



Royal Society-DFID

Africa Capacity Building Initiative

This scheme is for scientists who want to develop collaborative research consortia between sub-Saharan Africa and a university or independent research institute in the UK.

The overall aim of the scheme is to strengthen the research capacity of universities and research institutions in sub-Saharan Africa by supporting the development of sustainable research networks.

The objectives are to:

- facilitate sustainable multidisciplinary partnerships between research groups in sub-Saharan Africa and the UK.
- strengthen research and training capacity in sub-Saharan African Institutions of Higher Education through the skill transfer between the partner organisations of the research consortia.
- produce a cadre of young, talented researchers through integrated PhD scholarships and shared supervision of post-graduate students between the UK-based and African consortia members.

The scheme is funded by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID).

Basic eligibility requirements

Applicants must be based in an eligible sub-Saharan African countries or the UK. In order to act as a principal investigator (PI), applicants must:

- have a PhD or have extensive research experience at an equivalent level
- have a proven track record of training students at Master's and Doctoral level
- have a proven track record of publishing in both national and international journals
- be based in the respective countries at the time of the application

The Royal Society-DFID Africa Capacity Building Initiative will accept applications in three research priority areas:

- Water and Sanitation
- Renewable energy
- Soil-related research

Under this scheme ten Programme Grants of up to £1,243,000 will be available across two rounds. These awards provide support for Research Consortia, consisting of three African groups and one UK-based laboratory over a five year period and cover costs for:

Expense	Budget per partner	Total budget
A PhD studentship for each of the African PI's	£60,000/studentship	£180,000
Research costs	Up to £20,000 per year for each research group	£400,000
Exchanges of researchers	Costs for travel and subsistence of up to £10,000 per year for each laboratory	£200,000
Equipment purchasing, repair and maintenance	Up to £10,000 per year for each African laboratory	£150,000
Additional training modules (workshops and seminars)	Up to £10,000 per year for each PI	£200,000
Co-ordination and management costs	10% of value of the grant	£113,000
Total budget		£1,243,000

The second round of applications is now open until 19 March 2015.

For more details about the award, including information on how to apply, visit royalsociety.org/grants/schemes/africa-capacity-building



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