



Ensuring  
Sustainable  
Growth Beyond  
2020

# NEWTON –UNGKU OMAR FUND

*Another Science to Action Initiative*





# THE NEWTON UNGKU OMAR RESEARCH GRANT

---

# INTRODUCTION

As part of the Science to Action initiative, the Newton-Ungku Omar Fund was established as a collaborative effort between the Malaysian and British government to promote STI collaboration between two countries. The set-up of the fund was approved by the Economic Council on the 14th of June 2014, totalling to approximately RM110 million to match the £20 million provided by the UK government for the next 5 years.

The Newton-Ungku Omar Fund will play a vital role in growing the capabilities and capacities of Malaysia's scientific community, allowing local researchers the opportunity to collaborate with research partners in the UK in projects that address specific issues pertaining to the global challenge of climate change and sustainability. The Newton – Ungku Omar fund will look specifically into enabling joint research on development topics, student and researcher fellowships and mobility schemes, The development of innovative solutions pertaining to the theme of climate change and sustainability and finally science and innovation capacity building.

# A BRIEF HISTORY



Right: Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and British Prime Minister David Cameron during their meeting at Sri Perdana, in which both nations committed towards enhancing research partnerships

Left: Initial meetings with UK counterparts, where preliminary discussions were made on the collaborative fund. The Malaysian delegation, including Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid, Tan Sri Dr. Ahmad Tajuddin Ali and Dr. Mohd Yusoff Sulaiman met with Sir David King, the UK Government's Special Representative for Climate Change and H.E Simon Featherstone, the British High Commissioner to Malaysia.





# A BRIEF HISTORY



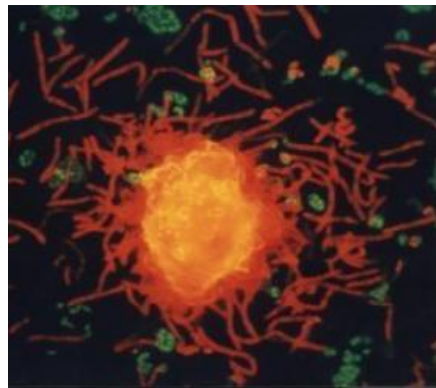
*Left: Initial briefing of Newton – Ungku Omar Scientist Fund at Akademi Sains Malaysia (ASM)*

*Right: Meeting between UK delegates and Malaysian partners at MiGHT in July 2014*



