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GUIDELINE FOR APPLICATION

Professional Development Programme for Mid-career Researchers

Background

The Newton Fund is a £375 million fund (£75 million a year for 5 years starting 2014/15). Through the Newton Fund, the UK will use its strength in research and innovation to promote the economic development and social welfare of partner countries. By working together on bi-lateral and multi-lateral programmes with a focus on research and innovation, the UK will build strong, sustainable, systemic relationships with partner countries. This will support the continued excellence of the UK research base and innovation ecosystem and act as a golden key to unlock opportunities for wider collaboration and trade.

The Newton Fund is part of the UK's official development assistance. The Fund is run in 15 countries: China, India, Brazil, South Africa, Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Turkey, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, Egypt and Kazakhstan.

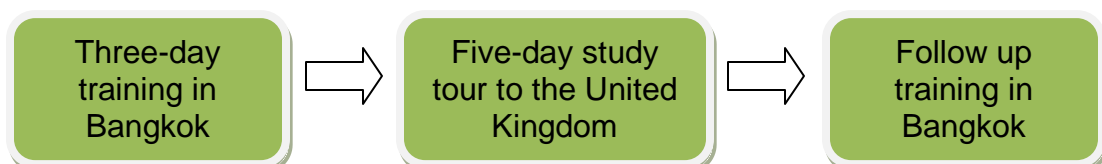
About Professional Development Programme for Mid-career Researchers

The Professional Development training programme has been initiated and designed to provide Thai mid-career researchers (researchers with 5- 15 years research experiences) with opportunities to enhance advanced skills in proposal development, managing a research project in a more complex and changing environment and in developing international collaboration for sustainable development in Thailand.

The programme is designed for midcareer researchers in the Sciences and Social Sciences areas.

What will the programme include?

The programme is divided into three phrases:



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Programme contents

Midcareer researchers awarded into the programme will be trained with the insights, understanding and tools to communicate and manage research projects to give them the knowledge and skills they need to better access funding, communicate their research, and translate their research into tangible benefits while working strategically and internationally. The programme is delivered in a workshop format by experienced and quality-assured trainers from the United Kingdom with a study tour to visit key agencies and organisations in the UK, and a follow up training.

At the end of the programme, the awardees are expected to form sustainable collaborations that build mutuality and trust over the longer term. Awardees must work individually or in teams to create a proposal and compete to submit a winning bid. They may seek support in the form of resources or partnerships and access a myriad of other services from industry, the wider research community and other bodies.

The main focus of the programme is detailed in the programme content as follows:

Proposal Development

- To develop a proposal for funding for a large scale research project e.g. Horizon 2020
- To gain insight and techniques that are highly transferable to other professional situations such as pitching to investors, networking and interviews
- To have understanding of what qualities make a proposal effective and be familiar with generic international proposal structure
- To maximize the impact of large scale research projects and how to present the impact and the outcome to funding organisations
- To manage a team working on a complex and large-scale research project and rapidly changing environment

Developing a professional and international research network and include networks with enterprise

- To interact and network with researchers from other countries
- To make the most use of attending an international research conference in terms of networking
- To develop negotiation skills in complex research collaboration project
- To create and build extensive relationships in business/commercial context

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Enhancement of technology and innovation management, and Communications

- To enable researchers to be more effective in conducting research by using technology and innovation and make the most of their benefits to support research work development
- Focuses on the skills, confidence and know-how to present at international conferences
- Be able to clearly articulate to the audience the key message(s) of and purpose for the presentation
- Gain experience of using a generic presentation structure and feel confident to adapt this to their audience's needs

Translate Research and sustainability

- To conduct research which will support Thailand's social and economic development to create sustainable impact for Thailand and its people
- To develop skills in relationship engagement with industry
- To enable researchers to understand how their research can have an impact on the wider society or other sectors

*This programme is not final and may be subject to change

Numbers of participants

The programme will award up to 25 midcareer researchers from the following disciplines:

Sciences	Social Sciences
15	10

Eligibility

Applications are opened to Thai researchers who meet the following criteria:

1. Thai national
2. Received PhD degree within the last 5-15 years in any disciplines
3. Must be able to attend the whole training and follow up programme both in Bangkok and in the UK.
4. Awarded funding from the Thailand Research Fund
5. Applicant must already have a plan to submit a proposal or bid, and has developed a research proposal

Note: We will prioritize applications that have not yet been awarded the grant.

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Applicants will be selected using the following criteria:

- The extent to which the applicant will utilise the knowledge and experience obtained from the training to promote the economic development and social welfare of Thailand.
- The extent to which the applicant will contribute towards developing a long term sustainable research and education partnership between the UK and Thailand.
- How impactful, creative, and realistic it is for the plan of the applicant to enhance the quality and sustainability of Thai research after attending the training programme.
- The applicant’s research proposal and the plan to submit for bid

The Funding

The funding will cover the following costs	
Training in Bangkok	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for 3 days in Bangkok by a UK trainer • Training venue in Bangkok • Lunch and two breaks for 3 days • Accommodation in Bangkok and dinner up to 3 nights • Training materials
Study tour in the United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roundtrip: international airfare (economy class) to the UK. • Accommodation in the UK for 6 nights. • Breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the 7-day stay in the UK. • UK visa fee • Travel insurance for the period of 7-day stay in the UK. • Airport transfer in the UK. • Travelling cost in the UK. • Training / visit to UK institutions for 5 days.
Follow up training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for 3 days in Bangkok by a UK trainer • Training venue in Bangkok • Lunch and two breaks for 3 days • Accommodation in Bangkok and dinner up to 3 nights • Training materials

*Costs beyond the above arrangements will be borne by the participants themselves.

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Evaluation process and key timeline

Date	Action
17 July 2015	Open Call for Applications
28 August 2015	Deadline for submitting applications.
30 September 2015	Announcement of successful candidates
TBC a three day training between 19-30 October 2015	Training in Bangkok
18-24 January 2016	Study tour in the United Kingdom
End of February 2016	Follow up training in Bangkok

**The training programme is subject to change without prior notification*

Reporting and Monitoring

Each participant will submit a report on how the knowledge from the training has been used, and describe the impact from the activity.

Data protection

As part of the online application form, the British Council will ask applicants' permission to:

- Use the information provided in the application for processing the application, making any consequential award, for the award payment, monitoring, maintenance and review of the award. In some cases information will be shared with national programme partners for the purpose of selection and monitoring of the award.
- Make information on the successful applications available to the public on their website and other publicity, and in reports and documents.
- Contact applicants in the future to inform them about future British Council opportunities.

Under UK Data Protection law, applicants have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on them, for which we may charge a fee, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information. More information on this is available on the British Council data protection webpage: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/home-data-protection.htm>. Alternatively a request for such information can be made to

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the local British Council office or the Data Protection Team at dataprotection@britishcouncil.org.

Proposal Submission Process

Applicants must submit a completed online application form. This can be found at www.britishcouncil.or.th. Submissions by email will not be accepted.

Any problems with the online submission system should be sent to newtonfund@britishcouncil.or.th

Deadline for submission

The submission deadline is 16.00 Thailand time on 28 August 2015. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be considered for funding.

Contact

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