

iSPER - Funding Bulletin – January 2017



Welcome to the January edition of the Institute for Social, Policy and Enterprise Research (iSPER) funding bulletin. Alongside our usual overview of the latest opportunities from such funders as the [ESRC](#), [AHRC](#), [Horizon 2020](#), and others, this edition includes a special short section on the [Newton Fund](#). This £735 million fund provides a number of individual research opportunities relating to the promotion of economic development social welfare in partner countries

The funding bulletin also includes details of the new early career fellowship opportunities from the [Independent Social Research Foundation](#) and the [Leverhulme Trust](#), which were both mentioned as forthcoming opportunities in the December bulletin.

If you are interested in pursuing any of the funding opportunities listed then please do get in touch with us via FOBResearch@plymouth.ac.uk

Further information about iSPER can be found on the institute's section of the iSPER website by [clicking here](#). You can also now follow iSPER on twitter: [@isperplym](#)

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Research and Innovation Support

The university's Research & Innovation (R&I) Directorate provides a variety of different forms of support to academics engaging in research. General information about the support provided can be found on the R&I [Supporting Research page](#). This includes links to information on such things as: identifying funding sources; navigating the application process; demonstrating research impact;

stakeholder engagement; and promotion and dissemination of your research. R&I's [Find Funding](#) page also provides specific details on funding sources and tips on how you can set-up and manage your own funding searches.

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Newton Fund

The Newton Fund uses science and innovation partnerships to promote economic development and social welfare in partner countries. It does this through collaboration with partner countries and working with 15 UK Delivery partners/funders. The fund has a total UK investment of £735million to 2021, with partner countries providing matched resources within the fund. Further information about the fund can be found by [clicking here](#).

Newton Fund opportunities can be found by [clicking here](#) and some of the opportunities currently available are listed in the table below:

Opportunity	Country	Lead Funder	Deadline	More Info
Technology Solutions for Society in India	India	Innovate UK	22 nd February 2017	Click here
Joint UK-China Offshore Renewables Energy (ORE)	China	Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council and National Environment Research Council	2 nd March 2017	Click here
Fellowships for UK Researchers	Turkey	British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering and Royal Society	31 st March 2017	Click here
Urban Innovation in Brazil	Brazil	Innovate UK	3 rd May 2017	Click here

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New Live Opportunities

Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)

Research Networking Highlight Notice for International Development

For further information [click here](#)

Value: Up to £30,000

Deadline: 25th April 2017

This call is for the development of research networking proposals which explore the contribution that arts and humanities research can make to challenges, policy and/or practice relating to international development. It complements other previous AHRC thematic GCRF calls including the AHRC GCRF Area-Focused Network-Plus call (see above).

Please note: Since this opportunity was included as a forthcoming opportunity in the previous bulletin two of the details have been amended by the AHRC. Firstly, the deadline has been moved from late February to the 25th April. Secondly, a new area of opportunity in relation to 'China and the Creative Economy' has been included. For further details [click here](#).

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Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

Transformations to Sustainability (T2S)

For further information [click here](#)

Value: Up to €500,000

Deadline: Outline proposal: 5th April 2017 (12.00)

T2S is a new funding programme for international, transdisciplinary projects addressing transformations to sustainability initiated by the Belmont Forum and NORFACE network. The programme is supported by funding agencies from Belgium, Brazil, Chinese Taipei, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the USA. More information on the participation of Norway will be available soon.

Proposals from researchers based in any of the partner countries are welcome, and should address one or more of the call themes:

- Governance and institutional dimensions of transformations to sustainability.
- Economy and finance of transformations to sustainability.
- Wellbeing, quality of life, identity, and social and cultural values in relation to transformations to sustainability.

Proposals must address one or more of the three call themes, and must involve at least three national research teams. The total funding requested from the T2S partners must not exceed €1,500,000 across all participating countries.

