

## iSPER - Funding and Events Bulletin – July 2017



Welcome to the July edition of the Institute for Social, Policy and Enterprise Research (iSPER) Funding and Events bulletin. Given we are now at the height of summer the current issue does not include any information on upcoming events, however there are a number of new funding opportunities available. Of particular note are two new small-scale funding opportunities from the [Independent Social Research Foundation](#).

As noted in previous bulletins the list of funding opportunities is not comprehensive and we should suggest people set-up their own individual searches to supplement use of the bulletin. Information about how you can do this is provided at R&I's [Find Funding](#) page

**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](mailto:FOBResearch@plymouth.ac.uk)**

Further information about iSPER can be found on the institute's section of the university's website by [clicking here](#). You can also now follow iSPER on twitter: [@isperplym](#) and subscribe to receive copies of our quarterly newsletter by [clicking here](#).

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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.

The University has a team of Research Specialist Advisors who can support your application for funding. Full details can be found on the weblinks above or alternatively they can be contacted on [researchadvice@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:researchadvice@plymouth.ac.uk).

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**New Live Opportunities**

**Economic and Social Research Council**

General information about ESRC funding can be found on [their website](#), including information about [current opportunities](#). As the Research Council which deals specifically with the social sciences the ESRC also has a number of general funding opportunities with no deadlines which are available all year round.

#### **AHRC-ESRC-FCO Knowledge Exchange Fellowship scheme**

[Click here for further information](#)

Value:	Maximum amount depends on individual applications but ESRC contributes 80% of costs. Other costs are met by institution.
Duration:	0.6 to 0.8 over 24 months
Application Deadline:	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2017 (4.00pm)

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) are pleased to invite applications to the AHRC-ESRC-FCO Knowledge Exchange (KE) Fellowships scheme. The scheme will provide the opportunity for each intake of fellows to be seconded into the FCO to work alongside, advise and influence policymakers. This is not a scheme to support research projects about the FCO. It will build new capacity in the FCO and across the UK research base.

#### **Building resilience to natural disasters using financial instruments**

[Click here for further information](#)

Value:	Feasibility studies: Up to £100,000 (100% FEC) Longer-term: Up to £350,000 (100% FEC)
Duration:	Feasibility studies: Up to 6 months Longer-term studies: Up to 24 months
Project Start Date:	No later than 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2018
Application Deadline:	26 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 (4.00pm)

ESRC, the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) and the Department for International Development (DFID) invite proposals on building resilience to natural disasters using financial instruments. Funding is available to apply existing environmental and social science research to inform the design, development, refinement and validation of financing instruments to help developing countries respond and recover from extreme weather and natural disasters.

The programme will support both feasibility studies and longer projects.

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#### **Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)**

##### **Resilient and sustainable energy networks for developing countries**

[Click here for further information](#)

Value:	Not specified but £7.5 million is available for the call and EPSRC aim to support 6-8 research projects
Duration:	36 months
Application Deadline:	Expressions of interest: 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2017 (4.00pm) Full proposal: 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2017 (4.00pm)
<p>This call is supported through EPSRC's Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) allocation. The aim of this activity is to support an internationally leading programme of research to tackle the energy distribution challenges faced by developing countries. Proposals to this call must focus on sustainable local energy networks, including off-grid to grid transitions. The proposed research must be predominantly in EPSRC remit, although interdisciplinary and/or multidisciplinary proposals are welcomed. Proposals must also be compliant with Official Development Assistance (ODA) guidelines.</p>	

#### **Manufacturing the future: Call for investigator-led research projects**

[Click here for further information](#)

Value:	Up to £2million
Application Deadline:	3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2017 (for 2018 panel)
<p>The EPSRC Manufacturing the Future challenge theme invites investigator-led proposals which address key research challenges facing manufacturing in the UK today. In an effort to increase the theme's long term ambition to increase the number of investigator led research, the theme will issue a series of batching dates during 2017 and 2018 for investigator-led proposals. Submitted proposals will either be considered at a manufacturing-focused prioritisation panel (if there is sufficient demand) or via a separate list at an Engineering panel.</p> <p>Please note there is currently also a call open for applications for 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017.</p>	

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#### **EU Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme**

The Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020 defends the rights and freedoms that people are entitled to under EU law. Universities alongside other legal entities are eligible to apply. [Click here for the full list of action grants](#).

