send **one** signed hardcopy to:-

The Facility Manager
NERC Geophysical Equipment Facility
University of Edinburgh
Grant Institute
James Hutton Road
Edinburgh
EH9 3FE

REPORTS – PERFORMANCE AND SCIENTIFIC

Borrowers are required to provide the following reports to the GEF secretary. Electronic submission (PDF or Word format) is encouraged.

- i) Within *two weeks* of the equipment return, a completed "Equipment/Project Performance Report Form", including an account of breakdowns, losses, repairs and any authorised modifications carried out on the equipment. The current form can be downloaded [here](#).

Please note that email correspondence on equipment problems will not be accepted as a substitute for the above form, however, major problems should be reported to the GEF as soon as possible by any means to enable corrective action to be taken before the next loan

- ii) Within *one year* of the loan, a full "Scientific Report" detailing the major highlights or problems of the project. The report should be not more than six to eight A4 pages in length (of which no more than four page equivalents are text), and should include the following sections:

- o Abstract
- o Background (including field survey site location map)
- o Survey procedure (including recommendations for future borrowers)
- o Data quality (including examples)
- o Processing and modelling
- o Interpretation to date
- o Preliminary findings
- o Conclusions and recommendations
- o A table of instrument deployment details (this does not count towards the page limit)
- o Publications (including proposed, in preparation, submitted, in press and published)
It is important to provide the GEF loan number that each publication refers to.

Please ensure that diagrams are of a sufficiently large size and high resolution in the electronic version to allow labels etc. to be clearly read. If creating a PDF file, ensure that "High Quality Print" settings are used.

The committee are principally interested to see that the equipment was correctly used and data processed effectively. The Scientific Report should not be delayed because of incomplete scientific conclusions. It will be different from a NERC grant report. The committee are principally interested to see that the equipment was correctly used and data processed effectively. The GEF grades the scientific reports as Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. It is important that a scientific report is provided of a sufficiently high quality that will allow the committee to assign a Satisfactory grade. These reports will then be placed on the GEF website for the benefit of other members of the scientific community, unless a specific request is made to the contrary. A request to withhold the report from the website will be considered by the committee. Future applications may make reference to past reports of the applicants.

These reports are a very important source of information for the GEF and other future users of the equipment. If they are not completed and returned within the allowed time, there will be an automatic exclusion from borrowing any further equipment from the Facility until such time as the report is received. The GEF Steering Committee reserve the right to seek additional information when they consider the content of any report inadequate. Further loans of GEF equipment are dependent on the timely receipt and the grading of these reports.

For reference, good examples of scientific reports are available in PDF format [here](#).

ELIGIBILITY

Principal Investigator (Taken from the NERC grants handbook)

- The Principal Investigator on the application must, at the time of application, be resident in the UK and be employed by an eligible UK Research Organisation (Higher Education Institution, Research Council Institute or a recognised Independent Research Organisation). Employment should be at lecturer (or equivalent) level or above or, for NERC and BBSRC Research Organisations, as a researcher at Band 5 level or above. Applications will be accepted from applicants who are non-resident in the UK, but are within three months of employment at an eligible Research Organisation. Applications may be submitted up to three months before taking up employment providing a confirming statement from the employing Research Organisation where the grant is to be held accompanies the application.
- Holders of research fellowships from the Research Councils and URFs from the Royal Society are eligible (subject to other rules in this handbook). Other fellowships awarded by the Royal Society as well as those from the Wellcome Trust, Marie Curie fellowships, Leverhulme Early Careers Fellows and holders of fellowships awarded by eligible UK Higher Education Institutions are also eligible to apply as Principal Investigators as long as the fellowship has a status equating to that of at least lecturer level and has been secured in open competition. A statement from Departmental Heads confirming that these conditions are met should accompany any application submitted
- Principal Investigators must have a contract of employment that extends beyond the period of the proposed research grant. If this is not the case at the time of application, confirmation in the form of a statement from the Head of Department that the Principal Investigator's contract will be extended to the end of the grant should the proposal be successful, must be attached to the application. The exception to this is Research Council fellows whose award does not extend beyond the proposed end date of the grant. They may apply as a Principal Investigator provided the application is submitted jointly with at least one eligible Co-Investigator from the same department. Research Council fellows may apply for the cost of their salary to the end of the proposal if their fellowship does not extend beyond the proposed end date of the grant. The host Research Organisation must provide the same support for fixed term employees as is normal for a permanent employee.
- The following are not eligible to apply as Principal Investigators: research assistants, technicians, other researchers who are employed on short-term projects or Research Council grants, holders of fellowships that were not awarded following open competition.
- Subject to NERC's prior approval, holders of certain senior non-stipendiary posts (e.g. Visiting Professor, Professor Emeritus etc.) and scientists who have retired recently from the academic staff of an eligible Research Organisation may be eligible to apply for funding as a Principal Investigator.

Please note: It is incumbent upon individuals to check their own eligibility prior to submission of any application to NERC.

Co-Investigator

- Co-Investigators are expected to meet the eligibility criteria for a Principal Investigator.

