

Newton-Ungku Omar Fund

20 July 2016

Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia



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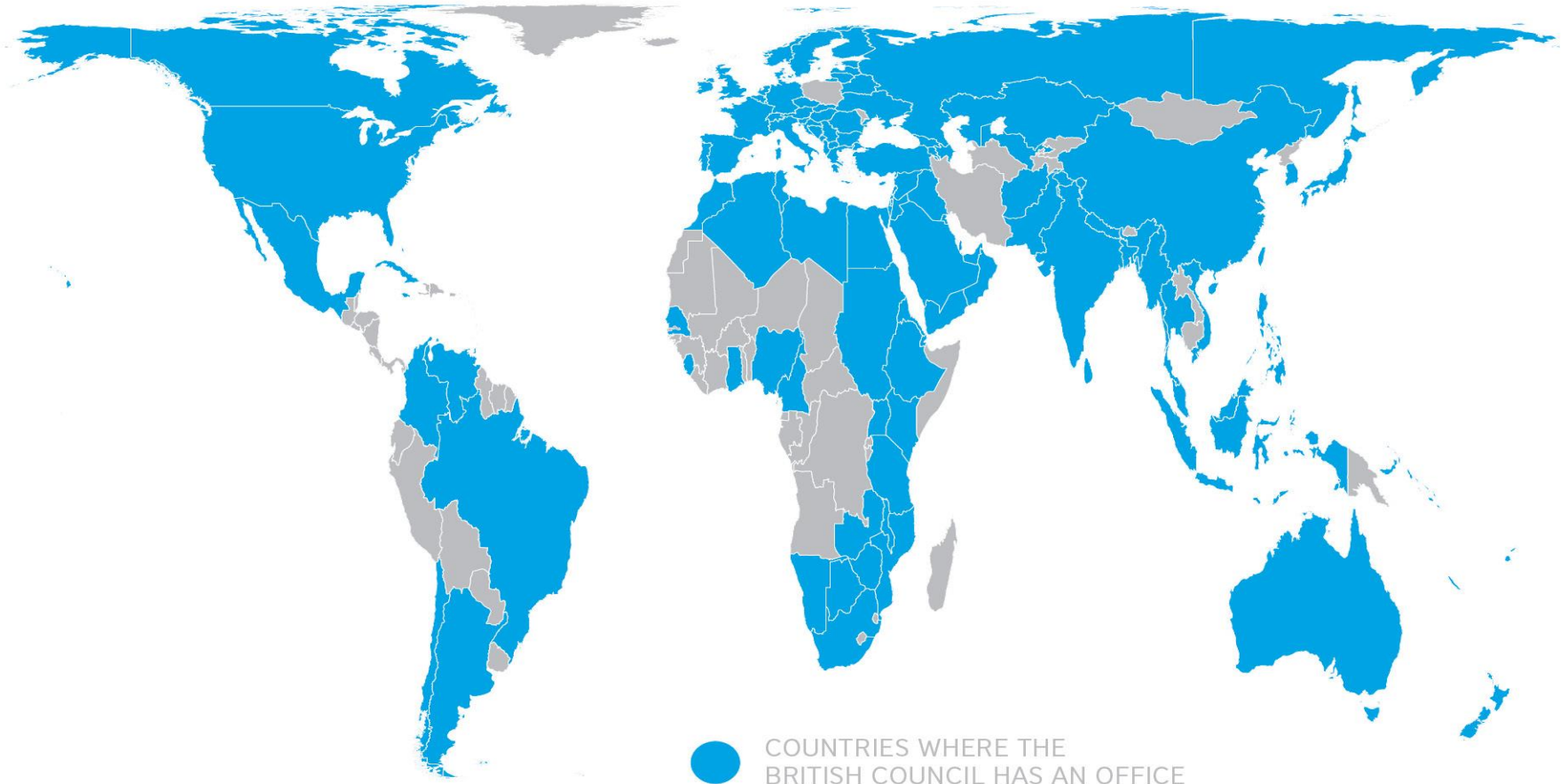


British Council charitable purpose

The British Council creates **international opportunities** for the people of the UK and other countries and **builds trust** between them **worldwide**.

We call this **cultural relations**.

