

Newton Fund: MRC-Philippines, Joint Health Research Call Guidance

Essential Information

The UK-Philippines Joint Health Research Call grants should be up to 3 years in duration focusing on Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases of relevance to the Philippines.

In total, up to £3.25m will be made available for this initiative: up to £2m from the MRC and up to approximately £1.25m (80m Php) from PCHRD.

For the initial stage of this joint call between UK and Filipino funders, the administration of applications will be processed by the MRC. Researchers with successful concept proposals will be invited in July to submit a full proposal, which is to be submitted to the MRC in October 2017. Further guidance will be provided.

Who can apply?

If successful in securing funding, the principal investigator (PI) from the Philippines and the PI from the UK will act as the lead project coordinator for their respective countries and the liaison point with PCHRD and MRC respectively. It is the responsibility of the lead project coordinators from each country to ensure that all named co-investigators are eligible. Applications involving ineligible applicants, from the UK or the Philippines will result in the whole application being withdrawn.

It is not permitted for the same person to be Principal Investigator **on any more than two proposals** submitted to this call. PI's should ensure that they have the time available to undertake both projects in the event that both projects were funded.

Filipino applicants:

The Filipino component of this research project will be funded by PCHRD. Standard rules for eligibility of the Philippine Department of Science and Technology and PCHRD will apply. Eligibility criteria for applicants should follow the AO 005 S 2013 "[Guidelines for the Grant-In-Aid Funds of Department of Science and Technology and its agencies](#)"

UK applicants:

Funding will be awarded on the basis of full economic costs as described in the [MRC Guidance for Applicants 2017](#) . As per standard MRC procedure, UK investigators costs can include indirect costs calculated via TRAC. PhD students will not be funded as part of this call.

Co-investigators (Co-Is)

Co-investigators can be based in the UK or overseas as per usual MRC funding rules, however overseas Co-Is (other than Filipino PIs) are not encouraged. If you are applying for an overseas Co-I, justification will be required in the full proposal.

Travel Grants

One of the aims of this call is to bring together researchers from UK and the Philippines to tackle communicable and non-communicable diseases of relevance to the Philippines. Successful research teams at the concept proposal phase will receive travel grants of up to £3,000 to support meetings for full stage proposal development. Please include a breakdown of estimated travel costs in your concept proposal form.

Please note successful applicants will be required to pay for their travel and invoice the MRC (up to £1500) by providing the flight itinerary. PCHRD will cover the accommodation and subsistence and will require details before the accommodation is reimbursed (up to £1500).

Only applicants from the shortlisted concept proposals will be invited to submit full proposals in October 2017.

How to apply

Applying for the UK-Philippines Joint Health Research Call is a **two-stage process**: concept proposal stage and then the full proposal stage.

At the initial stage, you will need to submit a concept proposal offline to the MRC inbox: international@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk. Your concept proposal must include the following:

- A1. Concept Proposal Form (template available on the UK-Philippines, Joint Health Research Call webpage)**
- A2. 2 page CVs (plus 1 page publication lists) for investigators**

At this initial stage you do not need to submit any other documents aside from the aforementioned.

Concept proposal deadline: **16:00 BST Thursday, 11 May 2017.**

A1. Concept Proposal Form

Your Concept Proposals should indicate how your proposal fits the call specification for this scheme. Please use the assessment criteria provided as an annex in the 'concept proposal form' template as a guide. References should also be included as necessary.

Additional annexes are not permitted.

A2. CVs (including publication lists) of investigators

Please submit a maximum of **3 pages per investigator in each country**: 2 pages CV and 1 page publication list. Please compile all of the documents into one PDF file. Each publication list should immediately follow its corresponding CV.

The assessment panel will meet in June 2017. You will receive notification of whether you are invited to submit a full proposal within a fortnight of that meeting. Regrettably, if you are not invited to submit a full application the funders are unable to provide you with feedback due to the high volume of applications received for this scheme.

Process Summary

- UK applicants will submit joint concept proposals to the MRC – initial AND full stage. The concept proposal will be emailed to international@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk .
- Applicants invited to submit full proposals will be asked to do so via the Je-S system, further guidance will be provided
- The review process will take place through a joint UK-Filipino expert review committee
- Funds will be released to successful applicants according to MRC Terms and Conditions to cover the UK component of the research project.
- Funds will be released according to PCHRD Terms and Conditions to cover the Filipino component of the research project

UK applicants must submit concept proposals on behalf of their research team, to: international@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk by **16:00 BST Thursday 11th May 2017**.

Contacts

Any queries from UK researchers should be sent to:
international@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk

Any queries from Filipino researchers should be sent to:
newtonagham@pchrd.dost.gov.ph