#### **REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2017: Prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children**

[Click here for further information](#)

Application Deadline:	14 <sup>th</sup> November 2017 (5.00 pm Brussels time)
<p>Priorities include:</p>	

1. Prevention of gender-based violence (GBV): The focus is on primary prevention, i.e. changing social attitudes and behaviour, in order to end tolerance of all forms of violence.
2. Protection and support for victims of gender-based violence and violence against children
3. The coordination and/or adaptation of support services for sexual and gender-based violence to include refugees and migrants (children, women, LGBTIQI persons, young men and boys)
4. Treatment of perpetrators, in order to prevent reoffending.
5. National coordinating frameworks or action plans for violence against children (supporting Member States and other actors).

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### Independent Social Research Foundation

#### ISRF Flexible Grants for Small Groups Competition (FG4)

[Click here for further information](#)

Value:	Up to £5,000
Duration:	Up to 1 Year
Application Deadline:	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2017 (4.00pm)
Project Start Date:	No later than end of December 2018

A small number of grants are available to provide flexible support for instance: relief from teaching and/or administration, research and travel expenses, fieldwork and practical work) for the activities of a small research group. The awards are intended as enabling one or more short periods of face-to-face joint group work such as workshops, working-in-pairs, or short academic visits (e-working, video-conferencing or Skype expenses are not included).

#### ISRF Independent Scholar Fellowship Competition

[Click here for further information](#)

Value:	Up to £25,000
Duration:	Up to 1 Year
Application Deadline:	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2017 (4.00pm)
Project Start Date:	No later than end of December 2018

Up to two Independent Scholar Fellowship grants are available to support original interdisciplinary research, across the range of the social sciences. The award is intended to enable the buy-out from current occupation of an independent scholar to pursue his/her research full- or part-time (or for support if unwaged) for a period of up to 12 months.

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### Other Funders

**Evaluation of the NHS partnership with Virginia Mason Institute**

[Click here for further information](#)

Funder:	The Health Foundation
Value:	Up to £400,000 (inclusive of VAT)
Application Deadline:	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> August 2017 (12.00 noon)

The Health Foundation, in support of NHS Improvement, is recruiting a provider to undertake an independent evaluation of the NHS Partnership with Virginia Mason Institute (VMI). The partnership is designed to support five NHS trusts in England to learn, adopt and embed a method of continuous improvement which puts patients first.

### **Research study – improving the mental health outcomes of Nottingham's LGBT population**

[Click here for further information](#)

Funder:	NHS Arden and Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit
Value:	£75,000
Application Deadline:	11 <sup>th</sup> August 2017
Contract Start Date:	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
Contract End Date:	14 <sup>th</sup> September 2017

This is to conduct a high quality, methodologically robust research study to inform how Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group can best commission primary and community health services to meet the mental health needs of LGBT people and to promote and support appropriate and timely mental health service uptake.

The research will involve a literature review and a mixed methods approach to better understand the population, citizen story and stakeholder perspective.

### **Seed corn research funding**

[Click here for further information](#)

Value:	Up to £7,500
Application Deadline:	25 <sup>th</sup> August 2017

The Seed Corn Fund was set up to provide a small research grant on a 'seed corn' basis to enable supply chain, logistics and transport researchers in the UK and Ireland to explore issues of current and academic interest. The fund helps to encourage UK and Irish universities to develop their research capabilities. By supporting small scale research projects in universities, the grant assists researchers working in emerging (research) groups in the hope that this will lead to the development of larger scale projects which will be able to attract funding from other commercial and public sources.

### **Human Development Innovation Fund**

[Click here for further information](#)

Funder:	HDIF
Value:	Between £200,000 and £1million
Application Deadline:	8 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 (5.00pm – East Africa Time)

Funded by UKAID, the HDIF aims to identify and support innovations that have the potential to create social impact in education, health and, water, sanitation and hygiene

(WASH) across Tanzania. With a focus on market driven solutions, HDIF catalyses the development, testing and scaling of innovative models of service delivery, information and communication technologies for development (ICT4D), and product solutions in health, education and WASH.

HDIF is now accepting funding applications for pilot and scale-up projects between £500,000 and £1,000,000 (exceptions can be made for compelling applications for a grant not lower than GBP 200,000). In this round, HDIF seeks to fund organizations to implement innovative projects in WASH and Early Childhood Development (ECD).