Our Global Network



Our three core areas

ENGLISH

ARTS

**EDUCATION
AND
SOCIETY**

Science is part of our cultural relations remit

Ultimate aim:

Stronger global science communities, fueling prosperity and social benefit for current and future generations

We:

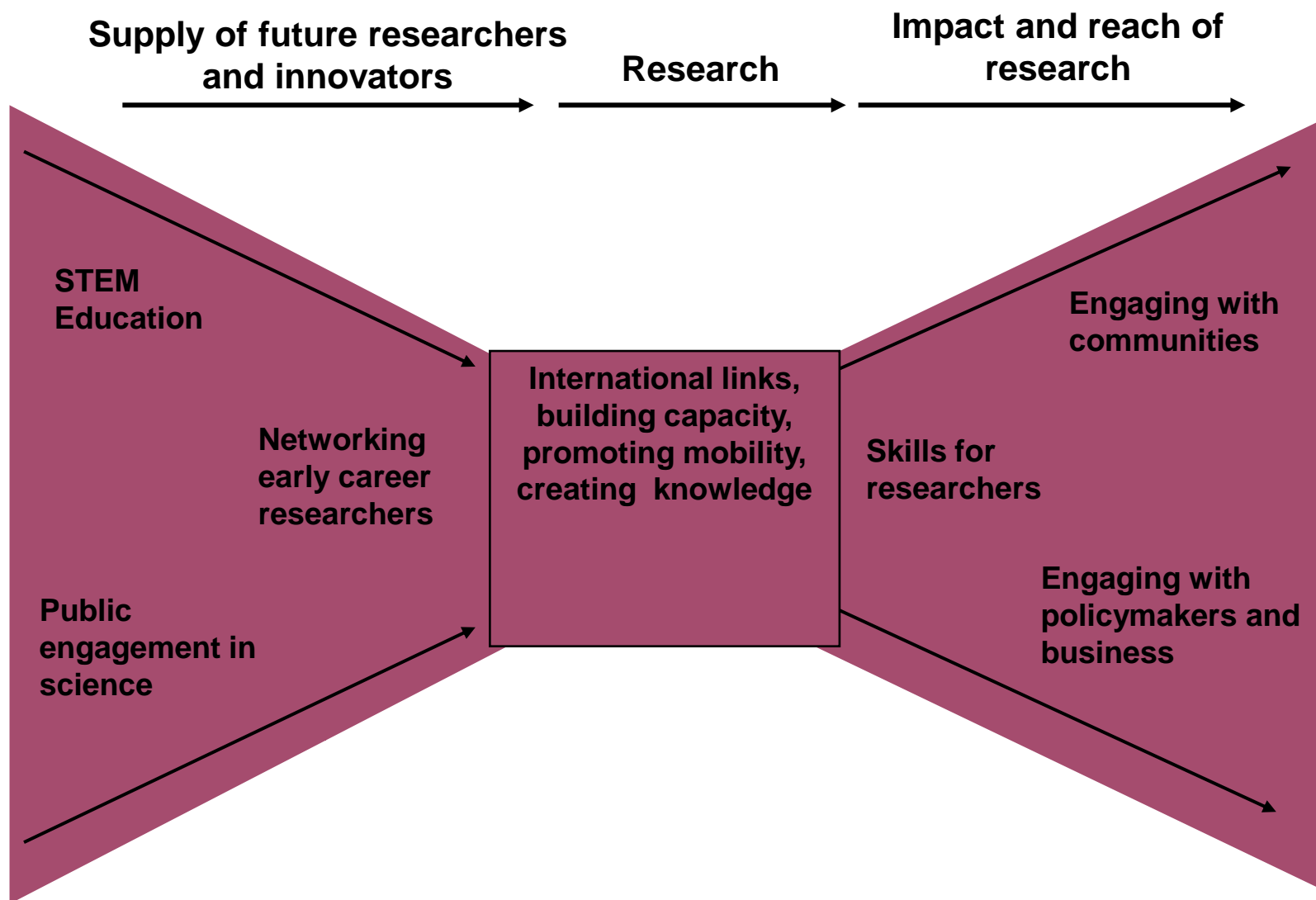
- Open doors

- Build relationships (for a purpose)

- Widen horizons

- Work on the bigger picture...