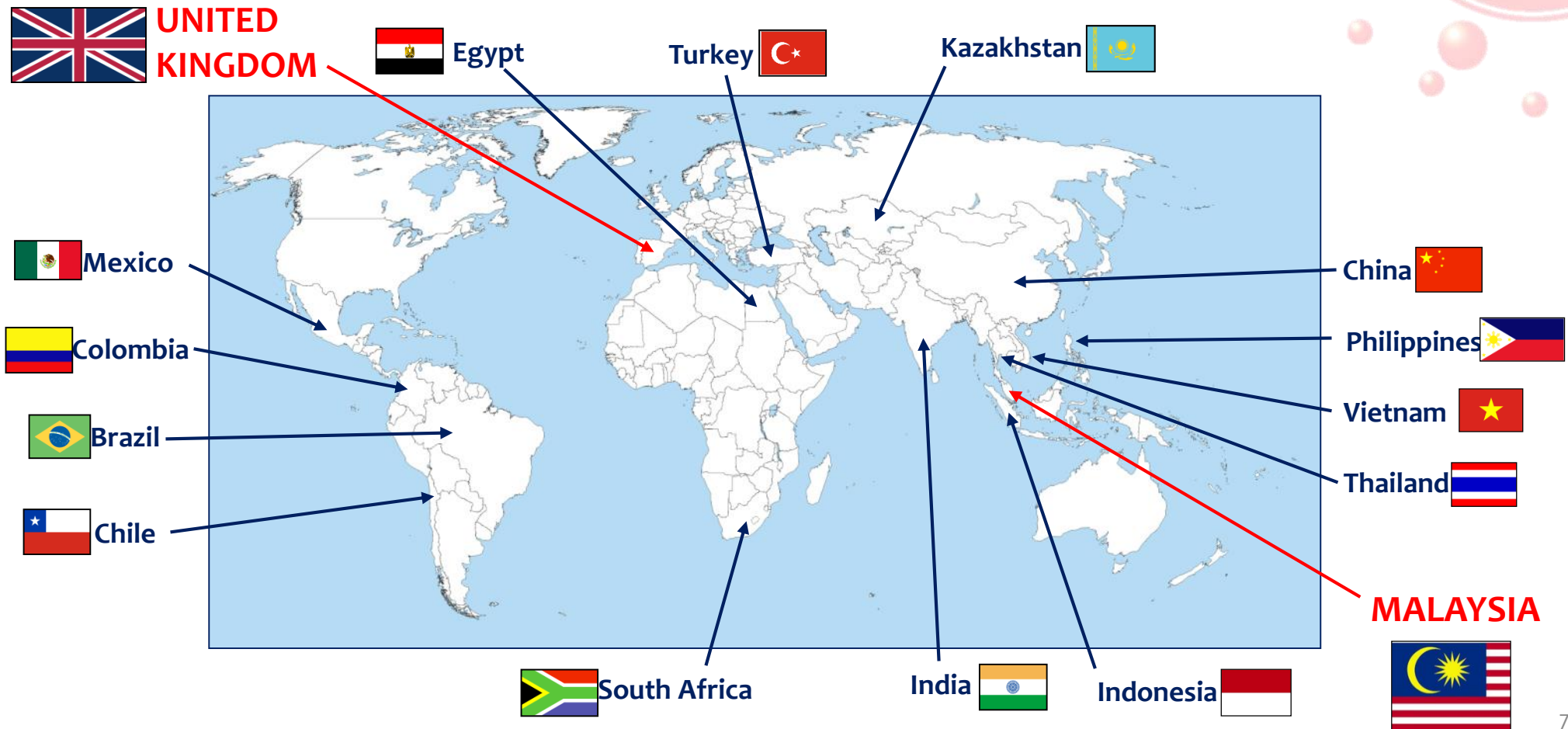
## THE VISION

Both Malaysia and the United Kingdom possess unique research areas upon which can be leveraged for to address the issue of climate change and sustainability. Malaysia, with its rich biodiversity and strong agricultural sector can play an important role together with the United Kingdom to ensure food and water security, as well as enhancing the medical and biotechnology sectors. By cooperating on bi- and multi-lateral research programmes, our two nations can build a strong and symbiotic relationship to enhance innovation and unlock opportunities for wider collaboration and trade.



# PARTNER COUNTRIES

The Newton Fund program encompasses 15 partner countries, including Malaysia with the United Kingdom as the Lead Partner Country.



# **NEWTON – UNGKU OMAR FUND FOCUS AREAS**

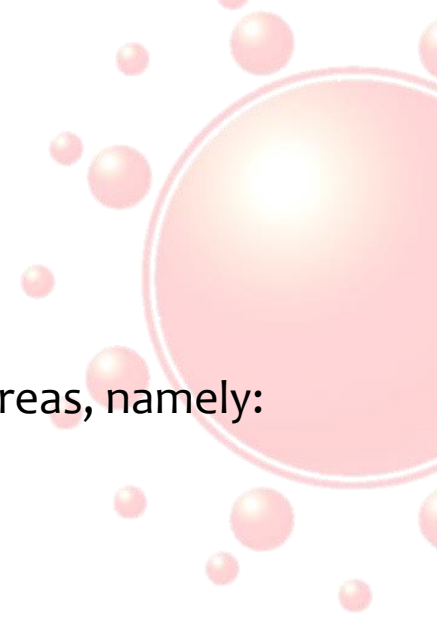
The theme for the Newton – Ungku Omar Fund would be on

**“climate change and sustainability”**

In this regard, the fund’s focus area can be narrowed down towards 5 focus areas, namely:

- 1. Health and life sciences**
- 2. Improving environmental resilience and energy security**
- 3. Future cities**
- 4. Agritech**
- 5. Digital, innovation and creativity**

The program will encompass the aspects of people (human capital development through Ph.D and M.Sc programs), programmes (research programmes focused on the 5 focus areas and also the Newton-Ungku Omar theme) and finally translation (programs that see the translation of knowledge, including commercialization and training programs).





