

# Upcoming and emerging funding opportunities for U.S.-collaboration

27 April 2023 at 3 pm



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# Outline

1. Background
2. Funding opportunities with NIH
3. Funding opportunities with NSF
4. Emerging funding opportunities

# Academy of Finland

- Main public research funding agency in Finland under the Ministry of Education and culture
- Main activities:
  - Fund scientific research
  - Support framework conditions for research activities
  - Provide expertise on science policy

Yearly  
funding  
Budget  
~€500  
million

# Collaboration with the U.S.

- Aim to increase research collaboration between Finland and the U.S.
- Promoting research cooperation with the U.S. for years
- Cooperation agreements with both the NSF and NIH were signed in 2020
- Joint calls with the NSF and the NIH following a **Lead Agency** model where the funding application is submitted to the U.S. funder's call



# Lead Agency model in a nutshell

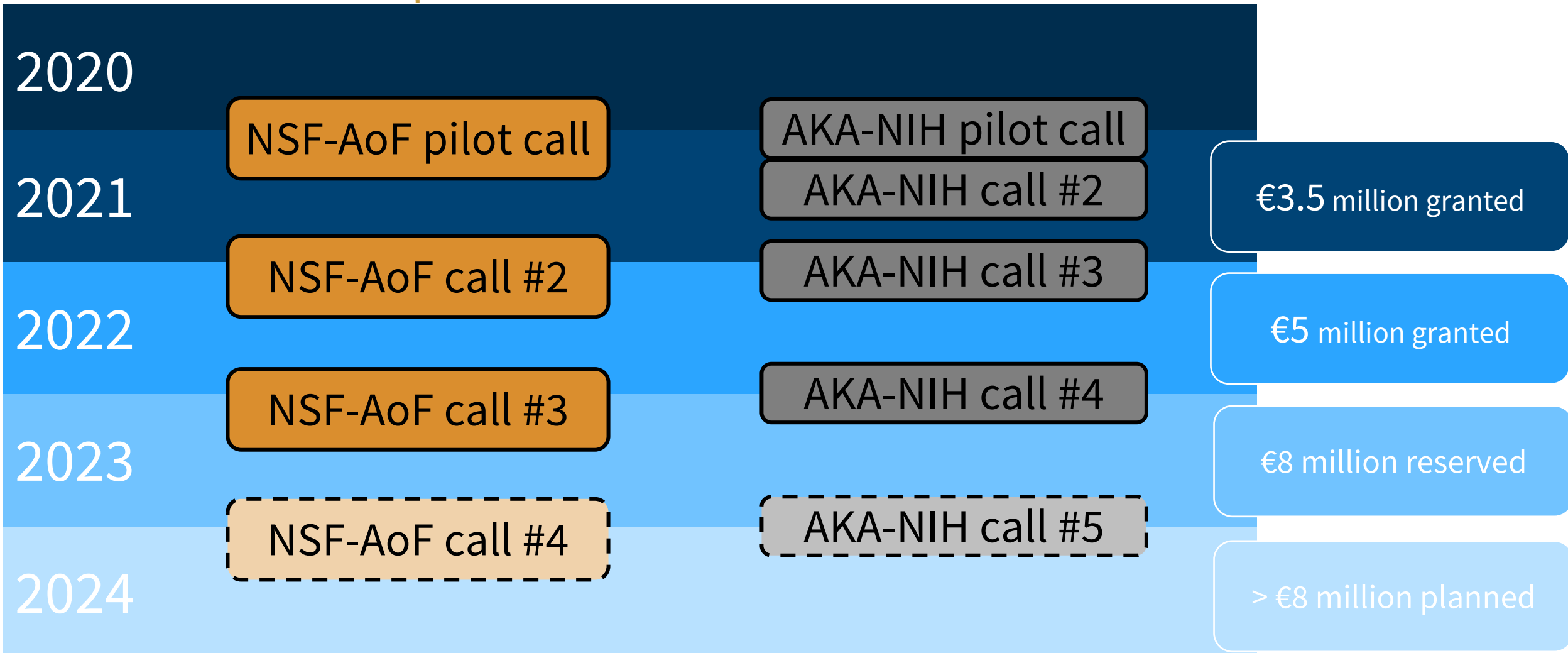
- **Jointly developed proposal is submitted to the U.S. funder by the U.S. PI, and is processed there - no special treatment for Fin-US proposals**
- Academy's guidelines for being eligible to receive funding need to be followed by the PI from Finland
- If a proposal is recommended for funding by the U.S. funder, the Academy aims to support the Finnish sub-project

**1. Joint activities:**  
Develop research plan

**2. PI from Finland:**  
Notifies the Academy of their intent to submit

**3. PI from the U.S.:**  
Submits the proposal to the U.S. funder

# Recent joint funding opportunities



# Funding Opportunities with NIH



# Target

- Funding for collaborative research activities falling within the missions of participating [NIH Institutes and Centers](#) and the thematic areas of [Finnish Research Flagships](#).
  - *Artificial Intelligence (AI)*
  - *Digital Precision Cancer Medicine*
  - *Gene, Cell and Nano Therapy*
  - *Immune System*
  - *Inequalities, Interventions and New Welfare State*
  - *Photonics*
  - *Atmosphere and Climate*
  - *Materials Bioeconomy*
  - *Wireless Communication Technologies*
  - *Forest-Human-Machine Interplay*

*Research topic needs to link to the areas, affiliation not necessary*



# Application procedure for PIs from Finland

- **Non-standard procedure**
- Details in the call text, most recent one on our website: *Research funding > Calls for applications > Closed calls > [Academy of Finland – NIH joint call: thematic areas of the Finnish Research Flagships](#)*