British Council Science – What we do



The Newton Fund

It's big

It's complicated

It's challenging

BUT

It's a great opportunity, for the UK, our partner countries, and the British Council

The Newton Fund

- The Newton Fund is managed by the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
- £735 million fund from UK Government (extended to 2021)
- Aim is to promote the economic development and social welfare of partner countries (ODA)
- The initial country list is: China, India, Brazil, South Africa, Turkey, Colombia, Mexico, Chile, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Egypt and Kazakhstan

The Newton Fund

The Fund
will cover
three
broad
categories
of activity:

People: capacity building, people exchange and joint centres;

Programmes: research collaborations on development topics;

Translation: innovation partnerships

Development Relevance (ODA eligible)

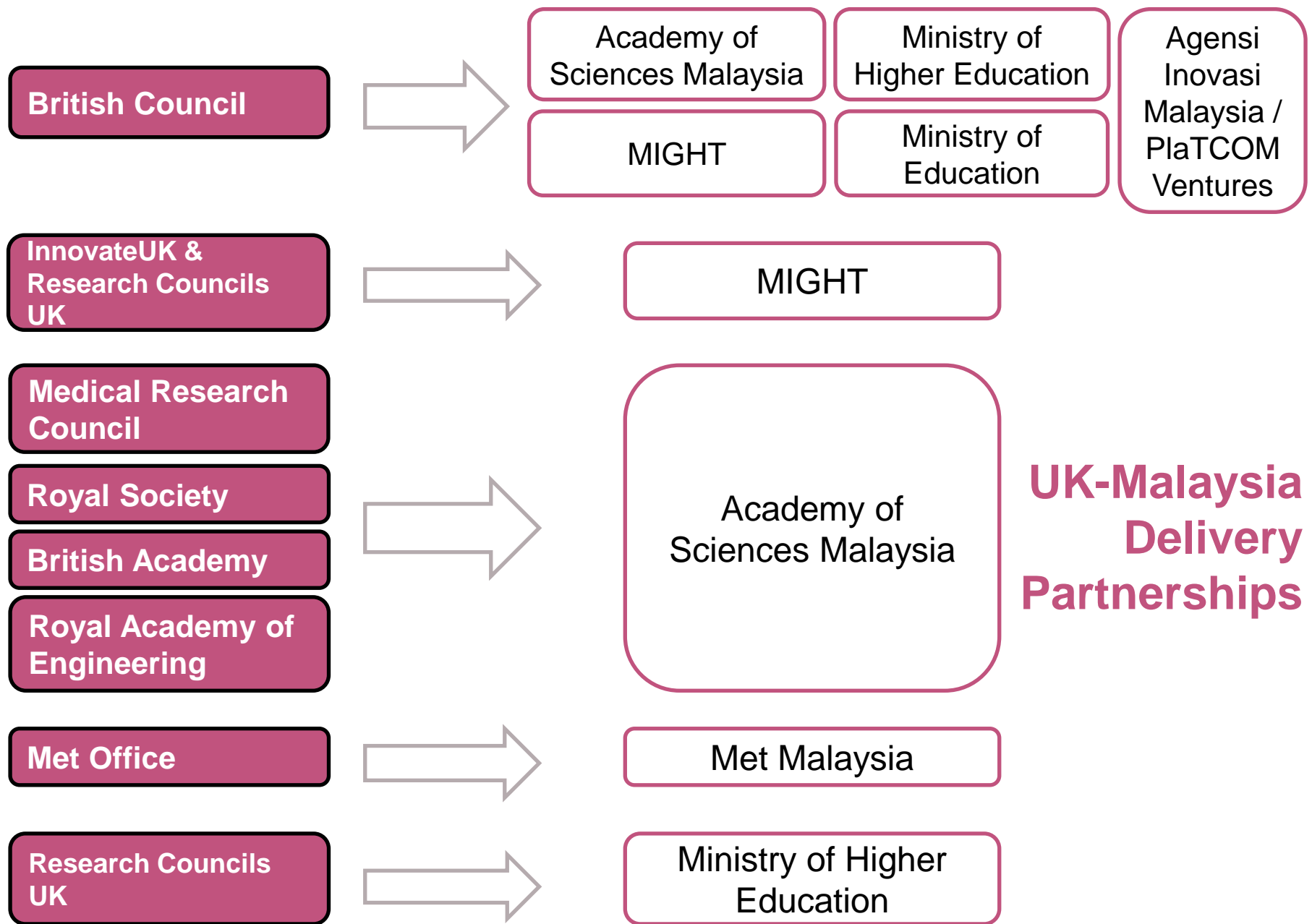
Primary objective must be the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries

