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**INTRODUCTION**

The Newton Fund is a £375 million fund (£75 million a year for 5 years starting from April 2014). 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** The Fund is part of the UK's Official Development Assistance (ODA) and the commitment to spend 0.7% of Gross National Income on development aid. The primary focus is to develop partner countries research and innovation capacity for long-term sustainable growth.

By working together on bi-lateral and multi-lateral programmes with a research and innovation focus, 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.

We have identified that **£2 million per year of the UK funding could be available for collaboration with Thailand**. The intention is that this funding is matched by Thailand, possibly including through foundations, multi-lateral organisations or corporate partners. This will provide a genuine partnership and we would like the Fund to be called after eminent scientists / statesman / woman from the UK and from Thailand. The chosen UK scientist for the name of the fund will be Newton.

The Fund will cover three broad categories of activity:

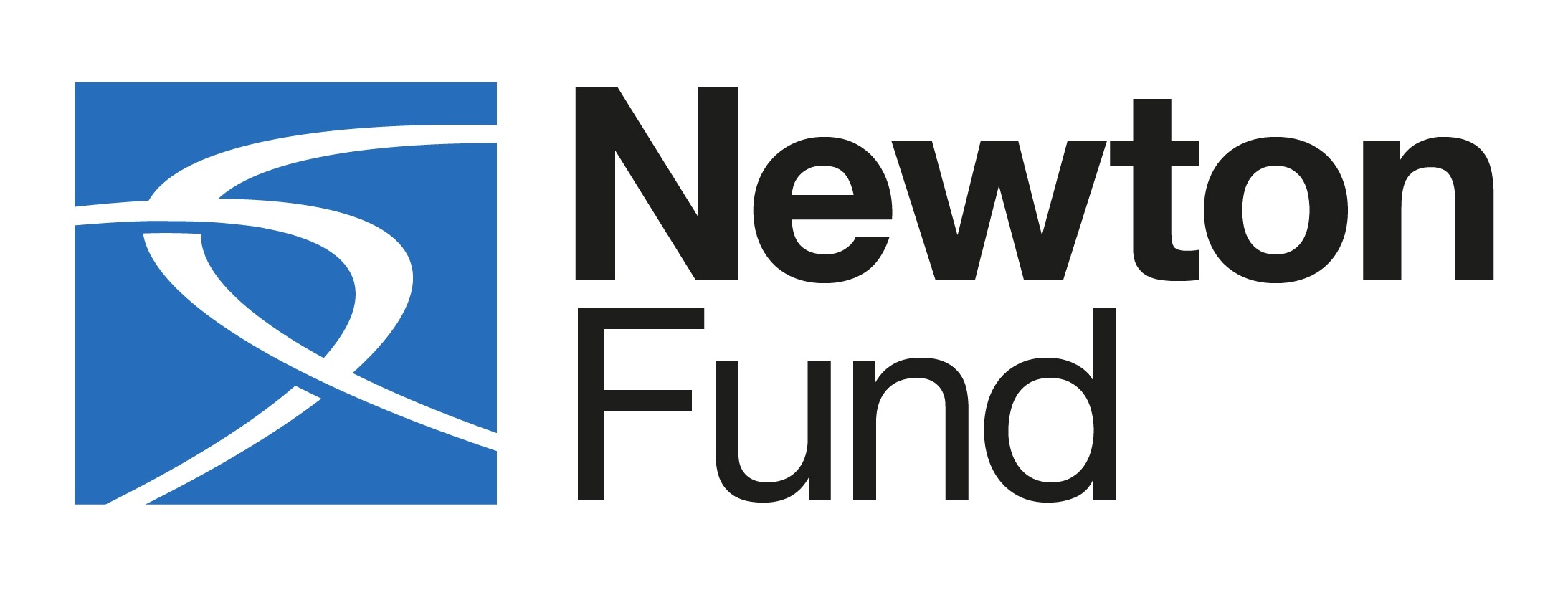
* **People**: capacity building, people exchange and joint centres;
* **Programmes**: research collaborations on development topics; and
* **Translation**: innovation partnerships.

It will support projects across agreed priority areas. These are likely to include:

* joint research on development topics;
* student and researcher fellowships and mobility schemes;
* challenge funds to develop innovative solutions on topics of interest to developing nations;
* science and innovation capacity building.

**PEOPLE ACTIVITIS**

* **STEM Education Programme:** Support STEM curriculum development at the schools level
* **Newton PhD Programme** consists of three main elements: PhD partnerships, PhD scholarships and PhD placements
* **Newton Researcher Mobility Scheme:**
* International Collaboration programme: Support for researchers – early career and established – to undertake research collaboration placements in UK
* Researcher Links Programme**:** workshops and travel grants for early career researchers
* **Newton Advanced Fellowships:** Early to mid-career fellowships for group leaders to establish their links with the best research groups in the UK
* **Newton International Fellowships:** Two year fellowships in the UK for early career researchers



* **Innovation Leadership Programme:** A framework for innovation cooperation on challenge themes, built around two innovation capacity building programmes - Leaders in Innovation Fellowships and Higher Education Partnerships – that addresses both researchers and institutions respectively
* **Professional Development and Engagement Programme:** Supports a high quality research environment that is responsive to development needs and delivers research outputs that benefit the economy and society. Programme focuses on scientific professional development, leadership in research governance and management and community engagement
* **Technical Training and Employability Programme:** Building the science and innovation workforce outside academia

**RESEARCH ACTIVITIS**

**Collaborative Research Fund, Joint Centres & Innovation Infrastructure Programme:**Fund joint research projects and establish joint centres

**TRANSLATION ACTIVITIS**

* **Newton Institutional Links:** Support UK-partner country partnerships around research and innovation
* **Research & Innovation Bridges:** Support a range of activities to build joint collaboration in the translation of research. This could fund initial scoping seminar and workshops to joint academic centres to large scale research and innovation projects.
* **Global Innovation Capacity Building** – Government and Innovation Agencies: Supports talent development in government and innovation agencies that lead on innovation policy and programme development in-country
* **Innovation Capacity Building** – Entrepreneurs and SMEs: Supports the development of entrepreneurial knowledge and capability in science and innovation related small and medium sized enterprises

**UK DELIVERY PARTNERS**

For the UK side the fund will provide a mechanism to join up engagement and individual activities will be managed by a core group of UK Delivery Partners:

* the **Academies** which consist of the Royal Society (RS), the Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng), the [British Academy](http://www.britac.ac.uk/index.cfm) (BA) and the [Academy of Medical Sciences](http://www.acmedsci.ac.uk/)
* **British Council**;
* **Research Councils UK**, the strategic partnership of the UK's seven Research Councils - [Arts and Humanities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arts_and_Humanities_Research_Council) (AHRC), [Biotechnology and Biological Sciences](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biotechnology_and_Biological_Sciences_Research_Council) (BBSRC), [Engineering and Physical Sciences](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Engineering_and_Physical_Sciences_Research_Council) (EPSRC), [Economic and Social Research](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_and_Social_Research_Council) (ESRC), [Medical Research](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medical_Research_Council_(United_Kingdom)) (MRC), [Natural Environment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_Environment_Research_Council) (NERC), and [Science and Technology Facilities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Science_and_Technology_Facilities_Council) (STFC)
* **Innovate UK**, and
* **Met Office**

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