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### Selected Live Opportunities from the Previous Bulletins (still open)

**Please note:** some opportunities featured in the last bulletin with impending deadlines are not featured in here in order to save space and in recognition that there will be insufficient time for new applications to be started from scratch.

### British Council

#### PhD Placements and Supervisor Mobility Grants – UK and China

[Click here for further information.](#)

Value:	£9,100 for student, £4,100 for Supervisors
Duration:	Up to 1 Year
Project Start Date:	Between January and December 2018
Application Deadline:	20 <sup>th</sup> September 2017

This programme is a sponsorship opportunity for UK and Chinese PhD students and their supervisors to spend a period of study of three to 12 months (for PhD students) and up to three months (for supervisors) at higher education institutions in China or the UK.

The programme focuses on the following areas:

- health and life sciences;
- food and water security;
- environmental technologies;
- energy;
- urbanisation;
- education and creative economy for economic development and social welfare.

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### Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

#### ESRC-Alan Turing Institute Joint Fellowship Scheme

[Click here for more information](#)

Value:	Not stated but ESRC to fund 80% of FEC
Duration:	Up to 36 months
Application Deadline:	21 <sup>st</sup> September 2017 (4.00pm)

The ESRC and The Alan Turing Institute's Joint Fellowship Scheme is aimed at driving forward the development and application of cutting-edge data science to study major societal challenges. This first joint call will focus on two key and interlinked issues - the complex challenges facing the development of cities and in maintaining a healthy population.

Proposals are welcome from mid-career and senior academics. Up to two studentships will be attached to each Fellowship and it is expected these will work in similar areas to that of the Fellow.

#### ESRC-ICSSR Newton call for collaborative research on urban transformations in India

[Click here for more information](#)

Value:	£360,00 to £540,000
Duration:	24 months
Project Start Date:	1 <sup>st</sup> April to 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2018
Application Deadline:	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2017 (4.00pm)

The ESRC and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) invite joint applications for collaborative projects between UK and Indian researchers which seek to enhance understanding of urban challenges and issues in India and achieve economic and social understanding of concerned areas in India. Proposals should address one or more of the following topics:

- Urban planning, governance and management
- Formal and informal populations
- Place and space: challenges and solutions, including health, sanitation and labour issues
- Small towns, dynamics of change and migration

#### Transformative Research Call 2017-18

[Click here for more information](#)

Value:	Up to £250,000 (of which ESRC funds 80%)
Duration:	Up to 24 months
Application Deadline:	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2017

The aim of this call is to provide a stimulus for genuinely transformative research ideas at the frontiers of the social sciences, enabling research which challenges current thinking to be supported and developed. The expectation is that the transformative research call will encourage novel developments of social science enquiry, and support research activity that entails an element of risk.

**Please note:** Proposals needs to be pre-selected by the institution as a maximum of two applications can be accepted from each eligible institution.

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**Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)**

**Manufacturing the Future: Call for Investigator led Research Projects**[Click here for more information](#)

Value: Up to £2 million

Application Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017 (4.00pm)

The EPSRC Manufacturing the Future challenge theme invites investigator-led proposals which address key research challenges facing manufacturing in the UK today. Proposals could relate to the following research visions identified by the Manufacturing for the Future Team:

- 21<sup>st</sup> century products;
- digital manufacturing;
- sustainable industries;
- new industrial systems.

[Back to top](#)**EU Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme****REC-RRAC-RACI-AG-2017: Prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance**[Please click here for more information](#)Application Deadline: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (5pm Brussels time)

The call is aimed at supporting projects contributing to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. Proposals under this call may explore the use of all available tools and forms of cooperation between national authorities, non-governmental organisations, communities and international organisations and bodies, and are encouraged to be developed on the basis of a holistic approach. While proposals do not need to be transnational, the added value of projects involving organisations from more than one participating country is of particular interest.

**REC-RDIS-DISC-AG-2017: Support national or transnational projects on non-discrimination and Roma integration**[Please click here for more information](#)Application Deadline: 9<sup>th</sup> November

This call will aim to co-fund national or transnational projects tackling at least one of the following grounds of discrimination of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. Activities that can be funded include data collection and surveys, as well as training, mutual learning, dissemination and awareness raising.