BC defines direct development relevance as follows:

‘Research (applied or fundamental) that has the potential to contribute to the economic development and welfare of low- and middle-income countries. This research must have the potential to benefit poor and vulnerable populations in these countries. Funding proposals should articulate a plausible pathway of how the research may lead to positive impact within a timeframe of 3-15 years’

The Newton-Ungku Omar Fund

- The Newton-Ungku Omar Fund uses science and innovation partnerships between UK and Malaysia to promote economic development and social welfare in Malaysia
- £40 million joint funding from UK and Malaysia Government
- £8 million a year for 5 years starting 2014/15
- £4 million by UK government and £4 million by Malaysia government
- All activities should be match-funded by UK and Malaysia delivery partners
- National Delivery Partner: MIGHT



British Council activities

1. Institutional Links grant
2. Researcher Links workshop grant
3. STEM Education
 - STEM Policy Dialogue
 - Innovation Club
 - Inquiry-based Resource Development
4. Professional Development
 - Research Management & Governance Support
 - Science Communication
5. Dengue Tech Challenge 2016
6. (Potentially) others

Activities by other UK delivery partners

1. Research and Innovation Bridges – Innovate UK & RCUK
2. Bilateral Medical and Health Research
3. Collaborative health research – MRC-Wellcome Trust
4. Newton Advanced Fellowships – Royal Society (Sciences)
5. Newton Advanced Fellowships – British Academy (Social Sciences)
6. Newton Mobility Grants – Royal Society (Sciences)
7. Newton Mobility Grants – British Academy (Social Sciences)
8. Newton Research Collaboration Programme (Mobility Grants specific to Engineering discipline)
9. Met Malaysia Scoping Project on weather modelling and flood control – Met Office
10. Southeast Asia Small Scale Research Partnerships Call -- RCUK

The challenges / opportunities

One size does not fit all – our programme must:

- be responsive to country needs;
- fill a gap in provision;
- pave the way for other delivery partners where relevant;
- take into account UK capacity to meet demand

Newton Institutional Links

The Newton Institutional Links Programme is designed to establish links beyond the level of the individual researcher and innovation practitioner, opening up opportunities for more sustainable, solution-oriented research and innovation collaborations between academic groups as well as with the private and third sector.

The IL grant

- Local partner: MIGHT
- Joint application by UK and Malaysia institutions
- Duration of grants: 12 - 24 months
- Size of grant: £ 50,000 to £ 150,000
- Thematic priority areas:
 - Theme: Climate Change & Sustainability
 - Focus Areas:
 1. Health & life sciences
 2. Improving environmental resilience and energy security
 3. Future Cities
 4. Agritech
 5. Digital, Innovation & Creativity
- Involvement of SMEs and NGOs as associate partners are highly encouraged

Researcher Links Workshop

Researcher Links Workshop grants are designed to provide financial support to bring together a UK/partner country bilateral cohort of **early career researchers** to take part in workshops to meet the overarching objectives.