Secondary Data Analysis Initiative (SDAI) Department for Education (DfE) Highlight Notice

For further information [click here](#)

Value: Up to £200,000 (100% of FEC)

Duration: Up to 18 months

Application Deadline: 10th March 2017 (4.00pm)

This supports projects that produce insight into policy areas of interest to the Department for Education and promote the use of relevant datasets. Proposals must address at least one of the following themes:

- teacher quality or subject specialism and the link to social mobility;
- social mobility;
- the gender pay gap;
- further education.

It is expected that two projects will be funded in 2017.

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Government Contracts

Consideration of a Range of Market and Regulatory Frameworks to Support Future Scenarios for the Decarbonisation of the GB Gas Network

For further information [click here](#)

Funder: Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Value: Not specified

Application Deadline: 24th February 2017

Contract Start Date:	20 th March 2017
Contract End Date:	31 st July 2017
The Department of Energy and Climate Change invites tenders for its consideration of a range of market and regulatory frameworks to support future scenarios for the decarbonisation of the GB gas network. The tenderer will look to better understand the market and regulatory frameworks that could underpin a repurposing or reconfiguration of the GB gas network, if required in order to decarbonise heating.	

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Horizon 2020

SUSFOOD2 ERA-NET: Joint Call for Proposals in the Field of Sustainable Food Production and Consumption	
For further information click here	
Value:	Up to €1.5m (up to 70% of eligible costs)
Duration:	Up to 3 Years
Application Deadline:	13 th March 2017
Proposals are invited to support cooperation in research, development and innovation between EU members and associated states in order to maximise the contribution of research to the development of more sustainable food systems from production to consumption. Proposals may address one of the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • innovation in food processing technologies and products; • providing added value, increased resource efficiency and reduction of waste in sustainable food systems; • understanding consumer behaviour and food choices; • harmonisation of the methods and metrics for integrated assessment of sustainability of food products and food patterns. 	

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Independent Social Research Fund (ISRF)

The Independent Social Research Foundation (ISRF) is a public benefit foundation dedicated cross-fertilisation in the social sciences, the promotion of new modes of inquiry and the development of interdisciplinary expertise and methods. ISRF funding is awarded competitively through a series of grant competitions – for Early and Mid-Career Researchers, Independent Scholars, and for Small Groups.

Fourth ISRF Early Career Fellowships Competition	
For further information click here	
Value:	Up to £50,000
Duration:	Up to 12 months
Application Deadline:	3 rd March 2017 (4.00 pm)
These fellowships aim to support innovative research which breaks with existing explanatory frameworks so as to address afresh empirical problems with no currently adequate theory or investigative methodology. Innovation may also come from controversial theoretical approaches motivated by a critical challenge to incumbent theories.	

Applicants who are within **10 years of their PhD award** are eligible to apply (career breaks may be taken into account). The award will provide full relief from all teaching duties and all associated academic administration for a period of up to one year.

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Leverhulme Trust

Early Career Fellowships

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	50% of a Fellow's salary costs up to a maximum of £24,000 per annum. The Fellow may also request annual research expenses of up to £6000.
Duration:	3 Years (full-time basis but longer part-time awards for those with childcare commitments will also be supported)
Application Deadline:	2 nd March 2017 (4pm)
Award Start Date(s):	1 st September 2017 to 1 st May 2018

The scheme enables early career researchers to undertake a significant piece of publishable work. Applicants must have a track record of research, but **should not have held a full-time permanent academic post in the UK**. Approximately 100 Fellowships will be available.

Research project Grants

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £500,000
Duration:	5 Years
Application Deadlines:	Outline Applications: None Detailed Applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Round: 21st March 2017 (earliest start date: 1st September 2017) • 2nd Round: 1st September 2017 (earliest start date: 1st January 2018) • 3rd Round: 1st December 2017 (earliest start date: 1st May 2018)

The aim of these awards is to provide financial support for innovative and original research projects of high quality and potential, the choice of theme and the design of the research lying entirely with the applicant (the Principal Investigator).

Outline applications for Leverhulme research project grants can be submitted at any time, but please see above the 2017 deadlines for detailed applications, which will need to be submitted if an outline application is successful. **Please note:** The assessment of outline applications is normally completed within three months after which the detailed application can be developed and submitted.