[Back to top](#)**European Directorates****European LIFE Programme**For more information [click here](#)

Funder: European Commission

Value: Variable

Application Deadline:	Variable – see specific deadlines for traditional projects below
<p>Applications are invited for the 2017 Call for proposals for LIFE Action Grants. “Traditional” LIFE projects may be best-practice, demonstration, pilot or information, awareness and dissemination projects and are covered by the following sub-programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">LIFE Nature &amp; Biodiversity</a> – Deadline of 14<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li>• <a href="#">LIFE Environment &amp; Resource Efficiency</a> – Deadline of 12<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li>• <a href="#">LIFE Environmental Governance &amp; Information</a> – Deadline of 14<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li>• <a href="#">LIFE Climate Change Mitigation</a> – Deadline of 7<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li>• <a href="#">LIFE Climate Change Adaptation</a> – Deadline of 7<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li>• <a href="#">LIFE Climate Governance and Information</a> – Deadline of 7<sup>th</sup> September</li> </ul> <p>Other types of projects funded include Preparatory Projects, Integrated Projects and Technical Assistance Projects. For further details <a href="#">click here</a>.</p>	

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#### Horizon 2020

##### **SEC-17-BES-2017 - Architectures and organizations, big data and data analytics for customs risk management of the international goods supply chain trade movements**

[Click here for more information](#)

Value:	Up to €5million
Application Deadline:	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2017 (5.00pm Brussels time)

This funds projects designed to better effectively manage the risks in international supply chains and support the "EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management". This involves developing strategies and tools needed for the timely submission to customs authorities of relevant high-quality and comprehensive data on goods moving and crossing borders, whilst taking into consideration the national and EU legal, procedural and IT systems where they exist. Realistic methodologies and data governance policies also need to be developed.

##### **Cybersecurity PPP: Addressing Advanced Cyber Security Threats**

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Variable (funding rate is 100%)
Application Deadline:	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2017 (5.00 pm Brussels time)

Opportunities are available for both Research and Innovation Action proposals and Innovation Action only proposals. Research and Innovation action proposals should focus on the development of novel approaches for providing organisations with the appropriate situational awareness in relation to cyber security threats, allowing them to detect, and quickly and effectively respond, to sophisticated cyber-attacks.

##### **Science with and for Society (SwafS)**

See links below for more details

Value:	Variable
Application Deadline:	30 <sup>th</sup> August 2017 (5.00pm Brussels time)
<p>The aim of the Horizon 2020 Science with and for Society (SwafS) programme is to “build effective cooperation between science and society, to recruit new talent for science and to pair scientific excellence with social awareness and responsibility.” A selection of Research and Innovation Actions within the current call includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SwafS-14-2017: A Linked-up Global World of RRI. For more information <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> <li>• SwafS-13-2017: Integrating Society in Science and Innovation – An approach to co-creation. For more information <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> <li>• SwafS-12-2017: Webs of Innovation Value Chains and Openings for RRI. For more information <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> <li>• SwafS-10-2017: Putting Open Science into action. For more information <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> </ul> <p>A full list of all SwafS calls can be found by <a href="#">clicking here</a>.</p>	

#### European Research Council – Advanced Grants

For further information [click here](#).

Value:	Up to €2,500,000
Duration:	Up to 5 Years
Application Deadline:	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2017

Advanced Grants are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they are already established research leaders with a recognised track record of research achievements. Applicant Principal Investigators must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility of their scientific proposal.

#### Horizon 2020 Societal Challenges: Bio Based Industries PPP

See links below for further information.

Value:	Variable
Application Deadline:	7 <sup>th</sup> September (5.00pm Brussels time)

Applications are invited for 15 individual topics, including two Coordination and Support Actions:

- BBI.2017.S1: Establish cooperation and partnership with brand owners and consumer representatives to improve the market access of sustainable bio-based products. [Click here for more information](#).
- BBI.2017.S2: Identify opportunities for ICT to increase the efficiency of biomass supply chains for the bio-based industry. [Click here for more information](#).

Information on the other 13 topics can be found by [clicking here](#).

#### Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships

For general information about this opportunity [click here](#). For information about the current call [click here](#).

Value:	Variable – provides an allowance to cover living, travel and family costs.
Duration:	European Fellowships last from one to two years, Global Fellowships from two to three years.
Application Deadline:	14 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 (5.00pm Brussels time)

The goal of the Individual Fellowships is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of **experienced researchers**, wishing to diversify their individual competence in terms of skill acquisition through advanced training, international and intersectoral mobility.