# Guidelines for U.S. PIs



National Institutes  
of Health

- Finnish collaborations with U.S. institutions for the NIH **Research Project Grant Program (R01)** are supported
- No specific call for proposals will be issued from NIH since NIH grant programmes are focused on scientific investigations by the best teams or researchers, many of which include international partnerships
- More info in Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) from 2020: AKA-NIH Partnership Program <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-021.html>

Activity Codes	Program Description	Cycle I Due Date	Cycle II Due Date	Cycle III Due Date
R01 <i>new</i>	Research Grants	February 5	June 5	October 5
R01 <i>renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	Research Grants	March 5	July 5	November 5

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/due-dates.htm>



ACADEMY OF FINLAND

# Next AKA-NIH opportunity

- Being planned for early 2024 / NIH Cycle I 2024
- Call text will be published in October or November

Activity Codes	Program Description	Cycle I Due Date	Cycle II Due Date	Cycle III Due Date
R01 <i>new</i>	Research Grants	February 5	June 5	October 5
R01 <i>renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	Research Grants	March 5	July 5	November 5

- Overall funding available for supporting Finnish sub-projects estimated to be at least 4 million euros
- Maximum funding granted for a five-year project 750 000 euros.

# No active AKA-NIH opportunity

U.S. and Finnish collaborators could consider submitting a standard grant application to an NIH parent R01 funding opportunity announcement (PA20-183, PA20-184, or PA20-185) with a Finnish subcontract ([see NIH website for more details](#)).

# Funding Opportunities with NSF



# Target

- Proposals are accepted in areas at the intersection of **core research programmes** in the NSF Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) and the **Research Flagships**

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)

AND/OR

- Wireless Communication Technologies

*If a project is only targeting the AI theme, the project must advance AI technologies, algorithms or methods. Projects using AI only as a tool will not be supported.*

*Research topic needs to link to the areas, affiliation not necessary*

# Application procedure for PIs from Finland



- **Non-standard procedure**
- Different compared to the AKA-NIH procedure
- Details in the call text, most recent one on our website: *Research funding > Calls for applications > Closed calls > [Academy of Finland–NSF joint call: artificial intelligence and/or wireless communication technologies](#)*

**1. Notification of Intent to Submit to the Academy**  
*4 weeks*



**2. Eligibility assessment by the Academy**



**3. Permission to apply to the applicant**



**4. Submission of final proposal to NSF by the U.S. PI**  
*2 Jan – 31 Mar*

# Guidelines for U.S. PIs



- Finnish collaborations with U.S. institutions in the NSF funding opportunity ‘**CISE Core Small competition**’ are supported, no separate call for proposals will be issued
- Continuous call at NSF, the Academy invites NSF-AoF proposals at a certain time window
- More info in the Dear Colleague Letter from 2020: NSF-AoF Collaborative Research Opportunities (**outdated regarding AKA guidelines**)  
[https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2021/nsf21035/nsf21035.jsp?WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_25&WT.mc\\_ev=click](https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2021/nsf21035/nsf21035.jsp?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click)





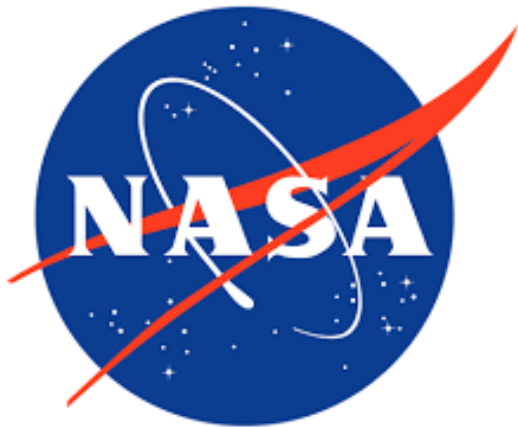
# Next NSF-AoF opportunity

- Being planned for January-March 2024
- 3-month period when NSF-AoF submission are invited for the **CISE Core Small competition**
- Planning on publishing the call text in October or November
- Overall funding available for supporting Finnish sub-projects estimated to be at least 4 million euros
- Maximum funding granted for a three-year project 500 000 euros.

# Emerging funding opportunities for FI-U.S. research collaboration

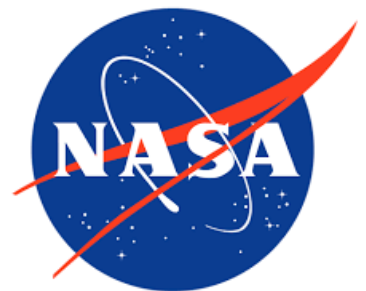


# Possible partners in the U.S. in the near future



# Emerging funding opportunities

- Joint AoF-NSF research projects utilizing **high-performance computing (HPC)** resources in Finland and in the U.S.
- Joint AoF-DoD research projects targeting less-mature, high risk research areas linked to 6G and photonics
  - Future Information Architecture for IoT
  - Bio-Hybrid Designs of Optical Communication and Sensor Systems
  - All-Photonics Computation and Neural Networks
- Researcher / student mobility and HPC collaboration with NASA



# Support to the implementation of state-level agreements

- Agreements between Finland and several U.S. states and areas have been or are being established
- Agreements in place with [Colorado](#) and [Texas](#)
- [Special funding for international collaboration in HPC 2023](#)
  - EuroHPC or LUMI supercomputer use in research
  - collaboration with research teams from Texas and/or COL
  - Topic linked to the research areas of Finnish Research Flagships
  - **Call closes 10 May 2023**

**Thank you!**