# NEWTON – UNGKU OMAR FUND DELIVERY PARTNERS

The aim - to build strong, sustainable and systemic links between every part of Malaysia's and the United Kingdom's research base and innovation ecosystem



Department  
for Business  
Innovation & Skills

Technology Strategy Board  
Driving Innovation

 Met Office



The Academy of  
Medical Sciences

**MIGHT**



**KeTTHA**  
KEMENTERIAN TENAGA,  
TEKNOLOGI HIJAU DAN AIR



BRITISH  
ACADEMY  
*for the humanities and social sciences*



UK Science  
& Innovation  
Network



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office



BIOTECHCORP  
MALAYSIAN BIOTECHNOLOGY  
CORPORATION

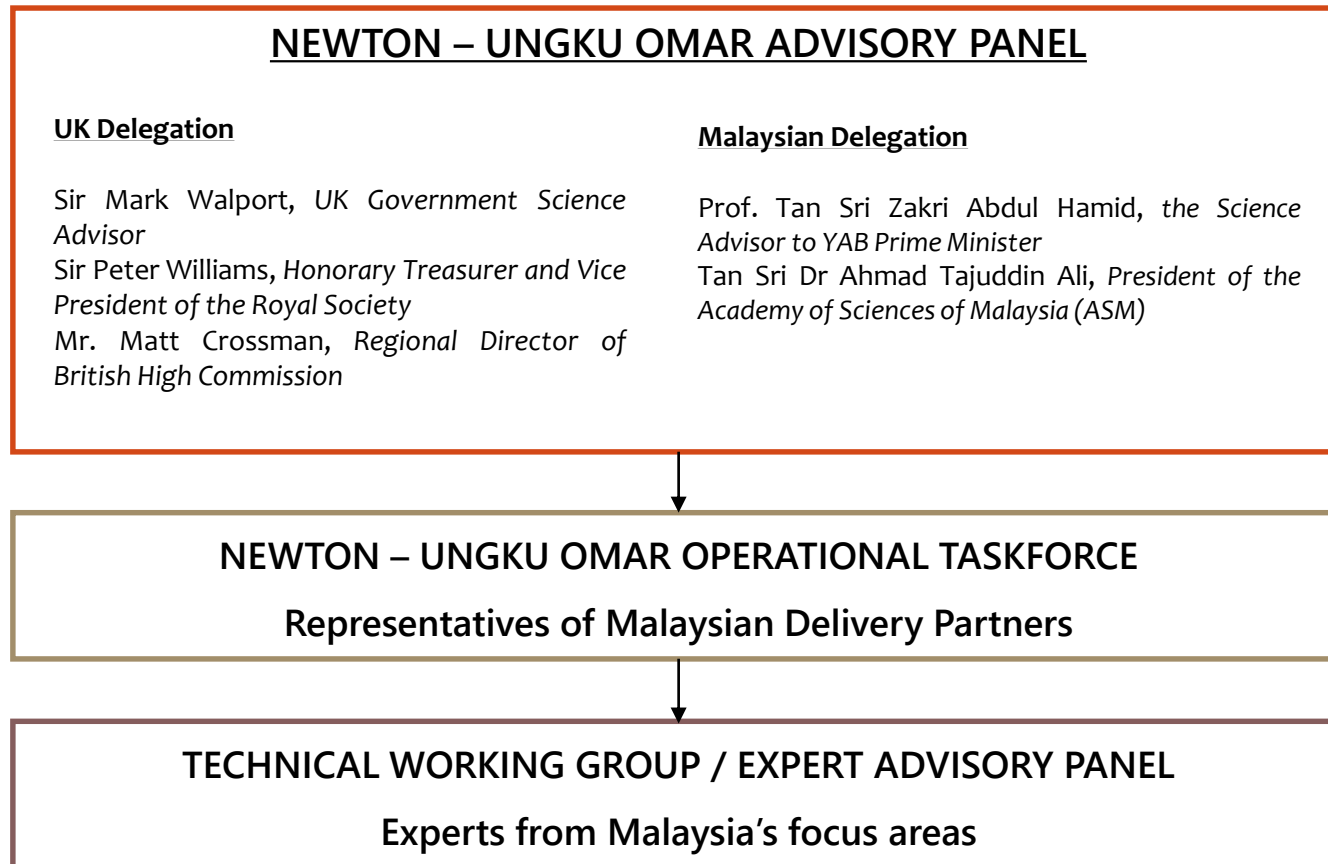


THE  
ROYAL  
SOCIETY



# **NEWTON – UNGKU OMAR FUND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

The governance structure of the Newton – Ungku Omar is as given below:





# APPLYING FOR THE NEWTON UNGKU OMAR RESEARCH GRANT

---

# **APPLYING FOR THE NEWTON UNGKU OMAR RESEARCH FUND**

The Newton Ungku Omar Research Fund operates on the open call system, in which a call for proposals is made, upon which the submitted proposals are jointly evaluated and successful proposals awarded the grant. Each program under the Newton Ungku Omar Research Fund

While each call may be slightly different from the others, according to the delivery partners involved, they generally follow the same approach:

1. The call for proposals opens, typically for a period of two months
2. Once the call is closed, all applications are compiled and sent to reviewers (both Malaysian and from the UK) for evaluation
