

NEWTON RESEARCHER LINKS (WORKSHOP GRANTS) 2017

The International and Private Research Grant Secretariat of RMC-IRMI, UiTM is pleased to announce the opening of the Newton-Ungku Omar Fund – Researcher Links (Workshop Grants) (NUOF NWG) 2017. The Government of Malaysia entrusts the Academy of Sciences Malaysia to implement the grant programme in collaboration with the British Council (BC) in the United Kingdom (UK).

What NUOF NWG is intended for?

The NUOF NWG is intended to establish links between the UK and Malaysia by organizing a workshop or networking session in Malaysia, which supports capacity building of the participants in the proposed theme (see Thematic Focus below). The workshop should bring together communities from different disciplines, sectors and countries in high-quality collaborations toward tackling global challenges and international development-relevant research covering the thematic topics listed below.

The NUOF-NWG precisely aims for *applied or fundamental research with development relevance* that has the potential to contribute to the economic development and social welfare of low income and vulnerable populations in Malaysia*. A plausible pathway showing how the research may lead to positive impact on these populations within a reasonable timeframe (3-15 years) must be articulated in the proposal.

*Please refer items 3 and 4 in the attached 'ODA Guidance' document.

Who can propose?

Two (2) workshop Coordinators (the Principal Applicants) – One from the UK and one from Malaysia**

**The applicants must be "R4 – Leading Researchers". Please refer p. 11 in the attached 'European Framework for Research Careers' document for definition.

Who can be team members?

Four (4) workshop Mentors to be identified by the Coordinators and included in the proposal – Two from the UK and two from Malaysia***

***The mentors can be "R4 – Leading Researchers" or "R3 – Established Researchers". Please refer pp. 10 – 11 in the 'European Framework for Research Careers' document for definition.

What should be the duration of the workshop?

3 – 5 days (situated between February 1, 2018 and January 31, 2019)

Where it must be held?

Malaysia. However, if there is a compelling reason for the workshop to take place in the UK, then this should be detailed in the proposal and agreed with the BC.

All application related materials for this call can be located at this link:

[Dropbox link to NUOF NWG 2017 application materials](#)

Who are the participants?

The maximum number of participants in a workshop is 40 including the 2 coordinators and 4 mentors. Workshop places must be allocated to early career researchers (ECR) through an open call once the BC has notified the applicants that their proposal has been successful. Criteria for the selection of ECR will be made available to workshop Coordinators. The BC now defines ECR as those with a PhD and with less than 10 years post-doctoral experience, or a non-PhD with equivalent research experience.

What is the funding quantum, categories and appropriation?

Ceiling: £45200 (~ RM250K @ April 14, 2017) for a 5-day workshop in Malaysia

The maximum funding above covers International travel (£1000/pax), Domestic travel (£150/pax), Subsistence (£70/pax), Event costs per day (£30/pax) and Additional workshop costs (£2200) for workshops held in Malaysia*.

*A set of different rates is applicable for workshops organized in the UK (if the particular technology / expertise is only available in the UK).

Thematic focus of the workshop

Natural sciences • Social sciences • Arts and humanities

Economic Growth | *Equitable growth, financial sector development, private sector development*

Health | *HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, neglected tropical diseases, child mortality, maternal health*

Infrastructure | *Civil engineering, information and communication technologies, big data for social and economic development*

Agriculture | *Irrigation, crop yields*

Food and Nutrition | *Food security*

Climate and Environment | *Climate change, green technology, sustainable development, ecosystem services, resource scarcity*

Governance, Society and Conflict | *Transparency, accountability, effective institutions, land and natural resource rights, poverty alleviation, social development, structural inequalities, violence and security, peace building, civil society*

Development-relevant Data Collection, Quality and Access | *Administrative data and macroeconomic statistics*

Humanitarian Disasters and Emergencies | *Disaster risk reduction*

Education Research for Development

Sustainable Energy

Water and Sanitation

Demographic Change and Migration

Rural and Urban Development

Resilient and Connected Communities

What constitutes the workshop?

Keynote session: *A ½ day formal keynote lectures by the coordinators and mentors*

Research session: *Poster or oral presentations by ECR to share their current research*

Networking session: *Participants interact and explore opportunities for collaboration (speed-networking)*

Discussion session: *Overview of the research base and funding opportunities – how research is funded, size, strengths, international collaborative activity and links with industry*

Invited talk (optional): *Industry or other non-academic partners are invited to talk about cross-sector collaboration*

Public engagement (optional): *Visit to relevant research facility*

Further information, Guideline and Offline Application Form (for reference):

Please visit the BC link below for information essential to your application of the NWG:

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/science/current-opportunities/workshop-grants-newton-april-2017>

Attached please find the NUOF NWG 'Guideline' and an 'Offline Application Form' for your reference.

Application procedure:

All applications shall be submitted (preferably by the UK Principal Applicant) through the BC online grant application system at <https://apply.gmt.britishcouncil.org/outreach/workbench.ofml> that requires prior registration.

Applications (online only) must be **submitted by 4PM GMT** (UK time) on **June 13, 2017** (Tuesday).

Letter of Support:

Please note that both the UK and Malaysian Coordinators will need to obtain a Letter of Support from their respective Heads of Department.

For this purpose, the **Letter of Support** for UiTM Principal Applicants can be raised by either

- i. the **Assistance Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), UiTM**. Please forward a copy of a fully or partially completed '[Offline Application Form](#)' that has the applicants affiliation and project details to Pn. Nurhaizum (03 – 5544 2877; sekretariatncoe@salam.uitm.edu.my) at RMC-IRMI, UiTM Shah Alam **on or before June 5, 2017** (Monday) for further action, OR
- ii. your respective faculty Dean or campus Rector. If you should pick this option, please complete the **Research Proposal Submission Record Form** (found in the Dropbox link above) and email it to sekretariatncoe@salam.uitm.edu.my by end of June 13, 2017 for RMC-IRMI's record.

In your email to Pn. Nurhaizum / Dean's / Rector's office, **please provide answers to the following three questions** to assist the office prepare the Letter of Support as per the NUOF NWG guideline:

- > Why is this research / proposed collaborative activity important?
- > Why do you want to make contact with that particular UK institution?
- > How will the link be sustained?