DATA and NERC DATA CENTRES

- NERC believes that datasets collected as a result of projects are an important resource that must be adequately managed. Investigators should therefore make sure that a NERC Designated Centre (listed below), is aware of any significant datasets to be compiled as a result of their projects, so that the long-term future of these data can be planned. At the end of an award Investigators are required to offer the appropriate Data Centre a copy of any dataset generated, so that the data can be made available for other researchers. The Intellectual Property Rights to the data need not be transferred.
- NERC reserves the right to access all unpublished papers, records, data or collections resulting from the work carried out under a grant, some of which may be required to be deposited with NERC. Similarly NERC reserves the right to use information on the outcome of awards to report on achievements e.g. in annual reports. NERC may, at any time, require detailed information on the results of work funded through grants for use in scientific or financial audits.
- NERC Data Centres will give advice on issues relating to copyright, licensing and exploitation of datasets. NERC policy in this area is described in more detail in the NERC Data Policy Handbook, available from NERC's Data Management Co-ordinator Kay Heuser, email: data@nerc.ac.uk , or see <http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/sites/data/policy>.

Further information on the NERC Data Centres and NERC data policy can be found at:
<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/sites/data/>

List of NERC Data Centres :

Antarctic Environmental Data Centre

British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, CB3 0ET

tel 01223-221400
e-mail aedc@bas.ac.uk
web <http://aedc.nerc.ac.uk>

Responsible for all NERC's data from the Antarctic, regardless of discipline

NCAS British Atmospheric Data Centre

STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, OX11 0QX

tel 01223-446432
e-mail badc@rl.ac.uk
web: <http://badc.nerc.ac.uk>

Responsible for atmospheric sciences data

British Oceanographic Data Centre

Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory, Liverpool, L3 5DA

tel 0151-795 4884
e-mail enquiries@bodc.ac.uk
web: <http://bodc.nerc.ac.uk>

Responsible for marine data

Environmental Information Data Centre

Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Wallingford, OX10 8BB

tel 01491 838800

e-mail cehdata@ceh.ac.uk

web: <http://eic.nerc.ac.uk>

Responsible for terrestrial and freshwater ecological data, hydrological data, including the Government's National River Flow Archive.

National Geoscience Data Centre

British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham, NG12 5GG

tel 0115-9363143

e-mail enquiries@bgs.ac.uk

web: <http://ngdc.nerc.ac.uk>

Responsible for geosciences data.

NERC Earth Observation Data Centre

STFC Rutherford-Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, OX11 0QX

tel 01235-778123

e-mail neodc@rl.ac.uk

web: <http://nebc.nerc.ac.uk>

Responsible for Earth Observation data held by NERC, notably the imagery from NERC airborne surveys, and NERC's archive of imagery from commercial sources.

Science-based Archaeology

NERC's science-based archaeology community is required to deposit data with the AHDS Archaeological Data Service:

Department of Archaeology, University of York, YO1 2EP

tel 01904 433954

e-mail help@ads.ahds.ac.uk

web <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk>

PUBLICATION OF WORK

All NERC award-holders are expected to publish the results of their research in the appropriate journals. They are, however, invited to consult NERC if other arrangements seem desirable. **All published papers should specifically acknowledge any support received from NERC GEF** and

should cite any grant award reference number(s) if appropriate.

The GEF contacts all customers in the early part of the year to request an update on publications arising from GEF loans. NERC requests that the publication information should include the GEF loan number and project title. The publication list will be uploaded by the GEF on to the ResearcherID website in order to track citation information.

<http://www.researcherid.com/rid/G-5260-2010>

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR GEF LOANS

1. The Facility reserves the right to withdraw equipment should exceptional circumstances require this.
2. Borrowers must be able to demonstrate their ability to carry out simple checks, maintenance and minor repairs on the equipment to be loaned. Facility staff can provide training and operators should make the necessary arrangements well in advance of the loan period. Site visits by Facility staff can be arranged subject to the discretion of the Steering Committee and Director NSS.
3. All borrowers are required to sign a form on which they acknowledge receipt of the equipment in good condition and agree to exercise due care and attention with its transportation, deployment and operation. Borrowers must immediately notify the Facility Manager of any damage or loss occurring to the equipment whilst in their charge and, upon their return, submit a detailed report explaining the circumstances surrounding the loss or damage. In the case of theft, borrowers are to notify the local police and append a copy of their report. If, after consideration of the report by the Steering Committee, the loss or damage was foreseeable and no reasonable action was taken to reduce the risk, or where gross negligence is suspected, future equipment loans may be withheld. The NERC reserves the right to take any appropriate action where gross negligence has led to a major equipment loss. Borrowers are notified of the replacement value of the equipment in their charge. Organisations, other than public-funded bodies, must provide proof of adequate insurance.
4. Borrowers must advise the Facility Manager at the earliest opportunity should the return of the equipment (in good working order) be in any doubt. Failure to observe this request may result in the borrower having to defray any extra costs that the next user may incur as the result of delay and may also prejudice their next loan. Borrowers are responsible for the collection and return to the Facility of all equipment loaned.
5. In the case of overseas projects, the borrower is responsible for the correct exportation and re-importation of Council equipment and all charges involved. Costs incurred by the Council in redressing any failure to satisfy this requirement will be invoiced to the borrower.
6. Borrowers are required to provide the following reports and papers to the GEF secretary. Electronic submission (PDF or Word format) alongside paper copy is encouraged, particularly if a report requires the use of colour.
 - i. Within two weeks of the equipment return, a completed "Project Performance Report Form", including an account of breakdowns, losses, repairs and any authorised modifications carried out on the equipment.
 - ii. Within one year of the loan, a full "Scientific Report" detailing the major highlights or problems of the project. The report should normally be 6 to 8 A4 pages in length (of which no more than 4 page equivalents are text) and should include the following sections:
 - o Abstract
 - o Background (including field survey site location map)