Visiting Professorships

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Variable – a maintenance grant (up to a level commensurate with the salary of a professor)
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	in the relevant field of that institution and economy travel costs will be met.
Duration:	3 to 12 months
Application Deadline:	11 th May 2017 (4.00 pm)
Awarded to UK institutions that wish to invite an eminent researcher from overseas to enhance the knowledge and skills of academic staff or the student body within the host institution. The scheme covers maintenance, travel expenses and research costs.	

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Nuffield Trust

Grants for Research and Innovation Projects

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Usually range between £10,000 to £350,000 although there are exceptions
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Duration:	Usually under 4 years
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Outline Application Deadline:	13 th March 2017
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Full Application Deadline:	3 rd July 2017
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Applications for the next round of Nuffield Trust grants will be due in March (see above). **Please note:** the deadline details appear to have been revised since they were included in the September funding bulletin. There are six programme areas in total and an 'open door' route for projects falling outside these areas:

- [Children and Families](#): funds projects to help ensure that social policy and the institutions governing family life in the UK are best adapted to meet the needs of children and families.
- [Early Years Education and Childcare](#): funds projects in the areas of educational attainment and child development outcomes, tackling social disadvantage, parental and family contexts, wider societal impacts, and public policy mechanisms.
- [Economic Advantage and Disadvantage](#): funds projects on the distribution of all aspects of individual and household economic well-being, their causes and consequences.
- [Education](#): funds projects in the areas of primary education, secondary education transitions, science and mathematics.
- [Finances of Ageing](#): funds projects related to all aspects of finance, economics, and transfers related to individual and population ageing.
- [Law in Society](#): funds projects designed to promote access to, and improve understanding of, the civil and family justice systems
- [Open Door](#): These are proposals of exceptional merit for research projects or practical innovations that lie outside the main programme areas.

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Other Funders

Auber Bequest

For more information [click here](#)

Funder:	Royal Society of Edinburgh
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Value:	Up to £3000
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Duration:	Up to 2 Years
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Application Deadline:	28 th February 2017
The Auber Bewuest supports the furtherance of academic research in a broad range of areas within the arts and humanities, science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or social science. Naturalised British citizens, over the age of 60 , who reside in Scotland or England and who are engaged in academic research, may apply.	

Sustainable Urban Global Initiative (SUGI) / Food-Water-Energy (FWE) Nexus

The funder website with details of the call can be found by [clicking here](#). However specific information for UK applicants can be found on the ESRC website by [clicking here](#).

Funders:	Belmont Forum and the Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe
Value:	Maximum amount for UK component is €300,000 (FEC)
Application Deadline:	15 th March 2017 (6.00 pm GMT)

The Sustainable Urban Global Initiative (SUGI) / Food-Water-Energy (FWE) Nexus call aims to develop more resilient and applied urban solutions that bring inter- and transdisciplinary research and innovation together from across the globe, to benefit a much wider range of stakeholders including cities, civil society and business. Projects should address one or more of the following topics:

- Robust knowledge, indicators and assessments;
- Multi-level governance and management;
- Managing strategies and solutions.

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Funding for PGR Students

PhD Student Grants

For more information [click here](#)

Funder:	Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust
Value:	Up to £4000
Application Deadline:	None

The Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust invites applications for its PhD student grants. These grants are for PhD students to help meet tuition costs in the last year of their PhD studies

Slawson Awards

For more information [click here](#)

Funder:	Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)
Value:	Up to £3000
Application Deadline:	22 nd February 2017

These enable PhD students to undertake geographical field-based research in developing countries which is of high social and economic importance. Studies should include geography-related disciplines such as anthropology, sociology and development economics.

Preference is given to projects conducted in Asia and to those that are interdisciplinary in nature. Two to three awards, worth up to £3,000 each, are available to assist with travel, accommodation and local costs.

