Overview of the Newton Fund

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What is the Newton Fund?

• Launched in April 2014 as part of UK’s Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitment
• Builds research and innovation partnerships with partner countries to:
  • support their economic development and social welfare
  • develop their research and innovation capacity for long-term sustainable growth
• Total budgeted UK Government investment of £735 million up to 2021
• All activities are match-funded = equal partnership
• Currently working with 18 partner countries
• Delivered by 15 UK delivery partners
• More than 700 programmes funded so far
How is the Newton Fund managed?

• Managed by the UK **Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy** (BEIS):
  
  • business; industrial strategy; **research and innovation**; energy and climate change; management of UK’s core science budget

• Governed by and accountable to the ODA Board, chaired by **Jo Johnson**, Minister for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation

• Department for International Development (DFID) closely involved
Key principles

**Partnership**
Building strong, sustainable, systemic relationships with partner countries

**Capacity**
Facilitating the transfer of knowledge and research capability to build scientific capacity

**Global challenges**
Tackling global development challenges to support economic development and social welfare

**Excellence**
Supporting continued excellence of UK research base and reaching the world’s best scientists
Newton Fund activities in each country are developed in collaboration with local governments and funders to ensure they meet local development priorities.
Delivered through **15 UK delivery partners** which develop and run calls, and allocate and manage the Newton funding they receive

*and the 7 Research Councils*
The Newton Fund largely comprises three pillar activities:

- **PEOPLE**
- **RESEARCH**
- **TRANSLATION**
‘People’ activities

• Newton Fund Advanced Fellowships
• Newton International Fellowships
• Newton Mobility Grants and Researcher Links
• PhD Partnerships
• Newton Researcher Links Workshops
• Professional development and engagement
• Technical training and employability
Collaborative programmes tackling global development challenges for the partner country

Development topics include:

- health and wellbeing
- anti-microbial resistance
- food and water security
- climate change

- agriculture
- air pollution
- urban transformation
- energy
‘Translation’ activities

Creating collaborative solutions to development challenges and strengthening innovation systems

- Research and Innovation Bridges
- Global Innovation Capacity Building
- Leaders in Innovation Fellowships
- Industry Academia Partnerships Programme
- Climate Science for Service Partnership (WCSSP)
Newton Fund in-country

- In-country teams within Newton partner countries – promote the Newton Fund and build strong partnerships in-country
- Work with all partners - in-country and UK delivery partners
- Based in the Embassies, Consulates or High Commissions
- Promote the UK as the partner of choice
- Specific named Newton Fund partnerships in-country – brand awareness of equal partnership
Early successes of the Newton Fund’s impact on global development research on challenges such as: **food security**

- The Fund has enabled for the first time Vietnam, the Philippines, Thailand, China and the UK to work together to research sustainable rice production

- More than £6.7m of UK Newton funding, which is being matched by partner countries, to fund 13 research projects
Newton Fund research activity – Health

Collaboration between the UK Medical Research Council with funders of medical research in Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia
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