- Survey procedure (including any recommendations for future borrowers)
- Data quality (including example data)
- Processing and modelling
- Interpretation to date
- Preliminary findings
- Conclusions and recommendations
- A table of instrument deployment details (this does not count towards the page limit)
- Publications (including conference presentations). It is important to provide the GEF loan number that each publication refers to.

Please ensure that diagrams are of a sufficiently high resolution in the electronic version to allow labels etc. to be clearly read. When creating a PDF document, it is important to select the "High Quality Print" option.

The committee are principally interested to see that the equipment was correctly used and data processed effectively. The Scientific Report should not be delayed because of incomplete scientific conclusions. It will be different from a NERC grant report. The Scientific Report will be published on the GEF website, please inform us if you do not wish your report published.

- iii. When completed, a copy of any final report (e.g. that required by NERC), and copies of any publications arising from the use of NERC GEF equipment and support. These reports and publications must acknowledge the use of NERC GEF equipment and support. Additionally, a paper has been produced ("How to store and share geophysical data", doi: [10.1111/j.1468-4004.2012.53419.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-4004.2012.53419.x)) which borrowers are encouraged to cite to enable tracking of GEF data usage.

The GEF Steering Committee reserve the right to seek additional information when they consider the content of any report inadequate. Further loans of GEF equipment are dependent on the timely receipt and the grading of these reports.

- 7. No charge for this service is made in the case of approved projects within the NERC remit. Commercial loans are accepted subject to the availability of the equipment and conformance with our standard contract terms.

End of Terms and Conditions

INDEMNITY

1. This guide covers loss and/or damage to equipment which is loaned from NERC facilities. NERC facilities include those within the NERC Service and Facilities Portfolio, NERC Marine facilities and NERC Aircraft facilities.
2. Customers are expected to take all reasonable steps to protect the assets of the Facility, and all borrowers are required to sign a form on which their institution acknowledges receipt of the equipment in good condition and agrees to exercise due care and attention while the equipment is in their possession.

3. Customers awarded free access to equipment are not required to indemnify NERC against loss of, or damage to its equipment. However, this is strongly encouraged, and customers should be aware that they remain liable for total costs of replacement or repair due to damage, theft or negligence whilst equipment is on loan to them. It is therefore expected that customers will either insure equipment or self-indemnify.
4. It is recommended that customers borrowing equipment add this to their Institution's block insurance for the duration of the loan, especially if the customer is taking equipment overseas. Often this does not cost anything extra (or involves only minor additional premium) and, as well as covering the insurance of the equipment, provides customers with peace of mind. Insurance costs should already be factored into Universities' Full Economic Costs.
5. Examples of negligence:
 - o Leaving equipment in an unlocked car
 - o Leaving equipment on the roof of a car and driving off
 - o Running over pieces of equipment with a car
 - o Not taking appropriate steps to obtain compensation for damage incurred whilst equipment is in possession of a third party e.g. a transit carrier.
6. NERC assumes responsibility for equipment while it is in transit arranged by the NERC facility. However, this is only applicable to transit within the United Kingdom (UK), and customers assume liability once the equipment has left the UK.
7. Commercial loans (whereby users pay for access to Facility equipment) will be expected to indemnify NERC against loss of, or damage to, its equipment, either within the UK or overseas.

End of Indemnity Guide

GEF DETAILS

The Geophysical Equipment Facility (GEF), consisting of three nodes at:

- GEF (University of Edinburgh) forms the central administrative node and specialises in support for GPS, GPR, Geomagnetism and Laser Scanning.
- GEF (University of Leicester) - SEIS-UK specialises in support for Seismology.
- OBIF (Ocean Bottom Instrument Facility) is located within Durham and Southampton Universities

and specialises in seabed multi-sensor geophysical instrumentation.

Main contact for submission of applications and reports

NERC Geophysical Equipment Facility

University of Edinburgh

Grant Institute

James Hutton Road

Edinburgh

EH9 3FE

UK

Tel 0131 650 5927

Email gef@nerc.ac.uk

Web <http://gef.nerc.ac.uk>

SEIS-UK can be contacted directly to discuss details of any proposed seismic projects.

Tel 0116 252 3627

Fax 0116 252 3918

Email seis-uk@le.ac.uk

OBIF can be contacted directly

Email info@obs.ac.uk

Web <http://www.obs.ac.uk>