Individual Fellowships provide opportunities to acquire and transfer new knowledge and to work on research and innovation in a European context (EU Member States and Associated Countries) or outside Europe. The scheme particularly supports the return and reintegration of researchers from outside Europe who have previously worked here. It also develops or helps to restart the careers of individual researchers that show great potential, considering their experience.

Both European (held in EU or associated countries) and Global (held outside Europe) Fellowships are available.

#### **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes**

For general information about this opportunity [click here](#). For information about the current call [click here](#).

Value:	Variable – individuals including doctoral candidates and experienced research fellows receive support for research training and career development.
Duration:	3 to 5 Years
Application Deadline:	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 (5.00pm Brussels time)

The COFUND scheme aims to stimulate regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development, spreading the best practices of Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions.

This will be achieved by co-funding new or existing regional, national, and international programmes to open up to, and provide for, international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary research training, as well as transnational and cross-sectoral mobility of researchers at all stages of their career.

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Leverhulme Trust

Visiting Professorships

For more information <a href="#">click here</a>	
Value:	Variable (sum requested should reflect individual circumstances of visitor and duration of proposed activities)
Duration:	3 to 12 months
Application Deadline:	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
These enable UK institutions to host distinguished researchers from overseas, primarily to enhance the skills of academic staff or students at the host institution. Funding covers maintenance, travel expenses and research costs of visits that last between three and 12 months.	

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### Newton Fund

<b>Newton UK-China agritech challenge</b>	
<a href="#">Click here for more information</a>	
Funders:	Innovate UK and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)
Value:	Projects expected to cost between £1million and £2million (but up to £1million per project in the UK)
Duration:	Up to 3 Years
Application Deadline:	2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2017 (12.00 noon). <b>Please note:</b> applicants must register by 12.00 noon on 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2017.
<p>The aim of this competition is to encourage innovative partnerships between the UK and China. Projects should address challenges related to agricultural technologies in one or more of these 3 sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• precision agriculture, agriculture digitisation and decision management tools;</li> <li>• improving the efficiency of sustainable agricultural production;</li> <li>• agricultural products processing.</li> </ul>	

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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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### Update on Global Challenges Research Fund

As noted in previous bulletins, the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) is a £1.5 billion fund announced by the UK Government to support cutting-edge research that addresses

the challenges faced by developing countries through challenge-led disciplinary and inter-disciplinary research. Much of the funding is distributed through the different Research Councils, including the ESRC. Academics from Plymouth University's Faculty of Business were among the first successful GCRF applicants.

The ESRC currently has some £16m still to allocate and is currently scoping the next phase. Priority areas are likely to include mental health, education and skills, decent work and new economic challenges, and calls are likely to open between November 2017 and January 2018. Pre-call information is likely to be released much sooner however and should be available, when published on the [ESRC website](#).

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### Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

#### Unconventional hydrocarbons in the UK energy system: Environmental and socio-economic impacts and processes

[Click here for more information](#)

Value:	Not yet specified
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Call Opens:	Early September
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Anticipated Deadline:	Not specified
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ESRC and the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) are investing £8 million in this research programme the outcome of which will be the provision of an updated independent scientific evidence base to understand potential environmental and socio-economic impacts of unconventional hydrocarbon development.

The full funding call for this programme will be published on the [NERC website](#) in early September and a subsequent town hall meeting will be held on 4 October 2017.

#### EqUIP call for collaborative research on sustainability, equity, wellbeing and cultural connections

[Click here for more information](#)

Value:	Not stated
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Call Opens:	End of August 2017
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Anticipated Deadline:	End of November 2017
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The EU-India Platform for Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP) is pleased to pre-announce its first research funding call. The call aims to bring together social science and humanities funders in India and Europe to support excellent and innovative research on sustainability, equity, wellbeing and cultural connections. The emphasis of the research will be on Indian and European dimensions, in both contemporary and historical contexts.

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### Research Awards and Prizes

## Global Strategy PhD Prize

[Click here for further information](#)

Funders:	Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations, the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), and the EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS).
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Value:	€1,000 plus a 3 month fellowship worth €2,500 per month.
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Application Deadline:	Expression of interest: 31 <sup>st</sup> July Dissertation Submitted: 11 <sup>th</sup> September
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This recognises a doctoral dissertation that addresses a policy relevant topic related to the foreign, security and defence policy of the EU that falls within the remit of the EU global strategy.

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