The Newton Fund

Lisa Bettington
Newton Fund Delivery Officer
BBSRC
The Newton Fund is part of the UK's official development assistance (ODA):

• £375M announced in the 2013 Autumn Statement to support research and innovation partnerships between the UK and 15 partnering countries.

• £75M per year for 5 years (from 2014/15).

• Funding must be matched by partner countries and/or non UK Government organisations.
Aims

By strengthening science and innovation capacity the Newton Fund aims to:

• Promote the economic development and welfare of partnering countries.

• Work with partnering countries to address the problems of poor people in developing countries.

Newton Fund activities are developed with in-country partners - ensuring local developmental and capacity building needs are met.
15 Partner Countries

Mexico  Egypt  Turkey  Kazakhstan  China

Argentina  Colombia  Brazil

Chile  South Africa  India  Malaysia  Indonesia

Vietnam  Philippines  Thailand
Activities

The Newton Fund has three key strands of activities:

1. **People:** improving science and innovation expertise (‘capacity building’), student and researcher fellowships and mobility schemes

2. **Research:** research collaborations on development topics

3. **Translation:** innovation partnerships and challenge funds to develop innovative solutions on development topics
1. People

School    Student    PhD    Postdoc    Early Career    Academic

STEM Pipeline    PhD Partnerships    International Fellowships    Advanced Fellowships

Technical training and employability    Leaders in Innovation Fellowships    Developing science and innovation capability

Researcher Mobility Schemes / International Exchanges
2. Research

Collaborative research grants on development topics and support for longer-term institutional links

Examples include:

- Public health intervention development scheme
- Increasing resilience to natural hazards in earthquake prone regions
- Marine development feasibility studies
2. Research

BBSRC/NERC Newton Fund Call for Collaborative Research Proposals in Rice Research

• Call for up to three year interdisciplinary research proposals that underpin the long-term sustainable production of rice

• Bilateral or multilateral projects between researchers in the UK and China, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam

• Proposals are encouraged to address challenges including resilience to stresses, resource use efficiency and rice quality

Deadline: 13th August 2015, 4pm (UK time)

More information: www.bbsrc.ac.uk/rice
NERC Newton Fund Understanding & Sustaining Brazilian Biome Resources Call

- Call for up to three year research proposals to undertake research at the biome spatial level, within Brazilian biomes

- Bilateral projects between the UK and São Paulo State, Brazil

- Focus on understanding of the role of biodiversity in the functioning of ecosystems; the drivers and impacts of change; and options for management and restoration

Deadline: 2nd September 2015, 4pm (UK time)

www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded/programmes/brazilianbiome
3. Translation

Creating collaborative solutions to development challenges and strengthening innovation systems:

• Creating business-academia collaborations

• Enabling business-business links between entrepreneurs and small and medium enterprises (SMEs)

• Training policy professionals for implementation of innovation friendly policy

• Translating climate science to climate services
3. Translation

British Council Newton Fund Institutional Links Call

• Call to build research and innovation collaborations between academic groups as well as with the private and third sector

• Bilateral projects between the UK and Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey or Vietnam

• Priority challenge areas include agriculture, climate and environment, and food and nutrition

Deadline: 28th September 2015, 4pm (UK time)

3. Translation

Innovate UK

- Stimulating business-led innovation partnerships between the UK and Newton Fund countries.
- Delivering collaborative R&D competitions to identify commercial solutions to societal challenges.
- Building capacity in the innovation ecosystems of Newton Fund countries, using UK skills and expertise, so that countries become stronger partners for UK business innovation.
Mexico (CONACYT) – UK (Innovate UK) Collaborative Industrial R&D Competition

• Call for collaborative 12 – 24 month bilateral research and development projects between the UK and Mexico

• Focus on industrial research to stimulate innovation across three sectors that underpin future Mexican growth: agroindustry, energy or health

• Projects must be business-led on the UK side, and can involve other non-business partners

Registration Deadline: 7th October 2015, 12pm (UK time)

https://interact.innovateuk.org/ and search “Mexico”
UK – Malaysia Research & Innovation Bridges Call

• Call for 24-34 month projects to develop institutional bridges between UK and Malaysia centres of innovation.

• Focussed on industrial research to stimulate innovation in response to Malaysia's climate change related to urbanisation challenges.

• Each project must include a minimum of one UK business, one UK research organisation, one Malaysian business and one Malaysian research organisation

Registration Deadline: 30th September 2015, 12pm (UK time)

https://interact.innovateuk.org/ and search “Malaysia”
Key Considerations

• **Country Partners**: Calls will be announced with all 15 Newton Fund countries over the 5 year lifetime of the fund, and there will be a mixture of thematic calls and open calls.

• **ODA compliance**: Primary purpose is the economic development and welfare of the developing country. It is important to make a clear case for the benefit and relevance to the partner country.

• **Matched equivalent effort**: it is expected that the research effort on both the UK and partner country side be comparable.
More Information

1. **Newton Fund Website:** Searchable database of funding opportunities across all delivery partners
   [www.newtonfund.ac.uk](http://www.newtonfund.ac.uk)

2. **HE International Unit Website:** Database of current international opportunities, and tools to help you find international collaborators
   [www.international.ac.uk](http://www.international.ac.uk)

@NewtonFund  
#NewtonFund

Email: [enquiries@newtonfund.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@newtonfund.ac.uk)