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Selected Live Opportunities from the Previous Bulletins (still open)

Please note: as these opportunities have been open for some time, some of them will have impending deadlines.

Horizon 2020

European Research Council – Consolidator Grants 2017

For further information on the fund [click here](#). For access to the funding portal [click here](#).

Value:	Up to €2million
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Duration:	Up to five years
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Application Deadline:	9 th February 2017
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These awards are designed to help young principal investigators consolidate their independence. Applicants must have 7-12 years of experience since completing their PhD, a scientific track record showing significant talent and an excellent research proposal. The grant covers up to 100% of total eligible direct costs of the research plus a contribution of 25% towards indirect costs. An additional €0.75 million (on top of the €2m) is also available to cover start-up costs for researchers coming from a third country.

Horizon 2020 - Societal Challenges - Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials – Greening the Economy Call

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Not specified
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Application Deadline:	7 th March 2017 (5.00pm – Brussels time)
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The objective of the Societal Challenge 'Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials' is to achieve: a resource – and water – efficient and climate change resilient economy and society; the protection and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems; and a sustainable supply and use of raw materials. This is in order to meet the needs of a growing global population within the sustainable limits of the planet's natural resources and eco-systems.

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Leverhulme Trust

Emeritus Fellowships

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £22,000 of research expenses
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Duration:	Between 3 months and 2 years
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Application Deadline:	2 nd February 2017 (4pm)
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Award Start Date(s):	Between 1st August 2017 and 1st July 2018
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This fund enables senior researchers who have retired from an academic post to complete a research project and prepare the results for publication. Applicants must have retired by the time of taking up the Fellowship and no longer have a normal contract of employment. However, applicants may hold a part-time position of up to 0.5 FTE.

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Wellcome Trust

Humanities and Social Science Doctoral Studentships

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Covers student's stipend, approved tuition fees, travel to meetings and conferences (up to £1,500) and equipment and research experiences (up to £1,500)
Duration:	Usually 3 Years
Application Deadline:	22 March 2017
These enable researchers to undertake a humanities or social science doctoral degree in any area of health. Applicants should hold or expect to hold a relevant master's degree and should not already be registered for a research degree, or have received support from another funding body.	

Seed Awards in Humanities and Social Science

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Usually £25,000 to £50,000, but up to £100,000 for themed rounds
Duration:	6 to 12 months
Application Deadline:	16 th March 2017
Research may fall under any field of humanities and social science that enriches the understanding of human and animal health. Eligible activities include pilot and scoping studies, planning sessions and meetings of collaborative networks. For the forthcoming deadline only projects which explore the theme of sexuality and health will be considered.	

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Forthcoming Opportunities

The following are a number of funding opportunities which are either scheduled to emerge in the near future, or anticipated to on the basis of what we know from previous funding rounds. Please note that these details, and particularly the timescales, may be subject to change.

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Leverhulme Trust

Major Research Fellowships

For more information [click here](#)

Call Opens:	1 st February 2017
Value:	Funds salary costs. Research Fellow may also request research expenses up to a maximum of £6000.
Duration:	2 to 3 Years
Application Deadline:	11 th May 2017 (4.00 pm)
Start Date:	Beginning of 2018/19 academic year

These fellowships provide replacement teaching costs over two or three years, to allow well-established and distinguished researchers in the humanities and social sciences to focus on a specific piece of original research. Fellowships are particularly aimed at those who are or have been prevented by routine duties from completing a programme of original research.

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Research Awards and Prizes

Jean Blondel Prize

For more information click here	
Funder:	European Consortium for Political Research
Value:	€1000
Application Deadline:	2 nd February 2017
This prize is for the best thesis in the field of political science and political thought. The consortium covers expenses to attend the prize-giving at the consortium's joint sessions of workshops, including travel and accommodation for up to two nights.	
Stein Rokkan Prize in Comparative Social Science Research	
For more information click here	
Funder:	European Consortium for Political Research
Value:	US \$5000
Application Deadline:	15 th February 2017
This recognises the best work deemed to be a substantial and original contribution to comparative social science research.	
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