

**Call for participants to workshop on: Strengthening Food Security through Integrated Earth Observations & Ecological Assessments of Ecosystem Services in Kenya**

Under the Researcher Links scheme offered within the Newton Fund, the British Council, together with Universities of Leicester and University of Nairobi, will be holding a workshop on the above theme in Nairobi from Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> –Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. The workshop is being coordinated by Prof Heiko Balzter, University of Leicester (UK) and Dr Faith Karanja, University of Nairobi (Kenya), and will have contributions from other leading researchers. We are now inviting Early Career Researchers from the UK and Kenya to apply to attend this workshop. All travel and accommodation expenses will be covered by the Newton Researcher Links programme. The application form is attached and should be sent to: [clcr@le.ac.uk](mailto:clcr@le.ac.uk), before the deadline of **1<sup>st</sup> September, 2017**. In case of questions, you can contact Dr John Atibila (Workshop Organiser) on [ja429@le.ac.uk](mailto:ja429@le.ac.uk)

**UK coordinator: Prof Heiko Balzter, Director, Centre of Landscape & Climate Research, University of Leicester, United Kingdom**

**Partner Country coordinator: Dr Faith Karanja, Senior Lecturer, University of Nairobi, Kenya**

**Discipline: Environment, Agriculture and Food Sciences**

**Dates and venue: 26 – 30 November 2017, Nairobi, Kenya.**

The programme, 'British Council Researcher Links' provides opportunities for early career researchers from the UK and internationally to interact, learn from each other and explore opportunities for building long-lasting research collaborations.

As part of this programme, we are now recruiting early career researchers to participate in the above workshop.

The workshop will provide a unique opportunity for sharing research expertise and networking. During the workshops early career researchers will have the opportunity to present their research in the form of a poster/short oral presentation and discuss this with established researchers from the UK and Kenya. There will be a focus on building up links for future collaborations and participants selected on the basis of their research potential and ability to build longer term links.

The British Council, with Universities of Leicester and University of Nairobi will cover the costs related to the participation to the workshop, including: travel (both international and local), accommodation and meals. Costs for the visa will be covered; however participants will be responsible for making all the necessary arrangements. Although this cost will not be covered by the British Council, participants are encouraged to purchase an adequate travel and medical insurance. The British Council accepts no responsibility for any problems which may occur when the participants are in-country.

### **Application and Deadline:**

The full application below must be completed and submitted by the **1<sup>st</sup> September, 2017** to: [clcr@le.ac.uk](mailto:clcr@le.ac.uk). All applicants will be informed about the outcome of their applications by **15<sup>th</sup> September 2017**. Selected participants will be sent details about travel, accommodation and other information about the conference by **30<sup>th</sup> September, 2017**.

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Applications must be submitted using the Researcher Links application form
- Application must be submitted before the above deadline
- Participants must be Early Career Researchers: Early Career Researchers are defined as holding a PhD (or having equivalent research experience and having up to 10 years post-PhD research experience. They are equivalent to the 'Recognised Researcher' and sometimes 'Experienced Researcher' categories in the EU framework for researchers' careers. .
- Participants must have a research or academic position (a permanent post, research contract, or fellowship etc) at a recognised research institution either in the UK or in Kenya.
- We will consider up to six (six) sponsored participants from industry, government of civil society sectors.
- Please note that participants are expected to attend all sessions of the workshop.
- If you have questions, you can contact Dr John Atibila (Workshop Organiser) on [ja429@le.ac.uk](mailto:ja429@le.ac.uk)

### **Quality Assessment**

- Experience and relevance of the applicant's research area to the workshop
- Motivation and contribution to the aims of the workshop
- Description of the long term impact expected through the participation in the workshop
- Ability to disseminate workshop's outcomes

### **Selection Procedure:**

- Eligibility check

- Quality assessment

**Notification of results:**

Applicants will be notified by email 2 months prior to the workshop.

**Equal Opportunities**

Equal opportunities and diversity are at the heart of the British Council's cultural relations ambitions. While recognising that some research fields are dominated by one particular gender, co-ordinators are encouraged to work towards an equal gender balance, promote diversity. They must not exclude applicants on the basis of ethnicity, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, or disability. Participants' selection undertaken by workshop organisers must not contravene this policy. Extra support to enable participation of Early Career Researchers with special needs will be given.

Please, complete the form on the next page, below and submit it to: [clcr@le.ac.uk](mailto:clcr@le.ac.uk).