3. Applications which have been approved by the joint evaluation panels are compiled, and the relevant applicants informed of the success of their application.
4. Upon disbursement of funds, the research programs can begin. Progress monitoring will be carried out during the duration of the research.



# TIPS ON APPLYING FOR THE NEWTON UNGKU OMAR RESEARCH FUND

---



# **TIPS ON APPLYING FOR THE NEWTON UNGKU OMAR RESEARCH FUND**

The following are tips to make applying for the Newton Ungku Omar Grant quicker and easier:

- All applications, regardless of program, must have a UK partner to the Malaysian applicant. As it may take some time to get the right UK partner, it's good to start looking now.
- There are very strict rules for the Newton Ungku Omar Research Fund, particularly application deadlines. These rules will not be bent for any applicant.
- Information on calls are always updated on MiGHT's website, as well as the website of the Newton Fund and Malaysian Delivery partners. Some websites to keep an eye out on are:

[www.might.org.my](http://www.might.org.my)

[www.akademisains.gov.my](http://www.akademisains.gov.my)

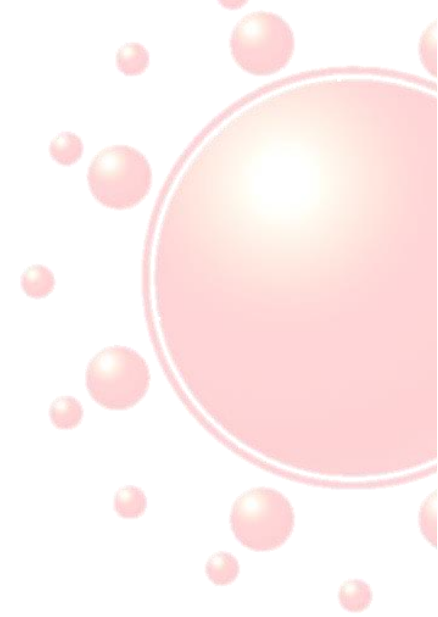
[www.science2action.my](http://www.science2action.my)

[www.rcuk.ac.uk](http://www.rcuk.ac.uk)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/innovate-uk>

[www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/newton-fund-building-science-and-innovation-capacity-in-developing-countries/newton-fund-building-science-and-innovation-capacity-in-developing-countries>



# THANK YOU