



UK-China Research and Innovation Partnership Fund

August 2016

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Funding opportunities

PhD Placements

The British Council and China Scholarship Council have launched the PhD placement scheme. The scheme provides sponsorships for UK and Chinese PhD students and their supervisors to spend a period of study of 3 to 12 months (for PhD students) and up to 3 months (for supervisors) at higher education institutions in China or the UK.

The focus is on research areas including: health and life sciences, food and water security, environmental technologies, energy, urbanisation, education and creative economy.



The competition closes on 20 September 2016. Read more and check eligibility [here](#) and [here](#).

Researcher Links

The British Council and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) are taking applications for grants to run workshops for UK and Chinese researchers, as part of Researcher Links.

Researcher Links Workshops bring together early-career researchers from the UK and China to allow them to make international connections that can improve the quality of their research. The supported fields are: health/life sciences, environmental technologies, food and water security, energy, and urbanisation. Multi-disciplinary proposals are welcome.

The competition closes on 19 September 2016. For details and eligibility requirements see [here](#) and [here](#).

Newton Advanced Fellowships

The Royal Society, Academy of Medical Sciences, and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) are accepting applications to the Newton Advanced Fellowships.



The Fellowships provide established early career researchers with an opportunity to develop the research strengths and capabilities of their research group through training, collaboration and reciprocal visits with a partner in the UK. The [Royal Society competition](#) covers the natural and physical sciences. The [Academy of Medical Sciences competition](#) covers clinical and patient orientated research.

For details and eligibility requirements please check the competition details. The competition closes on 14 September.

Sustainable Deltas

The National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) have launched a call for trilateral research cooperation between Chinese, Dutch and UK research groups.

This joint activity focuses on research challenges for sustainable and safe deltas within the broader framework of the water sector. A number of thematic areas have been identified, including water availability, water system analysis, salinisation and desiccation, water governance, and new solutions for passenger and freight transportation in deltas and coastal waters.

The competition closes on 25 October. See [here](#) for details and eligibility requirements.

News

Who are the Newton award holders?

Stella Wei, our South China lead, has been out meeting some of our Newton award holders and has written about some of the work being done in her blog. Read about Professor Yong-guan Zhu, the Director General of the Institute of Urban Environment, and his work on per-urban agriculture in the [Critical Zone Science](#) programme.

Also read about early-career researcher Professor Wei-shi Zheng and his team working with the world's fastest computer with their [Newton Advanced Fellowship](#).

Read the full post [here](#).

Sustainable agriculture



A Newton funded project is looking at the utilisation of unmanned autonomous ground and air vehicles to monitor and evaluate farm land. As China and the world face pressure to increase food production whilst reducing environmental impact, precision agriculture will play an increasing role.

Read about the collaboration between Loughborough University, Beijing Aerospace Automatic Control Inst, and Beihang University BUAA [here](#).

UK-China Joint Centre for Probiotics Research

The Newton Fund has provided funding to the UK-China Joint Centre for Probiotic Research, a collaboration between the Institute of Food Research and Jiangnan University. The joint research will accelerate multidisciplinary efforts on probiotics and will also allow development of further collaborations in Food Research.



Read more [here](#).

UK-China partnership on climate science

In their landmark climate science programme under Newton the Met Office and China Meteorological Administration are working together on climate science to support decision makers.

In this [blog](#) the Met Office talk about their partnerships and how they improve response to urban flooding and energy production.

Newton Prize

UK Minister for Universities and Science Jo Johnson has announced an annual £1 million Newton Prize to recognise the Newton Fund's best science and innovation. Each year, from 2017/18 until 2021, five Newton funded research partnerships or teams, each from a different Newton partner country, will be awarded the Newton Prize. Each Prize will be worth £200,000 and can be used towards the future science and innovation of the winning partnership to take their work to the next level.

Read the press release [here](#). More details of the competition will be announced shortly.

Applying for a UK visa?

Travelling to the UK to work with or visit your partners? Check out the [new leaflet outlining academic visa applications](#).



What is the Newton Fund?

The UK-China Research and Innovation Partnership Fund, worth £200 million over 5 years, is led by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy in the UK and the Ministry of Science and Technology in China. This forms part of the global Newton Fund that, through mutual science and innovation partnerships, promotes sustainable economic development and social welfare in developing countries. The Newton Fund is delivered through 15 delivery partners in collaboration with 16 partnering countries.

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