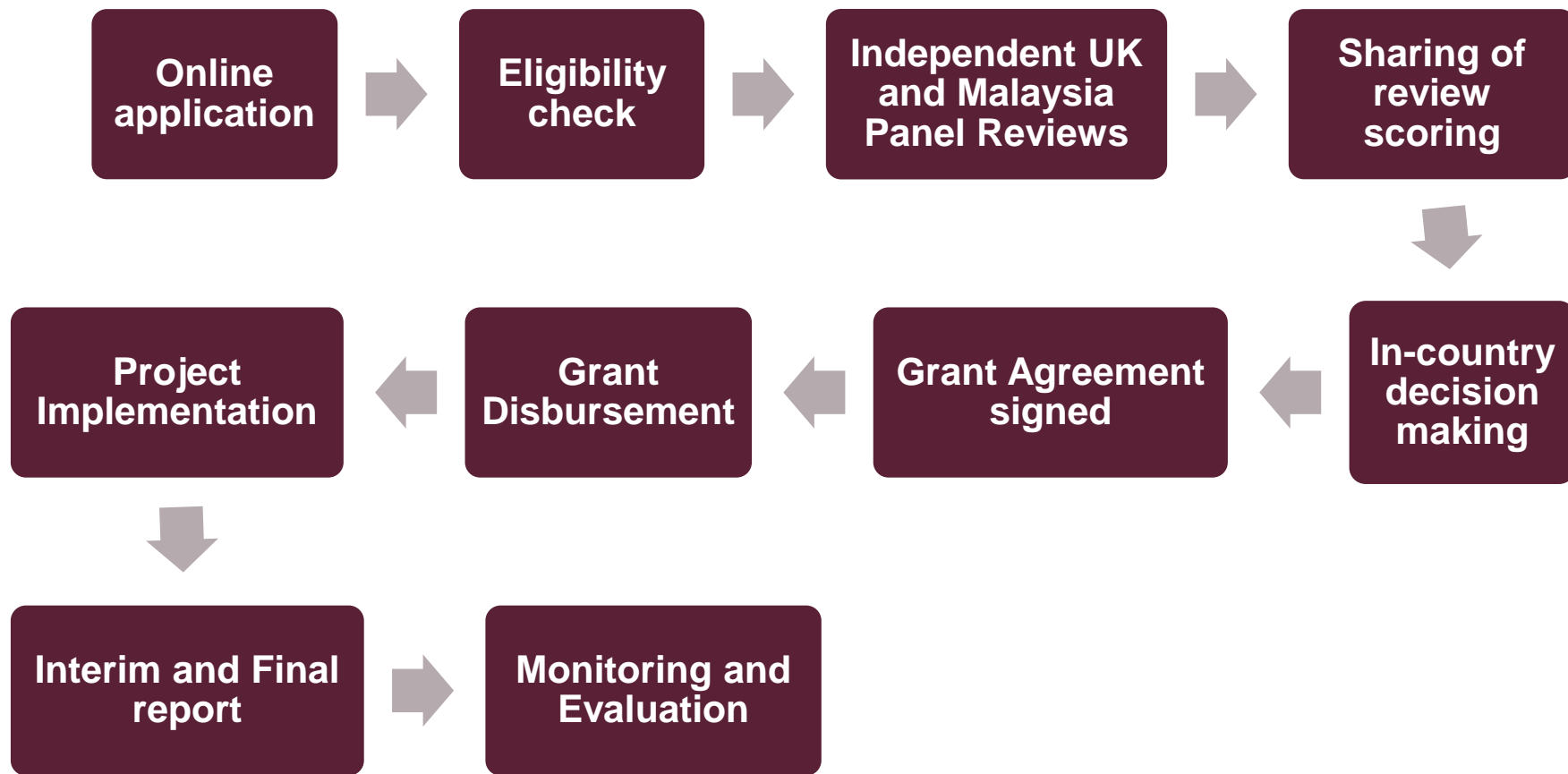
Objectives:

- Support international development-relevant research
- Contribute to capacity building of early career researchers
- Establish new research links or significantly develop existing links, with the potential for longer term sustainability

The RL workshop grant

- Call opens: 11th July 2016
- Call closes: 19th September 2016 (16:00 UK time)
- Local partner: Academy of Sciences Malaysia
- Joint application by UK and Malaysia institutions ([online application](#))
- Duration of the workshops: 3-5 days
- Theme: Climate Change & Sustainability
 - Focus Areas:
 1. Health & life sciences
 2. Improving environmental resilience and energy security
 3. Future Cities
 4. Agritech
 5. Digital, Innovation & Creativity

Application and funding process



Key advice

- Read the guidelines carefully
- If something is not clear – then ask for advice
- Understand the motivation of the funder, and design your project and write your proposal accordingly
- Make sure the objectives of your proposals are realistic and feasible
- Think about the lay reader and the bigger picture.
- Think about the long term plan
- Dissemination of results is important!
- Don't get discouraged if you are unsuccessful!

Dr Claire McNulty, Director Science and Research, British Council

Source: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/cubed/people-places/advice-applying-funding>

Useful website:

- <http://www.newtonfund.ac.uk/>
- <http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/science/current-opportunities>
- <http://www.britishcouncil.my/programmes/newton-ungku-omar-fund>

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